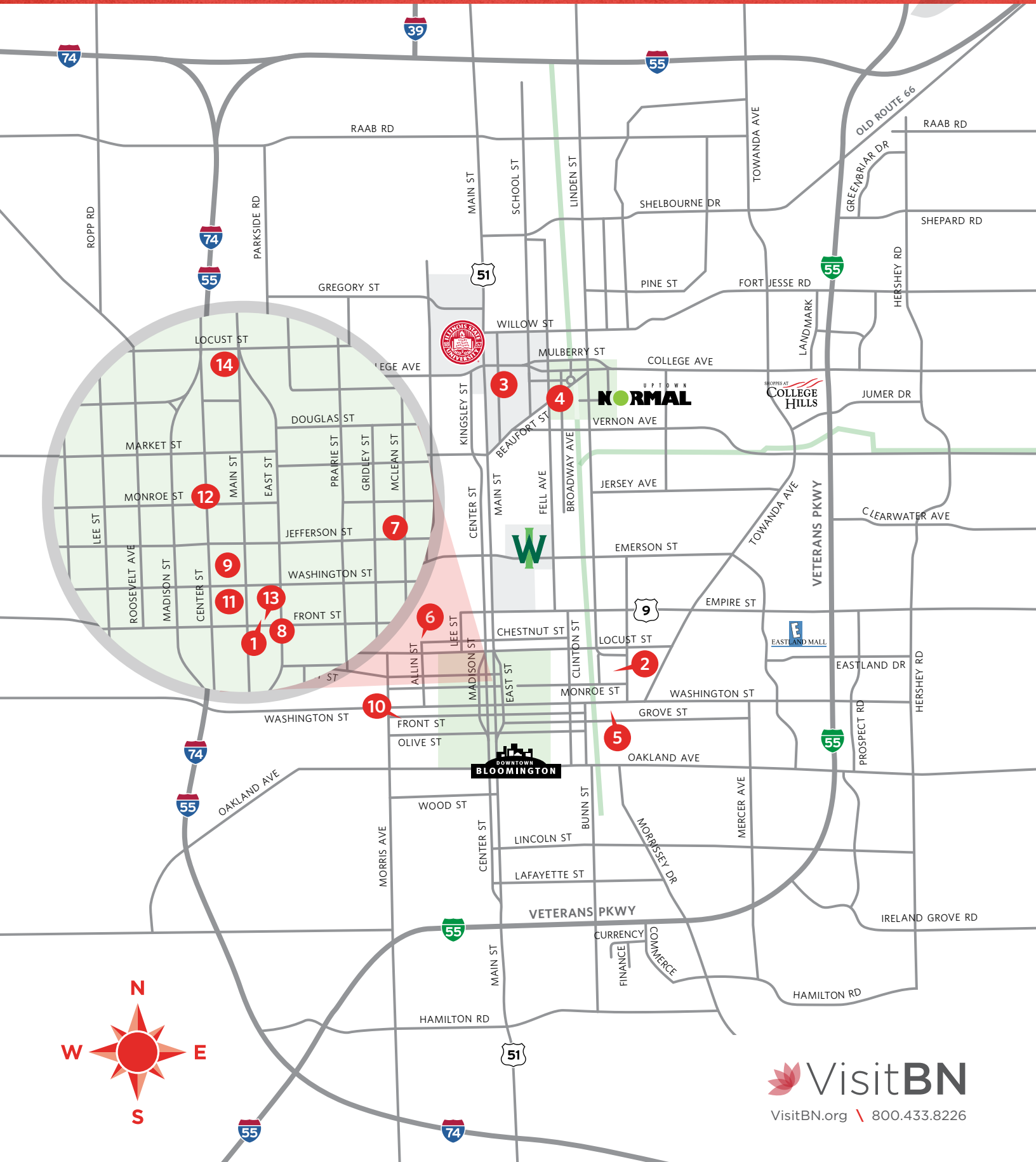


Looking for Lincoln

IN BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL, ILLINOIS



Looking for Lincoln

Few places in Illinois played a more important role in shaping Lincoln's political success than Bloomington-Normal. Home to some of Lincoln's closest friends and colleagues, including Jesse Fell and David Davis, its residents became some of his most important backers in his pursuit of national office.

1. Asahel Gridley Bank and Miller-Davis Buildings

101-103 North Main Street
102-104 East Front Street
Bloomington, IL 61701

Lincoln often visited the law offices of his friend, Judge David Davis, and the bank owned by Asahel Gridley.

2. David Davis Mansion

1000 Monroe Drive, Bloomington, IL 61701
309.828.1084

This 19th century, 36-room estate was the home of Judge David Davis and his family. His influence on Lincoln's legal and political career was crucial to the president's success.

3. Illinois State University

200 South University Street, Normal, IL 61761
309.438.2111

Illinois' first public university was founded in 1857 with legal assistance from Lincoln.

4. Jesse Fell Home

Corner of Broadway & Irving Streets
Normal, IL 61761

Fell's home served as a gathering place for Lincoln's friends and allies as they planned election strategies.

5. Lincoln and the Illinois Central Railroad

916 East Grove Street, Bloomington, IL 61701

Lincoln won a case for the railroad, and was then forced to sue the company for his fee.

6. Lincoln Funeral Train Marker

Corner of Chestnut & Allin Streets
Bloomington, IL 61701

On May 3, 1865, thousands of local citizens lined up near the old Bloomington train depot to watch "The Lincoln Special" transport the body of the 16th president after he was assassinated. The train was in route to Springfield where Lincoln is buried, when it stopped in Bloomington to pick up water and wood.

7. Lincoln's Real Estate

Corner of Jefferson & McLean Streets
Bloomington, IL 61701

Two lots at this site were owned by Lincoln for nearly five years.

8. Major's Hall

Southwest Corner of East & Front Streets
Bloomington, IL 61701

On May 29, 1856, Lincoln delivered his "lost speech," so-named because only a few phrases of it appeared in print. Lincoln spoke out against the Kansas-Nebraska Act, which launched him as the leader of the Illinois Republican Party.

9. McLean County Museum of History

200 North Main Street, Bloomington, IL 61701
309.827.0428

The original courthouse where Lincoln practiced law burned down in 1900. A new building was constructed on the same site. It houses over 1500 linear feet of archives.



10. The National Hotel

West Front Street, Bloomington, IL 61701

Lincoln stayed in this hotel that was owned by his friend, John Ewing, who was later elected mayor of Bloomington.

11. The Phoenix Block

106 West Washington Street
Bloomington, IL 61701

Jesse Fell invited Lincoln to the law office of his brother, Kersey Fell, to try and persuade him to write an autobiography to help promote his presidential candidacy.

12. Pike House

Southeast Corner of Center & Monroe Streets
Bloomington, IL 61701

On the evening of May 28, 1856, Lincoln spoke from the portico of the Pike House Hotel. The hotel was lost to a fire in the early 1860s.

13. Rosie's Bar and Grill

106 East Front Street, Bloomington, IL 61701
309.827.7019

The second floor of this present day restaurant was home to Asahel Gridley's law practice. Lincoln worked with Gridley in his office, and when Gridley gave up his law practice he turned it over to Lincoln.

14. William "Billy the Barber" Florville

624 North Main Street, Bloomington, IL 61701

William was Lincoln's most well-known African-American friend. He owned several lots at this corner.