

Sioux City meatpacking history

1858: James Booge ► arrives in Sioux City. After buying a steamboat's water-logged load of wheat, he feeds the grain to a herd of hogs, butchers the animals and sells the meat to local butcher shops and U.S. Army outposts.



1924: ▲ In its peak year, the Sioux City Stockyards handled 3.7 million hogs – 50 percent more than Iowa's entire population at the time.

1884: The Union Stock Yards Co., a forerunner to the Sioux City Stockyards, opens. The yards and related industries attracted thousands of workers to the Sioux City, including large number of immigrants.

1998: Dakota Dunes-based Beef Products Inc. opens a plant in South Sioux City that produces lean beef from slaughter house trimmings.

▲ 2010: The John Morrell pork plant, one of the last vestiges of the stock yards, closes, eliminating 1,300 jobs.

2017: Seaboard Triumph Foods plant set to open July 31; company announces plans for second shift to begin May 2018, which will increase workforce to nearly 2,000 and total investment to \$300 million.



1858 1873 1884 1892 1924 1966 1998 2002 2010 2015 2017

1873: Booge, considered the father of Sioux City's meatpacking industry, opens the city's first large-scale meatpacking plant at Fifth and Water streets.

1892: The Cudahy packing house opens in the stockyards. Cudahy was part of the livestock district's "big three," which also included Armour, which began operations in 1901 and Swift ►, which opened in 1917.



The Swift & Co. packing plant. later known as KD Station.

1966: Iowa Beef Packers opens a beef slaughter and processing plant just across the border from Sioux City, in Dakota City, Neb. The plant, which Tyson Foods acquired in 2001 as part of a deal for IBP inc., today processes more beef than any other site in the world.

2002: The Sioux City Stockyards holds its last auction. The land is sold for various commercial and industrial developments.



Mayor Bob Scott speaks May 14 at City Hall as Seaboard Foods President and CEO Terry Holton, left, and Triumph Foods CEO Mark Campbell listen.

◀ 2015: In a joint venture, Seaboard Foods and Triumph Foods announce plans to build a \$264 million pork with at least 1,100 workers in Sioux City.