

This is a map that shows the route of the Lincoln Highway across the U.S. In 1912, businessman, Carl Fisher got a 150,000-dollar pledge because he wanted to make a road across the U.S. Henry B. Joy from Packard Motor Car Company gave the pledge but also gave Carl the idea to have a road built in the name of Lincoln instead of building a monument in Washington D.C. for him. Henry's father was someone who liked Lincoln a lot. Carl thought the idea about the roads was a good one, so he called the first transcontinental highway after Abraham Lincoln.



This Ford, 1929 model A car is owned by Milt Reckling. This was the first car that he ever owned. He took us on the Lincoln Highway with this car. Its top speed is fifty miles per hour and took awhile to get to that point. It held about 12 gallons of gas. It had windshield wipers but the only catch was that they were manual.





Just coming out of town
you would have seen a
gas station in place of
this house.

Just past the gas station
you would have seen a
schoolhouse called Abbe
Creek Schoolhouse.



Happy Valley was a very
common place to play
pool and hang out with
your friends.



Along the Lincoln Highway you would have seen these markers placed every mile. the Lincoln Highway every mile. These markers have coins in them with Lincoln's head which shows that it is the Lincoln Highway.

One marker we found along the highway had the coin with Lincoln's head on it was missing. It is really sad that people would do something like that.

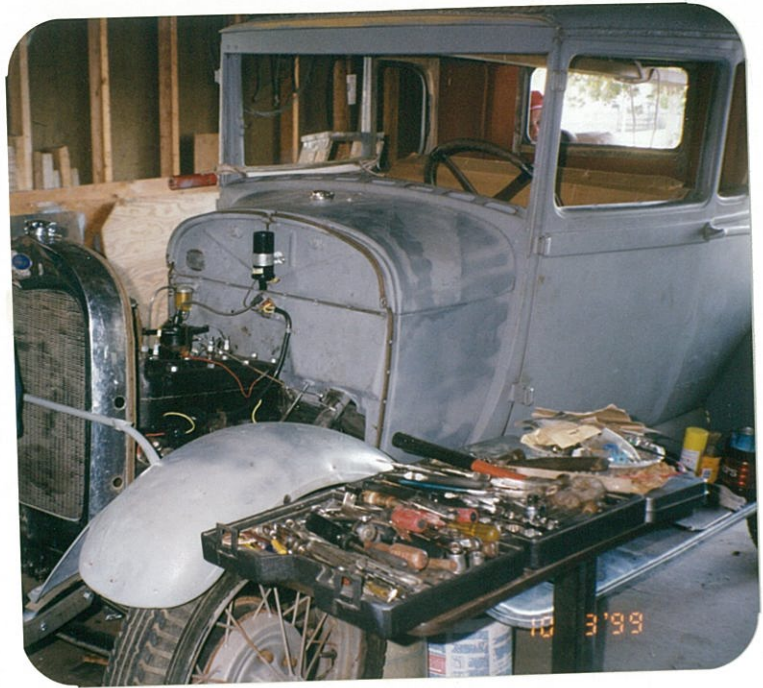




The seedling mile was one mile of paved road between two towns. The government paved them because they hoped that the two surrounding towns would pave to it. It saved the government money and also time. This sign shows the beginning of the seedling mile between Mount Vernon and Cedar Rapids. The post shown here is right next to the sign.



Acie Grisham was a very good man to talk to about the Lincoln highway. He has many different stories about his life in Mount Vernon. The car shown here is from the year 1929, Acie is fixing it up so he can drive it one day.



Acie is showing us the rumble seat that will go there when it is done. There is a lot of work left before the car is able to go on the road.

EAST



The railroad was a very important part of Mount Vernon because it brought college students and also other citizens to Mount Vernon. This view of the railroad tracks is taken from the old bridge that used to be part of the Lincoln Highway. Because of the railroad coming through Mount Vernon the town of Ivanhoe ceased to exist because it relied on the Cedar River. The railroad could carry more cargo than the boats on the river so people stopped using the river as much.



WEST



At Happy Valley you may have seen a Coke machine similar to this. Pop out of this machine costs only five cents but the choices were limited to coke and orange.



All of these items were found inside Happy Valley. The clock is badly damaged and can't be repaired but the other two items are in good condition and can still be read.

