

EXPERIENCE THE HEAT OF BATTLE

Feel the blows of cannons. The pounding of musket fire. Watch the battlefield with more than 1,500 Civil War reenactors.

Jackson's Civil War

Muster, in August, is the largest reenactment in the Midwest.



Staged battles take place surrounding the majestic **Cascades Falls**, a manmade waterfall attraction featuring

6 immense fountains, 3 reflecting pools and 11 illuminated falls.

An authentic encampment at the Village of Jacksonburg and food and crafts from period

merchants will get you

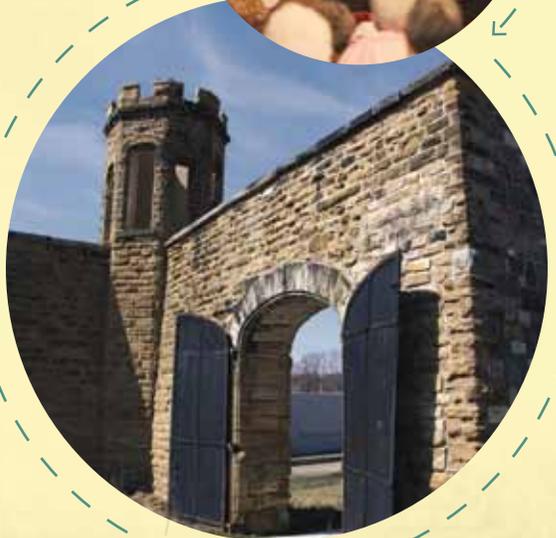
close enough to feel the intensity of a pivotal time in American history.



HEAR TALES OF CRIME AND CORRUPTION

The Original Jackson Historic Prison Tour

brings to life stories of colorful inmates, wardens, and night-keepers who occupied Michigan's First State Prison. Glimpse into the mini-city of factories and farms that the prison became and see how it spurred Jackson's industry and grew into the largest walled prison in the world.



BE CURIOUS. START EXPLORING.

Plan your trip at
ExperienceJackson.com/HistoricSites

Doing Historic Jackson Research? Try these resources:

Jackson County Genealogical Society
(517) 768-9266 | JacksonCountyMIGS.com

Jackson District Library Reference Desk
(517) 788-4087 | MyJDL.com

Ella Sharp Museum Archives
(517) 787-2320 | EllaSharp.org

experience
jackson.com

(517) 764-4440

SHARE YOUR CURIOSITY



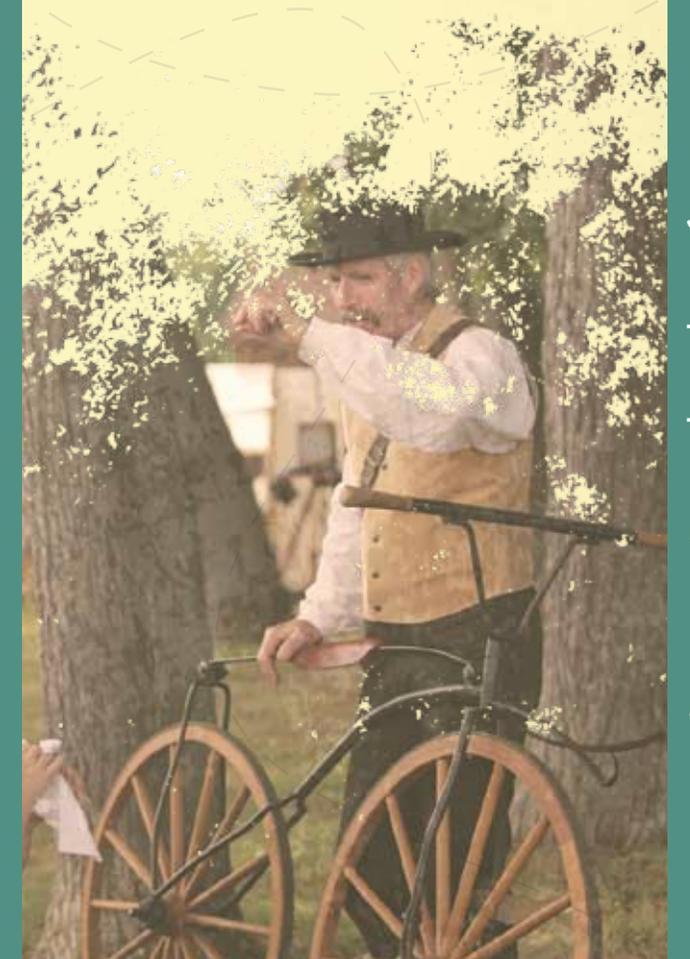
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EXPLORE HISTORY

Jackson, Michigan.
The destination for
curious travelers



SPEND SOME TIME ON THE INSIDE

of Michigan's Prison Museum

See how prison has changed through the years at **Cell Block 7**, the only prison exhibit within the walls of an operating penitentiary. Pass through the same gates that inmates entered as they took a last look at freedom... often for years, decades or even life.



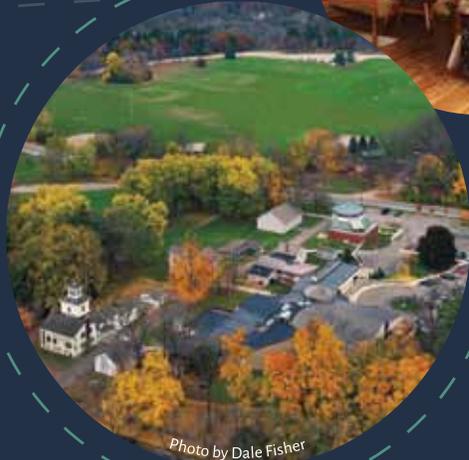
On the inside, you won't have to imagine prison life, you'll feel and experience it. It's as close to prison as you ever want to get.



EXPLORE AN ERA

with The Ella

Located on a 10-acre campus, **The Ella Sharp Museum** is a celebrated historic icon of Jackson. The museum's namesake, Ella Merriman Sharp, was a generous, civic-minded individual and a Michigan Women's Hall of Fame Inductee who left her estate, Hillside Farm, and her home, the Merriman-Sharp Farmhouse, to the city of Jackson for use as a park and a museum.



Today, the museum grounds offer a glimpse of times past at Ella Sharp's 19th-century Hillside Farmhouse, the Dibble One-Room Schoolhouse, Eli Stilson's mid-19th century Log House, and the Merriman-Sharp Tower Barn. Other exhibits down Farm Lane include an old fashioned woodworking shop, general store and print shop. The Hadwin Center galleries include both historic and artistic exhibits including the resolution table from "Under the Oaks," a restored 1916 Marion-Handley automobile, and a Michigan State Prison woven coverlet.

WHERE IT ALL BEGAN

On July 6, 1854, a state convention of anti-slavery men met to establish a new political party. The large crowd could not be accommodated in the hall and had to convene under an oak grove on "Morgan's Forty". Here, the Republican Party was born, and a commemorative plaque marks the area forever known as **Under the Oaks** on the corner of Second and Franklin Street.



SATISFY YOUR CURIOSITY

A trip through history isn't complete until you marvel at the **Waterloo Farm Museum**, where costumed tour guides take visitors through a 10-room farmhouse and seven additional outbuildings including the Dewey School. The **Conklin Antique Reed Organ & History Museum** proudly displays over 100 fully restored and working antique reed organs as well as local history exhibits. At the **Tompkins Historical Museum**, visit a three-story farmhouse museum with working rug loom, an 1838 replica log cabin and a one-room schoolhouse. Finally, don't miss the Victorian architecture of the **Coe House Museum** and 19th century heirlooms and antiques at the **Mann House**.



HISTORY ON THE MOVE

As steam engines thrust the nation into motion, the **Jackson Depot** of the Michigan Central Railroad was the largest stop between Chicago and Detroit. In operation since 1873, it is now known as the oldest continuously operating passenger train station in the nation, the station currently operates as an Amtrak station on the Wolverine line. Walk the platform of the Italianate; red brick station where Vaudevillian stars and American Presidents once boarded their train. Travel east and you will find the historic, Romanesque-styled **Whistle Stop Park Depot**, constructed in Grass Lake in 1887.



Before cars were built on assembly lines in Detroit, Jackson was introducing the world to over 20 different car brands, like the Jaxon and Buick. Get a look at early automobile history at **Ye Ole Carriage Shop**, with over 60 antique cars—some can't be found anywhere else! The museum also features a large display of Sparton Radios and Horns (built in Jackson from 1910 thru the 1950's), hundreds of original gas and oil pieces, a full scale period Coca-Cola soda shop, a full scale 1950s kitchen and 160 model planes from the world wars.

