

LINCOLN'S NEW SALEM

Along the Sangamon River, tucked between vast expanses of corn and bean fields, lies a rustic log-cabin village where Abraham Lincoln spent six years as a young man. Just two miles south of Petersburg, Lincoln's New Salem is off the beaten path of other famous Lincoln sites in Illinois' capital city. But the 20-minute trip northwest of Springfield is well worth the time and provides young and old alike a peak into the past and the early life of our 16th President.

Abraham Lincoln arrived at New Salem on a flatboat via the Sangamon River in 1831. He worked in the village splitting rails, as a store clerk and as postmaster, and studied law by candlelight at night. The reconstructed village includes period-furnished log houses, a general store, a tavern, a doctor's office, a schoolhouse, a gristmill and a church. Furnishings include many early 19th-century articles such as candle molds, cord beds, spinning wheels, wood cards and early-American pewter.

At various times of the year New Salem comes alive with interpreters in period dress, and features activities and demonstrations depicting villagers at work and at home. In addition, New Salem offers a picnic area, a restaurant, year-round camping and an outdoor amphitheater featuring summer performances under the stars. Summer day camps for youngsters also are available.

For information and a virtual tour of New Salem, please visit www.lincolnsnewsalem.com. For more information on other Lincoln sites, visit the Springfield Convention & Visitors Bureau at www.visit-springfieldillinois.com/Lincoln/.



Other Lincoln sites in Springfield:

- Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum
- Lincoln Home National Historic Site
- Lincoln-Herndon Law Offices
- Lincoln Depot
- Old State Capitol State Historic Site
- Lincoln Tomb State Historic Site