



The early settlers in 1837 were George H. Palmer, who lived in a log cabin and was the first to raise corn. Other Settlers were "Deacon" Britten in 1839, William Lewis and "Squire" Everett in 1941 and "Judge" Martin in 1844, building the first saw mill. Samuel Martin built the first store and was postmaster in 1845 naming the post office "Martinville". In 1845, the village of Vienna was founded by Winslow Page Storms and in 1849, Storms wanted the name of the post office changed to Vienna. After court, costing Storms \$800, Vienna was established, named after a village in New York,

near where he had lived. In 1846, Storms built the cooper shop and blacksmith shop and the tavern with five bedrooms on the first floor and other bedrooms on the second ballroom floor and large tavern barn was built in 1847.

In 1849, the first mill and the schoolhouse was built with Orlando Stetson the first teacher. In 1851, the plank road was built from Racine to Janesville and Storms' tavern was a busy place with horses and wagons carrying produce to Milwaukee and people traveling west, carefully planning their trip so accommodations could be secured. Winslow was known for his oyster stew with supper served at midnight. The ballroom music was furnished by two fiddlers and dances lasted all night.

In 1853, Zahn bought the mill and in 1868 the spring thaw and ice washed away the

mill dam. Forty men rebuilt and Vienna's business flourished. After the Chicago fire with insurance rates soaring, the insurance was dropped in 1872 and fire then destroyed the mill. Again, the mill was rebuilt with friendship and unselfishness of friends. In 1912, with trends toward large, consolidated mills and another fire, the mill was not rebuilt. Sixty hardy early pioneers settled in Vienna with few new buildings after 1880. Today, Honey Lake is adjacent to Vienna. The Zahn's from Racine's famous department store purchased the property in about 1854 and built their country estate home. The Scheunert's purchased Vienna in 1916. The Kusik's and their eight children now own and enjoy the house. The 1849 Vienna schoolhouse and the 1929 original Spring Prairie Town Hall (pictured) are also private residences.

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