



Gateway to the Loess Hills



"Where the four seasons meet!"



## THE RING HOUSE

The first frame house in the Maple valley was constructed by William L. Ring in 1865, the year that saw the end of the Civil War. Built of nearly all walnut lumber, the house was originally located 2 3/4 miles north of Mapleton. In 1929,

the house was moved to Mapleton and became property of the Women's Civic Club. They retained ownership until 1997, when the property was deeded to the City of Mapleton. A group of volunteers have restored the home and the Ring House formally opened to the public in 2003.

William L. Ring came to northeast Monona County in 1856 and probably lived in a tent or dug out home until he built the frame house. Mr. Ring held several county elected offices in addition to farming and doing construction work and furniture building. The small three-room house offers visitors an opportunity to learn more about the Ring family and early life in Monona County. The house is open on special occasions or by contacting a member of the Ring House Committee.

## Museum of American History

The Museum of American History in Mapleton is located on the corner of 7th Street and Ring Street near the City Park. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the museum building was the former Trinity Memorial Episcopal Church. Completed in 1896, the building is an outstanding example of Gothic Revival and Romanesque architecture. There are magnificent stained glass windows throughout the building. Now privately owned and operated, the museum highlights important periods in American History with an emphasis on our nation's political history. Political memorabilia dating back to the 1800's is displayed in the museum. Local history is incorporated into displays of our nation's history. The museum officially opened September 21, 1996 - almost 100 years to the day following its dedication. To arrange a tour of the museum, contact Keith Robinson. Visitors are always welcome.



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## The community of Mapleton has an outstanding school system.

The Maple Valley Community School system includes students from Mapleton, Danbury, Castana, Rodney and Ticonic. Maple Valley whole grade shares with the Anthon-Oto School District. The Anthon-Oto School District serves as the middle school with all students grades 6-8 attending at the facility in Anthon. The Maple Valley School District serves as the high school with all students' grades 9-12 attending the facility in Mapleton.

The present enrollment between the Maple Valley and Anthon-Oto School District is 885 students. The high school has an enrollment of 300 students with the middle school at 250 students.

Each district houses their own K-5 Elementary facility. Maple Valley El-

ementary is located in Mapleton in a newly remodeled facility. Recent state assessment scores for proficiency in areas of Reading and math for students in the fourth grade are at or above the 90%. The Maple Valley Elementary highlights include a Pre-School Handicap program, all day kindergarten, multi-age classes along with traditional homerooms. Maple Valley Elementary also houses one of Monona Counties head start programs.

The Maple Valley-Anthon Oto High School moved into a new high school in the fall of 2004. The facility boasts of a college regulation basketball facility, community weight facility, state of the art science rooms/labs, up to date technology throughout the facility, new kitchen which serves K-5 and 9-12 students and excellent vocational facilities.

Maple Valley School has an excellent faculty with a teacher-pupil ratio on average of 12 students per one teacher. Students have the choice from a broad curriculum to prepare for a full productive life. There is a very low turnover of teachers indicating positive working conditions. A significant number of the teaching staff have received positive regional and state-wide recognition and notoriety such as the 1994 Iowa Teacher of the Year.

Maple Valley is also on line with the state's Fiber Optic Network, Mapleton being located on the first phase of the interstate route. The network is being used, to offer classes with schools across the entire State of Iowa. MVAO vocational, fine arts and athletic programs are consistently competitive at the conference, regional and state levels.







## The City of Mapleton

The population of Mapleton, Iowa as of 2000 is 1,322.

Mapleton has a Mayor-Council form of government, which consists of a Mayor and five council members. Mayor serves 2 year terms and council members are staggered four year terms.

There is a City Clerk and full-time office staff.

The water system consists of a sewage plant with a lagoon system.

Over 90% of Mapleton's streets are hard surfaced. The city crew, which also takes care of the city parks and cemetery, has ample man power and equipment to do a good job.

The municipal electric system is governed under a utility board, which consists of three members appointed for staggered six year terms. Electricity is purchased thru NIPCO (Northwest Iowa Power Cooperative).

In 2003, Mapleton joined in the telecommunications business, offering local and long distance phone service, cable television and dial-up and high speed internet to it's residents.

## Emergency Services

Mapleton provides a volunteer ambulance service and an active volunteer fire department. Both services are on call to the area 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Mapleton has a full time Police Department.

## Mapleton's Municipal Airport

Constructed in 1966, the airport facilities consist of a 2800 ft. long, 60 ft. wide, lighted concrete runway, direction 02/20 degrees. You will also find an administration building with large hanger, T-hangers and three large privately owned hangers, a rotating beacon and navigation type NDB. Overnight hangers are available if needed.



## Housing

There are a number of building lots available at Watertower Place on the southeast edge of Mapleton. This new addition was opened recently by the City and there are already a number of new homes there. Lots sell for a great deal less than lots found in neighboring cities.

At most times there are a number of homes on the market that range from comfortable to elegant.

## Fisher-Whiting Memorial Library

Your guide to books, resources and services available at the Fisher-Whiting Memorial Library.

-Wide variety of books and video/audio cassettes -Children and adult programs - Computer lab with access to high speed internet  
-Mapleton Press on microfilm -Meeting Room

Hours: Monday: 1:00-8:00; Tuesday: 1:00-5:00; Wednesday: 10:00-5:00 & 6:00-8:00; Thursday: 1:00-5:00; Friday: 1:00-5:00 & 6:00-8:00; Saturday: 10:00-4:00

Join Friends of the Fisher-Whiting Memorial Library. Call 881-1312 for more info.



## Mapleton's Medical Services

When it comes to Medical facilities Mapleton is fortunate to have two fully staffed medical clinics which also provide many specialty services to Mapleton's



residents and neighboring communities.

Mapleton also has two dental offices and a chiropractic clinic.



## Maple Heights Nursing Home

Maple Heights is one of Mapleton's largest employers and it brings a variety of valuable services to the area.

In addition to providing state of the art nursing homes services Maple Heights also provides skilled care services for those who need additional care after a hospital stay.

There are helpful living apartments on the lower level of the facility and across the street you will find Meadow Park independent living apartments which provide modern up-to-date housing for those who don't want the work of keeping a home but want to be independent. There are various levels of service available for those who desire some help with daily chores.

Maple Heights offers a "HELP" program that provides levels of housekeeping and lawn care to residents of the community who still live in their own home, making maintaining a home much easier for many.

A new service is Heights Home Health, Inc. bringing skilled care into the home allowing residents to stay in their own home as long as they wish.



## Recreational Activities

The City of Mapleton offers a wide range of recreational activities for all ages.

Our youth summer baseball and softball programs encompass the city and rural community so that all kids have an opportunity to participate.

From the middle of May until the middle of July the three ball fields at the southwest edge of the city are utilized every day for T-ball to high school age boys' and girls' games and practices.

The swimming pool on the north edge of the city offers a cool dip to beat the summer heat. Both private and public swimming lessons are available not only to Mapleton residents but those in the surrounding areas as well. The pool features a 118 foot water slide.

In the heart of the city is our public park. Here you can find activities such as tennis, basketball and volleyball. There is new modern playground equipment for the younger kids.



The Willow Vale Golf Course is located on the west edge of our city. To avid golfers of all ages, Willow Vale offers a beautiful nine hole golf course with driving range and newly remodeled club house. Tournaments and league activities are available for men and women.

If you enjoy sightseeing, Mapleton is the "Gateway" to the Loess Hills. Formed approximately 14,000 years ago, the Loess Hills includes Murray Hill (one of the highest peaks), Preparation Canyon State Park (where the early Mormons settled), DeSoto Wildlife Refuge, Whiting Woods, Turin Man Site and many more scenic areas in the hills to explore.

## Maple Valley Development, Inc.

Maple Valley Development, Inc. (MVDI) is the local development group for the Mapleton community and surrounding area. The mission statement of MVDI is as follows:

"The primary purpose of the corporation is to promote the common good and general welfare of the people of the Maple Valley community by promoting economic development opportunities in and around Mapleton, Iowa. Business retention and creation, commercial revitalization and creation of new job opportunities for people living in and around Mapleton, Iowa are the primary purposes for which the corporation is formed."

MVDI was originally organized in 1988. The group has been very active over the last several years and has been instrumental in the recruitment of new businesses in Mapleton and other community improvement projects. [www.mapleton.com](http://www.mapleton.com)

