

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

Significant Date:

Statehood Era (1815-1860)

Registry Year: 1963 Erected Date: 1963

Marker Location

Address: Coldwater Road

City: Union City

State: MI ZipCode:

County: Branch

Township: Union

Lat: 42.06543700 / Long: -85.13156800

Web URL:

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Union City Iron Furnace

On March 17, 1847, the Union City Iron Company was incorporated with leading citizens of the town as stockholders. The company was formed to produce iron from the bog and kidney iron ore deposits in Union and neighboring townships. A furnace was built, and in May 1847, it produced what was apparently the first iron made from Michigan ores. Earlier Michigan iron furnaces used imported pig iron. The percentage of iron in southern Michigan's ores was too small, however, to make their use profitable. Thus, in a few years Union City's pioneering furnace ceased making pig iron and turned to the production of plows.

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