



"GREATEST STORY NEVER TOLD"

Adair



Adair County
I-80 eastbound at milepost 81
Artist: David Dahlquist
Completed: April 2002

As a pioneer in agriculture, both here in Iowa and the national arena, Henry Wallace's vision for Iowa is depicted in many parts of this structure.

Outside, pillars constructed to look like soil core samples give visitors a glimpse of the loss of Iowa prairie and topsoil over time (from 1850 to today). The information on each pillar includes the strata of each soil type and documentation to take the traveler on a journey through time periods of differing tillage methods and their effects on topsoil levels. These pillars also serve to light the path into the rest area.

Once inside, the image on the floor changes colors from gold to black to light brown to give the impression of a freshly plowed field. Murals show visitors different aspects of Wallace's life. The nearby Wallace residence is shown on one wall and a double helix mural adorns the other. This demonstrates Wallace's instrumental role in the development of genetic engineering for seed corn.

