



Celebration of TRANSPORTATION

Story City



Story City
I-35 southbound at mile post 119
Emphasis: Transportation
Artist: David Dahlquist
Completed: Jan. 30, 2009



Story County, Iowa, is located at the crossroads of U.S. 30 (including parts of the Lincoln Highway, our nation's first transcontinental roadway) and Interstate 35, which stretches from Laredo, Texas, on the U.S.-Mexico border to Duluth, Minn. It is also the home of the Iowa Department of Transportation, formerly known as the Iowa State Highway Commission.



Traveling Interstate 35, one does not fully realize the pioneering contributions that Iowa has made and continues to make in the design, construction and safety of our nation's roadways. Seeking constant improvements in highway development, many discoveries made in Iowa are now the standard across the country and throughout the world.



Iowa's Good Roads Movement, which was aimed at "getting Iowa out of the mud," along with the entrepreneurial spirit of its people, led to the invention and manufacturing of many different types of motor vehicles in the state.



The design of this rest area, including integration of its visual public artworks, commemorates and celebrates the contributions of everyone associated with Iowa's transportation system. Sculptural lanterns, based on the form of the original Lincoln Highway markers, line the entry plaza and illuminate the different methods of transportation. Terra cotta "echo blocks" band the building, depicting different automobiles once manufactured in Iowa. U.S. 30 and Interstate 35 intersect in a floor mural of epoxy terrazzo. Ceramic tile murals flank the foyer, surrounding visitors with images, past and present, of Iowa's transportation systems. Interior ceramic blocks share significant facts and stories of transportation in the state and across the country.

