

PRESS INFORMATION

The Illinois "Land of Lincoln" Pavilion
World's Fair
New York, 11380

PHONE: Ar-1-5010

Building and Site

The only all brick structure on the Flushing Fairgrounds, the Illinois Pavilion is "native" from the ground up. Its 252,000 reddish brown bricks were specially fired in Danville, Ill., kilns.

The enclosed area and exhibit courtyards total 35,000 square feet and are set on a 55,000 square foot island-site surrounded by visitor walkways.

Low profile and flowing lines make the building an architectural reflection of the Prairie State and the simplicity of Abraham Lincoln. The building has no corners and no windows. The curvilinear walls continue on to form entrance and exit "necks" instead of doors to facilitate easy flow of traffic.

Landscaping includes trees and shrubs native to Illinois. More shrubs are used in the courtyards around the "rest benches" and outdoor display areas.

The Illinois Message

Illinois' inspiration for greatness continues to flow from the influence and philosophy of its greatest son, Abraham Lincoln.

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Its Pavilion at the New York World's Fair seeks to demonstrate how the Lincoln precepts of liberty, equality and progressive leadership account for many of Illinois' accomplishments and set the goals for the State's plans.

In film, photographs and narration Illinois will show itself as an ideal scenic and historical vacation land and an exciting place for a business/pleasure stopover.

The great metropolis of Chicago, called "the most American city" by foreign visitors, will beckon from the shore of Lake Michigan. From their scenic and beautiful unspoiled hillsides and lakes and streams, the Southern Illinois Ozarks will wave a regional hello.

As the best balanced economic unit in the 50 states, Illinois will tell its story from tip to tip in an illustrated inventory of its diversified assets.

"Great Moments With Mr. Lincoln"

Probably one of the most talked-about attractions at the Fair is the Pavilion's presentation of Walt Disney's "Great Moments With Mr. Lincoln" show. It will be shown daily in the 500-seat Lincoln Theater in continuing 12-minute performances.

Created by Disney's WED Enterprises Inc., Abraham Lincoln is shown talking, standing, sitting and gesturing in life-like action, through the new medium known as "audio-animatronics."

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The speech consists of selected excerpts from Lincoln's own words, as appropriate today as when he spoke them more than 100 years ago.

Rare Lincolniana

The Illinois Pavilion has brought to the New York Fair one of the finest presentations of rare Lincolniana ever assembled for a major international event.

Starring is the Illinois-owned, original Gettysburg Address manuscript brought from its permanent home in the Illinois State Historical Library for its first public showing in New York. Guarded by Illinois State Troopers, it is displayed under glass against a velvet background in a special alcove in the Manuscript Room.

In the entrance courtyard is the Gutzon Borglum "shiny nose" Lincoln bust, cast from the original sculpture which stands at the assassinated President's Tomb in Springfield, Ill. World's Fair visitors will be encouraged to rub its nose as has long been the affectionate custom at Springfield.

Making its first trip outside Illinois, is the Lincoln Totem Pole, a tribute carved by Alaskan Indians in gratitude for their freedom from slavery. It is said to be the first carved likeness of the Great Emancipator and shows a top-hatted Lincoln at its tip.

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The new Anna Hyatt Huntington sculpture showing Lincoln as a horseback riding student will be unveiled in the entrance courtyard for its first public showing.

Known as dean of American sculptresses, Mrs. Huntington, 88, has contributed her work to Illinois through the National Arts Foundation. At the close of the Fair it will be placed at the entrance to New Salem State Park, a restoration of the log cabin village where Lincoln grew to manhood.

For the first time in history, a collection of every known photograph of Abraham Lincoln will be presented in the Pavilion Gallery. The unique display of 119 photographs includes 15 which have never before been on public view.

A Lincoln Library where visitors may pause in quiet offers books about Lincoln as well as current books about Illinois and its accomplishments.

In the exit courtyard a log by log restoration of the cabin where Lincoln once served as New Salem postmaster will show how Illinoisans lived in that day. From its porch and veranda special programs will be presented by visiting groups from Illinois towns and organizations.

The Illinois of TODAY and TOMORROW

Around the courtyards, outdoor displays will show the Illinois of "Today and Tomorrow", demonstrating the State's leadership in industry, agriculture, recreation and tourism and its new role as a world port and in international trade.

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At the State Information Center in the exit courtyard interesting literature about Illinois and its glories will be offered.

Personal information on its scenic and historic highways and byways will be available.

A check list card will be distributed so that visitors may request specific literature to be mailed back home to them for later study.

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For further information:

PAVILION STAFF

James A. Cassin, Executive Director
Richard d'Anjou, Pavilion Manager
Virginia L. Marmaduke, Special Events Director
Irene Repa, Administrative Assistant