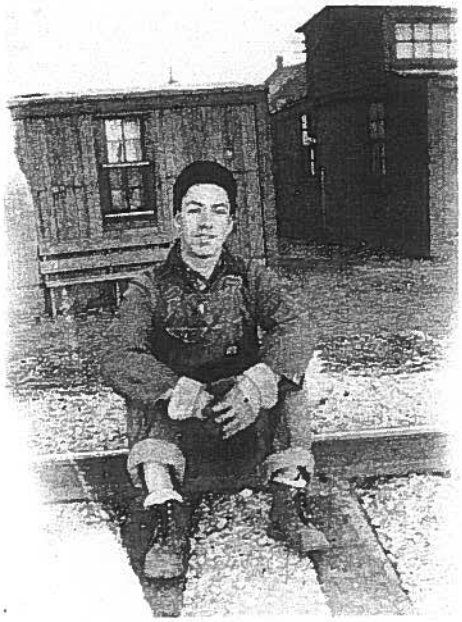
Adoremus in Aeternum



247 E. Simmons St. Phone: 4600
8-13-13

Fuel, Feed, Bldg. Material—14

COAL—Large lump, $8.50 delivered; stoker, $8 delivered. Coal from anywhere. Also general trucking. Call Bob Frederick. Phone 5420-2. 8-14-3t-14

Miscellaneous—18

FOR SALE

Box Car Bodies

Suitable for

LIVING QUARTERS
GARAGES, FARM BUILDINGS
GRAIN STORAGE

These cars can easily be converted into comfortable homes. We sell you your building DELIVERED to your lot or farm
Cars Being Delivered As Ordered
So Don't Delay
Used Seasoned Lumber—All Dimensions
Pipe – Flooring – Windows

INDUSTRIAL MOVERS, Inc.
Galesburg Office
So. Henderson St. Phone 6868-6
7-23-30t-18

EVEN HITCHHIKERS will admire your auto upholstery cleaned with Fina Foam. Downstairs Store, Kellogg Drake & Co. 8-10-18

'48 MODEL KENMORE washer, used 8 times, perfect. Regular price, $129.95. Will sell for $110. 5 to 7 p. m. 1955 Baird Ave. 8-9-tf-18

G-E Console
Radio-Phono Combination

$20 Down—$2.75 per Week

GOODYEAR SERVICE
KELLOGG & SIMMONS PH. 4884
8-12-3t-18

CABLE-NELSON player piano; electric refrigerator; electric range; 16-ft. all steel boat. 1318 E. North St. Prices reasonable. 8-12-3t-18

COMPLETE SET OF Encyclopedia Americana with seven annuals and case. Also unabridged Funk & Wagnalls dictionaries. 517 So. Broad. 8-12-3t-18

A GOOD PRACTICE piano, $25. Phone 6977-5. 8-12-3t-18

EARLY CONCORD GRAPES—Excellent quality, at 906 E. Main St., Knoxville, Ill. 8-12-3t-18

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SEVEN CU. FT. Frigidaire; man's Schwinn bicycle; Argus C3 camera, Federal enlarger; skeleton frame for small boat. 195 Olive St. 8-12-3t-18

LKR

MEXICANS IN GALESBURG

Irene & Carley talk --- November 2000

DAVIS

John Higareda
Mary Ponce

SANTA FE

Jesse Ponce
Isabella Padilla

TIE PLANT

Lupe Perez
_____ Pacheco
_____ Medina
_____Luna

ALSO

Margaret Villareal, Izzie's Mom
Ramona Guitterez
Vicki Maciel Ponce (75ish) m. Jesse Ponce
Vicki Ponce and Manuel Higareda maintained the chapel
Mary Maciel Ponce (79 years) m. Lee Ponce
Mary Ponce (79 years old) one of original three families and the only ones who stayed.
Melia Ponce was her mother

Camps

When? Differences?
Brick houses at Santa Fe
Maps
Where was the chapel? Who? When?
Resident lists
Core families
When closed?

Anybody in business?
Who was first one to be born here?
Going to school.....where? stories.....
Graduate from high school?
Go to college?
Bobby Ponce
Linda Gonzalez's older brother
First to move out?
Who didn't live in the camps?
First nurse
Sophie Higareda Gonzalez – Des Moines
Veterans --- lists
American Legion — Jesse Perez, John Higareda--- because in the late 40s they heard the Legion didn't want Mexicans.
Music
Hungry Five – Lalo Higareda
Starving One --- was the singer, Mary Jo Padilla Schafer

HISTORY OF THE BOXCAR PEOPLE

BY LUZ NUNCIO SCHICK

It's no secret that Galesburg is one of the premier historic towns in Illinois. Brick-paved streets, Victorian homes, old cemeteries, impressive historic landmark buildings—Galesburg's got them all, revealing a surprisingly rich and diverse history. Beginning with its abolitionist founders, Galesburg has been home to many different people: pioneer farmers, fugitive slaves, Civil War heroes and heroines, inventors, railroad bosses, factory workers, muckraking journalists, and even a three-time Pulitzer prize-winning poet and Lincoln biographer. Each of these people added their own story to the greater flow of Galesburg's history, which is why every year thousands of visitors are drawn to popular sites such as the Underground Railroad Freedom Station at Knox College, Hope Cemetery, the Galesburg Railroad Museum, and the Carl Sandburg State Historic Site.

But there's another Galesburg story that's only now beginning to spread beyond the Mexican American families whose ancestors lived it and who have proudly celebrated it. A large boulder near the picnic shelter outside the Galesburg Railroad Museum commemorates this story. Its inscription reads:

This is dedicated in memory of the Mexican railroad workers who helped build the railroad during the 1900s. The workers and their families lived in three railroad camp sites: The Davis St. camp, S. West and Sixth St., Santa Fe camp, W. Berrien and Dietrich Ave., West Humps camp, County 10 and S. Henderson St. Donated by the Hispanic Community of Galesburg June 1998.

The story of Galesburg's Mexican railroad workers is in fact part of a larger epic. They are among the million or so Mexican immigrants who came to the United States in the late 19th century and the first decades of the 20th. Like many European immigrants, they fled harsh conditions in their home country to make a better life in the United States. But unlike European immigrants, the Mexican railroad workers had little choice in where they might make a new home. They were transported by the railroads wherever they were needed—great railroad centers such as Chicago and Kansas City, as well as smaller operations in places like Topeka, Fort Madison, and here in Galesburg.

As the inscription on the boulder indicates, in Galesburg the Mexican railroad workers and their families lived in three camps, all outside the city limits at that time. Two of the camps, the Davis and the Humps, were for workers for the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy. The Santa Fe was for workers for the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe. The exact year of their arrival is lost to time—descendants of the earliest family to come and stay report that in 1908, when their ancestors arrived, other Mexican families were already in town. But the location of the camps is clear, and thanks to the commemorative boulder, it is preserved forever.

And now the memories of what life was like in these camps, where the workers and their families were first housed in boxcars, are preserved forever as well. Beginning in 2010, former residents and neighbors of the railroad camps were approached by writers Will and Luz Schick and Peoria's PBS station WTVP to share their memories for a documentary. The descendants of Galesburg's first Mexican immigrants rose to the task, conjuring up vivid memories of the vibrant, loving community that

"THIS IS DEDICATED IN MEMORY OF THE MEXICAN RAILROAD WORKERS WHO HELPED BUILD THE RAILROAD DURING THE 1900S."

developed in the camps and surrounding neighborhoods. In February 2013, "Boxcar People" premiered to a full house at Galesburg's Orpheum Theatre and went on to be nominated for a Midwest Regional Emmy later that year.

For many in Galesburg the existence of the railroad camps came as a surprise, as did the details of day-to-day life there. Through interviews, family photographs, and home movies that are sometimes startlingly poignant, the film presents an intimate look into important aspects of the residents' lives, such as work, school, daily chores, celebrations, Mexican traditions, military service, and the struggle for equal rights.

Galesburg's railroad camps existed from the 1920s into the 1950s. Unfortunately, all traces of the Humps and the Davis Camp are now gone. At the Santa Fe Camp, the railroad had replaced their boxcar homes with brick row houses, but these were razed in the 1970s, leaving only the footings of where they had stood. The space is now restricted railroad property.

But just up the hill at 1256 W. Berrien Street stands the Taco Hideout, a popular restaurant owned by Jack Perez, a descendant of early Mexican immigrants. In addition to feasting on tasty Mexican dishes, visitors to the restaurant can view an exhibit on the railroad camps with vintage photographs.

And here's another tip: Just before you cross the tracks to get to the Hideout, look to your left. The post for the mailbox for the camp's residents is still there—a precious detail, among so many others, that was shared during the making of "Boxcar People."

ALLEN CHAPEL'S RICH HISTORY

BY SEMENYA MCCORD

When Galesburg was settled in 1837, it was described as "a west-central Illinois town known for the Swedish immigrants and handful of Negro residents." Galesburg was also a railroad town--important for two types of railroads--the steam locomotive industry and the under-ground railroad.

Less than fifteen years after Galesburg was settled, a Negro woman by the name of Susan Van Allen Richardson, learned of an African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church Conference being held in Chicago. She had come to Galesburg a runaway slave in 1842, was welcomed and protected while collaborating with local abolitionists and Knox College faculty. She held prayer meetings in her home, and then expanded her vision to bringing an AME Church to Galesburg. She sold her only hog to raise the money for a train ticket to Chicago; then organized Allen Chapel AME Church in her home in May 1853.

The church is named after the denomination's founder and first AME Bishop, Richard Allen (1816, Philadelphia, PA). While Knox College prepared for the 1858 Lincoln-Douglas Debate, the congregation of Allen Chapel purchased property for $400.00 to build the first church building. This wooden structure was destroyed by fire in the 1870s as was the replacement, but the faithfulness of Rev. Charles S. Jacobs rebuilt a church that stood until 1911.

Under the leadership of Rev. Timothy Tyler, the church was then remodeled in brick. Allen Chapel, one of Galesburg's oldest churches, has a dynamic history, and we are blessed that detailed records covering over 160 years are being held in Seymour Library of Knox College, and the Galesburg Public Library.

Allen Chapel's established interactions with the wider Galesburg community--social welfare, education, politics--consistently follows our AME Mission: to minister to the social, spiritual, and physical development of all people.