An 1848 painting showing Warsaw’s early waterfront

In the 1840’s, tensions were high between the people of Warsaw and Nauvoo. Warsaw was a center of anti-Mormon feelings. Today, however, there is generally a feeling of peace and goodwill between the communities and peoples. Warsaw has a very rich history spanning more than 200 years. For many, the brief “Mormon Troubles” period seems to be just an unfortunate blip on history’s radar.

Most remember Warsaw as a bustling river city that peaked in the 1870’s with much trade and industry. Warsaw was a hub for education, the arts, and social life. What started as a temporary military fort in 1812, then a permanent fort in 1814, Warsaw became a city that even once aspired to be the Capital of the United States!

Today, Warsaw is mostly a bedroom community to the industries across the river at Keokuk. Farming, hunting, fishing, boating, and tourism are also important.

Sources Cited: (A) History of Church Volume 4, p. 471
(B) Quincy Whig 1899, 1900.

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**A few “Non-Mormon” points of interest:**

**Fort Edwards Monument**, (Map #7) located on a bluff known as “The Point,” this 50 foot tower was dedicated in 1914.

**Ralston Park**, (Map #8) once the parade grounds for Fort Edwards, is now a city park. Look for the model of the Statue of Liberty!

**Riverfront Park and Goose Landing** (Map #9). Be sure to take time to see the river!

**Historic Warsaw Brewery** is north of “The Point.” Once home to Burgermeister Beer, the building has now been partially restored.

**Warsaw History Museum** (Map #10), 401 Main St., has many items from Warsaw’s past. Check sign in the front window for hours.

**Geode Glen Park** (Map #11) Go east to 7th and look for sign on the north side of the road.

Warsaw is a welcoming town that offers a variety of places to eat, shop, and stay.

For more info visit: [www.warsawillinois.org](http://www.warsawillinois.org)

This guide was written and published privately by researcher Brian Stutzman and is not affiliated with any group, church, or government. It is part of a future book about early Warsaw. For information email: stutzmanbrian@gmail.com. ©2016 V.4 G
The original Warsaw House, was built in about 1838 after living in a nearby log cabin. Early settler Major John R. Wilcox built this home in about 1838 after living in a nearby log cabin for a few years before. Wilcox’s sister married Isaac Galland, a land speculator who sold much of what became Nauvoo to Joseph Smith. The Gallands became Mormons for a time and Isaac served a Mormon mission. The Galland's raised some of Wilcox’s children after Wilcox’s first wife Mary Kinney died. Following her death, Wilcox married 17 year old Hannah Hardy in 1838. Wilcox died in 1840 and Hannah then married Thomas Sharp on September 6, 1842. Sharp likely lived at “the Stone House” for a time. The building was later home to the Warsaw Boat Club and is now a private residence. Of note: Sharp’s first wife Hannah died in 1879. He then married Thomas Gregg’s wife’s youngest sister, a widow named Anna Lawton Hewitt. Gregg earlier had been a partner with Sharp in the newspaper business. Gregg wrote a book critical of the Mormons called the “Prophet of Palmyra” and also authored an extensive history of Hancock County.

Map #5. 424 Main. The Thomas Sharp Print Museum. In 1987, six local families started a museum at this site. It was short lived. Sharp never published here.

Map #6. Oakland Cemetery (not shown) is located on Cemetery Rd. Several of those who were in the mob that killed the Smiths are buried here. It is said the secret of who committed the murders probably lies buried in Block 6 which is on the far back right hand side behind the brown roofed shed.

Also of note: LDS Apostle Willard Richards, a cousin of Brigham Young, moved to Warsaw about September 8th, 1841 for several weeks to help immigrants settle just south in an area called Warren. (a) Due to local hostilities, the settlement was abandoned in 1842.