

# Think Like Ada Hayden

- Ada Hayden viewed prairies as complete ecosystems and valuable living scientific laboratories. How can being outdoors in a natural environment be helpful when studying plants?
- Iowa used to be covered in prairie, which are large areas of level or rolling land that have not been impacted by humans with fertile soil, tall coarse grasses and few trees. Think about and describe the area you live in. How is it different from a prairie? How is it similar?
- Why do you think Hayden thought it was important to conserve or save the prairies?



## **Ada Hayden (1884-1950)**

Ada Hayden was born just north of Ames, Iowa, and graduated from Ames High School. She went on to get her undergraduate degree and Ph.D. from Iowa State College (now Iowa State University). In 1918, Hayden was the first woman to earn her doctorate from the university. She worked for Iowa State and was the curator of the university herbarium. A herbarium is like a library, but rather than store books, it holds plant specimens that have been pressed and dried. She advocated for the conservation of Iowa's prairies by surveying the entire state to locate and document native prairie areas. She added over 30,000 plant species to the herbarium, and she campaigned for a system of prairie preserves. One was even named in her honor. The ISU Herbarium and a city park in Ames were named after her, too.

# Think Like John F. Lacey

- John Lacey's childhood on the Iowa territory impacted his life. Why do you think that he wanted to help preserve wilderness areas and wildlife across the United States?
- The Bird Act of 1900 was created to help stop the killing, buying and selling of wildlife. In what ways would this protect animals?
- The Antiquities Act of 1906 was used to help establish over 200 national monuments, such as Iowa's Effigy Mounds. Discuss why this act would continue to be important for protecting landforms.



## **John F. Lacey (1841-1913)**

John Fletcher Lacey was born in West Virginia and in 1855, his family moved to Iowa. They arrived at Keokuk, located on the Mississippi River, by steamboat and then drove a team of horses across the prairie to Oskaloosa, where they settled. During his childhood on his family's homestead, Lacey began to develop an environmental awareness and concern for conservation matters. He was elected to the U.S. Congress and served eight terms. He sponsored legislation which led to the passage of acts that still protect wilderness areas, wildlife, and migratory birds today. These acts include: Forest Reserve Act of 1891; Yellowstone Protective Act of 1894 (first federal wildlife protection law); Bird Act of 1900, (protects both plants and wildlife by creating civil and criminal penalties); and Antiquities Act of 1906 (allowed creation of national landmarks).

# Think Like a Geographer

A person who studies the environment and how it impacts people.

- Describe details about this location. What do you notice that can help figure out where this place is located? What is unique?
- Why would people move to or leave this place?
- How would people travel to this location? How has traveling to this location changed over time?
- Describe details about people who live here and how they impact the location? How does the location impact the people who live there?



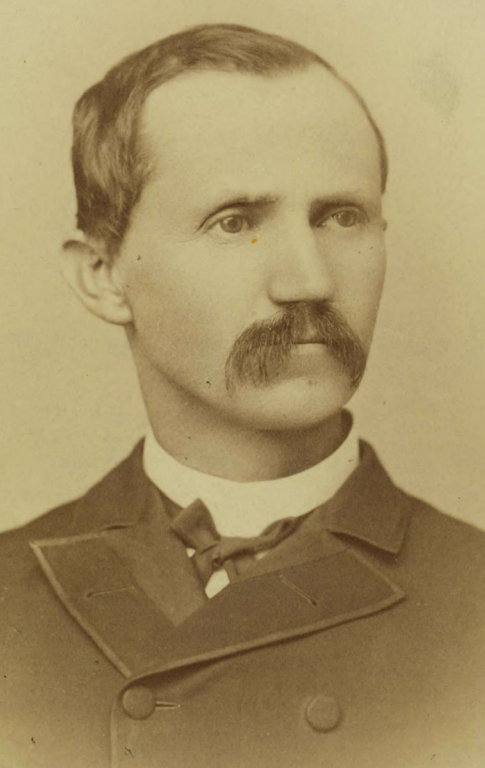
## **Ira Cook (1821-1902)**

Much like how a geographer studies the land, a land surveyor is someone who measures land areas in order to determine boundaries for settlers to purchase. Ira Cook was one of many lowans to receive a contract from the government to be a land surveyor when Iowa territory had to be measured. Cook endured tough conditions, long journeys by foot and wagon and harsh weather from 1849-1853 as he crossed the state measuring the land. He was elected mayor of Des Moines, Iowa, in 1861 and later moved to Washington, D.C., to become Deputy United States Revenue Collector in 1864.

# Think Like an Economist

A person who studies the ways people make a living.

- Describe the people in relation to the location. What jobs or occupations do you think people had? Why do you say that? How do you think they met their needs and wants?
- How do decisions made by individuals affect themselves and the economy?
- How do decisions made by businesses affect people?
- How do jobs impact people and the economy? Describe what happens when jobs are lost.



## **Voltaire Twombly (1842-1918)**

Voltaire P. Twombly was elected Treasurer of Iowa in January 1885. The treasurer officially oversees the state's revenue and finances. He served three terms in the position before stepping down in 1891. Not only was Twombly financially savvy, he also was a war hero. During the Battle of Fort Donelson during the Civil War, he picked up and carried his regiment's national colors after three other members of his regiment were killed or incapacitated by Confederate fire while attempting to secure the flag. Twombly received a Medal of Honor in 1897 for his heroic deeds during the battle.



# Think Like a Historian

A person who explains changes that happened in the past.

- What happened in the past? Why is it important to understand what has happened in the past?
- How did past decisions or actions significantly transform people's lives?
- What has changed or stayed the same over time? Who benefited from the change? Why? Who did not benefit? Why?
- Who or what made changes happen? Who supported the change? Who didn't? Why?



## **Louise Noun (1908-2002)**

Louise Frankel Rosenfield Noun spent her life preserving and sharing Iowa history. She was born in Des Moines to Meyer Rosenfield, owner of the Younker's department store, and Rose Frankel Rosenfield, a suffrage-supporting mother. Noun and Mary Louise Smith, the former chair of the Republican National Committee, worked together to found the Iowa Women's Archives at the University of Iowa Main Library. The archives include important manuscripts and papers which record women's history in Iowa. Louise Noun also authored numerous books and papers regarding feminist history in Iowa.

# Think Like a Political Scientist

A person who studies governments and how they work.

- What problems might people have faced in this society?
- What rights do people have? What rights are people missing?
- What might lead to people being treated fairly? What might lead to people being treated unfairly?
- What information can be gathered about trends at this location or time period that might change or impact the future?



## **George Gallup (1901-1984)**

A native of Jefferson, Iowa, and graduate of the University of Iowa, George Gallup invented the now famous Gallup Poll. The Gallup Poll is a method of survey sampling (asking different people the same question for their answers) to help figure out public opinion. Polls are important for elections and helpful for political scientists. The first instance of using the Gallup Poll for politics was the 1932 campaign of Gallup's mother-in-law, Ola Babcock Miller, who successfully ran for Iowa Secretary of State.

# Think Like a Journalist

A person who tells others about the story.

- What are the major headlines of this historical topic?
- What people would you want to interview? What questions would you ask?
- What details are needed to tell this particular story to people not from this area?
- Why is it important to share news about what is happening at this time period or this location?



## **George Mills (1906-2003)**

There was not a story developing within the Iowa Capitol's hallways or chambers that George Mills did not cover for *The Des Moines Register* newspaper. Mills covered events and political news at the capitol building from 1943-1971 and later served as a reporter for television station WHO-TV. From 1943 to 1954, Mills was also the Iowa correspondent for *Time*, *Life* and *Fortune* magazines, writing Iowa stories for a national audience.