

As seen on the National Register of Historic Places

J.H. Hawes Grain Elevator Museum

*A symbol of Atlanta's agricultural
past, present, and future.*



A ATLANTA
ILLINOIS

J.H. Hawes Grain Elevator

Welcome to the J.H. Grain Elevator, In operation from 1904-1976, restored by Atlanta citizens with Deane May leading the charge. This wooden grain elevator features a period wooden scalehouse (donated by The Stanford Grain Company, used by the Cracker Jack® company), engine house (featuring a 1920 Fairbanks Morse gasoline engine donated by Eminence Grain and Coal Company), and scale mechanism (doanted by Eugene Craft).

This wonderful elevator was fully restored to its original condition and opened as an outdoor museum in 1999.

In Central Illinois, grain reigns supreme. Due to the large amounts of grain produced in the region, a revolutionary grain elevator was vital in rural communities. John H. Hawes saw this and built a new elevator in Atlanta, which would consist of a vertical bucket conveyor system powered by a gasoline engine and a system of belts and pulleys. This made it easier to empty the grain from wagons/trucks into a pit beneath the elevator floor, carry it mechanically to the top of the 60 foot high building, drop it into storage bins, and then move the grain out and into the waiting rail cars/trucks.

*Year-round outdoor, self-guided walking tour
May-August guided tours by appointment
call: 217-648-2574*

