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Green Rock, Illinois

In 1939, the city of Green Rock, named for the Green and Rock rivers that bordered it, was platted. It was officially incorporated in 1950 with a charter. Colona was 47 years older than Green Rock - Colona was incorporated in 1903. Green Rock was unique because it started out as a city. It had several businesses but Colona served as its mail distributor. Illinois Route 84 once divided two towns and now splits Colona in half.





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The City of Green Rock and the Village of Colona shared many things. Discussions about merging the two cities began in the late 1960s. Green Rock residents voted in favor of a merger in 1968, but Colona did not. Residents in both communities voted in favor of the merger 566 in favor to 492 against merging in 1995.

They finally united into one community and renamed it to the City of Colona in April of 1997. This was an historical moment as this was the first time in the history of Illinois that two towns merged, by popular vote, rather than one being annexed by the other.

