



Living History of Illinois and Chicago®

[Living History of Illinois and Chicago®](#) – Facebook Group.

[Living History of Illinois and Chicago Digital Library](#)

[Living History of Illinois Gazette](#) - The Free Daily Illinois Newspaper.

[Illinois History Store®](#) – Vintage Illinois and Chicago logo products.

A series of mine explosions from March 12-16, 1903 killed nine mine workers. Three men remain entombed in the mine. A second mine was sunk to the west, and mining operations resumed. More than 2,000 people lived in Cardiff at its peak. Cardiff had a church, a school, two banks, two grain elevators, a semi-pro baseball team, a bottling plant, railroad passenger service, a hotel, sixteen saloons, and other businesses. Prosperity continued for Cardiff until the high quality coal ran out and the Wabash railroad, the mine's biggest customer, refused to buy Cardiff coal. The mine closed in 1912. A total of 18 men died in mine accidents in Cardiff.

FIFTEEN LIVES LOST.
Serious Disaster Reported in an Illinois Mine.
Springfield, Ill., March 13.—Fifteen men have lost their lives in an explosion in a mine at Cardiff, Livingstone county. In a telegram received by Secretary Ryan of the United Mine Workers' union three bodies are reported as being recovered so far. There is little hope for the other twelve men who were working in the mine unless they can make their way to the surface.

FIVE KILLED
By Second Explosion in Cardiff Coal Mine
By Associated Press to The Sun
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS, MARCH 15.—FIVE MEN WERE KILLED AND A SIXTH BADLY INJURED IN AN EXPLOSION IN THE CARDIFF COAL MINE TODAY.
THE EXPLOSION IS THE SECOND WITHIN A FEW DAYS TO HAVE FATAL RESULTS.

Almost as fast as the town developed, it disappeared. Houses and other buildings were dismantled or moved whole. Today the town of Cardiff is gone, yet remains a legally incorporated village. Two large hills of waste from the mine are monuments to the people who lived, worked, and died here. Dozens of acres that had been homes, stores, yards, and streets have now gone back to farmland.



Living History of Illinois and Chicago®

[Living History of Illinois and Chicago®](#) – Facebook Group.

[Living History of Illinois and Chicago Digital Library](#)

[Living History of Illinois Gazette](#) - The Free Daily Illinois Newspaper.

[Illinois History Store®](#) – Vintage Illinois and Chicago logo products.



In Honor of Those Killed in Cardiff Mine Accidents.