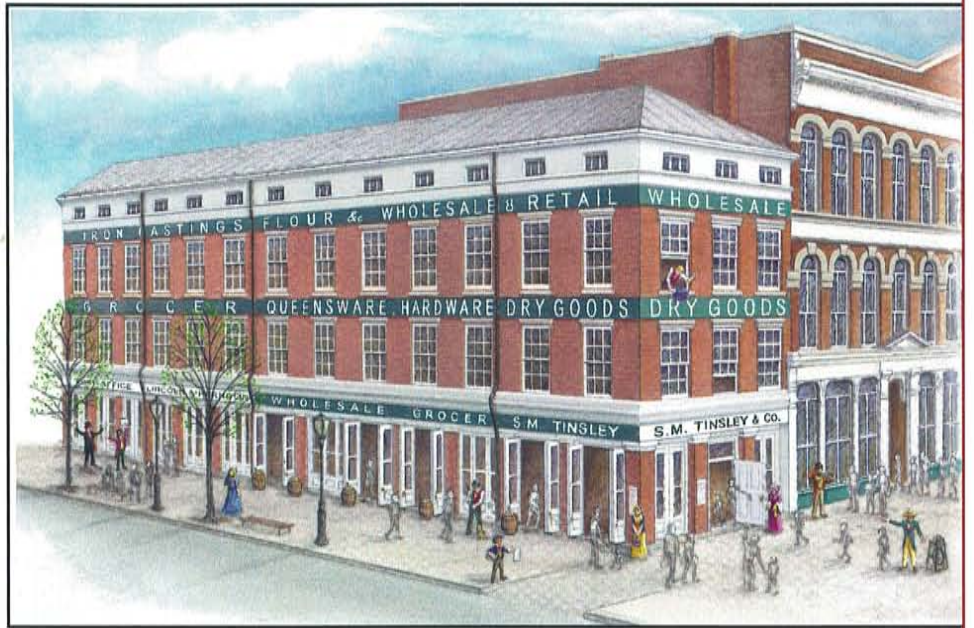
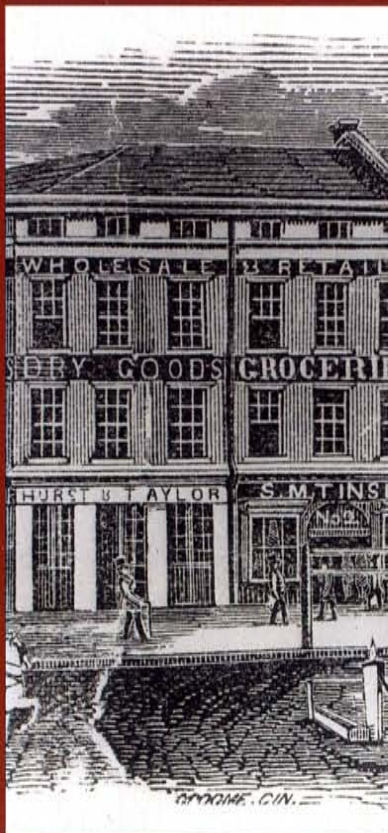


## The Tinsley Project for the Lincoln Bicentennial



## Lincoln's Springfield The promise of a boundless future

The year was 1843. Several years before, Abraham Lincoln had moved from the frontier village of New Salem to Springfield, a bustling city of 3,000. Thirty-four years old, a leader of the Illinois Whig party, and junior law partner to one of the state's most respected attorneys, Lincoln's career was on the rise--his success tied to a growing prairie capital that promised a boundless future. From his new office behind Seth Tinsley's Dry-Goods Store on Springfield's public square, Lincoln pressed onward to an uncertain future that would lead to the presidency.

Lincoln was not unlike the many other men who made their way to Springfield from surrounding farms and villages, and even faraway cities. Anxious to find their places among new people, new customs, and new ways of thinking, men like Lincoln built relationships that interwove throughout their political, social, and economic futures. But none could truly know how their lives would change. The Tinsley Project for the Lincoln Bicentennial will save and share the history of Lincoln's Springfield, a story of men and women in the 1840s who shaped the way we live today.

# Restoring Lincoln's Lost Office

The Tinsley Project for the Lincoln Bicentennial will save an original part of Lincoln's Springfield, make an important investment in history education, and support economic development by:

- \* Re-creating Seth Tinsley's 1840s three-story dry-goods store
- \* Accurately locating and restoring the law offices where Lincoln worked
- \* Restoring the federal courtroom to its original location
- \* Attracting visitors with living history programs and innovative exhibits

Experience Lincoln's law offices through the lives of those who worked around him, including the friend whose name he gave to his son, the best man who served in his wedding, the rival who challenged him to a duel, and the genius who served the Confederacy.



## A Lincoln Bicentennial Partnership

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency

Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity, Bureau of Tourism

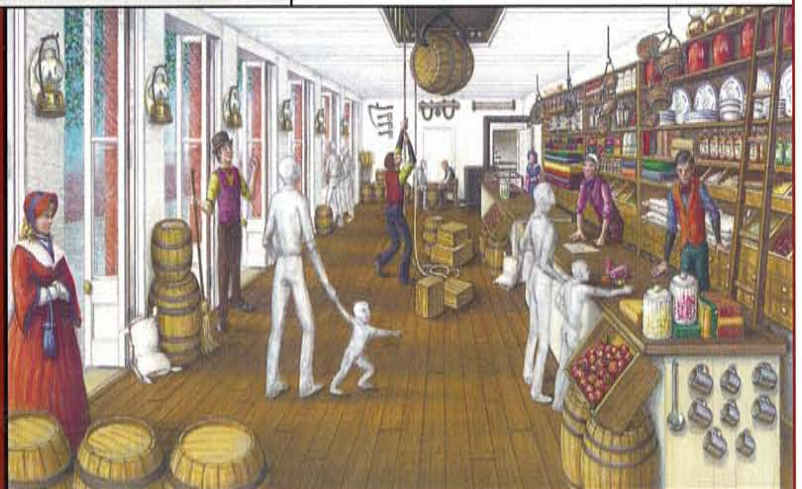
Old State Capitol Foundation

National Trust for Historic Preservation, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund for Historic Interiors

Illinois Lincoln Bicentennial Commission

The Tinsley dry goods store will connect guests to the 1840s through items Tinsley offered for sale.

A fabric display will highlight the history of the textile industry, and casks of rum will serve as props for interpreting the temperance movement. Other significant themes will be "Women in the 1840s" and "The Middle Class."



# The Tinsley Project for the Lincoln Bicentennial

The Lincoln-Herndon Law Offices State Historic Site is located at the corner of Sixth and Adams Streets in downtown Springfield:

- One block south of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum
- Two blocks northwest of the Lincoln Home National Historic Site

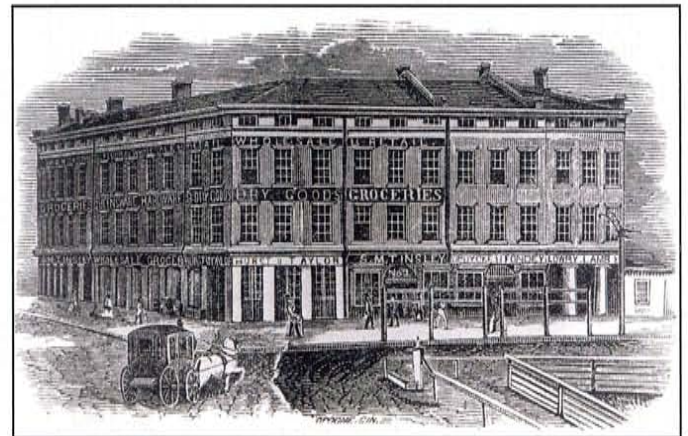
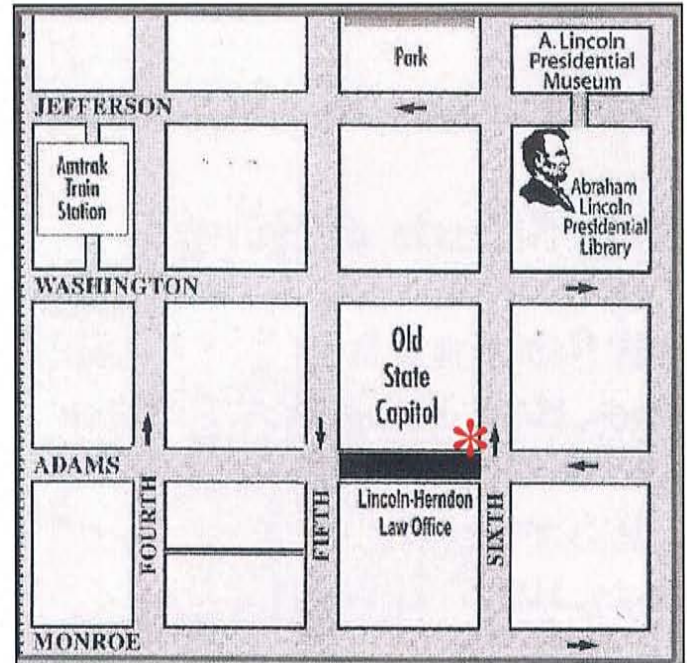
IHPA aims to create a gateway of living history between Springfield's two world-famous Lincoln attractions:

Storytelling, original artifacts, and reproduction items will be used to explore how 19th century commerce and law shaped Lincoln's life.

The site will bring to life the Lincoln neighbors, associates, rivals, and friends who frequented numerous areas in the building.

The project will preserve and restore a high-quality site on the landscape of downtown Springfield that contributes to the goals of the history education.

IHPA envisions a site with a working dry goods store, courtroom, law offices and post office—just as they were in Lincoln's day—that will engage audiences as a living history destination and tell the story of Lincoln's Springfield in a way that is both authentic and dynamic.



# The Tinsley Project for the Lincoln Bicentennial

## Law Offices

Logan/Lincoln/Herndon

## Offices of Friends & Rivals

Baker/Matheny  
Bledsoe  
Shields/Conkling

Interactive exhibits— Typical pictures of Andrew Jackson, Henry Clay and Daniel Webster “come to life” to debate issues and share history

Authentic and reproduction artifacts will be used to present fascinating and memorable stories. Students and guests will discover saddle bags, writing desks, letters and legal documents that contain clues to historical questions

## Federal Courtroom

Site of 1842 hearing of the Mormon leader Joseph Smith

The only federal courtroom in Illinois between 1841 and 1855

## 1840s Post Office

Letters from Lincoln’s Springfield

Interactive communication exhibits

Write a postcard to a friend with a quill pen and have it signed and sealed in Lincoln’s post office

## Seth Tinsley’s Three-story Dry Goods Store

A working store where storytellers will use items on the shelves to share the history of the 1840s:

Half empty or half full—the ups and downs of the temperance movement through casks of whiskey and rum

Stitches in Time—get a feel for America’s largest pre-Civil War industry by examining more than one hundred bolts of exquisite cloth

Goods such as rice, sugar, and coffee were common in Springfield, but a closer look reveals how these items were once part of the Atlantic slave trade triangle

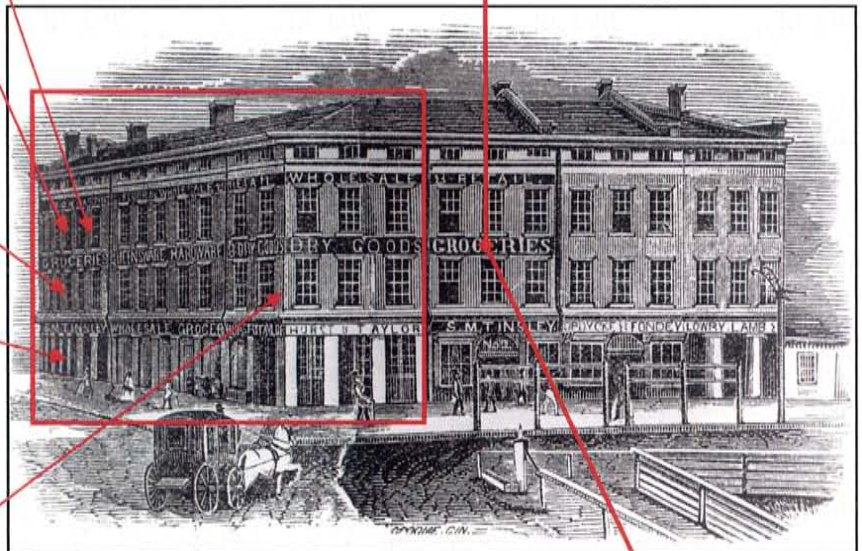
Where in the World—an old merchant map “awakens” to illustrate routes of trade and patterns of commerce

Significant themes include “Women in the 1840s” and “the Middle Class”

IHPA is in need of \$1 million in capital funds to acquire the neighboring building and initiate design planning.

The back of this building includes spaces utilized by the federal courts and several lawyers, including Lincoln.

The front of this building will be used to meet the logistical needs of the site’s new living history program.



IHPA estimates an additional \$8 million will be needed to complete this significant restoration and preservation project.

An annual appropriation will be needed to operate the site.