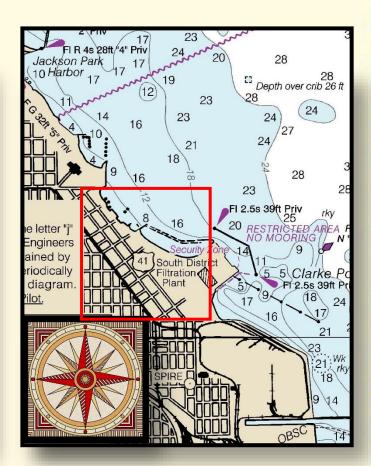
## HISTORIC SOUTH SHORE BAY AND ITS SHORELINE

71<sup>st</sup> to 79<sup>th</sup> STREETS AT SW LAKE MICHIGAN – 41.7590°N, 87.5700°W

TOWNSHIP 38 NORTH, RANGE 15 EAST, SEC. 30, 3<sup>RD</sup> MERIDIAN, NW/NE QUARTERS COUNTY OF COOK, CITY OF CHICAGO, STATE OF ILLINOIS

TAKE A DIP BACK IN TIME...





### **SOUTH SHORE BAY**

ESTABLISHED 15,000 YEARS AGO

THROUGH THE AGES,

PRISTINE, SERENE, SHELTER FROM THE STORM.

A MIGRATORY RESTING SITE

AND HOME FOR MANY.

GREATLY RESPECTED AND REVERED,

APPRECIATED BY ALL FOR MANY REASONS.

EACH A GUARDIAN OF THE BAY, ENHANCING, TENDING, ENJOYING,

RATHER THAN DESTROYING.

JUST OF THEY DO TODAY.

THE LAST NATURAL SHORELINE AND BAY IN THE CITY ~

A BEAUTIFUL ASSET, A NATURAL WONDER



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# 16,000 YEARS AGO... MAMMOTHS AND MASTODONS WERE HERE

Imagine a time, some 16,000 years ago, when the city of Chicago and much of the nearby area was covered by a lake, the ancestor of today's Lake Michigan. The northeastern shore of this lake is the retreating edge of the huge glacial ice sheet that had until recently covered the area. The western shore is a low beach ridge, running through what is now Forest Park and Oak Park, made of sand and gravel left behind when the glacier retreated. And walking near the beach is a mammoth, who is soon to die and leave its carcass along the shore. Its decayed remains will become part of the gravel in the ridge. Some two thousand years later the lake will retreat from the area, forming another shoreline just to east, before eventually reaching its current extent. By that time all mammoths, as well as their distant cousins the mastodons, will have vanished not only from Illinois, but from the Earth.

A mammoth in Forest Park, Roy Plotnick, Jan. 30, 2019

Before the last ice age, the Great Lakes area was a vibrant habitat for the elephant-like creatures, said Daniel Fischer, a professor of paleontology at the University of Michigan.

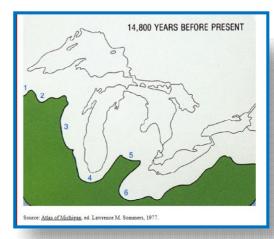
"They were here in some numbers, with thousands of specimens in the Great Lakes region, and those are just a fraction of those that are out there," Fischer said. "It was a productive environment with a lot for large herbivores to eat."

Paleontologists agree that during the Pleistocene epoch, also known as the ice age, mammoths wandered throughout the Great Lakes region, before dying off.

Great Lakes Mammoths by Max Johnson, Apr. 3, 2017



Mammoths and mastodons wandered the Great Lakes region during the Pleistocene epoch. Image: Wikimedia Commons

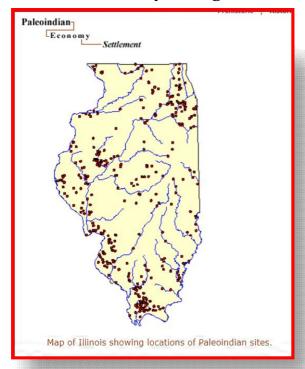






### 10,000 to 12,000 YEARS AGO... PALEOINDIANS WERE HERE

THE FIRST NORTH AMERICANS arrived at least 14,000 years ago. Referred to as the Paleoindian, or Ancient Indian, this culture left behind *distinctive* spear points and other stone tools at Illinois camp sites – several close to SW Lake Michigan. Known as hunters and gatherers, they were highly nomadic people. Starved Rock excavations uncovered the remains of a long series of prehistoric Native American occupations dating from the late Paleoindian period of more than 10,000 years ago.

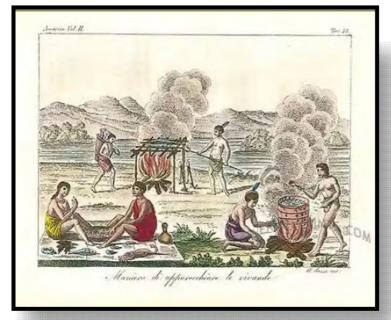




### 10,000 to 3,000 YEARS AGO... ARCHAIC INDIANS WERE HERE

THE ARCHAIC INDIAN CULTURE, derived from the Paleoindians, also were hunters and gatherers, however with the addition of Agriculture and trading. Not as nomadic, the Archaic preferred to live in larger groups. It was thought there were several hundred distinct tribes, each with their own language, religions and cultural patterns. Archaic was not meant to imply outdated, rather meaning dynamic and flexible in adopting to a new world.

In Illinois it was noted the Archaic smoked fish harvests to preserve for winter months. They hunted smaller mammals such as deer, and waterfowl, tanned hides to make leather items and wove grasses into mats and cloth.



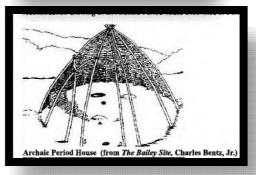




Archaic Period Hunter Using An Atlatl



Archaic hunters used a spear-throwing weapon called an atlatl. This was a grooved wooden handle from three to six feet long. A piece of bone or antler formed a hook on one end. To use the atlatl, a hunter would lay a spear on the handle with the blunt end against the hook. Gripping the handle and raising his throwing arm behind his head, he threw the spear by quickly bringing his arm forward, snapping his wrist at the end of the throw to release the spear from the handle. The atlatl had the effect of increasing the length of the hunter's arm, adding force to his throw.



The Archaic People lived in small villages of about 15 or 20 houses. They built their houses by cutting small sapling trees of about six inches in diameter, which were then placed upright in the ground in a circular pattern. The trees were bent inward until they met at the top. Covering this framework with woven mats or sheets of bark made a small dome-shaped house. The illustration below is a reconstruction drawing of an Archaic Period house excavated at a site in southern Middle Tennessee.

Middle Tennessee's Native American History, The Archaic Period, Native History Assn., 2012.

Dr. Roger Kennedy, former director of the Smithsonian's American History Museum stated: "Few realize that some of the oldest, largest and most complex structures of ancient archaeology were built of earth, clay and stone here in American, in the Ohio and Mississippi valleys. From 6,000 years ago until quite recently, North America was home to some of the most highly advanced and well organized civilizations in the world – complete with cities, roads, and commerce."

## 3,000 to 2,000 YEARS AGO... THE ADENA WERE HERE

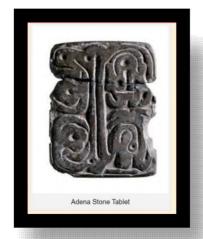
### THE EARLY WOODLAND PERIOD

#### THE ADENA CULTURE TRAVEL WEST TO ILLINOIS AND SW LAKE MICHIGAN

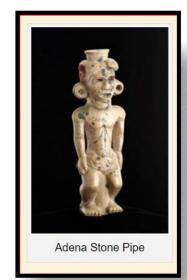
#### THE ADENAS

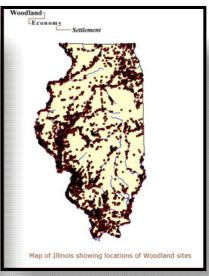
The Adena were a group of interconnected communities, known for commercial networks that covered a vast area from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico. They were known to travel widely for hunting, gathering and trading needs, obtaining copper from the Great Lakes and shells from the Gulf Coast. Earthen mounds were built in several locations, thought for ceremonial purposes only, as pottery, tools, stone carvings have been unearthed in these mounds.

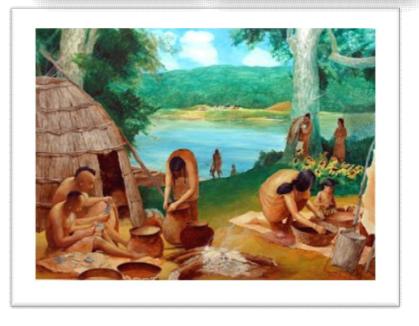
Primarily hunter-gatherers, they were known to be skilled potters and sculptors, making small effigy sculptures out of clay and stone, and bowls and household utensil from wood and stone. Renowned for their artistry, designs revolved around nature with beads, combs and ornamental objects made from animal jawbones and antlers, some from conch shells. Copper was primarily used for ornamental forms and jewelry. Typical settlements consisted of one or two circular houses 30 to 50 feet in diameter with a central fireplace and storage pits, with extended family groups of 15 to 20 people living in each. Nomadic, every few years settlements were abandoned and new settlements established elsewhere. From this culture stemmed the Hopewell Culture.











## 2,000 to 1,100 YEARS AGO... THE HOPEWELL WERE HERE

### THE MIDDLE WOODLAND PERIOD

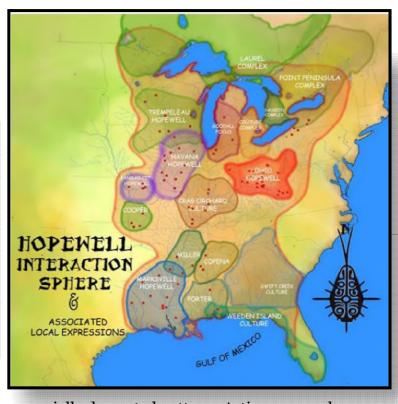
### MEANWHILE OVERSEAS... It'S EARLY CHRISTIANITY TO MEDIEVAL TIMES

The Hopewell Culture, also called the Hopewell Tradition, describes not a single society, but a widely dispersed tribal population connected by trade routes known as the Hopewell Exchange System, running from the north shores of Lake Ontario, south to Florida, through the Mississippi and Ohio Valleys and beyond. The highest trade activity along waterways, the main transportation route.

#### CHICAGO WAS A MAJOR HUB.

The Havana Hopewell occupied SW Lake Michigan, trading exotic materials to convert into products and export through local and regional exchange networks. Known as creators of some of the finest craftwork and artwork throughout the Americas, most of their work held religious significance.





Grizzly bear teeth, fresh water pearls, sea shells, sharks' teeth, copper and small quantities of silver were crafted as elegant necklaces, ear plugs, pendants, and ceremonially decorated pottery. Artisans carved pipestone, and sometimes human bones, into three dimensional animals, statues and pipes.



Carved mica hand. Hopewell Mounds



Serpent Turner Mound 4, Little on Miami Valley, OH



effigy, Hopewell Group, points, and earspool display Serpent Mound



pipe, Gorgets and points from the Adena at culture, found at Serpent Mound



Raven effigy pipe, Otter effigy pipe, Bird figure, Tremper Copper Mound City Mound City





Mounds

from a Ross County mound



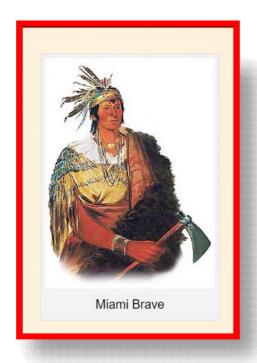
### MIAMI AND ILLINI TRIBES WERE HERE

## **1600s**

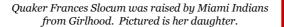


French explorers met Illinois and Miami Indians when they were living around the shores of Lake Michigan as early as 1654. The Illinois Indians were composed of a dozen affiliated tribes. The Miami utilized Chicago as a major trade route, and later a temporary stopping point in their migration. The Jesuits founded the Mission of the Guardian Angel in Chicago in 1696 believing that the Miamis had settled at Chicago permanently. Of approximately 5,000 Miami Indians, approximately one-third resided in Chicago by 1710.

Many Miami became specialist in the fur trade. Known to the among the finest of all tribes, the Miamis had a marked division of labor by sex. Women took care of the house, supplying water and wood, making clothing, tending children and preparing game that the men brought in, including hide preparation. Clothing was made from deer or bison skin, often dyed black, yellow or red. Bison hair, woven into bags and belts. Cooking and storage pots from fired clay; bowls and spoons carved from wood. The men spent their time hunting, warring, trading or discussing tribal matters.







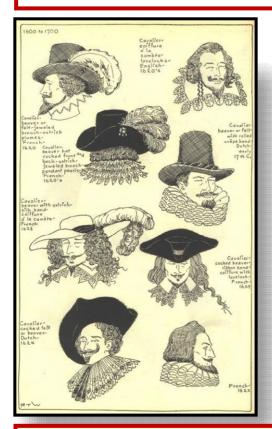


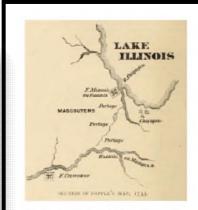


## 1688 CHEKAGOU BY VINCENT MARIA CORNELIA, 1688

### Chicago - The Fur Trading Town

Chicago is a Major Water and Land Hub for Trade, Portage and Commerce. European markets stimulated unprecedented demand for North American furs resulting in an economic, military, social and cultural partnership between the Illini, Miami, Potawatomie Tribes and the French.

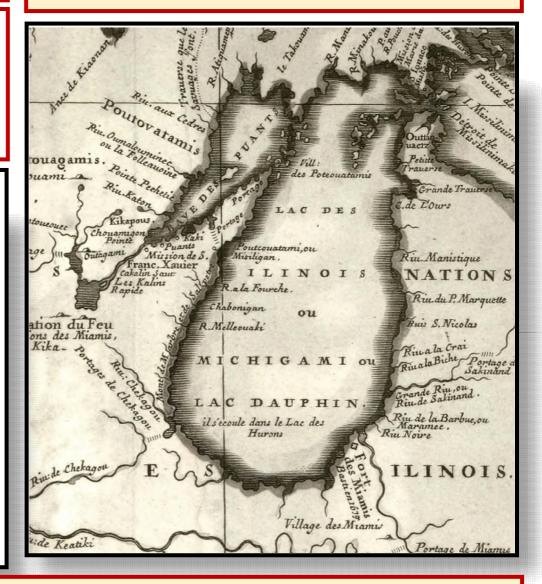




Native Americans developed a vast networks of trails and routes they used to portage, or carry boats from one water system to another. When European and American traders arrived in the late 17th century, Native Americans showed them how to take advantage of this portage. (Courtesy A.T. Andreas)

### One of the Earliest Known Maps of Chicago

by French Explorer Vincent Maria Cornelia, 1688



Beaver Fur Highly Sought for Men's Felt Hats. Mink, Fox, Otter, Deer, Raccoon and Beaver Fur Valued for Coats, Ladies' Muffs, Cuffs, Wraps, Robes, Footwear, Garment Linings, Blankets and More.

## EARLY TO MID-1700s CHICAGO

The Potawatomi people became the principal residents in the Chicago area during the 18<sup>th</sup> Century numbering in the thousands. Established trading networks, alliances and relationships allowed for peaceful and trusting trading partners.

As a way of further establishing strong trade alliances, they used intermarriage with other tribes. European traders and settlers new to Chicago quickly recognized that intermarriage with Native American peoples could gain them access to the already established successful trade groups.

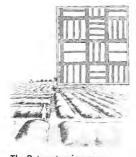


#### Native American women develop Chicago's farmland

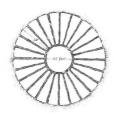
Chicago's early popularity as a destination for settlement was due in part to it's reputation as a good place to make a go as a farmer.

"One of the reasons (Americans) know it's good farmland is there are people farming this land when they come through it. There are Native American women who are very successfully farming this land and raising a surplus, and doing so with relative ease," says <u>Ann Durkin Keating</u>

(https://www.northcentralcollege.edu/profile/adkeating), a historian who studies how Chicago transitioned from a tiny, multi-ethnic trading settlement to a vast industrial city during the 1800s.



designed elaborate configurations for their fields. This illustration shows garden beds laid out in a patchwork format. (Courtesy Kathryn L. Darnell)



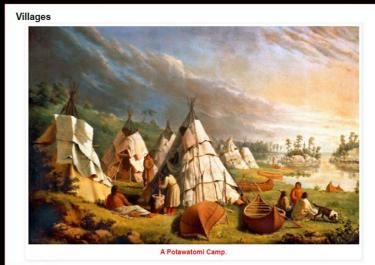
Some Potawatomi garden beds were designed in a wheel shape. Each bed was separated by wide avenues for harvesters to walk through. (Courtesy Kathryn L. Darnell)



Potawatomi Chiefs



Beddwork



#### llinois Villages:

Assiminehkon (Paw-Paw Grove), Calumet, Chicago, Little Rock, Mesheketeno, Minemaung, Mosheketeno, Nayonsay, Rock Village, Sandy Creek, Sawmehnaug, Secawgo, Shaytee (Grand Bois), Shobonier (Shabbona), Soldier's Village, and Waisuskuck.

## MID TO LATE 1700s CHICAGO AKA ESCHECAGOU OR ESCHIKAGU



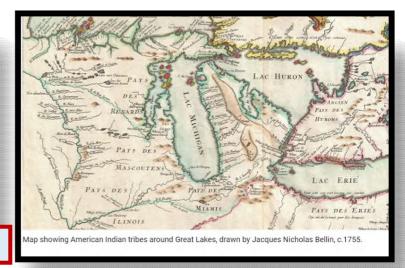
**Jean Baptiste Pointe DuSable** is known for being the first non-native person to establish a permanent post in Chicago. Perhaps more accurately, he was the first to stake a claim to land in Chicago, claiming 800 acres on the north bank of the Chicago River near Lake Michigan. Thought to be born in 1745 in Haiti to a French Sea Captain and his mother, a slave of African descent. He travelled with his father to France, received some education there and through the work performed for his father on his ships, learned French, Spanish, English and many Indian dialects. In 1765 DuSable arrived in New Orleans injured from the voyage, recuperated there, then eventually travelled his way up the Mississippi river to Peoria trading goods, where he married Kittihawa, daughter of a Potawatomi Chief, in 1778.

In 1779 he and "Catherine" settled in a place the Potawatomi called Eschecagou — liberally translated to the place of bad smells from the garlic growing there in abundance. There on 800 claimed acres on the north bank of the Chicago River, they developed a prosperous trading post and farm. His marriage brought stature, connections and here he was reputed to be a successful trader and businessman. By marriage to a Chief's daughter, his wife Kittihawa was instrumental in building strong relationships with established trade groups, perhaps also being instrumental in the Potawatomi's allowing DuSable to stake a land claim. Although artistic renderings depict a modest cabin, manuscripts documenting the sale of his property in 1800 to **John Kinzie** for \$1,2000 describe a spacious five-bedroom cabin, large stone fireplace, bake and smoke houses, a dairy, horse mill, stables, a poultry house, workshop, barn, huts for employees and fenced garden and orchard. DuSable's cabin was filled with fine furniture and paintings indicating a prosperous life.





Jean Baptiste Pointe DuSable



# MEANWHILE IN THE MID TO LATE 1700S WARS AND TREATIES

1754	French and Indian War – Native Americans ally with the French against Britain.
1756	Official Start of Seven Years' War – Native American ally with French against Britain.
1763	Seven Years' War end with Treaty of Paris. French sign all of North America east of the Mississippi to Britain.
1765- 1774	Britain imposes taxes on colonists, i.e., Stamp Act, sugar and tea tax, intimidates by policing.
1775	Revolutionary War begins.
1776	Declaration of Independence approved by Continental Congress (representatives of American Colonies stating they were no longer under British rule).
1783 1787	Revolutionary War ends with Treaty of Paris (same name, different treaty than 1763). Treaty states that Mississippi River is the western boundary of the US.
1787	Constitution of the United States composed and signed.

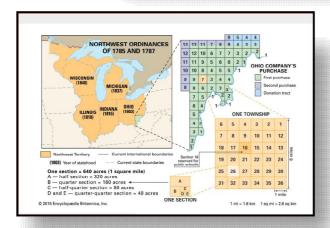
### WARS AND TREATIES CONTINUED

1787

Northwest Territory created by Congress, establishing Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin and small section of Minnesota.

Thousands of Native Americans still live on this land.





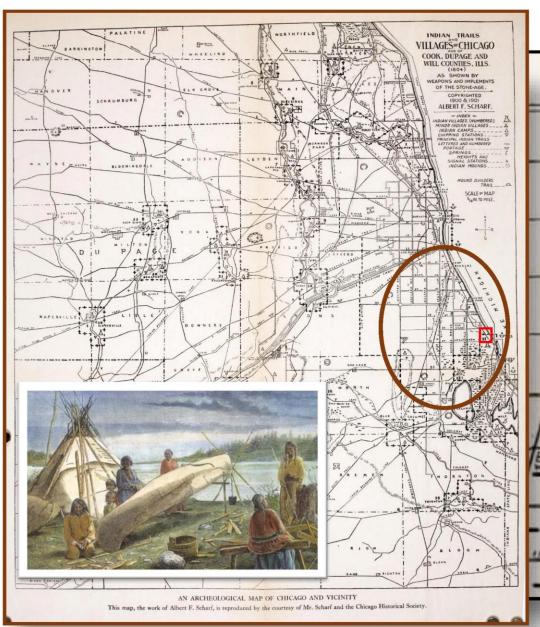
The States are platted in Townships with Meridians designated. Within each township are uniform 6 square mile Sections, Ranges, and Quarters – a system still in use today. Example shown left.

71<sup>st</sup> Street to 79<sup>th</sup> Street are in Township 38, Section 30, Range 15 East, NW & NE Quarters, 3<sup>rd</sup> Meridian. A small portion of Rainbow Beach on the far eastern side is in Section 29 of Township 38, SW Quarter.

1795

Treaty of Greenville – (first) Peace treaty between U.S. and Native Americans in U.S. Northwest Territory. In Chicago, the Native American Confederation grants treaty rights to the United States in a six-mile parcel of land at the mouth of the Chicago River.

# 1804 INDIAN TRAILS AND VILLAGES OF CHICAGO



#### **SOUTH SHORE ~ INDIAN VILLAGE #11**

75<sup>th</sup> St. to Lake and South; Indian Camp at South Shore Cultural Center



## 1800s TREATIES AND TEARS

1883

1816 Treaty of St. Louis ceded more land in the Chicago Area.

The first Treaty of Chicago ceded, among many areas, the southern coast of Lake Michigan granting specific Native Americans property rights to defined parcels.

Treaty of Chicago (second) ceded all land west of Lake Michigan and all lands that are part of Illinois. The Potawatomi, now also aligned with the United Nation of Chippewa and Ottawa, received promises of various cash payment and tracts of land west of the Mississippi River.

Native Americans assemble at Chicago to receive the last payment of their annuities. At the concluding ceremony for the treaty, just prior to forced evacuation of the Native Americans, 5,000 gather in what is now Chicago. Before leaving their ancient council ground, 800, in full dress, brandishing tomahawks, dance the last recorded war dance in the Chicago area, apparently to the extreme fright and discourse of the settlers.

A month later, Colonel Russell advertises for ox teams and covered wagons to remove the Indians.





# CHICAGO



# **1833** CHICAGO

#### A MAP OF CHICAGO ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

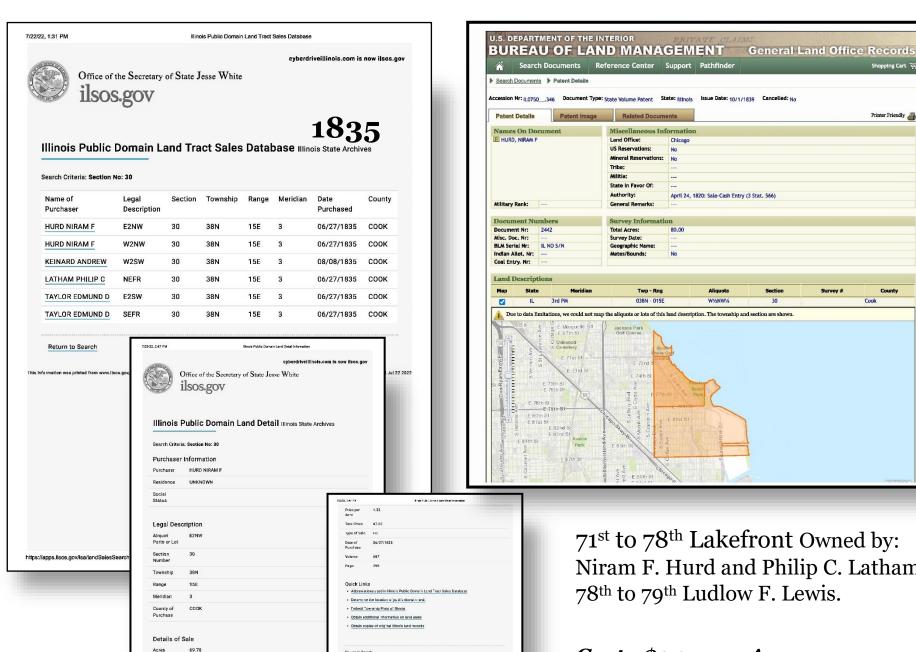
THIS MAP, REPRODUCED FROM A LITHOGRAPH OF THE ORIGINAL, DESIGNED BY WALTER H. CONLEY AND DRAWN BY O. E. STELZER, BOTH OF CHICAGO, IS HERE REPRINTED BY THEIR PERMISSION. MR. CONLEY, AFTER A TWO YEAR SEARCH OF LIBRARIES AND ARCHIVES, AIDED IN THE COMPILATION OF HISTORICAL DETAILS BY MISS CAROLINE MYLVAINE, WHO THIRTY YEARS AGO RECEIVED FROM THE LAST SURVIVING PHONEERS THEIR DATA AS TO THE CITY OF THE THIRTIES, LAID OUT THIS ACCURATE PLAN OF THE CHICAGO OF 1813. IT WILL BE SEEN THAT STREETS IN WHAT IS NOW THE LOOP BORE THEN THE SAME NAMES THEY HAVE NOW. THE SKETCHES WHICH ILLUMINATE THE MAP ARE AS AUTHENTIC AS A CAREFUL SEARCH OF HISTORICAL DATA CAN MAKE THEM

Dieture Beetie

Thicugo Sanday Tribune.

Segust 13, 1933

# 1835 U.S. GOVERNMENT SELLS LAND TO INVESTORS



71<sup>st</sup> to 78<sup>th</sup> Lakefront Owned by: Niram F. Hurd and Philip C. Latham;

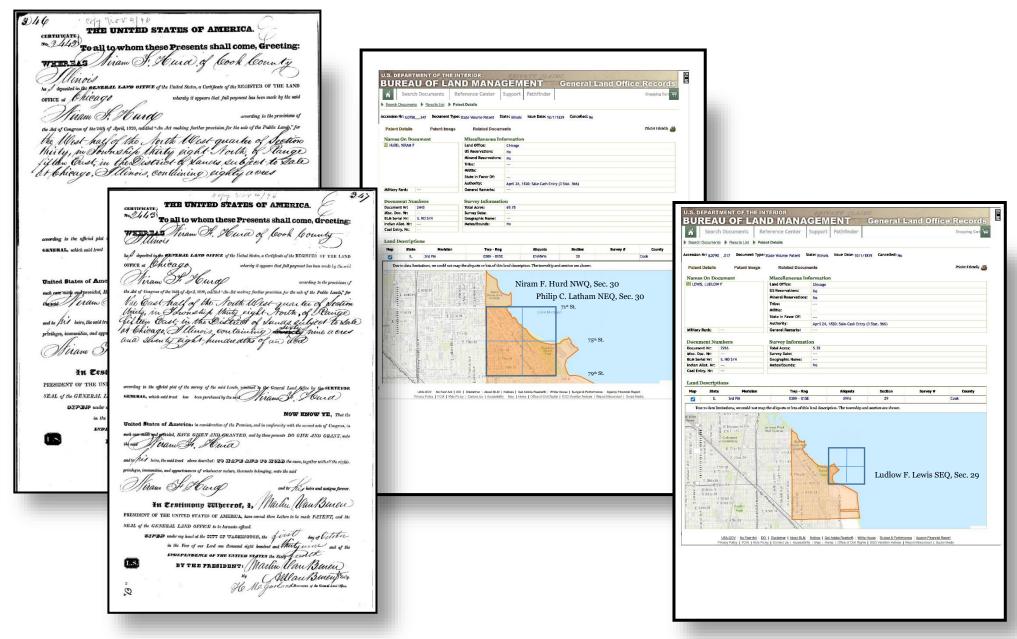
County

Cost: \$1.25 per Acre

### **DEEDS OF SALE ~ 1835**

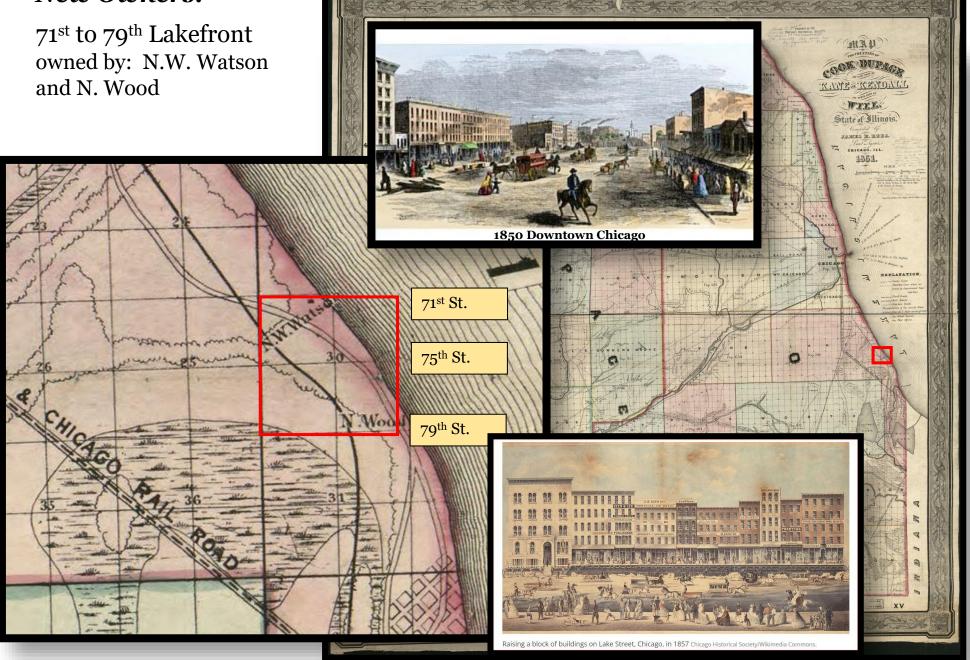
### T38N, R 15E, Sec. 30, NW & NE Qs - 71st to 79th Streets

T38, R15E, Sec. 29, SE Q - Rainbow Beach / Water Filtration Plant

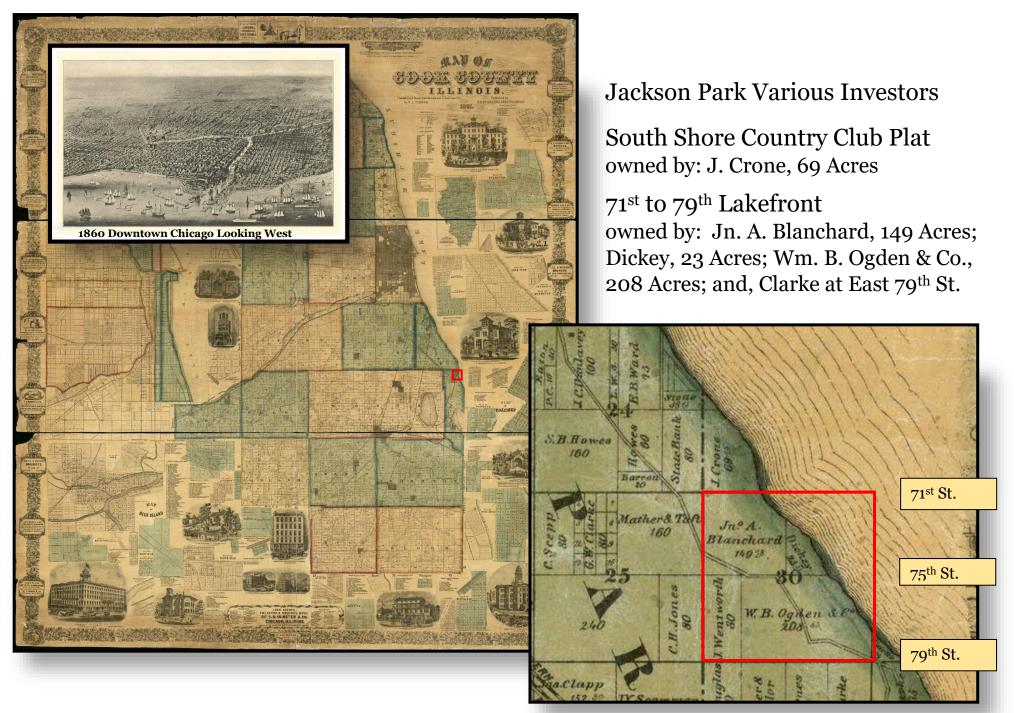


# 1851 Plat Map of Cook County, Illinois

### New Owners:

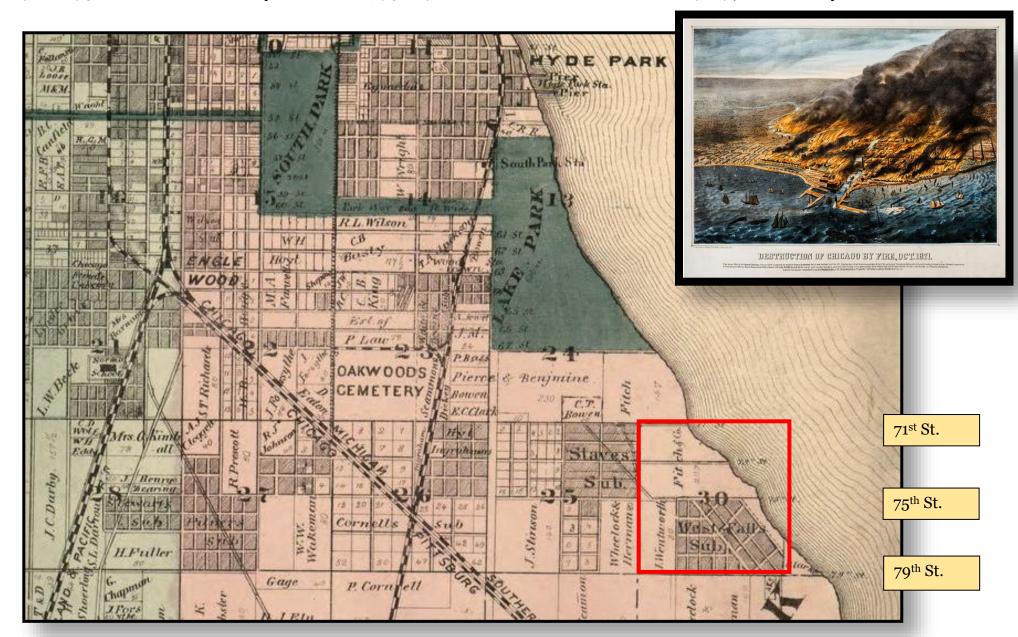


# 1861 PLAT MAP OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

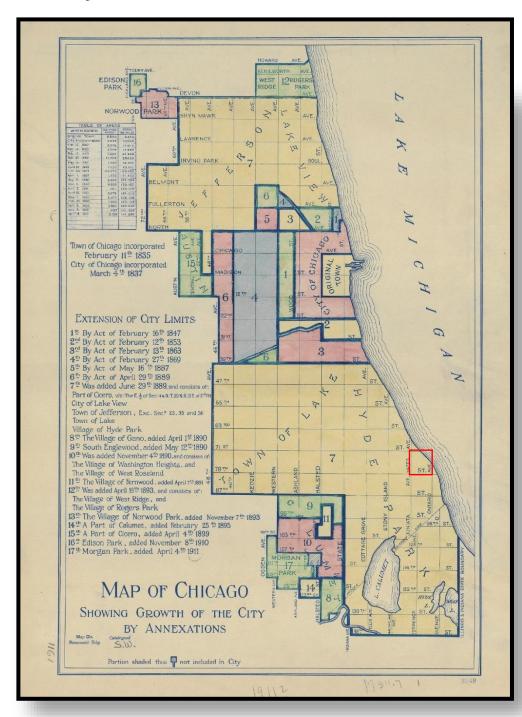


# 1870 Plat Map of Cook County, Illinois

Jackson Park called Lake Park. South Shore Country Club Plat Owned by Fitch; 71st to 75th Lakefront owned by Fitch & Co.; 75 to 78th West Falls Subdivision; and 78-79th Owned by Clarke.



## 1889 MAP OF CHICAGO EXTENSION OF CITY LIMITS



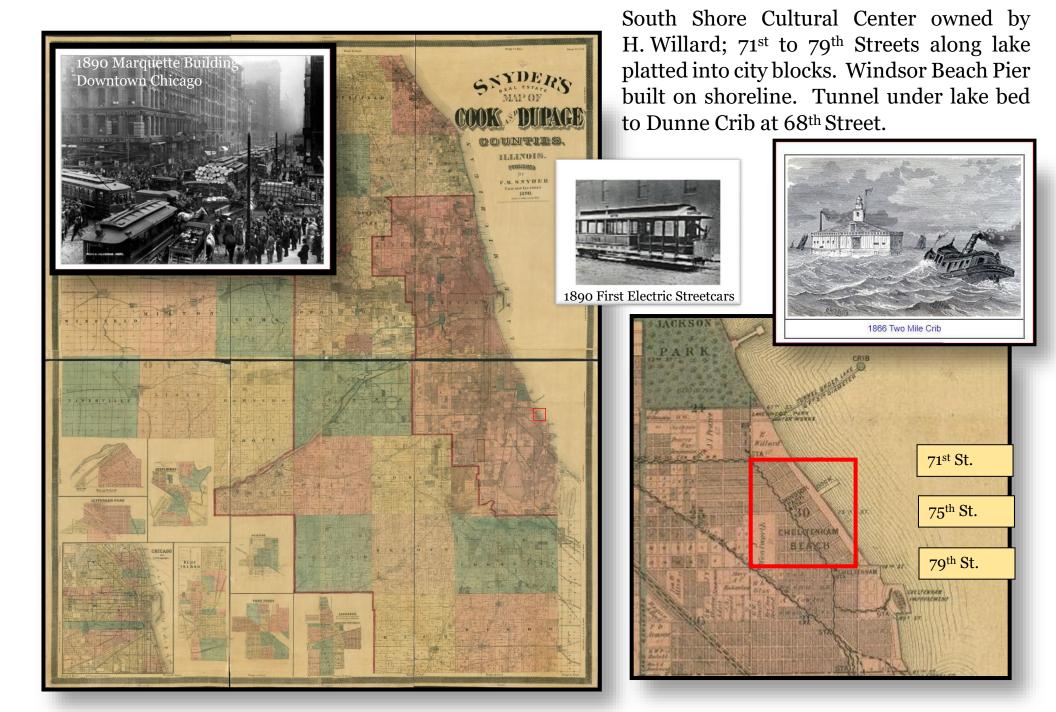
Seventh Extension of City Limits, June 29 1889, adds the Village of Hyde Park, which includes 71st to 79th Street Lakefront.



1927

Swimwear

# 1890 COOK AND DUPAGE COUNTIES MAP



# $1890\,\text{--}\,_{71^{\text{ST}}}$ to $75^{\text{TH}}$ St. Lakefront Platted

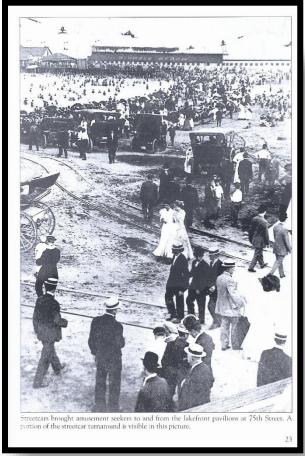


# 1890

### THE WINDSOR BATHING BEACH 75<sup>TH</sup> STREET

The Windsor Bathing Beach was established in the 1890s, also known later as **Manhattan Beach**. This beach boasted a pier and earned a reputation as one of the cleanest private beaches in the city and advertised to attract paying members. In fact, the City Council was being urged to charge people for using all beaches within the city limits as experimented with at a north-side beach.





Windsor Bathing Beach was purchased by the City of Chicago in approximately 1914 and incorporated into the current Rainbow Beach.

## 1893 WORLD'S COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION – NATURAL SHORELINE CHANGED

The World's Columbian Exposition of 1893 was constructed between 56<sup>th</sup> and 67<sup>th</sup> Streets and the Lake in Jackson Park. Between 1861 and 1870 the City purchased land from investors for park purposes, however no improvements had been made thus far. In 1892 the site was described as rolling sand dunes at the natural shoreline with the lake beyond giving a picturesque charm to the landscape. *This natural shoreline was changed forever*. Daniel Burnham was the lead architect on this project. The lakefront portions of the fair were designed by landscape designer Frederick Law Olmsted, who also created New York's Central Park.

27 million attended the fair, which showcased all the modern marvels. Meant to be a temporary installation, the buildings were made with framing, wire and stucco and painted white with early spray guns. The only exceptions – the Museum of Science and Industry, then the Fine Arts Building, designed to hold fine art. Insurers would offer no coverage for the artwork unless in a proper building. The other – the Art Institute of Chicago on Michigan Avenue, then used to hold delegate conferences.

The University of Chicago Midway was the carnival where amusements and "exotic" exhibits could "titillate" spectators. Shortly after the fair ended, a series of small fires destroyed the fair's temporary buildings. Jackson Park was begun, utilizing lagoons already dredged for the fair.

Before – Lake in Distance





Before - Site of the Fine Arts Building

After – The 1893 Fair





After - Fine Arts Building at Fair

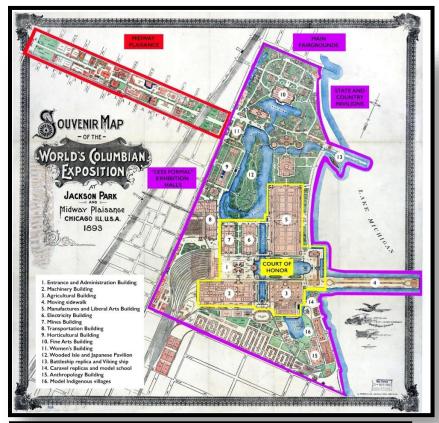
# 1893 THE NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPS AND GROWS

The site of the Fair prompted even more development in the adjacent South Shore neighborhood. Before it was called South Shore, the area next to the lake was named Windsor Park, a settlement in 'Hyde Park Township'. Windsor Park and Cheltenham Beach indicated the British heritage of the Illinois Central Railroad and steel mill workers who lived and worked in South Shore. Historical documents traditionally refer to 71st to 79th Streets as Windsor Park and Cheltenham Beach at 78th Street.

With the Fair and the neighboring University of Chicago, built in 1890, came the need for hotels, more housing, restaurants and rail lines. A great building boom happened. In addition, a substantial arts colony arose, including resident writers Carl Sandburg, Vach Lindsay, Ben Hecht, and Chicago Symphony conductors.

Chicago's prominent businessmen made Windsor Park their home, such as millionaire boilermaker Albert Mohr, at 73<sup>rd</sup> Street and Bond, now South Shore Drive.

Documents show the residents of South Shore Bay's shoreline greatly respected and appreciated the beauty of the bay, shoreline and lake, enhancing, tending and enjoying the bay and shore, rather than destroying. Just as they do today.





# 1893

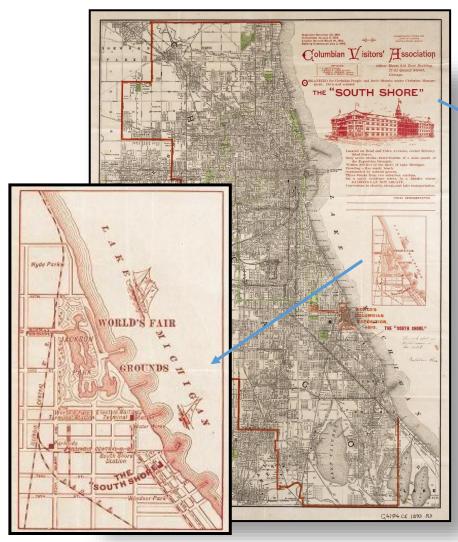
### RESIDENTIAL HOTELS ON SOUTH SHORE BAY

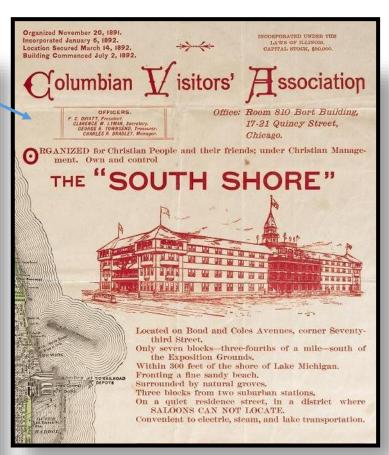
### THE "SOUTH SHORE" & SOUTH SHORE VIEW HOTELS

THE "SOUTH SHORE" HOTEL AT 73<sup>RD</sup> & BOND STREET, NOW SOUTH SHORE DRIVE, WAS FIRST.

ADVERTISED AS: "A Residential Hotel for World's Columbia Exposition 1893"

Rand McNally published a *Handy Guide to Chicago* 1892 for those visiting Chicago. It mentions there are about 750 hotels scattered over the city to accommodate visitors to the Fair. Among them, the "South Shore" Hotel with 300 feet of Lake Michigan sand beach shoreline on a quiet residential street in a district where saloons cannot locate. The South Shore View Hotel was early 1900s at 71<sup>st</sup> and Bond Streets, also with South Shore Bay access.





### South Shore View Hotel Matchbook







## 1893 THE "SOUTH SHORE" AND SOUTH SHORE VIEW HOTELS

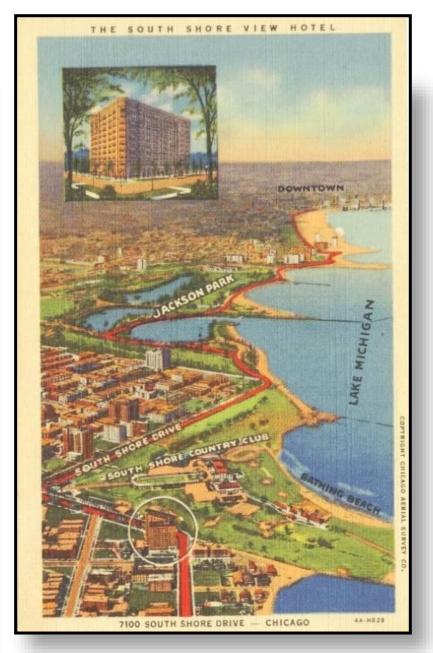
### 1893 - THE "SOUTH SHORE" HOTEL

73<sup>rd</sup> St. & Bond, now South Shore Drive, with Beachfront Advert in *Authentic World's Fair Journal*, April 1983

### Early 1900s - THE SOUTH SHORE VIEW HOTEL

71st St. & Bond, now South Shore Drive Aerial View Postcard





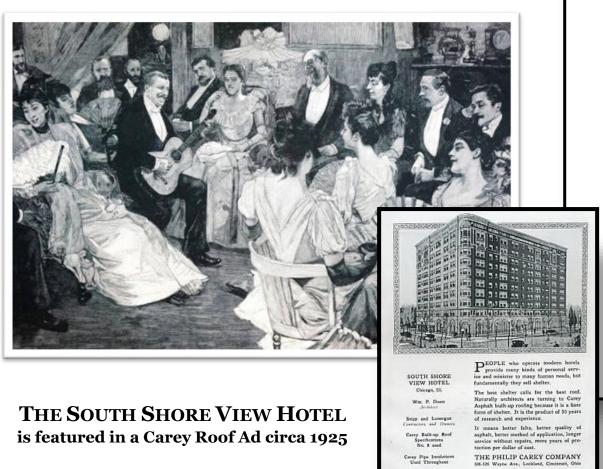
### THE "SOUTH SHORE" HOTEL IS LISTED IN A MURPHY BED AD:

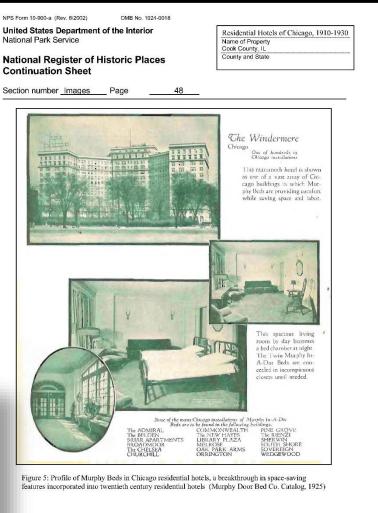
**BUILT-UP ROOFS** 

"A Roof for Exery Building

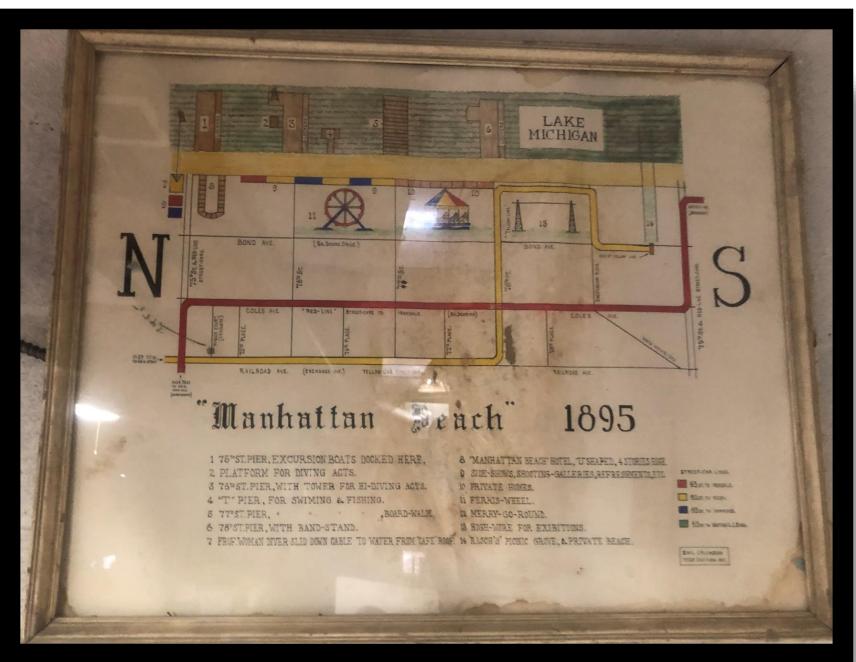
Some of many Chicago installations of Murphy In-a-Door Beds are to be found at residential hotels such as the "South Shore" Hotel.

The late 1800s to early 1900s, was a time when it was quite improper for members of the opposite sex to fraternize or socialize in room with a bed. By stowing the Murphy Bed into its wall closet, the room was instantly converted into a parlor, highly suitable for entertaining at any hour.

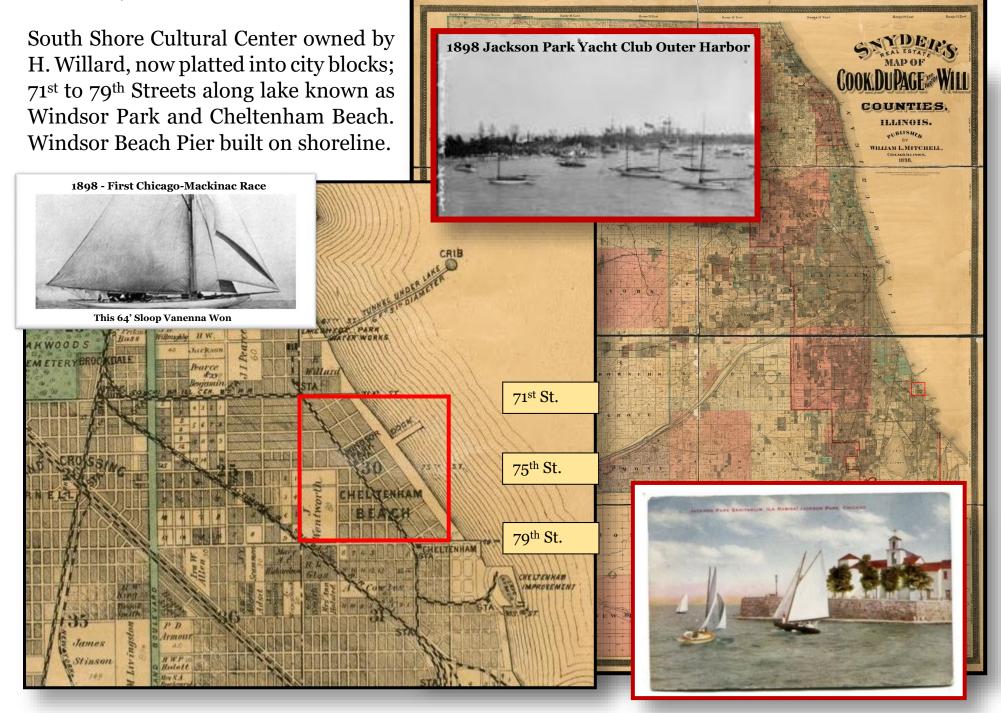




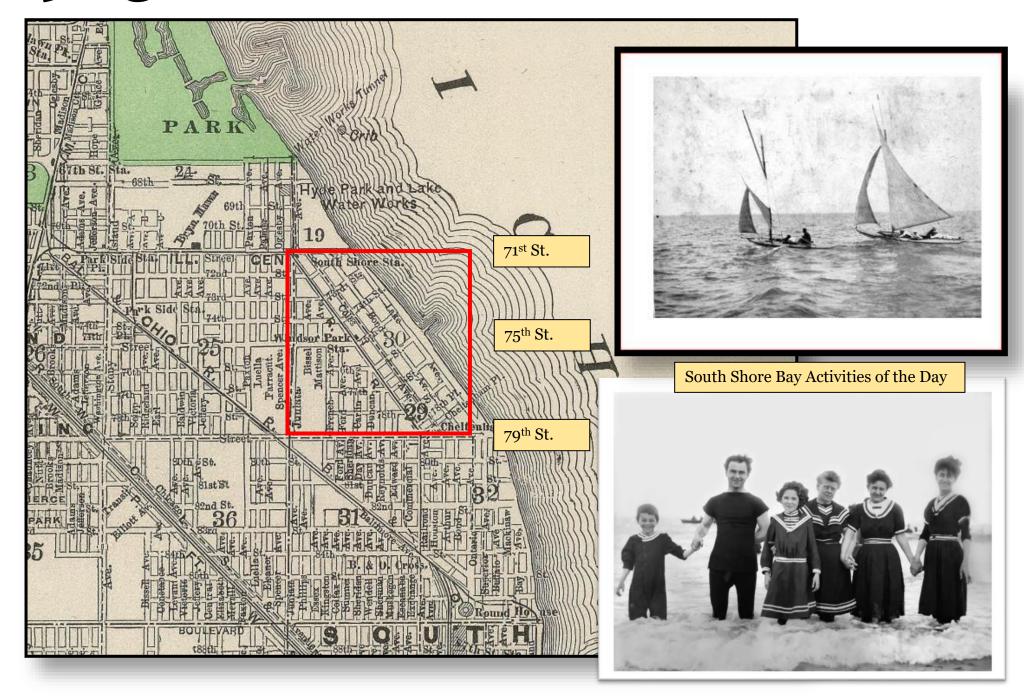
# 1895 MANHATTAN BEACH AMUSEMENT PARK 75<sup>th</sup> Street to 79<sup>th</sup> Street at the Lake



1898 COOK, DUPAGE AND WILL COUNTIES MAP

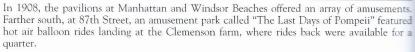


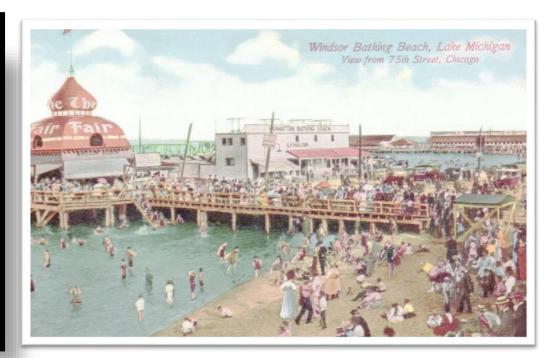
# 1903 RAND MCNALLY CHICAGO MAP – SOUTH SHORE LAKEFRONT



## Early 1900s Manhattan and Windsor Beaches - 71st to 79th Sts.



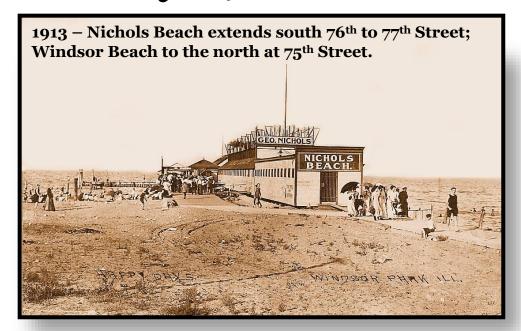


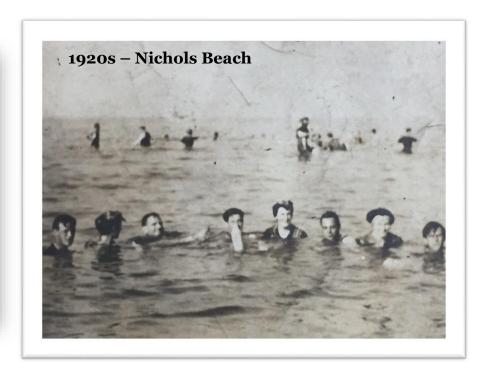






# Early 1900s Nichols Beach 76<sup>th</sup> to 77<sup>th</sup> Streets

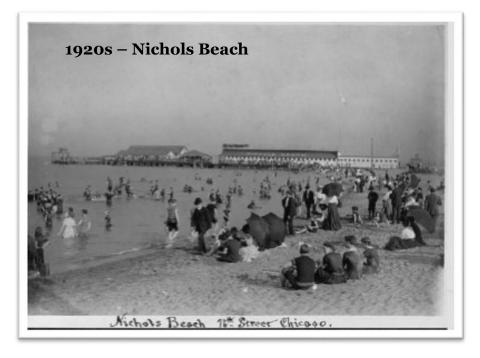






Nichols Beach, Windsor Park, 1908, Chicago.

Nichols Beach was once the private section of what is now Rainbow Beach at 77th St and the lake.



# 1909 GEORGE W. JACKSON CRIB FIRE - SOUTH SHORE BAY

## **JANUARY 20, 1909**

On the early morning of January 20, 1909, an explosion rocked the city – the temporary Crib a mile off 71<sup>st</sup> Street where workers lived to construct a new crib to be connected to the 68<sup>th</sup> Street Crib. **An estimated** 77+ **dead**, 40 rescued.

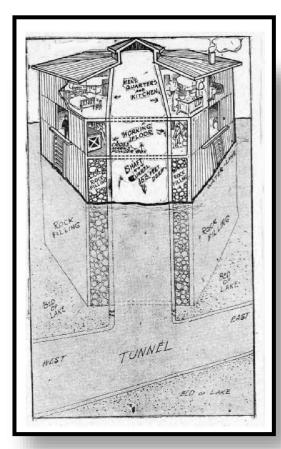
An all wood structure, it was thought large amounts of dynamite and nitroglycerin kept in this temporary crib may have been accidently ignited. From this temporary crib workers constructed tunnels under the lake bed both toward the existing crib and toward the shore. A tramway – an aerial cable system known as a wonder of the engineering world - stretched to the shore 8,000 feet strung on steel structures.

At the time of the explosion, two-thirds of the workers were asleep in bunks along the inner wall on the second floor; the others at breakfast in a lower room ten feet from the steel shaft that leads 162 feet down the tunnel to bedrock. There was no firefighting equipment and only one small door to the outside.

Trapped in the temporary crib, most never had a chance. Those that were able to escape, the lake took with her icy grasp. Only a few of those taken half dead from exposure floating on ice cakes survived. Most survivors were the lucky few to reach a gravel pile – the only formation above water level. Attempts to reach the tunnels below were thwarted by the melted electrical cables that powered the lift. Overhead, the aerial cable melted in the extreme heat 100' above the workers heads. The nearest tug at 68th Street and other small boats took an hour to reach the crib due to the ice near the shore.

The crib was being constructed by the George W. Jackson Co., whose offices were located on 73<sup>rd</sup> Street and Bond – now South Shore Drive. Newspaper men who attempted to join the rescue were forced to fight the agents of the company who insisted on no reporters. By this time thousands lined the shoreline of South Shore Bay in the bitter cold anxiously awaiting any news. However, the Company was not communicating with the desperate families of those workers, instead taking both the dead in gunny sacks and survivors across the river at 92nd Street, and refusing to provide a list of either. The survivors were secretively taken by boat to Illinois Hospital at Washington and Halsted via the Wells Street Bridge and released as seen fit. It was at that time that survivor's family received word. The list of deceased released much later.

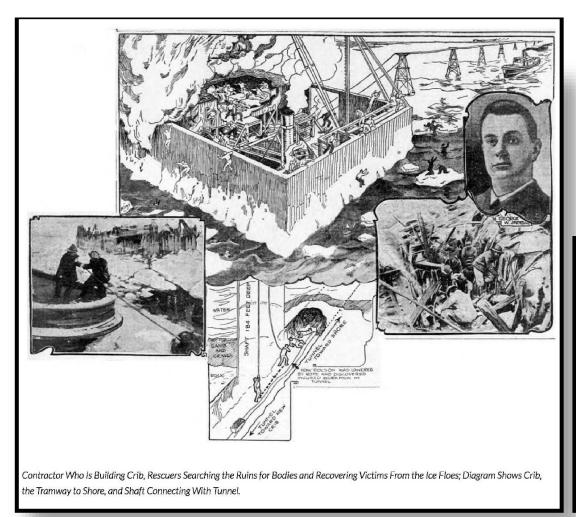


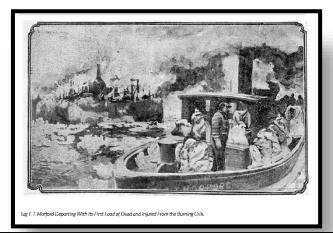


## 1909 GEORGE W. JACKSON CRIB FIRE - SOUTH SHORE BAY

This tragic event was strangely missing from Chicago history, mostly likely to do with the workers and the project. As a major municipal project with a clout heavy contractor, City authorities were not keen on uncovering the dangerous conditions in which the men labored and lived. Mostly Irish immigrants, they were employed by the Jackson Co. to build a brick lined tunnel from the lake to the city for the rapidly growing South Side. Some were experienced tunnel diggers, one of the most dangerous of all job, others casual laborers. More skilled men earned \$2 a week, room and board in the crib. Laborers made about a \$1 a week.

Notably, Mrs. Albert Mohr, her husband a millionaire boilermaker, in their mansion on 73<sup>rd</sup> Street and Bond, gave shelter to many of those desperately awaiting word on their loved ones. The George W. Jackson Company did not.





JACKSON (George W.) INC.—Inc. Dec 11, 1906 in N. Y. for the purpose of manufacturing, buying and selling structural steel and from and other materials and to construct, equip and improve public and private works of all kinds. Property consists of bridge and steel plant, warchouse and real estate, located at 80 Mendell St., 169 to 179 and 174-176 West Jackson Boulevard and 73rd and Bond Ave., Chicago. The value of the output for the ten months from March 1 to December 31, 1907, was \$2,362,779.

Capital Stock.—Authorized, \$2,000,000 Com. and \$1,000,000 7% cumulative Pfd.: outstanding, all of the Com. and \$3,000,000 Pfd.; par, \$100. Pfd. stock has preference as

Capital Stock.—Authorized, \$2,000,000 Com. and \$1,000,000 7% cumulative Pta. outstanding, all of the Com. and \$3,00,000 Ptd.; par, \$100. Ptd. stock has preference as to assets. Dividends on the Ptd. stock have been regularly paid; payments on the 28th of each month at company's office, Chicago. Transfer agent and registrar, J. B. Russell & Co., 46 Wall St., New York.

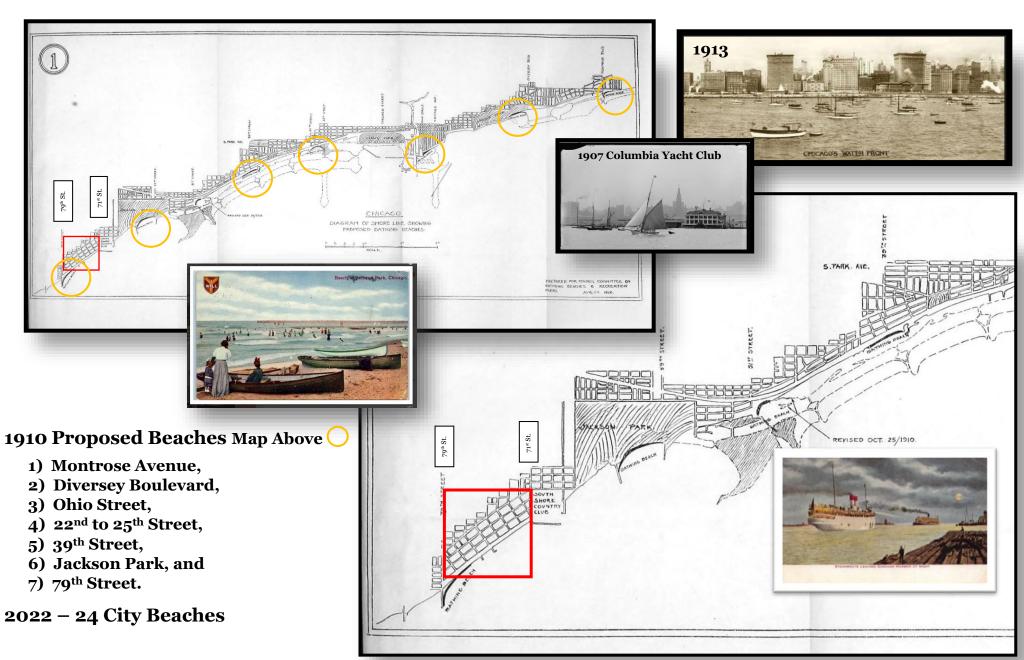
Assets— Bridge and steel plant, patent rights, good will, etc Real estate, buildings, etc Work in process. Cash on hand and in bank Accounts and bills receivable. Material in stock Deferred assets.		SHEET, MAY 31, 1908, Limbillies Common stock Preferred stock. Mortgage Notes and accounts payable. Wages accrued. Deferred limbilities. Surplus	22363 (300
Officers: Geo. W. Jackson, Pr	es.; F. A.	Total	ec.; G. A

Main office, 179 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago. Corporate office, 46 Wall St.,

Annual meeting, third Tuesday in January, at Chicago,

# 1910 CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON BATHING BEACHES AND RECREATION PIERS 1910 DIAGRAM OF SHORE LINE SHOWING PROPOSED BATHING BEACHES

SEVEN (7) BEACHES AND SEVEN (7) REVENUE GENERATING HARBORS



## LAKE PARK AVENUE BETWEEN 71<sup>ST</sup> AND 79<sup>TH</sup> STREETS

# The Storm That Took the Shore - 1917

In 1917 the stretch of shoreline between the South Shore Cultural Center and Rainbow Beach was a neat row of lakefront cottages along two private beaches – Manhattan and Nichols Beaches. In 1917 a huge storm hit the lakefront and reported by the Chicago Herald to be a "Hurricane".

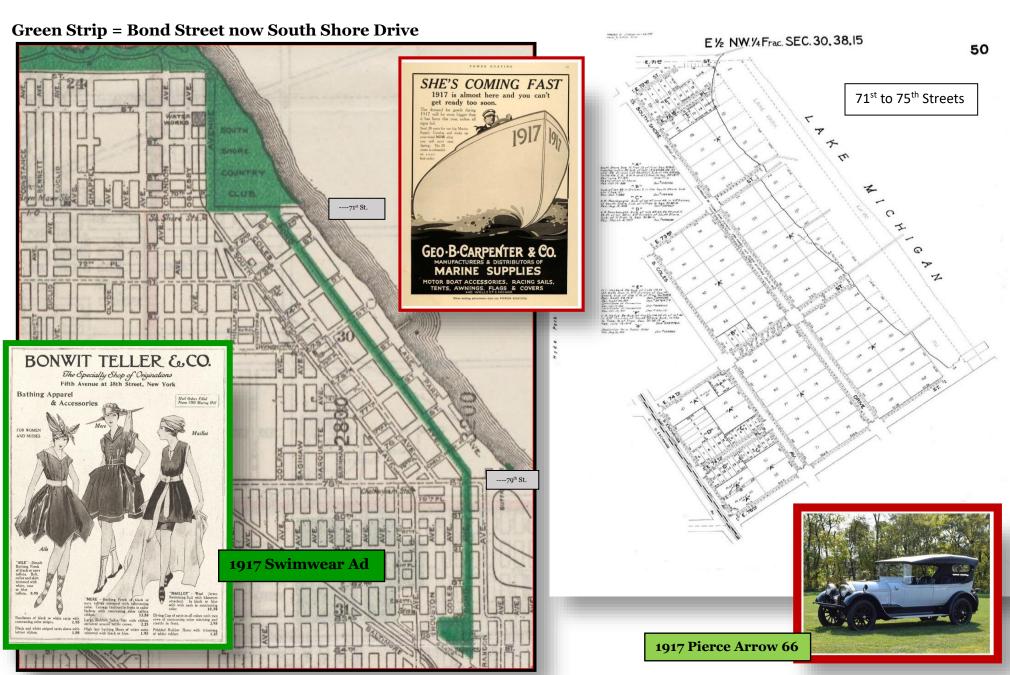
The storm "tore away the property there, about 150 feet of the shoreline," said Frank Sweeney, who lived at 7650 S. Lake Park Avenue from 1914 to 1918 when his house was condemned.

In most situations, if the lake erodes a section of the lakeshore — whatever goes underwater becomes the property of the state. The IL Legislature had in 1903 and 1931 ordered any remaining claims to the underwater property in South Shore to be given over to the Chicago Park District. However, in 1954 Dubin Architects wanted to build a high-rise condo building 140 feet into the lake, now known as Lake Terrace, 7337 S. South Shore Drive. Jacob Grossman, Dubin's attorney, was able to successfully argue that a storm is not the same at natural erosion and the owner always has a right to rebuild — even now. The Judge agreed.

Rare Properties That Were Hit with a "Chicago Hurricane" by Rare News Desk, 2017

# 1917 LAKE PARK AVENUE MAPS 71<sup>ST</sup> ST. TO 79<sup>TH</sup> ST.

"HURRICANE" STORM THAT DESTROYED LAKE PARK AVE.



# EXCERPTS FROM: These Super Rare Chicago Properties Are Underwater – Literally – South Shore Chicago, Sam Cholke, 2017

#### The best houses fronted Lake Park Avenue...

#### The right to rebuild (1962):

10/9/2017, 4:39 PM

https://www.dnainfo.com/chicago/20170926/... These Super Rare Chicago Properties Are Un...



Manhattan Beach, seen here in an undated photo before it was swallowed up by the lake in 1917 [Clerk of the Cook County Circuit Court]

#### A 'hurricane'

In 1917, the stretch of the shoreline between the South Shore Cultural Center and Rainbow Beach was a neat row of lakefront cottages along two private beaches, Manhattan and Nichols beaches. It was the home of middle-class families that had risen to high-ranking management positions in local government, utilities and other businesses, but weren't the titans of Chicago's economy that were building lavish mansions farther north in Kenwood.

The best houses fronted Lake Park Avenue, a partially completed street that at the time was a block east of South Shore Drive. The street ran from 71st to 79th streets, although it was only paved south of 74th Street. It sat with a natural bluff on its western side and Manhattan Beach on the other.

But on Nov. 1, 1917, a huge storm hit the lakefront.



Lake Terrace Condominiums were built on land that was once underwater. [Google]

Lake Terrace, at 7337 S. South Shore Drive, sits with its eastern seawall on the boundary of where Lake Park Avenue once was. To build there, Dubin's attorney had to convince a judge that he could still buy the land nearly 40 years after it had gone underwater.

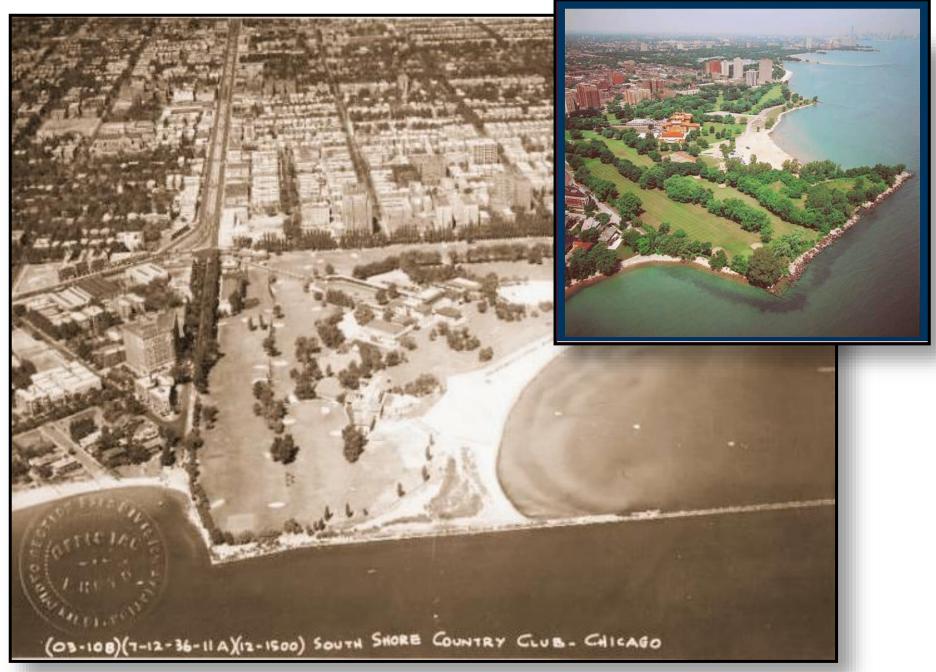
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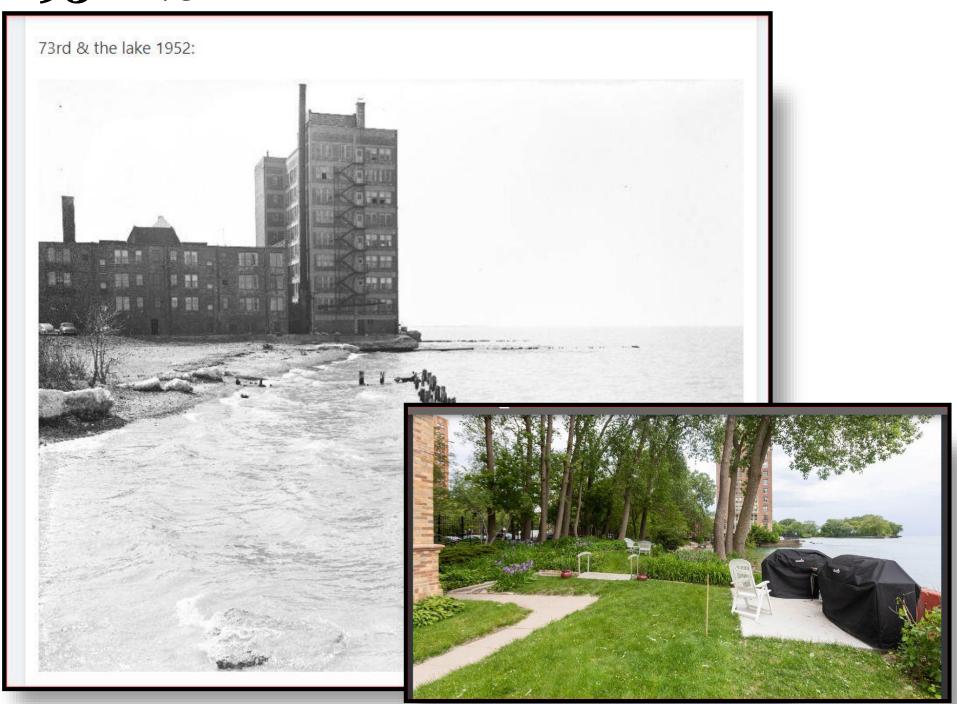
When the judge agreed, Dubin got to build his building literally into Lake Michigan, which now laps at the metal base of the property.

## 1936 LAKE PARK AVENUE UNDERWATER

Above Lower Left Seal: 73rd Left to 71st Right -



1952 73RD STREET AND THE LAKE – THEN AND NOW



# 2020 SOUTH SHORE BAY'S SUCCESSFUL SOLUTION TO SHORELINE PROTECTION

Comprised of beautiful slabs of specially milled limestone, this natural rock defense was specifically designed to soften and decrease velocity of incoming waves and reduce kick-back, while enhancing the beauty, without compromising the integrity, of South Shore Bay and its surrounding beaches.

2020 Onward



## SOUTH SHORE BAY'S MIGRATORY SHELTER



#### AT THE SOUTH END OF SOUTH SHORE BAY CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT RAINBOW BEACH

75<sup>TH</sup> TO 79<sup>TH</sup> STREETS, CHICAGO, IL 60649

Setting an environmental example and serving as a pilot project for other Great Lake beaches.

At the south end of South Shore Bay is the beautiful, Chicago Park District Rainbow Beach, totaling 142 acres of beach, park, community buildings and gardens. Accessible by public transportation, parking is also incorporated in the design. A natural area at the northeast end of the beach includes 9.18 acres of natural dune habitat.

A cooperative effort between the Park District, Illinois Institute of Technology and University of Illinois at Chicago installed a prototype Green Stormwater Filter to clean the rainwater that washes off the parking lot to the beach. This filter reduces bacteriological, algal and chemical contamination caused by stormwater runoff reducing the number of pollution sources impacting Rainbow Beach and the lake. This effort is currently serving as a pilot project for urban stormwater management for other Great Lakes Beaches.



Rainbow Beach was established in 1908 by the Special Parks Commission, a city agency that studied open areas, space needs and created parks, playgrounds and beaches in densely populated areas of Chicago. Then a small beach at 79<sup>th</sup> and Lake Michigan, known at Rocky Ledge Beach, referring to the rocky terrain and a manmade limestone ledge that served as a shoreline promenade and prevented erosion. By 1912, this heavily used beach had bathrooms and changing rooms, electric lights and remained open until 9:30 p.m. for the benefit of working men and women, stocked with 5,000 baskets for a basket check system.

#### AT THE SOUTH END OF SOUTH SHORE BAY CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT RAINBOW BEACH

75<sup>TH</sup> TO 79<sup>TH</sup> STREETS, CHICAGO, IL 60649

In 1914 the City acquired shoreline beaches formerly known as Nichols, Windsor and Manhattan Beaches, at 75<sup>th</sup>, 77<sup>th</sup> and 78<sup>th</sup> Streets to Rocky Ledge Beach. Rocky Ledge Beach became a children-only beach. In 1917 the City purchased property at the corner of 76<sup>th</sup> Street and Lake Park Avenue from the Sanitary Bathing Beach Company and converted to a free municipal beach, charging 10 cents for use of locker.

The early 1900s was a time of no air conditioning or television. The beach was a natural location to cool off and entertain oneself. Today's population has many other choices.

By 1917 attendance here was 100,000. Attendance at 51st Street Beach was 83,000. Today's attendance is most likely one tenth of that.



1913 Rainbow Beach Looking North to Windsor Beach

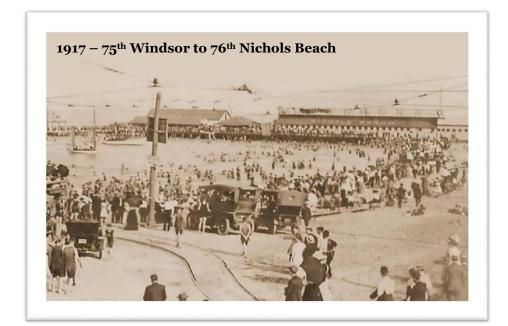


In 1999 the Chicago Park District constructed a large field house designed by David Woodhouse Architects, designed to take full advantage of Rainbow Beach's breathtaking view of South Shore Bay and Chicago skyline beyond.



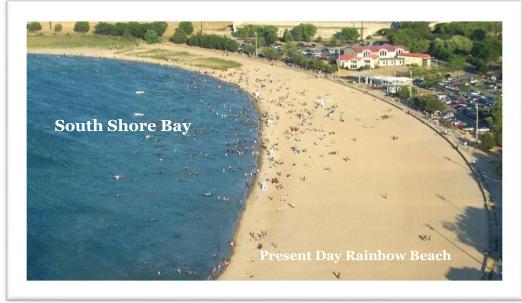
### AT THE SOUTH END OF SOUTH SHORE BAY CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT RAINBOW BEACH

 $75^{\text{TH}}$  to  $79^{\text{TH}}$  Streets, Chicago, IL 60649









## 2022 HYDE PARK & SOUTH SHORE BEACHES AND BAY

## 2 MILES OF 4 GORGEOUS PUBLIC LAKEFRONT BEACHES

South Shore is ripe with beautiful public lakefront beaches and parks. South Shore Bay is a particularly beautiful natural bay with shoreline well looked after by caring residents. Guardians of the Bay, each takes personal responsibility for what they can do to help maintain this pristine natural wonder.

A relatively new resident, Nupur, writes a review, *14 Best Chicago Beaches in 2022 (A Locals Ultimate Guide)*. **Out of Chicago's 24 beaches, she chose four beaches in the stretch of Hyde Park to South Shore**, writing glowingly of the abundant lushness, loveliness, cleanliness and allure of our Beaches from 57<sup>th</sup> Street southward to Rainbow Beach. She refers to beaches as seashores, their relaxation assured.

Nupur extolls that at **57**<sup>th</sup> **Street Beach** you'll find its not crowded and a good spot for families, identified for being mellow and low key. Snack bars, restaurants and Mexican concession stands nearby. Complimentary Wi-Fi and wheelchair accessible, beach is close to Museum of Science and Industry.

At **63**<sup>rd</sup> **Street Beach** she writes of the elegant restored seashore home with spectacular breezeways, buoys arranged for long-distance swimming, a kayak launch and bike leases.



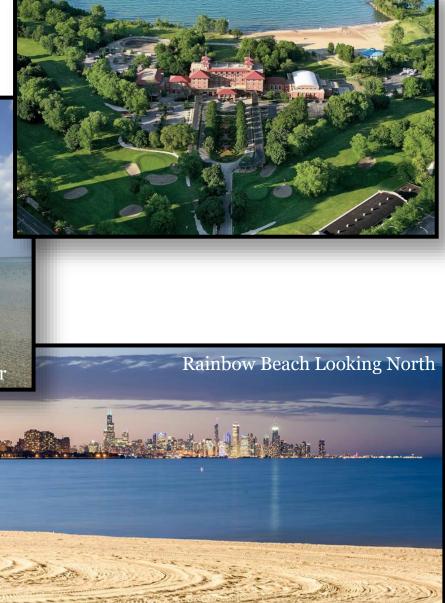


## 2022 SOUTH SHORES BEACHES AND BAY

Continuing south to the **South Shore Culture Center Beach** at 71<sup>st</sup> **Street**, Nupur lauds the nature sanctuary, sand dunes, woodlands, a small wetland and prairie landscapes. At the Cultural Center, a solarium, theater and Dr. Margaret T. Burroughs Gallery. You can make the most of the nine-hole golf course, tennis courts, and round seashore house resembling a shore membership.

71st Street Beach
South Shore Cultural Center

She writes of the **Rainbow Seashore at** 75<sup>th</sup> **to** 79<sup>th</sup> **Street** as host to Chicago's oldest public backyard. On the northwest, you'll discover the Rainbow Seashore Dunes, a beautiful natural world native to Lake Michigan. Additionally, a terrific seashore for families and youngsters, as lifeguards on duty and sometime junior day camps. It's also great for energetic individuals with multi-purpose rooms, a gymnasium, two playgrounds, handball and volleyball courts.



71st Street Beach, South Shore Cultural Center

## **CURRENT DIRECTIONS TO**

## 75<sup>TH</sup> TO 79<sup>TH</sup> STREETS RAINBOW BEACH, PARK AND FIELDHOUSE

Over 100 Years Providing Enjoyment to All



#### HISTORY OF SOUTH SHORE BAY AND ITS SHORELINE

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Pictorial *History of South Shore Bay and Its Shoreline* compiled by Karen Benninghoff, 15-year resident of South Shore Bay and Chicago resident since 1985, in the spirit of preserving and protecting this historical and beautiful migratory bay for generations to come. <a href="mailto:kabbykarina@hotmail.com">kabbykarina@hotmail.com</a>, 773-315-7518.