



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.



Map of Warsaw, Illinois (From Google Maps)

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 Statute 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.

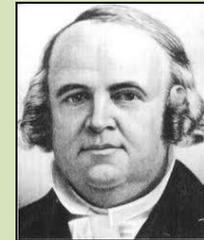
Warsaw is a welcoming town that offers a variety of places to eat, shop, and stay.

For more info visit: www.warsawillinois.org

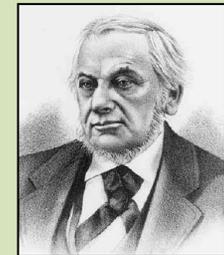
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A Guide to Mormon History in Historic Warsaw, Illinois

Warsaw, Once Home To:



Willard Richards, LDS Apostle



Thomas Sharp, Editor of "The Warsaw Signal"

Eliza Graham, star witness for the prosecution of the 5 men who stood trial for the murder of the prophet Joseph Smith.

Just 18 Miles South of Nauvoo on the Great River Road



Map #1. (See map on back) 154 Main. In 1835 Warsaw's first hotel, the Warsaw House, was built here. The local newspapers said the main structure, which was probably all wood, was torn down in 1899 and in 1900 the Piedrit family built the current home. ^(B) Local legend says the back brick portion was part of the original hotel, but it was most likely built on as the windows appear to be from a later date. The original Warsaw House, also known as the Fleming Tavern, was where the mob met after they killed Joseph Smith and his brother Hyrum at the Carthage Jail. Upon their return, some of the mob boasted they had "killed ol' Joe." Of the 5 men to stand trial for the murder of Joseph Smith, 2 of them lived there. Eliza Graham, who worked and lived there, served the mob that night. Being a Mormon, Eliza was the star witness for the prosecution at the trial. Her aunt who was not a Mormon, Ann Fleming, was the hotel owner and a witness for the defense. Ann contradicted Eliza's testimony. All 5 of the accused were acquitted. Eliza moved to Nauvoo, married John Pack, and then moved to Utah. John Pack became a founder of the University of Utah. A few years later the Flemings moved to central California.

Map #2. 206 Main. Local legend says the newspaper the *Warsaw Signal* might have been published here in the early 1840s. However, according to some architect historians, this building was probably built in the in 1850's.

Map #3 It is believed the local paper *The Western World* was published near the river in 1840. At the time, Main Street ended by the Warsaw House hotel due to the bluff being steep, but a trail probably extended to the water front, making this area the "Foot of Main" (which was on the masthead of the paper). In 1841 the paper moved to an unknown location listed simply on "Main Street" and changed names to the *Warsaw Signal*, with Thomas C. Sharp as editor. Sharp was an intense critic of the Mormons. Feelings escalated when William Smith, brother to the Mormon prophet, beat Sharp for a seat in the state legislature in 1842. Tensions continued to simmer. In June 1844, after the Nauvoo City Council ordered the destruction of the Mormon-critical *Nauvoo Expositor* paper, Sharp's *Warsaw Signal* called for citizens to make their feelings known with "Powder and Ball". A few days later the Mormon Prophet Joseph Smith and his brother Hyrum, the Patriarch, were murdered at Carthage.



Map #4. 710 Water Street- "The Stone House." 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.