

Small Historic Towns across America.

as presented by Mr. Stadt's on-line Freedom Project Education U.S. History classes in the Fall and Winter of 2014. You can learn more about our classes by visiting us at: www.fpeusa.org



A Brief History of Mineral Point, Wisconsin

Mineral Point, in southwest Wisconsin, was discovered in the 1830's to have a great deposit of several important minerals. When people over in Cornwall, England heard of this, it became a great attraction for mining because these minerals, such as lead, were so near to the surface and easy to uncover. As a result of this, many Cornish immigrants settled in Mineral Point.

Mineral Point is said have been the place "where Wisconsin began." In the early years of Wisconsin, Mineral Point was a pretty big center of government. In 1836, Henry Dodge was inaugurated as the first governor of the Wisconsin territory (Wisconsin as a state was not founded until 1848). This took place in Mineral Point.



With the California gold rush, Mineral Point did suffer a drop in population; but in 1935, Bob Neal and Egar Hellum began to restore several homes and historic buildings. Mineral Point is now a historic site and has a population of 2,492 (2012).

Check out this video for more history on Mineral Point, Wisconsin!
www.youtube.com/watch?v=EQwmXit0G3w&feature=youtu.be

Location and Driving Directions from closest major U.S. Airport(s).

Mineral Point is located in Southwest Wisconsin. The nearest airport is Dubuque Regional Airport (49 miles). From there, it is about a 51 min. drive to Mineral Point. Head Southeast on Airport Rd. Turn left onto US-61 N. Continue onto US-151 N. Take exit 37 toward Mineral Point. Take a right on Ridge St., a right on Maiden St., a left on S Chestnut St., and you're there!



Who was President when this town was founded? And, what was the political environment in America at that time?



Mineral Point was settled in the early 1830's. During this early stage, Andrew Jackson was president of the United States of America. About fifteen years earlier, the War of 1812 had been won. Because of this, many people were very optimistic. They were inspired to learn, write, and invent. At this point in U.S. history, most people were confident the the country was headed in the right direction.

City government

Mineral Point is governed like a typical city or town. It has a mayor, who at this time is Gregory Bennett. Mineral Point also has a city council, which meets once a month.

Oldest business

Mineral Point is a town with a whole lot of historic background, but one of the oldest and most interesting buildings is the Walker House. Some of the stones and mortar used in the construction of the building date back to the 1830's! The Walker House is located at 1 Water Street Mineral Point, WI 53565. It is a building with a lot of history where you can learn as well as dive into the experience. The Walker House hosts several fun public events throughout the year, but it is also available to be reserved for private events. It is also a small bed and breakfast with about nine rooms. So whether you want to attend an event or spend a night or two, you'll have a great (educational too) experience!



<http://thewalkerhouse.org/>

Historic Attractions in the area. Festivals and Events.

There are many great area attractions in Mineral Point that you can visit year round. You can take a trip to see historical attractions such as the Mineral Point Railroad Depot Museum, the Pendarvis Historical Site, as well as several old homes and estates that have been restored and are open as museums. These include, but are not limited to, the Walker House as well as Orchard Lawn. In Mineral Point, you can also explore the amazing natural attractions in the area such as the State parks, the Cave of the Mounds, Spring Green, and others. You can visit the many artisan shops and even see them at their work! You will not have trouble finding things to do in Mineral Point!

If you are someone who enjoys big events, a good time to visit Mineral Point would be during the annual Cornish Festival. Mineral Point can trace its beginnings back to the Cornish immigrants who settled the area. The Cornish Festival is a great time to embrace this heritage, as you celebrate with Cornish food, lots of entertainment, and just a great time!

<http://www.cornishfest.org/>

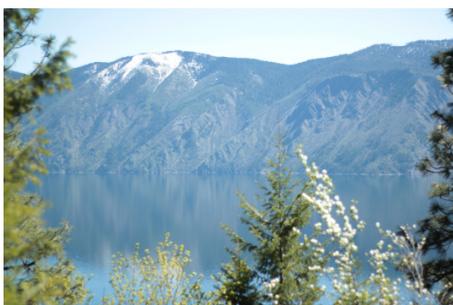
For more ideas, visit www.mineralpoint.com

Where can we stay if we visit Mineral Point?

In Mineral Point, you can find several wonderful places to spend the night. You will find many charming houses available for rent if you wish to really explore the history and feeling of Mineral Point. There are also many great hotels to be found in this wonderful town, such as The Mineral Point Hotel, Brewery Creek Inn, or even the Walker House.

Visit this website for more ideas and information on where to stay in Mineral Point http://mineralpoint.com/lodging/bandb_guestrooms

Why would I want to visit Mineral Point?



It's always fun explore historical sites! Making a visit to Mineral Point would be full of adventure and fun ways to learn, and it would be a great destination for a family vacation. You would find a great combination of tourist attractions and fun shops as well as the peace and beauty of nature awaiting you, an extremely fun trip for adults and kids. Wisconsin is my home, and I would love to get around to other towns and see all the wonderful things that they have to offer. However, Mineral Point is a prime example of these fascinating small towns that are to be found all over our country.

links you may wish to visit

<http://mineralpoint.com/> <http://www.travelwisconsin.com/article/things-to-do/mineral-point-where-wisconsin-began>

<http://pendarvis.wisconsinhistory.org/> <http://www.cothrenhouse.com/> <http://www.mineralpoint.net/>

<http://thewalkerhouse.org/> <http://www.cornishfest.org/>

Other sources used

<http://www.travelmath.com/> <http://www.city-data.com/> Matthew Burgess: <http://www.wikianswers.com/>

<http://www.eyewitnesstohistory.com/america1830.htm> http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mineral_Point,_Wisconsin

google maps

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