

## Rochelle's History & Heritage

The town of Rochelle, Illinois became a city in 1853, and at that time was known as Lane. Today, the City of Rochelle boasts an array of various things to do, such as enjoying the many parks; some with playground equipment, tennis courts, basketball courts, soccer fields, baseball and softball fields, skateboarding, boating and fishing. There is also an indoor pool at Hickory Grove Center as well as an outdoor pool at Spring Lake Marina. You may also enjoy a bike ride on Rochelle's 4 mile bike path. While visiting Rochelle, you may also wish to take in a movie at the Hub Theatre in the Historic Downtown of Rochelle, or a theatre production at Vince Carney Community Theatre in Hickory Grove Center, or enjoy shopping in the many unique gift shops and antique shops Rochelle has to offer.



The 1918 Standard Oil Filling Station, which serves as the Rochelle Visitor's Center and Tourism Office and was restored in 2001, is located at 500 Lincoln Avenue. Standard Oil of Indiana acquired this property in 1918 from Carrie E. Stocking of Shelby Bolivar County in Mississippi for the grand total of \$6,200. It was a perfect site for the filling station, with the location being on a high visibility corner at a 90 degree turn on the transcontinental Lincoln Highway. This was the first filling station on the Lincoln

Highway in Illinois and the first one built in Rochelle. (D20 on the map)

The Lincoln Highway Mural of Emily Post on the corner of Lincoln Hwy & 5th Avenue on Hub City Furniture is the 3rd in a group of 43 murals commissioned by the Illinois Lincoln Highway Coalition to be placed in towns along the Lincoln Highway National Scenic Byway in Illinois. Emily Post, before she became widely known as an author of etiquette books, traveled the newly formed Lincoln Highway in 1915. During her travels she became stuck in the mud in Rochelle and spent 3 days in Rochelle at the Collier Hotel. At that time the Lincoln Highway was America's only coast-to-coast highway. The 10' x 20' mural was unveiled on Memorial Day, May 28, 2007. (D12 on the map)



The Rochelle Railroad Park is located at 124 N. 9th Street. Anywhere from 80 to 120 trains pass through Rochelle in a 24 hour period. This has made Rochelle a "hot spot" for train watching, drawing visitors from every state in the nation and world wide. Because of the number of visitors, Rochelle acquired the land east of the diamond in 1995 and constructed a park just for train watching. The park, which was dedicated August 30, 1998, includes a handicapped accessible observation pavilion with various vantage sites for the best visitor viewing and photography. The park also includes a gift shop, a 7 ton Whitcomb engine and 50 ton Whitcomb engine which were built in Rochelle, handicapped accessible restrooms, and a replica of the



original 1854 Steel Strap Rail. Visitors can see locomotives from many different railroad companies pass through Rochelle on the Union Pacific and the BNSF lines. (I1 on the map)

The Rochelle Firehouse Museum is located on the corner of 5th Avenue & Main Street. The first piece of fire equipment that Rochelle owned was a hand drawn hose cart which was drawn by four men. It was eventually sold to 20th Century Fox for \$35 in 1935 to be used in the movies. Next purchased by the City was a 1912 American LaFrance chemical fire truck and the two pieces resided for a time in the town hall. In 1924 a second American LaFrance was bought and is the fire truck that has been restored and whose home is in the Fire Station Museum behind the fire station on Main street. If one happens to come by during the evening hours there is a button on the south side of the Museum that can be pushed to turn the lights on and view "Gertie", which was Rochelle's first water pumper. (D7 on the map)



The Flagg Township Public Library is located at 619 4th Avenue. Andrew Carnegie's first library was built in the town of his birth, Dunfermline, Scotland, on July 27, 1881. This was the beginning of the construction of a total of 2,811 buildings of which 1,946 were erected in the United States. Not wanting to have his name on the buildings, they were commonly recognized by sun rays over the text of the words, "LET THERE BE LIGHT." The Flagg Township Public Library has the words



'19 TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY 12 ' over the original main entrance, was built in 1912, and paid for with Carnegie funds. In 1973 the building was placed on the National Registry of Historic Places by the Department of the Interior. This plaque is located on the south side of the library. The library was expanded in 1988 to its present size with the help of federal funds. (D10 on the map)

The Flagg Township Museum is located at 518 4th Avenue. The town hall that almost wasn't. Even though the land was purchased in 1869 for the grand sum of \$2,000 the actual building wasn't built until 1884. In 1866 Flagg Township voted a township tax of \$3,000 for the purpose of building a town hall with the understanding that the City of Rochelle would pay \$3,000 as part of its share of the cost and the building would be jointly used by both parties. In 1884 both parties came to an agreement and a local contractor built the building for \$6,200. The building was almost demolished in 1968 for additional city parking. Fortunately in 1968 the Flagg Township Historical Society was created with one of its main goals being the preservation of the old brick and limestone building. On June 1, 1971 the historical society obtained the building. It since then has been the home of the museum and the resting place for artifacts of Rochelle's colorful history. The only existing Partin-Palmer resides there which was produced in Rochelle on the site of the old locomotive factory. This car along with other items are on display for the public Thursday - Sunday from 11am - 4pm. (D15 on the map)



**Rochelle Tourism**  
The Hub City  
Visitors Association  
500 Lincoln Avenue  
PO Box 331  
Rochelle, IL 61068  
Phone: 815-562-7031  
www.rochelle tourism.com

**DOWNTOWN ROCHELLE ASSOCIATION**  
Lincoln Highway  
Rochelle, IL 61068  
Phone: 815-562-4189  
www.downtownrochelleassociation.org

**ROCHELLE AREA Chamber of Commerce & Business Development**  
1221 Currency Court  
Rochelle, IL 61068  
Phone: 815-562-4189  
www.rochellechamber.org

**City of Rochelle**  
420 N. 6th St.  
Rochelle, IL 61068  
Phone: 815-562-6161  
www.cityofrochelle.net



## Events to experience

**Rochelle Harvest Market**  
June - September  
Thursdays 2-6pm.

**Rochelle Municipal Band Concerts (Atwood Park)**  
June - August  
Wednesdays 7-9pm.

**Rochelle Railroad Days (Rochelle Railroad Park)**  
1st weekend in June

**Maxwell Street Days (Downtown Rochelle)**  
Late June

**Rochelle Regatta (Lake Sule)**  
Late June or Early July

**Independence Day Celebration (Atwood Park)**  
July 4th

**Lincoln Highway Heritage Festival (Downtown Rochelle)**  
Late August

**Rochelle Fly-In / Drive-In (Rochelle Municipal Airport)**  
Late August

**Downtown Christmas Walk (Downtown Rochelle)**  
1st weekend in December

## Rochelle Hotels

**BAYMONT INN & SUITES**  
567 East Hwy 38  
Rochelle, IL. 61068  
Phone: 815-562-9530  
www.baymontinns.com

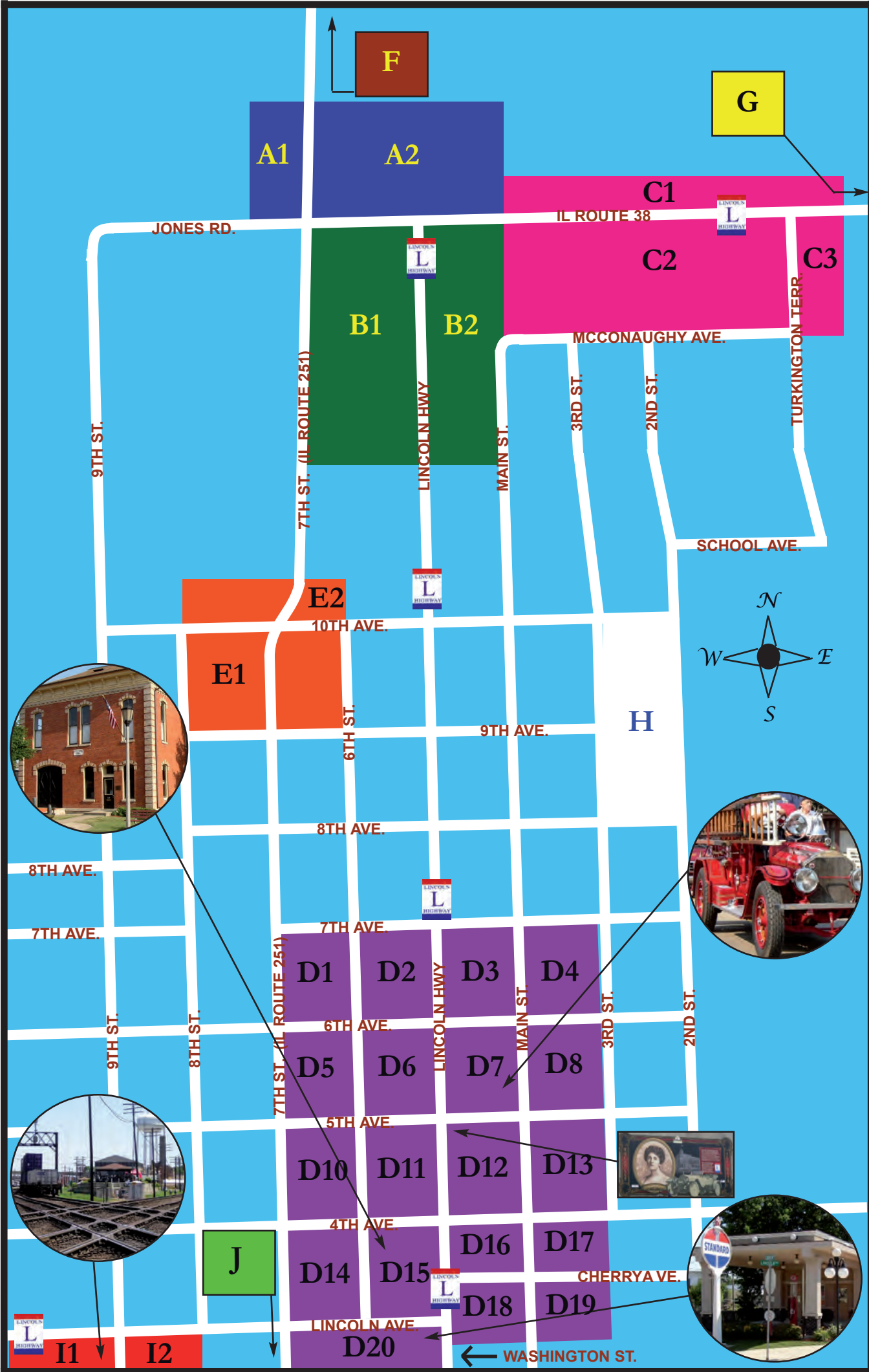
**Comfort Inn & Suites**  
Hwy 251 N & Hwy 38  
Rochelle, IL. 61068  
Phone: 815-562-5551  
www.hotelrochelle.com

**Super 8**  
601 East Hwy 38  
Rochelle, IL. 61068  
Phone: 815-562-2468  
www.super8.com

**Holiday Inn Express**  
1240 N. Dement Rd.  
Rochelle, IL. 61068  
Phone: 815-562-9994  
www.hierochellehotel.com

**Rochelle Diamond Lodge**  
215 N. 9th St.  
Rochelle, IL. 61068  
Phone: 815-561-7076  
www.rochellediamondlodge.com





ANTIQUES

Bills Trading Post	408 4th Ave	815-562-2627	D16
Hub City Antique Mall	506 Lincoln Ave	815-562-5620	D20
Ray's New & Used Merchandise	316 N. 6th St	815-562-2855	D14

ATTRACTIONS

1918 Standard Oil Filling Station	500 Lincoln Ave	815-562-7031	D20
Flagg Township Museum	518 4th Ave	815-562-3040	D15
Illinois Lincoln Highway Mural	429 Lincoln Hwy		D12
Koritz Field / Rochelle Airport	1201 W. Gurler Rd	815-562-8619	J
Rochelle Fire Department Museum	5th Ave. & Main St	815-562-2122	D7
Rochelle Railroad Park	124 N. 9th St	815-561-1231	I1
Roberts Armory		815-561-4445	J

BEAUTY & FITNESS

Anytime Fitness	330 Eagle Dr	815-561-6071	G
Beauty Villa	409 N. Main St	815-562-4919	D13
Body & Sol Tanning & Fitness	1141 Lincoln Hwy	815-561-6342	C2
Broome's Barber Shop	929 N. Main St	815-562-7868	D4
Cutting Edge	410 Lincoln Hwy	815-562-8881	D11
Dance One Fitness	640 S. 7th St	815-562-7200	J
Fashion Nails	403 Lincoln Hwy	815-562-6640	D12
Hair Express	308 Lincoln Hwy	815-562-5885	D15
Hub City Barber Shop	402 Cherry Ave	815-562-5011	D18
Mi Tierra Beauty Salon	425 Lincoln Hwy	815-562-8813	D15
Mike's Barber Shop	517 4th Ave	815-562-2621	D11
Xpressions	238 May Mart Dr	815-561-9096	C2
Sha Sha's	718 10th Ave	815-562-4150	E1

HOTELS / LODGING

Baymont Inn & Suites	567 E. Hwy 38	815-562-9530	G
Comfort Inn & Suites	1133 N. 7th St	815-562-5551	A2
Super 8	601 E. Hwy 38	815-562-2468	G
Holiday Inn Express	1240 N. Dement Rd	815-562-9994	G
Rochelle Diamond Lodge	215 N. 9th St	815-561-7076	I2

INFORMATION

Chamber of Commerce	1221 Currency Court	815-562-4189	G
City Hall	420 N. 6th St	815-562-6161	D10
Flagg Township	303 Hwy 38	815-562-7360	C1
Flagg Township Public Library	619 4th Ave	815-562-3431	D10
Rochelle Park District	735 N. 2nd St	815-562-7813	
Rochelle Railroad Park	124 N. 9th St	815-562-7031	I1
Rochelle Tourism	500 Lincoln Ave	815-562-7031	D20

RECREATION

Chelle-Crest Family Bowling	Rt. 251	815-562-8618	F
Family Video	497 W. IL Route 38	815-562-5950	A2
Hickory Grove Center	1127 N. 7th St	815-562-5668	A2
Rochelle Country Club	555 S. 7th St	815-562-7279	G
T-Byrd Lanes	1172 Lincoln Hwy	815-562-4822	B1

RESTAURANTS

Abraham's Grille & Lounge	1127 N. 7th St	815-562-5668	A2
Aldo's Pizzeria	418 Lincoln Hwy	815-562-3456	D11
Alfano's Pizzeria	1115 Turkington Terr	815-562-3312	C3
Butterfly Restaurant	1165 Lincoln Hwy	815-562-5530	B2
China Wok	233 May Mart Dr	815-562-8879	C2
Coffee Cup, The	408 4th Ave	815-562-2627	D16
Country School Restaurant	Route 251 N	815-562-6039	A1
El Sol Mexican Restaurant	507 4th Ave	815-562-1851	D11
Iron Skillet	139 & Hwy 38	815-562-5840	G
Molly's	411 Cherry Ave	815-562-6568	D16
Naples Delicatessen	703 Jones Rd	815-562-8545	A1
New China Buffet	444 W. IL Route 38	815-562-8012	C2
New York Bagel & Coffee Exch	340 May Mart Dr	815-562-2435	C2
Rochelle Country Club	555 S. 7th St	815-562-7279	G
Sully's Hot Off The Grill	1001 N. 7th St	815-561-6011	E2
Sunrise Family Restaurant	1181 North 7th St	815-562-4877	A2
Tecalitlan Restaurant	1071 N. Caron Rd	815-561-7576	G
Tom & Jerry's of Rochelle	134 May Mart Dr	815-562-4181	C2
Villa Pizza	139 & Hwy 38	815-561-9595	G
Vince's Pizza & Family Restaurant	1071 N. 7th St	815-562-7300	B1

SPECIALTY SERVICES

Caron Road Laundromat	955 N. Caron Rd	815-562-7627	G
Custom Cowhide	404 Cherry Ave	815-561-0163	D18
Family Laundry	1063 Caron Ridge	815-561-0088	G
Greencare Cleaners	1221 Turkington Terr	815-562-2242	C3
Hub City Senior Center	401 Cherry Ave	815-562-5050	D16
Rochelle Community Hospital	900 N. 2nd St	815-562-2181	H
Rochelle Laundry	301 1st Avenue	630-729-9604	D19
Rochelle News-Leader	400 Lincoln Hwy	815-562-4171	G
Rochelle Veterinary Hospital	1381 N. 7th St	815-562-5207	F
WRHL Radio	400 May Mart Dr	815-562-7001	C2

SPECIALTY SHOPS

Ashby Photography	401 4th Ave	815-561-5776	D11
Cat & The Fiddle	501 6th Ave	815-562-4591	D2
Colonial Flowers & Gifts	408 Lincoln Hwy	815-562-8101	D11
Conover Books	405 N. Main St.	815-562-8987	D13
Cypress House	718 10th Ave	815-562-4159	E1
Diamond G Ranch & Western Str	4564 S. Knoll Rd	815-562-4050	F
Envy Wear	120 May Mart Dr	815-561-9327	C2
Granny's Berries	3405 S. White Rock Rd	815-562-4462	F
Hope Chest, The	411 Lincoln Hwy	815-562-8825	D12
In The Beginning Naturals	405 Lincoln Hwy	815-561-6466	D12
Joyeria Ruby Jewelry	406 Lincoln Hwy	815-561-9093	D12
Lifeworks Imaging	403 1/2 Lincoln Hwy	815-561-7131	D12
Krafty Korner	1383 N. 7th St	815-562-7014	F
Presbyterian Thrift Shop	210 N. Washington St	815-562-5252	D20
Priscilla's Parlor	425 Lincoln Hwy	815-561-1909	D12
Quinn's Jewelry Store	426 Lincoln Hwy	815-562-2426	D11
Secret Garden	501 N. 6th St	815-562-2288	D6
Stone's Gold Crown Hallmark	400 Lincoln Hwy	815-562-2732	D11