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BICENTENNIAL USA

IOWA and The U.S. Bicentennial

1776 — 1976

The Final Report

Iowa American Revolution
Bicentennial Commission

Robert W. Dillon, Chairman 1970 — 1976
Don N. Kersten, Vice-Chairman

State Capitol
December, 1976
Des Moines, Iowa





WHERE IT ALL BEGAN . . .

THE LAW WAS PASSED . . .

The Sixty-third General Assembly passed House File 1339 which established the Iowa American Revolution Bicentennial Commission. Its main charge was to develop state goals, encourage community projects, and prepare programs for commemorating the American Revolution throughout Iowa.

The law gave to the Commission a very broad role to plan, encourage, develop and coordinate activities and projects that made all citizens conscious of the 200th anniversary of the boldest step man has ever taken toward basic freedoms.

The Iowa American Revolution Bicentennial Commission was to promote those activities, projects and events which commemorated the historic occasion that founded our great nation. And, beyond all question, this mission was accomplished.



THE BICENTENNIAL BEGINNING . . .

The People —

—The Iowa American Revolution Bicentennial Commission was structured to represent the citizens of this state. Some of the members were appointed by the Governor, others were established by law, and others named by the leaders of the Iowa Legislature. Put together, the Commission consisted of a cross-section of Iowans who for six years would plan an appropriate celebration of the U.S. American Revolution Bicentennial.

The Staff —

—It took a crew of dedicated workers to implement the program and the policies set by the Iowa Commission. Especially important was the contact at the grass-roots level, with the citizens across the state. This required coordination, a field staff, and a director of operations. This was done. At its peak, more than a year before the Bicentennial events, there were seven state staff workers.

The Program —

—There was no roadmap, no master plan or no precedent to be used by the Iowa Commission in commemorating the U.S. American Revolution Bicentennial of July 4, 1976. Policies, programs and all had to be developed, evaluated, and adopted. There was a celebration in Iowa in 1876, the Commission members learned. But, in general, they had to plow a new furrow. And they did.

A THREE-FOLD APPROACH

★ HERITAGE '76

A nationwide summons was made to recall our heritage and to place it in its historical perspective. All groups within our society were urged to re-examine origins, values and the meaning of America — what it was, what it is and what it can be. This re-examination would focus on the accomplishments of the United States and its development and at the same time create an interest in restoration, preservation and identifying some of those things that were a part of an earlier Iowa and its history.

★ FESTIVAL USA

This aspect of the U.S. American Revolution Bicentennial observance related to special activities or events which helped bring attention among our citizens and foreigners to 1976. The events in Iowa covered a wide range, from the Old Creamery Theater Group from Garrison which performed historic plays to the Van Buren County Bicentennial Singers who sang songs like The Yankee Doodle Boy and You're a Grand Old Flag. Other events were educational in nature, such as the World Food Conference at Iowa State University or the National Farm Institute in Des Moines. These events and activities took place during 1975 as well as in 1976.

★ HORIZONS '76

This part of the U.S. Bicentennial program related to those things planned or developed for the future and for use and enjoyment of the Iowa citizens for many years beyond 1976. Such projects were varied, and ranged from the restoration of Old Capitol in Iowa City, to a Log Cabin in Clayton County, or an antique railroad depot in Grafton, or an old mill in Lime Springs or a One-Room Country Schoolhouse in Jefferson County. The projects were intended to demonstrate concern for future human welfare, enjoyment and freedom, and to bring people together in a Bicentennial project of a lasting nature.



State of Iowa

Executive Department

IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF IOWA

Proclamation

- Whereas,** the observance of the Bicentennial provides all Americans with a unique opportunity to further their understanding and appreciation of their national heritage; and
- Whereas,** the Bicentennial Era marks the anniversary of a time said to be the single most important happening in our Nation's history - independence; and
- Whereas,** our revolutionary forebears proclaimed their independence and now, 200 years later, we still struggle not for a new Revolution but to fine tune the one that happened two centuries ago; and
- Whereas,** in 1976 we should proclaim our independence from fear of tomorrow; and
- Whereas,** 1976 is a year for new challenges for all Americans - a time to look at the 21st Century with determination to work constructively to make our Nation truly a place for all people to be free regardless of their color, age, sex, religion or status in life and to build a better future for all:

Now, Therefore, I, Robert D. Ray, Governor of the State of Iowa, do hereby proclaim April, 1975 through December, 1976, as the

Bicentennial Era

in the State of Iowa and encourage all Iowans to commemorate the Bicentennial by promoting goodwill and friendship and by actively participating in celebrations and festivities in connection with this anniversary of our Nation.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereto subscribed my name and caused the Great Seal of the State of Iowa to be affixed. Done at Des Moines this 24th day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred seventy-five.

Attest:



Secretary of State



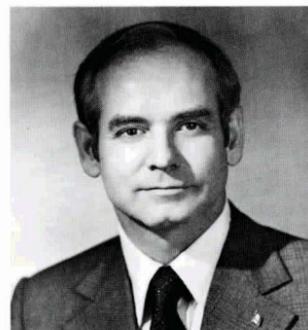
Governor



Office of the Governor

STATE CAPITOL
DES MOINES, IOWA 50319

ROBERT D. RAY
GOVERNOR



Dear Friends:

I am pleased to have an opportunity to contribute to this permanent record of the Bicentennial celebration in our state.

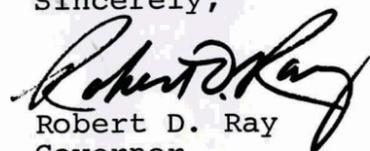
During 1976, our Iowans joined with people across America in commemorating our nation's 200th anniversary with parades and festivals. On the Fourth of July, thousands of our citizens gathered in Iowa City for the rededication of the Old Capitol, which was restored as a special Bicentennial project.

Throughout the year, Iowans captured the Bicentennial spirit. Their enthusiasm helped to make Iowa the number one state in the number of Bicentennial communities, projects and events, as recognized by the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration. Certainly, that is an achievement in which all Iowans can take pride.

During this historic Bicentennial year, reflections on our country's great heritage did indeed receive much emphasis. But our Iowans also sensed that the Bicentennial was a unique opportunity to look ahead. Now that we have moved beyond the Bicentennial year, I hope that we will pursue with fervor a renewed determination to make our country truly a place for all people to be free.

I want to thank all of you who contributed to the successful marking of our Bicentennial, and wish everyone a bright and productive future.

Sincerely,


Robert D. Ray
Governor

RDR:njm

MEMBERS OF THE IOWA AMERICAN REVOLUTION BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION

Appointed by the Governor

Robert W. Dillon, Chairman
General Manager KRNT, Radio & TV (Retired)
Des Moines
Mrs. Edwin W. Bruere
National Vice-Chairman
Daughters of the American Revolution
Cedar Rapids
Don N. Kersten
Attorney at Law
Fort Dodge
William G. Murray
Agricultural Consultant
Ames
Don C. Muhm
Farm Editor
Des Moines Register and Tribune
Des Moines
Robert M. Stone
Golden Rod Farms
Chariton
Mrs. Evelyn Birkby
Radio Broadcaster & Newspaper Columnist
Sidney

Appointed by the Lt. Governor

Norman G. Rogers
State Senator (Adel)
Forrest V. Schwengels
State Senator (Fairfield)

Established by the Law

Melvin Synhorst
Secretary of State
C. Joseph Coleman
State Senator (Clare)
Peter Harstad
Director, State Historical Society
Jack W. Musgrove
Curator, Iowa Department of History & Archives
Fred Prewert
Director, State Conservation Commission
Willard Boyd
President, University of Iowa
W. Robert Parks
President, Iowa State University
John J. Kamerick
President, University of Northern Iowa
Del Van Horn, Director,
Iowa Development Commission
Kenneth R. Fulk, Secretary, Iowa
State Fair & Secretary, Iowa American
Revolution Bicentennial Commission

Appointed by the Speaker of the House

Richard L. Byerly
State Representative (Ankeny)
Lillian McElroy
State Representative (Percival)

THEIR DUTIES . . .

The Iowa American Revolution Bicentennial Commission was established by the Sixty-third General Assembly to develop projects, programs and activities commemorating the American Revolution's 200th anniversary, and to encourage, and coordinate activities across the state. In addition it was to help provide state and federal funds on a matching grant basis generally to help finance appropriate, endorsed and approved projects, programs and activities in honor of the Bicentennial of the American Revolution.

In general the main mission was to remind all citizens of the heritage of the United States and to encourage them to use their talents or gifts in helping observe an important milestone in our history, and to review the precious freedoms our country represents in a world where freedom is truly something to be protected and preserved.

IOWA AMERICAN REVOLUTION BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION

STATE CAPITOL □ DES MOINES, IA 50319
PHONE (515) 247-4314



- Robert W. Dillon, Chairman
Des Moines
- Don N. Kersten, Vice Chairman
Fort Dodge
- Jerry Coughlon, Secretary
Des Moines
- Mrs. Robert Birkby
Sidney
- Willard L. Boyd
Iowa City
- Mrs. Edwin W. Bruere
Cedar Rapids
- REPRESENTATIVE
Richard L. Byerly
Ankeny
- SENATOR
C. oh Coleman
- Peter Harstad
Iowa City
- John J. Kamerick
Cedar Falls
- REPRESENTATIVE
Lillian McElroy
Percival
- William G. Murray
Ames
- Jack J. Musgrove
Des Moines
- W. Robert Parks
Ames
- Fred A. Prierwert
Des Moines
- SENATOR
Norman Rodgers
Adel
- SENATOR
Forrest V. Schwengels
Fairfield
- Robert M. Stone
Chariton
- SECRETARY OF STATE
Melvin Synhorst
Des Moines
- Del Van Horn
Des Moines
- STAFF
R. Edwin Redfern
Executive Director



Dear Citizens of Iowa:

This is the final report of the Iowa American Revolution Bicentennial Commission. This was the state agency which was operated for six years to encourage, coordinate, and sometimes help by small money grants, mostly of a matching fund nature, the many projects and events which made Iowa the national leader in such Bicentennial activity.

It has been an exciting and meaningful six years for me. I have enjoyed the contact with the hundreds of local Iowa leaders who really deserve the credit for such a splendid record of varied activities designed to commemorate the birth of our nation.

These local leaders were dedicated people who used their time, talents, and their money to help make our Bicentennial something very special. In so doing they reminded us of a vital lesson which I believe will help our country in the years to come. Through their involvement in Bicentennial projects, activities, and events they demonstrated that much good can be accomplished for their communities, their state, their nation, and their world by caring enough to become involved.

There is really no way a state or federal agency could have planned or directed the great number of Iowa Bicentennial projects and events which you will read about in this report.

The people, under strong local leadership, acted, and thus we Iowans brought about a truly grass roots celebration.

The record speaks for itself in a language I trust will communicate over the span of years until our nation's next 100th birthday. I hope this message is saying that we Iowans loved our communities, our state, and our nation and that we showed it by becoming involved. We hope you people will feel the same way in the year 2076 as we wish you a great United States Tricentennial.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Dillon
Robert W. Dillon
Chairman

A NATIONAL LOOK AT THE BICENTENNIAL . . .
JOHN W. WARNER, ADMINISTRATOR
American Revolution Bicentennial Administration



John W. Warner

"While future generations will make the final judgment, it is my belief that the Bicentennial marks a major turning point for the United States of America and its people.

"Individual achievement is the hallmark of the Bicentennial. Untold millions seized this unique period of history as their chance to do 'their own thing' for their community, for their country. These individuals assured America that it got the Bicentennial it wanted.

". . . I believe we have a better understanding of our past — its greatness as well as its faults — and a better understanding of how all faiths and all nationalities have brought something of themselves to American life . . . As we celebrate the Fourth of July and step together into Century Three, let us remember the words of President Lincoln at Gettysburg: 'It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us.'"

REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

"The 200th anniversary of the United States was a worthy date to celebrate — but for people in the midwest the big question was how this could be done. We midwesterners lacked Revolutionary War battlefields, other historical sites to memorialize and we are too conservative by nature to invest all of our commemorative effort in pyrotechnics.

"This relatively young part of the U.S. felt a kinship to the Signers of the Declaration of Independence, and probably because it has been so few years since many of our ancestors sought freedom and opportunity in this part of our land.

"Consequently, we sought to honor those American heroes. How? By developing U.S. Bicentennial projects that improved the quality of community life in states like Iowa.

"Collectively, in the State of Iowa, that commitment was realized to a greater degree than in any other state in the Union. Throughout Iowa there were about 2,800 Bicentennial projects and events — this is 50 percent more than any other state.

"And these projects and events in Iowa were the result of the efforts by a nation-leading 811 officially-designated Bicentennial Communities.

"A great and growing state thus had to become a better home for all Iowans during the Bicentennial Era by seeking the common good. This is akin to how our great nation was founded. Our 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence couldn't have hoped for more." —Frank Harrington, Regional Director, American Revolution Bicentennial Administration, Kansas City, Missouri, on Nov. 1, 1976.



Frank Harrington

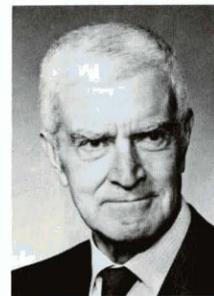
IOWA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S VIEWS

Murray Goodman, executive director of the Iowa American Revolution Bicentennial Commission, gives credit to the field staff for the success of the Iowa program.

"The field staff was successful in developing county Bicentennial Committees in all of Iowa's 99 counties, and in 811 cities and towns," Goodman related. "These organizations were encouraged to develop their own programs in the three theme areas — Heritage, Festival and Horizons.

"Great emphasis was placed on encouraging all ages to participate in the Bicentennial, especially young Iowans, because the continuation of our democratic government will be their responsibility in the second and third quarters of our nation's Third Century. And we found widespread interest and participation in Iowa schools, colleges, and universities.

"The wide variety of projects and programs reflected the enthusiasm of all Iowans to make 1976 a memorable year. One of the most rewarding results of the Bicentennial year was the preservation of things relating to Iowa's history, its historic treasures and the on-going programs that will carry on into our Third Century and into Iowa's future."



Murray Goodman

FORD'S VIEW OF THE U.S. BICENTENNIAL



Gerald R. Ford
The Bicentennial—a "Wonderful experience"

President Ford said in a Special Proclamation issued for 1976 and the U.S. Bicentennial: "I call upon every man, woman and child to celebrate the diversity of tradition, culture and heritage that reflects our people and our patrimony. Let each of us resolve to cherish and protect what we have achieved in the United States of America and to build upon it in the years ahead, not by words alone, but by actions which bespeak a continuing commitment to a heritage of individual initiative, creativity and liberty."

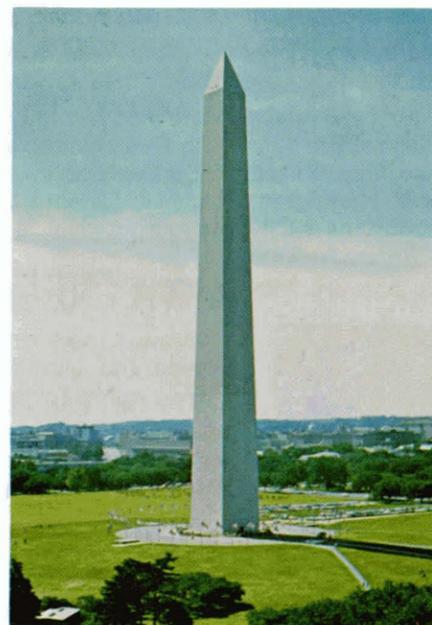
The President said also, "I urge all Americans to reflect, from time to time during the Bicentennial Year on the historic events of our past, on the heroic deeds of those whose legacy we now enjoy, and on the compelling visions of those who helped shape our constitutional government."

Then, during a national television debate on Oct. 22, 1976, with his Democratic opponent Jimmy Carter (who was to defeat Mr. Ford on Nov. 2, 1976, for the Presidency), President Ford had this to say:

"During this campaign we've seen a lot of television shows, a lot of bumper stickers and a great many slogans of one kind or another. But those are not the things that count.

"What counts is that the United States celebrated its 200th Birthday on July 4. As a result of that wonderful experience all over the United States, there is a new spirit in America.

"The American people are healed, are working together. The American people are moving again, and moving in the right direction."



Washington Monument

PREFACE

November, 1976
Des Moines, Iowa



It is quite a challenge to be asked to put into words a message to those people who will make up the State of Iowa a hundred years hence. Especially when one considers that there is absolutely no guarantee whatsoever that so much as a single word will be seen, or read. Or, for that matter, that there will indeed be an Iowa in the Year 2076, or a U.S.A., or even a world. Or, that anyone will care one way or the other.

This publication is intended to be the Final Report of the Iowa American Revolution Bicentennial Commission, an organization of citizens who for six years or so struggled with the task of appropriately commemorating the 200th anniversary of the birth of the United States when mankind began the noble experiment in human freedom.

As this is being written in November, 1976, no nation, or people, on the face of the globe is more free. No nation's citizenship, or residence, is more sought. No nation is richer, or more powerful, or more promising.

This is not to leave the impression that all is great, and that America and Americans are without fault, or blemish, or error. No. That is not the case. Our nation has fought bloody wars, experienced assassinations, a presidential resignation, depressions, recessions, riots, racial and poverty problems and crime in the streets. No. There is plenty of room for improvement even here. But the United States is still a young country and who among us would expect perfection in only 200 years? We can only hope that you people in the Year 2076, when the Time Capsule containing this report is opened, are more perfect, and, most important, more free.

We have very few records before us that any similar group — commission or whatever — had been established to celebrate our nation's centennial in 1876.

So what we did in 1976 really was accomplished without prior plan or precedent. One of the charges given to the Iowa Bicentennial Commission was the

chore of preparing this Final Report, a last official message to the citizens of Iowa now, and for you citizens of 2076. We want you to know something of the projects, programs, activities and things which were encouraged, sponsored and authorized by the Bicentennial Commission.

There were several major projects endorsed and funded in part by the state commission. One was the World Food Conference of 1976 at Iowa State University and its subsequent successor-organization, the continuing World Food Institute. These projects were designed to focus on the world hunger problem, and how technology might be used to solve that age-old problem of food.

The Iowa Bicentennial Commission also supported Living History Farms near Des Moines, the 500-acre development which traces the progress of American farming from an Iowa Pioneer Farm of 1840 to the Horse Farm of 1900 and the Iowa Farm of the Future. Again, the theme here is food and food production, things for which the Iowa of 1976 is known around the food-short world.

A third nationally-recognized Iowa Bicentennial project related to the schools of the state which organized and carried out projects during 1976 and attained recognition as Bicentennial Schools. A total of 502 schools earned this distinction, which represents schools both private and public. This School Program originated with the Iowa Commission, was adopted to help bring youth into the Bicentennial activity in 1976, and also was strongly supported by the Iowa Department of Public Instruction.

There were other major heritage projects in Iowa, too, such as the restoration of the Iowa Territorial Capitol in Iowa City, and the refurbishing of Terrace Hill in Des Moines as the Iowa Governor's Mansion.

But there were numerous smaller projects, too. Such as the preservation of the One-Room Country Schoolhouse in Jefferson County, the restoration of the Milton Church in Van Buren County, and the preservation of native grasses and plants in

the Old Rochester Cemetery in Cedar County, just to name a few.

How important were such things? No one now can really tell. At this time they appear pretty important, to local sponsors, Bicentennial officials and others. Perhaps a hundred years from now such things won't appear important at all. Then again, maybe a future generation will look backward a century and be grateful that someone had the vision and the desire to preserve some of those things as part of life in Early Iowa.

There isn't any way for us to know what kind of world, nation, or state there will be a century from now. One can only speculate. Or, whether another Iowa Commission will be in operation to celebrate the nation's Tricentennial and the beginning of the Fourth Century for the United States of America.

This publication has been designed to give you an idea of how the people of Iowa responded to the 200th year since the American Revolution, and the anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, and in what way the citizens commemorated the occasion.

Perhaps some of the things we have included here in this publication won't have too much meaning to you readers in 2076 at the start of the Fourth Century. For instance, there are a couple of pages devoted to U.S. Postage stamps. This has significance to us for a couple of reasons: Stamps and the passage of the Stamp Act by the British in 1765 had something to do with the start of the American Revolution; there were no commemorative U.S. stamps issued in honor of the nation's Centennial in 1876; and, finally, there were a total of 104 different



commemorative type postal issues minted by the U.S. Government during the five-year Bicentennial Era of 1971-1976.

We have no way of knowing, of course, if there will be any special commemorative postal stamps issued for the year 2076 in honor of the Tricentennial. It could be there will not be anything resembling the postage stamp, or mail, by then, and that the First Class Mail which is so much an important part of our era will have been replaced by electronic devices, a television-telephone combination or some other new method of communication.

It could be, too, that by the Year 2076 the U.S. Postage Stamp will have out-priced itself, and that the inflationary period experienced in the 1970's continued to that point where mail was just too expensive. After all, when the first American Revolution Bicentennial Stamp was minted in 1971 (The Bicentennial Logo Stamp), it cost 8 cents to mail a First Class letter. By January 1, 1976 (when the three-stamp reproducing the famed Spirit of '76 painting was released), the cost of mailing a common letter in the U.S. was 13 cents. That famous Spirit of '76 painting, incidentally, was created in 1876 as a special way of observing the U.S. Centennial.

But who knows of such things? We can only leave behind a record of what a relatively small number of people, equipped with limited, local, state and federal funds, were able to do — largely at their own initiative and with a minimum of either state or federal direction. The bulk of the state or federal tax money was granted to local Bicentennial groups in the form of matching funds, a system which meant that local folks first had to raise finances of their

own before they could request either state or federal aid. In addition, the project involved in the request for money first had to be endorsed and approved by appropriate local, and county Bicentennial organizations or commissions.

To many observers, this matching grant aspect was a key reason for the success of the Bicentennial observance in Iowa.

In summary, Iowa led the nation in Bicentennial projects and in the number of designated Bicentennial Communities. There were about 2,800 projects, events or activities across the state involving an estimated quarter-million Iowans in some way or another and coming into contact with nearly all of the state's 3 million population. To stage these activities, there were \$547,500 in matching funds provided from state and federal sources, which in turn is believed to have nurtured several million dollars worth of investment in the various Bicentennial programs, projects and activities.

But mere statistics or financial figures do not begin to tell the story of what happened in Iowa in 1976, or how the people felt about the U.S. Bicentennial, or how they took part in parades, heard speeches, local Fourth of July celebrations or whatever. There was much in evidence of the Bicentennial, from auto bumper-stickers which said simply, "Happy Birthday, U.S." to the Bicentennial "Minutes" on network television to the Bike-Centennial across the U.S., as well as the wagon trains to Valley Forge and various local "Paul Revere" rides, and such things.

How can you summarize such a mixture and blend of activities which ranged from placing



memorabilia in a time capsule to a local Watermelon Day or Style Show or Blue Grass (Music) Festival?

President Ford had this to say about the Bicentennial in part: "What counts is that the United States celebrated its 200th Birthday on July 4. As a result of that wonderful experience all over the United States, there is a new spirit in America.

"The American people are healed, are working together. The American people are moving again and moving in the right direction."

The President's remarks related to the fact that he had succeeded a President who had resigned the nation's highest post in disgrace, after earlier succeeding a U.S. Vice-President who had left that office for pretty much the same, dishonorable reasons. So it appeared to have significance to hear Mr. Ford say, "The American people are healed, are working together . . . are moving again and moving in the right direction."

In Iowa, there is little question that the people were moving in the right direction in 1976, and that they helped commemorate the birth of the freest nation on earth, a country which had survived some pretty severe tests of its governmental system from within and without, and yet remained the leader of the free world.

The Bicentennial Era seemed to provide some incentive and dedication to keep our nation like that.

Don Muhm, Original Member
of the Iowa American Revolution
Bicentennial Commission

SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES

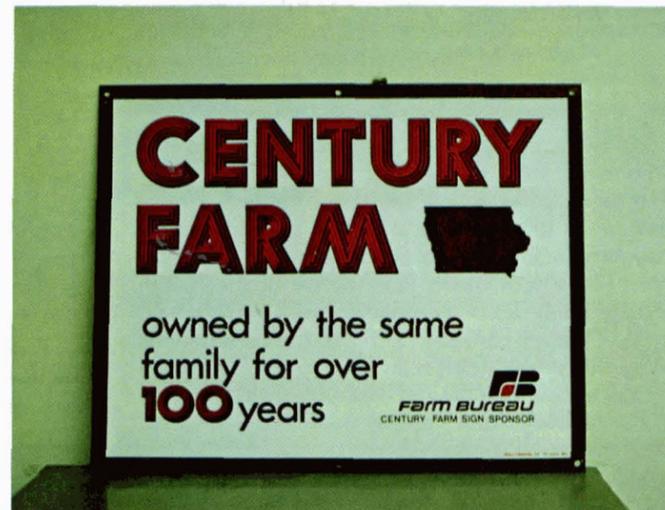


FROM restoring The Old . . .

The Old Milwaukee Railroad Depot at Grafton in far north central Iowa was one of the many Bicentennial projects in the state which involved a restoration. Iowans began restoring old homes, schools, churches, grain mills and even jails during the Bicentennial Era. In Grafton, the two-story depot built about 1900 was the subject of a grant by the Iowa Bicentennial Commission to help restore the facility and transform it into a museum. Local Worth County Bicentennial officials estimated that the photo of the Grafton Depot shown here was taken probably about 1907. The depot was closed in the late 1950's as passenger service dwindled on the nation's railways and the airways became busier with air travel. Railroad lines then concentrated on hauling freight and mail, branch lines were closed and the shipment of grain and manufactured products prevailed as the main commerce. Some Iowa communities then lost what little rail service they had.

. . .to recognition of the Old

Special gate signs were given to Iowa farm families during the Bicentennial Era in recognition of farms owned by the same family for 100 years or longer. The signs were provided by the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation, while certificates attesting to the fact that the family had a Century Farm were given by the Iowa Department of Agriculture. All of the activity took place under the Heritage '76 Committee. There were 5,000 farms which qualified for such signs and certificates presented in Iowa during the U.S. Bicentennial Year, according to the sponsoring officials. And late in 1976 the decision was made to continue the recognition the following year to enable Iowa families who missed the deadline to apply for this Century Farm designation. It was only proper that Iowa, where 34.5 million acres is farmed, came up with this type of a Bicentennial salute to farm families.



Buck and Brod, a pair of South Devon cattle used as oxen at Living History Farms in the early 1970's are shown here with Mr. and Mrs. Darwin Thede. The Thedes represented the Pioneer Family of 1840 at the farms development northwest of Des Moines where a log cabin was their home and headquarters.

One of the oxen died shortly after this photo was taken and Thede had to break in a new team (this time Ayrshire cattle were used), explaining that the animals had to grow up together in order to work together in farming chores like plowing, hoeing and hauling.

TWO NATIONALLY-RECOGNIZED PROJECTS



LIVING HISTORY FARMS

Nearly 95 percent of the people lived on farms or in rural areas at the time of the American Revolution which is just the reverse of the situation 200 years later in the United States.

As a result, some far-sighted individuals — including Dr. William G. Murray of Iowa State University — got the idea that it might be important to develop a tourist attraction and educational experience which points up the story of American agriculture.

Dr. Murray proposed a Living History Farms development rather than a museum-like approach to “tell the story of farming in Iowa” to the 95 percent of the American people not living on farms.

Consequently, in 1967 Dr. Murray started to work for the development of the “outdoors, operating” kind of museum. An Iowa Pioneer Farm of 1840 — where oxen provided the horsepower — was the first to be established, complete with log cabin, smoke

house, fruit-storm cellar and split-rail fences.

Then followed the Iowa Horse Farm of 1900 — a nostalgic kind of Iowa farming when real horsepower began to make inroads into whipping the food production problem and when prosperity was in store for farmers.

The final “farm” is the Iowa Farm of Today and Tomorrow, or more simply, the Farm of the Future. This farm is a bit more difficult to develop.

The 500-acre development is a non-profit, educational attraction which drew financial support from the Iowa Bicentennial Commission and endorsement by the federal Bicentennial officials. Two persons close to the Living History Farms development played a key role in the Iowa Bicentennial Commission. They were Dr. Murray, an original member of the commission, and Oliver Gillespie, the executive director of Living History Farms and Dr. Murray’s permanent proxy.

WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE

Politicians and governmental leaders, the two types of people who played such an important role in the first World Food Conference (in 1974) in Rome, Italy, were not included as participants in the World Food Conference of 1976 at Iowa State University in Ames.

The ISU version of the international food parley carried as its theme — “The World Food Conference of 1976 — The Role of The Professional in Feeding Mankind.”

The professionals at producing food did “star” at this week-long meeting where an audience of thousands heard speakers discuss the world food situation, constraints and potentials,

alternatives in food production and food policies, as well as world population growth and the increasing demand for food.

Each major session of the World Food Conference was followed by a series of work shops where foreign specialists met with U.S. officials and others to analyze the food situation and related problems.

This food parley was endorsed nationally by the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration and was funded in part by a grant from the Iowa Bicentennial Commission. About 50 nations took part in the conference.



In a related development, a World Food Institute was established by Iowa State University in 1972 to focus on the University’s prowess and leadership in food production and related fields. This Institute is the outgrowth of the continuous contribution by ISU specialists in international food education, research and extension.

The Institute would seek to help carry out some of the decisions and recommendations reached at the World Food Conference of 1976.

Two men who had much to do with the Iowa Bicentennial Commission were speakers and program principals at the international food meeting. They were Dr. W. Robert Parks, president of Iowa State University and a member of the Iowa Bicentennial Commission, and Carl Hamilton, ISU vice-president, and permanent proxy for Dr. Parks.





RESTORATION OF OLD TERRITORIAL CAPITOL—

One of the major projects which drew support from the Iowa American Revolution Bicentennial Commission was the restoration of Old Capitol in Iowa City. This splendid two-story building on the campus of The University of Iowa was the seat of the territorial government in 1838. After Iowa became a state in 1846, it then became Iowa's first capitol.

This fine building housed Iowa's fledgling legislature from 1840 to 1850, when the capitol was relocated in Des Moines.

The restoration effort was funded by two federal agencies, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the National Park Service of the U.S. Department of Interior. In addition, the Iowa

Legislature as well as the Iowa American Revolution Bicentennial Commission provided funds as did numerous private individuals, businesses and industry.

The restoration features six rooms, the House Chamber, the Governor's office, and auditor's office, the treasurer's office, the Supreme Court Chamber and the Territorial State Library. These six rooms have been restored to the era of 1840-1850. Two rooms, the Senate Chamber and the President's office, have been restored to the way they had been remodeled in the 1920's, and now represent the University's 113 years of occupancy of the Old Capitol.

The building is open to the public daily.

TERRACE HILL — HOME OF IOWA'S FIRST FAMILY



An Iowa Bicentennial Commission endorsement was given to the restoration of Terrace Hill, the magnificent Victorian mansion built by Benjamin Franklin Allen between 1865 and 1869 in a 30-acre patch of trees on a bluff overlooking the Raccoon River and most of the city of Des Moines to the east.

It cost \$250,000 to build this magnificent dwelling designed by Architect W. W. Boyington, who also designed the famed Michigan Avenue Waterworks Tower which was one of the few buildings to survive the Great Chicago Fire.

Allen left Des Moines in 1884 and lost his fortune in the Cook County National Bank failure. His attorney, Frederick M. Hubbell, then bought Terrace Hill for \$55,000 — a fifth of its original cost. Hubbells occupied Terrace Hill until 1957 when Mrs. Grover Hubbell left the dwelling after her husband's death.

In 1971, the Hubbell heirs offered Terrace Hill to the State of Iowa and Governor Robert D. Ray appointed a 35-member commission to make recommendations for its use. The commission recommended that the structure be restored as a Governor's Mansion.

And in 1976, Governor Ray and his family moved into Terrace Hill. The Ray Family left the home at 2900 Grand Avenue which was built in 1903 by W. W. Witmer. It had been the Governor's Mansion since January, 1949, when William S. Beardsley moved in.

Where Terrace Hill originally was located on a 30-acre tract of land, the Governor's Mansion had use of eight acres. Various fund-raising efforts accompanied the restoration and revamping of Terrace Hill, including a commemorative Terrace Hill Medallion sale, as well as the raising of private funds.

William J. Wagner, noted Iowa artist and architect, was appointed by the Terrace Hill Society to preserve the basic qualities of the dwelling and the nearby carriage house.

Iowa American Revolution Bicentennial Commission has authorized that any non-appropriated federal funds left after its assignment has been completed be turned over to the Terrace Hill Restoration project.

THE IOWA SCHOOL PROGRAM

While it is difficult to be original, Iowa Bicentennial workers did come up with two unique programs for Iowa schools, colleges and universities.

One involved the Governor's Bicentennial School Recognition Program, a measure so distinctive that it earned endorsement by the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration (one of three such national endorsements in Iowa). This simply involved school youngsters organized to select and stage some sort of Bicentennial activity, project or program.

Then there was a special Iowa History program for Fifth Graders (who normally study Iowa in the public schools that year) which came in the form of a special kit called "Iowa Heritage in the American Revolution". This kit was prepared under the direction of the State Historical Society, a division of the State Historical Department.

This special Iowa Bicentennial study and study kit was prepared by Mrs. Margaret Atherton Bonney who late in 1976 was given a Certificate of Commendation from the American Association for State and Local History in recognition of this outstanding educational effort. There were 1,500 of these Bicentennial School kits prepared, with the Iowa Bicentennial Commission allocating \$51,340 — one of its largest grants — for this purpose. The entire expense was borne by the sale of Iowa medals, at no cost to the taxpayer. These education kits in turn were distributed throughout the Iowa School system to both private and public schools by the State Department of Public Instruction which cooperated in the venture.

This was one of the most successful Bicentennial activities and reached an untold number of young Iowans.

There was another successful program involving Iowa schools which also earned the state a special U.S. Bicentennial distinction. It was the Governor's Bicentennial School Recognition Program which involved the presentation of a special certificate signed by Iowa Governor Robert D. Ray, the Iowa Bicentennial Chairman Robert W. Dillon, the State Superintendent Robert D. Benton and the local county Bicentennial chairman.

This special certificate was bestowed only after the individual school had organized a Bicentennial committee, and plans were prepared and endorsed for special Bicentennial activity relating to the three themes of the national celebration — Heritage '76, Festival USA and Horizons '76.

There were 502 Iowa schools which qualified for Bicentennial School recognition, which represents about a fourth of all of the public and private schools in the state. In addition, the same kind of

Bicentennial
School
Certificate



recognition was made available nationally to colleges and universities in the state, with virtually all Iowa institutions organizing special Bicentennial events on campus.

The idea for the Governor's Bicentennial School Recognition Program originated with John Conrad III of Conrad, an Iowa staff member given the assignment of working with youth and school groups during the Bicentennial Era. He consulted co-workers, the State Department of Public Instruction, and others before developing the original Iowa Bicentennial School program that eventually earned national acclaim.

While the School Recognition program was varied, with the participants asked to fit each project into the Heritage '76, Festival USA or Horizons '76 category, the education kit sent to Iowa Fifth Graders was more specifically defined.

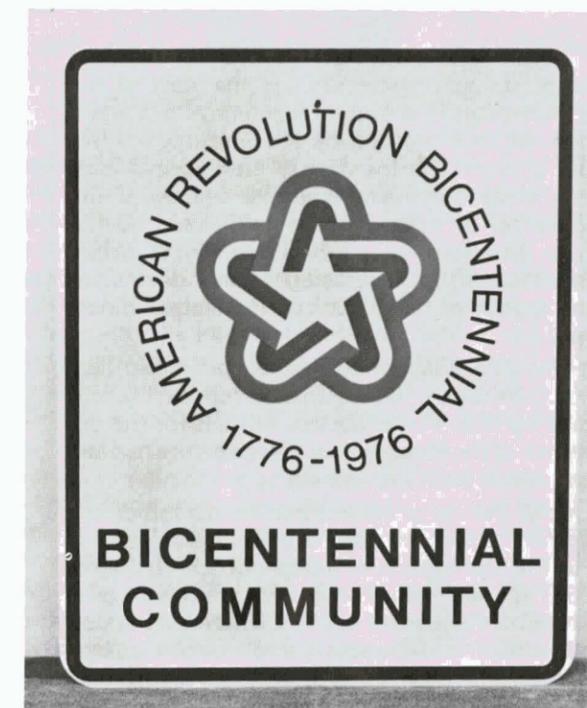
Mrs. Bonney's Iowa Heritage in the American Revolution kit contained five units — "Withdrawing from Government" (The Declaration of Independence was quoted in defending the South's secession by an Iowa editor), "Creating New Governments Peacefully" (The First Iowa Constitution in 1846), "Keeping up with the Times" ((Woman Suffrage Amendment in Iowa), "Bringing Government Westward" (the settlement of Iowa) and "Protecting People's Rights" (Religious rights in Iowa, the Bill of Rights).

Mrs. Bonney included a crossword puzzle (based on history of Iowa) and a money game related to the early difficulty of banks in Iowa maintaining solvency and the value of currency in the educational kit. So, in summary, this Bicentennial project was educational and fun, and a different way of presenting Iowa's heritage.

As a result two activities — the Bicentennial School Recognition Program and the "Iowa Heritage" for Fifth Graders — reached countless thousands of students, teachers, and others across the state. This activity involved a lot of young Iowans who perhaps might not have otherwise been so actively involved in commemorating and observing the 200th anniversary of the American Revolution.

IOWA TOPPED PENNSYLVANIA!

811 Communities
Achieve U. S.
Bicentennial Status



Emphasis was placed strongly on local leadership, initiative and the like during the U.S. Bicentennial Era. Communities were given a chance to become "Bicentennial Communities" through a program which allowed for local people to plan activities or events appropriately recognizing the importance of 1976.

Communities were encouraged to focus on present-day interests, as well as on heritage and history and future goals and needs. The smallest town, village or hamlet had the same opportunity as the biggest city or metropolitan area in this Bicentennial Community recognition program.

In Iowa, there were 811 Bicentennial Communities (there were 955 incorporated towns in Iowa, in 1976 and about 500 unincorporated towns that year). This let Iowa top populous and historic Pennsylvania for the No. 1 national ranking for Bicentennial Communities.

All of Iowa's 99 counties achieved the Bicentennial recognition, and there were 31 counties, or nearly a third, which could boast that all towns or communities within that county had been designated a "Bicentennial Community".

Communities had to apply for such recognition, which meant there had to be local sanction and

organization into a Community Bicentennial Commission or Committee. It was urged that these local commissions or committees "be broadly representative of the entire community", and that they plan at least one project in one of the three broad theme areas for the 1976 U.S. Bicentennial observance — Heritage, Festival or Horizons.

The record shows a strong diversity of activity and projects by these local communities. In some instances, a park was established or improved, restorations were planned, or tennis courts were built, or a local pageant was held during the July Fourth celebration.

These activities tended to point up the importance of local leadership in getting things done. The Bicentennial year provided the impetus. In retrospect, the activities, projects and events did in part salute the heritage and past, as well as focus in on the present and future.

John W. Warner, the administrator of the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration, had this to say about the Bicentennial Community program: "Literally then, in the truest American tradition, this program is one that is of the people, by the people and for the people in the context of their community life."

A BICENTENNIAL STAMP BINGE

It began in 1971 with the issuance of a special postage stamp commemorating the start of the U.S. American Revolution Bicentennial Era and it continued for five years. By the time July 4, 1976, rolled around (and the date when a special four-stamp issue commemorated the signing of the Declaration of Independence as painted by the famous American Artist John Trumbull), there had been a total of 104 U.S. Postage stamps devoted to some aspect of the American Revolution Bicentennial.

It was a field day for collectors. And it also illustrated quite vividly to the American citizen the high regard by U.S. Postal Service officials for the observance of the Bicentennial. Never before had any event drawn such recognition by any nation.

Oddly, the use of stamps had been a rather key factor in the pre-Revolutionary War Period leading up to the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. The much-hated Stamp Act was enacted by The British Parliament in 1765. This was a tax on documents, newspapers and even college diplomas. The Stamp Act in turn was followed by other taxes applied on a variety of products and without the consent of the already disturbed colonists. Eventually, a lot of these taxes were removed because of boycott activity and the like — except for the tax on tea. And this led to the famed Boston Tea Party on Dec. 16, 1773, which is one of the events commemorated with a special Bicentennial Stamp issued in 1973 on July 4th.

The Bicentennial Year itself started with a special issue, a three-part stamp copied after the famed "Spirit of '76" painting by artist Archibald Willard in 1876. And this was the first U.S. stamp costing 13 cents for First Class Mail, a coincidental thing considering that the "Spirit of '76" relates to the 13 original colonies. Other 13-centers followed, including the unprecedented reproduction of all 50 state flags on appropriately-colored stamps, in what undoubtedly is the most unusual stamp issue ever.

Just as the number of U.S. stamps issued was great, so was the variety of the stamps. These stamps saluted the Colonial Craftsmen (1971), the "Rise of the Spirit of Independence" (1972), the Boston Tea Party in 1973, the Bicentennial of the First Constitutional Congress in 1974, the "Contributors to the Cause" in 1975 as well as the uniforms of the Continental Army, Continental Navy, Continental Marines and the American Militia in 1975.

Then, in 1976, with the "Spirit of '76" to start off with, followed by the 50 state flag issue honoring the Bicentennial Era, the salute by the Postal Service was something to behold. Special souvenir sheets



Issued Jan. 1, 1976



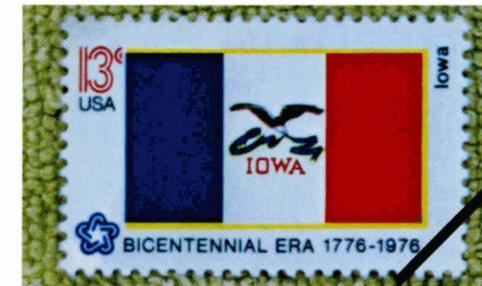
Issued July 4, 1976

were issued in Philadelphia in honor of the signing of the Declaration of Independence (18¢), Washington Crossing the Delaware (24¢), Washington Reviewing His Ragged Army at Valley Forge (31¢) and The Surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown (13¢). These scenes from famous paintings were sectioned off into five regular postage stamps per scene. All told, this was a remarkable presentation to the American people to highlight the Bicentennial.

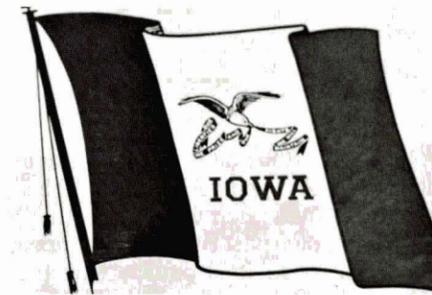
A common thread was involved in nearly all of these stamps — the use of the Bicentennial logo somewhere on the stamp itself. This is the logo which was first used — the modernistic red, white and blue star — to announce the beginning of the American Revolution Bicentennial Era in June, 1971. Generally, thereafter on the U.S. stamps, this logo appeared in minute form and in black-and-white.

There were individual stamps commemorating the Bicentennial, too, like the Bunker Hill painting by Trumbull and the Lexington and Concord battle as painted by Sandham. Then, too, there were common issues for ordinary, regular postage use-like the 13-cent normal-sized Liberty Bell, American Eagle and Colonial Flag stamps not included in the listing of the special, 104 commemoratives issued in the Bicentennial Era.

THERE WAS SOMETHING WRONG WITH THE IOWA STATE FLAG STAMP



The 1976 "Error"



The correct Iowa flag

It didn't take long for the philatelists to spot a couple of errors in the historic 50 state flag stamp issue minted as part of the U.S. Bicentennial Era efforts of the Postal Service.

One error pertained to the Tennessee state flag, and it was spotted first by some sharp-eyed observers. But the ink was hardly dry on the headlines before a stamp collector in Dubuque caught a minor mistake in the Iowa state flag as reproduced on the special stamp.

The Iowa flag was divided equally into red, white and blue areas — with a third of the flag devoted erroneously to each color. In reality, the Iowa flag is one-fourth blue, one-fourth red and one-half white, with the white field boasting the Iowa state motto (Our Liberties We Prize and Our Rights We Will Maintain) in a banner held in the beak of an American Bald Eagle.

To most Iowans, though, this was not regarded as much of an error. But it was somewhat embarrassing to the State Officials who had been queried by the U.S. Postal Service in advance for information concerning the Iowa State Flag, and who had responded with the wrong information.

In summary, this mistake in the Iowa and Tennessee state flags as reproduced on individual stamps did little to dampen the enthusiasm which greeted the special U.S. Bicentennial Era issue of the 50 state flags in a single sheet of stamps. To collectors, the state flag stamps represented the most rare stamp issue in history, while to the average stamp-user, the 50 state flag stamps probably helped draw attention to the U.S. Bicentennial.

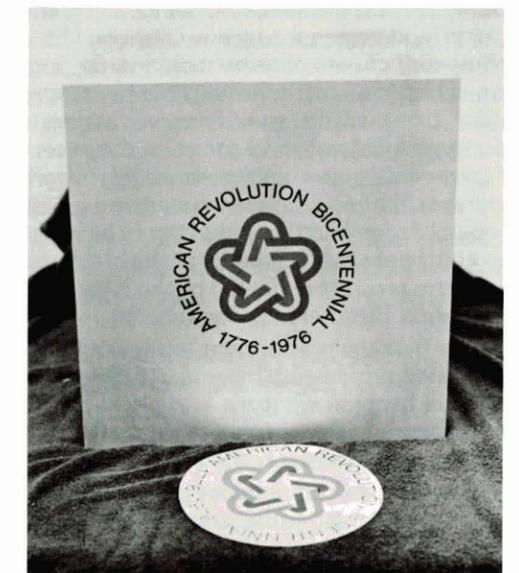
BICENTENNIAL ITEMS PLACED IN IOWA TIME CAPSULE

A sheet of the historic state flag stamps issued in February, 1976, as part of the U.S. Bicentennial Era observance by postal officials is being placed in the Iowa Bicentennial Time Capsule which is to be opened on July 4, 2075, as part of the Tricentennial activities of the U.S. the following year.

The Iowa Bicentennial Time Capsule was made possible by The Reynolds Metals Company which donated a time capsule to each of the Governors of the 50 states, the four territories and Washington, D.C. The containers were designed to preserve items of interest in a cavity of two cubic feet and to be opened to help celebrate the start of the nation's fourth century.

The Iowa Commission requested a list of the several county, city and family time capsules which were buried during the U.S. Bicentennial in Iowa to be included in the state time capsule which is to be placed in a special facility in the State Capitol Complex.

Other information to be included in the Iowa Bicentennial Time Capsule will be a copy of this Final Report of the Iowa American Revolution Bicentennial Commission, official sterling silver Iowa Bicentennial medallions, the sheet of 50 state flag stamps, and microfilm roles of special Bicentennial editions of many Iowa newspapers.



A VERY SPECIAL IOWA BOOK

DISCOVERING HISTORIC IOWA

One of the most successful projects of a state-wide nature involved a special Bicentennial Edition of "Discovering Historic Iowa", a 315-page booklet which listed county-by-county things of interest.

This book represented the third edition of a similar publication begun in 1968 with the publication by the State Department of Public Instruction of "A Guide to Historic Iowa". In 1972, the first "Discovering Historic Iowa" was printed and all 12,000 copies immediately vanished or were snatched up.

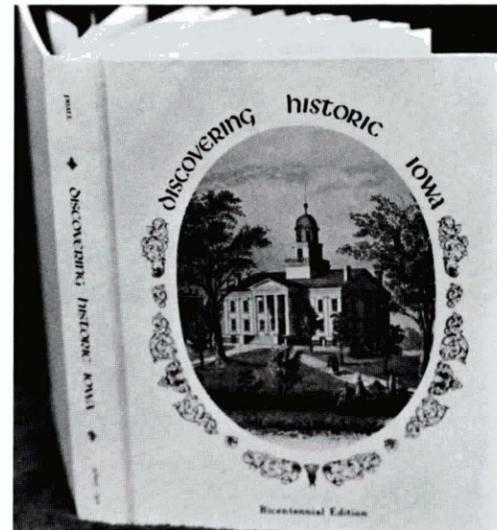
For 1976, a special Bicentennial Edition — expanded by one-fourth—was printed with the help of special funding by the Iowa American Revolution Bicentennial Commission so that a larger number of books could be made available, at a nominal charge, to Iowa citizens.

LeRoy G. Pratt of Polk County, and a member of its Bicentennial Commission, was the author of Discovering Historic Iowa. In his introduction, Mr. Pratt observes in part, "Until comparatively recent years there has been an apparent lack of concern about our heritage and an attitude that Iowa has nothing much of historic interest to offer.

"But there is evidence that we are awakening to the importance of local history and its relationship to state and national events. This change is indicated by the significant increase in the number of county and local historical societies, and creation of county and regional tourism councils, the establishment of county conservation boards, and erection of historical markers along our highways, legislation designed to give financial assistance to county or local historical societies, the observance of centennials and anniversaries of historic importance, the requirement (passed by the 61st Iowa General Assembly) that Iowa history be included in the course of study and taught in Iowa schools, and the many projects endorsed by the Iowa American Revolution Bicentennial Commission.

"Our heritage is important to the youth of Iowa. A knowledge of history helps in understanding how we have become what we are. Local history has special merit in that it supplies illustrative material, which is often closely-related to national history.

"Typically, as communities get older, there is an increasing interest in the past. Iowa celebrated its centennial as a state in 1946. Since then, more and more centennial celebrations have been held in our cities and towns."



Iowa Gov. Robert D. Ray points out in a letter included in the "Discovering Historic Iowa" publication a statement, "It has been wisely said that a society ignorant of its own past is doomed to repeat the mistakes of the past. It is equally true that knowledge of the heritage which has been transmitted to us from the past provides us with strength and inspiration to meet the challenges of our own time, just as our forebears came to grips with the different — but no less formidable — problems by which they were confronted . . . through deeper understanding of the past, we shall better be able to take stock of where we are as Iowans and to chart a rewarding course for the years that stretch ahead."

This outstanding publication contains a wealth of facts and information which, according to Richard Schallert of the printing and information division of the Department of Public Instruction, makes it "one of the most successful publications ever for us". Schallert said that the publication "does a great service to all of us, is useful in our schools, promotes tourism in Iowa and is an excellent historical document."

"Of the 12,000 copies printed, only a thousand remained a year later with the bulk going to the schools and private citizens who wanted the publication for their own use.

Robert D. Benton, the state superintendent, had this to say about the book: "Anyone having a desire to learn more about Iowa, its historic sites, landmarks, natural areas, archeological sites, outdoor classrooms, wildlife exhibits, and cultural institutions, will find this book extremely useful and interesting."

VARIED MENU IN BICENTENNIAL COOKBOOK

A lot of special cookbooks went on sale during the Bicentennial Era in Iowa, but the Jones County Bicentennial Commission came up with a rather unusual version — A U.S. Bicentennial Cookbook — to help finance its local projects.

This cookbook listed recipes submitted by prominent politicians and office-holders, including President Gerald R. Ford and the man who defeated him in 1976, James E. (Jimmy) Carter of Georgia.

Also in this Bicentennial Cookbook were special recipes submitted by such Iowans as Harold E. Hughes, John Kyl, Wiley Mayne and Fred Schwengel.

This cookbook gave readers the opportunity to try their culinary hands at making the First Lady's Strawberry Cake, according to the recipe submitted by Mrs. Jimmy Carter. Or what is called "The Plains Special Cheese Ring", something named after the Georgia hometown of the man who was elected President in 1976.

One would imagine that Mr. Carter, who brought new fame to peanut farmers in winning first the Democratic nomination let alone later winning the U.S. Presidency, would have a favorite recipe related to his favorite crop.

You bet, Mr. Carter does. It is a special peanut brittle recipe.

These recipes and the like are part of the material contained in a special United States Bicentennial Cookbook. It was published as a money-raising effort for local Bicentennial groups. The Jones County, Iowa, Bicentennial Commission was one of these local sponsors.

The big-selling feature of this Bicentennial Cookbook wasn't so much the recipes it contained as it was the source of those recipes. In all cases, the menu suggestions came from famous Americans — no less in stature than state governors, Congressmen and even U.S. Presidents.

The book was published by Commemorative Cook Books of Kansas City, Mo., and was copyrighted in 1972 and carried a U.S. Library of Congress Catalog Card No. 72-838-58. It sold for \$3.95 (plus 50 cents postage and handling).

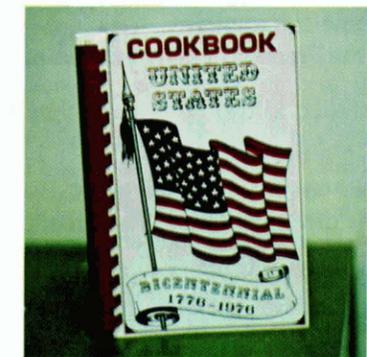
Having favorite dishes and the like in this book wasn't confined to Democrats like the Carters of Georgia. President Gerald R. Ford offered a favorite cream cheese recipe which was printed in the U.S. Bicentennial Cookbook. Former Iowa Congressman Fred Schwengel submitted a cranberry apple salad specialty his Republican household enjoyed.

Presidential hopeful Ronald Reagan of California (the former governor who lost in a bid for the

Republican nomination to Mr. Ford in 1976) likes to sit down to a meal of Baja Chicken, with a side-dish of Rancho California Rice. Former GOP Congressman Wiley Mayne of Sioux City, Iowa, was partial to pork tenderloin patties.

No recipe was listed for Richard M. Nixon, who resigned the Presidency in August, 1974 and who would have been President during the Bicentennial Year. However, his running mate and the U.S. Vice-President Spiro T. Agnew provided an offering — a special soup. The Agnew special is called "Avgolemono Soup" which is quite a mouthful by itself. But really it involves a stewing chicken, an onion or two and the juice of a couple of lemons and some rice.

President Gerald R. Ford's only offering in the book was a "Cream Cheese Roll", which is refrigerated and then sliced thin and served with crackers.



But all is not gourmet items in the Bicentennial Cookbook. This wealth of recipes is mixed in with a brief U.S. history. The history segments each cover 25 years and were written by Robert L. Branyan of the University of Missouri. There are also blended in illustrations of the development of the U.S. flag, a listing and sketch of each U.S. President up to and including President Ford, as well as information concerning when each state entered the union.

In summary, it is a fascinating publication which contains a lot of famous American political names and a book which contains some interesting recipes.

Even non-gourmets may find interest in the creamed salmon specialty enjoyed by U.S. Senator Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts, or the Calzone Fondue concoction favored by former Congresswoman Bella Abzug of New York City. Or, Senator George McGovern's favorite, "Capitol Stew".

Carter's running mate, Walter F. Mondale, shows off some provincial preference in offering a "Minnesota Wild Rice Casserole" to the Bicentennial Cookbook reader.

TWO STOPS WERE IN IOWA FREEDOM TRAIN TOURED THE U.S.

A special train rolled across the United States during the Bicentennial Era, hauling to local folks part of the treasures of the nation's past. This was The American Freedom Train, a reminder of the once golden age of railroads in this country.

The Freedom Train pulled 25 red, white and blue cars filled with tidbits from America's past. For two years it chugged-chugged its way into cities and towns to give countless millions of citizens a chance to see on a moving walkway things like the immortal King of Swat, Babe Ruth, as it was filmed in the 1930's, power out a home run, or President John F. Kennedy's rocking chair, George Washington's copy of the U.S. Constitution and such things.

It took about 20 minutes for a person to tour the 10 special exhibit cars which made up the Freedom Train. The cost was \$2 per person, and the wait was hours in some communities.

In Iowa, the Freedom Train made two stops — at Sioux City and in West Des Moines. School children traveled all day by bus and then stood in line for hours just to see the special exhibits on the Freedom Train. The train was supposed to stop at towns where 90 percent of the population had an hour or less driving distance. The American Freedom Train Foundation, Inc. reported that it traveled to 125 towns and cities, a distance of 25,833 miles and was seen by upward of 50 million people.

This train was the outgrowth of an earlier Freedom Train sponsored by the American Heritage Foundation in 1947. It traveled 37,160 miles and stopped in all 48 states. It was called "The Spirit of '47". But this special train could handle only 640 people an hour and the result was a long and discouraging wait to board and look at its exhibits.

The idea for a Bicentennial Freedom Train came from a railroading buff, a 25-year-old commodity broker by the name of Ross Rowland. He had formed a special company to restore and operate a mainline steam locomotive to commemorate the centennial of the driving of the Golden Spike in Utah on the Union Pacific Railroad.

Rowland had just about given up the concept for the Bicentennial Freedom Train when he made a proposal which caught the attention of Donald Kendall, the chairman of PepsiCo, Inc. Then General Motors, Prudential Insurance Company and Kraft Foods donated a million dollars each, and with \$4 million (including a million from PepsiCo), the Freedom Train idea was on its way.

In announcing the \$4 million to help get the Freedom Train rolling, the firms said in a statement:

"The American Freedom Train will bring the Bicentennial to almost everybody's home town. We can think of no better way to celebrate the country's 200th Birthday.

"The most meaningful way to appreciate the vitality of our country today is to examine its heritage by reflecting into its past. The Bicentennial is the perfect time — and the local community is the perfect place.

"In making our grant to initiate this project, we recognize that no single display or exhibit can capture all that is America. Our best hope is that the American Freedom Train will stimulate both pride and celebration."

Two special full-length glass-enclosed display cars contained the U.S. Freedom Bell, which was twice the size of the original Liberty Bell, and special cars and the like from modes of early transportation.

The final Bicentennial visit for The Freedom Train was in Miami, Fla., where it arrived prior to the Orange Bowl football game on New Year's Eve. The train had traveled for 21 months, with the priceless exhibits viewed by millions of citizens.



THE BICENTENNIAL WAGONS ROLLED . . . EASTWARD TO VALLEY FORGE

New York journalist Horace Greeley who admonished pioneers to "Go West" probably wouldn't believe what happened in 1976. Pioneer-type covered wagons headed east — to Valley Forge by the Fourth of July of the U.S. Bicentennial year.

This Bicentennial activity — with wagons from every state of the union — was planned to chronicle the wagon train as a key aspect of early America and its settlement by the pioneers and their families.

In Iowa, the Conestoga wagon rolled eastward from the Iowa State Fairgrounds with the South Dakota and North Dakota segment of the Bicentennial Wagon Train, for its union with the Minnesota train.

The wagon trains were set up to retrace the routes taken by the early pioneers — from as far northwest as the State of Washington, from as far southwest as Los Angeles (where the Hawaii wagon began its overland trek), from Houston, Tex., on the south and Orlando, Fla., on the southeast. So while some of the routes may not have been accurate from a historic or geographic standpoint, the plan was to involve all states and their citizens in planning the Bicentennial Wagon Train Pilgrimage — and to set up logistics which would get all of the wagon train contingent, scouts, outriders, officials and the like into Historic Valley Forge by the 200th Birthday of the U.S.

The Iowa Wagon Train pulled out of the State Fairgrounds in Des Moines on Apr. 6, 1976, the Iowa Bicentennial Festival Day. It moved eastward and northward. The train moved to the State Capitol where a joint legislative session was held

with John Warner, federal administrator of the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration. Mr. Warner addressed the joint session.

The fabled "Wagons Ho" shout came as an Iowa hot air balloon was launched on the west side of the capitol building. The trek leading to Valley Forge began the following day with the travelers moving all of 22 miles to Colfax. Other stops were made at 20 to 25-mile intervals at Melbourne, Marshalltown, Gladbrook, Reinbeck, Waterloo, Independence, Oelwein, West Union, and Calmar where the caravan spent the night.

An important aspect of the wagon train activity related to scrolls which were carried with the interstate travelers. These scrolls were signed by thousands of people, and in general repledged their commitment to the basic principles of free people on which the U.S. was founded two centuries earlier.

Clark E. Cogley of Lohrville was the Iowa wagonmaster, assisted by Donald H. Perkins of Cresco, while Clyde Merchant of Garrison was the driver of the Iowa Conestoga Wagon in the Bicentennial Wagon Train Pilgrimage. Mr. and Mrs. Keith Gates of Waverly drove the chuck wagon. Jerry Gates, also of Waverly, was the official outrider for the Iowa wagon.

Iowa's Bicentennial covered wagon was transported to Living History Farms northwest of Des Moines where it was to be put on display as a reminder of the national pilgrimage arranged to salute the pioneers who crossed, and settled, so much of America.

Ambitious Undertaking IOWA ROCKS PROJECT SCUTTLED

One of the most ambitious Iowa undertakings during the U.S. Bicentennial Year involved amassing a "native" rock from each of the state's 99 counties at the Iowa State Fairgrounds in East Des Moines.

The thought was to carve each native rock into the shape of the respective county and create on a scale of one inch per mile an Iowa map outline in rocks. This would result in a special exhibit at the State Fair where persons could come and set foot on their "county".

This turned out to be no small undertaking, although initially it shaped up as one of the least costly to the Iowa Bicentennial Commission because all of the costs were to be paid by local county officials.

Some of the county rocks were gigantic — Black Hawk's, for example, weighed about two tons.

Audrey McVay of Luther, an Iowa Bicentennial booster, hauled rocks from 23 counties to the special spot atop a hill on the fairgrounds. He drove a 1954 model Chevrolet pickup which had 750,000 miles on its odometer. McVay donated the bulk of his time and paid half of the expenses himself in handling the 23 county rocks.

The remaining rocks were hauled to Des Moines by individuals in their own pickups, or in trucks arranged by local county boards of supervisors, county conservation boards, Bicentennial Commissions or the like.

The Iowa National Guard used its heavy military equipment to place the county rocks in their respective locations at the fairgrounds before the Spirit of '76 Iowa State Fair began in mid-August.

It was in the carving of the county rocks into the correct shapes and according to scale that the promoters got the bad news — it would cost an estimated \$100,000, or about \$1,000 a rock, to complete the Iowa map project as planned. Neither the State Fair, nor the Iowa Bicentennial Commission, had that kind of money available.

But all was not lost. Officials came up with an alternate plan — a system where the county rocks would be positioned in correct geographic location and a much larger outline of the state of Iowa created. The area between the county rocks would be filled with inexpensive crushed rock. Fair visitors then would be able to wander among the county rocks, find their home county rock and step or sit on it, if they so chose.

Further, the Iowa Geological Survey has agreed to label each rock so that visitors to the map area will be able to identify what kind of rock came from the various counties. One geologist told the Iowa Bicentennial Commission that the collection of county rocks at the State Fairgrounds represented "a pretty good cross-section" of the type of geology which exists in Iowa.

Eventually, a plaque will be placed on each rock to identify it for the visitor and to tell the county of its origin.



THE RESULTS — IOWA LED THE NATION

There are many ways to size up Iowa in terms of how successful it was in the observance of the U.S. Bicentennial. You can do it in terms of statistics, projects, activities, events and the like. Or, in terms of money invested.

But let it suffice to say only that Iowa led the nation in the number of Bicentennial projects and events — about 2,800 which is 50 percent more than any other state. In addition, Iowa had 811 official Bicentennial Communities — again a No. 1 national ranking, which came after Iowa first tied populous and historic Pennsylvania in this regard.

Iowa became the international focal point in late June when the World Food Conference of 1976 was held on the campus of Iowa State University. This was one of its major, nationally-recognized Bicentennial events.

Earlier in the year the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration acknowledged an Iowa program — the system of recognizing Bicentennial Schools developed originally in this state. Schools across Iowa achieved this distinction by organizing and setting up events and activities or projects related to the Bicentennial. Once so organized, the schools became eligible for the Governor's Bicentennial School Award — so named because the certificate presented was signed by Iowa Governor Robert D. Ray and other appropriate state and Bicentennial officials.

This Bicentennial School recognition was earned by 502 Iowa public and private schools even though the program was not started until after 1976 began. Its sole purpose was to involve young Iowans in helping commemorate the nation's birth.

Murray Goodman, executive director of the Iowa Bicentennial staff, said he felt one of the real benefits of the Bicentennial activity in Iowa related to preserving memorabilia relating to the state's history, and coming up with programs which will carry on into the nation's Third Century and Iowa's future.

Frank Harrington, the regional director for the Bicentennial national staff, noted that Iowans solved a big, basic question pertaining to the nation's Bicentennial. This related to how people in a relatively young part of the United States, devoid of historical sites such as Revolutionary War battlefields and the like, could commemorate the American Revolution and the Signing of the Declaration of Independence.

Harrington said that Iowans solved this problem by developing many Bicentennial projects which improved the quality of community life in Iowa, and by "seeking the common good" just as did the founders of our country two centuries earlier.

The 56 men who signed our nation's Declaration of Independence, Harrington added, could not have hoped for more.



HOW THE IOWA PROGRAM WAS FINANCED . . .

Funds used to help pay for the various Iowa activities, projects, events and the like during the 200th year celebration came from four sources — federal, state, local and from the Iowa Bicentennial Commission itself.

There were 87 federal grants totaling \$347,500 awarded by the Iowa Bicentennial Commission from funds provided by the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration.

The Iowa Bicentennial commissioners also authorized \$200,000 in state-appropriated funds for 114 projects across the state.

A third source of funds came from the sale of Iowa Bicentennial medallions, and from royalties paid for the use of the official Iowa medal as part of the U.S. state medals collection.

There were ten projects which received \$20,170 from this special medals account, and a major project awarded \$51,340 to prepare and distribute the award-winning Iowa School Heritage and History Kit for all fifth graders in the state.

The state and federal funds were allocated solely on a matching-fund basis, which meant that local groups and sponsors seeking such financial aid could not request more funds than the total monies already raised locally. And such requests could be made only after endorsement by the local Bicentennial commissions.

The medals money was a special fund which did not carry with it the matching-fund aspect used for bestowing state and federal tax funds. This medals money came through the sale of silver and bronze medallions that were the official Iowa U.S. Bicentennial medal. The design for this medal was chosen in a statewide contest.



The winning design was entered by I. Virginia Kreye-Janowski of Solon, who was an art and education student at the University of Iowa at the time. This winning design showed a modernistic plow (portraying the state's great agriculture) and the clover-leaf emblem used by the State of Iowa in its "Iowa — A Place To Grow" campaign. For this winning design, Kreye-Janowski received \$5,000. The second-place winner, prepared by Charles E. Townsend of Des Moines, showed a plant growing from fertile soil with a globe nearby. This indicated the vital role of Iowa in feeding mankind around the world as well as at home. Townsend received a cash prize of \$2,500.

The official Iowa U.S. Bicentennial medallions made of bronze sold for \$2 each, while the silver medallions were priced at \$20. The 15,000 bronze medallions ordered by the Iowa Commission vanished rather promptly. On the other hand, the 10,000 silver medallions sold slowly despite frequent promotion and advertisement with a couple of thousand left at the end of the Bicentennial year. These unsold silver medallions were returned to the mint and ordered to be melted down and destroyed in that fashion.

The bronze and silver medals had cost the Iowa Bicentennial Commission about \$83,500. The ones sold brought in revenues of about \$185,000.

In summary, there was a total of about \$600,000 invested by the Iowa commission from state, federal and medals sources in various U.S. Bicentennial functions and projects. This was regarded as "seed" money because Iowa officials estimated that the use of these funds in turn related to several millions of dollars invested by local sponsors and groups in helping salute the nation's past, and its future.

IOWA BICENTENNIAL FESTIVAL AT THE CAPITOL

A 6-foot tall Bicentennial Birthday cake featuring scenes from Iowa's past along with state symbols was a feature of the Iowa Bicentennial Festival held Apr. 6, 1976, in Des Moines at the State Capitol and the Iowa State Fairgrounds.

This Happy Birthday U.S.A. cake was the creation of Gayla and Gale Russell of Urbandale who were hired (for \$350) to bake and decorate the cake by the Iowa Bicentennial Commission.

This cake was put on display at the State Capitol Rotunda during the day-long festival.

The Iowa Bicentennial Festival featured addresses by John W. Warner, federal administrator of the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration, Washington, D.C., and Iowa Gov. Robert D. Ray at a joint session of the Iowa Legislature.

Then followed a special reception for the Iowa Bicentennial Wagon Train which left the fairgrounds where it had assembled to travel to the State Capitol for the occasion. An Iowa hot-air balloon was launched about the time the wagons set forth on a journey which was to take them to Valley Forge, Pa., by the Fourth of July.

About 6,000 Iowans took part in the festival, which was arranged as sort of a "Thank You" to the local and county Bicentennial workers. During the evening a special bicentennial musical show was held at the fairgrounds, featuring the Karl King Band of Fort Dodge, a Fort Dodge musical group and the Bicentennial Singers from Keosauqua.

The Iowa Festival was one of the few times Bicentennial workers got together at the state level since the bulk of the projects were local in nature. Another occasion was the Spirit of '76 Iowa State Fair later in the year when Iowa Bicentennial workers were given special recognition by the Iowa commissioners and staff.



A BUSY FARM WIFE HEADED HERITAGE '76

There's little question that one of the most lasting — and most ambitious — aspects of Iowa Bicentennial activities revolved around a dedicated and talented farm housewife from Van Horne.

Mrs. Velma Fry time and time again displayed this interest in preserving Iowa records — especially those relating to the church. An enthusiastic genealogist and historian, Mrs. Fry gave generously of her time and talents to make this lasting contribution, according to Iowa Bicentennial Commission officials who worked with her.

As a result of her efforts, and those who worked with her, there are two sources of historic information available for posterity:

One source is a microfilm record provided to the State of Iowa which represents one of the most complete genealogical information reservoirs ever compiled.

The other is a buried vault of information in a solid granite mountain southeast of Salt Lake City in Utah where there are a series of huge underground storage rooms which have been carved and dug.

This represents one of the most unique efforts ever to preserve for posterity the records of mankind, and was accomplished because the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints set forth to compile a record of man through its Genealogical Society which was founded in 1894.

In the microfilm project the records were compiled through each of Iowa's 99 counties. Photographed were records pertaining to births, deaths, marriages, and probate records.

In each Iowa county the filming was accomplished also for available church and school records and histories, and other matters of genealogical significance. When completed, the microfilm records were stored in the Iowa Department of History and Archives.

This contribution was made at no cost to the Iowa taxpayers.

Helping coordinate this detailed, important heritage project was Velma Fry of Van Horne, the volunteer Bicentennial worker and a member of a successful Benton County family farm operation. Her work started early in the Bicentennial Era as Heritage '76 chairman. And she rarely, if ever, missed a state Bicentennial Commission meeting where she reported in detail on the activities of the 16 subcommittees under her direction.



The microfilming project of the Mormon Church was one of the subcommittee activities. Mrs. Fry pointed out that this microfilm work included non-courthouse records as well.

This information involved church histories, records of births, baptisms, marriages and deaths, along with records pertaining to burials, confirmations, early church membership lists, communion lists and the like, school records including school histories, enrollments, family information about students, family Bibles where births, marriages and deaths were recorded, and cemetery records, including plats of cemeteries, gravestone records and the like.

But the microfilming was only one of the Iowa Heritage '76 subcommittee projects. Others were, and the respective chairmen: Iowa Bicentennial Record Center—Lida Greene, Des Moines; Survey of Iowa Historic Landmarks—Elizabeth Leach, Iowa City; Iowa History (Discovering Historic Iowa) — LeRoy G. Pratt, Des Moines; Survey of Iowa Local History Resources — David Palmer, Des Moines Area Community College; Cemetery and Allied Records of Iowa — Mary Fullbright, Des Moines; Survey of Iowa Church History — Mrs. Julius Black, Ames; Iowa Church Records — Mrs. Darlene Paxton, Bettendorf, and Mrs. Flora Wilson, Davenport; Iowa Military History — Sgt. Bruce Conard, Camp Dodge; Iowa Century Farms — Brig. Gen. Ronald R. Woodin, Camp Dodge; "Foxfire" — Mrs. Julian Bruner, Des Moines, and Iowa Oral History — Mrs. Robert Throckmorton, Des Moines; History of Iowa Early Potteries — Mrs. Frederick Crane, Des Moines; Portraits of Early Iowans — Mrs. Amos Pearsall, Jr. (Society of Colonial Dames of America); Revolutionary Soldiers of Iowa — Mrs. S. T. Sheppard, Fort Madison; Iowa First Ladies — Mrs. Sue Reed, Des Moines; and Iowa Library History Program — Florence Stiles, Des Moines.

FESTIVAL USA

There's really no way Roger Farrow, chairman of the Festival USA committee in Iowa, could record accurately all of the things which happened to help celebrate the birthday of the U.S. across the state.

The Festival USA phase of the American Revolution Bicentennial observance related to all of the many celebrations and events which were staged to help call attention to the 200th anniversary of the U.S.

The Festival USA aspect differed from the Heritage '76 phase and the Horizons '76 part in that the "festival" events were just that — and not ongoing projects or activities.

"The best way to describe what Festival USA was all about is simply to say 'people,'" said Farrow about the two-year effort in Iowa.

"It was 'people' who made things happen throughout Iowa during 1976. And perhaps the most difficult part of my job as Iowa Festival Chairman was to record accurately all of the activities — the celebrations and events — as they were announced and planned over the two-year period I served.

"Our Iowa calendar of events was never really up to date as more and more information from communities kept pouring in. And if the number of events is any indication of success, then Iowa's Festival USA must have been a real winner because nearly 2,000 events were planned during the Bicentennial Year.

"Multiply that figure by the populations of all of the Iowa communities involved and you have a celebration that will go down in history."

Farrow himself was one of the Bicentennial "volunteers" who gave of their time and talents to help make 1976 something special in the lives of Iowans.

"The names of the chairpersons for the celebrations and communities involved in Festival USA in Iowa may go down in local history," Farrow added.



"But unfortunately, not all of those wonderful people who pitched in and made the Bicentennial celebrations and events happen probably won't be noted. I just wish there was some way to thank them for helping make Iowa No. 1 in the nation in Bicentennial events and celebrations."

Farrow was employed as the advertising supervisor for Northwestern Bell Telephone Company in Des Moines at the time he served as the Iowa Festival USA chairman.

He explained that a combination of factors led to his acceptance of this key Bicentennial assignment in Iowa. First, Farrow said, was the fact he came from Elmore, Minn., a small farm town and the fact that he was always interested in rural areas as a result. Secondly, Farrow boasted an interest in history — something shared by a good many of the Iowa Bicentennial workers.

"I saw a chance for a lot of rural communities and others to be involved in the Bicentennial and to be recognized during the Bicentennial," Farrow said.

"And a lot was accomplished in Iowa because these people really pitched in to make 1976 something special."

HORIZONS '76

Saluting Iowa's First Ladies and Their Inaugural Gowns

Iowa's First Lady, Mrs. Robert D. Ray, is credited with the idea for what turned out to be one of the most novel Bicentennial projects — recreating on miniature dolls the inaugural gowns worn by the First Ladies of the state.

This special display of the attractive dolls decorated in near authentic gowns was presented to the State of Iowa late in 1976 in a ceremony held outside the Governor's office where the collection was placed in an antique walnut case once used by a Creston man to exhibit crystal.

Mrs. Billie Ray originated the idea of using miniature dolls to illustrate replicas of the inaugural gowns for Iowa First Ladies as a special state Bicentennial project.

Research was begun in 1975 by the Division of Historical Museum and Archives, Iowa Historical Library, under the guidance of Lida Greene. The idea caught on, and the Heritage '76 Committee of the Iowa American Revolution Bicentennial Commission took over sponsorship of the inaugural gowns with Mrs. Ray as Honorary Chairperson.

Sue Reed of Des Moines took over as chairperson, with the Iowa Heritage '76 Committee

Chairman, Mrs. Velma Fry of Van Horne, and Lida Greene of Des Moines, serving as co-chairpersons of the Heritage '76 subcommittee related to the Iowa First Lady project.

Money was provided by the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration and by the Iowa American Revolution Bicentennial Commission.

The display of 40 dolls — including the miniature dolls representing wives of Iowa's three territorial governors — is a study in fashion and design because it reflects the change in women's apparel over the years. Changes in ruffled sleeves, high collars, full skirts, lowered necklines, not to mention hair styles on the 18-inch dolls as well.

As future Iowa First Ladies take their place in Iowa history, porcelain doll replicas complete with an appropriate inaugural gown, will be added to the display case in the State Capitol. This case was donated by Paul K. McDowell of Creston who had purchased it from the Baker Jewelers Estate in Creston. The only change made in the case was a new interior design accomplished by Robert Schoeller of Des Moines.



IOWA '76 PHOTO ALBUM



Mrs. Bette Wilson, Knoxville, Chairman of the Marion County Bicentennial Commission, is shown in an Uncle Sam costume with her committee at the Iowa State Fair.



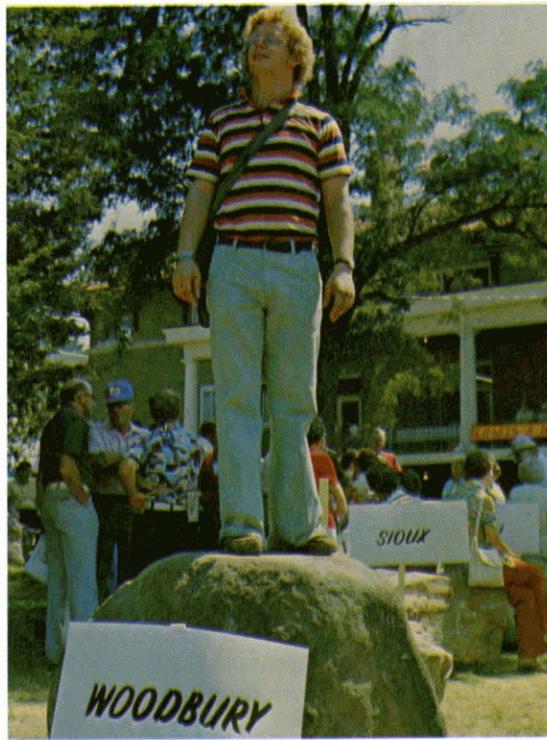
L. to R. — Mrs. John Dorfler, Ricketts; Mrs. Wilbert Langholdt, Ricketts



L. to R. — John Conrad, IARBC; Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Vileta, American Legion Representative



L. to R. — Jan Peterson, Clinton; Thelma Menke, Delmar



Russell Redsville, Sioux City



L. to R. — Paul Junior Papke, Sabula; Mrs. Richard Sorensen, Maquoketa



L. to R. — Mrs. John Graham, Hawkeye; Mrs. Vi Sims, Oelwein; Orpha Langerman, Fayette; Herb Haas, County Supervisor; Sharon Woods, Oelwein



L. to R. — John Kemp, Direct descendant of the founder of Alden; Irwin Littow, Alden; Mrs. John Neubauer, Jr., Alden; Eva Littow, Alden; Lois Oler, Alden



L. to R. — Robert Perrin, Macksburg; Gary Crawford, Lorimor; Sam Weeks, Macksburg; Bill Sanders, Macksburg



L. to R. — Peter Olthoff, Parkersburg; Claire Woodley, Allison; Mina Woodley, Allison; Mr. and Mrs. Deiks, Plainfield; Mrs. Ben Westendorf, Allison; Mr. Ben Westendorf, Allison; Mrs. Shirley Rosendahl, Aplington

Westendorf, Allison; Mr. Ben Westendorf, Allison; Mrs. Shirley Rosendahl, Aplington



L. to R. — Linda Smith, New London; Steve Smith, New London; Helen Virden, Mt. Pleasant; Dale Parker Family, Mt. Pleasant



L. to R. — Mrs. Virginia Hermann, Des Moines; Mr. LeRoy Pratt, Des Moines; Marguerite Hermann, Des Moines; Mr. L. K. Bouton, Des Moines; Louise Pratt, Des Moines; Marguerite Muto, Des Moines



Bonnie J. Crawford, Tama

“A Different Kind of America” . . . Something Special

It was something special — no doubt about it. And you found yourself wishing there was a way to capture it — to bottle it up, keep it on hand, and use it whenever and wherever there was a need. Somehow, there should have been a way to preserve part of the magic of the times.

This is the gist of a feeling The Associated Press said existed on the eve of the 200th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

“It was a different kind of American who seemed to take over this day,” said the wire service in a national dispatch. And then it told how this “different kind of American” reacted to the U.S. Bicentennial of the American Revolution.

In Washington, D.C., this “different kind” of citizen stood in line for 3 to 4 hours just to get a hasty glimpse of “The Nation’s Birth Certificate — the Declaration of Independence.”

In far-off Tokyo, Japan, members of The American Club there were surprised to see a five-foot likeness of The Father of Our Country (George Washington) carved in butter in honor of the day by Japanese club workers.

On the Hudson River, Operation Sail was a big hit as the boats, ships and vessels invaded New York City in a superb spectacle that attracted millions — even though winds failed to cooperate and the ships had to power their way into the metropolis. But that didn’t seem to matter.

At the Southeast Polk High School near Altoona, where a rolling-pin throwing contest, a pie-eating contest, a nail-driving contest and even a husband-calling contest took place, a national television crew was on hand to update America on what an old-fashioned Fourth of July Celebration was like in Iowa.

It was national television, with camera crews kept busy at various points across the U.S., which seemed to remind Americans that the all-time best spectacular ever in their lifetimes was taking place.

At the Red Rock Dam area, well-known ornithologist Gladys Black of Pleasantville led a bird-watcher’s walk which began at 6 a.m., which may have seemed to be an event unrelated to the importance of the day to some people.

The Lake City Fire Department staged “invitational fire department water fights,” which also may have appeared not conducive to a national, historic holiday.

At Jesup, a “Spirit of ’76 Farmers Day Celebration” was held. This seemed appropriate since it was a band of farmers who stood their ground at Lexington 200 years earlier and fired the fabled “shot heard around the world”.

In Schleswig, the Jaycees sponsored a “German Beer Festival”. At Buffalo Center, the city officials arranged a “Buffalo Days” celebration. There was a tug-of-war and street dance at Greeley in northeast Iowa and a baseball tournament at Eldridge.

In southwest Iowa, there was the 94th Old Soldiers Reunion, while at Schaller in northwest Iowa, the citizens took part in “Popcorn Days”. At Mapleton in west central Iowa, there was a special exhibit on display titled, “American Agriculture — A Continuing Revolution.”

In southern Iowa, Watermelon Day was held at Humeston, while an old-time threshing demonstration and square-dance was held at Montour in central Iowa. A “Donkey Baseball” game was staged at Miles.

At Sioux City there was the official opening of the Sergeant Floyd Museum. Floyd was the only white man casualty on the historic Lewis & Clark Expedition up the Missouri River in 1804-1806 and was buried on a Missouri River bluff south of where Sioux City now stands.

There were many, many more events — including festival activities such as a performance by the Olde Barn Players at Marion, a special cantata (“I Love America”) by the Earlham Bicentennial Choir on the steps of the Courthouse in Winterset, and a girls’ softball tournament at Center Point.

Such things obscured what seems like the usual ferment, or unrest and protests which seem to normally preoccupy the news in the U.S. most of the time. And such torments, or complaints, for a day or so anyway, were shoved aside. It isn’t difficult to understand why such activity by the protestor gains such recognition here, because, indeed, that is the way the U.S. was spawned.

After all, there had been protests and demonstrations and the like about unfair taxation, injustice and other things just prior to the unprecedented break for liberty, justice and the pursuit of happiness in the thirteen original U.S. colonies.

In Iowa in 1976 there were many reasons for the citizenry to complain, or protest, too. For one thing, rainfall was scarce — the driest summer on record followed by an equally dry fall which together represented a period of the least rainfall in 104 years — or since Iowa weather records were first kept. This meant a real possibility of drought, and short crops, in Iowa, on July 4, 1976.

In addition, there was inflation much in evidence in the price of gasoline, fuel and energy, accompanied by a land price boom that pushed the average value of an acre of Iowa farm land up to a record \$1,231 an acre — nearly triple what it had been only 10 years earlier.

The work of the Iowa American Revolution Bicentennial Commission is just about accomplished now. It had begun in 1970 when the Iowa General Assembly passed a special law (House File 1339) and at the first official commission meeting held in January, 1971. So in review, it had five full years or so to develop a suitable program to observe the beginning of the nation's third century through funding and endorsements, by leadership and direction and most often, by encouragement and organization.

Some will say that the Bicentennial effort fell short, came up shy of its worthy potential, while others will quote statistics and spout praise of what happened.

President Ford in his Bicentennial Message to the nation said this: "In the space of two centuries we have not been able to right every wrong, to correct every injustice, to reach every worthy goal. But for 200 years we have tried, and we will continue to strive to make the lives of individual men and women in this country and on this earth better — more hopeful and happy, more prosperous and peaceful, more fulfilling and more free."

Federal Bicentennial Administrator Warner observed, "America is getting exactly the Bicentennial it wants. It fell short of my expectations. I had hoped it would reflect a great national fervor over the principles laid down by the founding fathers.

"I hoped there would be more of an emphasis on the documents — the Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights."

Iowa Gov. Robert D. Ray said in part: "As we enter our third century, grateful for a rich heritage, we can look ahead with the hope for a bright future. We should set aside our fear of tomorrow and replace cynicism with optimism.

"This new century can be a period of great opportunity for Iowans and Americans. And it can be a time for us to be more productive — a time to become closer as Americans and to enhance our quality of living."

Some of this rich heritage mentioned by Governor Ray was put on national display during the Bicentennial Year in a special "Iowa Day" program at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.

The Iowa contribution was actually a two-day public program which was part of a series of free concerts featuring music written by composers from each of the 50 states.

About a thousand Iowans were on hand, including Governor Ray who gave a brief welcome pertaining to Iowa's musical heritage. Then followed songs composed by Meredith Willson of Mason City, Bix Beiderbecke, the Quad Cities jazzman, and bandleader Glenn Miller.

One of the groups performing was the Karl King Municipal Band from Fort Dodge, where the late Mr. King lived and wrote hundreds of marches. Another was the 34th Army Band of the Iowa National Guard from Fairfield, and the Des Moines East High School Band and Marching Scarlets who raised \$40,000 for the trip.

Al Rockwell, a Des Moines music man himself, coordinated the Iowa Day event which was sponsored in part by the Iowa Bicentennial Commission and the Iowa Federation of Music Clubs.

There were some other Bicentennial activities which may have appeared unrelated to heritage or history like the five-story high chocolate "U.S. Birthday Cake" given to the city of Philadelphia by Sara Lee Foods located at New Hampton, Ia., where the monstrous dessert was baked.

This "birthday cake" was 47 feet high and 42 feet across at its base, boasted eight octagonal tiers and was estimated to consist of more than 200,000 servings. Nearly all of the 700 employees at the firm's Iowa plant in New Hampton took part in preparing the candidate for the Guinness Book of Records, and five semi-trucks were needed to haul it from Iowa to Philadelphia.

Atop the gigantic cake was an equally large replica of the American Bald Eagle, measuring eight feet across from wing-tip to wing-tip, and overshadowing miniature U.S. flags of 1776 and 1976. The huge cake was not consumed on the spot, slice by slice; instead, it was dismantled in sections and distributed through city institutions.

Not all of the Bicentennial programs went according to plan, as was the case in Clear Lake where sparks prematurely ignited fireworks. About \$5,000 worth of fireworks had been arranged by the Chamber of Commerce and was to be set off from barges anchored out in the lake. The two men helping put on the aerial show had to jump into the lake, after earlier tossing some of the fireworks in to prevent a possible major explosion. No one was injured.

At Greenfield, there were 10,000 people on hand for the Bicentennial parade — making it the biggest parade in the town's history, according to newspaper editor Ed Sidey who also was Adair County's Bicentennial Chairman.



Gerhardt Kraemer of Steamboat Rock built a dozen special Bicentennial parade floats as his contribution to the observance. Each was child-size, so that youngsters could ride on the floats in the various local parades. Kraemer designed one plywood sow float which informed the viewer, "She (the sow) got on the ball and produced". Another was a buffalo-shaped float, while another featured an old-fashioned outhouse with an Uncle Sam on it and another honored the local rural mailman.

The 240 seventh graders at the Black Hawk Junior High School in LeClaire borrowed a century-old idea for their Bicentennial effort. They came up with four scrapbooks of stories, poems, drawings and photographs "addressed" to the school children of Iowa in the Tricentennial Year, 2076.

The scrapbooks were presented to the Iowa State Historical Department. The idea for this venture came because in 1876 pupils of the old Irving School in Des Moines had prepared what they called a "Centennial Offering" to be given to school youngsters in 1976.

The Black Hawk teacher, Karen Swanson, is a granddaughter of Martin Sorrick, one of the Irving pupils who made a U.S. Centennial contribution. The material had been kept in a vault at the Iowa historical building, and was put on exhibit as part of the "1876 Exhibit" of the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C.

At Wyoming, Midland High School's art students prepared a 20-by-40 foot mural showing how life had changed in 200 years — from Indians and walking plows to skyscrapers and a space ship — on the city library's brick exterior.

All of this grass-roots activity indicated the variety and resourcefulness of the Iowa people on the eve of the Third Century. And, in a way, to some people, it seemed like something pretty special, important, worthwhile and good. There seemed to be the feeling that some persons close to the Bicentennial from its planning to its execution hoped that the feeling lingers across the span and test of time.

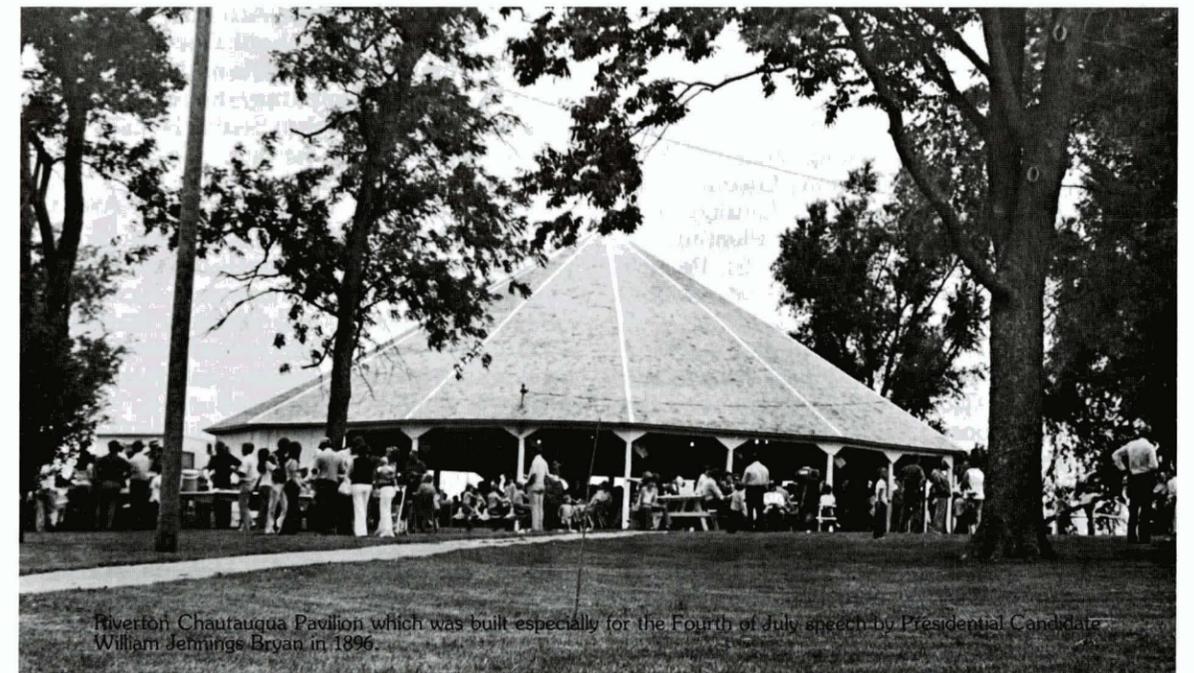
But end it must. And it may be like the end of the construction of a great bridge, or new building, or dam, and the fact that the engineers, architects or workers hate in a way to see that last steel beam, or brick, or bolt, or rivet, or pipe put into place because once that's done, it is all over. Finished.

Maybe it's like the end to a magnificent concert. Or good movie. Or book.

During its zenith, it was really something. But now, it's winding down and being phased out. What's left are a few photos perhaps, some newspaper clippings, a memory or two and some of the Bicentennial projects built to withstand time and temporary tests of wear and tear — like the old church, the depot, schoolhouse, home and other restoration efforts.

Maybe these old buildings will be more durable and lasting than the temporary focus on a pretty important national holiday. And maybe the good will of working together to restore the old railroad depot, or grain mill, or whatever, will persevere and continue.

Maybe, all together, these things helped create what appeared to some to be "a different kind of American" on July 4, 1976. And maybe it helped set the stage for a different kind of America, too.



Riverton Chautauqua Pavilion which was built especially for the Fourth of July speech by Presidential Candidate William Jennings Bryan in 1896.

A STATEWIDE REPORT

The U.S. Bicentennial program in Iowa is best characterized as a "grass-roots" observance, with a myriad of activities accomplished at the local level, with a variety of projects and programs undertaken largely by local leadership, but also with the help, support and suggestion of the state commission and its staff.

Here is a county-by-county report, with the county Bicentennial chairpersons listed, the Bicentennial communities and schools in that county and a report on one of the major Bicentennial activities or projects:

IOWA **ADAIR** — Ed Sidey of Greenfield was the Adair County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and respective chairmen — Bridgewater **Jeanne Sulgrove**; Fontanelle **Ralph E. Wollenhaupt**; Greenfield **Robert Ehrsam** and Orient **Marjorie Jensen**. Bicentennial schools — Bridgewater **Bridgewater-Fontanelle Elementary**; Fontanelle **Bridgewater-Fontanelle** and Greenfield **Greenfield Community Elementary**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Greenfield celebration which took place on June 29, 1976 and June 30, 1976.

IOWA **ADAMS** — Mrs. Harry Sickler of Corning was the Adams County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and respective chairmen — Carbon **Mrs. Paul Richie**; Corning **Mrs. Harry Sickler**; Nodaway **Robert Dunn** and Prescott **Kenneth D. Foster**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Presentation of Gershwin's "Of Thee I Sing" by Icarian Players of Adams County.

IOWA **ALLAMAKEE** — Joe Deeney of Waukon was the Allamakee County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and respective chairmen — Harpers Ferry, **Mrs. Harland Luster**; Lansing **Harvey Halverson**; New Albin **Glenn F. Meyer**; Postville **Mrs. Robert L. Schultz**; Waterville **Mrs. Lawrence Rathbun**; Waukon **Gweneth K. Schroedel**. Bicentennial schools — Lansing **Lansing Elementary and New Albin Elementary**; Postville **Cora B. Darling**; Waukon **St. Patrick School**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Reproduction of the county history.

IOWA **APPANOOSE** — William Weaver and Mike O'Connor of Centerville were the Appanoose County Bicentennial chairmen. Bicentennial communities and respective chairmen — Centerville **Michael O'Connor**; Cincinnati **Judy Carson**; Moravia **Mrs. Gail Tuttle**; Moulton **Mrs. Vivien Wright**; Numa **Ronald Box**; Udell **Anna Birkland** and Unionville **Mrs. Donald Ellison**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Moravia's 125th birthday celebration July 3 to July 5.

IOWA **AUDUBON** — Margaret Hays of Hamlin was the Audubon County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and respective chairmen — Audubon **Patricia Wulf**; Exira **Leon Milliman**; Gray **Frank McLaughlin** and Kimballton **Cloid Farley**. Bicentennial schools — Audubon **Audubon Community School District**; and Gray **Gray Elementary**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Restoration of the Audubon County Home for Audubon County Historical Museum.

IOWA **BENTON** — Don Corcoran of Vinton was the Benton County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and respective chairmen — Atkins **Mrs. Eleanor Padley**; Belle Plaine **James Grace**; Blirstown **Tom Less**; Garrison **Glenn L. Kaiser**; Keystone **Maxine Walters**; Newhall **Robert Wayman**; Norway **Alan Schulte**; Shellsburg **Jerry L. Kolsrud**; Urbana **Nancy Newton**; Van Horne **Larry Lutz** and Vinton **Kenneth Terfehn**. Bicentennial schools — Atkins **Benton Community School**; Blirstown **Blirstown Elementary**; Keystone **Keystone Attendance Center**, **Benton Community School District**; Newhall **Benton Community Schools and Vinton East**, **Lincoln**, **West Elementary Schools**, **Tilford Junior High**, **Washington Senior High**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Cataloging of all cemeteries of Benton County.

IOWA **BLACK HAWK** — Marvin Haugebak of Cedar Falls was the Black Hawk County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and respective chairmen — Cedar Falls **Daryl Smith**; DeWar **Bonnie Heiple**; Dunkerton **Kathleen Rigdon**; Elk Run Heights **James E. Collins**; Evansdale **Jurly R. Nichols**; Finchford **Richard Corwin**; Gilbertville **Mrs. Ruth M. Gardner**; Hudson **Oda Downey**; LaPorte City **Mrs. Robert Case and Carl G. Dahl**; Raymond **Katherine Spear** and Waterloo **Merlin Hodapp**. Bicentennial Schools — Cedar Falls **Elementary** — Cedar Heights, Hansen, Humbert, Lincoln, Malcolm Price Laboratory, North Cedar, Orchard Hill, Southdale, Valley Park; Junior highs — Holmes and

Peet; Senior High — Cedar Falls; Laporte City **LaPorte City Elementary**; Waterloo **Elementary** — Castle Hill, Frances Grout; **Central High School, West High School; Westridge, St. Edward's School**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Nine day celebration June 27, 1976 — July 4, 1976 in metro area. "Sturgis Falls" on June 27 for the kick-off and "Celebration on the Cedar" for the climax on July 4, 1976.

IOWA **BOONE** — Larry Adams of Boone was the Boone County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and respective chairmen — Boone **Larry Adams**; Boxholm **Stanton C. Stillwagon**; Luther **Mr. Audrey M. McVay**; Madrid **Dennis Duling**; Moingona **Larry Adams** and Ogden **Gary Alban**. Bicentennial schools — Boone **Boone Junior Senior High School, Lincoln-Garfield Schools, Page, Sacred Heart**; Madrid **Madrid Community School**; Ogden **Howe Elementary, Ogden Community High School, Ogden Middle School**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Mamie Doud Eisenhower's Birthplace Restoration.

IOWA **BREMER** — Jeff Cleveland of Waverly was the Bremer County Bicentennial Chairman. Bicentennial communities and respective chairmen — Denver **Mrs. Dale A. Judas**; Fredrika **Mrs. June Rule and Mrs. Frederic Rewoldt**; Plainfield **Don Whitney**; Readlyn **Harold Wehling**; Sumner **Elda Oberheu**; Tripoli **Leon Kirchhoff and Mary Ann Ahrens** and Waverly **Mel Anderson**. Bicentennial schools — Denver **Denver Elementary**; Janesville **Janesville Elementary**; Sumner **Durant Elementary**; Waverly **Irving School**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Restoration of rural schoolhouse.

IOWA **BUCHANAN** — LeAnne Harrison of Independence was the Buchanan County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and respective chairmen — Aurora **Mrs. Hilda Gilson**; Brandon **William Mitchell**; Fairbank **Lois A. Maricle**; Hazleton **Ralph Kephart**; Independence **Barbara A. Dodge**; Jesup **Mark J. Podhajsky**; Lamont **Bernard E. Brickman**; Quasqueton **Larry Kruckenberg**; Rowley **Eileen Boelter**; Stanley **Mrs. Irene Cole**; Winthrop **Dixon Matteson**. Bicentennial schools — Independence **Middle School**; St. John **Elementary**; **West Elementary Quasqueton South Attendance Center, East Buchanan Community School District**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Recording 56 cemeteries on 3 x 5 cards to be microfilmed.

IOWA **BUENA VISTA** — Gordon Linge of Storm Lake was the Buena Vista County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and respective chairmen — Albert City **Duane Madson and Wesley T. Scott**; Newell **Clifford H. Baak**; Sioux Rapids **Oscar Sundblad**; Storm Lake **Gordon Linge**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Albert City Threshing Bee.

IOWA **BUTLER** — Mrs. Mina Woodley of Allison was the Butler County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and respective chairmen — Allison **Roger D. Wubben**; Aplington **G. Bruce Eckles**; Aredale **Dean Jackson**; Austinville **G. Bruce Eckles**; Bristow **Dennis Buss**; Clarksville **Harvey A. Miller**; Dumont **Erna Clemens**; Greene **Sylvia J. Hawker**; Kesley **G. Bruce Eckles**; New Hartford **Vopel Youngberg**; Parkersburg **Peter Olthoff**; Shell Rock **Helen Vanderburg**. Bicentennial schools — Allison **Allison-Bristow**; Dumont **Dumont Community**; Greene **Greene Community Elementary**; New Hartford **New Hartford Community**; Shell Rock **Shell Rock Elementary**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Removal of cupola from the old courthouse and making a "Hall of Fame" out of it.

IOWA **CALHOUN** — Hal Spears of Rockwell City was the Calhoun County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and respective chairmen — Knoke **Thomas A. Lenz**; Lake City **Jim Bauman**; Lohrville **Leonard H. Somers**; Manson **Gerald D. Yeazel**; Pomeroy **Walter Hintz**; Rockwell City **Robert E. Morton**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Addition to county historical museum.

IOWA **CARROLL** — Paul DeShaw of Carroll was the Carroll County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Breda **Leo A. Heisterkamp**; Carroll **Thomas Dolezal**; Coon Rapids **Marjorie Bell**; Glidden **Mrs. Barry Snyder**; Manning **Larry Hansen**; Willey **Harold Brincks**. Bicentennial schools — Arcadia **Ar-Wa Community School**; Carroll **Kuemper High School**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Founded the Carroll County Historical Museum.

IOWA **CASS** — Jeannie Brodersen of Atlantic was the Cass County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Anita **Edward D. Heaton**; Atlantic **Mrs. Beth Bruce**; Cumberland **Helen Denham**; Griswold **Richard O. Habermann**; Lewis **Bernice Burnside**; Marne **Merrill D. Buckley**; Massena **Donald Henkenius**; Wiota

Beulah M. Ostrus. Bicentennial schools — Atlantic **Jackson School, Washington Elementary;** Griswold **Griswold Community High School;** Lewis **Lewis Elementary Center.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Restoration and rededication of Cass County Soldiers' Monument.

 **CEDAR** — William Penningroth of Mechanicsville was the Cedar County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Bennett **Kenneth Horstmann;** Clarence **Donald Hunwarden;** Durant **David L. Shultz;** Lowden **Norman Kroemer;** Massillon **Hazel Raiber;** Mechanicsville **William Penningroth;** Stanwood **Mrs. Donald W. Smith;** Tipton **Elvon C. Lloyd;** West Branch **Nick Arensdorf.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Restoration of Rochester Cemetery.

 **CERRO GORDO** — Ernie Zerble of Mason City was the Cerro Gordo County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Clear Lake **A. W. Schultz;** Dougherty **Mrs. Robert M. Corporon;** Mason City **Robert Douglas;** Meservey **Sharon Schmale;** Plymouth **Robert H. Brown;** Rock Falls **Mary Schlobohm;** Rockwell **Maxine Dunton;** Swaledale **Mr. and Mrs. Lester Bonner;** Thornton **Mrs. Walter Schroeder.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Wake-Up America bell ringing followed by ecumenical church service on July 4, 1976.

 **CHEROKEE** — George J. Pettengill of Cherokee was the Cherokee County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Aurelia **Jerry R. Jensen;** Cleghorn **Mrs. Earl Ehlers;** Marcus **Stephen J. Smith and Lois Mayer;** Meriden **Mrs. Earl Ehlers.** Bicentennial schools — Aurelia **Aurelia Community;** Marcus **Marcus Community;** Quimby **Willow Community.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Mapping old Cherokee.

 **CHICKASAW** — The late Mrs. Leota Dudley of Ionia was the Chickasaw County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Alta Vista **James T. Marik;** Fredericksburg **Harold L. Ackley;** Ionia **Gladys Diesburg;** Nashua **Mrs. Albin J. Nelson;** New Hampton **Duane Larsen.** Bicentennial schools — Alta Vista **Alta Vista School;** Chickasaw **Fredericksburg Elementary;** Nashua **Nashua Community School;** New Hampton **New Hampton Elementary, Junior and Senior High, St.**

Joseph Community School. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Restoring the old Fredericksburg Depot at the Chickasaw County Historical Museum at Nashua.

 **CLARKE** — L. L. Hagie and Betty Thorpe of Osceola were the Clarke County Bicentennial chairmen. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Murray **Mrs. Jack Callison;** Osceola **L. L. Hagie and Betty Thorpe;** Woodburn **Helen Cottrell.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — July 3, 4, and 5 celebration - parade, balloon ascension, religious celebration.

 **CLAY** — Dan Maxwell of Spencer was the Clay County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Everly **Rupert Knapp;** Peterson **Arthur E. Whitney;** Spencer **Dan Maxwell;** Webb **Rev. Larry Hartley.** Bicentennial schools — Dickens **Terrel Elementary;** Peterson **Sioux Valley Community Elementary, Junior, and Senior High;** Spencer **Jefferson Elementary, Lincoln School.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Clay County flag project.

 **CLAYTON** — Don Menken of Elkader was the Clayton County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Elkader **Mrs. Harold S. Griffith;** Farmersburg **Linda Sedlmayr;** Garnavillo **Mrs. Beverly Possehl;** Giard **Mrs. Darrell Hedemann;** Guttenberg **Neil Webster;** Luana **Mrs. Ronald Gordon;** McGregor **Ronald Vick;** Marquette **Blanche Cardin;** Monona **Mrs. Otmar Bruns;** Strawberry Point **Marcey F. Alderson.** Bicentennial schools — Edgewood **Edgewood-Colesburg Community;** Elkader **Central Community;** Garnavillo **Garnavillo Community Schools;** McGregor **Mar-Mac Schools;** Monona **M-F-L Community Schools.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Pioneer Village including moving in and building several buildings to re-create a pioneer setting.

 **CLINTON** — Tom Fullerton of Clinton was the Clinton County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Calamus **Lloyd Steffens;** Camanche **Mrs. Donald Bengtson, Sr.;** Charlotte **Gail Adrian;** Clinton **Carolyn R. Grimes;** Delmar **John Lary;** DeWitt **Linda A. Casad;** Elvira **Reynold P. Jurgensen;** Grand Mound **Mary Kae Hintz;** Lost Nation **Rev. Thomas E. McConville;** Low Moor **Robert Lilly;** Wheatland **Owen Boedecker.** Bicentennial schools — Camanche **Central Elementary;**

Delmar **Delwood Elementary.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Updating county history.

 **CRAWFORD** — Dick McCollough of Denison was the Crawford County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Charter Oak **Ralph Larson;** Dow City **Gene Harre;** Ricketts **Mrs. John Dorfler;** Schleswig **Ted Hollander;** Vail **Daniel Crane;** Westside **Mrs. Donald Nobiling.** Bicentennial schools — Ricketts **Schleswig Community School;** Schleswig **Schleswig Community School.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Four day Bicentennial celebration in Denison with Century Farm displays, Bicentennial coin auction, huge county parade and Bicentennial county church day and picnic.

 **DALLAS** — The late Lowell Owens and Russell Horn of Adel were the Dallas County Bicentennial chairmen. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Adel **Vern Danilson;** Booneville **Mrs. Fred Jackson;** Dallas Center **Wayne R. Haines;** Dexter **Robert P. Weesner;** Van Meter **Mrs. Ardis Anderson;** Waukee **Raymond G. Clark;** Woodward **James Lee Battani.** Bicentennial schools — Dallas Center **Dallas Community school;** Dexter **Dexfield Elementary;** Granger **Woodward-Granger Middle School;** Redfield **Dexfield Community School;** Van Meter **Van Meter Community School.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — County-wide tree planting project.

 **DAVIS** — Peter Burchette of Bloomfield was the Davis County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Drakesville **Bill D. Bassett;** Floris **Barry E. Irelan;** Pulaski **Mary Lou Brown;** West Grove **Mattie Harper.** Bicentennial schools — Bloomfield **Bloomfield Elementary.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — July 4th Bicentennial celebration.

 **DECATUR** — H. L. Graves of Davis City was the Decatur County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Garden Grove **Glenn Morris;** Grand River **Richard Queener;** Lamoni **Mrs. Martha Swanson;** Leon **Mrs. Nancy Elson;** Van Wert **Ted Quayle;** Weldon **Ted Quayle.** Bicentennial schools — Weldon **Clark Community School.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Agricultural Museum.

 **DELAWARE** — Edythe Satterlee of Manchester was the Delaware County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Colesburg **Bethel A. Brown;** Dundee **William Ryan;** Earlville **William Bramley;** Edgewood **LaVerne A. Gremmels;** Greeley **Charles Nabor;** Hopkinton **William E. Lux;** Manchester **M. T. Sepic;** Masonville **Bill Alden;** Ryan **Mrs. Marilee Steffen.** Bicentennial schools — Manchester **Lambert Elementary.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Civil War Days celebration.

 **DES MOINES** — Dr. Philip Jordan of Burlington was the Des Moines County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Danville **Mrs. Gloria Brown and Mrs. Sue Hesler;** Huron Township **Mrs. Howard Smith and Mrs. Frank Hedges;** Mediapolis **Linda D. Trevitt.** Bicentennial schools — Burlington **Burlington Community Schools, Prospect Hill, North Hill;** Danville **Danville Community School;** Mediapolis **Mediapolis Community School;** Oakville **Mediapolis Community School.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Planting of apple trees.

 **DICKINSON** — Dr. F. V. Maytum of Spirit Lake was the Dickinson County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Arnolds Park **Peggy Schenk Smith;** Lake Park **Walter J. Polk;** Milford **Phyllis Koppert and Ruth Ann VanDonslear;** Spirit Lake **Virginia Phelps;** Wahpeton **Dorman Leader.** Bicentennial schools — Milford **Milford Community School;** Spirit Lake **Spirit Lake Community Elementary and High School.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Marking the cabin sites of Spirit Lake Massacre with permanent stone and bronze markers, along with a brochure and maps of the area.

 **DUBUQUE** — Dr. Robert Myers of Dubuque was the Dubuque County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Asbury **Delores A. Kloser;** Cascade **Mrs. Rita M. Devaney;** Dubuque **Dennis Naughton and Mary Jo Keating;** Dyersville **Steve Boge;** Epworth **Kenneth D. Ankenbauer;** Worthington **Mary A. Wolfe.** Bicentennial schools — Dubuque **Bryant and Hoover Elementary, Lincoln, Holy Ghost, Irving, Jackson, Jefferson Junior High, Marshall, Nativity School, Prescott, Resurrection, Sacred Heart, Saint Anthony, Saint Mary's, Saint Raphael and Table Mound;** Farley

Western Dubuque Elementary and Junior High; Holy Cross Richardsville-Holy Cross-Luxembourg; Worthington Saint Paul. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Five Flags Civic Center.

 **EMMET** — Rev. Neal Armstrong of Gruver was the Emmet County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Armstrong **Arnold Burkhead**; Estherville **Mrs. Lois M. Powers**; Gruver **Lewis Harvey**; Ringsted **Dale Johanson**. Bicentennial schools — Estherville **Estherville Community School**; Gruver **Lincoln Central School**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Emmet County History.

 **FAYETTE** — Mrs. John Graham of Hawkeye was the Fayette County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Arlington **Ursula Cordes**; Clermont **Mrs. Galen Mack**; Fayette **Edward L. Block**; Hawkeye **Mrs. Raymond Hyman**; Maynard **Dale Williams**; Oelwein **Mrs. Glen Sims and Wally Richardson**; Randalia **Art Schlee**; Wadena **Marjorie Knox**; Waucoma **Mrs. John F. McKay**; Westgate **Michael W. Hurd**; West Union **E. G. Schaa**. Bicentennial schools — Hawkeye **Hawkeye Elementary**; Oelwein **Harlan, Hazleton, Parkside, Stanley, and Wings Park Elementary Schools**, **Oelwein Junior-Senior High, Sacred Heart**; West Union **North Junior and Senior High, West Union Elementary**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Updated county history — *Out of the Midwest: A Portrait*.

 **FLOYD** — G. Arthur Luther of Charles City was the Floyd County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Charles City **Marie Elliott**; Colwell **Sharon Byers**; Floyd **Juanita Quinby**; Marble Rock **Dennis A. Carney**; Rockford **Dennis Ginther**. Bicentennial schools — Charles City **Charles City Community Schools**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Plaque marking the grave of an 1812 war veteran.

 **FRANKLIN** — R. Pearl Kelsey of Hampton was the Franklin County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Alexander **Orville Arends**; Sheffield **Frank Norris**. Bicentennial schools — Sheffield **Sheffield-Chapin Community School District**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — County-wide bicentennial celebration.

 **FREMONT** — Mrs. Robert Birkby of Sidney was the Fremont County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Anderson **Ted Graves**; Bartlett **Mrs. Forrest L. Ball**; Farragut **Rev. Karen and Reg Merrill**; Hamburg **Pearl Bartle**; Imogene **Lloyd M. Haley**; Locust Grove Township **Hermie K. Hirz**; Benton Township **Mrs. Wesley Sheldon**; Randolph **Mary A. Blackburn**; Riverton **Pat Shull**; Sidney **Stewart A. Hall**; Tabor **Ralph A. Laird**; Thurman **Elaine Leeka**. Bicentennial schools — Farragut **Farragut Community School District**; Hamburg **Hamburg Community Schools**; Sidney **Sidney Elementary School**; Tabor **Fremont-Mills Schools**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — County map and place mats of historical and recreational sites.

 **GREENE** — Fred E. Morain of Jefferson was the Greene County Bicentennial County chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Churdan **Phyllis J. Hanson**; Jefferson **William C. Ostlund**; Paton **Harold L. Stine**; Scranton **Kim J. Bates**. Bicentennial schools — Cooper **Cooper Elementary**; Grand Junction **East Greene School**; Jefferson **Jefferson Community Schools**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — 17,760 trees by 1976 — this figure represents slightly more than one tree per person in the county.

 **GRUNDY** — Dr. George Hausman of Grundy Center and Mrs. Reni Lynch of Conrad were the Grundy County Bicentennial chairmen. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Beaman **Mrs. Martin Myers**; Conrad **E. E. Jebousek**; Grundy Center **Dennis Dolmage**; Holland **Mrs. Edwin Brower**; Reinbeck **Allan L. Rhoades**; Wellsburg **Mrs. Duane Babcock**. Bicentennial schools — Beaman **Beaman-Conrad-Liscomb Elementary**; Conrad **Beaman-Conrad-Liscomb High School**; Reinbeck **Reinbeck Elementary**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Erection of flagpole.

 **GUTHRIE** — Donald Ferree of Panora was the Guthrie County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Bagley **Geraldine Wilt**; Guthrie Center **Mr. and Mrs. Gifford Covault and Dr. and Mrs. Patrick Glenf**; Menlo **Mrs. Glenn Stevenson and Betty L. Cunningham**; Stuart **James E. Schwartzkopf**. Bicentennial schools — Panora **Panora-Linden Yale Yale-Jamaica-Bagley Community**. A Major Bicentennial project or

activity — Placement of old Guthrie County High School on the National Register and making this building a county museum.

 **HAMILTON** — Richard H. Hahne and J. W. Marvel of Webster City were the Hamilton County Bicentennial chairmen. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Blairsburg **Cecilia L. Smith**; Kamrar **Mrs. Bernard Klaver**; Randall **John L. Kost**; Stanhope **Eldred Lundquist**; Stratford **Dorothy Miller**; Webster City **R. E. Johnson**; Williams **J. L. Ruby**. Bicentennial schools — Stratford **Stratford Community**; Webster City **Elm Park, Hilltop Elementary, Webster City Junior High**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Reprinting county history Volumes 1 and 2 in one volume.

 **HANCOCK** — Mrs. Donna Greiman of Garner was the Hancock County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Britt **Forrest Eckels**; Corwith **Miss E. Lucille Miller**; Garner **Lorentine Christensen**; Goodell **Merlin Hanson**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — County Bicentennial celebration.

 **HARDIN** — Ray Taylor of Steamboat Rock was the Hardin County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial Communities and their respective chairmen — Ackley **Ed A. Waldorf**; Alden **Mrs. John Neubauer**; Eldora **Evelyn Stone**; Iowa Falls **Allan Pool**; Steamboat Rock **Mrs. Helen Johns**; Union **Herman Harris**. Bicentennial schools — Whitten **Union-Whitten Elementary**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Pioneer Plaza, County Fairgrounds, Eldora.

 **HARRISON** — Daryl Larson of Missouri Valley was the Harrison County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Dunlap **Gary D. Korver**; Little Sioux **Lucille Flint**; Logan **Gerald A. Sorick**; Magnolia **Lorita Rider**; Missouri Valley **Gary Rodewald**; Modale **Kathleen Gilgen**; Mondamin **Jerry Shelton**; Persia **Bonnie J. Perrin**; Pisgah **Dolores M. Messenger**; Woodbine **Mark S. Banwart**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Missouri Riverfront Development.

 **HENRY** — Helen Virden of Mt. Pleasant was the Henry County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Hillsboro **Roberta B. Boitscha**; Lowell **Mrs. Bertha Thornburg**; Mt. Pleasant **Helen M. Virden**; Mt.

Union **Robert Connop**; New London **Linda M. Farnsworth**; Olds **Philip Crawford**; Rome **George H. and Zada Scott**; Salem **Mrs. Milton Curtis**; Swedesburg **Vicki Bergstrom**; Trenton **Eunice M. Rockwell**; Wayland **V. J. Hesseltine**; Winfield **Mrs. Bert M. Erickson**. Bicentennial schools — Mt. Pleasant **Pleasant Lawn Elementary**; New London **Clark Elementary**; Winfield **Mt. Union Elementary and Wyman Elementary**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Planting 1776 trees as a lasting memorial with a nursery set aside for future plantings as needed.

 **HOWARD** — Kevin McGuire of Cresco was the Howard County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Cresco **Evelyn Baldner**; Elma **Dean C. Mai**; Lime Springs **Jim Walton**; Riceville **Jane Elliott**. Bicentennial schools — Cresco **Crestwood Junior High, Notre Dame High, West Ward Elementary Center**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Yankee Doodle, a Bicentennial review dinner-theatre.

 **HUMBOLDT** — John N. Larsen and Doris Olson of Livermore were the Humboldt County Bicentennial chairmen. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Bode **Mrs. Margaret Rude**; Bradgate **Phyllis Wallace**; Dakota City **Lorraine Lowe**; Gilmore City **Betty Stearns**; Hardy **Wilma Clancy**; Humboldt **Duane Wind**; Livermore **Mary E. Colwell**; Ottosen **I. E. Movick**; Pioneer **Lola Lynch**; Renwick **Mrs. Georgia Oppedahl**; Rutland **Mrs. Florine Hood**; Thor **Alfred T. Guddall**. Bicentennial schools — Bode **Twin Rivers High**; Bradgate **Bradgate Elementary**; Humboldt **Taft Elementary**; Livermore **Twin Rivers Elementary**; Renwick **Boone Valley Community Schools**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — County-wide tree planting project.

 **IDA** — Isabella Smith of Battle Creek and Dennis Miesner of Ida Grove were the Ida County Bicentennial chairmen. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Arthur **Mrs. Jeanne Whitney**; Battle Creek **Craig M. Huber**; Galva **Martha Schulke**; Holstein **Christine Wiese**; Ida Grove **Herman W. Jensen**. Bicentennial schools — Galva **Galva Community Schools**; Ida Grove **Ida Grove Elementary**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Miesner family farm fest.



IOWA — Mike Scott of Marengo was the Iowa County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Amana Colonies **Charles L. Selzer**; Conroy **Verne Folkmann**; Ladora **Bernard Hamilton**; Marengo **Michael T. Simmons**; North English **Mrs. Jeralee Westfall**; Victor **Bernard Hamilton**; Williamsburg **John Roehrka**. Bicentennial schools — Middle Amana **Amana Community Schools**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — County-wide beautification program.



IOWA **JACKSON** — Lucille Sorenson of Maquoketa was the Jackson County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Andrew **David McCracken**; LaMotte **Mr. Tony Till**; Maquoketa **Mrs. Roland Glandorf**; Miles **Ralph J. Marshall**; Preston **Robert Manley**; Sabula **Bonnie Calentine**; Spragueville **Mrs. Emil Bredekamp**. Bicentennial schools — Bellevue **St. Nicholas Pre-School**; Maquoketa **Maquoketa Community School District**; Miles **East Central Community**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Jackson County Bicentennial Park.



IOWA **JASPER** — Gerald Zarley and Millie Dickinson of Newton were the Jasper County Bicentennial chairmen. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Colfax **Royal Cross**; Monroe **John LeGrand**; Newton **Linda Campbell**. Bicentennial schools — Newton **Elementary**, **Aurora Heights**, **Beg**, **Emerson Hough**, **Kellogg**, **Lincoln**, **Thomas Jefferson**, and **Woodrow Wilson**. **Berg** and **Central Junior High Schools**, **Newton Community Senior High**. **Baxter Baxter schools** **Colfax West Broadway**. A Major bicentennial project or activity — Special newspaper articles about the past.



IOWA **JEFFERSON** — Joyce Snakenberg and Dr. Joan Sturtevant of Fairfield were the Jefferson County Bicentennial chairmen. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Batavia **Bill Kitchen**; Fairfield **Robert Rasmussen**; Packwood **Ruth E. Paxton**; Pleasant Plain **Cindy Worley**. Bicentennial schools — Fairfield **Fairfield High**, **Roosevelt Elementary**; Libertyville **Libertyville Elementary**; Packwood **Pekin Community School**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Restoration of the Bonnifield log house built in 1838 where the town of Fairfield was named by Mrs. Nancy Bonnifield.



IOWA **JOHNSON** — Jacquelyn D. McCarthy of Iowa City was the Johnson County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Coralville **Judy Antill**; Iowa City **Julie Zelenka**; Lone Tree **Jean Storm**; North Liberty **Lawrence C. See**; Oxford **Harry L. Dolder**; Solon **Mrs. Richard Miller**. Bicentennial schools — Hills **Hills Elementary**; Iowa City **Horace Mann**, **Mark Twain Elementary**; Oxford **Clear Creek Elementary**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Restoration of an 1876 Coralville schoolhouse.



IOWA **JONES** — Dale W. Hackett of Anamosa was the Jones County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Amber **Mary Ann Siebels**; Anamosa **Mrs. Josephine Russell**; Center Junction **Keith Christensen**; Fairview Community **Ida L. Wacker**; Hale **Marian Kruse**; Langworthy **Esther Riedel**; Martelle **Dale M. Anderson**; Monticello **Mrs. Victor Jensen**; Morley **Ralph S. Barger**; Olin **B. Gene McAtee**; Onslow **Bessie Koppes**; Oxford Junction **Edward Ruley**; Scotch Grove **Mrs. Louie Hanken**; Stone City **Gary Holzinger**; Wyoming **Mrs. Don Tasker**. Bicentennial schools — Anamosa **Anamosa Junior High**, **Anamosa Community High School**, **Strawberry Hill Elementary** and **West Elementary**; Martelle **Martelle Elementary**; Monticello **Carpenter Elementary** and **Shannon Elementary**; Olin **Olin Consolidated**; Oxford Junction **Oxford Junction Elementary**; Viola **Viola Elementary**; Wyoming **Midland Community School**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Re-enacting of the 1861 3-4-5 of July celebration.



IOWA **KEOKUK** — George House of Sigourney was the Keokuk County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Delta **Mrs. M. L. Shipley**; Hayesville **Adelia H. Utterback**; Hedrick **Mrs. Virginia Orman**; Keota **Dennis Gifford**; Keswick **Larry R. Gagner**; Kinross **Mary Shafer**; Ollie **Howard Williams**; Richland **Richard Conklin**; Sigourney **Ron Kerr**; South English **William Axmear**; Webster **Mrs. Robert Montz**; What Cheer **Thomas O. Burriss**. Bicentennial schools — Keota **Keota Community Elementary Schools**; Sigourney **North Elementary**; Thornburg **Tri-County Community Junior-Senior High School**; What Cheer **What Cheer Elementary**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Dedication of county-owned Belva-Deer Recreational Park, which includes within the park a renovated rural schoolhouse in its natural setting, and now utilized as a starting point of an outdoor classroom

related to nature.



IOWA **KOSSUTH** — Royal Nold of Algona and Paul Bernard of Bancroft were the Kossuth County Bicentennial chairmen. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Algona **William F. Steel**; Bancroft **Dennis J. McCleish**; Lakota **Ronald Kramer**; LuVerne **Duren C. Watts**; Swea City **Richard O'Green**. Bicentennial schools — Algona **Algona High School**, **Bertha Godfrey Elementary**, **Bryant**, **Lucia Wallace Elementary**; Burt **Burt Community School**; Wesley **Corwith-Wesley Community School**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Construction of Kossuth County Medical Building.



IOWA **LEE** — George P. Alton of Fort Madison was the Lee County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Denmark **Mrs. Robert Riddle, Sr.**; Donnellson **Hazel Sparsman**; Fort Madison **George P. Alton**; Franklin **Sue Gallerick**; Keokuk **Don Tillett**; Montrose **Elmer B. Long**; West Point **Daniel J. Kieler**. Bicentennial schools — Denmark **Denmark Elementary**; Fort Madison **Elementary**, **Jackson**, **Jefferson**, **Lincoln**, and **Richardson**; Aquinas **High School**; St. Joseph's **Junior High**; Houghton **Marquette Elementary & Intermediate**; Keokuk **Garfield**, **Lincoln**, **Torrence**, and **Washington Central**; West Point **Marquette High School**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Reconstruction of Old Fort Madison blockhouse.



IOWA **LINN** — Mrs. Faye E. Glessner of Cedar Rapids was the Linn County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Alburnett **Albert G. Myers**; Cedar Rapids **Mrs. Faye Glessner**; Center Point **Fern H. Dennison**; Central City **W. J. Kerscher**; Ely **James Barger**; Lafayette **George Neighbor**; Marion **Mrs. Donald Balster**; Midway **Roland Krouse**; Mt. Vernon **Richard H. Thomas**; Springville **Karen Johnson**; Toddville **Rev. John Green**; Troy Mills **Isabelle Diltz**. Bicentennial schools — Alburnett **Alburnett Community School**; Cedar Rapids **Elementary**, **Arthur**, **Jackson**, **Prairie**, **Prairie View**, **Prairie Intermediate**, **Junior & Senior**; McKinley **Junior High**; St. Matthew; Marion **C. B. Vernon Junior High**, **Emerson Elementary**, **Linn Mar Community School**, **Marion High School**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Providing medallion representing the county as a memento of the Bicentennial.



IOWA **LOUISA** — Mary Beth Carey of Columbus Junction was the Louisa County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Columbus Community **Mrs. Marsha Gerot**; Columbus Junction **Mrs. Marsha Gerot**; Cotter **Mrs. Marsha Gerot**; Fredonia **Mrs. Marsha Gerot**; Grandview **Bill Stickrod**; Letts **Madeleo Blake**; Morning Sun **Mrs. Kenneth Moore**; Oakville **Cody W. Grooms**; Wapello **Murray Stineman**. Bicentennial schools — Columbus Junction **Columbus Community School**; Letts **Louisa-Muscatine Community High School**; Morning Sun **Morning Sun Community School**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Louisa County Heritage Cookbook.



IOWA **LUCAS** — James L. Cooper of Russell was the Lucas County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Chariton **Mrs. Elgin Stuart** and **Paul F. Christoffers**; Lucas **Belvah Baker**; Russell **Merna McGill**. Bicentennial schools — Chariton **Chariton Community High School**; Lucas **Lucas Elementary**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — John L. Lewis Museum.



IOWA **LYON** — Robert P. Rottmann of Rock Rapids was the Lyon County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Alford **Mrs. Harold Langfeldt**; Doon **Darrell Vande Vegte**; George **Henry R. Timmermans**; Inwood **Leo Kinken**; Larchwood **Joe D. McMartin**; Lester **Ralph Sunde**; Little Rock **Harriett Zоргdrager**; Rock Rapids **David R. Curtis**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — "Iowa—Beautiful Land" Pageant presented twice for and by the people of Lyon County Also printed up in a book.



IOWA **MADISON** — John E. Bishop of Winterset was the Madison County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Bevington **Jimmy Bussammas**; Earlham **Richard Martin**; Macksburg **William J. Sanders**; Patterson **C. R. Wetzel**; St. Charles **Gary Gesaman**; Truro **Lester E. Freeman**; Winterset **John E. Bishop**. Bicentennial schools — Saint Charles **Interstate 35 Community School**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Covered Bridge Festival.



IOWA **MAHASKA** — Dr. Merne A. Harris of University Park was the Mahaska County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Eddyville **Mrs. Sonora Newell**; Oskaloosa

Dr. Merne A. Harris. Bicentennial schools — Oskaloosa **Webster Elementary**; New Sharon **North Mahaska Community School.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — County wide worship service focusing on our country's spiritual heritage.



MARION — Mrs. Scott Wilson of Knoxville was the Marion County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Dallas **Thomas Jones**; Knoxville **Terry Davis**; Melcher **Thomas Jones**; Pella **Mrs. Gladys Nieuwsma and Maurice Birdsall**; Pleasantville **Dennis DeJoode.** Bicentennial schools — Attica **Attica Elementary**; Bussey **Bussey Elementary**; Knoxville East, Northstar and West Elementary schools; Pella **Pella Christian Grade School and High School, Pella Community High School, Pella Elementary Schools, Pella Middle School.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Pella Historical Village.



MARSHALL — Wendell R. Benson of Marshalltown was the Marshall County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Albion **Mylene Thomas**; Bangor Township **Wilbur Jessup**; Clemons **Wendell Price**; Dillon **Mrs. Alma R. Wolken**; Dunbar **Mrs. Bert Thornes**; Ferguson **Ronald L. Hawn**; Gilman **Elizabeth Fanton**; Green Mountain **Lora B. Smaha**; Haverhill **Frank Dunn**; LaMoille **Isla Benson**; Laurel **Mrs. Lucille Buffington and Larry Bartlett**; LeGrand Dr. **David C. Twedt**; Liscomb **John R. McNair**; Marshalltown **Wendell R. Benson**; Melbourne **Thomas J. Larson**; Quarry **Mrs. Earl Ferriss**; Rhodes **Don Seams**; Saint Anthony **Mrs. Ruth C. Mackin**; State Center **Mrs. Harold E. Goecke**; Van Cleve **James Fitz.** Bicentennial schools — Albion **Albion Elementary**; Marshalltown **Elementary** — Anson, Fisher, Franklin, Glick, Hansen, Hoglan, Norris, Palmer, Rogers, Williams, Woodbury; Anson **Junior High, Lenihan Junior High, Marshalltown Senior High, Miller Junior High, Saint Henry's, Saint Mary's.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — \$50,000 community building for the LeGrand, Iowa area.



MILLS — F. A. Wortman of Malvern was the Mills County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Emerson **George Curtis**; Glenwood **Mrs. Kenneth Mead**; Henderson **Minnie Allensworth**; Malvern **Virginia Conner**; Pacific Junction **Mrs. Gladys Pomeroy**; Silver City **Rex Burgoin.** Bicentennial schools — Glenwood **Glenwood Community**

Schools. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Improvement of the Mills County Museum by acquisition of the Paul Rowe 10,000 piece Indian collection and building a new wing to display it.



MITCHELL — Louis J. VanderMyde of St. Ansgar was the Mitchell County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Carpenter **Leonard R. Larson**; Little Cedar **Beulah Cockrum**; McIntire **Mavis Krukow**; Mitchell **Mrs. Wallace Torney**; New Haven **John Miles**; Orchard **Amy Walling**; Osage **Honore M. Casey**; Saint Ansgar **L. R. Falk**; Stacyville **Bernard J. Hemann.** Bicentennial schools — Carpenter **St. Ansgar Community School**; Grafton **St. Ansgar Community School**; Osage **Osage Junior High, Osage Community High School Riceville Riceville Community Elementary**; Saint Ansgar **St. Ansgar Community School**; Stacyville **St. Ansgar Community School.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Restoration of Ft. Severson.



MONONA — William W. Gingles of Castana and Jane McNeil of Onawa were the Monona County Bicentennial chairmen. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Blencoe **Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Hitchman**; Castana and Center Township **Miss Ervilla A. Masters**; Grant Township, Lost Town, Ticonic **Margie Heisler**; Mapleton **Edward L. Maier**; Moorhead **Mrs. Norman Hanson**; Onawa **Katherine Wolpert**; Rodney **Mrs. Lucille Willman**; Soldier **John Dickinson**; Turin **Mrs. Doris Kline**; Ute **Therma Kiepe**; Whiting **Mrs. Willard R. Dahl.** Bicentennial Schools — Whiting **Whiting Community School.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Erecting road-side signs at historical sites.



MONROE — Harold E. Waters of Albia was the Monroe County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Albia **Gary M. Peterson**; Lovilia **Eleanora Sofranko.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Put up a bell in the courtyard for posterity.



MONTGOMERY — Mrs. Carroll Slump of Stanton and Mr. Lee Honeyman of Emerson were the Montgomery County Bicentennial chairmen. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Coburg Community and West Township **Miss Ada Withrow**; Elliott **Lyle Norris**; Grant **Mrs. Gerald Taylor**; Hawthorne-McPherson Community **Mrs. Merwin Viner**; Red Oak **R. J.**

Flanagan and Barb Unger; Stanton **Donald A. Peterson**; Villisca **Charles Gifford**; Wales Lincoln Township **Aubrey Jones.** Bicentennial schools — Red Oak **Red Oak Community Schools.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — County historical tour of Montgomery County.



MUSCATINE — Grace Rehbehn of West Liberty was the Muscatine County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Atalissa **Ed Hadley**; Muscatine **Max W. Churchill**; Nichols **Kathy L. Chown**; West Liberty **Linda Peason**; Wilton **Mrs. Claudette Woller.** Bicentennial schools — Muscatine **Lincoln, Nichols Elementary, Washington**; West Liberty **West Elementary Bldg.**; Wilton **Wilton Community Elementary.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Muscatine Historic Panorama Display.



O'BRIEN — Mrs. Pat Schwartz of Sheldon was the O'Brien County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Hartley **Winifred E. Mack**; Paullina **William F. Skinner**; Primghar **Brad Hoppe**; Sanborn **Mrs. Catherine Kroese**; Sheldon **Ralph Hollander**; Sutherland **Rev. Leroy Riemer.** Bicentennial schools — Calumet **Calumet Junior High**; Hartley **Hartley Community School**; Paullina **Paullina Community School**; Primghar **Primghar Community School**; Sanborn **Sanborn Community School**; Sheldon **Sheldon Community School**; Sutherland **Sutherland Elementary School.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Development of heritage park and museum.



OSCEOLA — Ferd Jarrott of Ocheyedan was the Osceola County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Ashton **Barbara Sievert**; Harris **Mrs. Dan Watters**; Melvin **C. R. McCarty**; Ocheyedan **Albert D. Lienemann**; Sibley **Peter W. Wagner.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Restoring Tracy House.



PAGE — Lavern Patterson of Essex was the Page County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Blanchard **Rev. David E. Stoufer**; Braddyville **LaVerne Shepard**; Clarinda **Clancy Mandeville**; Coin **Dorothy Mannasmith**; College Springs **Wanda A. Hamm**; Essex **Mrs. Evea G. Black**; Northboro **Gail Darby**; Shambaugh **Bonnie M. Bunting**; Shenandoah **Bernard R. Giese**; Yorktown

Mrs. Marvin McElhiney. Bicentennial schools — Clarinda **McKinley**; Shenandoah **L. A. Logan Elementary.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Bicentennial Pageant — Pageant of Page County history covering 200 years of the area.



PALO ALTO — Phil Stillman of Emmetsburg was the Palo Alto County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Ayrshire **Jody E. Smith**; Curlew **Gwenna Appel**; Cylinder **Christine Freeman**; Emmetsburg **Thomas C. Wentzel**; Graettinger **Patty Peterson**; Mallard **Wilmont Forry**; Ruthven **Mrs. Jeanine Wichman**; West Bend **Jim Sewell.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — West Bend's Parade and Celebration.



PLYMOUTH — Weston Karr of LeMars was the Plymouth County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Kingsley **James H. Watkins**; LeMars **Betty Neisius and Lorna Gaumnitz**; Remsen **Dick Hatz and Thelma Moeller.** Bicentennial schools — LeMars **LeMars Community School**; Remsen **Saint Catherine's, Saint Mary's.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Establishing a Pioneer Village at the Plymouth County Fairgrounds.



POCAHONTAS — Florence MacVey of Rolfe was the Pocahontas County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Fonda **Monica Gilleland**; Havelock **Dorothy Nickelson**; Laurens **Leonard Sernett**; Palmer **Dennis L. Hallberg**; Plover **C. K. MacDonald**; Pocahontas **Darlene Hudek and Geri Nesbitt**; Rolfe **Mrs. Jerry Hughes**; Varina **Mrs. Gayla Voss**; Ware **Elsie Philp.** Bicentennial schools — Fonda **Fonda Community Schools**; Gilmore City **Bradgate Community School**; Havelock **Havelock-Plover School**; Laurens **Laurens Community School**; Pocahontas **Pocahontas Elementary.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Pocahontas County Bicentennial Wagon Train. Train started in each corner of county and met for two days' program at Ware.



POLK — Virginia Hermann of Des Moines was the Polk County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Altoona **Jerry Norlin**; Ankeny **Richard Hermann**; Bondurant **Dale L. Renaud**; Clive **Kenneth Popken**; Des Moines **Virginia Hermann**; Elkhart **Rev. C. Richard Dawson and Rev. John J. Gorman**; Mitchellville **Peg Atzen**; Polk City **Richard Balzer**; Southeast Polk **Peg**

Atzen; Urbandale **Mrs. Dan Fitzgerald;** West Des Moines **L. Warren Shank.** Bicentennial schools — **Alleman North Polk Community Schools;** Bondurant **Bondurant-Farrar Community School;** Clive **Clive Elementary;** Des Moines **Elementary, Barlow Granger, Casady, Cora B. Hillis, Edmunds, Fort Des Moines, Garton, Greenwood, Horace Mann, Hubbell, Julia Ward Howe, Lovejoy, Lucas, McKee, Mitchell, Moore, Oak Park, Pleasant Hill, Ruby F. Van Meter, Smouse Opportunity for Handicapped Children, Studebaker Multi-Unit, Woodlawn—Hoyt Middle School — Junior Highs, Harding, Woodrow Wilson and Saint Theresa's — High Schools, Abraham Lincoln, Des Moines Tech, North, and Roosevelt;** Grimes **Dallas Community School;** Johnston **Johnston High School;** Southeast Polk **Delaware Elementary;** Urbandale **Olmsted;** West Des Moines **Western Hills Elementary.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Bicentennial Day in Des Moines, May 22, 1976. Bicentennial parade and Racial/Ethnic Festival at the State House.



POTTAWATTAMIE — Mrs. Edwin Arndt of Walnut was the Pottawattamie County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Avoca **Scott Van Beck;** Carson **Debbie Perdue;** Carter Lake **Mrs. Delores Harrison;** Council Bluffs **Myron Allerton and Dorothy Buckingham;** Crescent **Pat Sexton;** Hancock **Esther M. Jacobsen;** Hartwick **Bernard Hamilton;** McClelland **Phillip Feller;** Macedonia **Nora Mueller;** Minden **O. Dean Olsen;** Neola **Barbara Langin;** Oakland **Marjorie Spencer;** Treynor **Keith R. Lambertsen;** Underwood **Robert Dose and Bill Conner;** Walnut **Robert L. Stuart.** Bicentennial schools — Carson **Carson-Macedonia Junior and Senior High;** Council Bluffs **Elementary-Rue, Bloomer, Herbert C. Hoover, Lee DeForest — Saint Albert the Great Central High School, Thomas Jefferson High, Woodrow Wilson Junior High;** Oakland **Oakland Community Marjorie Spencer;** Treynor **Keith R. Lambertsen;** Under Carter Lake **Mrs. Delores Harrison;** Council Bluffs **Myron Allerton and Dorothy Buckingham;** Cree House. A major Bicentennial project or activity — Planting 13 trees (donated by each of 13 towns in the county). Trees were planted in county park (Arrowhead) at Neola to represent each of the 13 original colonies.



POWESHIEK — Donald and Candace Lambie of Grinnell were the Poweshiek County Bicentennial chairmen. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Brooklyn **Harold J. Nevenhoven;**

Grinnell **Candace Lambie;** Malcom **Keith Koger;** Montezuma **John Morrissey.** Bicentennial schools — Grinnell **Grinnell-Newburg Community.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Printing two maps: 1. 1851-1861 showing Mormon Trail and Stagecoach Trail 2. Showing all towns in the county at that time.



RINGGOLD — Charles Bennett and Shirley Hickman of Mt. Ayr were the Ringgold County Bicentennial chairmen. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Beaconsfield **Vera Lantz;** Benton **Helen Blunck;** Delphos-Rice Township **Art Steinman;** Diagonal **Louise Kessler;** Ellston-Union Township **Linford E. Mason;** Kellerton **Vernadean L. Godden;** Mount Ayr **Donald Dailey;** Redding **John W. Shafer;** Tingley **Quentin Abarr.** Bicentennial schools — Diagonal **Diagonal Community School;** Mount Ayr **Elementary, Benton, Mount Ayr, Tingley.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Microfilm projector purchased to view microfilm of all county records microfilmed.



SAC — Marilyn Hobbs of Sac City was the Sac County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Early **Mrs. Robert Evans;** Lake View **Shirley Walrod;** Lytton **Reinard A. Wulkow;** Nemaha **Gale Davis;** Odebolt **Arlen Luitjens;** Sac City **Marilyn Hobbs;** Schaller **Mrs. Ronald Grieme;** Wall Lake **Vernon Peters.** Bicentennial schools — Early **Crestland Community and Sacred Heart;** Lake View **Lake View-Auburn School;** Sac City **Sac Community School.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Chautauqua building.



SCOTT — Mildred Newport of Walcott was the Scott County Bicentennial Commission chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Bettendorf **Jon R. Ryan;** Big Rock **Mrs. Margo A. Mohr;** Blue Grass **Margo Effland;** Buffalo **Richard D. Abbott;** Davenport **Ken Johnston and Virginia Case;** Dixon **Mrs. Edna I. Spies;** Donahue **Eugene Wuestenberg;** Eldridge **Mrs. Robert Blanche;** LeClaire **Otto L. Ewoldt;** Long Grove **Dan Nagle;** McCausland **Roy Curtiss;** Maysville **Robert E. Filson;** New Liberty **Edward Roehlk;** Princeton **Richard Horst;** Riverdale **Mrs. Ralph Parry;** Walcott **Mike Druhl.** Bicentennial schools — Bettendorf **Bettendorf High School, Pleasant View Elementary;** Blue Grass **Blue Grass Elementary;** Davenport **Buchanan and Wilson Elementary, Holy Family Elementary, Holy Trinity Elementary, Saint Alphonsus Elementary, Trinity Lutheran Elementary;** Donahue **John Glenn Elementary;** Eldridge

Elementary — Edward White, Neal Armstrong, North Scott Junior High Long Grove Alan Shepard; Pleasant Valley **Elementary — Bridgeview, Cody, and Riverdale — Black Hawk Junior High — Pleasant Valley High School;** Princeton **Virgil Grissom.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Pony Express Festival.



SHELBY — Fred L. Rasmussen of Harlan was the Shelby County Bicentennial Commission chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Defiance **Alice C. Bieker;** Earling **Gladys Rafferty;** Elk Horn **Warren Jacobson;** Harlan **Lowell V. Holmes;** Irwin **Richard L. Sorensen;** Panama **Mrs. Franklin Oppold and William Schafer;** Shelby **E. H. Stock;** Westphalia **Ronald Rosmann.** Bicentennial schools — Elk Horn **Elk Horn-Kimballton Community School;** Harlan **Elementary-Laurel, New Park, Westridge.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — County Historical Museum.



SIoux — Tom Noteboom of Orange City was the Sioux County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Alton **Donald R. Lammers;** Boyden **Vincent L. Huls;** Chatsworth **Ed Repp;** Granville **Mrs. Urban Holles;** Hawarden **Joseph Maher;** Hospers **Nelson Nieuwenhuis;** Hull **Mrs. Harriet Van Batavia;** Ireton **Floyd M. Kemper;** Matlock **Ronald Hameister;** Maurice **Mrs. John M. DeJong;** Orange City **Marvin J. Petroelje;** Rock Valley **Barbara Anderson;** Sioux Center **Elmer H. Vermeer.** Bicentennial schools — Granville **St. Joseph's;** Hospers **Hospers Christian School;** Hull **Western Christian High School;** Maurice **Orange City Junior High;** Orange City **Maurice-Orange City Community High School, Orange City Elementary, Unity Christian High School.** A major Bicentennial project or activity — Historical souvenir map of Sioux County.



STORY — Margaret Hilgerson of Ames was the Story County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Ames **Marvin Anderson and Virginia Stafford;** Cambridge **Donna Peterson;** Colo **Mrs. Art Riese, Jr.;** Gilbert **Kaye Risten;** Huxley **Mrs. Arnold S. Ihle;** Kelley **Judy White;** McCallsburg **Shirley Thompson;** Nevada **Mary L. Dawson and Jane E. Neff;** Roland **Craig Hetland;** Slater **Carma Belz;** Story City **Steve Finnegan and Robert Nervig;** Zearing **Rev. Philip L. Kinton.** Bicentennial schools — Ames **Elementary — Crawford, Edwards, Fellows, Meeker, Mitchell, Northwood, Roosevelt, Sawyer, Whittier,**

Wilson — Central and Welch Junior High Schools, Ames High School; Nevada **Central and Milford Elementary schools — Nevada Community School and Nevada Junior High;** Story City **Story City Elementary.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Historic marker and Native Prairie maintenance at I-35 scenic overlook north of Ames.



TAMA — Richard K. Bruene of Gladbrook was the Tama County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Chelsea **Doris Frese;** Clutier **John Sienknecht;** Dysart **Mary Eggleston;** Elberon **Leon J. Machan;** Garwin **Gordon Chizek;** Gladbrook **Alma Gilchrist and Rose Bruene;** Lincoln **Samuel H. Martens;** Montour **Roger D. Green;** Tama **Bonnie J. Crawford;** Toledo **Robert Walton;** Traer **Mary Ellen Barnes;** Vining **Mrs. John Riha.** Bicentennial schools — Clutier **North Tama Junior High;** Dysart **Dysart-Geneseo Elementary Center;** Gladbrook **Gladbrook Elementary;** Tama **South Tama County High School;** Traer **North Tama County Community Schools and North Tama County High School.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Grave registration by Legion Auxiliary.



TAYLOR — Dale Juergens of Clearfield was the Taylor County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Athelstan **Vivian Parker;** Bedford **Mrs. Kay Lucas;** Blockton **Orville E. Melvin;** Clearfield **Mrs. Ralph Keller;** Conway **Zonette Beemer Gravity Robert G. Briggs;** Lenox **Virginia Bennett;** New Market **Orval L. Ridnour;** Sharpsburg **Theoma Underwood.** Bicentennial schools — Conway **Bedford Community Middle School;** New Market **New Market Community School.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Time capsule.



UNION — Keith Nichols of Arispe and Sheila Wilson of Afton were the chairman and vice-chairman respectively, of the Union County Bicentennial Commission. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Afton **Ronald N. Flam;** Arispe **Keith Nichols;** Creston **Bill Weaver;** Kent **Alfred Lucas.** Bicentennial schools — Creston **Elementary — Cromwell, Franklin, Irving, Jefferson, Lincoln — Creston Community Junior and Senior High School.** A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Afton Tea Party.

IOWA **VAN BUREN** — Clay Lanman of Keosauqua was the Van Buren County Bicentennial Commission chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Bentonsport **Mrs. Dorothy Badger**; Birmingham **Fred Bauman**; Bonaparte **Ben and Rose Hendricks**; Cantril **Bernice Hervey**; Douds **Mrs. Wayne Hootman**; Farmington **Joan Kerr**; Keosauqua **Bette McGrath**; Milton **Iowa Andrews**; Mount Sterling **Mrs. Huba Watson**; Selma **Rex Ritz**; Stockport **Martha Watson**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Van Buren County Bicentennial Singers.

IOWA **WAPELLO** — Clarence Barber of Ottumwa was the Wapello County Bicentennial Commission chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Agency **W. C. Trembly**; Blakesburg **Orbie Brittain**; Eldon **Glenn D. Hughes**; Ottumwa **Clarence Barber**. Bicentennial schools — Agency **Cardinal Middle and High Schools**; Ottumwa **Lincoln Elementary, Franklin, Washington Junior High, Wildwood**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Non-denominational all church rally.

IOWA **WARREN** — Wallace McKee of Carlisle was the Warren County Bicentennial Commission chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Indianola **Gary L. Ruble**; Lacona **Marvin R. Van Zee**; Milo **Charles Mott**. Bicentennial schools — Carlisle **Carlisle Community School**; New Virginia **Interstate 35 Junior High**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — County-wide school contest to design their Bicentennial emblem. Won by a 14 year old farm boy.

IOWA **WASHINGTON** — James Frier of Washington was the Washington County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Brighton **Earl Dickinson and Cecil Chuck**; Crawfordsville **Kenneth M. Rhea**; Kalona **Mrs. John D. Woodin**; Rubio **Karen Morgan**; Washington **James Frier**; West Chester **Carol Miller**. Bicentennial schools — Ainsworth **Ainsworth Elementary Learning Center**; Crawfordsville **Waco Elementary**; Kalona **Washington Township**; Riverside **Highland Community School District**; Washington **Lincoln Elementary, Washington Junior and Senior High**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Fourth of July program including dedication of the time capsule, statue of George Washington in central park, and old fashioned picnic and musical groups in Sunset Park.

IOWA **WAYNE** — Esther Marston of Seymour was the Wayne County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Allerton **Edward Duden**; Cambria **Maynard Street**; Corydon **Richard L. Cahill**; Humeston **Mary Ellen Stanley**; Lineville **Colyun Crutcher**; Seymour **Esther Marston**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Building an addition to the Wayne County Historical Museum.

IOWA **WEBSTER** — M. L. Hottman of Ft. Dodge was the Webster County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Callender **Florence Jondle**; Dayton **Jerry Blair**; Duncombe **Mrs. John Ascherl**; Elkhorn Township **Mrs. Inez Stanek**; Fort Dodge **Damon Ohlerking**; Gowrie **Duane R. Anderson**; Harcourt **L. E. Molgaard**; Lehigh **Gail Eslick**; Moorland **Dolores Leeper**; Otho **John P. Knorr**; Tara and Douglas Township **Regis V. Crawford**. Bicentennial schools — Dayton **Dayton Elementary, Dayton Community High**; Fort Dodge **Elementary — Arey, Badger, Butler, Cooper, Corpus Christi Center, Duncombe, Feelhaver, Hawley, Highland Park, Hillcrest, Riverside — Holy Rosary School, Fort Dodge Elementary School, Fort Dodge North and South Junior High Schools, Fort Dodge Senior High School**; Otho **Otho Elementary**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Webster County history.

IOWA **WINNEBAGO** — Mrs. Marlin Fisher of Thompson was the Winnebago County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Buffalo Center **Andrew Larson**; Forest City **JoAnn Sundermann**; Lake Mills **Sylvia Gulick**; Leland **Mrs. Selma Ambrosion**; Rake **Evelyn E. Heath**; Scarville **Mrs. Billie Waychus**; Thompson **Mrs. Carroll Block**. Bicentennial schools — Buffalo Center **Buffalo Center Community Schools**; Forest City **Forest City Elementary, Junior and Senior High Schools**; Rake **Rake Community**; Thompson **Thompson Community**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Reproduction of the 1892 platte books.

IOWA **WINNESHIEK** — Martha A. Monson of Decorah was the Winneshiek County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Burr Oak **Mrs. Charles Schnitzler**; Calmar **Ernest A. Heying**; Decorah **Steven L. Johnson**; Fort Atkinson **J. H. Berns**; Ossian **Pam Brietsprecher**; Spillville **Ted Sojka**. Bicentennial

schools — Decorah **Decorah Elementary**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Historic local, state, and national Bicentennial seminar festival.

IOWA **WOODBURY** — John Van Dyke of Sioux City, Mrs. Robert Dixon of Correctionville and Mrs. Robert Speke of Moville were the Woodbury County Bicentennial chairmen. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Anthon **Ken Bunnell**; Bronson **Anne Boston**; Climbing Hill **Ann E. Schwarz**; Correctionville **Gayle Jacobs**; Cushing **Gary Merkel**; Danbury **Maurice Welte**; Hornick **Irene Sands**; Lawton **Robert E. Peters**; Moville **Sara L. McElrath**; Oto **James E. Miller**; Pierson **Mrs. J. P. Woodbridge**; Salix **Mrs. Fred Nelson**; Sergeant Bluff **Clarence Williams**; Sioux City **John Van Dyke**; Sloan **Jeanne McAdon**; Smithland **Don Peterson**. Bicentennial Schools — Bronson **Lawton-Bronson Elementary**; Correctionville **Eastwood High School**; Danbury **Danbury Catholic School, Maple Valley Junior High**; Pierson **Kingsley-Pierson Schools**; Sioux City **Immaculate Conception, Nodland School, Sunnyside Elementary**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Old Fashioned Fourth of July.

IOWA **WORTH** — Stanley R. Walk of Grafton was the Worth County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Fertile **Tom Hewett**; Grafton **Stanley R. Walk**; Hanlontown **Mrs. Harry Myhre**; Kensett **Mrs. Grace Tenold**; Manly **Arthur Holden**; Northwood **Mrs. George Lindflott**. Bicentennial schools — Kensett **Northwood-Kensett Junior High**; Northwood **Northwood-Kensett Community School**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — Grafton depot restoration.

IOWA **WRIGHT** — Owen Wilmot of Clarion was the Wright County Bicentennial chairman. Bicentennial communities and their respective chairmen — Belmond **Lois J. Hammond**; Clarion **Mrs. Lucy Duitscher**; Dows **Fay G. Peterson**; Eagle Grove **Harlan L. Heard**; Goldfield **Mary Axon**; Dorothy **Warner**; Conger **Whyte**; Rowan **Charles H. Keith**; Woolstock **F. Gaylord Jones**. A Major Bicentennial project or activity — A pictorial history of the city, towns, and communities in Wright County.



The Des Moines Register covered a beard growing contest at Lake Park for Bicentennial boosters. These gentlemen competed in the beard growing contest finals held there July 4th, 1976. From left are: Steve Kruppen, Dennis Stoltenberg, Ken Byers, Terry Morrow, Galen Morgan, Orrin Carstensen, Marty Ehret, Marv Hayostek, and Dick Nissen.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION — WHO THEY WERE



Robert W. Dillon has served as chairman of the Iowa American Revolution Bicentennial Commission from its start in January 1971. He was with Cowles Communications for over 30 years and for 25 years was manager of KRNT Radio, KRNT Television and KRNT Theater. He is a man always active in civic affairs, including posts with the Des Moines Center of Science and Industry, a member of the Iowa Governor's Committee on Conservation of Outdoor Resources, a member of the board of Keep Iowa Clean, Inc., and past co-chairman of the United Campaign of Des Moines. For six years he served on the athletic council at Iowa State University. He is a native Iowan and was reared near Adel. He attended Iowa State University. (Served full-term, 1970-1976.)

Don N. Kersten served as vice-chairman of the Iowa Bicentennial Commission despite his profession as a senior partner in a Fort Dodge law firm where his legal chores awaited while he performed his civic function. Kersten is a graduate of Notre Dame and got his J.D. from Drake University. A licensed balloonist, Kersten was co-pilot in international balloon races in Belgium, Holland, and Switzerland, as well as in the U.S. He is a member and lecturer in the Law Science Academy, and a member of the Iowa Council on Crime and Delinquency. He is past-president of the Drake Law School Alumni Association and Board of Counsellors, and a four-year veteran of the U.S. Air Force. (Served full-term, 1970-1976.)



Kenneth R. Fulk was the original secretary of the Iowa Bicentennial Commission and served by virtue of the fact he was then Secretary-Manager of the Iowa State Fair. Fulk left both posts in order to seek a seat in U.S. Congress in the campaign of 1976 from his home district in southwest Iowa. He is one of the best-known Iowans, with a varied and colorful career stemming from the time he was Iowa president of the Future Farmers of America to the time when he won the national collegiate livestock judging contest at the American Royal in Kansas City. He worked for the Iowa Beef Producers Association, the American Shorthorn Association and the Iowa Department of Agriculture, and farmed after his education at Iowa State University and a 50-month tour of duty with the U.S. Marine Corps in World War II. (Served 1970-1976.)

Jerry Coughlon succeeded Fulk as secretary of the Bicentennial Commission about July 1, 1976, after Fulk resigned to seek the Congressional post and following his successful win in the Republican primary. Coughlon had

been Fulk's assistant previously. Before joining the Iowa Department of Agriculture, Coughlon for many years was the Webster County Recorder and a veteran of World War II. He is a native Iowan. (Served in 1976.)

COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR



MRS. EDWIN BRUERE — Lyle Morse Bruere of Cedar Rapids was an original member of the Iowa Bicentennial Commission and served the full six years with distinction. She was chairman of the Iowa Bicentennial Medal Competition and served in various capacities in connection with the sale of the medals that played such an important financial role. She is a native of Nebraska, a journalist by education and has held various writing, producing and advertising posts. A high-ranking official in the Daughters of the American Revolution, she is listed in Who's Who in American Women. (Served full-term 1970-1976.)



MRS. ROBERT BIRKBY — Evelyn Birkby was appointed in 1975 to the Bicentennial Commission by Governor Ray as a representative of the general public of Iowa. She is a graduate of Central Y College of Chicago and did graduate work at both the University of Chicago and Garrett Theological Seminary. She is a radio broadcaster for a program carried in eight states and writes a weekly column for the Shenandoah Evening Sentinel. A member of the Sidney United Methodist Church, chairman of the Fremont County Bicentennial Commission, the Fremont County Historical Society and other local and civic posts keep her extremely busy. (Served 1975-1976.)



DR. WILLIAM G. MURRAY — A distinguished professor of economics at Iowa State University, Dr. Murray was a member of the original Bicentennial Commission and served continuously. He is an authority on land appraisal and agricultural finance. In 1967 he set forth to organize and found the Living History Farms as an educational tourist attraction featuring the progress of Iowa and American agriculture through a system of actual operating farms rather than a museum devoted to farming. He twice won the Republican nomination for Governor. Dr. Murray served as a trustee of the Iowa State Agricultural Foundation and chairman of the Coe College trustees. (Served full-term 1970-1976.)



ROBERT M. STONE — One of the original commissioners appointed by the Governor, Stone is a successful businessman in Chariton as well as a farmer and purebred livestock breeder. He and a brother, Keith, own several hundred acres in Lucas County and operate Golden Rod Charolais Farm, but raise other breeds as well, including Simmental and Angus. While he has been successful in merchandising farm machinery and importing twine, rope, wire and other steel products, Stone also has a new travel concern and has himself traveled widely across Latin America and other places. He has been president of the Chariton Chamber of Commerce. (Served full-term 1970-1976.)



C. ROBERT BRENTON AND DON C. MUHM — Both men were members of the original Bicentennial Commission and were so appointed by Governor Ray. However, each resigned later because of business reasons, with Brenton terminating his service in 1975 after four years and Muhm in 1975 after more than five years. Brenton is president of Brenton Banks, Inc., and has served as president of the Iowa Bankers Association. He is president of the family's Dallas County farming and livestock feeding operation and a graduate of Iowa State University and a veteran of the U.S. Army (1953-55). Muhm is farm editor of The Des Moines Register and Tribune, a graduate of Iowa State University and a veteran of the U.S. Army (1952-1954). He twice has been named U.S. Farm Editor of the Year and has been president of the Newspaper Farm Editors of America. (Both served 1970-1975.)



OTHER COMMISSIONERS — FROM THE LEGISLATURE

APPOINTED BY THE LT. GOVERNOR



FORREST SCHWENGELS of Fairfield was a commissioner by appointment of the Presiding Officer of the Iowa Senate. Senator Schwengels had been elected in 1972. He had served as a Parsons College instructor in history and political science. A Franklin County native, he taught before he enlisted in the U.S. Air Corps in 1942. He retired from the Air Force as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1963, and then took the Parsons College post. He was active in the founding of the Criminal Justice Association of Iowa. (Served 1973-1976.)



NORMAN RODGERS of Adel also was appointed to the Bicentennial Commission by the Iowa Lt. Governor. Rodgers served two terms in the Iowa House before being elected to the State Senate where he was in his second term in 1976. He is a supermarket owner-operator and farmer. He held memberships in national as well as local historical groups. A graduate of the American Institute of Business, Rodgers had worked with food stores in Creston and Des Moines before going into business in Adel. (Served 1973-1976.)

APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

LILLIAN M. McELROY of Percival was in her third term as Iowa Representative during the nation's Bicentennial year. She is a native Iowan, and a graduate of Upper Iowa University. A farm owner, she was a recipient of the Iowa 4-H Alumni Award and an alumni achievement award from her University. Among her many awards was the title of Iowa Master Farm Homemaker, an honor bestowed yearly and sparingly by Wallace's Farmer Magazine. (Served 1975-1976.)

RICHARD L. BYERLY of Ankeny was in his second term as an Iowa Legislator in 1976. He is a Boone native, and a graduate of Simpson College in 1960. A teacher and coach at Gilbert for six years, Byerly then became administrator of the Des Moines Area Community College. He worked for a time for U.S. Rep. Neal Smith in 1971. In the period 1967-70 he held research fellowship and earned his M.S. and Ph.D. from Iowa State University. (Served 1973-1976.)



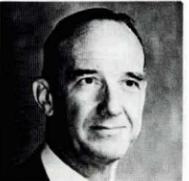
REPRESENTING IOWA'S UNIVERSITIES



WILLARD L. BOYD is the 15th president of the University of Iowa and has been a member of the faculty there since 1954. He holds four degrees and has been an active participant in both the Iowa and American Bar Associations. Before coming to Iowa, Boyd practiced law for a couple of years in Minneapolis, Minn., and then was for ten years a member of the College of Law faculty. He has served as the U.S. delegate to the Hague Special Commission on Private International Law and is listed in Who's Who in America. (Served full-term 1970-1976.)



DR. W. ROBERT PARKS is the 11th president of Iowa State University and has been a member of the faculty there since 1948 except for two years spent at the University of Wisconsin. He holds three degrees in political science and is past-president of the Mid-America State Universities Association, and president of the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges. He served in the U.S. Navy for three years and is listed in Who's Who in America. (Served full-term 1970-1976.)



DR. JOHN J. KAMERICK in 1970 became the sixth president of the University of Northern Iowa. He is a native of Ottumwa and has had a varied career serving on the faculties as dean or president at Lewis College of Science and Technology, Kent State University and North Texas State University. He holds degrees from Ambrose College and the University of Iowa. He is a member of the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education. (Served full-term 1970-1976.)

COMMISSIONERS ESTABLISHED BY THE IOWA LAW



STATE SENATOR C. JOSEPH COLEMAN — Senator Coleman is a veteran Iowa legislator and farm leader as well as a businessman. He first was elected to the Iowa Senate in 1957 and has been re-elected ever since. A native of Clare where he farms, Coleman has been active in state and national soybean grower groups. He became a commissioner because of his role with the World Food Exposition legislative study committee. (Served full-term 1970-1976.)



PETER T. HARSTAD — He is a member because he is director of the State Historical Society at Iowa City. He was named to this post in August, 1972, and has been a commissioner since that time. After receiving his Ph.D. in history from the University of Wisconsin, he was employed by Idaho State University. He has written several articles on medical history in the Midwest. His Iowa roots include a Story City background where his mother's family was a pioneer family. (Served 1972-1976.)



JACK W. MUSGROVE — Curator of the Iowa State Historical Building near the Capitol in Des Moines, Musgrove is a long-time, dedicated historical figure who has been affiliated with that statewide post since 1938. He is widely recognized as a historical authority, and has helped write many technical bulletins and books dealing with history and wildlife in Iowa. A native of Iowa City, Musgrove is a graduate of the University of Iowa. (Served full-term 1970-1976.)



FRED A. PRIEWERT — He served on the Bicentennial Commission because of his duties as director of the Iowa State Conservation Commission, a post he has held since June, 1968. He is a native of Wisconsin, and a graduate of the University of Minnesota. His career was spent largely in South Dakota before heading up the Iowa organization. He is a veteran of World War II and served five years in the U.S. Army, including three years in the European Theater. (Served full-term 1970-1976.)



MELVIN D. SYNHORST — He has the distinction of serving longer than any other state elective official now holding office in Iowa and was first elected Iowa Secretary of State in 1948. He served continuously except for the two years, 1965 and 1966. He is an Orange City native and a graduate of the University of Iowa. He served nearly four years in the U.S. Navy during World War II. (Served full-term 1970-1976.)



DEL VAN HORN — He is the director of the Iowa Development Commission, one of the state agencies required to be represented on the Iowa Bicentennial Commission. Van Horn is a native Iowan and served as vice-chairman of the Iowa Development Commission before becoming its agriculture director in 1970. He became director in January, 1974. He has been an active farmer in Greene County since 1947, and has business operations as well. He attended the University of Iowa. (Served 1973-1976.)

PERMANENT PROXIES (COMMISSIONERS)

Several men held particularly important posts with the Iowa Bicentennial Commission even though they did not have the status of full commissioners. These were the "Permanent Proxies", a total of eight persons generally who had the full authority to vote and act in accordance

for regular Commissioners. This system was adopted primarily because of the heavy duties and frequent meetings which developed for the Bicentennial Commission during the Bicentennial Era.

Here's a bit of information about these men:

CARL HAMILTON — He has been vice-president for information and development at Iowa State University since 1967 and is one of the best-known Iowa country editors and writers. He authored the best-selling book *In No Time At All* ever in the history of the Iowa State University Press, a collection of vignettes describing life on an Iowa farm during the depression years. A Master Editor-Publisher, Hamilton represented ISU President W. Robert Parks on the Commission and was extremely faithful in his attendance and service. (Served full-term 1970-1976.)



DR. EDWARD VOLDSETH — He has been Vice-President for University relations and development at the University of Northern Iowa since September, 1971, but has been on the faculty there since 1964. A native of Montana, Voldseth holds degrees from the University of Montana, Columbia University and the University of Iowa. He had been dean of students and a professor of psychology at the University of Alaska from 1958 until his appointment at UNI in 1964. He represented the UNI President, Dr. John J. Kamerick, on the Bicentennial Commission and rarely missed a session, if ever. (Served full-term 1970-1976.)

MAX HAWKINS — He has been employed by the University of Iowa continuously since 1948 and is the director of state relations and associate director of the office of public information and university relations. A native of Mississippi, Hawkins served in the U.S. Navy for a total of eight years. He first served in 1933-37 and then again from 1942-46. During the interval years, he earned a degree in geology at the University of Iowa while being a member of its famed 1939 Iowa Ironmen football team where he played guard. He has served on the Iowa City city council. Hawkins represented Willard L. Boyd, president of the University, on the Commission and was diligent and regular in that capacity. (Served full-term 1970-1976.)



RICHARD A. RANNEY — He is director of the travel development division of the Iowa Development Commission. A native of Missouri Valley, Ranney was employed for eight years by the Iowa Conservation Commission's information and education section as an exhibit technician and staff writer on the *Iowa Conservationist* magazine. He has served as assistant director of tourism for the Iowa Development Commission as well. He attended the University of Iowa, University of Omaha, and Area XI Community College. He represented Del Van Horn on the Bicentennial Commission. (Served full-term 1970-1976.)

WILLIAM C. (BILL) BRABHAM — He is a long-time employee of the Iowa Conservation Commission, joining that agency shortly after his graduation from Iowa State University in 1950. He has been deputy director for the State Conservation Commission since October, 1971. He is a native of Elkader, and a member of various wildlife and outdoor organizations. He represented Fred Prievert on the Bicentennial Commission. (Served full-term 1970-1976.)



OLIVER GILLESPIE — He is executive director of Living History Farms, a post he had held since May, 1974. This development is a series of three farms focusing on the Iowa Pioneer Farm of 1840, the Iowa Horse Farm of 1900 and the Iowa Farm of the Future. It is a 500-acre development west of Des Moines. Gillespie worked with the U.S. National Park Service in Kentucky and Virginia before coming to the Iowa Post. He represented Dr. William G. Murray on the Bicentennial Commission. (Served 1974-1976.)

J. HERMAN SCHWEIKER — He is deputy Iowa Secretary of State and represented Melvin Synhorst on the Bicentennial Commission. Schweiker is a lawyer and has been the deputy Secretary of State since 1971. He is a native of Des Moines and has been active as a Boy Scout commissioner, council member, scout master and explorer advisor. Admitted to the Iowa Bar in 1942, his son is now a member of the firm where he had been the senior member. His father and brother were also lawyers. (Served 1972-1976.)



DAVID PALMER — He is an instructor in social science at the Des Moines Area Community College where he has been on the faculty for seven years. He is a native of Grinnell and obtained his first degree from Grinnell College. Later he obtained a master's degree from the University of Iowa. He has taught in Canada and other Iowa schools before moving to the Des Moines area. Palmer served on the Iowa Bicentennial Commission representing Iowa Legislator Richard L. Byerly. (Served 1973-1976.)

COMMISSIONERS — OTHERS WHO SERVED

SPECIAL NOTE: There were several other persons who served for varying lengths of time on the Iowa Bicentennial Commission either because of their position or because they did not continue in the Iowa Legislature. Representatives from the Iowa House — Don D. Alt, West Des Moines (1972-73); Charles E. Knoblauch, Sr., Carroll (1970-1973); and Quentin V. Anderson, Ellston (1973-1974). Representatives from the Iowa Senate — Charles O. Laverty, Indianola (1970-1973); and Lee H. Gaudineer, Des Moines (1970-1973). Others — Chad Wymer, Iowa Development Commission (1970-1973); Steve Zumbach, Iowa State University (1972-1973); and Dr. William J. Peterson, State Historical Society (1970-1972).

William H. Jackson of Des Moines represented Iowa Gov. Robert D. Ray at the regular meetings of the Iowa American Revolution Bicentennial Commission. Although he was not a voting member, Jackson as director of communications for Governor Ray did relay information back and forth between the chief executive and the Iowa Bicentennial Commission. Jackson was born at Atlantic, Ia., and graduated from Drake University. He worked for Radio and Television Station WHO for 10 years before joining the Governor's staff.



THE IOWA STAFF

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR — Murray Goodman, who for 30 years was employed in public relations, advertising and sales promotion, came out of retirement to become the executive director of the Iowa American Revolution Bicentennial Commission in 1972. A graduate of the University of Iowa and a veteran of World War II, Goodman constantly referred to his new assignment as the top executive of the Bicentennial in Iowa as "a meaningful experience", and the fact he enjoyed this task showed. He came out of retirement because Goodman felt it was worth getting involved in the 200th birthday of the U.S. Goodman had served three terms as director of the Greater Des Moines Chamber of Commerce and is a director of the Area XI Community College and past president of the Manufacturers and Wholesalers Bureau and the Central Iowa Marketing Executives Club.



FIRST FIELDMAN — Phaene Hibbs of Chariton was hired as the first field representative employed by the Iowa American Revolution Bicentennial Commission in 1972. A graduate of Iowa State University in 1934, Hibbs had taught vocational agriculture at Anthon and Osceola where he organized vo-ag departments and FFA Chapters. After being the Lucas County Extension Director for five years, Hibbs in 1946 began farming. His main task for the Bicentennial Commission was to organize Iowa communities and encourage and assist in setting up local programs for 1976. Later, when the state staff was expanded, Hibbs was assigned to a third of Iowa counties with most of that area generally in south central and southwest Iowa. He organized many successful work-shops for Bicentennial participants.

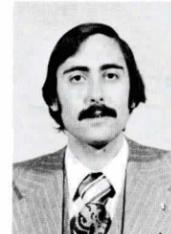


DEPUTY DIRECTOR — R. Edwin Redfern served as deputy director of the Iowa Bicentennial Commission from February, 1975, to July, 1976, when he became director for two months until he left to work for The White House. He was responsible for directing the field staff as well as designing and writing the monthly newsletter. A native of Tarkio, Mo., Redfern came to the Commission with a background in both Iowa political and governmental experience.

FIELDMAN—EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR — Kathy Cashman of Galva joined the Iowa Bicentennial staff in 1975 as a fieldman responsible for working with local organizations in a 34-county area of northwest and north central Iowa. Then in the last few months of the Iowa commission, she served as its executive director. She attended the University of Iowa and the University of South Dakota before becoming a legal secretary for a period of years ahead of her Bicentennial employment.



FIELDMAN — John Conrad III of Conrad was hired in April, 1975, to serve as a fieldman for northeastern and eastern Iowa and to handle roughly one-third of the state. In addition, he developed the Governor's Bicentennial School Recognition Program which won national acclaim as a means of involving youth in the U.S. Bicentennial activity. Conrad is a history and political science graduate of Iowa State University and has made two trips overseas. He assisted in Iowa's portion of the Bicentennial Wagon Train Pilgrimage to Pennsylvania.



FIELDMAN — Jeff Snedden of Des Moines was hired early in 1976 to be the field representative for southeast Iowa where he was responsible for about 30 county organizations. Additional assignments included the wagon train, pony express ride, and a stone map of Iowa for the Iowa State Fairgrounds. He has two degrees in political science from the University of Iowa and became employed by the Des Moines Register and Tribune following completion of his Bicentennial tasks.

SECRETARY-ACCOUNTANT — Margaret Randolph of Des Moines joined the Iowa Bicentennial staff in February, 1972 as secretary-office manager and assumed the accounting responsibilities as well, handling grants for local organizations. She had worked for the American Cancer Society, Retail Credit and Standard Oil Company previously. She attended Drake University and is a native of Des Moines.



SECRETARY — Betty Holmes joined the Iowa Bicentennial staff 18 months before its work was completed after a varied career in her native Des Moines area. She had worked for the Republican State Central Committee before joining the Bicentennial workers in the fall of 1975. She earlier had been employed for Galaxy Productions, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church and Drake University. She is a graduate of East High. Her duties with the Bicentennial included record-keeping for the Bicentennial School Recognition Program as well as Bicentennial Communities.



SECRETARY — Evelyn Powers joined the Iowa Bicentennial staff in May, 1975. She had worked previously for a Des Moines home building concern. Her main responsibilities were to serve as secretary to the deputy director of the Iowa American Revolution Bicentennial Commission. She was a native of Washington, Iowa.

SPECIAL THANKS

There are many thousands of Iowans who deserve recognition in the pages of this Final Report of the Iowa American Revolution Bicentennial Commission because of their volunteerism. But space does not allow us to individually thank these volunteer Bicentennial leaders and workers. However, there are several individuals and organizations which must be singled out for special mention here. They are:

Governor Robert D. Ray for his leadership and constant encouragement during the Bicentennial Era.

The Iowa Legislature for its involvement, and sympathetic understanding.

The Iowa broadcasting industry for its vital cooperation in publicizing the U.S. Bicentennial with a special thank you to WHO-TV for its statewide leadership in producing the television commercials which promoted the sale of Iowa Bicentennial medals, and for distributing these commercials to all Iowa television stations at its own expense.

The Employers Mutual Casualty Company of Des Moines,

The University of Iowa Foundation Alumni Center, The Iowa State University Achievement Fund, and the Alumni Office of the University of Northern Iowa for the purchase in advance of \$22,500 worth of Iowa medals to enable the Iowa Bicentennial Commission to make a down payment on 15,000 bronze and 10,000 silver medallions (later redeemed by the Commission) which were eventually sold for about \$185,000 by the Commission which used the funds to finance special Bicentennial projects.

The Iowa Savings and Loan Associations, and the Iowa banks for displaying sales materials for the Iowa Bicentennial

medallions and for selling same at no cost.

Iowa weekly newspapers for publishing medallion advertisements at no charge.

The Iowa Daily Press Association for its splendid cooperation.

All city and county historical societies in the state.

All patriotic organizations such as The American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and related women's auxiliaries, as well as the Daughters of the American Revolution, The Colonial Dames, and The Questers.

All farm organizations in Iowa, including the 4-H, FFA and others representing young people, and men and women who helped during the Bicentennial Era.

The Women's Clubs, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Campfire Girls, and other youth and adult groups which developed Bicentennial programs or activities.

All of the schools, colleges and universities, both public and private, which during the Bicentennial period developed special on-campus observances and activities.

Other individuals and organizations probably should be mentioned here, but space does not permit. Suffice it to say that the Iowa Bicentennial Commission is both grateful and pleased at the response made by thousands and thousands of volunteer leaders and workers, as well as other citizens who attended or took part in the multitude of Bicentennial activity across the state.

These are the people who should be thanked for making Iowa No. 1 in activities, events and projects during the U.S. Bicentennial.

—From the members and staff of the Iowa American Revolution Bicentennial Commission.

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