

Roundhouse Notes

The following is a excerpt from Illinois Central company Magazine form 1922 Continuation from a previous issue.

Romance Found in Many Station Names

The Company's Early Officials, Illinois Pioneers Are commemorated as Are the Indians.

If you would have your name remembered bestow it upon some town. Then, long after you are dead your name will be invoked on every car of every passenger train that stops at the station you christened. Pioneers of Illinois have thus been fittingly commemorated along the lines of the Illinois Central in the state whose name it bears. Some station names, of course, are merely descriptive of the locality and some are duplications of other station names back East or in the old countries, while others have been manufactured for the occasion; but for the most part those that Illinois Central employees are familiar with are the names of pioneers or of explorers or of the native Indian inhabitants who held the ground before explorer or pioneer arrived.

By RB GRAY Advertising Agent

FEBRUARY 20, 1883 William K Ackerman, then president of the Illinois Central Railroad read before the Chicago Historical Society a paper on early Illinois railroads. The following year his address was published, together with a series of notes by John Wentworth on the origin of the names of many Illinois Central stations in Illinois. From this publication the following accounts were gleaned:

EFFINGHAM was named after General E Effingham, an Englishman by birth who surveyed the county.

WATSON was named after George Watson, division superintendent of the Illinois Central in 1856.

MASON was named after Colonel Roswell B. Mason chief engineer of the Illinois Central in 1851 and later its first superintendent of transportation. He was afterward mayor of Chicago.

EDGEVVOOD derived its name from its situation at the edge of the woods.

LACLEDE was named after Pierre Laclède, leader of a company of French merchants trading with the Indians between 1762 and 1768.

FARINA is Latin for "flour." The town, which was organized in 1867 probably received its name from its situation in the winter wheat region.

KINMUNDY was named after the birthplace in Scotland of William Ferguson, who visited Illinois in 1856 and subsequently wrote a book On his American

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travels. Ferguson was a member of the firm of Robert Benson & Company agents for the Illinois Central in England **ALMA** was named by John B Calhoun after the Alma River in the Crimea, where a battle was fought September 20. 1854, Alma station was established about that time,

TONTI was named after the Chevalier Henri de Tonty, an Italian officer in the service of La Salle.

ODIN was named after the god of that name in Scandinavian mythology; the surrounding country was settled by Scandinavians.

CENTRALIA was laid out by the Illinois Central which erected machine shops there in 1856 No explanation is given of the origin of the name.

IRVINGTON was named after Washington Irving.

RICHVIEW, laid out in 1839 by W.B. Lindsay was originally called Richmond. In 1852 the name was changed to Richview because of the elevated site of the old town (1 1/2 miles from the station), which afforded a fine view of the surrounding region.

ASHLEY was named after Colonel L.W. Ashley a division engineer of the Illinois Central.

RADOM was named after a political subdivision of Russian Poland by General IB Turchin in 1873 when he induced Poles to settle in the locality.

BOIS was called Coloma prior to 1868. It was changed to DuBois in honor of Jesse K. DuBois, auditor of public accounts, 1857-64 The name has since been shortened to Bois.

TAMAROA was named by Nelson Holt, agent at that point from 1855 on. The Tamaroa Indians were one of the five tribes composing the Illinois Confederacy; the other members of the confederacy were the Mitchiganias, Kaskaskias, Peorias, and Kahokias.

ST JOHNS was named by the A.F. & A. Masons in 1856, when they held a celebration on the site June 24, St John's day.

DU QUOIN At the time the Illinois Central tracks reached this point there was already a small village about five miles distant, named Du Quoin, and the station received a similar designation. "Quoin" is an old English word synonymous with "coign" modern French "coin" meaning an external angle or corner Since Du Quoin is in the southeastern corner of Perry County, this may explain its name. Another explanation is that it was named after Du Quoin, a chief of the Kaskaskias and Peorias and a savage of considerable ability.

ELKVILLE derives its name from the fact that, in the early days of the settlement elk attracted by the salt licks, frequently came to the adjacent prairie.

DE SOTO was named in honor of Fernando de Soto, the famous Spanish explorer.

CARBONDALE Illinois Central tracks were laid through Jackson County in 1852, and the town was founded in the same year. Situated in a coal producing region it was named Carbondale.

BOSKY BELL was established in 1877 and named by the Rev J.LI Hawkins of Carbondale .

MAKANDA was named after the chief of the last tribe of Indians that inhabited the vicinity.

COBDEN formerly called South Pass, was named in 1859 after Richard Cobden, an English statesman and member of Parliament, who was a large shareholder in the Illinois Central and who traveled over the line in 1858.

ANNA was named after Mrs. Anna Davis, wife of Winstead Davis of Jonesboro, Ill. probate judge and founder of the town.

DONGOLA was named after Dongola in Africa.

WETAUG was named by George Watson, a division superintendent, who formerly lived in a small town of that name in Massachusetts. In the Ojibway Indian dialect the word means gambler.

ULLIN was named after Ullin, Fingal's bard in the poems of Ossian.

More to come in future newsletter.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Charlie G



Illinois Central R. R.
Br. J204-60 Tenn. River Gilbertsville, Ky.
Mar. 28, 1905 - View of Pivot Pier, etc.

*Construction of the IC swing bridge on the Tennessee River 1906
Note the large pivot for the bridge. From the Cliff Downey Collection*



*Steam rescues diesel. In June of 1958 IC 9174 ran off into the turntable pit in the Carbondale yard. The Big Hook was brought out by steam engine.
From the Cliff Downey Collection*

Amtrak, city to upgrade Maysville station, long-term caretaker unsettled

MAYSVILLE, Ky. – While Amtrak may be renovating the Maysville train station along the route of its tri-weekly *Cardinal*, a long-term caretaker for the Kentucky train station is unknown, the Maysville Ledger Independent reports.

Amtrak contractors are currently investing more than \$500,000 into ADA-compliant upgrades for the former Chesapeake & Ohio station, including new accessible pathways, better parking spaces and signage, improved restrooms with better access, and other enhancements.

The upgrades are a part of series of similar station improvements at other *Cardinal* stations and throughout Amtrak's system.

While Amtrak is handling the cost for station upgrades, it would like another entity to take over responsibility for staffing and maintaining the station. According to the article, Amtrak recently made a request that the city of Maysville take over ownership of the building, but that request was denied by city commissioners, citing concerns of owning another building. CSX Transportation owns the station.

While the city is not interested in owning the building, it plans to work with CSX and other stakeholders on finding a way to open and close the facility and to provide janitorial services.

In addition to Amtrak's ADA-compliance work, the city of Maysville is also interested in investing additional money to improve the exterior and aesthetics of the station. The exterior station improvements, along with other enhancements to nearby streets would be funded using \$860,000 in federal grant money. The 80-20 matching grant would require the city to contribute 20 percent of the total grant amount.

The project has not yet received approval from the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, according to the article.

"We don't want to [own the building], but if it's a stipulation of the grant we may have to," City Manager Matt Wallingford says.

The city is willing to provide some staffing and janitorial services for the building, but it would prefer to negotiate a lease agreement without having to buy the property.

Maysville is located about 65 miles southeast of Cincinnati, Ohio, on CSX's Cincinnati Subdivision. Amtrak's eastbound *Cardinal* No. 50 is scheduled to arrive at 4:52 a.m. and its westbound counterpart, train No. 51, at 11:52 p.m. The *Cardinal* operates on Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday.
From Trains Newswire

in the Battle Creek area. One camera recorded Taylor pulling up near a crossing in his truck in June, getting out to walk to the tracks, and then cut wires. Taylor had worked for CN as a signal maintainer from 1994 to 2009.

Sentencing for the felony offense could be as much as 20 years in prison
From Trains Newswire

SCRANTON, Pa. – Steamtown National Historic Site will be prominently featured on a commemorative stamp in 2018, the *Scranton Times-Tribune* reports. Eastern National, a nonprofit support group for the Park Service, has decided to include Steamtown in its annual Passport to Your National Parks Regional Stamp Set. This is the first time Steamtown has been

Museum

We closed out our 2017 season on Dec 23 . We had 1794 Regular Paid admissions, 1060 admissions from the various boats and groups and 361 paid Children.

Work is now underway to swap displays and work on maintenance of other displays.



*Marion IL IC depot circa 1915. It appears there are 2 types of transport here, automobile and horse and buggy. This building was destroyed by fire in 1977.
From Marion IL History Preservation. web page.*



*Marion Depot after the fire 1977. You can see a CO&E tender to the right in the photo and their steam engine straight ahead. CO&E last Steam Loco # 17 resides at Boone Scenic Railway in Iowa as a static display.
CO&E Collection*

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — A Federal judge is expected to hand down a sentence today (JAN 10th, 2018) for a former Canadian National signal maintainer accused of cutting circuit wires necessary to keep crossing gates raised.

MLive.com reports that Jeffrey Taylor, who lives in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, was caught on concealed video cameras cutting wires connecting crossing gates to the track, causing them to activate and block automobile traffic at a Battle Creek, Mich., grade crossing.

The news site reports that CN police installed the camera after crossing gate wires had been cut twice in January 2017

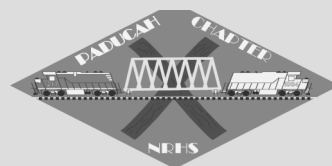
featured on the stamp in its 32-year history within the service.

Steamtown Superintendent Debbie Conway says being featured in the stamp set will help bring more attention to the park. "It brings more awareness," Conway says. "There are a lot of people who definitely have their national park passport wherever they go."

The stamp features a photo by Steamtown volunteer James Benetzky with a locomotive on the museum turntable.

From Trains Newswire

Roundhouse Notes



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Steam at Herrin IL in this undated photo

**Next Meeting Feb
12th
7 PM
At the
Railroad Museum
Paducah**

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