METAMORA ASSOCIATION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

NEWSLETTER

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April 2015

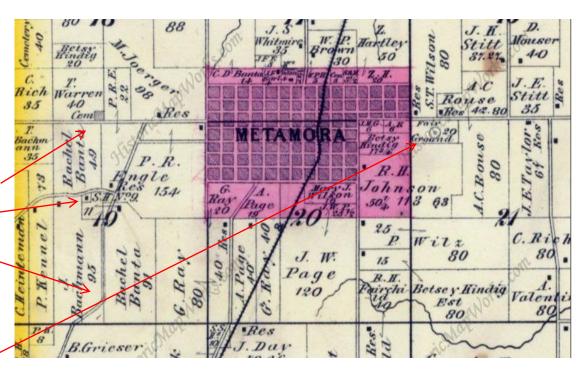




1873 Map — South of Town

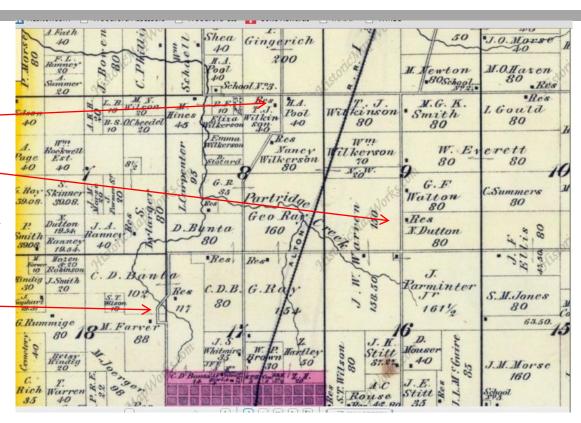
In our last Newsletter, we included maps of where the conductors of the Underground Railroad – Norman Dutton and George Kern - lived. By enlarging the map, we find several other bits of history you may find interesting—

- 1 –St Mary's Cemetery sits in the country (Coal Bank is unimproved)
- 2 The road to Germantown turned west close to the Engle home. There was also a school close by across the road.
- 3 The road to Washington wentstraight south and made a bend to the southwest. This bend roughly follows the waterway in the field south of the old Engel homestead and can still be seen today.
- 4 The Woodford County Fair Grounds were located approximately 7 blocks east of the railroad tracks at the edge of town.



1873 Map — North of Town

- 1 What is now Wiedman Road was the old State Route and ran through Cazenovia. It turned east north of town.
- 2 Several Underground Railroad conductors Misters. Dutton, Ranney, and Morse were from Vermont and owned land next to each other. Deacon Dutton's residence was close to the Morses and near the old State Route to Chicago but also had 19 acres next to J.A. Ranney off what is close to Coal Bank Road.
- 3 The northbound road on what is now Washington Street made a dog leg north of town. Can anyone recall why...?
- 4 Coal Bank was not yet an improved road.



1876 Woodford County ...

- 1 -. What is now the Santa Fe Road running west out of Metamora was labeled "Impracticable Road."
- 2 Note that Hickory Point was a small settlement with a school and church nearby.
- 3 The Union House stood where the State Police HQ now stands.
- 4 The road from Peoria to Germantown followed the Ten Mile Creek Road.
- 5 Old roads often developed at the edge of where forested land met flat land – much like area along Route 116.

1876 Woodford County ...

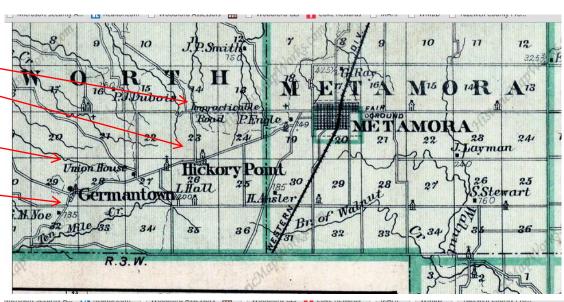
1 – Note the "coal shaft" in Worth Township near the northern junction of Worth and Metamora townships. This shaft was started after the owner did not find coal in a shaft approximately where the Community Center is today. This shaft is located off Coal Bank Road.

If any of our readers can help out with more information on old roads, properties, schools, landmarks, etc, we would certainly welcome your help!!

These maps and other old maps can be found at historicmapworks.com

Contact Us

Questions, ideas...





We would love to hear from you. Laure Adams, President, 369-2353 or jrfarmer@mtco.com; Kenneth Willman, Vice President, 367-4426; Shirley Adams, Secretary, 367-2289; Jack Weddle, Treasurer, 645-0963 or jweddle@mtco.com; Board members: Dave Pohlman, 369-3290; pohlman46@yahoo.com; Lee Summer, 367-4059, 635-0259, lwmmer@mtco.com; Mary Curry, 367-2185, curry@mtco.com