

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

Brief History of O'Fallon, Illinois

What the bank looked like in 1921



what the bank looks like now (as a museum)

O'Fallon was founded as a train depot in May 13, 1854 by Col. John O'Fallon. Prior to the founding of O'Fallon was the town of Alma (in the western part of O'Fallon), a major coal mining center, part of the reason O'Fallon was the chosen in the first place. Even before then the Native Americans lived here, later encountering the French. It was later the headquarters of many abolitionists before the civil war.

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

30 miles: Lambert-St. Louis International Airport - Saint Louis, MO (STL / KSTL)

Who was the President when O'Fallon was founded? And, what was the political environment in America at the time.

Franklin Pierce (March 4, 1853 – March 4, 1857) who passed the Kansas–Nebraska Act, which led to the event know as “Bleeding Kansas”, a bloody series of violent riots caused by people wanting to make it a slave state via voteing and vice-versa. This was one of the main events leading to the civil war. He also lost his son in a train



accident.

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The political parties were the Whigs and the Democrats, battling over issues such as slavery, secession, and land, among other things. There were 31 states as this flag demonstrates. A majority of the southern states supported



slavery at the time, while the north was the opposite.

Oldest businesses/Largest businesses today

The first businesses were Farming, and now the largest business today is Dean Foods, a dairy company.

Demographics

As of a special census of 2005, there are 25,647 people (up 3,737 from the census of 2000) and 10,468 households, with an average of 2 people per household. (Down from 2.4 in 2000) The significant increase in population can be attributed to the ever-expanding suburbs of metropolitan St. Louis, Missouri and the influx of military personnel from nearby Scott Air Force Base.

The population density is 2,007.6 people per square mile (775.4/km²). There are 10,468 housing units at an average density of 790.4 per square mile (305.3/km²). The racial makeup of the city is 82.67% White, 11.99% African American, 0.23% Native American, 2.47% Asian, 0.07% Pacific Islander, 0.79% from other races, and 1.77% from two or more races. 2.23% of the population is Hispanic or Latino of any race.

There are 10,468 households out of which 39.6% have children under the age of 18 living with them, 59.0% are married couples living together, 10.5% have a female householder with no husband present, and 27.6% are non-families. 23.2% of all households are made up of individuals and 7.2% have someone living alone who is 65 years of age or older. The average household size is 2.62 and the average family size is 3.13.

City government

The city government is Mayor-council government. It has a mayor and with 14 councilors.

Historic attractions in the area, Festivals and Events

The O'Fallon Museum, O'Fallon Veterans Memorial (which has a memorial service for veterans every year), Scott Field Historic District.

Craft fair, Arts Festival, "Pork with Passion".

Where to stay

There are a few hotels in O'Fallon, and one bed and breakfast- Lodge at Grants Trail.

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Why would you want to visit this historic small town?

O'Fallon is an old town, much older than some of the biggest cities in the entire U.S.A. It's also one of the safest places in Illinois. It's also of the growing very fast compared to other places in Illinois. Over all it's just a nice place to visit. It also shares the same name as a city just across the river in Missouri. It also is the birthplace of a few famous people.

Citations

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