

Site History

1835

Dr. Plumleigh settled in Algonquin and acquired 640 acres of land west of the Fox River from the United State Government.

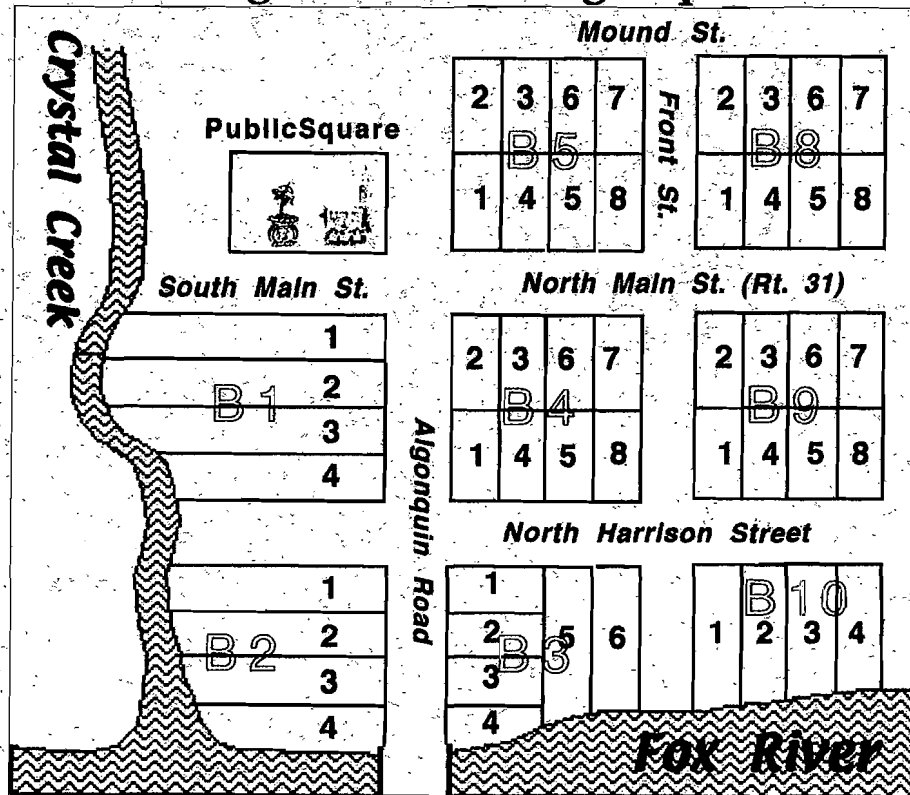
1840

Dr. Plumleigh sold 17 acres to the north of Crystal Creek to William Powell for \$21.76 which included this site.

1843

Original Plat for the town of Algonquin was approved. The Public Square was designated where the Historic Village Hall and Shooting Star now stand.

Original Plat of Algonquin

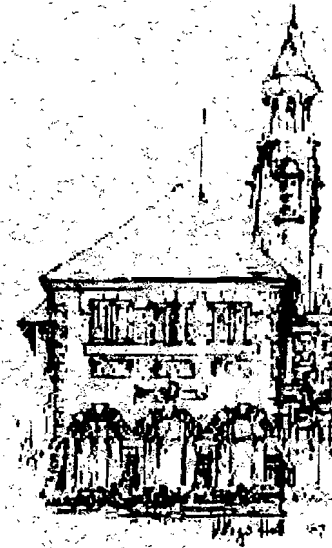


Historic Village Hall

Built in 1907

Architectural Style

Building is an excellent example of Midwestern Prairie Architecture, which was introduced by Frank Lloyd Wright. The building was designed by prominent architect W. W. Abell and constructed in 1907 at the cost of \$6,848.



History of Building Use

In the past the building use has included.....

- Village Offices (1907-1996)
- Police station and Jail (1907-1996)
- Public Library for 56 years (1921-1977)
- Elementary School classes (1950-1951)
- Fire Department (1907-1950)
- Historic Commission Offices (1996-present)
- Public Meeting Rooms (1996-Present)

Building Changes over the years...

- 1968 Remodeling replaced fire station doors with windows, providing new council chambers and additional offices, and added the enclosed stairs on the south side.
- 1974 Remodeling added new detention facilities to building.
- Elevator was added in 1996 for handicap accessibility.
- Renovation of the building to the present form was completed in 1997.

Historic Recognition

- In 1993 the building and site were dedicated as a County Landmark.
- Historic Village Hall has been in continuous municipal use since 1907.

James Philp Smokehouse (Circa 1856)

This smoke house was moved approximately 125 yards from its original site behind the home of one of Algonquin early settlers, James Philp Esq. Structures such as this were once an integral part of every family's homestead in the early days and were vital to survival in the time of the settlers for the preservation of food.

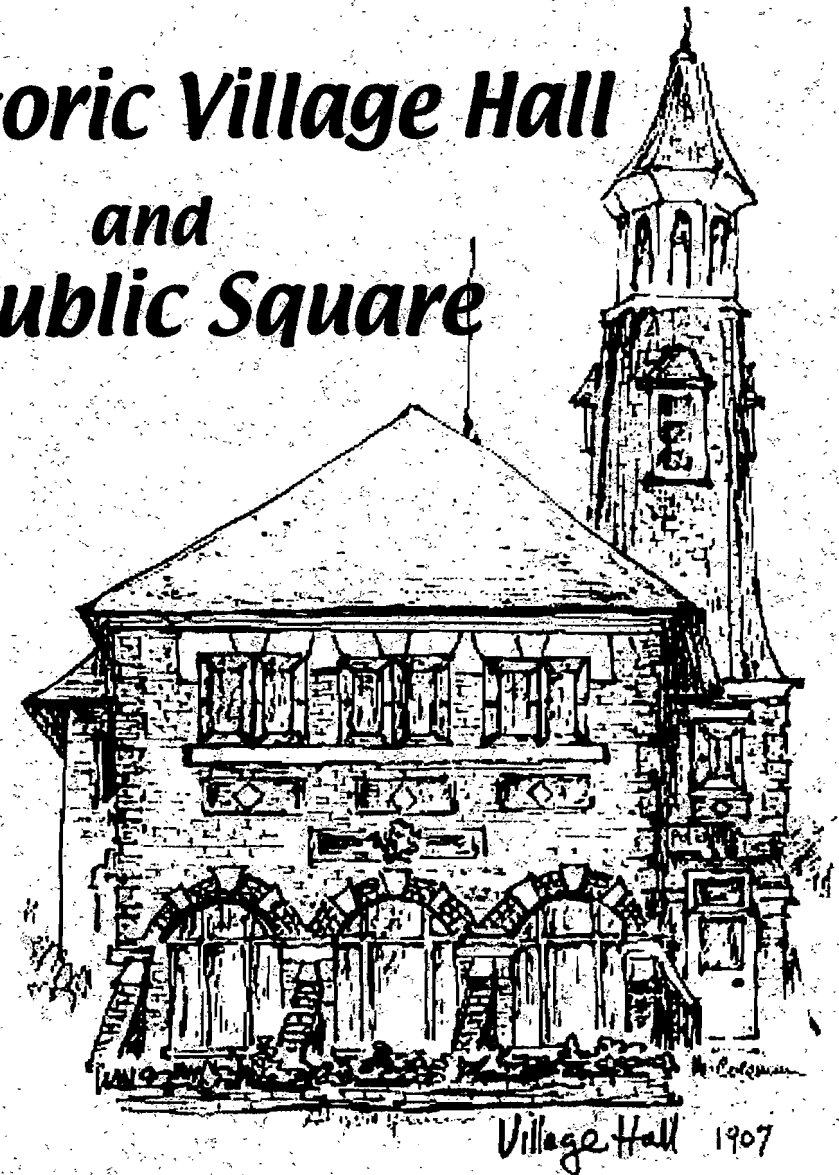
The building was moved to its present location in 1998 and is one of the last remaining structures of its kind in McHenry County. The structure serves as permanent reminder of our pioneer heritage.



Shooting Star (1935)

Shooting Star fountain was created and installed by George Suchy, in commemoration of Algonquin's Centennial Celebration and dedicated June 8th, 1935. Shooting Star has often been termed as representing the "Spirit of Algonquin". The basin of the fountain was filled with water lilies, cattails and goldfish until the 1950's. The fountain is located on the former site of the Community Band Stand which was torn down in the late 1920's.

Historic Village Hall and Public Square



Algonquin, Illinois

Algonquin Historic Commission
2 South Main Street

"To foster the research, development and preservation of
Algonquin's history for current and future generations."