

# OLD ROUTE 66 HISTORIC CATALOGUE PROJECT

## MCLEAN COUNTY, ILLINOIS

### HISTORY/BACKGROUND

In the fall of 2017 the McLean County Route 66 Committee was formed by several members of the McLean County Museum of History's Route 66 Visitor Center Advisory Committee. As Route 66 is a regional asset and its preservation and promotion can only truly be accomplished with a regional approach and mindset, the committee has grown and is currently comprised of members representing the following sectors:

- Private citizens
- Bloomington-Normal Area Convention and Visitors Bureau
- McLean County Regional Planning
- Bloomington-Normal Economic Development Council
- Marketing professionals
- Advocacy group members
- Mclean County Museum of History
- Illinois Route 66 Scenic Byway
- Staff of McLean County, the City of Bloomington and the Town of Normal

The McLean County Route 66 Committee has adopted the following mission statement:

*To celebrate the heritage of Old U.S. Route 66 in Bloomington / Normal and McLean County, Illinois by promoting education, tourism, economic development and historic interest. This is accomplished through committee work and by coordinating efforts of other local agencies. The committee may also serve as an advisory council on issues related to Old Route 66.*

This committee has formulated an Action Plan, including the research and development of historic roadside attractions and corridors in Bloomington-Normal and McLean County.

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

**MCLEAN COUNTY ROUTE 66 HISTORIC CATALOGUE:** The principal objective of this project is to preserve and promote the important transportation history of Route 66 and associated landmarks and natural features in McLean County. This project will include all necessary work to identify, research, describe and catalogue historical properties, buildings and features (features) associated with Old Route 66 in Bloomington-Normal and McLean County.

Information will be compiled from current available data, research and information received from regional experts, the McLean County Museum of History and other available resources. Information gathered will be in the form of historic documents, photographs, etc. Narratives that will serve to describe the historic significance of the feature will be compiled from existing resources or developed based on research.

All documents and narratives will be compiled in a standardized manner and checked for accuracy before the information is archived in the GIS Storyboard for Old Route 66 in McLean County developed by McLean County Regional Planning (MCRP).