



**P.O. Box 114
Hwy 3 West
Hampton, Iowa 50441**

**Newsletter
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Keep Our Fair On Top

The Franklin County Fair is rated as one of the top County Fairs in Iowa. To continue this tradition, volunteers are needed to clean Pleasant Hill and Machinery Hall on Saturday morning, July 8th at 9:00 a.m. Bring shop-vacs, window cleaning supplies and dust rags. With many volunteers, it shouldn't take too long to have everything ready for the many visitors who attend our Fair.

Make sure and stop by the museum. The 147th Fair runs from July 12-16th.

Did you pay your dues?

This is the final notice! No more newsletters, if you have not sent them in. Thanks for your previous membership.

FCHS Tours

The Franklin County tourism committee has been busy. There was a tour group, recently that visited the Old Stone House, which Leander Reeve built in 1853. He was the first farmer in the county, clearing off and farming 10 acres just east of his house.

The R.E.A. Power Plant is nearly ready for tours. This, along with the Museum and Village tours, are a MUST. Call for appointments on Tuesdays - 641-456-7555.

Harriman-Nielsen Update Sankt Hans Aften

Much activity has been going on at the acreage around the house. The old garage has been torn down, seeding has been put in where the burn pile had been and a number of fruit trees have been planted. Crops were planted and are up.

On June 21, the Sankt Hans Aften or Mid Summer Eve's Festival was held. Our version of this Danish festival served pork burgers, snogbread (roasted bread on a stick), and marshmallows.

Children were read stories and a witch was burned to ward off evil spirits!

New Displays In The Museum

- A Showcase of items commemorating the Bradford centennial.



- Wedding dresses for every decade of Franklin County history.
- A display of Holiday Vintage décor: Valentine, Easter, Halloween and Christmas.



- A collection of Franklin County Courthouse memorabilia.
- In the 4-H and F.F.A. room, there will be Franklin County Inductees into the Iowa 4-H Hall of Fame.



- Also featured will be collectibles found in shopping on line.

Special Thanks

A special "Thank-You" to Lavonne and "Hap" Grice for all the years of dedication and work at the Old Stone House and the Franklin County Historical Museum. Their talents have been greatly appreciated.

Did You Know

- Hasel Boddy was the person responsible for the railroad siding, creating Burdette. It was on the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern Railroad, in 1881.
 - Dial phones came into Dows, July 18, 1963.
 - Faulkner was the birthplace off W.T. (Bill) Diamond, a national farm figure in 1978.
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Did you EVER have a Perm, like this?



The Hampton Chronicle printed this advertisement on May 30, 1935.

Items For The Museum

Many times, one runs across things they think our museum would like to have. PLEASE contact us before bringing them in, as we may already have them. Call 641-456-5777, or come in on Tuesday mornings, when those receiving, are there.

However, those of us in the library are interested in scrapbooks, pertaining to Franklin County, and obituaries of persons who have lived here, prior 1970. Our file is incomplete. We have many calls and letters from persons needing this information.

Franklin County Conservation Parks

Both the Robinson and W.K.W. county parks are located about a half mile apart, separated by a gravel road, and near the Hampton Country Club, 2 miles northeast of Hampton. Both have camping areas, shelter houses, and trails and are very scenic. Robinson Park lies along the Otter Creek. It consists of 58 acres, is long and narrow, with 15 campsites. There are 20 & 30 amp electrical sites. The Hampton Lions club built the shelter house in 1971. A small dam on the creek was built in 1966. A block toilet was erected in 1983. William Robinson and Irene Fredericks donated portions of the park.

The W.K.W. Park, totaling 54 acres, was started in 1966.



The land was donated by T.D. and Frances Wulbrandt, George and Bertha Klousia, and Theodore and Ruth Wolf. Otter creek passes through the northeast corner of the park. This park is used more for family reunions and picnics, although there are 4 campsites with electrical hookups. There are hiking trails, one of which is 1.8 mile long.

In 1988, a backyard wild life area was established. There are self-guided trails, of a half a mile long and animal houses, which are life size for the public to see.



In 1977, because of vandalism, a new shelter house was built. A vault toilet was constructed in 1984. Both parks are beautiful.

**Where were Civil War POW camps?
(Printed in Bluegrass ROOTS - Winter 1992)**



Camp Douglas, Chicago Illinois

The answer was published in **Victoria Crossroads of South Texas**, in 1991, a list of 13 Federal prison camps and 21 Confederate camps.

Federal -

- Alton, Illinois
- Rock Island, Illinois
- Camp Douglas at Chicago
- Camp Chase, Columbus, Ohio
- Camp Morton, Indiana
- Johnson's Island, (near Sandusky) Ohio
- Elmira, New York
- Point Lookout, Louisiana
- New Orleans, Louisiana
- Louisville, Kentucky
- St. Louis, Missouri
- Old Capitol, District of Columbia
- Fort Delaware, Delaware

Other sources list these Federal Camps:

- Castle Williams and Fort Lafayette
New York Harbor
- Point Lookout, Maryland
- Camp Randall, Madison, Wisconsin
- Camp Bultler, Springfield, Illinois

Confederate -

- Libby and Belle Isle, Richmond, Virginia
- Danville, Virginia
- Lynchburg, Virginia
- Petersburg, Virginia
- Salisbury, North Carolina
- Charleston South Carolina
- Columbia, South Carolina
- Millen, Georgia
- Camp Oglethorpe, Georgia
- Atlanta, Georgia
- Savannah, Georgia
- Macon, Georgia
- Cahaba, Alabama
- Castle Morgan, Alabama
- Tuscaloosa, Alabama
- Mobile, Alabama
- Florence, Alabama
- New Orleans, Louisiana
- Camp Groce and Ford, Texas.

There were also many smaller camps. According to official reports, the Confederates imprisoned 194,000 Federal soldiers. The Federals held 215,000 Confederates.

Conditions in most of the camps were admittedly frightful. Neither side was prepared with facilities, personnel, or provisions for handling such a huge number of prisoners. For the South, it was particularly hard especially in the latter part of the war. The Confederacy was not able to provide food, shoes and clothing for its own soldiers. In many cases, the prisoners received better rations than Confederate soldiers in the field.

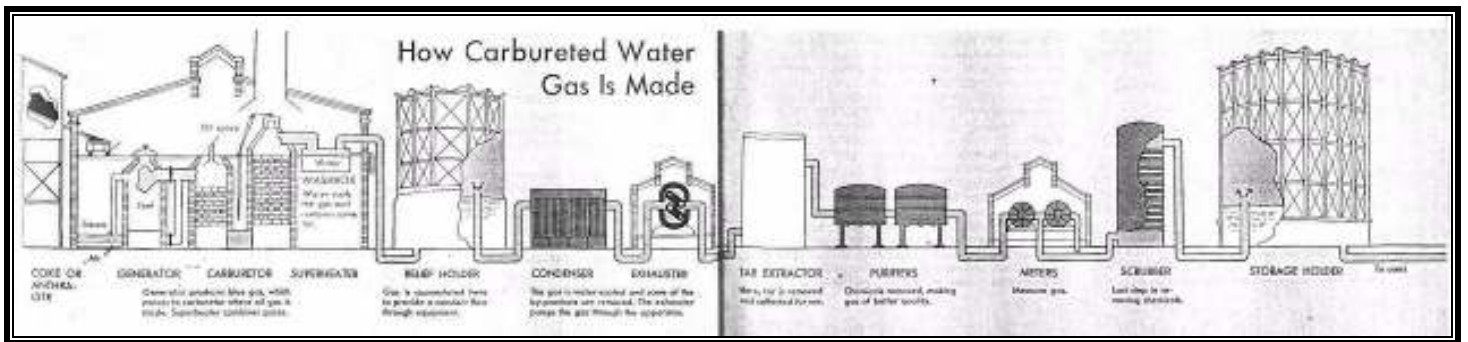
The South Texas list did not include the most infamous of all the camps, Camp Sumter, better known by the name of Andersonville, the town in Georgia where it was located. It was in February 1864 that prisoners began to arrive at Andersonville. By May, the number had reached 15,000; at the end of July there were over 31,000. In all, 52,300 were confined at Andersonville. Of these, 13,200 died.

Conditions were not much better at Elmira, New York, where there should have been plenty of supplies, But, Secretary of War Stanton ordered that fuel and rations at Elmira be cut off at times so that the Southerners held there should suffer as much as Federal troops. As a result, Elmira had a higher death rate than Andersonville.

After the war, Major Henry Wirz, who had been commandant at Andersonville, was hanged, the only Confederate to be executed for "war crimes". James I. Robertson, noted historian, says, "This was the grossest irony of the Civil War!" He adds, "Under modern rules of war, Stanton would have been hanged for murder."

Some of the soldiers who died in the camps were buried in cemeteries with grave markers, however, thousands more were buried in unmarked, long-forgotten graves.

Return Service
Requested



Hampton's Gas Plant

An inquiry from Gene Green, of El Paso, TX, asked if there were any pictures of the Hampton Gas Plant? The museum hasn't any! But, this sounded like an interesting investigation. He said that coal was brought in via railroad, it was gasified and held in a gas holder, under pressure, to supply Hampton homes and businesses with gas for heat and light.

From Stuart Riggins and Larry Windelow, I learned the plant was situated north of the old I.P.S. plant, along the non-existent Minneapolis & St. Louis Railroad. The World Book encyclopedia showed a picture of a similar plant. Coal, water and oil were involved with the making of gas. Both men talked of the huge round holding tank and where it was located. They said that the gas, under pressure, was pumped, via, pipes underground, to the homes and businesses.

In the early 1930's the Hampton Gas works, which was owned by the Cedar Valley Electric Co., became the Iowa Public Service. The old plant was torn down, after the propane gas plant was built.

Bradford Centennial - August 19

The motto for Bradford is "Not The Biggest, But One Of The Best". Bradford, Iowa, 50041, is located half way between Hampton and Iowa Falls, in Grant Township. They are celebrating 100 years of existence, in August. We of the Historical Society would like to congratulate them.

Heading the Centennial are Jeff and Jodi Hesnard, co-chairs are Al and Kristi Vanderpool, plus eighteen or more committee members and volunteers. They are working very hard to make this memorable event a success.

On the docket for the August 19th celebration; is a parade, a rodeo, music of the 1950's, a presentation on Bradford, by Wendy (Meyer) Zohrer, a car show, children's pedal pull, and more.



Bradford display at FCHS Museum

Bradford memorabilia displays will be in the Bradford Hall. Bradford commemoratives for sale are a Bradford plate for \$10.00, a Bradford mug for \$6.00 and Bradford tee shirts for \$10.00.