

## ORIGINS OF COUNTY NAMES

- Adams** — President John Quincy Adams, Secretary of State under President James Monroe, U.S. Representative and leading defender of free speech.
- Alexander** — William M. Alexander, early settler of the district and state representative in the second and third General Assemblies.
- Bond** — Shadrach Bond, first Governor of the State of Illinois.
- Boone** — Daniel Boone, pioneer hunter, explorer and Indian fighter.
- Brown** — Gen. Jacob Brown, soldier in War of 1812 and later commanding general of the U.S. Army.
- Bureau** — Pierre de Bureo, French trader with Indians.
- Calhoun** — John C. Calhoun, southern statesman and U.S. Vice President under Presidents Adams and Jackson.
- Carroll** — Charles Carroll of Carrollton, signer of the Declaration of Independence.
- Cass** — Gen. Lewis Cass, presidential candidate, U.S. Senator, Secretary of War under President Jackson and Secretary of State under President Buchanan.
- Champaign** — County in Ohio.
- Christian** — County in Kentucky.
- Clark** — George Rogers Clark, soldier of the American Revolution and captor of Fort Vincennes and Kaskaskia.
- Clay** — Henry Clay, U.S. Representative and Senator, author of the “Missouri Compromise” and three-time presidential candidate.
- Clinton** — DeWitt Clinton, mayor of the city and Governor of the State of New York; promoter of the Erie Canal.
- Coles** — Edward Coles, second Governor of Illinois.
- Cook** — Daniel P. Cook, pioneer lawyer, first Attorney General of Illinois and member of Congress (1819-27).
- Crawford** — William H. Crawford, prominent U.S. Senator from Georgia and presidential candidate in 1824.
- Cumberland** — The Cumberland or National Road was a 19th-century highway extending 800 miles from Cumberland, Maryland, to Vandalia, Illinois.
- DeKalb** — Johann DeKalb, German who fought in the American Revolution; killed in 1780.
- DeWitt** — DeWitt Clinton (see Clinton).
- Douglas** — Stephen A. Douglas, U.S. Senator (1847-61); debated Abraham Lincoln on slavery and ran against him for President in 1860.
- DuPage** — DuPage River.
- Edgar** — John Edgar, pioneer merchant and politician.
- Edwards** — Ninian Edwards, Illinois’ third Governor.
- Effingham** — Lord Edward Effingham, resigned his post in the British Army rather than fight the colonies in 1775.
- Fayette** — Marquis de La Fayette, French nobleman who served in the American Revolution Army commanding French troops at the battle of Yorktown.
- Ford** — Thomas Ford, Illinois’ eighth Governor.
- Franklin** — Benjamin Franklin, famed statesman and U.S. ambassador to France during the American Revolution.
- Fulton** — Robert Fulton, first successful builder of steamboats on American waters.
- Gallatin** — Albert Gallatin, financier and member of Congress from Pennsylvania.
- Greene** — Gen. Nathaniel Greene, commander in the southern colonies during the American Revolution.
- Grundy** — Felix Grundy, U.S. Senator from Tennessee and U.S. Attorney General.
- Hamilton** — Alexander Hamilton, revolutionary soldier and first Secretary of the Treasury (1789-95).

**Hancock** — John Hancock, revolutionary soldier and first signer of the Declaration of Independence.

**Hardin** — County in Kentucky.

**Henderson** — Henderson River.

**Henry** — Patrick Henry, famed orator, revolutionary soldier and Governor of Virginia.

**Iroquois** — Native American tribe.

**Jackson** — President Andrew Jackson, known as “Old Hickory” during the War of 1812; used presidential veto power to dramatically strengthen the office.

**Jasper** — Sgt. William Jasper, revolutionary hero at Charleston and Savannah.

**Jefferson** — President Thomas Jefferson, American Revolution leader, political philosopher and author of the Declaration of Independence.

**Jersey** — State of New Jersey.

**Jo Daviess** — Joseph Hamilton Daviess, prominent Kentucky lawyer and soldier; slain at the Battle of Tippecanoe in 1811.

**Johnson** — Col. Richard M. Johnson, reputed to have killed the Indian Chief Tecumseh; also U.S. Vice President (1837-41).

**Kane** — Senator Elias K. Kane, first Secretary of State of Illinois.

**Kankakee** — Native American tribe.

**Kendall** — Amos Kendall, postmaster general under President Jackson and partner of S.B. Morse, inventor of the telegraph.

**Knox** — Gen. Henry Knox, revolutionary hero and President George Washington’s Secretary of War.

**Lake** — Lake Michigan.

**La Salle** — Robert de La Salle, French explorer who navigated the length of the Mississippi River and claimed the Louisiana Territory for France.

**Lawrence** — Capt. James Lawrence, commander of the U.S.S. Chesapeake; killed in naval battle in 1812.

**Lee** — Richard Henry Lee, orator and statesman of the American Revolution.

**Livingston** — Edward Livingston, U.S. Secretary of State under President Andrew Jackson.

**Logan** — Dr. John Logan, pioneer physician and father of Gen. John A. Logan.

**Macon** — Nathaniel Macon, revolutionary soldier and later U.S. Senator.

**Macoupin** — Native American name.

**Madison** — President James Madison, known as the father of the U.S. Constitution. Fought for a strong central government to replace the Articles of Confederation.

**Marion** — Gen. Francis Marion, known as the “Swamp Fox,” distinguished soldier in the Carolinas during the American Revolution.

**Marshall** — John Marshall, fourth Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. Known for developing the power of the Supreme Court and formulating constitutional law.

**Mason** — County in Kentucky.

**Massac** — Fort Massac.

**McDonough** — Commodore Thomas McDonough, defeated the British on Lake Champlain in 1814.

**McHenry** — Gen. William McHenry, fought in the War of 1812 and the Black Hawk War; served in several early General Assemblies.

**McLean** — John McLean, first representative in Congress from Illinois in 1818 and U.S. Senator (1824-25).

**Menard** — Pierre Menard, first Lieutenant Governor of Illinois.

**Mercer** — Gen. Hugh Mercer, killed at the Battle of Princeton during the American Revolution.

**Monroe** — President James Monroe, revolutionary soldier, diplomat; served two cabinet posts under President James Madison; known as co-negotiator of the Louisiana Purchase and author of the Monroe Doctrine.

**Montgomery** — Gen. Richard Montgomery, revolutionary soldier of Irish birth; killed at Quebec in 1775.

**Morgan** — Gen. Daniel Morgan, earned distinction during the American Revolution at Quebec and Saratoga.

**Moultrie** — Gen. William Moultrie, successful defender of Fort Moultrie at Charleston, SC, during the American Revolution.

**Ogle** — Lt. Joseph Ogle, member of the territorial militia.

**Peoria** — Native American name.

**Perry** — Commodore Oliver H. Perry, won distinction in the Battle of Lake Erie in 1813.

**Piatt** — James A. Piatt, Sr., settled in that area in 1829.

**Pike** — Zebulon M. Pike, general in the War of 1812, and American explorer after whom Pikes Peak in Colorado was named.

**Pope** — Nathaniel Pope, first territorial Secretary of State (1809-16).

**Pulaski** — Count Casimir Pulaski, Polish hero who was killed in the attack on Savannah, GA, in 1779.

**Putnam** — Gen. Israel Putnam, revolutionary soldier.

**Randolph** — Edmund Randolph, revolutionary soldier, Secretary of State and U.S. Attorney General under President George Washington.

**Richland** — County in Ohio.

**Rock Island** — A rock island in the Mississippi River.

**Saline** — Saline Creek.

**Sangamon** — Native American name meaning “the land of plenty to eat.”

**Schuyler** — Gen. Philip Schuyler, revolutionary soldier and U.S. Senator from New York.

**Scott** — County in Kentucky.

**Shelby** — Isaac Shelby, soldier of the American Revolution, the Indian Wars and the War of 1812, and Governor of Kentucky (1792-96).

**Stark** — Gen. John Stark, revolutionary soldier; won fame at Bunker Hill, Trenton, Princeton and Bennington.

**St. Clair** — Gen. Arthur St. Clair, Commander in Chief of the U.S. Army after the American Revolution and Governor of U.S. Territory northwest of the Ohio River.

**Stephenson** — Col. Benjamin Stephenson, Adjutant General of the Illinois Territory (1813-14).

**Tazewell** — Lyttelton W. Tazewell, U.S. Senator from Virginia.

**Union** — Federal Union of the American states.

**Vermilion** — Vermilion River.

**Wabash** — Native American name.

**Warren** — Gen. Joseph Warren, pioneer physician and revolutionary soldier killed at Bunker Hill.

**Washington** — President George Washington, Commander in Chief of the Army during the American Revolution.

**Wayne** — Gen. Anthony Wayne, famed revolutionary commander and Indian fighter.

**White** — Leonard White, member of the Constitutional Convention of 1818.

**Whiteside** — Samuel Whiteside, Representative in the first General Assembly and brigadier general in the Black Hawk War.

**Will** — Conrad Will, member of the Constitutional Convention of 1818 and member of the first nine Illinois General Assemblies.

**Williamson** — County in Tennessee.

**Winnebago** — Native American name.

**Woodford** — County in Kentucky.