

“Homer, Lockport Always Close.” *Lockport Free Press*. “Old Canal Days” Special, 15 June 1978.

Homer, Lockport always close

This is the latest in a series on the history of Lockport by John Lamb. Lamb, a professor of history at Lewis University, is president of the Illinois Canal Society. He is active in the Will County Historical Society and the Lockport Historical Preservation Council.

Lockport and Homer Townships have always been closely connected. The two townships were once linked together under the general na

ever, the prairie did not last long; it was soon settled and plowed under to provide the rich farm land that made the township prosper.

After 1840 a new group arrived at Yankee Settlement. These were wealthy Scottish and English families who bought out many of the early Hoosier settlers. The result was a number of very prosperous farms in the township.

There was also some manufacturing. John Lane was making his inestimable steel prairie plow until his death in 1857. A saw mill was built on Spring Creek in 1838 or 1839. Charles M. Gray manufactured such early.

3200 0.0000 TD (teel)Tj ET 1.00000 0.00000 0.00000 1.00000