

## Naming of Iowa Counties

County	Date Organized	Named in Honor of
Adair	1854	Gen. John Adair, officer of the War of 1812; Sixth Governor of Kentucky.
Adams	1853	John Adams, second President.
Allamakee	1849	Allan Makee, Indian trader.
Appanoose	1846	Great Chief of Sacs and Foxes.
Audubon	1855	John James Audubon, eminent naturalist.
Benton	1846	Thomas Hart Benton, Senator from Missouri.
Black Hawk	1843	Famous Chief of Sacs and Foxes.
Boone	1849	Capt. Nathan Boone, army officer in the territory.
Bremer	1853	Frederika Bremer, Swedish traveler and author.
Buchanan	1837	James Buchanan, Senator from Pennsylvania, afterward President of the United States.
Buena Vista	1859	After field of General Taylor's final victory in War with Mexico.
Butler	1854	General William O. Butler, Major General of Volunteers in War with Mexico.
Calhoun	1855	John Cadwell Calhoun
Carroll	1854	Charles Carroll of Carrollton, signer of the Declaration of Independence.
Cass	1853	Lewis Cass, Senator from Michigan.
Cedar	1838	Red Cedar River which runs through the county.

Cerro Gordo	1857	Famous battlefield of the War with Mexico.
Cherokee	1857	Famous southern Indian tribe.
Chickasaw	1853	Prominent Indian Nation of the South.
Clarke	1851	James Clarke, Governor of the Territory.
Clay	1858	Lt. Col. Henry Clay, Jr., of Kentucky who fell in the Battle of Buena Vista.
Clayton	1837	John Middleton Clayton, Senator from Delaware.
Clinton	1840	DeWitt Clinton, fifth Governor of New York.
Crawford	1855	Wm. H. Crawford, Secretary of the Treasury, 1817-25.
Dallas	1847	George Mifflin Dallas, Vice President of the United States.
Davis	1844	Garret Davis, Representative from Kentucky.
Decatur	1850	Stephen Decatur, distinguished Naval officer.
Delaware	1844	Because of the eminent service rendered by John Clayton, U. S. Senator from Delaware.
Des Moines	1834	After the Des Moines River.
Dickinson	1858	Daniel S. Dickinson, U. S. Senator from New York.
Dubuque	1837	Julien Dubuque, first white settler in Iowa.
Emmet	1859	Robert Emmet, Irish patriot of 1798.
Fayette	1847	Marquis de La Fayette.

Floyd	1854	Sgt. Charles Floyd, of Lewis and Clark's expedition, who died in 1804. Buried on the banks of the Missouri River and the first white man of whose death and burial in Iowa, there is a record.
Franklin	1855	Benjamin Franklin.
Fremont	1850	Lt. Col. John Charles Fremont, army officer in the War with Mexico.
Greene	1854	Gen. Nathaniel Greene, of the Revolutionary Army.
Grundy	1856	Felix Grundy of Tennessee.
Guthrie	1851	Capt. Edwin Guthrie, captain of a company of Iowa Volunteers in War with Mexico.
Hamilton	1857	Wm. W. Hamilton, President of Iowa Senate.
Hancock	1858	John Hancock, President of the Continental Congress.
Hardin	1853	Col. John J. Hardin, of Illinois, who perished in battle during War with Mexico.
Harrison	1853	William Henry Harrison, ninth President of the United States.
Henry	1839	Gen. Henry Dodge, Governor of the Territory of Wisconsin.
Howard	1855	Gen. Tighlman A. Howard, of Indiana.
Humboldt	1857	Baron Friedlich Alexander von Humboldt, German scientist and traveler.
Ida	1855	So named at the suggestion of Eliphalet Price.
Iowa	1845	River which crosses county.
Jackson	1838	Andrew Jackson, seventh President of the United States.

Jasper	1846	Sgt. William Jasper, of Revolutionary fame.
Jefferson	1839	Thomas Jefferson, third President of the United States.
Johnson	1838	Richard Mentor Johnson, Vice President of the United States.
Jones	1847	George Wallace Jones, first delegate in Congress from Territory of Wisconsin.
Keokuk	1844	Keokuk, Chief of the Sacs.
Kossuth	1851	Louis Kossuth, Hungarian patriot and leader.
Lee	1836	Of a member of the firm of Marsh, Delevan & Lee, of Albany, N. Y., and of New York Land Company, which possessed extensive interests in the half-breed tract.
Linn	1839	Lewis Field Linn, Senator from Missouri.
Louisa	1837	Louisa Massey.
Lucas	1849	Robert Lucas, first Governor of the Territory.
Lyon	1870	Brigadier General Nathaniel Lyon.
Madison	1846	James Madison, fourth President of the United States.
Mahaska	1844	Chief of the Iowa—interpreted "White Cloud."
Marion	1845	Francis Marion, of Revolutionary fame.
Marshall	1845	John Marshall, fourth Chief Justice of the United States.
Mills	1851	Major Frederick Mills, an Iowa officer in the War with Mexico.
Mitchell	1854	John Mitchell, Irish refugee of 1848.
Monona	1854	Of Indian origin.

Monroe	1845	James Monroe, fifth President of the United States.
Montgomery	1853	Gen. Richard Montgomery, who fell at the assault of Quebec, 1775.
Muscatine	1836	Island which forms a prominent feature of this and Louisa counties.
O'Brien	1860	William Smith O'Brien, a leader of the movement for Irish Independence in 1848.
Osceola	1871	Famous southern Indian chieftain.
Page	1847	Capt. John Page, 4th U. S. Infantry, mortally wounded in the battle of Palo Alto.
Palo Alto	1858	First battlefield and victory of the War with Mexico.
Plymouth	1858	Landing place of the pioneers of New England.
Pocahontas	1859	Virginia Indian Princess.
Polk	1846	James Knox Polk, President of the United States.
Pottawattamie	1847	Tribe of Indians which formerly possessed the territory.
Poweshiek	1848	Prominent Chief of the Sacs.
Ringgold	1855	Major Samuel Ringgold, mortally wounded in the battle of Palo Alto.
Sac	1856	Sac tribe of Indians.
Scott	1837	Major General Winfield Scott, who died in 1832. Negotiated the first treaty purchasing lands in Iowa from the Indians.
Shelby	1853	Gen. Isaac Shelby, first Governor of Kentucky.
Sioux	1860	Formidable nation of Indians.

Story	1846	Joseph Storey, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.
Tama	1852	It is supposed after Taomah, an Indian celebrity.
Taylor	1851	General Zachary Taylor, the commander of the army of occupation in the War with Mexico, and afterward President of the United States.
Union	1853	Union of the states.
Van Buren	1836	Martin Van Buren, Vice President of the United States and later President.
Wapello	1844	Famous Chief of the Fox tribes.
Warren	1846	General Joseph Warren, of Revolutionary note.
Washington	1839	George Washington, first President of the United States.
Wayne	1851	General Anthony Wayne, of Revolutionary fame.
Webster	1851	Daniel Webster.
Winnebago	1851	Tribe of Indians.
Winneshiek	1851	Chief of the Winnebagoes.
Woodbury	1853	Levi Woodbury, New Hampshire.
Worth	1857	Major General William J. Worth, famous in American military annals, more particularly the War with Mexico.
Wright	1851	Silas Wright, distinguished in American statesmanship and Twelfth Governor of New York and also Joseph A. Wright, at the time of the creation of the county, Governor of the State of Indiana.

Taken from *Iowa Official Register*, 1909-1910.



Copyright of Annals of Iowa is the property of State of Iowa, by & through the State Historical Society of Iowa and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.