

## Living History

The museum is able to conduct living history demonstrations to a limited extent. One of the museum guides is an eight-generations descendent of Elisha Watson. The Watson family has farmed continuously in Henderson County since 1837.



## Horse Farming

In western Illinois, the horse was the primary source of farm power from 1820 to 1920. Today most draft horses on farms have become secondary sources of power or are kept only as a hobby.

## Horse Farming Equipment

Early farm equipment for horses was made primarily of wood and very few pieces have survived. The museum has a few fine examples of this early equipment. Since 1920 some new equipment has been designed for the horse farmer. None of this late model equipment is on display. However, some excellent videos can be seen of this more modern horse equipment being used.



# Fast Facts

## Seasons

March 15 to July 15  
September 15 to November 15

## Hours

10:00 am - 3:00 pm  
Tuesday - Saturday

## Contact Us...

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## WE'RE CLOSE TO EVERYTHING

### *Distance to regional neighbors*

Galesburg . . . . . 31 miles  
Davenport . . . . . 59 miles  
Springfield . . . . . 122 miles  
Des Moines . . . . . 179 miles  
St. Louis . . . . . 193 miles  
Chicago . . . . . 228 miles  
Madison . . . . . 247 miles



# Agricultural History Horse & Buggy Museum

1820 - 1920  
Farm Equipment



Biggsville, Illinois



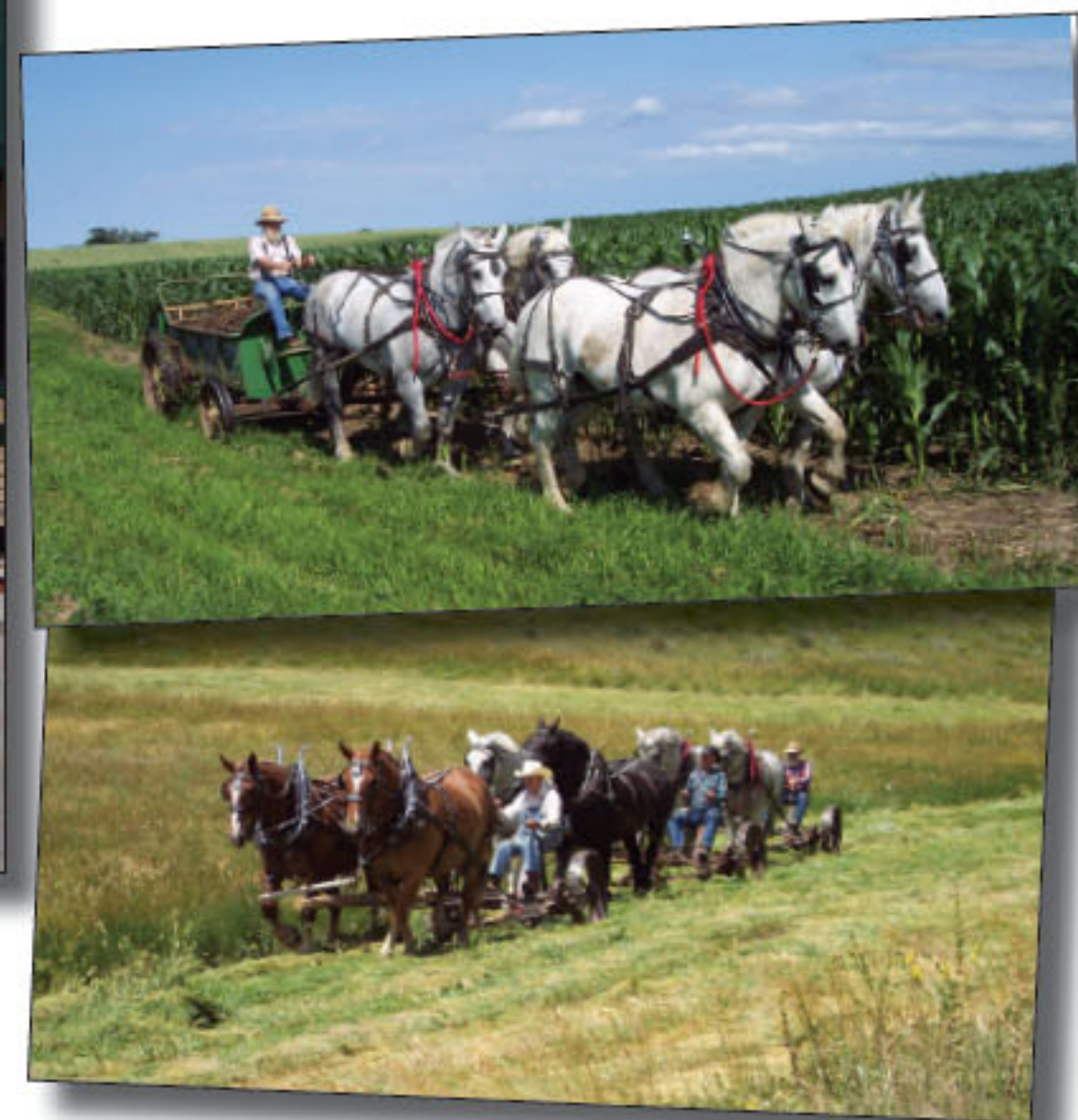
## Programs

Unscheduled small groups (1-5 persons) are welcome at any time. School children accompanied by a teacher are admitted free. Other visitors are charged a minimal fee. A guide accompanies all groups to interpret and answer special interest questions. Visitors should allow at least one hour for a tour. Schools and all groups of 6 or more may request programs to meet specific interests by scheduling in advance. In season by advance arrangement; visitors may observe live working Percheron draft horses. Most visitors enjoy viewing a history presentation that highlights events which shaped the history of the county.



## Video Library

The museum has one of the largest video collections in the U.S. of draft horses performing farming operations. There are currently twenty-four, five minute long videos on touch screen televisions. These videos make the static displays come alive. With horses attached and the equipment working, little is left to the imagination. The videos also include historical facts and pictures. There are many more videos being prepared for the touch screen TV's and by special request they may be viewed.



## Exhibits

The museum offers visitors a glimpse of the past. Exhibits and programs interpret the period from 1820 to 1920 when horses were a primary source of power for farming and transportation. Over 50 pieces of machinery are displayed inside a 6000 square foot building. On the wall of the main exhibit area, 16 excellent prints are displayed. These paintings show in unbelievable detail the way it was when the horse was the main source of power.

