

Experience The Burlington Route of Southern Illinois

Interspersed with the motels, restaurants, shops, offices and attractions along the Burlington Route Boulevard will be buildings depicting the theme for each of the quadrants. These buildings could be utilized as themed shops or as specialty shops and offices for the region's goods or services.

This region is rich with a history of coal mining and, with the most desirable coal in the state, became known as the "Quality Circle". With the mining companies came the "Company Stores" where the miners were forced to shop. This quadrant will have facades depicting company stores and be known as the **Company Stores of the Quality Circle**.

Soon to follow the coal industry were the railroads. The Burlington Route Boulevard will transverse the rail bed and switchyard of the Chicago Burlington & Quincy Railroad. Most railroad lines were known by their initials or a nickname, for this line it was "CB&Q" or just "The Q". Rail service played a key role in making coal King. This quadrant will have buildings representing a dining car, caboose and depot and be known as **The Q**.

After World War II the public had a love affair with the automobile and the freedom to travel and it seemed like there were gas stations popping up on every corner. With the desire for mobility also came the Interstate Highway System. This quadrant will have replicas of the stations of the day when: attendants pumped your gas, cleaned the windshield and checked the tires. This quadrant will be known as **Gasoline Alley**.

With this upward mobility came the race to see which car company could be number one. Each year events were held for the un-veiling of the new models. Almost everyone in town would show up at their favorite dealership to hear about the new and improved changes offered and to see the new colors. This quadrant will have buildings with showrooms in the front displaying dealer advertizing and an antique car or two. This quadrant will be known as **Dealer Row**.