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Danville, Illinois



Well, when I first came to Danville - like I said, I was born in '16 and I came to Danville when I was, well, we will say 15. Wealthy people owned all of those homes in the north end at that time. They had streetcars here when I first came to Danville. Right down Vermilion Street is where I can remember. That is the only place I can remember that they had streetcars. I am not sure if they had them somewhere else or not but where the Towne Centre is now, well we used to call it the Square, where the bank and Towne Centre and well, that one building on the side there used to be a bank too and the courthouse - that was called the Square. All the dime stores and everything were on the west side of the street and there were stores on the other side. We would ride the streetcar from our place right straight down Vermilion Street to the Square on our days off. Then we would maybe go to a movie in the afternoon and we used to go to the Y and, at that time, they had a cafeteria there. My sisters were all dancers and Marlatt's is the one place I can remember the name of. He would teach us how to dance - one, two, three, step and one, two, three, step - that is how I learned how to do ballroom dancing. **-Sally Sumila**

An excerpt from the **Danville Community Encyclopedia** by Anna Callahan. For more information visit www.anna-callahan.com.