

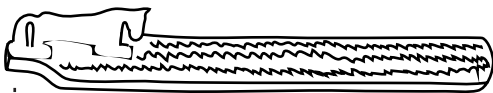
Overseas Immigration:

1876 Town of Walnut Hill

- Visit The Flynn Mansion. During the 1840s, large numbers of Irish immigrated to the United States. A devastating potato blight killed the main source of food for working Irish laborers and farmers. The Flynn Library shows several water colors of County Waterford and a 19th century map of Ireland where the Flynn family immigrated from.



- Find the Railroad Map in the Flynn Library. Martin Flynn began contracting for the Union Pacific Railroad to move dirt and grade earth in preparation for laying track. Like many immigrants, he was able to create a very successful business and became a wealthy entrepreneur.
- Visit the Flynn family bedrooms. The Flynnns were Roman Catholic and members of St. Francis Church of Des Moines. They were also active in Irish support societies in Des Moines such as the Irish Land League and the Sons of Hibernia. Look for the symbols of their faith and Irish society in the family bedrooms.

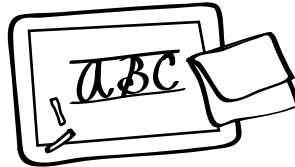


- Visit the Tangen House. The Tangen House represents a second generation Norwegian immigrant family. Norwegian traditions in the Tangen House include the bright folk art colors in the kitchen decorations, the Scandinavian carved laundry mangle on the kitchen wall, and Norwegian books and papers in the sitting room.

- Visit the Greteman General Store. The Greteman General Store was built by Frank and Barney Greteman in 1888. The Gretemans' father Johann Otto had immigrated to the United States from Germany in 1851. In Germany, the family's surname was Hoonerlagen-Grete. Like many immigrants, Johann changed the name after coming to America. The brothers ran this successful store in Willey (near Carroll, Iowa.)

- Visit the Taylor Law Office: The C.H. Taylor Law Office is furnished to show a young lawyer just beginning his career, complete with sleeping rooms in the back. Iowa was a good place to seek a legal career in the 1870s. While university training was not required to take the Bar exam in 1875, Iowa sported several schools at which to study. The University of Iowa was one of the few colleges in the nation to accept both men and women on an equal basis, beginning in 1855.

- Visit the Walnut Hill Schoolhouse. In 1858, the Iowa State Legislature passed the School Act, providing for construction and support of free township schools.



At the time, it was determined that separate facilities could be built for African American students—apart from white students. This was challenged in 1868 by Alexander Clark, Sr.

Clark, a successful African American businessman, sued the city of Muscatine to allow his daughter Susan to attend the same grammar school as white children. He won.

- Visit the Church of the Land. The Church of the Land was constructed at Living History Farms in 1983 as a tribute to the idea that people of different faiths and spiritual beliefs can come together peaceably. Throughout its history, Iowans have subscribed to many faiths. Early immigrants often came to the state feeling religious persecution in their past homes. Small town churches were community centers to gather for social events, political process, and town meetings.



Living History Farms'
Visitor Guide

Diversity & Immigration

Special thanks to the following sources:

Schwieder, Dorothy. *Iowa: The Middle Land*. Ames: Iowa State UP, 1996. Print.

Schwieder, Dorothy, Tom Morain, Lynn Nielsen. *Iowa Past To Present*. Ames: Iowa State, 2002. Print.

Silag, Bill, Susan Kock-Bridgford & Hal Chase, editors. *Outside In: African-American History in Iowa*. Des Moines: State Historical Society of Iowa, 2001. Print.

LIVING
HISTORY FARMS

Iowa's Melting Pot: Many different peoples have settled in Iowa over the last 300 years. They brought traditions from their homeland and settled in new living places. Iowa lands and resources provided many opportunities to create a home. This great migration continues today as Iowa welcomes new settlers from all over the world. Join us for a tour highlighting Iowa's settlers and the many ways Iowans made this place their home.

Native American Groups:

1700 Ioway Farm

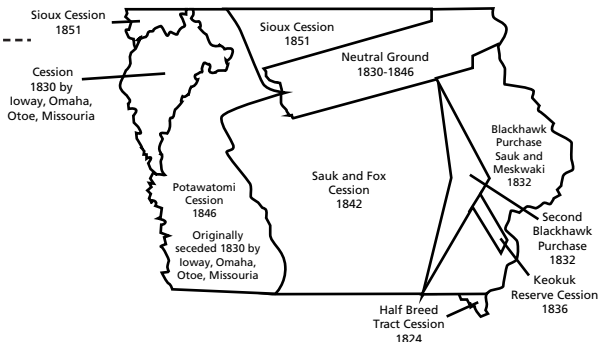
- Visit the 1700 Ioway Farm for a closer look at the many tribal migrations across Iowa's land area. Native Americans traveled through Iowa territories seeking food sources and natural resources since pre-historic times.
- The Ioway learned to make use of prairie plants. Check out the wild plant garden next to the mat lodge for a look at some of Iowa's useful wild plant species.



- Visit the lodges at the Ioway site. You'll see a bark lodge, cattail mat lodge, and chibothraje or tipi that would be used for hunting. How are the different homes able to keep their inhabitants comfortable at differing times of year?

- The earliest foreign born visitors to Iowa lands included French fur trappers and explorers. Look in the bark lodge and cooking area for examples of French trade goods.

- Iowa became part of the United States of America in 1803 as part of the Louisiana Purchase. Beginning in the 1820s, the U.S. government used a series of treaties to purchase lands from resident Native American groups. Tribes ceded their lands to the government and moved elsewhere. The last Iowa land claimed by Native Americans was sold in 1851.



Pioneer Iowa:

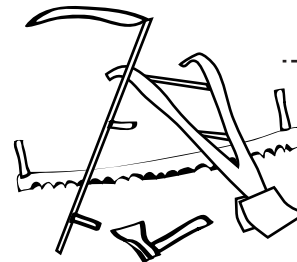
1850 Pioneer Farm

- The first push of white settlement began in the early 1830s—before the U.S. government officially allowed such settlement. Squatters moved into eastern Iowa and unofficially claimed parcels of land by building simple houses on them. These first pioneers built basic log structures to claim their land. Sawmill lumber framed houses had to wait for more settlement and more money. Check out the log house at the 1850 Farm to see an example of early log building.



- Kitturah Penton Belknap moved to Iowa in 1839. She wrote, "The folks we bought the claim of went back to Missouri so we made trades with them and got ploughs, fodder, chickens and hogs. Made us some homemade furniture and went to keeping house." --Kitturah Penton Belknap, Diary.

- Ask about the Emigrant Guide in the log house. Published in 1850, the Teamsters Guide to Iowa recommended that: "The Iowa bound farmer should move as much of his machinery and as many tools as possible. . . Outfitters in Iowa's major cities carry full lines of machinery and tools but prices are high. The emigrant can save money by bringing machines and tools from his home. This list contains items needed to start farming in Iowa: adze, axe, hatchet, pitch fork, cross cut saw, hammer, plow, harrow, hoe, scythe." Visit the 1850 Pioneer Farm barn. Can you find all of these tools? Did our pioneer farmers come prepared?



Overseas Immigration:

1900 Horse-Powered Farm

Between 1840-1900, Iowa attracted many different ethnicities. In the 19th century, most of this immigration came from Western Europe. By the year 1900, the federal census reported 300,000 foreign born individuals living in Iowa.

1900 Iowa census:

Germany 123,162	Denmark 17,102
Sweden 29,874	Canada 15,687
Ireland 28,321	Austria 13,118
Norway 25,634	Netherlands 9,388
England 21,027	Bohemia (Czech Republic) 9,098

- Immigrants from many countries came to Iowa in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Often these settlers left their native lands to escape economic, political, or religious hardships. Moving together allowed settlers to hold onto their native traditions and culture longer. Mixed ethnicity settlements often seemed to homogenize sooner.

- Visit the 1900 Farm House. Many immigrants moved to Iowa to buy land and establish their own farms. They brought their own home decorating traditions, farming styles, and food traditions with them. Look in the 1900 Farm House pantry and back kitchen for ethnic food traditions and family recipes.



- Visit the barn and outbuildings at the 1900 Farm. There were many diverse ethnic cultures farming in Iowa by the year 1900. This included 325 African American farming families. African American farm sizes in Iowa ranged from 40 acre farms to 1,000 acre farms. After the turn of the century, agricultural colleges such as Iowa State University, Extension offices and other teaching services became available to many of these new farmers.