

LIFE IN ILLINOIS

- 1830** The Lincoln family builds a log cabin on the Sangamon River in Macon County, Illinois.
- The family moves again – this time to Coles County.
- July, 1831** Lincoln, now 22, moves to New Salem, Illinois. There he meets Ann Rutledge, daughter of the owner of the tavern where Lincoln lodges.
- August 1, 1831** Lincoln casts his first ballot.
- 1832** Lincoln is elected captain of the Illinois militia he has joined to fight in the Black Hawk War.
- August 6, 1833** Lincoln loses his bid for the Illinois State Legislature.
- 1832** With William F. Berry as his partner, Lincoln runs a general store in New Salem.
- May 7, 1833** Lincoln is appointed postmaster of New Salem.
- 1833** Lincoln and Berry's store fails.
- 1833** Lincoln is appointed assistant surveyor in Sangamon County.
- August 4, 1834** Lincoln wins election to the Illinois State Legislature. He also begins to study law.
- 1835** Following the legislature's adjournment, Lincoln returns to New Salem to continue both studying law and serving as a surveyor.
- August 1, 1836** Lincoln wins re-election to the Illinois State Legislature.
- September 9, 1836** Lincoln receives his license to practice law.
- March 1, 1837** Lincoln is admitted to the Illinois Bar.
- April 15, 1837** Lincoln moves to Springfield and enters a law practice with John T. Stuart.
- 1837** Mary Owens rejects Lincoln's marriage proposal following a year of courtship.
- August 6, 1838** Lincoln wins a third term in the Illinois State Legislature.
- December 16, 1839** Lincoln meets Marry Todd.
- August 3, 1840** Lincoln wins a fourth term in the Illinois State Legislature.
- 1840** Lincoln proposes to Mary Todd.
- January 1, 1841** Lincoln and Mary Todd break off their engagement.
- May 14, 1841** Lincoln enters a law partnership with Stephen T. Logan.

November 4, 1842	Lincoln marries Mary Todd.
August 1, 1843	Robert Todd Lincoln is born and named for his maternal grandfather.
1844	While campaigning for Henry Clay's bid for the Presidency, Lincoln revisits his Indiana home.
December, 1844	William Herndon becomes Lincoln's law partner.
March 10, 1846	Edward Baker Lincoln is born, the Lincolns' second child.
August 3, 1846	Lincoln wins election to the United States House of Representatives.
December 22, 1847	Lincoln sponsors resolutions against the Mexican War.
March 4, 1849	Lincoln's term as Representative expires and he resumes his law practice in Springfield.
March 7, 1849	Lincoln is admitted to practice law before the United States Supreme Court but loses his case concerning the Illinois statute of limitations.
May 22, 1849	Lincoln receives a patent for his machine that lifts boats over shallows but the device is never built.
February 1, 1850	Edward Baker Lincoln dies more than a month before his third birthday.
December 21, 1850	William Wallace Lincoln is born, the Lincolns' third child.
January 17, 1851	Thomas Lincoln, Abraham's father, dies of a kidney ailment.
April 4, 1853	Thomas (Tad) Lincoln is born, the Lincolns' fourth and final child.
1854	Though Lincoln wins his bid for the Illinois legislature, he declines in order to run for the United States Senate.
1855	Lincoln loses his bid to become one of Illinois's senators.
May 29, 1856	Lincoln is one of the organizers of the Republican Party.
June 26, 1857	Lincoln opposes the Dred Scott decision of the U. S. Supreme Court.
1858	Lincoln opposes Stephen Douglas in the campaign for U. S. Senate.
November 2, 1858	Lincoln loses to Douglas.
May 18, 1860	The Republican Party nominates Lincoln for the Presidency.
November 6, 1860	Lincoln is elected President.