



Equity, Cultural Sensitivity, and Inclusion Site Name Task Force

**Report to the Forest Preserve District of Cook County
Board of Commissioners**

April 2023

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Introduction

The Forest Preserves of Cook County recognizes that names are an important part of creating a sense of belonging and that names may have powerful and positive meaning for people and provide opportunities to promote community harmony. Appendix A of this report provides an overview of the Forest Preserves’ past naming processes, which includes a resolution for the adoption of the 2018 Naming Report.

In September 2021, the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners created the Equity, Cultural Sensitivity, and Inclusion Site Name Task Force (ECSI TF) “that will support the review of Forest Preserves’ site names and will advance the Forest Preserves’ Moving Towards Racial Equity position paper adopted in July 2020 by this body” (see Appendix B).

The purpose of this report is to describe the work of the ECSI TF, including the challenges identified and recommendations for the next steps for advancing equity in the Forest Preserves’ naming policies.



Goal of the ECSI Task Force

The ECSI TF's goal was to ensure that the Forest Preserves' site names contribute to a positive experience for visitors and ensure that none of the site names are inappropriate or offensive or commemorate an event or an individual whose actions perpetuated inequalities or supported the marginalization of people based on race, color, ethnicity, national origin, ancestry, religion, ability, gender, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

The ECSI TF considered the following approaches and noted that for number one (1) through number three (3) that the Forest Preserves will also have to consider cost and potential confusion caused when changing long-established names:

1. Consideration and feasibility of changing all individual site names and change to plant, animal, or geographic names. (The ECSI TF noted one concern with this approach: It would not allow for sites to be named for women, indigenous people, people of color and others who were historically excluded from the site naming process in the preserves.).
2. Consideration and feasibility of replacing names of individuals who actively promoted ***inequity***.
3. Consideration and feasibility of replacing names of individuals who do not have a relevant connection to the Forest Preserves' mission.
4. Consideration of keeping all – or almost all - names and focus on making future naming opportunities inclusive.

The ECSI TF chose to focus on the above number two (2) and number three (3) approaches leading the group to develop a Name Scoring Template (described in greater detail below).

Outcomes

The ECSI TF began its monthly meetings in September 2021 and completed its work in February 2023. During this time, the ECSI TF accomplished the following:

1. Worked with Loyola University Chicago's Public History Program to complete a review of individuals whose names are affiliated with the Forest Preserves; there are 560 named Forest Preserve sites of which about 100 are named after individuals. Professor Ted Karamanski and Professor Patricia Mooney-Melvin led and coordinated the review, working with their Public History students to research the names. The report - Review Priority Site Names with a Racial, Equity, Cultural Sensitivity, and Inclusion Lens- was completed in July 2022 and includes reviews of 96 sites named after individuals, providing descriptions and, when possible, identifying the person's connection to the Forest Preserves. All reviews include the references that were consulted. The report will help the Forest Preserves ensure that its sites do not memorialize persons or events that are counter to the Forest Preserves' mission and values as a public land agency committed to being accessible and welcoming to all people (see Appendix C).
2. Developed a Name Scoring Template to evaluate Forest Preserve names with an equity, cultural sensitivity, and inclusion lens (see Appendix D).
3. Tested the Name Scoring Template's efficacy by reviewing 16 Forest Preserves names that were deemed a priority as signs bearing these names are in poor condition and need to be replaced (see Appendix E).
4. Determined recommendations for next steps for the Forest Preserves' naming and review process.

Name Scoring Template

The ECSI TF developed and tested the Name Scoring Template which was, perhaps not surprisingly, a complex and time-consuming exercise requiring several months of discussion and revisions. The Name Scoring Template built on previous work done by the Forest Preserves, the Conservation and Policy Council, and Board of Commissioners, including the Permanent Name Policy (see Appendix F), the Moving Towards Racial Equity Position Paper, and values established by the Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee and the ECSI TF. The ECSI TF also created instructions to accompany the Name Scoring Template (see Appendix D).

The Name Scoring Template went beyond the initial expected purview of the ECSI TF, which was to determine if any names of Forest Preserves' sites are inappropriate, offensive or commemorate inequalities or the marginalization of people. The Name Scoring Template was expanded to include consideration of the active positive contributions to the Forest Preserves of an individual whose name is on a Forest Preserves' site, (such as promoting conservation of natural spaces, and/or advancing racial and ethnic equity and inclusion).

The ECSI TF reviewed 16 names that were deemed a priority as signs bearing these names are in poor condition and need to be replaced. The ECSI TF split into four smaller working groups with each individual group member scoring the name independently and then discussing it as a group, during which time individuals could adjust their score, if needed. This exercise revealed the complexity of the undertaking, the importance of group discussion, and that work remains to be done to improve this process (see Appendix E).

The Name Scoring Template established three (3) scoring categories:

1. Disqualified/Not Qualified Names

One of the Forest Preserves' diversity and inclusion guiding principles is to: "Disrupt inequitable systems and exclusionary practices at the Forest Preserves (both internal and external) and replace them with systems and practices of inclusion." This section of the Name Scoring Template determines whether the name aligns with the Forest Preserves' Permanent Naming Policy and Racial Equity Diversity Inclusion (REDI) goals by asking, based on information available:

a. Is the name offensive, insensitive, linguistically corrupted or modified?

- i. Indicate "Qualified" if the name is not offensive, insensitive, linguistically corrupted or modified
- ii. Indicate "Not Qualified" if the name is offensive, insensitive, linguistically corrupted or modified
- iii. Indicate "Disqualified" if the name is extremely offensive, insensitive, linguistically corrupted or modified and in your opinion should be disqualified

- b. Is the individual the site is named after still alive or has the individual been deceased for less than five years?**
 - i. Indicate “Qualified” if the name of the site is named after an individual who has been deceased for more than five years
 - ii. Indicate “Not Qualified” if the named after an individual that is still alive or has been deceased for less than five years
- c. Did the individual help to advance or support racial, gender or ethnic *inequity*? Racial inequity occurs when racial, gender or ethnic identity determines how one fares in society.**
 - i. Indicate “Qualified” if the individual did not contribute to advancing or supporting racial, gender, or ethnic *inequity*
 - ii. Indicate “Not Qualified” if the individual helped to advance or supported racial, gender, or ethnic *inequity*
 - iii. Indicate “Disqualified” if individual was pivotal in creating or supporting racial, gender or ethnic *inequity*, and in your opinion should be disqualified

2. Preferred Names

Determines whether the name aligns with the Forest Preserves’ Permanent Naming Policy and its’ Preference & Top Priority Policy by asking based on information available:

a. Does the name (not the individual) relate to a historic event, geographic or geologic feature, ecological feature, or local cultural heritage or traditions?

This question is worth a total of 5 points. Please indicate your score from 0-5 in the box and please complete the “Notes” section to indicate the strengths and weaknesses of this name and how you arrived at your score.

b. Is the name the forest preserve is named after an individual of local, state, or national significance?

This question is worth a total of 5 points. Please indicate your score from 0-5 in the box and please complete the “Notes” section to indicate the strengths and weaknesses of this name and how you arrived at your score.

3. Other Eligible Names

Determines whether the name aligns with the Forest Preserves’ Permanent Naming Policy, REDI goals, and Equity, Cultural Sensitivity, and Inclusion Values by asking based on information available:

a. Did the person advance the protection, enjoyment, and health of natural areas in the region or in Cook County?

This question is worth a total of 4 points. Please indicate your score from 0-4 in the box and complete the “Notes” section to indicate the strengths and weaknesses of this name and how you arrived at your score.

b. Does the individual represent a historically excluded or marginalized racial and/or ethnic community?

The Forest Preserves defines “historically excluded communities” as populations sharing a particular characteristic, as well as geographic communities, who have been and continually are systematically denied a full opportunity to participate in aspects of economic, social, and

civil life. This question is worth a total of 2 points. Please indicate your score from 0-2 in the box and complete the “Notes” section to indicate the strengths and weaknesses of this name and how you arrived at your score.

c. Did the individual advance racial equity, diversity, and inclusion at the Forest Preserves, within the conservation field or on a local, national, or international level?

This question is worth a total of 2 points. Please indicate your score from 0-2 in the box and complete the “Notes” section to indicate the strengths and weaknesses of this name and how you arrived at your score.

d. Is the individual representative of indigenous culture/people/traditional knowledge?

No points to be awarded to individuals who promoted romanticized representations of indigenous people. Romanticizing Native Americans means promoting practices or activities that reinforce stereotypes that all Native Americans were the same or had the same cultural values. This question is worth a total of 2 points. Please indicate your score from 0-2 in the box and complete the “Notes” section to indicate the strengths and weaknesses of this name and how you arrived at your score.

Challenges

The review conducted by Loyola University Chicago's Public History Program revealed that the site names reflected both names of international or national renown, as well as names of local officials or former landowners. Many of the names do not have a direct connection to the Forest Preserves' mission; almost all the sites are named after white men with only a handful honoring women, African Americans, or indigenous people.

It is also important to note that the research was limited by the information that was found on the individual or historic event. The ECSI TF acknowledges that the information may be incomplete and in some cases, many significant details may not be available. In addition, the historical research conducted by Loyola University and the small group of ECSI TF members did not include a public review component – although all ECSI TF meetings were public and streamed live on Facebook –so there is limited understanding of the impact of individual names upon certain communities. The ECSI TF believes that because site names are symbolic, public input from a wide array of constituents and stakeholders is an important part of the naming and renaming process and has incorporated this into its recommendations.

Lastly, the Name Scoring Template needs more work before it can be utilized with confidence. The ECSI TF determined that it did not have the experience needed to finalize the scoring and assess its implications. More work is needed to determine whether this template should be used to score all existing site names, or if the template should be used only for future name requests.

Recommendations

The ECSI TF advises the Forest Preserves to:

1. Review the Name Scoring Template developed by the ECSI Task Force and refine the scoring and criteria as needed.
2. Reconsider separating or having different metrics used for the scoring of the name of an individual versus the name of an object, place, or historical event. The process revealed that not all names used in the Forest Preserves can utilize one Name Scoring Template.
3. Determine whether a “threshold” score should be established to consider the removal of site names which honor an individual who is NOT disqualified based on being offensive or insensitive, but who receives a low score in terms of positive contributions. There may be one “threshold” score for existing names, and another “threshold” score for future names.
4. Complete an evaluation of all sites named for individuals using the final rubric.
5. Determine if the Forest Preserves’ Permanent Naming Policy should be amended to: (a) require that the Name Scoring Template be used when considering future naming and renaming requests, and/or (b) provide more flexibility in naming future preserves or renaming existing preserves. (Under the current policy new preserves are encouraged to bear the names of plants, animals, or natural features. Recognizing that naming of most preserves has historically favored white men, the opportunity should exist for new acquisitions by the Forest Preserves to be named after women and people of color that relate to the Forest Preserves’ mission.)
6. Lead a community input process that allows the public to engage in and inform the practices (policies) for naming and renaming preserves. Task the Forest Preserves’ Naming Committee and/or an advisory group that includes stakeholders from a variety of communities with continuing this work and the review of all site names and consider utilizing the services of a consultant to assist with this process.
7. Engage a consultant who has expertise in place name reviews and processes, as well as in community engagement, to work with the Forest Preserves on accomplishing these recommendations.

Acknowledgements

This report reflects the work completed by the ECSI TF members:

Commissioner Alma Anaya*

Raquel García-Álvarez

Tonyisha Harris/ Kimberly Fair

Ted Karamanski

Adam Kessel

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Anthony Tindall

Michelle Uting

Debra Walker Johnson

Brad White

Chair of FPCC Board Real Estate Committee

Member of FPCC REDI Committee

Representative from Illinois Environmental Council

Director, Loyola University Chicago's Public History Program

Member of FPCC Naming Committees

Representative of Friends of the Forest Preserves

Professor, Loyola University Chicago's Public History Program

Vice-chair of FPCC Real Estate Committee

Member of FPCC Conservation and Policy Council

Co-Chair of the FPCC Naming Committee

Technical Adviser to FPCC Naming Committee

Co-Chair of the FPCC Naming Committee

Representative of Forest Preserve Foundation

Representative with expertise in history and urban planning

**Co-Chairs of the ECSI Task Force*

Appendix A

Overview of Forest Preserves and Past Naming Process and Resolution 17-0178 (9/11/2018) - Adoption of Naming Report Naming Committee Report and Recommendations

Overview of Forest Preserves and past naming processes

Background

The Forest Preserves is one of the nation's oldest and largest conservation districts. It has been protecting and managing land since 1914 and has grown from its first acquisition of Deer Grove in Palatine to include nearly 70,000 acres of diverse habitat throughout the length and breadth of Cook County. Names play an important role in creating a sense of place and belonging and can have powerful associations and meanings for people and can contribute to community harmony. Names also play a practical role and help people find their way to the forest preserves and the amenities they provide.

Naming Process Timeline

1923	Committee on Nomenclature is formed
1923	Forty -two (42) Forest Preserve sites are named
1923-2015	Forest Preserve staff and Board of Commissioners assign names to the preserves; most of these names are formally adopted by the Board of Commissioners
2015	Naming Committee established
2018	Permanent Naming Policy adopted by Board of Commissioners on 1/31/2018
2018	Naming Committee Report & Recommendations approved by Board of Commissioners on 9/14/2018
2019	Permanent Naming Policy adopted by Board of Commissioners on 9/24/2019
2021	Equity, Cultural Sensitivity and Inclusion Task Force established by Board of Commissioners on 7/27/ 2021

Permanent Naming Policy

To ensure that the Forest Preserves' naming process is transparent and inclusive, the Forest Preserves adopted a Permanent **Naming Policy**. This policy's purpose is to:

1. Establish the Forest Preserves' Naming Committee;
2. Provide guidance and direction in the naming and renaming of Forest Preserves' property, facilities, natural areas, and other public places; and
3. Ensure an inclusive, consultative, and transparent naming and renaming process that enjoys public support and which will stand the test of time.

This Policy specifically provides guidance on commemorative naming of individuals and states that the Forest Preserves' preference and top priority to naming/renaming of Forest Preserves' property is based on natural, cultural, ecological, or historical significance.

The Forest Preserves' names are ultimately approved upon by the Forest Preserves Board of Commissioners. The Forest Preserves' Naming Committee reviews requests to change or adopt names and forwards its recommendations to the General Superintendent, who then advances the request, if appropriate, to the Board of Commissioners.

The Permanent Naming Policy may be revised and updated to incorporate future recommendations to ensure that it continues to be a thoughtful and inclusive policy.



Legislation Text

File #: 17-0178, Version: 1

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION TO OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZE AND ADOPT NAMES OF FOREST PRESERVE LANDS AND AMENITIES

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Preserves”) recognizes the need to protect the natural and cultural history reflected in the names of the groves, trails, nature preserves, natural areas, facilities, and other public places (the “Venues”) owned or controlled by the Preserves. The Preserves seeks to ensure that these names are accurately represented so the residents of Cook County can easily find the Venues and the amenities they offer; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, an internal Naming Committee was charged with discerning the correct and official names of all Venues and reviewing requests for the purpose of determining which naming requests to recommend to the Board of Commissioners of the Preserves (the “Board”) for approval; and

WHEREAS, the internal Naming Committee undertook an exhaustive review of the Venues to determine which names had been formally adopted by the Board, were in common use, or had been abandoned; and

WHEREAS, the internal Naming Committee compiled a comprehensive list of the various names associated with the Venues; and

WHEREAS, based upon the findings of the internal Naming Committee, it is recommended that the Board reaffirm those names previously adopted by the Board for approximately 145 Venues as reflected in Category 1 of the list of Venues provided as backup documentation to the Board in support of this resolution (the “Venue List”); and

WHEREAS, it is also recommended that the Board officially adopt those names not previously adopted, but that enjoy broad recognition among the general public, the Preserves, and other agencies that are separately identified in Category 2 of the Venue List; and

WHEREAS, it is further recommended that the Board officially retire those names, which also are identified in Category 3 of the Venue List, that, notwithstanding whether such names were ever adopted by the Board, have been abandoned, are no longer in use, or have been replaced with other names, in order to avoid future confusion.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that President Toni Preckwinkle, the Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners, and General Superintendent Arnold Randall do hereby recognize that the presented list of names of Venues identified as such on the Venue List, represents the official names of the corresponding Venues and adopts the recommendations stated above.

Appendix B

Resolution 21-0355 (7/28/2021) Creation of Equity, Cultural Sensitivity, and Inclusion Site Name Task Force, Resolution 21-0432 (9/21/2021) Proposed Previously Approved Amendment (to add three additional seats to the Equity, Cultural Sensitivity, and Inclusion Site Name Task Force) and Resolution 22-0334 - Proposed Previously Approved Item Amendment (extending term)



Forest Preserve District of Cook County File Summary

118 North Clark
Chicago, IL 60602

File Number	Title	Current Status
21-0355	Resolution	Draft

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION CREATING THE FOREST PRESERVES' EQUITY, CULTURAL SENSITIVITY, AND INCLUSION SITE NAME TASK FORCE

WHEREAS, The Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners (the "Board") and Forest Preserves of Cook County (the "Forest Preserves") recognize that names are an important part of creating a sense of place and belonging and that names may have powerful and positive meaning for people and provide opportunities to promote community harmony; and

WHEREAS, this body approved Resolution 17-0178 on September 11, 2018 to officially recognize and adopt names of Forest Preserves Lands and Amenities after a staff Naming Committee recommended correct and official names of all venues after an exhaustive review to determine which names had been formally adopted by the Board in the past, were in common use, or had been abandoned; and

WHEREAS, this body approved Resolution 19-0354 on September 24, 2019 to adopt a Permanent Naming Policy to help safeguard the Forest Preserves' prestige and heritage, provide guidance and direction in the naming and renaming of Forest Preserves properties, facilities, natural areas, and other public places, to ensure an inclusive, consultative, and transparent naming and renaming process that will engage the public and is intended to stand the test of time, and to govern all permanent naming and renaming opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserves has a mission and values committed to being accessible and welcoming to all people and is seeking to ensure that sites do not commemorate an event or an individual whose actions perpetuated inequalities or supported the marginalization of people based on race, color, ethnicity, national origin, ancestry, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation or ability, or if the commemoration may be considered inappropriate or offensive for any other reasons; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby create the Forest Preserves' Equity, Cultural Sensitivity, and Inclusion Site Name Advisory Task Force (the "ECSI Site Name Task Force") that will support the review of Forest Preserve site names and will advance the Forest Preserves' "Moving Towards Racial Equity" position paper adopted in July 2020 by this body.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the ECSI Site Name Task Force shall meet as needed for one year and, with the assistance of Loyola University Chicago's Public History Program,

File Number	Title	Current Status
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shall, within one year, provide a report that includes 284 Forest Preserve site names that have been reviewed with a racial equity, cultural sensitivity and inclusion lens.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the ECSI Site Name Task Force shall consist of the following members:

- a. The chair, vice-chair, and one additional member of the Board Real Estate Committee;
- b. The director and one additional faculty member from the Public History Program at Loyola University Chicago;
- c. One member of the Forest Preserves Conservation and Policy Council to be appointed by the chair of the Conservation and Policy Council;
- d. The two co-chairs the Forest Preserves Naming Committee;
- e. Two members of the Forest Preserves Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (REDI) Committee to be named by the General Superintendent;
- f. One member of both the Forest Preserves' Naming and REDI Committees to be appointed by the General Superintendent;
- g. One representative from the Friends of the Forest Preserves to be appointed by the executive director of Friends of the Forest Preserves;
- h. One representative from the Illinois Environmental Council to be appointed by the executive director of the Illinois Environmental Council; and
- i. One representative from the Board or staff of the Forest Preserve Foundation to be appointed by the chair of the Forest Preserve Foundation Board of Directors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the chair of the Real Estate Committee and the appointee by the chair of the Conservation and Policy Council shall serve as co-chairs of this task force.

Introduced: 6/30/2021

Controlling Body: FPD Board of Commissioners

Meeting Date: 7/27/2021

Sponsor(s): TONI PRECKWINKLE (President)

Drafter: Delio.Calzolari@cookcountyil.gov



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #:	21-0432	Version:	2	Name:	
Type:	Previously Approved Item Amendment	Status:		Approved	
File created:	8/30/2021	In control:		FPD Board of Commissioners	
On agenda:	9/21/2021	Final action:		9/21/2021	
Title:	PROPOSED PREVIOUSLY APPROVED ITEM AMENDMENT				

Request: Approve

Item Number: 21-0355

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Account(s): N/A

Original Text of Item:

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION CREATING THE FOREST PRESERVES' EQUITY, CULTURAL SENSITIVITY, AND INCLUSION SITE NAME TASK FORCE

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners (the "Board") and Forest Preserves of Cook County (the "Forest Preserves") recognize that names are an important part of creating a sense of place and belonging and that names may have powerful and positive meaning for people and provide opportunities to promote community harmony; and

WHEREAS, this body approved Resolution 17-0178 on September 11, 2018 to officially recognize and adopt names of Forest Preserves Lands and Amenities after a staff Naming Committee recommended correct and official names of all venues, following an exhaustive review to determine which names had been formally adopted by the Board in the past, were in common use, or had been abandoned; and

WHEREAS, this body approved Resolution 19-0354 on September 24, 2019 to adopt a Permanent Naming Policy to help safeguard the Forest Preserves' prestige and heritage; provide guidance and direction in the naming and renaming of Forest Preserves properties, facilities, natural areas, and other public places; ensure an inclusive, consultative, and transparent naming and renaming process that will engage the public and stand the test of time; and to govern all permanent naming and renaming opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserves has a mission and values committed to being accessible and welcoming to all people and is seeking to ensure that sites do not commemorate an event or an individual whose actions perpetuated inequalities or supported the marginalization of people based on race, color, ethnicity, national origin, ancestry, religion, ability, gender, gender identity, or sexual orientation, or if the commemoration may be considered inappropriate or offensive; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby create the Forest Preserves' Equity, Cultural Sensitivity, and Inclusion Site Name Advisory Task Force (the "ECSI Site Name Task Force") that will support the review of Forest Preserves site names and will advance the Forest Preserves' "Moving Towards Racial Equity" position paper adopted in July 2020 by this body; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the ECSI Site Name Task Force shall meet as needed for one year and, with the assistance of Loyola University Chicago's Public History Program, shall, within one year, provide a report that includes 284 Forest Preserves site names that have been reviewed with a racial equity, cultural sensitivity and inclusion lens; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the ECSI Site Name Task Force shall consist of the following members:

- a. The chair and vice-chair of the Board Real Estate Committee;
- b. The director and one (1) additional faculty member from the Public History Program at Loyola University Chicago;
- c. One (1) member of the Forest Preserves Conservation and Policy Council to be appointed by the chair of the Conservation and Policy Council;
- d. The two (2) co-chairs of the Forest Preserves Naming Committee;
- e. Two (2) members of the Forest Preserves Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (REDI) Committee to be named by the General Superintendent;
- f. One (1) member that sits on both the Forest Preserves' Naming and REDI Committees to be appointed by the General Superintendent;
- g. One (1) representative from the Friends of the Forest Preserves to be appointed by the executive director of Friends of the Forest Preserves;
- h. One (1) representative from the Illinois Environmental Council to be appointed by the executive director of the Illinois Environmental Council; and
- i. One (1) representative from the Board or staff of the Forest Preserve Foundation to be appointed by the chair of the Forest Preserve Foundation Board of Directors; and,
- j. Up to three (3) additional representatives with appropriate experience in culture, history, natural history, sociology, urban planning, urban studies, or public policy to be appointed by the General Superintendent; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the chair of the Real Estate Committee and the appointee by the chair of the Conservation and Policy Council shall serve as co-chairs of the ECSI Site Name Task Force. d

Sponsors:

Indexes: ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

Code sections:

Attachments:

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
9/21/2021	2	FPD Board of Commissioners	approve	Pass

PROPOSED PREVIOUSLY APPROVED ITEM AMENDMENT

Request: Approve

Item Number: 21-0355

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Account(s): N/A

Original Text of Item:

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION CREATING THE FOREST PRESERVES' EQUITY, CULTURAL SENSITIVITY, AND INCLUSION SITE NAME TASK FORCE

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners (the "Board") and Forest Preserves of Cook County (the "Forest Preserves") recognize that names are an important part of creating a sense of place and belonging and that names may have powerful and positive meaning for people and provide opportunities to promote community harmony; and

WHEREAS, this body approved Resolution 17-0178 on September 11, 2018 to officially recognize and adopt names of Forest Preserves Lands and Amenities after a staff Naming Committee recommended correct and official names of all venues, following an exhaustive review to determine which names had been formally adopted by the Board in the past, were in common use, or had been abandoned; and

WHEREAS, this body approved Resolution 19-0354 on September 24, 2019 to adopt a Permanent Naming Policy to help safeguard the Forest Preserves' prestige and heritage; provide guidance and direction in the naming and renaming of Forest Preserves properties, facilities, natural areas, and other public places; ensure an inclusive, consultative, and transparent naming and renaming process that will engage the public and stand the test of time; and to govern all permanent naming and renaming opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserves has a mission and values committed to being accessible and welcoming to all people and is seeking to ensure that sites do not commemorate an event or an individual whose actions perpetuated inequalities or supported the marginalization of people based on race, color, ethnicity, national origin, ancestry, religion, ability, gender, gender identity, or sexual orientation, or if the commemoration may be considered inappropriate or offensive; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby create the Forest Preserves' Equity, Cultural Sensitivity, and Inclusion Site Name Advisory Task Force (the "ECSI Site Name Task Force") that will support the review of Forest Preserves site names and will advance the Forest Preserves' "Moving Towards Racial Equity" position paper adopted in July 2020 by this body; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the ECSI Site Name Task Force shall meet as needed for one year and, with the assistance of Loyola University Chicago's Public History Program, shall, within one year, provide a report that includes 284 Forest Preserves site names that have been reviewed with a racial equity, cultural sensitivity and inclusion lens; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the ECSI Site Name Task Force shall consist of the following members:

- a. The chair and vice-chair of the Board Real Estate Committee;
- b. The director and one (1) additional faculty member from the Public History Program at Loyola University Chicago;
- c. One (1) member of the Forest Preserves Conservation and Policy Council to be appointed by the chair of the Conservation and Policy Council;
- d. The two (2) co-chairs of the Forest Preserves Naming Committee;
- e. Two (2) members of the Forest Preserves Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (REDI) Committee to be named by the General Superintendent;
- f. One (1) member that sits on both the Forest Preserves' Naming and REDI Committees to be appointed by the General Superintendent;
- g. One (1) representative from the Friends of the Forest Preserves to be appointed by the executive director of Friends of the Forest Preserves;
- h. One (1) representative from the Illinois Environmental Council to be appointed by the executive director of the Illinois Environmental Council; and
- i. One (1) representative from the Board or staff of the Forest Preserve Foundation to be appointed by the chair of the Forest Preserve Foundation Board of Directors; and,
- j. Up to three (3) additional representatives with appropriate experience in culture, history, natural history, sociology, urban planning, urban studies, or public policy to be appointed by the General Superintendent; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the chair of the Real Estate Committee and the appointee by the chair of the Conservation and Policy Council shall serve as co-chairs of the ECSI Site Name Task Force.



Legislation Text

File #: 22-0334, **Version:** 1

PROPOSED PREVIOUSLY APPROVED ITEM AMENDMENT

Request: Approve

Item Number: 21-0355 as amended by 21-0432

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Account(s): N/A

Original Text of Item:

RESOLUTION CREATING THE FOREST PRESERVES' EQUITY, CULTURAL SENSITIVITY, AND INCLUSION SITE NAME TASK FORCE

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners (the "Board") and Forest Preserves of Cook County (the "Forest Preserves") recognize that names are an important part of creating a sense of place and belonging and that names may have powerful and positive meaning for people and provide opportunities to promote community harmony; and

WHEREAS, this body approved Resolution 17-0178 on September 11, 2018 to officially recognize and adopt names of Forest Preserves Lands and Amenities after a staff Naming Committee recommended correct and official names of all venues, following an exhaustive review to determine which names had been formally adopted by the Board in the past, were in common use, or had been abandoned; and

WHEREAS, this body approved Resolution 19-0354 on September 24, 2019 to adopt a Permanent Naming Policy to help safeguard the Forest Preserves' prestige and heritage; provide guidance and direction in the naming and renaming of Forest Preserves properties, facilities, natural areas, and other public places; ensure an inclusive, consultative, and transparent naming and renaming process that will engage the public and stand the test of time; and to govern all permanent naming and renaming opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserves has a mission and values committed to being accessible and welcoming to all people and is seeking to ensure that sites do not commemorate an event or an individual whose actions perpetuated inequalities or supported the marginalization of people based on race, color, ethnicity, national origin, ancestry, religion, ability, gender, gender identity, or sexual orientation, or if the commemoration may be considered inappropriate or offensive; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby create the Forest Preserves' Equity, Cultural Sensitivity, and Inclusion Site Name Advisory Task Force (the "ECSI Site Name Task Force") that will support the review of Forest Preserves site names and will advance the Forest Preserves' "Moving Towards Racial Equity" position paper adopted in July 2020 by this body; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the ECSI Site Name Task Force shall meet as needed for eighteen (18) months (i.e., until January 27, 2023) ~~one year~~ and, with the assistance of Loyola University Chicago's Public History Program, shall

within said time period ~~one year~~, provide either a report that includes 284 Forest Preserves site names that have been reviewed with a racial equity, cultural sensitivity and inclusion lens or a report recommending how the Forest Preserves shall proceed doing so; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the ECSI Site Name Task Force shall consist of the following members:

- a. The chair and vice-chair of the Board Real Estate Committee;
- b. The director and one (1) additional faculty member from the Public History Program at Loyola University Chicago;
- c. One (1) member of the Forest Preserves Conservation and Policy Council to be appointed by the chair of the Conservation and Policy Council;
- d. The two (2) co-chairs of the Forest Preserves Naming Committee;
- e. Two (2) members of the Forest Preserves Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (REDI) Committee to be named by the General Superintendent;
- f. One (1) member that sits on both the Forest Preserves' Naming and REDI Committees to be appointed by the General Superintendent;
- g. One (1) representative from the Friends of the Forest Preserves to be appointed by the executive director of Friends of the Forest Preserves;
- h. One (1) representative from the Illinois Environmental Council to be appointed by the executive director of the Illinois Environmental Council;
- i. One (1) representative from the Board or staff of the Forest Preserve Foundation to be appointed by the chair of the Forest Preserve Foundation Board of Directors; and,
- j. Up to three (3) additional representatives with appropriate experience in culture, history, natural history, sociology, urban planning, urban studies, or public policy to be appointed by the General Superintendent; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the chair of the Real Estate Committee and the appointee by the chair of the Conservation and Policy Council shall serve as co-chairs of the ECSI Site Name Task Force.

Appendix C

Loyola University Chicago's Public History Program: Final Report of Review of Priority Site Names with a Racial, Equity, Cultural Sensitivity, and Inclusion Lens for the Cook County Forest Preserve District

Review of Priority Site Names with a Racial Equity, Cultural Sensitivity, and Inclusion Lens for the Cook County Forest Preserve District



By Loyola University Chicago Public History Program



Preparing people to lead extraordinary lives

This report was prepared by the Loyola University Public History Program for the Equity, Cultural Sensitivity, and Inclusion Site Name Task Force for the Cook County Forest Preserve District.

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July 21, 2022

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**Addendum: Names with Natural Features, Historical and/or Cultural Association,
or No Information**

Robinson Homestead Family Picnic Area/Robinson Woods South

Alexander Robinson (c.1787 – April 22, 1872) was a significant figure in the early history of Chicago and the owner of Des Plaines River lands that later were added to the Cook County Forest Preserve District. Along with Billy Caldwell, Robinson played an important and somewhat controversial role in a series of treaty negotiations that resulted in the alienation of Indian lands in northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin and the granting of a tracts of land that now are part of district holdings.

Robinson's early life is obscured by incomplete documentation. It appears he was born on Mackinac Island to an Odawa woman and a Scot who may have been either a fur trader or a British officer. Both parents appear to have died shortly after his birth and early histories record that he was adopted by Daniel Robertson the British commander at Mackinac. It does not appear, however, that Alexander Robinson was long a member of the household. At an early age, he was apprenticed to Joseph Bailey a British fur trader in southwestern Michigan. Thereafter, Robinson became a regular participant in the fur trade of the southern Lake Michigan region. He had no formal education and was reputed to be able to neither read nor write. As a fur trader, he lived largely with the Indians with whom he bartered. Like most fur traders his success in business was tied to his ability fit into Indian society and survive in locations far from Anglo-American settlements. Critical to his ability to thrive was marriage to an Indian woman. Native American spouses not only created a comfortable household, but they opened up trade contacts with family and were experts at processing raw animal pelts. Far from civil society, fur traders took indigenous brides according to "the custom of the country," which is how Alexander Robinson at the age of twenty-three wed Sasos Cynthia Caron, a Menominee Indian. Two years later, Robinson was in Chicago where he participated in events deeply enmeshed in the early Chicago lore.¹

In 1812, Chicago was a sparsely populated outpost. Social and economic life was based on the fur trade and the United States Army's Fort Dearborn. A key figure in the settlement was John Kinzie, a successful fur trader and suttler to the Fort Dearborn garrison. The growing presence of the United States in the Great Lakes region, especially the government's ever-increasing demands for Indian land, stirred deep resentment among the Potawatomi Indians who lived in and around Chicago. These resentments burst into open warfare when the United States declared war on Great Britain. Poor planning and inept leadership led to a series of stunning British victories on the frontier. In a panic, the Army ordered Fort Dearborn abandoned and the retreating garrison was attacked and slaughtered by the Indians in August 1812. According to one account, Robinson arrived at the settlement just as that battle was being fought; in another version he was already living in Chicago at the time. He sought refuge in the home of Archange Marie Chevalier, a French-Potawatomi woman whose cabin was on the north bank of the Chicago River. The

¹ David Armour, "Daniel Robertson," *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/robertson_daniel_5E.html, accessed August 2021; Dan Melone, "Chief Alexander Robinson-Early Chicago Leader," <https://www.patcamallierebooks.com/2019/05/chief-alexander-robinson-early-chicago-leader-guest-blog-dan-melone/>. Accessed August, 2021.

next day Robinson joined with Billy Caldwell, another mixed-blood fur trader, and friendly Indians to protect the family of John Kinzie from vengeful warriors. Robinson later escorted the Kinzie family out of Chicago and to the relative safety of a friendly Potawatomi village near the present site of Chesterton, Indiana. Robinson's connection to the British and his close relations with the Potawatomi allowed him to also escort the wounded Captain Nathan Held, who formerly commanded Fort Dearborn, and several others all the way to Mackinac Island for which he received a bounty of \$100.²

By the end of the War of 1812 Alexander Robinson had settled in Chicago where he operated a small farm with Antoine Ouilmette, another Metis (mixed blood). They sold corn to the restored Fort Dearborn and acted as guides along the Chicago Portage. His association with Ouilmette became stronger after 1826 when Robinson married the latter's sister-in-law Catiche Catherine Chevalier. This marriage was formalized by Catholic missionary Stephen Badin. Nonetheless, Robinson's first and unofficial wife Sasos continued to cohabit with them in the crowded cabin.³

The controversial phase of Robinson's career began in 1816 when he served as a translator at the Treaty of St. Louis. Here, the Three Fires Confederacy (the Potawatomi, Odawa, and Ojibwe) ceded a large section of land in western Illinois as well as 20-mile-wide strip of land from Lake Michigan to the Illinois River coveted by the Americans as the future site of the Illinois and Michigan Canal. The northern and southern margins of this cession became known as the Indian Boundary. Thereafter, Robinson along with fellow Metis Billy Caldwell and Antoine Ouilmette became critical interlocutors between the U.S. Government with its ever escalating demand for Indian land and the native people of the region. In these negotiations, Robinson was referred to as "Chief Robinson," of the united bands of the Potawatomi, Odawa, and Ojibwe. It is not clear if this position was purely the invention of the United States government, or if it emerged from the deliberations of the native leaders. Certainly, the notion of a head chief of many bands was not part of Anishinaabe custom. Having several head chiefs with whom to negotiate as opposed to a dozen or more band leaders suited the purposes of the American government. Therefore, Robinson as well as Caldwell and Ouilmette were knowingly serving as American agents, and they were rewarded as such.

After acting as a "chief" and translator at the Second Treaty of Prairie du Chien in 1829 Robinson was rewarded with a substantial grant of land along the Des Plaines River ("To Alexander Robinson, for himself and children, two sections on the Riviere aux Pleins, above and adjoining the tract herein granted to Claude Laframboise.") These lands are currently part of the Cook County Forest Preserves. Robinson made his mark on this treaty under his Potawatomi name Chee-chee-pin-quay, which meant blinking or squinting eyes. In this agreement, the Potawatomi, Odawa, and Ojibwe ceded to the United States a huge track of land from the shores of Lake Michigan to the Mississippi River in northern Illinois

² Ann Durkin Keating, *Rising Up From Indian Country: The Battle of Fort Dearborn and the Birth of Chicago* (Chicago: Univ. of Chicago Press, 2015), 159-161.

³ Ulrich Danckers, Jane Meredith, John Svenson, and Helen Tanner, *A Compendium of Early Chicago* (Menominee Falls, Wisc.: Inland Press, 1999), 301.

and southwestern Wisconsin. This included a large portion of what would become the north side of Chicago and its elite northern suburbs.⁴

Robinson acted as a “chief” again at the critical 1833 Treaty of Chicago which set the stage for the removal of native people from the Chicago area. Federal treaty commissioners called together an assembly of between 3,000 and 6,000 members of the united bands of the Potawatomi, Odawa, and Ojibwe. The government’s goal was the acquisition of 5 million acres of the remaining Anishinaabe land in the region and the removal of all indigenous people from the Chicago area to reservations west of the Mississippi River. In exchange, the Indians received a million dollars in cash and annuities as well as the western reservation. Robinson was richly rewarded for his service bringing the Indians to the treaty table and securing their agreement to the cession and exile. He was granted an annual payment of \$300 (the equivalent of about \$10,000 in 2021) as well as a \$10,000 one-time cash payment to himself and \$300 for his children. These lucrative returns raised objections when the treaty went to the United States Senate for ratification. Senators objected to Robinson and the other the Metis “chiefs” receiving such large cash rewards and they reduced that amount from \$10,000 to \$5,000. Their reason for doing so was that the payment was “so large as to induce a well-founded presumption that they have, by some means, acquired an influence over the Indians which they have been disposed to use to an unreasonable extent for their individual benefit.”⁵

The Treaty of Chicago was a sordid affair with the gathered Indians continually beset upon by traders offering easy credit and proffering large amounts of whiskey. Contrary to Secretary of War Lewis Cass’s specific instruction that no alcohol was to be involved in the proceeding, one witness recorded that “the place was filled with drunken Indians, in all stages of helplessness, and all wanting to fight.” It is unclear to what extent Robinson had responsibility for this or if he could have prevented the abuse of the Indians. Earlier, Robinson had operated a tavern near Wolf Point. In 1833 he is reputed to have taken a temperance pledge but is not known if this was before or after the treaty council. Notable Potawatomi leaders Topenebe and Leopold Pokagon journeyed all the way to Washington, DC to complain about the failure of Robinson and Caldwell to well represent the Anishinaabe.⁶

Robinson went west with the exiled Potawatomi but soon returned and set up a homestead on his land grant on the Des Plaines River. He lived there with his family until his death in April of 1872. He was buried on that land as were his wife and several children.

⁴ Anishinaabe is the collective name for the closely allied tribes of the Potawatomi, Odawa, and Ojibwe; Treaty with the Ottawa, Etc., 1816, *Indian Affairs: Laws and Treaties*, Compiled and edited by Charles J. Kappler (New York: Interland Publishing, 1972), 132-33.

⁵ Treaty with the Chippewa. Etc., September 26, 1833, *Indian Affairs: Laws and Treaties*, Compiled and edited by Charles J. Kappler (New York: Interland Publishing, 1972), 402-10; *Journal of the Executive Proceedings of the Senate of the United States of America*: 383 of 858, [https://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/ampage?collId=IleJ&fileName=004/IleJ004.db&recNum=384&itemLink=r?ammem/hlaw:@field\(DOCID+@lit\(ej004214\)\):%230040410&linkText=1](https://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/ampage?collId=IleJ&fileName=004/IleJ004.db&recNum=384&itemLink=r?ammem/hlaw:@field(DOCID+@lit(ej004214)):%230040410&linkText=1). Accessed August 2021.

⁶ Anselm J. Gerwing, “The Chicago Indian Treaty of 1833,” *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society* 57:2 (Summer, 1964): 117-142 Letter of J.B. Turner quoted in Danckers, *Early Chicago*, .341; Charles Winslow, *Early Chicago As Seen by a Cartoonist* (Chicago: Charles Winslow, 1947), 122-23.

The Forest Preserve District acquired some of the Robinson tract in the 1920s and more after the old Robinson homestead burned down in 1955. In recent years, the CCFPD has worked with the Robinson descendants to restore and memorialize the homestead site.⁷

Assessment

What then should we make of Alexander Robinson and his legacy? Clearly, he was an individual who played a role in the very early history of Chicago. He was among the earliest voters and taxpayers in Cook County. He helped to fund the building of the first Catholic Church in Chicago. He was a fur trader when that was the first business in Cook County. With that distinction comes something darker than the cliché of “pioneer forefathers.” Fur traders in the Great Lakes region in the 18th and early 19th century freely used alcohol to attract Indians to their posts and guarantee their trade. This had long-term detrimental effects on American Indian communities. Robinson acted no differently than traders had done for more than 150 years. As a Metis, Robinson was Native American himself, he wed native women, and his children had native ancestry. He lived much of his life in close association with the Anishinaabe people. As their representative in negotiations with the United States, he participated in the ethnic cleansing of Cook County all the while deriving financial benefit from the process. Yet it is important to remember that he did not initiate removal or land cessions. These policies flowed from Washington, DC and the demands of white settlers. Those settlers from New England and New York viewed Robinson with only slightly less distaste than they did the Indian people. Robinson, like Billy Caldwell, Antoine Ouilmette, and Madore Beaubien who were also active in Chicago’s founding, all ended up exiled from the city in the years immediately after the removal of the Indians.

In the end Robinson was a man of his time who exhibited the virtues and limitations of his era. In that sense he was no different than many of us.

⁷ Mark Konkol, “Chief’s descendants demand return of slice of Cook County Forest Preserve,” *Chicago Sun-Times*, 09 February 2010, <http://www.suffredin.org/news/newsitem.asp?language=english&newsitemid=4128>. Accessed August, 2021; “Fire Destroys Landmark of Frontier Days,” *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 26 May 1955.

Frank Bobrytzke Forest

Frank Bobrytzke (1886-1976) was a Cook County Commissioner from 1934 to 1966. He had a diverse career in business, starting as a dairy operator then diversifying his activities notably into real estate and banking. At one time, he was chairman of the Manufacturers National Bank and the Milwaukee Avenue National Bank, both in Chicago. He was regularly referred to in the press as “wealthy.” Prior to joining the County Board, he served as a Lincoln Park Commissioner.

Inevitably, Bobrytzke’s extensive involvement in real estate intersected with his County Board duties. In 1941, George Quinlan, the County Road Commissioner, announced a plan to relocate a portion of Skokie Road. The new right-of-way would pass through a subdivision that was being developed by Bobrytzke. According to press reports, Bobrytzke was initially against the road through his eighty-six acres of land, but that Quinlan convinced him of the plan’s efficacy. The Road Commissioner told the *Chicago Tribune* that the evaluation of Bobrytzke’s land would be handled openly “by a court after receiving testimony of appraisers appointed by the court.” This announcement was preceded by considerable local gossip “that some influences were being exerted to fix the location of the route so as to benefit certain real estate interests.”⁸

In 1942 the Cook County State’s Attorney’s Office requested that the Cook County Board establish a tax committee to deal with the millions of dollars of back taxes owned by property owners. The Great Depression had resulted in many property owners unable to pay the assessed value of their land. As many as 40% of all property in the county went delinquent. Bobrytzke was one of five members of the tax committee which was chaired by Dan Ryan. By order of the County Board the committee was charged with negotiating with property owners to settle their tax debts. Initially, the committee policy was that it would generally settle for seventy percent of what was due. This directive was not strictly adhered to, however. Controversy over this committee erupted in 1944. The case had to do with a twenty-two story Loop office building at 123 W. Madison. It was originally ordered sold for taxes by the state’s attorney’s office in 1938 but no bidders were interested. Offered again by the state’s attorney in 1944, a lawyer by the name of Nathan Schwartz offered to buy the building for \$85,000. Usually, this transaction would have to be approved by the tax committee; however, in this case the sale was sent to the committee on public service which was chaired by Frank Bobrytzke. That committee recommended to the Board of County Commissioners that the offer be accepted, and it was at their next meeting. Final approval was required by Cook County Superior Court where Judge Robert E. Crowe balked because of what he perceived as irregularities in the proceedings. The judge alleged that Dan Ryan of the County Board visited him several times urging approval of the sale and that Ryan admitted to being the actual purchaser of the property. Judge Crowe also alleged irregularities in the office of States Attorney William J. Touhy.⁹

⁸ Hal Foust, *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 18 December 1941, 24.

⁹ “Crowe Adviser Reports on Tax Sale Tomorrow: Irregularities Charged in Loop Building Deal,” *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 17 March 1946, B18.

Touhy responded by ordering a Grand Jury to hear testimony in the case. That proceeding was concluded in short order with Crowe's charges denied by Ryan and others implicated in the case. Four county commissioners also testified before the Grand Jury. Three testified that they did not "know what they were voting for when the Madison Street sale was approved by the board." Bobrytzke told the jury he was not at the board meeting that approved the sale. For lack of evidence no criminal charges were filed. This case appears to be a situation in which political insiders closed ranks to avoid further investigation.¹⁰

The tax committee on which Bobrytzke served and was headed by Dan Ryan was again in the news when the committee approved a tax sale for an eight-story building at 192 N. Clark Street (near the site of Thompson Center today). The sale sailed through at the time despite similar irregularities. It was not until six years later in 1950 that the *Chicago Tribune* broke a front-page story alleging corruption in the case. The property was linked to Al Capone's former bodyguard and the head of the Chicago Mob Tony Accardo. The building housed Gibby's Restaurant which was a popular hang-out for city and county officials who worked nearby. The property was also linked to an illegal wire service sports betting operation abetted by political and police pay-offs. Delinquent taxes on the building were at the heart of the scandal revealed in 1950. When the building was auctioned off for delinquency, it should have carried a tax bill of \$232,164; instead, the County Board Committee approved a sale of the property for only \$26,500, or 11 cents on the dollar. The *Tribune* focused on corruption in Cook County State's Attorney Touhy's office which arranged for the sale with the shadowy real estate lawyer Nathan Schwartz. Additionally, the case did not reflect well on the County Board's tax committee.¹¹

By 1959, Bobrytzke headed the Cook County Board tax committee which continued to try and clear up a large number of real estate tax delinquencies, many of which dated back to 1900 or earlier. On this occasion, the *Tribune* reported favorably on Bobrytzke and his committee. Bobrytzke boasted that through close cooperation with the State's Attorney's office as well as the circuit, and superior courts, the committee was able to collect \$147 million dollars in back taxes and return 516,000 parcels to the tax rolls. The program was called "friendly foreclosure" and was initiated on the recommendation of the Chicago Bar Association. Bobrytzke's work on delinquent property taxes continued until 1966 when he left the County Board. When he departed, taxes were being collected on 99% of Cook County property.¹²

The profile of Bobrytzke that emerges from press reports is of an individual careful with expenditures, especially as related to county medical facilities. In 1949, he made headlines by objecting to the budget of the county nursing service which requested a \$1.5 million increase over the previous year. The department had "1,625 employees and the

¹⁰ William Shinnick, "Touhy Blasts Crowe For His Tax Charges, Judge Taunts Prosecutor on Crime Cases," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 28 March 1946: 9; William Shinnick, "Jurors Hear Courtney on Tax Sale Row: 4 County Board Members Also Testify," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 23 March 1946, 7.

¹¹ Kermit Holt, "Revel Huge Loop Tax Fix! \$232,164 Claims Settled by Payment of \$26,500, Miss Documents," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 12 January 1950, 1.

¹² Thomas Buck, *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 09 May 1959, 15.

plan is to put another 900 on the payrolls,” Bobrytzke complained. He went on to cite a large staff of supervisors cutting into the number of bedside nurses. Bobrytzke’s critique was based in part on his long service as chair of the County Board’s hospital committee. In the late 1930s and 1940s, Cook County Hospital faced critical overcrowding and the need for additional facilities. While Bobrytzke headed the hospital committee, improvements were made. In 1939, the county purchased the private West Side Hospital and opened it for ambulatory county patients. That same year, Works Progress Administration funds were used to purchase land in front of county hospital to be turned into a park for convalescent purposes. In 1937 Bobrytzke stressed economy when he launched a campaign to stop pilfering at county medical facilities. He brought in a hospitality expert to supervise the county hospital food service program. “He not only produced meals that might be eaten with relish,” Bobrytzke argued, “but so systematized the preparation that a continuous high standard was kept up.” The hospitality expert, Anton Negri, was credited with saving the hospital \$100,000. When reports of miserable food service surfaced at the Municipal Tuberculosis Sanitarium, Bobrytzke offered to personally pay for Negri to improve the situation there. While he oversaw the hospital, Bobrytzke also reduced the number of patronage positions at the hospital, insisting on civil service exams affecting 253 positions.¹³

Bobrytzke’s political base was in Chicago’s large Polish American community. He frequently attended community events and supported the resettlement of Poles displaced after World War II. His continued nomination to board between 1934 and 1966 was assured by the Democratic Party’s need to secure Polish votes. His strict loyalty to the Cook County Democratic machine drew protests in 1942 when a handful of Polish Americans on the Republican slate accused Bobrytzke of trying to coerce Poles into voting a straight party ticket. Bobrytzke’s party loyalty, however, was not rewarded when in 1945, after more than a decade on the County Board, he tried to move to the post of Cook County Treasurer, a position he felt very qualified for given his experience in banking. Despite strong support from the Polish American Congress. Democratic Party boss Edward Kelly rejected Bobrytzke’s bid and instead slated and Irish American.¹⁴

¹³ “County Nurses Home Cost Rise Laid to ‘Frills,’” Budget Demands Are Blasted by Bobrytzke, *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 06 November 1949: 40; “Count Hospital Patients Park Section Finished: Area for Convalescents to Occupy Two Blocks,” *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 23 Apr 1939, 11; Orville Dwyer, “Expert Offered City To Fix Food at Sanitarium: Work of Anton Negri for County Cited,” *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 13 September 1945, 29; Joseph Ator, “Hospital Report Urges Funds to Remedy Defects: Some Improvements Made with Budget Savings,” *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 16 November 1937, 3.

¹⁴ “Rap Democrat Plot to Coerce Polish Voeters:2 Leaders Pledge Aid to G. O. P. Candidate,” *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 26 October 1942, 4; George Tagge, “Poles Demand Treasury Post of Democrats,” *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 28 December 1945, 6.

Cap Sauers Holding Nature Preserve

Charles G. "Cap" Sauers (1893-1970) was the general superintendent of the Cook County Forest Preserve District from 1929 to 1964. He was born in Lawrenceburg, Indiana in 1893 and graduated from Purdue University in 1915 where he studied horticulture. In World War I, he saw combat as an artillery officer. His nickname "Cap" referred to his rank of Captain in the war. Upon his return from overseas, he joined the Indiana Department of Conservation as an assistant to the director. In 1927, he received national attention when he worked with the Rockefeller Foundation on the promotion of state parks.¹⁵

Sauers came to the Cook County Forest Preserves at the insistence of a special advisory committee to the district. That group was dismayed by the haphazard way the district was being run. Quietly, they investigated several "sweetheart" land purchases approved by Board President Anton T. Cermak. Rather than release their findings to the press, which was already questioning the prices paid for recent land acquisitions, the advisory committee pressed Cermak to appoint a professional to run the forest preserves. The committee's evidence plus its distinguished membership which included Daniel Burnham, the *Tribune's* John T. McCutchen, Edward Eagle Brown of the First National Bank, and was headed by General Abel Davis, convinced Cermak to accept Sauers even though he was an "outsider."

Cermak, a wily builder of political empires initially did not trust Sauers and allegedly assigned a "spy" to report on his movements. Sauers later said he solved that problem by barging into Cermak's house one Sunday morning and from the foot of the County President's bed said, "When are you going to get rid of that goddamned spy?" That direct approach seemed to have worked because Sauers' later reported that Cermak replied "I like you, son" and there after they got along better. That is not mean, however, that Sauers was free of Cermak's insistence on making the Forest Preserve District a patronage dumping ground. Sauers combated this by demanding that the ward committeemen sent his way be more than "ghost" employees. Sauers was quoted as saying "if they are going to receive a full day's pay, they must give me at least a half a day's work."¹⁶

Sauers made an immediate impact in his position. In 1930, he announced a plan to plant 100,000 new trees in recently acquired farmland. Bigger changes followed. Sauers was fortunate to arrive at the Forest Preserve District at a challenging time for the nation but a fruitful time for the managers of natural areas. The Great Depression sparked a huge increase in federal expenditures designed first and foremost to put Americans to work, but also to improve citizens' access to nature and recreation. The Civil Works Administration (1933-1934), Public Works Administration (1933-1939), and the Works Progress

¹⁵ "CAP SAUERS, CONSERVATION LEADER, DIES: Led Forest Preserve for 35 Years," *Chicago Tribune*, 22 June 1970, a8.

¹⁶ Mike Royko, "Local politicians just can't seem to give up the ghosts," *Chicago Tribune*, 28 January 1997, L3; "ADVISORY GROUP PRAISES FOREST PRESERVE RULE: Outlines Advances Made in Cermak Regime," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 19 March 1931, 4; *The Forest Preserve District of Cook County Study and Recommendations, Phase 1* (Skokie, IL: Friends of the Forest Preserves & Friends of the Parks, 2002), 5-6.

Administration (1935-1943) provided significant funding and labor for the building of picnic grounds, parking lots, bridle paths, and swimming pools within the district. Sauers played a key role in planning and liaison work with federal program managers among whom were the National Park Service and the U.S. Army. The latter provided officers to direct the efforts of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) which operated camps throughout the district and undertook major construction and restoration projects in the Thorn Creek area, the Palos Preserves, Salt Creek, and at Skokie Lagoons, which was the largest CCC project in the nation.¹⁷

In 1939, after Sauers had been at the head of the district for a decade, the *Chicago Tribune* praised him for being ‘fanatical’ in protection of the county’s forest resources. In an interview, Sauers laid out four rules for running the district:

1. “Keep it as natural and primitive as possible. Encourage nature without tampering with it.
2. Control auto access through well-structured parking lots.
3. Control fires and punish hunters so wildlife can flourish as it did a century or more ago.
4. Develop trails for hikers, bikes, and horses as the principal recreation sponsored by the district.”

Sauers was particularly focused on providing recreation for people with limited resources in Depression era America. “All a city fella needs is car fare, a good pair of shoes, and with a sandwich in his pocket, he’s all set.”¹⁸

In the postwar years, Sauers pushed to expand the district’s holdings to match the metropolitan region’s population growth. This eventually led to state legislation that raised the district’s land allotment to over 60,000 acres. Among the areas acquired were lands adjacent to the Palos Preserves that in 1963 were named “Cap Sauers Holdings” in honor of the superintendent. The 1,520 acres were later made a nature preserve. In addition to his work with the Cook County Forest Preserve District, Sauers was a national figure in the conservation movement. For many years, he chaired the National Parks Advisory Board as well as the Illinois Department of Conservation Advisory Board.¹⁹

¹⁷ “100,000 trees to be planted: Forest Preserve Soon to Be Real Forest,” *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 29 June 1930, A6; for more on the role of federal relief agencies in the Forest Preserves see, Forest Preserve District of Cook County Records, Series 5: Planning, Development, and Construction, 1911-2001, Subseries 1: General Construction and Development records, 1918-1994, Special Collections, University of Illinois, Chicago.

¹⁸ Paul Healy, “Sauers a Fanatic, is Guardian of Forest Wilds: Preserve Manager Keen Aid of Nature,” *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 21 May 1939, sw2.

¹⁹ “Forest Preserves Must Grow,” *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 13 March 1961: 18; Thomas Buck, “Name County Tract for Charles Sauers,” *Chicago Tribune*, 10 August 1963, n3.

Perkins Woods/Dwight H. Perkins Woods

Nationally recognized early twentieth century school architect and “nascent”²⁰ environmentalist, Dwight H. Perkins played a central role in the establishment of the Cook County Forest Preserve system.

Born in Memphis, Tennessee in 1867, Perkins moved to Chicago with his family in 1871. As a young man he worked in architectural firms to help support his family. He studied architecture for two years at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and served as an instructor his third year in the program. He returned to Chicago in 1888 and joined the Burnham and Root architectural firm. He left Burnham and Root in 1893 to form his own firm and, over the course of his career, he had a variety of different partnerships.

After reform candidate Edward F. Dunne won the 1905 mayoral election, he appointed Perkins as architect for the Chicago Board of Education. This appointment launched Perkins on a nationally recognized career as a school building architect. His buildings exhibited progressive ideas of education as well as a merging of the Chicago School and Prairie-Style architecture with Arts and Craft sensibilities. Carl Schurz High School, Lane Tech College Prep High School, George W. Tifton Elementary School, and Lyman Trumbull Elementary School are among his most renowned Chicago public school buildings.²¹

Perkins and the reform-minded Dunne appointments to the Chicago Board of Education not only changed the approved architectural styles of buildings but also the way that contracts were let. Under Perkins, contracts were let by trade rather than as general contracts to privilege expertise over political associations. The election of Fred Busse as mayor in 1907 resulted in a changed Board composition, as Busse removed the reform Board members and appointed his own supporters. The new Board pressured Perkins to return to the practice of general contracts. Perkins’s resistance to this process ultimately led to his dismissal for extravagance, incompetence, and insubordination. While these charges were successfully disputed during the “trial” held by the Board of Education, the Board approved his dismissal.²² After his dismissal, Perkins continued a successful school (buildings outside of Chicago) and public building career for another three decades.

Architecture wasn’t Perkins’s only passion. He also believed in the importance of urban wilderness and prairie conservation as important elements in a well-balanced metropolis. The preservation of such landscapes and their availability for public use and

²⁰ Jennifer Gray, “An Everyday Wilderness: Dwight Perkins and the Cook County Forest Preserve,” *Future Anterior: Journal Historic Preservation, History, Theory, and Criticism* 10:1 (2013): 1.

<https://www.jstor.org/stable/10.5749?future.10.1.001>.

²¹ Arthur Zilversmit, “School Architecture,” *Encyclopedia of Chicago*,

<http://www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org/pages/1120.html> and Donna R. Nelson, “School Architecture in Chicago during the Progressive Era: the Career of Dwight H. Perkins” (PhD Dissertation, Loyola Univ. Chicago, 1988), https://ecommons.luc.edu/luc_diss/2562.

²² Nelson, Chapter 4. “Perkins Verdict is Concurred,” *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 2 April 1910, 9.

enjoyment, he believed, would improve not only the larger public health but also help foster a regional identity across the Chicago metropolitan community. According to a study by Jennifer Gray, Curator of Drawings and Archives in the Avery Architecture and Fine Arts Library at Columbia University, “Dwight Perkins spent nearly two decades campaigning to preserve 67,000 acres of the native prairie forests surrounding Chicago, marking him as an early pioneer in the conservation and cultural heritage movements. During the years it took to secure the woodlands, he tirelessly galvanized public support, conducted nature hikes, inventoried land purchases, helped draft legislation, lobbied politicians, and filed legal suits.” The result of his efforts is the Cook County Forest Preserve.²³

His 1905 *Report of the Special Park Commission to the City Council of Chicago on the Subject of a Metropolitan Park System* advocated a regional landscape plan.²⁴ The plan illustrated a turn of the century belief that metropolitan or regional structures represented both the parts of the community and the larger whole. It reflected an urban planning approach that viewed the city in conversation with its countryside. While the actual process took some time to accomplish, his report and his efforts help secure the passage of the Forest Preserve District Act in 1913.

²³ Gray, 1.

²⁴ Ibid., 1-21. Stephen Packard, “Forest Preserves,” *Encyclopedia of Chicago*, <http://www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org/pages/475.html>.

Edward M. Sneed Forest/William N. Sneed Forest

Edward M. Sneed was the first African American to be elected to the Cook County Board. He served on the Board from 1938 until his death in 1964. He was born in Nashville, Tennessee in 1890. As a boy he joined the Great Migration north to Chicago. He attended Fisk University, but financial reasons forced him to quit prior to obtaining a degree. His political career began in 1932 when he was plucked from his job as a bellhop to run and win as Chicago's first African American Democratic ward committeeman. Sneed held that post for the rest of his life. Throughout his life, he held various public service positions, working for the Sanitary District, Illinois State Parole Office, and the Vehicle License Commission. In 1946, he was described by a reporter as one of the kingpins of the 3rd Ward.²⁵

Sneed played a major role in the gradual shift of African American Chicagoans from the Republican to the Democratic Party. He once said, "Back in the 1920s I was a novelty being a Negro Democrat." Sneed was frequently praised in the *Chicago Defender* for his charitable work sponsoring outings and sports teams for under privileged children and organizing holiday food drives on the city's south side. Like many black politicians on the south side, Sneed was a covert supporter of the gambling scheme known as "policy," which he defended as a means of employment for many African Americans unable to secure wage labor during the Great depression. In the mid-1930s, Sneed openly worked with policy kingpin Billy Skidmore to negotiate gambling rights in his ward. Pragmatic alliances like this were critical in converting the African American community from the Republican Party to the Democrats.²⁶ This site also has been called William N. Sneed Forest.

²⁵ James Doherty, "Negro Leaders Speak for the Race: De Priest and Sneed Are Kingpins," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 17 February 1946, s1.

²⁶ "Entertains 1,000 Kiddies At Grid Game: 1000 Underprivileged Kiddies Feted At Game Commissioner Edward M. Sneed Host To Billiken Group," *The Chicago Defender*, 21 October 1939, 12; "Edward Sneed Devotes Life To Public Service," *The Chicago Defender*, 05 Nov 1955, 4; "Sneed And Gould Clash On Gambling At 'South Side Doomed' Round-Table," *The Chicago Defender*, 18 November 1939, 9; For more on Sneed's involvement with gambling see: Mark Haller, "Policy Gambling, Entertainment, and the Emergence of Black Politics: Chicago from 1900 to 1940," *Journal of Social History* 24:4 (1991): 729.

G.A.R. Woods/ Grand Army of the Republic Woods

This name honors the Union military veterans organization that was born in the wake of the American Civil War. Founded in Springfield, Illinois in 1866, the GAR soon spread across the country and, by the 1880s, it was one of the most potent organizations lobbying the federal government. At their insistence, the federal government gradually adopted the first social welfare programs in American history. These included pensions for disabled veterans, widows, and orphan children. While the GAR was powerful in national politics, it was organized on the local level with numerous individual posts. In the Chicago area, there was the James A. Mulligan Post, the George A. Thomas Post, and the Abraham Lincoln Post, as well as others. Some posts brought together veterans of similar military units or of similar ethnic background or who lived in the same vicinity. Some posts were all-white or all-black while others were integrated. Women who fought in the war were also admitted to the GAR. Needless to say, no Confederates were allowed. In 1868, the GAR Commander-in-Chief General John A. Logan played a key role in the creation of Memorial Day as a national holiday.

It appears that Grand Army of the Republic Woods received its name in 1965 at the time of the centennial of the American Civil War. The GAR itself disbanded in 1956 when the last Union veteran died. The work of the GAR, however, has continued through the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.²⁷

²⁷ For more information see, Stuart McConnell. *Glorious Contentment: The Grand Army of the Republic, 1865–1900* (Chapel Hill, NC: Univ. of North Carolina Press, 1997).

George F. Nixon Woods

George F. Nixon (1893-1975) was a professional real estate developer who served on the Cook County Board for sixteen years. In 1938, Nixon ran for a seat on the county board against a rival set of Republican candidates. From Northfield Township Nixon sought to better represent what were then regarded as “country towns” on the fringes of the county. He campaigned on the issue that current Republican board members had allowed the Democrats to increase the Cook County budget. In doing this he was challenging the leadership of William Busse, the leading Republican on the county board.²⁸

Nixon was a leading figure in suburban real estate development in the period 1930-1950. His company is reputed to have built over 3,000 homes. He served as President of the Chicago Real Estates Board and the National Association of Home Builders. In 1929 he predicted the future decentralization of the metropolitan region due to the expansion of automobile use. However, he was also a strong supporter of extending Chicago’s elevated train lines into the suburbs. In the 1930s Nixon specialized in higher-end homes but pivoted to worker housing during World War II when the War Production Board banned any construction save that for essential workers. In June 1942 he began construction of a large subdivision of duplex units in Melrose Park adjacent to a Buick aircraft engine plant. In the post-war period Nixon opposed the expansion of public housing to the suburbs. In 1950 he called for a local referendum to be held in any community earmarked for public housing. He decried such public housing as “a first step to Socialism.”²⁹

In 1953 Nixon drew press attention when he objected to Superintendent Charles Sauers allowing a paving company to excavate dirt from the Thornton Woods Preserve. Sauers explains that there was an existing plan to have a fishing lake excavated near that site and he was happy to get the site dug for free. Nixon countered the dirt was of greater value and at his instance the Forest Preserves received a payment of \$72,000 as well as the lake dug for free.³⁰

One questionable feature of Nixon’s career emerged in a 1929 press report that congratulated Nixon on his Westchester subdivision. The project was described as “Zoned, restricted and improved in accordance with the highest modern standards, the village is the very apotheosis of the ideal American home community.” The term “restricted” in the 1920s usually referred to a community in which Jews and African Americans were barred.³¹

²⁸ “Factions Battle for Places as Committeemen, George F. Nixon Names His Candidates,” *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 03 April 1938: nw2.

²⁹ “Says 1933 Fair will be a Boon to Realty, George F. Nixon Sees Rising Market,” *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 25 August 1929, B2; Phillip Hampson, “Transit Maze to Aid Realty, Nixon Tells of Gains Due to Elevated,” *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 20 October 1929: B10; Buck Thomas, “Nixon Demands Public Housing Votes in County,” *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 19 April 1950, A8.

³⁰ “County To Get \$72,000 Along with Free Lake: Contractor to Dig Pit, Pay for Dirt Taken,” *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 22 September 1953, b6; “Name 500 Acre Forest Preserve for George F. Nixon,” *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 17 August 1955, 23.

³¹ “Builders of Westchester,” *The Greater Chicago Magazine*, June 1929, 10.

Nixon retired from the county board in 1955 and shortly afterward the Forest Preserve Board voted to name a section of north side land George F. Nixon Woods.

John J. Duffy Preserve

John J. Duffy (1898-1962) was a powerful figure in Chicago Democratic politics in the 1950s and 1960s. Unlike so many Chicago politicians he was not a lawyer by training but for forty years operated a florist shop on South Halsted. He was a protégé of Thomas D. Nash, 19th ward committeeman and powerful figure in the Cook County Democratic machine. Nash handpicked Duffy to be 19th ward alderman in 1935. He served in City Council for fifteen years, rising to the powerful post of chair of the finance committee. In 1943 the Cook County Sheriff became deathly ill, and Nash maneuvered to have Duffy made “acting” sheriff with the plan to have him take-over that office in the next election cycle. However, Chicago Mayor Edward Kelly feared that with Nash in control of the Sheriff’s Office patronage he might be a too powerful rival, so Duffy was not slated for the office, and he returned to City Council. As an alderman, Duffy made himself a thorn in the mayor’s side. He also voted to with other white alderman to restrict public housing to overcrowded African American neighborhoods. Under Mayor Marin Kennelly Duffy served as floor leader. In 1950 he joined the Cook County Board and immediately ruffled feathers by challenging board president Daniel Ryan. Nonetheless when Ryan died in 1961, Duffy replaced him as President of the Cook County Board. He served only a year in the position before himself passing. For much of his time on the county board he held the powerful position of finance committee chair.³²

In 1950, the *Chicago Tribune* put Duffy under scrutiny when his flower shop was sold under suspicious circumstances. The property, located at 5431 S. Halsted St., had unpaid taxes, added penalties, and interest totaling over \$14,000 when it was foreclosed on in 1944. A bid of only \$2,880 was made by Kathryn Grodson during the foreclosure sale. Grodson was secretary to Attorney Jacob Schamberg, who was the defense attorney during the foreclosure suit. Grodson transferred ownership back to the previous owner, shop manager Thomas Murray, ten days after the sale. Murray then transferred title of the property to Duffy in 1945 in a quit claim deed “which bore no federal internal revenue stamps, indicating no more than the nominal \$1 consideration in the property sale.” Duffy refused to disclose the amount he paid for the property. In 1955, Duffy once again made non-political headlines when he got into a physical altercation with Attorney Roy S. Lasswell during a meeting of the county board’s public service committee. Lasswell began to speak about alleged bribery, and Duffy “told Lasswell he should complain to O’Malley’s superiors.” The argument led to Lasswell dodging a punch from Duffy. Lasswell was arrested for resisting an officer when he tried to speak again, and Duffy ordered him ejected from the room. Lasswell denied the charges.³³

³² “John J. Duffy Funeral to be Held Today,” *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 04 July 1962,.a15; James Doherty, “Reconversion: GOP Needs in in 19th Ward,” *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 10 March 1946, S1; Quintard Taylor, “The Chicago Political Machine and Black-Ethnic Conflict and Accommodation,” *Polish American Studies* 29:1/2 (Spring): 47.

³³ “County Loses \$11,000 in Tax Sale of Shop,” *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 28 October 1950; “Duffy Swings, Misses Lawyer in County Row: Lasswell Dodges Faces Charge,” *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 12 April 1955.

Upon his death, his estate was valued at roughly \$150,000 (\$1.3 million in 2021 dollars) including a safe deposit box containing \$10,000 in \$100 bills.³⁴

³⁴ "John Duffy Estate Set at About \$150,000." *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 19 July 1962.

Clayton F. Smith Preserve

Smith was a long-time progressive Chicago Democratic politician who has been credited as having held public office continuously longer than anyone else—sixty-three years.

Born in Chicago in 1875, Smith at an early age left school to support his mother and sister, eventually doing odd jobs at an architectural firm. In 1899, after excelling on a civil service exam he found employment in City Hall. He quickly became a protégé of Carter Harrison five term mayor of Chicago. Smith moved through various departments from the collector's office to local improvements, even serving for a time as warden of county hospital. He eventually was elected City Treasurer and in 1919 at the age of 44 was elected alderman of the 28th ward. At that time, he said his priorities were to ensure the proper management of city finances as well as to increase public access to parks. "I am strong for playgrounds, small parks, and breathing places for our people....I will do all in my power to expand the parks and playgrounds for our children."³⁵ He was by this time an important insider in Democratic Party politics in the city and was seriously considered as a mayoral candidate.

Smith was elected President of the Cook County Board in 1934. He served twelve years in that post and another eight as a member of the board.³⁶ One of his important accomplishments was to approve the addition of more than 2,000 acres of land needed to complete the Forest Preserve District's 1929 plan to connect all its holdings in a ring surrounding the city. Later, Smith extended the reach of civil service in county government to the extent that 80% of positions required passage of the exam. In 1937, he proposed planning for a highway through the northwest side of the city. In 1939, he urged the County Board to require larger lots in rural areas of the county to ensure enough space for proper separation of wells and septic systems. He also was a proponent of long-range planning, ten to twenty years in the future.

Smith's political base was the 33rd Ward where he served as the long-time Democratic committeeman. His more than 60 years in that position led to him being known as the unofficial "Mayor of Logan Square." He persevered in the heavily Polish neighborhood due to his marriage to Mayme Paschen, daughter of an influential Polish political family. In 1959, while still serving on the County Board, the 84-year-old boasted that he never had a hint of scandal surrounding his public duties. "That is going some for a man in this game of politics which can be the most vicious business in the world." He attributed that to his ability to "say no" to the liars and cheats who hung about government and "make certain that you only have good men around you." This may have been more than political rhetoric. When Smith died, his personal estate was valued at only \$15,000.³⁷

³⁵ *Chicago Tribune*, 16 April 1919.

³⁶ *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 28 April 1949, WA5.

³⁷ Thomas Buck, *Chicago Tribune*, 11 April 1959, c14.

In 1957, then County Board President Dan Ryan approved a resolution naming 1,000 acres of preserve land along the Chicago River in honor of Clayton Smith. The press reported the honor brought tears to Smith eyes.³⁸

³⁸ *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 27 March 1957, 5.

Ned Brown Meadow

Edward Eagle Brown (1885-1959) was a prominent banker and attorney in Chicago for his entire life. Born into a family steeped in the law he attended Harvard University and in 1908 attained a law degree. Upon graduation, he worked at Hull House assisting the famous settlement house by directing boys' activities and teaching night classes. In 1910, he joined the legal department of the First National Bank of Chicago. In 1934, he rose to the presidency of that institution. Thereafter, Brown was a prominent figure in national financial affairs, advising on Federal Reserve policy and serving as an American representative at the famous Bretton Woods monetary conference in 1944.³⁹

Brown served in numerous civic posts including as head of the Forest Preserve Citizen Advisory Council. In that role, Brown played an energetic role in pushing for aggressive land acquisition. In 1945, for example, he recommended the acquisition of 6,000 additional acres, much of it from the Sanitary District. Among the properties acquired were the acres encompassing the Chicago Portage National Historic Site. Commenting on this service in an editorial the *Chicago Tribune* opined that "Chicagoans of the present and future are indebted to him for his valiant service to the community as chairman of the advisory committee of the forest preserve district." It went on to credit him for foreseeing when "subdivisions would reach farther and farther into the countryside, and he knew no time was to be lost if any of the natural beauty was to be left undisturbed." Brown played a key role in bringing the outsider Charles Sauers to direct the Forest Preserve District.⁴⁰

His activism included labor and anti-war causes, and he was president of the Chicago branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. He was reputed to be a descendant of the Potawatomie Tribe.⁴¹

³⁹ "Edward Eagle Brown Dies: Noted Banker Was 74," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 25 August 1959, 1.

⁴⁰ "Advise Adding 6,000 Acres to Forest Preserve", *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 24 May 1945, 20; "Edward Eagle Brown," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 26 August 1959, 16.

⁴¹ Michele Mohr, "What's in a Name?: Something to Ponder while Visiting the Forest Preserves," *Chicago Tribune*, 28 August 1994, 2.

Michael J. O'Malley Forest/O'Malley Ponds

Michael J. O'Malley (1942-2000) was president of the suburban Cook County community of Hoffman Estates for eleven years. O'Malley was born in Chicago to Irish immigrants from near the city of Galway. A life-long Catholic, O'Malley fathered a large family of five boys and five girls. His political career began in 1985 when he was elected a village trustee in Hoffman Estates. He served in that post until 1989 when voters made him Village President.

During his time as Village President, O'Malley attracted new business to the community, most notably Sears, Roebuck, & Company as well as a satellite campus of Northern Illinois University. The Sears relocation included a planned I-90 underpass for wildlife to move from the on-site wetlands to the forest preserve across the expressway. On his watch, the Village became the site of the Children's Advocacy Center, an organization devoted to helping children and their families deal with child sexual abuse. O'Malley supported environment friendly policies such as the reuse of an abandoned rail line by METRA as a way to reduce automobile pollution and congestion. In the mid-1990s, O'Malley openly courted the Bears to move to a Hoffman Estates site. He hosted Michael McCaskey on several site visits before talks were broken off.⁴²

O'Malley's reputation was partially blighted by charges of profiteering. In 1994, O'Malley put down \$70,000 on the home, and Chicago-area developer Raymond Plote, who had asked the Hoffman Estates Village Board to annex the home six weeks before O'Malley moved in, lent him the rest. Plote's companies received over \$10 million in contracts from Hoffman Estates. Hoffman Estates' attorney, Richard Williams told the *Chicago Tribune* O'Malley broke no laws in his housing arrangement with Plote, and that O'Malley did vote against giving Plote some contracts.⁴³

In 2008, following O'Malley's death his family donated more than 100 acres of land to the Forest Preserve District, and the area was then named the Michael J. O'Malley Preserve.⁴⁴ Many properties in the CCFPD are names after previous owner. This case could be interpreted in that way. Charges are often made against politicians, but these charges don't always result in a conviction. It might be important, in this case, to look at the deed of gift so see if there is a restriction on the gift from the family. This may determine the best course for this site.

⁴² Elizabeth Neff, "Michael J. O'Malley, Hoffman Estates Village President," *Chicago Tribune*, 19 September 2000; Mark Brown, "Bears still hunt for home," *Chicago Sun-Times*, 08 September 1997, 6; "Aurora-Barrington Rail Link Pushed," *Chicago Sun-Times*, 29 August 1993, 8.

⁴³ Desiree Chen and Carri Karuhn, "Hoffman Residents Give Mayor Benefit of Doubt on House: Say His Deeds Outweigh any Conflict," *Chicago Tribune*, 18 January 1998.

⁴⁴ "Forest preserve has a familiar ring," *Chicago Tribune*, 25 June 2008, 3.

Roman Pucinski Preserve/Pucinski Addendum

Roman Pucinski (1919 -2002) was a long-time politician particularly associated with Chicago's Polish community. He was born in Buffalo, N.Y. but grew up in Chicago. After attending Chicago Public schools, he went north to Evanston to Northwestern University where he graduated in 1941. During World War II, he served in the United States Army Air Force. He was a bombardier on forty-nine high risk missions over enemy territory including the first B-29 attack on Tokyo in 1944. Back in civilian clothes, Pucinski attended John Marshall Law School, although he never took the bar exam to practice as a lawyer. He worked his way through school as journalist for the *Chicago Sun-Times*. His political career began in 1952 when he was hired as the Chief Investigator for a special U.S. Congressional Committee charged with determining the facts behind the notorious Katyn Massacre.⁴⁵ The issue of special significance to Polish-Americans and Cold War America 's strong anti-Communist constituencies nationally, Pucinski's role raised his profile in Chicago Polonia. In 1956, his first attempt to capitalize on that notoriety failed to vault him into Congress. But in 1958, he successfully secured a seat in the house from a northwest side Chicago district. Pucinski was reelected six time between 1959 and 1973. He was a reliable supporter of the Democratic Party Congressional majority, staunchly anti-communist, active in aviation safety, and a supporter of higher education. In 1970, his legislation was credited with bringing an additional \$30 million to the Chicago Public School system. In 1972, Pucinski was the Democratic Party candidate for the U.S. Senate from Illinois. He accepted the long-shot nomination because the 1970 census cost Chicago one of its congressional seats and one of the Democrat representatives would have to step aside. Running against the popular incumbent Republican Charles Percy, Pucinski was handily defeated.⁴⁶

In 1973, Pucinski transitioned to local politics when he was elected alderman from the heavily Polish northwest side. After the death of longtime city boss Richard J. Daley, Pucinski bucked the regular party organization by entering the race for mayor. In a three-way contest with Michael Bilandic and Harold Washington, Pucinski finished third. He continued as 41st Ward alderman and supported the largely white block of representatives who opposed Harold Washington after he became Chicago's first black mayor. Pucinski continued in City Council until 1991 when he was defeated for reelection by the Republican Brian Doherty. Pucinski died in 2002.⁴⁷

⁴⁵ The Katyn Massacre was a series of clandestine murders conducted by the USSR state security of over 22,000 Polish army officers and civilian intellectuals in April and May of 1940. Nazi soldiers discovered the mass graves in 1943 and opened the site to International Red Cross inspectors. However Soviet authorities denied their responsibility and attempted to shift blame on the Nazis. The US Congressional investigation begun in 1952 clearly established communist guilt in the crime. See Allen Paul, *Katyn: the Untold Story of Stalin's Polish Massacre* (New York: Scribner Book co., 1991).

⁴⁶ James Janega and Gary Washburn, "Political, Polish and proud," *Chicago Tribune*, 26 September 2002, 1.1.

⁴⁷ Janet Rausa Fuller, "'Pooch' was a voice for voiceless - Legendary pol buried with phone," *Chicago Sun-Times*, 01 October 2002, 8; ROMAN PUCINSKI AND POLISH AMERICAN POLITICS, Conference and Student Leadership Workshops, LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO, November 2019.

Pucinski Addendum

A closer examination of Roman Pucinski's record does not reveal a direct connection to the Cook County Forest Preserves save for the location of the Pucinski Preserve in the northwest Chicago Congressional District that he represented for six terms between 1959 and 1973.

While in Congress, Pucinski was a staunch supporter of labor unions and environmental causes. In 1965, he supported a bill that would have lifted the Taft-Hartley restrictions on labor organizing. He also supported efforts to include farm laborers under federal minimum wage standards. In 1972, the AFL-CIO gave him a 90% rating. The League of Conservation voters (which was an alliance of environmental groups such as Friends of the Earth) scored his voting record as in "the top quarter" of all members of Congress. In 1972, he proposed amendments which strengthened the Clean Water Act, the Clean Air Act, and the Noise Control Act of 1972. He also opposed underground nuclear testing and fought efforts to increase logging in the national forests. Pucinski secured a large federal grant to "clean-up" the North Branch of the Chicago River.⁴⁸

Pucinski's civil rights record is nuanced. He supported the landmark Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Voting Rights Act of 1965, the Equal Rights Amendment, and extending the right to vote to American citizens eighteen years of age. His amendment to the 1971 Higher Education Act ensured that undergraduate admissions had to be gender neutral. He voted in favor of federally funded childcare for low-income workers, legal aid services, and anti-poverty programs. At the same time, he also opposed the Philadelphia Plan, an early affirmative action program. He voted in favor of federal support for school integration but opposed busing to achieve that result. His two favorite educational issues were vocational education and ethnic studies. He complained that the "melting pot" idea distorted the nation's racial and ethnic "mosaic." Pucinski believed that high school and college programs could "make Americans more aware of their own ethnicity and the ethnicity of others" and "bigotry and mistrusts can disappear if we know more about each other."⁴⁹

Pucinski was a loyal member of the Cook County Democratic machine. He admitted that as a congressman he spoke with Richard J. Daley several times each week. Hence, his political positions were strongly influenced by the "boss" in city hall. This was manifest in 1972 when he followed Daley's lead in offering only token support for George McGovern's insurgent campaign for the White House. When population loss necessitated redistricting on Chicago's north side, Pucinski accepted Daley's advice to give up his congressional seat and mount an up-hill Senate campaign against the popular Republican Charles Percy. That effort was sabotaged when Daley soured African Americans for the Democratic ticket by endorsing Edward Hanrahan for Cook County States Attorney. Hanrahan was justly reviled

⁴⁸ Caren Calish, *Ralph Nader Congress Project: Roman C. Pucinski, Democratic Representative from Illinois* (Washington, DC: Grossman Publishers, 1972), 6-7, 19-20.

⁴⁹ Ibid.

in the city's black wards for ordering the murder of Black Panther leader Fred Hampton. When Pucinski agreed to support Hanrahan's reelection bid he lost any chance on winning his bid for the Senate.⁵⁰

⁵⁰ Ibid, 17-18.

Seymour Simon Preserve

Seymour Simon (1915-2006) was Cook County Board President from 1962-1966. In a long political career that spanned nearly seventy years, Simon also served as a Chicago alderman, an unsuccessful candidate for governor of Illinois, and as a State Supreme Court Justice.

Simon began his political career as a Chicago Democratic machine loyalist. In City Council, he was a deputy of Alderman Thomas Keane, Richard J. Daley's corrupt and powerful floor leader. Daley handpicked Simon to be the new leader of the Jewish caucus within the Democratic Party. This led "Boss" Daley to approve Simon's elevation to the position of Cook County Board President in 1962. Simon's undoing as a political insider came in 1965 when he opposed a proposal to rezone 186 acres of land in Northfield Township that Alderman Keane, the alderman for the area, had planned as a landfill site. Keane then broke with Simon and, along with George Dunne of the County Board, opposed Simon's renomination to the position of president. The Republican candidate, Richard Ogilvie, won the post in the next election. Seymour Simon Preserve was created in October 1966 as an "honor" to Simon after being dumped by his own party. As a parting shot at his former mentor, Simon called a press conference and criticized Keane for his stated resistance to open housing agreements made by Mayor Daley with Dr. Martin Luther King saying the city was "honor bound" to uphold an end to racial real estate restrictions. However, Simon remained enough of a party loyalist that when he vacated his office, he took with him files and microfilms that indicated the political "sponsorship" of over 10,000 county employees much to the consternation of the incoming Republican board president.⁵¹

Simon returned to the Chicago City Council in 1967, this time as a thorn in the side of Keane and Daley. Opposing the machine was a no-win proposition in most cases although Simon was credited with "leading fights to eliminate pay toilets at O'Hare International Airport and to keep fees down in the city's parking garages." He explored running for governor in 1971 but withdrew after Daniel Walker made a strong showing with his "walk" around the state. In 1974, Simon, a lawyer by training, joined the Appellate Court and six years later defeated the machine's candidate for a seat on the Illinois State Supreme Court. On the court, Simon was renowned for his support for gun control laws and his opposition to the death penalty.⁵²

⁵¹ The reference to Thomas Keane as corrupt is based on his 1974 federal conviction on mail-fraud and conspiracy charges related to real estate deals. For Simon's early political career see Trevor Jensen and Joseph Sjostrom, "Seymour Simon: 1915 - 200 ; An independent political mind; Chicagoan was true to his beliefs in a career in politics and law that spanned nearly 70 years," *Chicago Tribune*, 27 September 2006, 1; George Tagge, "Democrats Reject Simon," *Chicago Tribune*, 11 March 1966; "County Board Honors Simon with Forest," 29 October 1966, 5a; David Halverson, "Simon Blocks Democrats on County Board: Sides with GOP in Final Act," *Chicago Tribune*, 29 November 1966, c9; "Ogilvie Asks Simon: Give Files Back," *Chicago Tribune*, 8 December 1966, 3.

⁵² Trevor Jensen and Joseph Sjostrom, "Seymour Simon: 1915 - 2006 ; An independent political mind; Chicagoan was true to his beliefs in a career in politics and law that spanned nearly 70 years," *Chicago Tribune*, 27 September 2006, 1.

Looking back on his career Simon proudly stated: "I think I've always been one to stand up and speak my own mind and march to my own drumbeat."

Thomas Jefferson Woods

Thomas Jefferson (April 13, 1743 – July 4, 1826) is known to most Americans as the principal author of the Declaration of Independence and the third President of the United States. Jefferson is also celebrated as diplomat, author, architect, and founder of the University of Virginia. In the twenty-first century, Jefferson's reputation has been reassessed with less flattering assessments of his role as a slave owner, advocate of white supremacy, and role in the ethnic cleansing of Native Americans. Hence, arguments both pro and con can be offered for the naming of a Cook County Forest Preserve after Thomas Jefferson.

Argument Against "Thomas Jefferson Woods"

Over the course of his life as a Virginia planter, Thomas Jefferson enslaved at least 600 individuals. Many were born and raised on his estates. Both men and women worked long hours in agricultural labor as well as in household duties and craft work. Children as young as ten were put to profitable labor. In his nail factory, adolescent boys worked. A long-suppressed passage in Jefferson's farm book indicates at least on one occasion "the small ones" working there were whipped for inattention to their duties. Elite slaves were rewarded with better clothing and sometimes with pay. Jefferson employed overseers who freely used the lash to maintain the pace of work. Although Jefferson condemned the institution of slavery during the 1770s and 1780s, he later became a tacit supporter. This is sadly supported by his response to the offer to emancipate his slaves that was made by the Polish soldier Thaddeus Kosciuszko. The latter had played a key role in the Revolutionary War and was an admirer of Jefferson. When Kosciuszko died in 1817, he left a huge bequest to Jefferson so that the sage of Monticello could free his slaves. In the words of Kosciuszko's will "giving them liberty in my name." However, Jefferson declined the bequest in order to continue to derive profit from his slaves. In this last decade of his life Jefferson argued for the expansion of slavery into the western territories. Unlike George Washington to labor in his last years to raise funds to free his slaves, Jefferson upon his death only offered manumission to a few members of the Heming's family.⁵³

In his 1782 book *Notes From Virginia*, Jefferson argued that if slavery was ended it must be followed by a separation of the races, perhaps through the colonization of the formerly enslaved outside the United States. His reasons included that "deep-rooted prejudices entertained by the whites; ten thousand recollections by the blacks of the injuries they have sustained; new provocations; the real distinctions nature has made; and many other circumstances, will divide us into parties, and produce convulsions, which will probably never end but in the extermination of the one or the other race." Later in this same text, Jefferson clearly stated his belief that people of African ancestry were inferior to those from Europe. "Comparing them by their faculties of memory, reason, and imagination, it appears to me that in memory they are equal to the whites; in reason much inferior, as I think one could scarcely be found capable of tracing and comprehending the

⁵³ Henry Wienczek, "The Dark Side of Thomas Jefferson," *Smithsonian Magazine*, (October, 2012), <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/the-dark-side-of-thomas-jefferson-35976004/>, accessed September, 2021.

investigations of Euclid; and that in imagination they are dull, tasteless, and anomalous.” Nonetheless, Jefferson engaged in a long sexual relationship with Sally Hemings, an enslaved mulatto woman that began when she was 15 or 16 years of age. It is likely she bore him six children. Hemmings may have entered a relationship with a pre-determined power dynamic but it is clear that along the way she exerted agency. She insured that her children would be free.⁵⁴

Thomas Jefferson’s racial views of American Indians were similarly tangled. Unlike African Americans, he believed Indians to be “in body and mind equal to the white man” but culturally inferior. Jefferson was an early supporter of the removal of Native Americans from the area east of the Mississippi River, a policy which today would be regarded as ethnic cleansing. His 1803 Louisiana Purchase made possible the policy later carried out by Andrew Jackson and subsequent presidents.⁵⁵

Argument For “Thomas Jefferson Woods”

It is hard to overestimate the impact of Thomas Jefferson’s rhetoric in the Declaration of Independence. The second sentence in the document famously declares: “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.” This bold statement of equality and natural rights has had global significance and has been echoed in the 1789 French Declaration on the Rights of Man, by Elizabeth Cady Stanton in the Declaration of Rights and Sentiments at the 1848 Women’s Rights Convention, by Abraham Lincoln in his immortal Gettysburg Address, in Ho Chi Minh’s Vietnamese Declaration of Independence in 1945, and by Martin Luther King in his 1963 “I have a dream” speech. Although Jefferson may not have lived up to his own statement, the phrase has been both aspirational and a measuring stick for the amount of progress – or lack thereof – towards this goal. Frederick Douglass and Martin Luther King certainly used the phrase in this way. Jefferson’s “self-evident” statement of equality preceded the Constitution and elevated that value to a core principle of the American Republic.

Thomas Jefferson’s original draft of the declaration included a strong condemnation of the institution on slavery, but this was eliminated at the insistence of representatives from Georgia and South Carolina who otherwise would have voted against American independence. Jefferson understood that slavery was a moral evil, but that it was deeply engrained in young America’s economy, North as well as South. He did pursue one significant measure against the peculiar institution. In 1807 he signed legislation ending the Atlantic slave trade between Africa and the United States.

⁵⁴ Thomas Jefferson quoted in *Notes on the State of Virginia*, “Jefferson’s Notes on Slavery,” <https://www.let.rug.nl/usa/documents/1776-1785/jeffersons-notes-on-slavery.php>, accessed September, 2021; for more on Jefferson and Hemmings see, Annette Gordon-Reed, *Thomas Jefferson and Sally Hemings: An American Controversy* (Charlottesville: Univ. of Virginia Press, 1997).

⁵⁵ See Bernard Sheehan, *Seeds of Extinction: Jeffersonian Philanthropy and the American Indian* (New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 1974).

Jefferson's 1803 Louisiana Purchase secured 827,987 square miles of territory, nearly doubling the size of the United States, and setting the nation on a transcontinental trajectory.

Assessment: The historian Gordon Wood has written: "In our present climate the fact that Jefferson was a racist slaveholder seems to defile and discredit all of his great liberal and democratic achievements." Paul Finkelman takes a different approach. He regards Jefferson as "a great leader" and goes on to observe "it is therefore all the more important to see, and distinguish, where that greatness flourished and where it failed. Understanding Jefferson and finding value in his life and work is not an all or nothing proposition."⁵⁶

Professionally, we do not think forest preserves should be named after people who had nothing to do with preserving the County's natural resources. Remove this name, Woodrow Wilson's name, and Warren G. Harding's name. These changes could result in calls of cancel culture but the argument to restrict naming, if there is to be naming after people, to folks with a connection to Cook County makes more sense.

⁵⁶ Gordon S. Wood, "Jefferson at Home," *New York Review of Books*, 13 May 1993, 6; Paul Finkelman, "Thomas Jefferson and Antislavery: The Myth Goes On," *The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, 102: 2 (1994): 193-228.

Arthur L. Janura Preserve

Arthur L. Janura (1920-2007) served as the Cook County Forest Preserve General Superintendent from 1964 to 1991. He was born to politics as his father had a long tenure as mayor of Berwyn, Illinois. As a young man, Janura served his country as a highly decorated soldier in World War II. He was a professionally trained forester with a degree from the University of Minnesota. Janura's career was aided by his long association with George Dunne, the long serving President of the County Board. Prior to becoming superintendent, Janura, as Dunne's protégé, had risen to the head of the Maintenance Division. During his tenure as agency head, the Forest Preserve District grew from just over 50,000 acres to 67,152 acres. He funded these expansions through the sale of property tax-supported bonds and through federal funding. He was known for being devoted to his job, and when he was fired in 1991, several critics and supporters agreed he was wholly devoted to the forest preserve district.⁵⁷ In 1968, he told the *Chicago Tribune* that "Open space in urban areas is now recognized as highly essential to man's well-being."⁵⁸

During his long tenure, Janura was frequently accused of running a "patronage army," in which jobs are under a temporary or "patronage" status—some for over 20 years. This allowed Janura a certain amount of leeway in hiring and firing, including bypassing traditional civil service requirements. "This keeps the district's staff and workers under Mr. Janura's personal control. It also keeps the choicest jobs available for his friends and relatives, who thickly populate the forest payroll," the *Tribune* wrote in 1986. The same article quoted Janura's top deputy, Marshall Silverstein, as saying, "Civil service is a waste of money, waste of time [...] Our patronage workers—we prefer them. We can fire them immediately."⁵⁹

Janura's public persona was as the "undisputed king of the forest." Several *Tribune* articles depicted Janura as a controlling presence. For example, the Internal Revenue Service began a 1975 investigation into two employees living on district property housing, which was assigned only by Janura without any written policies or oversight. Jeanne Quinn, an independent member of the forest preserve board, told the *Tribune*, "Arthur Janura sees the forest preserve as his life [...] You can't ask questions or offer suggestions without being seen as criticizing Arthur Janura." In the same article, a 25-year district veteran told the *Tribune* the 102 district houses were used to manipulate loyalty from staff. "Once you're in a house, he's really got you. If he gets mad at you he'll kick you out." A scandal growing out of the housing policy helped to end Janura's tenure. One of the district houses was a Southern-style colonnaded hill-top house in Orland Park with an in-ground swimming pool. It was rented for a mere \$50 per month to the district's personnel director who drew an annual salary of about \$50,000. At the time the story broke, personnel director was on

⁵⁷ William Recktenwald and Mount, Charles, "Janura steps down, but not out of county forest picture," *Chicago Tribune*, 04 June 1991.

⁵⁸ T. Buck, "More forest land is sought," *Chicago Tribune*, 28 July 1968.

⁵⁹ "Mr. Janura's Patronage Fortress," *Chicago Tribune*, 06 October 1986.

paid administrative leave while he contested a charge of fondling himself in the presence of a 12-year-old girl.⁶⁰

The head of the Citizen's Advisory Committee said, "I'm supposed to be chairman—but Janura is being his own advisory committee."⁶¹ However, Commissioner Richard Seibel, chairman of the district's Finance Committee, told the *Tribune*, "For all his faults, he treated the taxpayer's dollar as if it were his own, and was tight with the buck."⁶²

When Janura left his post in 1991 it was part of a much-celebrated effort by new County Board President Richard Phelan to "clean up" much lax management by his predecessors. Forcing Janura to yield control of the district was considered an important step in that direction. Janura passed away in 2007 at the age of 87 following a freak accident in his home.⁶³

⁶⁰ J. Davidson & Recktenwald, W., "Undisputed king of the forest: No critics allowed in Janura's Cook County domain," *Chicago Tribune*, 30 September 1986; Ray Long and Scott Fornek, "Home in the woods - on the taxpayers," *Chicago Sun-Times*, 14 July 1991.

⁶¹ Friends of the Forest Preserves, "The Forest Preserve District of Cook County: Study and Recommendations," Phase I, March 2002.

⁶² Charles Mount, "Forest Preserve Chief is Resigning," *Chicago Tribune*, 03 May 1991.

⁶³ Ray Long, "Phelan acts on rent-free homes - Forest staffers would pay up to \$250, utilities," *Chicago Sun-Times*, 27 October 1991.

Jens Jensen Grasslands and Woods and Water Reserve/Jens Jensen Preserve

Jens Jensen (1860-1951), a nationally recognized conservationist and prairie-style landscape architect, played an important role in the development of the Cook County Forest Preserve as well as the City of Chicago's West Park System. Over the course of his long career, he influenced the development of the Illinois State Park System and the Indiana Dunes State Park and National Lakeshore. He designed gardens for private clients. In 1913, he organized Friends of Our Native Landscape, a group designed to "protect tracts of Illinois landscapes of historic and scenic value to the people of the state."⁶⁴ Ultimately, this group impacted conservation activities throughout the Midwest.

Born on a family farm in Dybol, Denmark, Jensen attended the Jutland Agricultural College before emigrating to the United States at the age of 24. A lifelong conservationist, his love of nature benefited his early work as a foreman for the West Park Commission, then as superintendent of the Humboldt Park in 1895. His eventual turn to landscape design can be seen in parks like Garfield, Douglass, Pulaski, and Columbus, which featured a lagoon, prairie river and rustic swimming pool. He is considered a pioneer of the Prairie Style, which introduced native vegetation and forms into the gardens and green spaces of North America. He also had a signature 'council ring', a low stone circle around a fire pit meant to encourage gatherings.⁶⁵

Jensen believed in the interrelationship between people and landscape. His emphasis on place and the utilization of natural plantings were designed to provide urban dwellers with the rhythm of plant life on the prairie and provide them with a feel for the natural world. Jensen believed that an appreciation of the landscape allowed all groups, native-born Americans and immigrants, to appreciate the land on which they lived. It offered them an antidote to the modern industrial world of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century.

As Americans turned away from progressive ideals after World War I and he grew tired of wrangling with Chicago politicians, Jensen retired from the Chicago Parks Department.⁶⁶ He became a self-employed landscape architect. His later work includes the Lincoln Memorial Gardens in Springfield, IL. In 1935, he established The Clearing Folk School at Ellison Bay in Door County, Wisconsin,⁶⁷ a holistic exposure to art, ecology, horticulture, and ecology. In 1999, the Chicago Park District created a Jens Jensen Legacy

⁶⁴ *Friends of Our Native Landscape, 1914 Yearbook*, 3.

<http://www.idaillinois.org/digital/collection/highland003/id/38352>.

⁶⁵ Robert E Grese, "Jens Jensen." The Cultural Landscape Foundation. Accessed October 9, 2021.

<https://tclf.org/pioneer/jens-jensen>

⁶⁶ Dave Egan and William H. Tishler, "Jens Jensen, Native Plants, and the Concept of Nordic Superiority," *Landscape Journal* 18:1 (1999): 19.

⁶⁷ Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES. Associated Press, 1949. "JENS JENSEN DIES; LANDSCAPE EXPERT: DEVELOPER OF CHICAGO'S PARK SYSTEM DESIGNED EDESEL FORD, ROSENWALD, ARMOUR ESTATES." *New York Times*, 02 October 1951, <http://flagship.luc.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/historical-newspapers/jens-jensen-dies-landscape-expert/docview/112158783/se-2?accountid=12163>. Accessed October 9, 2021.

Project, the funds of which restored Jensen's works, including the Garfield Park Conservatory (home to plants around the world) and the prairie river at Columbus Park.

Joachim Wolschke-Bulmahn and Gert Gröening, German landscape architecture historians, have argued that natural landscaping represents an important component of National Socialism. They contend that a primary focus on native plants and landscapes is racist and in line with National Socialist landscapers who wished to "purge" foreign plants from Germany. Needless to say, this has generated a great deal of debate. In Highland Park, for example, there was an effort to rename Jensen Park based on their argument. Ultimately, after hearing from historians, landscape architects, preservationists, and other interested parties, the Park Board decided not to rename the park.⁶⁸

Dave Egan and William H. Tishler explore this controversy in their article, "Jens Jensen, Native Plants, and the Concept of Native Superiority." They dissect Wolschke-Bulmahn and Gröening's argument and they, along with other environmental historians and landscape architects, believe that regardless of Jensen's worries about modernity and dark views about the condition of the world in the 1930s (which Wolschke-Bulmahn and Gröening further assert represents Jensen's discussions about National Socialism) absolve Jensen of any association with Nazi beliefs. Egan and Tischler also point out that, regardless of Jensen's dark period of the 1930s, earlier in the century he spoke out against Madison Grant, a popular white supremacist, and volunteered time at Hull House working with immigrants.

Egan and Tischler write that landscape architects, environmentalists, and restorationists "recognize that the core ideas which underlie their disciplines were formed as an antidote to the emergence of modern America." They muse: "Will 'a new social structure founded on the soil' emerge from the act of planting and maintaining a natural garden or prairie restoration? Perhaps. And, keeping the memory of our native landscape alive and respecting Jensen for his contribution--mistakes and all--demands that we keep trying."⁶⁹ Jensen was sometimes described as 'hot-headed' or 'obsessive' about his work as well as worried about the state of the nation, but he was also a champion of natural ecology and the importance of nature to balance the modern and industrial.⁷⁰

⁶⁸ Karen Berkowitz, "Garden designer's legacy under fire: Jensen's views on race debated as Highland Park Board considers removing his name from park," *Chicago Tribune*, 15 November 9, <http://flagship.luc.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/newspapers.garden-designers-legacy-under-fire/docview/1733011450/se-2?accountid+12163>. Accessed September 29, 2021.

⁶⁹ Egan and Tishler, 26.

⁷⁰ Jim Robbins. "NATIVE GROUNDS: AN IMMIGRANT WHO LOVED THE PRAIRIE, JENS JENSEN WORKED HIS WAY UP FROM PARKS- DEPARTMENT LABORER TO BECOME THE FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT OF THE OUTDOORS," *New York Times* 16 May 2004, <http://flagship.luc.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/historical-newspapers/native-grounds/docview/92816971/se-2?accountid=12163>. Accessed October 9, 2021.

Irene C. Hernandez Picnic Grove

Irene Hernandez did not grow up privileged or endowed with any special qualities that gave her an advantage in life. What set her apart from others, and ultimately brought about the dedication of the Irene C. Hernandez Picnic Grove, was her strong sense of community and the need to serve and act in the best interest of her community's underprivileged. The current namesake of this site is an overwhelmingly deserving individual, as seen by the significance and magnitude of her work for her community and the City of Chicago.

Irene Hernandez was not a Chicago native, but even in her early life, a proclivity for hard work and resourcefulness was evident, characteristics that would serve her well later as a politician. Her parents were first-generation Mexican immigrants, and she grew up speaking Spanish at home.⁷¹ In Chicago, Hernandez capitalized upon her bilingual background to find work and became an "invaluable asset," working as a Spanish-English stenographer, a translator for the state's attorney's office, and a worker in the Argentine and Venezuelan consulates.⁷² This work gained her respect and knowledge of the inner-workings of law and the plights of Spanish-speaking minorities.

Hernandez had strong communal ties and observed the needs of the underprivileged populations in Cook County firsthand through her volunteerism within the Mexican-American community.⁷³ Hernandez had no political aspirations and was content with her contributions to Cook County as they stood. However, the unexpected death of Lillian Piotrowski left a vacancy on the Cook County Board of Commissioners that Mayor Richard Daley offered to Hernandez, making her the first Latina appointed to the Cook County Board of Commissioners.⁷⁴ Hernandez finished out the term of former commissioner Piotrowski and ran for and was elected in the next five consecutive elections for Cook County Board.⁷⁵ During her time in office, Hernandez kept the underprivileged in the forefront of her mind and worked to improve these marginalized groups. Furthermore, in supporting government policies and candidates, such as appointee John H. Hanly to the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners, Hernandez was "well aware of the immediate needs of [the] Spanish-speaking citizens."⁷⁶

After decades of political service and activism, Hernandez retired in 1994.⁷⁷ Prior to this, Hernandez was one of twelve women inducted into the Chicago Women's Hall of

⁷¹ Stephanie Banchemo, "Irene C. Hernandez, 1st Latina on County Board," *Chicago Tribune*, 29 September 1997.

⁷² Ibid.

⁷³ "History and Mission," Irene C. Hernandez Middle School: History and Mission, <https://www.ichernandez.org/about/history-and-mission>. Accessed February 8, 2022.

⁷⁴ Mike Amezcua, "Chapter 4," in *Making Mexican Chicago: From Postwar Settlement to the Age of Gentrification* (Chicago, Illinois: The Univ. of Chicago Press, 2022), 149-150.

⁷⁵ Banchemo, "Irene C. Hernandez."

⁷⁶ Irene C. Hernandez, "Hanly and Latinos," *Chicago Tribune*, 13 December 1977.

⁷⁷ Banchemo, "Irene C. Hernandez."

Fame in 1989.⁷⁸ Hernandez's area of achievement was listed as government, but her contributions extended far beyond simple governmental policies and actions. She was a public servant who worked in and out of office to better her community. Hernandez was a leader in Latinx representation in Cook County and paved the way for countless others to run for public office.

The current location of the Irene C. Hernandez Picnic Grove borders and serves as the entrance to the LaBagh Woods.⁷⁹ The LaBagh Woods were named after Ella LaBagh, a leader of the Irving Park Women's Club and the initiative to establish the Forest Preserves.⁸⁰ While LaBagh's contributions to the Cook County Forest Preserves are assuredly greater than Hernandez's, both contribute to the shared history of Chicago. While Labagh's efforts were environmental, Hernandez strove to improve Cook County through political action. The namesakes for these neighboring properties had differing backgrounds, goals, and means for instilling change. Nevertheless, it is fitting that these two women reside next to each other: two pieces of an ongoing story of women striving for the power to cause change in a world not catered to them.

Of the hundreds of sites that fall under the Cook County Forest Preserve, only a marginal few are named after women or people of color.⁸¹ Chicago is a diverse city with citizens and immigrants hailing from all corners of the world, yet the representation of these racial and ethnic groups, as well as women, are severely lacking. The Irene C. Hernandez Picnic Grove acknowledges a significant figure in the diversification of Chicago politics and a tireless public servant who went above and beyond her political duties. The picnic grove is a small but effective step towards greater representation for women and minorities in Cook County.

⁷⁸ Barbara Mahany, "Women's Hall of Fame Welcomes 12 Inductees," *Chicago Tribune*, 25 August 1989, 22.

⁷⁹ "Irene C. Hernandez Family Picnic Grove," IL - Irene C. Hernandez Family Picnic Grove [5464] - Park Rx America, 28 September 28 2020, <https://parkrxamerica.org/m/5464/irene-c-hernandez-family-picnic-grove>.

⁸⁰ "Story 5: "LaBagh Woods," STORY 5: "LaBagh Woods - Inside, Out & About - A Year Along the Chicago-Calumet River - About the River - Friends of the Chicago River." Accessed February 8, 2022, <https://www.chicagoriver.org/about-the-river/inside-out-around/story-5-labagh-woods>.

⁸¹ Radhika Miraglia, "What's in a Name? Names Can Build Community or Marginalize a People," n.d.

John E. Traeger Family Picnic Area

John Ernest Traeger was born in 1892 in Chicago, Illinois, and served as the Cook County Commissioner for the Board of Cook County from 1932 until 1951. His time on the board spanned a total of eighteen years, with a total of over twenty years spent serving the county.⁸² John Ernest Traeger was both socially and politically involved in Cook County during the 20th century, although not involved with the Cook County Forest Preserves.

John Ernest Traeger was raised in Chicago, Illinois and attended St. John's Military Academy in Delafield, Wisconsin. Traeger graduated from the Academy in 1911 before working in banking and real estate. During World War I, Traeger served in the army and after the war, was active in the James Brophy Post of the American Legion. Following the war, John Ernest Traeger served as the assistant sheriff of Cook County from 1928 to 1930 during his father's second term as sheriff.⁸³

John Ernest Traeger's social involvement in Cook County was encouraged by his father, John Edward Traeger, who served as Cook County Coroner, Collector, Treasurer, Comptroller and Sheriff. Traeger's father prioritized personal contact in his various positions and encouraged his son to do the same. This orientation meant not just paying attention to the job but also to the larger life of the county.⁸⁴ Socially, John Ernest Traeger's own involvement in the community included being an active member of the German, Germania, and South Shore Country clubs in Chicago, Illinois as well as the American Legion.⁸⁵

John Ernest Traeger's political involvement began in 1930, when Traeger won his first elected post as a member of the Old Board of Assessors. However, he was unable to serve the entirety of the term because the board was abolished in 1932. Traeger then successfully ran for a position as Cook County Commissioner.⁸⁶

During his time as a Cook County Commissioner, Traeger endorsed Edward Joseph Kelly as the mayor of Chicago.⁸⁷ Kelly was handpicked for mayor by Cook County Democratic party chairman Patrick A. Nash. The two men built what was referred to as the *Kelly-Nash Machine*, which dominated Chicago Democratic politics. While serving as mayor,

⁸² "John E. Traeger Dies; On County Board 18 Years: Expect J. J. Touhy to be Named to Vacancy," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 13 February 1951, <http://flagship.luc.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/historical-newspapers/john-e-traeger-dies-on-county-board-18-years/docview/178122548/se-2?accountid=12163>.

⁸³ "John E. Traeger Dies."

⁸⁴ Pearl Rubins, "Jurymen Find Old Master's Advice Sound: Traeger Draws on Lore of 59 Years," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 8 August 1943, <http://flagship.luc.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/historical-newspapers/jurymen-find-old-masters-advice-sound/docview/176824198/se-2?accountid=12163>.

⁸⁵ "John E. Traeger Dies."

⁸⁶ *Ibid.*

⁸⁷ "Political Notes," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 8 February 1939, <http://flagship.luc.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/historical-newspapers/political-notes/docview/175246054/se-2?accountid=12163>.

Kelly made the Republican Party in Chicago essentially nonexistent, opposed property and state income tax, financially rewarded loyal adherents to the *Kelly-Nash Machine*, and recruited black voter support. The recruitment of black voters for the Democratic party ultimately formed the black vote into a commodity for white politicians who sought to maintain political control of Chicago.⁸⁸

When offered the position of Chicago postmaster, Traeger turned it down citing that, “[m]y present elective office seems to mine as long as I want it, and I have a wife and two children to support.”⁸⁹ Traeger served as a Commissioner until he passed away in February of 1951 at the age of 58. He had been ill since September of the previous year, and left behind an estate worth \$170,000.⁹⁰

John Ernest Traeger served the county as a Commissioner for 18 years, with additional public service as the Assistant Sheriff for two years. The resolution to name the John E. Traeger Picnic Area in honor of his service to Cook County was approved in 1993.⁹¹ The John E. Traeger Family Picnic Area is located at East Touhy Avenue, east of Talcott Road in Park Ridge, Illinois.

⁸⁸ William Roger Biles, “Mayor Edward J. Kelly of Chicago: Big City Boss in Depression and War” (PhD diss., Univ. of Illinois at Chicago Circle, 1981), 275-276.

⁸⁹ “John Traeger, County Board Member, Turns Down Postmaster Bid,” *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 29 July 1948, <http://flagship.luc.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/historical-newspapers/john-traeger-county-board-member-turns-down/docview/177489415/se-2?accountid=12163>.

⁹⁰ “Commissioner Traeger Leaves \$170,000 Estate,” *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 22 February 1951, <http://flagship.luc.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/historical-newspapers/commissioner-traeger-leaves-170-000-estate/docview/178080344/se-2?accountid=12163>.

⁹¹ Cook County Forest Preserve material provided by the Cook County Forest Preserve District Office.

LaBagh Woods

Ella LaBagh was born in 1856. She was a naturalist and the director of the Club Civic Committee of the Irving Park Woman's club in the early 20th century.⁹² In this position, LaBagh contributed to several projects for the enrichment of the Chicago public, but her special area of interest and the project for which she is best remembered is her campaign to protect the area of land now named after her. LaBagh died in 1945 at the age of 89, four years after LaBagh Woods had been given her name.

LaBagh first became interested in the fate of the 600-acre tract of land that is now LaBagh Woods in 1901, though some accounts trace her work to as early as 1897. She observed that mature trees were being cut down for use as fuel in the nearby brickyards. Intending to protect the natural land from destruction and aided by her husband in the role of photographer, LaBagh launched LaBagh's photographs of the woods and areas that might be good for public gatherings were shown and the movement was eventually picked up by newspapers. By 1903, the issue had gone to the County Commissioners and the forest preserve district was organized by 1915.⁹³

The naming of the former Snell's Forest after Ella LaBagh was the result of a campaign spearheaded by the Irving Park Woman's Club to commemorate LaBagh's work. The former name was in memory of a real estate owner, Amos Snell, who had donated the land to the City of Chicago, but who was not involved in the preservation of the land. The Forest Preserve District's Charles G. Sauers spoke at the renaming ceremony for LaBagh Woods and LaBagh herself was present.⁹⁴ A 1940 article on the renaming of Snell's Woods to LaBagh's woods mentions that another tract of land in Shawnee National Forest was also named for Ella LaBagh in the spring of 1939. This commemoration was also due to her work in preserving forest spaces and her connections with the Irving Park Woman's Club.⁹⁵

LaBagh's memory continues to inspire volunteers in general and young woman specifically to act in the service of preserving and studying the plant life of LaBagh Woods. According to a 2016 article, a group of young woman volunteers who remove invasive species from the area in an effort to protect the native plant life refer to themselves as

⁹²Abbey Johnson, "IRVING PK. CLUB TO CELEBRATE 70TH BIRTHDAY: WOMAN'S GROUP TO HOLD PARTY APRIL 7," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 30 March 1958. <https://www.proquest.com/historicalnewspapers/irving-pk-club-celebrate-70th-birthday/docview/182073149/se-2?accountid=303>.

⁹³ "Rename Forest for the Woman Who Saved it: Forest Renamed for Woman," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 08 November 1940. <https://www.proquest.com/historical-newspapers/rename-forest-woman-who-saved/docview/176370727/se-2?accountid=303>.

⁹⁴ "DEDICATE FOREST AREA TO WOMAN NEXT THURSDAY," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 03 November 1940. <https://www.proquest.com/historical-newspapers/dedicate-forest-area-woman-next-thursday/docview/176472693/se-2?accountid=303>.

⁹⁵ "Rename Forest."

“Ladies of LaBagh.”⁹⁶ Another volunteer, Jeff Skrentny, who works with a stewardship team to protect LaBagh woods as a sanctuary for endangered wildlife, mentioned LaBagh’s work as an inspiration when he spoke to a local newspaper in 2016. Skrentny credited LaBagh with the protection of two specific trees that still stand in LaBagh Woods that are between 250 and 400 years old.⁹⁷

⁹⁶ J. Breen, “‘Ladies of LaBagh’ help keep Chicago Forest preserve wild,” *DNainfo Chicago*, 2 September 2016. <https://www.dnainfo.com/chicago/20160829/forest-glen/ladies-of-labagh-help-keep-chicago-forest-preserve-wild/>. Accessed February 14, 2022.

⁹⁷ B. Nadig, “Long-gone animal returning to Woods,” *Nadig Newspapers - Northwest Side Local Newspapers*, 16 February 2016. <http://nadignewspapers.com/2016/02/16/long-gone-animal-returning-to-woods/>. Accessed February 14, 2022. (This was originally formatted on a MAC and I can’t fix the formatting here.)

Jerome Huppert Woods

Jerome Huppert dedicated his life to the service of Chicago, working as a Cook County board member, committeeman, and alderman. He began his career in 1934 as a cashier for the Chicago Park District at the age of twenty-eight. In 1945, he was elected Alderman of the 50th ward almost ten years later in 1945.⁹⁸ In 1947, Huppert became the secretary of the Chicago Park District after losing the aldermanic election to his Republican opponent Alban Weber.⁹⁹ He served as a committeeman for the 50th ward in 1955, which consists of a portion of the West Ridge neighborhood within the boundaries of Jerome Street to the north, Ridge Boulevard to the east, Granville Avenue to the south, and N. Monticello Avenue to the west.¹⁰⁰ In 1961, Huppert was appointed to the Cook County Finance Board by Board President George Dunne to fill a vacant spot and won re-election to the position the following year.¹⁰¹ President Dunne seemed to take a liking to Huppert since he appointed him to a special real estate tax commission in 1977 as well.¹⁰²

While working as a committeeman for 25 years at this point, along with his other and newer appointments, Huppert became the center of attention within the Far North side by 1979. In February of that year, Huppert and other Cook County Board members voted to raise their salaries thirty percent, with regular members increasing their pay from \$25,000 to \$32,500 and Huppert's raise increasing from \$27,500 to \$35,000 as Chairman of the Finance Board.¹⁰³ Dunne denied the board's vote to raise the salaries and came forward saying he would deny his own pay raise as well.¹⁰⁴ He did not include the raises in the following payroll, which prompted Huppert to take legal action against him and County Comptroller Thomas Beck.¹⁰⁵ Dunne believed that it was illegal to vote to increase your own pay raise right after an election, and had prepared the budget to grant a 5.5 percent increase to board members for the year of 1979. However, other executives under Dunne were prepared to receive a 10 to 12 percent raise.¹⁰⁶ Huppert and other members believed they, along with the county assessor, sheriff, treasurer, clerk, and President Dunne himself, should be entitled to more money and were confident in their position.¹⁰⁷ However, the court dismissed Huppert's case at the circuit level.¹⁰⁸

⁹⁸ "Obituary 14 -- No Title," *Chicago Tribune*, 19 January 1983.

⁹⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰⁰ "City of Chicago." Accessed February 10, 2022.

https://www.chicago.gov/content/dam/city/depts/dgs/InformationTechnology/GIS/Ward_50.pdf.

¹⁰¹ "Obituary 14."

¹⁰² Ibid.

¹⁰³ William Juneau and Charles Mount, "Plan Suit for Raises: Board may Battle Dunne in Court," *Chicago Tribune*, 15 February 1979.

¹⁰⁴ Ibid.

¹⁰⁵ Ibid.

¹⁰⁶ Ibid.

¹⁰⁷ Ibid.

¹⁰⁸ "Obituary 14."

Huppert continued to make headlines in the *Chicago Tribune* when tensions arose between him and rival Ald. Bernard Stone, who was elected in 1973, during their campaigns for the committeeman election of 1980. They exchanged comments about one another over their actions during a Chicago blizzard earlier that year.¹⁰⁹ Their strained professional relationship even went as far to separate their office space. Stone moved his office out of the building to get away from Huppert, although he only made it two blocks down N. Western Avenue.¹¹⁰

Jerome Huppert dedicated nearly 50 years to public service and held various titles within the county and the city. The stories reported in the press focused on his political encounters which made waves through opposition, where every reader had their own opinion on the matter. The Jerome Huppert Woods, located in River Grove, Illinois, is within Cook County but does not have any other relation, especially physical land relation, to its namesake. Although he spent his life working and living on the Far North side, there is no denying that Jerome Huppert was passionate about his work for the City of Chicago and Cook County.

¹⁰⁹ Juneau and Mount.

¹¹⁰ Ibid.

Kloempken Prairie

This site is named for Robert C. Kloempken (1922-1987) a medical doctor who lived in Huntley, Illinois. Kloempken was an early proponent of prairie restoration. After cultivating an amateur interest in natural history Kloempken gradually restored lands surrounding his rural home to their natural prairie condition. His example inspired others and led to the creation Des Plaines Prairie League which undertook the same mission in northwestern Cook County. Restoration work on the site began in 1989.¹¹¹

¹¹¹ "Friendship Spurs DP Prairie Project," *Des Plaines Journal*, 11 September 1987.

Whealan Pool Aquatic Center

Emmett Whealan was (1876-1950) County Board President from 1931 to 1942. Whealan was not your typical member of the 20th Century Cook County Democratic Party Machine. He originally worked as a typesetter for a series of Chicago newspapers before being elected Committeeman in the old 29th Ward. He also operated a successful real estate business in the Chicago Lawn neighborhood. He first joined the county board in 1919. Whealan was a protégé of Anton Cermak and, when the later became mayor of Chicago in 1931, he tabbed Whealan to succeed him as board president. His term as president of the county board coincided with the difficult years of the Great Depression. He made several trips to the nation's capital to apply for special relief funds to maintain Cook County's support for the unemployed. Whealan often clashed with Democratic Party chief Patrick A. Nash. Unlike most politicians of his day Whealan was a strong supporter of the Art Institute of Chicago and the Chicago Historical Society. The pool was named after him when it was opened in 1932.¹¹²

¹¹² "Whealan, 74, Ex-County Official, Dies," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 19 February 1950, 1; "Mayor will Go Before R. F. C. In New Fund Plea: Officials and Relief Heads Going to Washington," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 26 November 1932, 6.

McCormick Woods

Edith Rockefeller (1872-1932) was best known as a socialite, philanthropist, and a real estate developer. She was the daughter of John D. Rockefeller, the co-founder of Standard Oil, and she married Harold Fowler McCormick from Chicago. The couple wanted to invest in their city and did a lot of philanthropic work for the city, including donating 83 acres of land to the Forest Preserves of Cook County which would later be known as the McCormick Woods. Edith McCormick donated the parcel of land with the intention of establishing a zoo for educational purposes as well as a recreation spot for the public. The zoo was established and has since expanded to take up over 200 acres and provides the community with a connection to nature that they may otherwise have lacked.¹¹³

While the couple engaged in a great deal of social and philanthropic work together, McCormick spearheaded many of her own causes. One of her earliest philanthropic endeavors was her support of the Chicago's Juvenile Court System. It had been established in 1899 but hadn't allotted funds to pay the juvenile probation officers, so McCormick stepped in and helped fund their work. In 1909, she became a charter member of the women's auxiliary, Friends of American Art at the Art Institute of Chicago.¹¹⁴ Her main endeavor, however, was bringing opera to Chicago. In 1909 she, her husband, and their wealthy friends from Chicago and New York founded the Grand Opera Company, and Edith McCormick was the main driving force behind its popularity and growth. Alongside her work behind the scenes of the opera culture developing in Chicago, she also was instrumental in bringing the spectacle of opera to the city. She would have lavish dinner parties and all of the guests were expected to join her at the opera. She also used these parties as an opportunity to invite people who may not have had the opportunity to experience the opera on their own.¹¹⁵

Beyond the more social or public work that Edith McCormick was involved in, she was very much involved in bringing Jungian psychology to the United States. She paid for his works to be translated to English, formed the Psychological Club in 1916 in Zurich, and established a psychoanalytic practice in Chicago, had over 50 consistent clients, and attracted social elites from all over the country.¹¹⁶

While she was known for being a philanthropist and being generous with her and her husband's money, she also donated to events that would be seen as inappropriate today. In 1932, she participated in a program, the "breadline frolics," that was being put on in Chicago. The frolics were funded by the wealthy of the city and publicly endorsed by McCormick. The "breadline frolics," which provided free admission to people rendered

¹¹³ Letters to the Editor. "Brookfield Zoo, a top tourist attraction, deserves state funding for repairs." *Chicago Sun-Times*, 29 April 2019. NewsBank: Access World News.

<https://infoweb.newsbank.com/apps/news/document-views?p=AWNB&docref=news/1732002462A1B130>.

¹¹⁴ Rima L. Schultz, *Women Building Chicago 1790-1990: A Biographical Dictionary* (Bloomington: Indiana Univ. Press, 2001), 549.

¹¹⁵ Ibid.

¹¹⁶ Ibid.

homeless during the depression, were a minstrel show with white actors performing in blackface.¹¹⁷

Edith McCormick's legacy is one of extreme generosity, community development, and advocacy for women and children specifically. She seems to have dedicated her adult life to bettering Chicago and providing avenues intellectual, systemic, and personal development to her friends and community through her work with Jung, her funding of the Juvenile Court System, and her dedication to opera. She was not, however, immune to scandal and behavior that is not acceptable today.

¹¹⁷ "'Breadlines Frolics' Flamed in Chicago: Idle Actors, College Men and a Professor will be in show backed by the wealthy, old-timers in the cast. Owner gives theater for free admission to jobless – Edith Rockefeller McCormick aids", *New York Times* 25 April 1932.
<http://flagship.luc.edu/login?url=https://proquest.com/historical-newspapers/breadline-frolics-flamed-chicago/docview/99733704/se-2?accountid=12163>. Accessed February 13, 2022.

Major Taylor Trail

Marshall “Major” Taylor (1878-1932) not only set cycling records but also challenged the Jim Crow laws and racism that characterized late nineteenth and early twentieth century America. Taylor competed in the United States, Canada, Europe, New Zealand, and Australia. He was the World Cycling Champion in 1899 and the American Sprint Champion in 1900.¹¹⁸ Cook County and the City of Chicago celebrate his achievements in a series of trails managed by the Chicago Park District and the Cook County Forest Preserve District. The Major Taylor Trail of the Cook County Forest Preserve District runs from Dan Ryan Woods South to Whistler Woods. In addition to the segments maintained by the CCFPD, the trail also includes many paved segments and off-street paved segments under the care of the Chicago Park District and some on-street components. The ‘The Major’ Taylor Trail Mural by artist Bernard Williams, comprised of segments chronicling Taylor’s life, stretches “400 feet on the pedestrian bridge over the Little Calumet River.”¹¹⁹ The impact Taylor had on the African American community and world of sports has been significant and reflects his hard work, dedication, and commitment to the sport he loved. Furthermore, the oppression and racism that he faced as he broke into the all-white racing world represents the struggles and challenges that African Americans continue to confront.

Taylor began his career in Indianapolis, Indiana. Born in Indianapolis on November 26, 1878 to Saphronia Kelter Taylor and Gilbert Taylor, a Civil War veteran who “worked as a carriage driver for the Southards, a wealthy white family.” Taylor took his son to work and, while there, young Taylor befriended the son of the Southard family and was introduced to the bicycle. When the Southard family moved to Chicago in 1892, they left a bicycle for him as they recognized the talent Taylor possessed for riding one. By the age of fourteen, Taylor performed unique stunts for the customers at a local bicycle store where he received the nickname “Major” because of the military outfit he wore when performing.¹²⁰

As the years went by, Taylor took his interest in cycling more seriously as he won several races in the Midwest. When Taylor reached eighteen, he turned a professional, and was an instant hit, becoming the first African American on the cycling circuit. However, despite his prowess on his bicycle, he faced racial barriers within the sport and in the communities and sport venues in which he raced. He relocated to Worcester, Massachusetts in 1895, the center of the American bicycle industry, where overt racism was less intense. After a successful racing career that took him to Europe, Australia, and New Zealand and included races in the United States, Taylor retired in 1910. Unsuccessful business ventures and illness sapped his resources and Taylor died impoverished in Chicago

¹¹⁸ Major Taylor Association, Inc., “Who was Major Taylor?”

<http://www.majortaylorassociation.org/who.shtml>. Accessed March 18, 2022.

¹¹⁹ Nichole Shaw, “South Side Murals Recall First African American Sports Superstar, Marshall ‘Major’ Taylor,” *Chicago Sun-Times*, 22 July 2021.

¹²⁰ Samuel Momodu, “Marshall ‘Major’ Taylor (1878-1932), *Blackpast*, 12 February 2007,

<https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/people-african-american-history/taylor-marshall-w-1878-1948/>. Accessed March 18, 2022.

in 1932. Professional cyclists and Frank Schwinn of the Schwinn Bicycle Company raised sufficient money in 1984 to transfer Taylor's remain from an unmarked grave to Mount Greenwood Cemetery.¹²¹

Taylor's life story, his cycling, and his battle against racism has been celebrated and remembered in various ways. The location of the Major Taylor Trail in a community home to a minority population has been a source of pride to local residents.¹²² Residents in Worcester, Massachusetts formed The Major Taylor Association to honor Taylor and share his story. Cycling clubs affiliated with the Association draw African American members who "seek to use cycling as a way to empower the African-American communities in their areas."¹²³

¹²¹ Momodu; Lynne Tolman, "Major Taylor Biography at a Glance," <http://www.majortaylorassociation.org/who.shtml>. Accessed March 18, 2022; Shaw.

¹²² Shaw.

¹²³ Danielle Taylor, "Honoring the Legacy of African American Cycling Legend Major Taylor," <https://www.railstotrails.org/trailblog/2017/february/16/honoring-the-legacy-of-african-american-cycling-legend-major-taylor/>. Accessed March 18, 2022.

Bob Mann Woods

Bob Mann Woods is named for Roberts Mann (1891-1975), long time Director of Conservation for the Forest Preserve District. Indiana born Mann was trained as an engineer and it was in that capacity that he joined the Cook County Forest Preserve District in 1932 as Assistant Chief of Construction. After serving the district in many other capacities Mann moved to conservation in 1954, a post that allowed his passion for the outdoors to bloom. He became a regular columnist on nature for the *Chicago Tribune*. He is well remembered today for his authorship of *Origin of Names and Histories of Places, Including Major Forests and Holdings, Picnic Areas and Recreational Facilities, Nature Preserves, Aquatic Areas, and Wildlife Refuges in the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois* which he assembled in 1965.¹²⁴

Mann's long service in the district made him wary of the negative impact of patronage and pork barrel imposed on the District by its political masters. However, he was ever optimistic that committed professionals could hold true to the District's conservation mission. "It requires great tenacity of purpose and constant hearkening back to the intent of our charter to protect these preserves from overdevelopment and wrongful use."¹²⁵

¹²⁴ "Naturalist Roberts Mann dies," *Chicago Tribune*, 03 May 1975, n_a24.

¹²⁵ Roberts Mann, "Policies Involved in the Design and Administration of Naturalistic Areas Adjacent to Metropolitan Areas," Paper delivered to the Michigan Academy of Science, Arts, and Letters, 1939; revised January 1, 1947, 9.

Allison Woods

According to Alfred Andreas' *History of Cook County*, a "Mr. Allison" came to the area around the present municipality of Des Plaines in 1834. Roberts Mann's *Origin of Names and History of Places* indicates that a bridge located near the property was long known as "Allison's Bridge." However, Andreas' *History of Cook County* indicates the first bridge across the Des Plaines River was built by a "Dr. Austin" who was Allison's neighbor. Nothing more is known of the Allison family save that in 1918 the Forest Preserve District obtained the tract via condemnation from J. Albert Allison and his brother and sister.¹²⁶

¹²⁶ Alfred T. Andreas, *History of Cook County* (Chicago: Western History Company, 1884), 490-491.

Andrew Toman Grove

Andrew J. Toman (1905-1979) was a medical doctor of Czech descent who long served Cook Country in a variety of professional roles. Chicago born Toman was well educated in the local politics by his father who served terms as Cook County Sheriff and as Treasurer. In the 1930s, Dr. Toman served as medical director of the Chicago House of Corrections, aka Bridewell. He later served as Cook County Coroner and as a Democratic Party Committeeman. During World War II, Toman was a Lieutenant Commander in the Navy and served on hospital ships in the Pacific Theater of war. On the *U.S.S. Mifflin*, off the island of Iwo Jima in 1945, Toman operated on wounded GI's almost constantly for four days and nights. Toman's greatest contribution to the county was his successful lobby to end the Office of County Coroner. In this he was successful when the elected Coroner's Office was replaced by the professional Office of the Medical Examiner.¹²⁷

¹²⁷ "Navy Surgeon Comes Home," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 12 July 1945, 5; "Dr. Toman dies; last Cook County coroner," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 03 August 1979, c11.

Paddock Woods

Paddock Woods is named for James Paddock who in 1834 became the first Euro-American settler in Palos Township. He is considered the founder of Palos Park. He settled his family on the banks of Mill Creek on government land near what is now 93rd Street and Kean Avenue. After squatting on the property for a year, on June 24, 1835 Paddock became the legal landowner, buying 1040 acres for \$1.25 an acre. In the late 19th century, the amateur archaeologist Alfred Scharf visited the site and recorded on a map (now in the Chicago History Museum) "the pioneer village" at the "Paddock Settlement," which consisted of six houses. Most of these buildings were still there when the County acquired the property in 1917 at which time the structures were destroyed.¹²⁸

¹²⁸ "Palos History File," Loyola University Public History Program.

Paul H. Douglas Preserve/Paul H. Douglas Trail

Paul H. Douglas (1892-1976) was a distinguished liberal Democratic politician who served in the United States Senate from 1949 to 1967. Douglas was widely regarded in his lifetime as a man of high character. He earned this in 1941 when he enlisted in the Marine Corps at the age of fifty, the oldest recruit to endure boot camp. He served heroically in the Pacific, was wounded twice, and returned from the war partially disabled. After the war, he returned to faculty duty in the Economics Department at the University of Chicago. Although esteemed as a scholar, he resigned from the University of Chicago department because of its deeply conservative approach to economic policy. In 1948, he was elected to the U.S. Senate. His career there was marked by advocacy for civil rights and opposition to “pork barrel” spending. He also was an important supporter of the plan to create the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.¹²⁹

¹²⁹ For a full history of Douglas’s life and career see, Roger Biles, *Crusading Liberal: Paul H. Douglas of Illinois* (DeKalb: Northern Illinois Univ. Press, 2002).

Pulaski Woods/Pulaski Woods–East/Pulaski Woods–South

Pulaski Woods is named after Casimir Pulaski (1745-1778) a Polish noble who joined the American Revolutionary Army in its fight for independence. Serving a general officer, he was credited with founding the United States Cavalry. Pulaski was killed in 1778 leading an attack on British forces near Savannah, Georgia. When large scale Polish immigration swept into Chicago in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, Pulaski's deeds were promoted to demonstrate the potential patriotism of the new arrivals. A small monument to Pulaski is situated in the woods which are part of the Palos Division, and which is always decorated with Polish flags and flowers. This demonstrates Pulaski's continued importance to the Chicago area's large Polish population. In recent years, transgender citizens have been drawn to Pulaski's fame after a 2019 study of his exhumed remains suggested the possibility that the general had certain female physical characteristics.¹³⁰

¹³⁰ Jack Pinkowski Ph.D, "Mysteries Surrounding Casimir Pulaski," *White Eagle*, http://www.poles.org/L_Kaz/E_Kaz.html, Accessed February, 2022.

Harry H. Semrow Driving Range

Harry H. Semrow (1915-1987) was a prominent Chicago area politician for three decades, including service as a Cook County Commissioner. As a young man, he was a proficient pianist and studied at the American Conservatory of Music. He left the keyboard behind in 1941 when he enlisted in the Navy in the wake of the Pearl Harbor attack. After the war, he founded with his brother a metal fabrication company named Semrow Products. More than a leading businessman, Semrow was active in civic causes. At various times, he was chairman of the Red Cross and the Boy Scouts, and he led successful fundraising drives for the Lions Clubs and the Better Boys Foundation. In his free time, Semrow was an avid sailor who crossed the Atlantic Ocean in his yacht *The Senator* and he was an expert in celestial navigation.

His political career began in the local affairs of the far northwest side of Chicago's 40th Ward. With that as a power base in 1956, he was elected to the Illinois General Assembly. He left the legislature in 1961 when he was appointed Post-Master of Chicago by newly elected John F. Kennedy. He served that position until 1966, making a reputation for responsible fiscal management by reducing the office's budget by \$3 million. That same year, he was elected to the Cook County Board. However, his bid for the position of president was upended by Republican Richard Ogilvie.

Semrow's most notable public service were the seventeen years he spent as a commissioner for the Cook County Property Tax Appeals Board. In 1983, Semrow was accused of taking a sizable bribe from the head of a prominent Chicago real estate firm. The case was a major corruption investigation that netted 29 indictments, and which covered over \$150 million in assessment reductions. According to evidence uncovered by investigators, millionaire property mogul Robert Berger visited Semrow on his yacht docked in Amsterdam and paid tax commissioner Semrow \$1,000 for a reduction in his assessment. However, in 1984 U.S. Attorney Daniel Webb announced that he would not ask the Grand Jury to return an indictment on Semrow. On hearing this news, Semrow claimed, "a complete vindication." His political opponents thought differently, however. In 1986, John W. McCarthy, when running for election to the Appeals Board, declared that corruption in appeals was worse than "City Hall or even the city council." He claimed that under Semrow "enormous tax breaks have been given to a handful of his wealthy friends and relatives" while the county's homeowners shouldered the tax burden. It should be noted that despite such public charges Semrow was never charged let alone convicted of a crime.¹³¹

¹³¹ Maurice Possley, "U.S. says it won't indict Semrow in tax board probe," *Chicago Tribune*, 23 Mar 1984, n_a1; Barbara Mahany and R. Bruce Dold, "Tax Appeals Board Candidate Calls for an End to Scandal," *Chicago Tribune*, 18 February 1986, 3.

Semrow passed away the following year. The driving range was named in his honor in 1990. This site had been originally known as Hintz tract.

Baker's Lake Younghusband Prairie/Baker's Lake Nature Preserve/Baker's Lake/Baker's Lake Overlook

Baker's Lake is not a natural Lake. It was a peatbog that, after drying, caught fire and then was reflooded to form a shallow 165-acre lake. The lake takes its name from James Baker who owned the dry peat bog. It had been drained to provide enhanced grazing for dairy cows. In the 1930s, the peat caught fire and burned steadily for several years. Baker discovered the tiles that had been used to drain the bog and paid workmen to pull them up. As a result, water again began to fill the bog, putting out the fire and eventually forming the lake. On the Baker Farm site was a historic round barn from the community's dairy farming days. When the barn burned in 1997, the local historical community blamed neglect by the site's current owner, Cook County.¹³²

The prairie takes its name from the former Younghusband Farm, located between Baker's Lake and Dundee Road.¹³³ The farm is named after its former owner, J. Leslie Younghusband (1896-1969), a Canadian pilot, horse breeder, and cosmetic magnate.

James Leslie Younghusband was born in 1896 in the central Manitoba (Canada) town of Portage la Prairie. When World War I broke out he enlisted and fought on the Western Front. After being wounded, he learned to fly and joined the Royal Flying Corps. In the wake of the war, he emigrated from Canada to the United States, first to Detroit and eventually to Chicago. In the city, he focused on developing and marketing a line of cosmetic products called Dana Perfumes, Inc.¹³⁴ He became a millionaire by cleverly marketing "Kissproof" cosmetics to the "new women" of the Roaring Twenties. After the death of his first wife, Younghusband went through a series of marriages to younger women. Typical of his notoriety was his fifth wedding to dancer Louise Lane. The nuptials were disrupted when he punched a reporter, and the warrant for his arrest arrived shortly after midnight.¹³⁵ That marriage ended unhappily in 1951 and cost Younghusband a \$843,000 settlement. Other unsavory press coverage included his divorce proceedings and accusations of adultery, alcoholism, and battery.¹³⁶ He was also sued for "breach of

¹³² Maria T. Galo and Tribune Staff Writer, "History That Circled the Round Barn Now Written in Flames," *Chicago Tribune*, November 27, 1997, <https://www.chicagotribune.com/news/ct-xpm-1997-11-27-9711270148-story.html>. Accessed, January 2022.

¹³³ Ibata, David. "4 Preserves Pushed for Barrington Area." *Chicago Tribune*, 02 February 1989. <http://flagship.luc.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/historical-newspapers/4-preserves-pushed-barrington-area/docview/1016107338/se-2?accountid=12163>.

¹³⁴ "COSMETIC LINE TYCOON DIES AT AGE OF 74: J. L. YOUNGHUSBAND RITES TOMORROW." *Chicago Tribune*, 05 November 1969. <http://flagship.luc.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/historical-newspapers/cosmetic-line-tycoon-dies-at-age-74/docview/169786587/se-2?accountid=12163>.

¹³⁵ "Younghusband Seized in Fight at 5th Wedding: YOUNGHUSBAND SEIZED IN FIGHT AT FIFTH WEDDING Guest Slugged, another Hurlled into Pool," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 14 November 1937. <http://flagship.luc.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/historical-newspapers/younghusband-seized-fight-at-5th-wedding/docview/181980832/se-2?accountid=12163>.

¹³⁶ "SPENT \$12,000 SPYING ON WIFE, EXECUTIVE SAYS: YOUNGHUSBAND TESTIFIES AT DIVORCE TRIAL." *Chicago Daily Tribune* (1923-1963), Nov 07, 1950.

promise" from a woman who alleged they were engaged when he suddenly married his third wife, but she did not win her suit.¹³⁷

After retiring from cosmetics in 1956, he purchased a farm outside Barrington, Illinois where he set to raise horses. In 1989, that farm became part of the Cook County Forest Preserve District.

Younghusband himself had nothing to do with the Forest Preserve District nor was he significant in natural resource conservation in Cook County. His name is only sustained that he was the previous owner of the land. Native Americans were on this land much longer and might be recognized by a name change or renamed for the Heron rookery on Baker Lake. However, there is no issue of cultural sensitivity pressing a need for the change.

<http://flagship.luc.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/historical-newspapers/spent-12-000-spying-on-wife-executive-says/docview/178001931/se-2?accountid=12163>. "BLOW BY BLOW, WIFE NO. 4 TELLS WEDDING JAUNT: MRS. YOUNGHUSBAND SUES MATE AND CITES WOES," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 13 March 1937. <http://flagship.luc.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/historical-newspapers/blow-wife-no-4-tells-wedding-jaunt/docview/181871762/se-2?accountid=12163>.

¹³⁷ "DAUGHTER, JUDY, 11, AIDS YOUNGHUSBAND LOVE SUIT DEFENSE: EX-WIFE AND CHILD AID YOUNGHUSBAND IN LOVE SUIT," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 21 May 1937. <http://flagship.luc.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/historical-newspapers/daughter-judy-11-aids-younghusband-love-suit/docview/181833136/se-2?accountid=12163>.

Beaubien Woods/Beaubien Woods Boat Launch

Beaubien Woods is named for Mark Beaubien (1800-1881), an early resident of Chicago. Beaubien was the son of a prominent Creole French fur trader in Detroit who came to Chicago in 1825. He operated the first ferry across the Chicago River and, with his wife Monique, managed the famed Sauganash tavern, Chicago's first frame building (located near the site of today's 333 E. Wacker building). The two-story tavern was one of the first stops for newcomers to frontier Chicago as it was one of the few places travelers could secure a meal and a bed. The Beaubiens were famed for their hospitality, love of amusements—most especially Mark's skill with a fiddle. While the Sauganash was hospitable, it was also crowded with as many as twenty nightly guests not to mention Monique and Mark's fourteen children.

Mark Beaubien was a prominent early Chicagoan. He voted in the first election. His house was the official polling place. The First Presbyterian Church was organized at his hotel. He also was a founder of the city's first Catholic Church, St. Mary's.¹³⁸

Beaubien Woods, in the far south Calumet Division, was given its name in 1965.

¹³⁸ See Jacqueline Peterson, "Wild Chicago: The Formation and Destruction of a Multiracial Community on the Midwestern Frontier, 1816-1837," *The Ethnic Frontier*, edited by Melvin G. Holli and Peter d'A Jones, (Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans, 1977), 25-71.

Beck Lake (Entry and Water Body)

Edward Scott Beck (1868-1942) was managing editor of *Chicago Tribune* from 1910 to 1937. He was widely praised as one of the major figures in American journalism in the first half of the twentieth century. Born in the farming community of Bainbridge, Indiana just three years after the Civil War, he moved to Chicago and worked as a newsman for forty-nine years.¹³⁹

¹³⁹ "E. S. Beck Dies: Tribune News Chief for 26 Years: Member of Staff Since '90s," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 26 December 1942, 1.

Belleau Woods and Lake

Belleau Wood and Lake is named for the June 1918 World War I battle fought by the U.S. 2nd Infantry Division and a brigade of the U.S. Marine Corps against the German Army. It was one of the first American military engagements in the war. The American troops together with French Army units blunted the German's last gasp attempt to break Allied lines and capture Paris. The tenacity of the Marines in counterattacking the Germans in the forested terrain led to their foes dubbing them "devil dogs," a sobriquet that has an honored place in Marine Corps lore. More than 3,000 American were killed or wounded in this desperate battle.¹⁴⁰

The preserve is located on the site of the former Sisman Farm and was named for the battle in 1923 the same year a memorial was dedicated at the site of the battle in France.

¹⁴⁰ For more information see Alan Axelrod, *Miracle at Belleau Wood: the Birth of the Modern U.S. Marine Corps*. (Guilford, CN: Lyons Press, 2007).

Bartel Grassland and Water Reserve

The Grassland and Water Reserve is named for Karl E. Bartel, a long-time Blue Island resident, amateur ornithologist, and naturalist. He was an expert birder. He also did extensive bird banding, likely banding thousands of birds on his own. He began birding in 1933 after reading about the US Fish and Wildlife Service's program on trapping and banding birds which was to be able to track their movements. He entered the field with enthusiasm and claimed to have banded more than 14,000 birds between 1933 and 1939. Forest Preserve staff who knew Bartel recalled that he "started to build bluebird houses in the 1960s and, when there were still upland sandpipers nesting in the area (in the 1960), he worked closely with farmers to encourage them to leave habitats for grassland birds (instead of tilling every inch of their land)." In 1975, Bartel was "custodian-naturalist" for Gensburg-Markham Prairie.¹⁴¹ He died in 1993 from cancer.

¹⁴¹ Bob Becker, "Day by Day on the FARM: Bird Banding," *Chicago Tribune*, 17 December 1939, c7; Margaret Carroll, "A refuge for history: Saving the last virgin prairies," *Chicago Tribune*, 25 September 1975, b1.

McGinnis Slough (Entry and Water Body)

Reputedly, McGinnis Slough takes its name from the previous owner of the property. However, that is uncertain as the land appears to have been previously owned by John B. Wagner and Michael Cure. Frank Campbell was another early landowner in the vicinity. The area was a swamp most of the year but, in summer, it dried out enough that farmers could cut marsh grass for hay. A story reported in the *Chicago Tribune* reports that the name was originally given to the water feature by surveyors working in the area who encountered a local resident named McGinnis who entertained them with “refreshments and blarney.”¹⁴²

¹⁴² Phillis Feuerstein, “A Quiet Place of Nature a Road Away,” *Chicago Tribune*, 28 May 1986, 45.

McGinty Pond

McGinty Pond is named after David McGinty, a fish biologist who worked for the Forest Preserves. McGinty came to Cook County after beginning his career in the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. Additionally, he worked for the Illinois Natural History Survey. In 1971, Cap Sauers recruited him to come to the Forest Preserve to modernize fish management. That aspect of wildlife management and recreation had languished since the 1940s when the first fisheries manager retired.

McGinty went on to a four-decade long career with the Cook County Forest Preserve District. During those years, he was regularly sought out for advice on the best places to fish and appeared on local television and in the press. He was a passionate proponent for sport fishing and careful habitat management. His strong environmental ethic came across in a 1986 *Chicago Tribune* article in which he described the importance of McGinnis Slough in Orland Park. "This is a wildlife area managed and run for the protection of wildlife; people are secondary," says McGinty, whose white-bearded face is familiar to cable television viewers as a frequent guest on local programs. He says he believes it is not even "in the wisdom of good management to kill mosquitos," and toward that end the district does not permit mosquito control in McGinnis Slough or any of its wildlife areas. "You can protect yourself from mosquitos or gnats by using insect repellent," he says. "But you can't eliminate the insects."¹⁴³

He was always an advocate for local fisherman. In 1991, when it was proposed to remove the dams on the Des Plaines River, which many saw as a drowning hazard, McGinty objected because the dams formed pools that were critical to fishing on the river.¹⁴⁴

¹⁴³ Phyllis Feuerstein, "A Quiet Piece of Nature, A Road Away," *Chicago Tribune*, 28 May 1986, 45.

¹⁴⁴ John Husar, "Des Plaines River may be a bass paradise in waiting," *Chicago Tribune*, 27 March 1991.

Blue Star Memorial Woods

This preserve's name was officially designated in 1924 in the wake of World War I. It takes its name from a red and white banner with a blue star that was hung in the window of a home that had a family member serving in the armed forces. This custom began in 1917 when an Ohio family with two sons in the Army made and displayed the blue star banner. The custom quickly caught on across the country.

The War Department made the practice official in World War II and Blue Star Banners were ubiquitous in Cook County. Gold Star Banners were added when a family member was killed in the service. The custom died out during the Korean and Vietnam wars but has been revived in the wake of the decades of war that followed the 9/11 attacks.

Recommendation: In honor of the men and women who served in the armed forces of the United States this site name with its historic association should remain. Since the Blue Star Banner is less widely recognized today, we recommend that CCFPD erect interpretation signage, perhaps in association with the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion.

Black Partridge Woods/Black Partridge Woods Forest Preserve

Black Partridge was a leading Potawatomi (also spelled Bodéwademi) leader of the Illinois River band and resident near the modern site of Peoria, Illinois. In 1812, as tensions rose between Native Americans and the United States government, Black Partridge warned Captain Nathan Heald of the Fort Dearborn garrison of the likelihood of an Indian attack. When that attack occurred, Black Partridge intervened to save the life of Margaret Helm, the wife of Lieutenant Linai Helm, the garrison's second in command, as well as others who had initially survived the Battle of Fort Dearborn. This incident was later depicted in a massive bronze 1893 sculpture group that was alternately titled "The Fort Dearborn Massacre Monument," "the Potawatomi Rescue," and "Black Partridge Saving Mrs. Helm." The sculpture was at the entrance to the Chicago History Museum for nearly a half-century before the violence of the imagery was deemed an inappropriate depiction of American Indians. The statue group is no longer on public display and Black Partridge's role in Chicago history is less appreciated in the twenty-first century.¹⁴⁵

¹⁴⁵Early Chicago History, https://earlychicago.com/encyclopedia_letter_b/, accessed January 2022.

Burnham Greenway/Burnham Woods Golf Course/Burnham Prairies Nature Preserve/Burnham Woods

Daniel Hudson Burnham (1846 –1912) ranks as one of the most famous names and influential figures in Chicago history. He was also one of the most influential architects in American history. He was the major figure behind the widespread adoption of the Beaux-Arts movement in American public architecture. He won well-deserved fame for his direction of the architecture and design of the Columbian Exposition’s White City in 1893. His contributions to urban planning followed the introduction of his breathtaking Plan of Chicago in 1909. Plans for Washington, DC, Cleveland, San Francisco, and Manila followed. Some of his notable architectural designs include the Flatiron Building in New York, Chicago’s Field Museum, and a number of major department stores.

Burnham was an early supporter of the creation of the Cook County Forest Preserve system. His Plan of Chicago called for the preservation of open lands surrounding the city as an outer belt park.¹⁴⁶

¹⁴⁶ Lawrence Christmas, “Planning, City and Regional,” *Encyclopedia of Chicago History*, edited by Keating and Grossman, <http://www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org/pages/973.html>, accessed January 2022.

Brezina Woods

Brezina Woods is named for Joseph L. Brezina (1879-1953). He was the Assistant Chief Forester of the Cook County Forest Preserve District with principal responsibility for the Salt Creek Division. Brezina immigrated to the United States at the age of 19. He joined the district in 1925 with his initial responsibilities in the Forest Preserve nursery. Of Bohemian descent, Brezina was a founder of the Czechoslovak Garden Club of America and a director of Bohemian National Cemetery. He also was President of the North Riverside School District for twenty-one years.

In August 1955, the Czechoslovak Garden Club presided over a ceremony in which Mannheim Woods was renamed in Brezina's honor.¹⁴⁷

¹⁴⁷ "Czech Garden Club to Rename Woods Honoring Brezina," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 18 Aug 1955: w1.

Busse Forest-North/Busse Forest-South/Busse Forest-West/Busse Forest-Central/Busse Forest-Elk Grove/Busse Forest Main Dam/Busse Forest Nature Preserve/Busse Lake Beisner Road Access/Busse Lake Boating Center/Busse Main Pool/Busse North Pool/Busse South Pool/Busse Trail

When William Busse retired from the Cook County Board he was known as the “dean” of the commissioners. He served fifty-two years on the board before his retirement in 1954 at the age of ninety-one. The site of what is now labeled Busse Woods had long been known locally as Elk Grove, a name that dated back to pioneer settlement before Commissioner Busse was honored in 1949. The name also recognized the Busse family’s deep roots in Elk Grove Township.

In 1848 German immigrant Friedrich Busse, his wife, and their six children took a covered wagon from Chicago to northwestern Cook County and purchased land for a farm. In 1864 Friedrich’s grandson William was born on his father’s farm. He lived and worked there and at the family cheese factory until 1891 when he was elected Deputy Sheriff. This began a long political career in which William was always aligned with the Republican Party. He was aided in this by the more than 1,000 descendants of Friedrich Busse who continued to reside in the area. In 1894, he moved to the hamlet of Mt. Prospect and soon became its leading citizen and the founder of the Mr. Prospect Bank which he headed for most of the rest of his life, including through the hard depression years of the 1930s. Other business enterprises included a hardware store and a Buick Motors dealership.

William Busse’s long political career was not without excitement. In 1923 someone planted a bomb at the door of his garage, which was detected just as the fuse was burning. As Commissioner Busse was particularly interested in enhancing the district in the northwest portion of the county. He worked with Ransom Kennicott of the CCFPD to establish Deer Grove Forest near the village of Palatine. He seems to have devoted more energy to county public health and medical issues for which he was singled out for praise in 1910.¹⁴⁸

¹⁴⁸ Larry Mayer, “William Busse, father of Mt. Prospect,” *Chicago Tribune*, 24 July 1994: NW_B3; “Physicians Urge Support of Present County Board: Administration of William Busse and His Colleagues Is Praised by Medical Men,” *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 07 Nov 1910: 2.

Camp Reinberg

Peter Reinberg (1858—1921) was a Chicago native, florist, and alderman for the 26th ward. He grew-up on his father’s truck garden farm on the northside of the city. In 1890, Reinberg transitioned the farm from potatoes and turnips to flowers. He had a series of greenhouses erected eventually covering twenty acres. His flower trade blossomed and, as it grew, he entered the ranks of Chicago millionaires. Flowers paved his way into politics when he won election to the City Council in what was called the “carnation campaign,” in which he promised every resident of his ward a carnation.¹⁴⁹

Reinberg also was a controversial President of the Chicago Board of Education where he raised the hackles of other board members by his dogged attempts to change school system management. In 1914, board members attempted to impeach him because he allegedly used “unlawful and unparliamentary methods” to secure the election of Ella Flagg Young as system superintendent. Dr. Young was the first woman to head a big city school district. She had taught for more than twenty years in the district before receiving a PhD in education and developing a national reputation as an educational reformer.

As head of the County Board, he sometimes went against his fellow commissioners. In 1915, for example, the commissioners by a large majority voted that whenever an individual recommended by a county commissioner applied for aid it should be granted without further investigation. Reinberg vetoed the measure.¹⁵⁰

He became president of the Board of Forest Preserve Commissioners in 1914, which made him the first president of the Cook County Forest Preserve District.¹⁵¹ In 1918, Reinberg, a staunch Democrat, received a rare public endorsement in the usually Republican leaning *Chicago Daily Defender* which noted the good services African Americans were receiving at the county hospital and the “Poor People’s Home.” It also went on to say: “We also know that you have made members of our group especially welcome upon the vast and beautiful grounds of the forest preserves.”¹⁵²

¹⁴⁹ Wolf Seyfert, “Flowers Make Millionaire Farmer Boy’s Rapid Rise: Big Business in Flowers. Beginnings of His Fortune. From Pork to Posies. Half Million in Greenhouses. Growing the Long Stems,” *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 06 Nov 1904: E3.

¹⁵⁰ “Plan Ousting Peter Reinberg: Anti-Young School Trustees Slate Board President for Impeachment.” *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 07 May 1914: 4; “Reinberg Halts County Aid Grad: Vetoes Board Plan to Allow Commissioners’ Friends Entry to Hospital,” *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 19 Jan 1915: 4.

¹⁵¹ “Peter Reinberg.” To Protect and Preserve: An Early History of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois website. <https://findingaids.library.uic.edu/exhibits/fpdcc/People/PETERREINBERG.html>

¹⁵² “Citizens Endorse Reinberg,” *Chicago Defender*, 02 Nov 1918: 13.

Calvin R. Sutker Grove

Calvin R. Sutker of Skokie (1923-2013) was an Illinois State Representative, Illinois Democratic Chairman from 1983-1986, and a Cook County Commissioner.

Stuker grew up and was educated in the Chicago area, including a college degree and law school at the University of Chicago. In 1942, he entered the United States Army and served in the European Theater of Operations during World War II. He was present when American troops liberated the infamous Dachau concentration camp. The experience had a profound effect on him. Later, as a County Commissioner, he used his influence to win board support of the establishment of the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center in his hometown of Skokie.

Suker began his political career in Skokie in 1965 when he was elected a Skokie Village trustee. He used this position to push through a fair housing program which, while only voluntary, nonetheless was significant as the first such provision in Illinois. In 1978, he joined the Cook County Forest Preserve District as its chief attorney, a position he held until 1985 when he won the first of three terms in the state house. In 1994, after a failed bid to be Cook County Clerk, he joined the county board.

Calvin R. Stuker Grove is a small tract of forest preserve, renamed from Harms Woods in 2005, adjacent to the institution Stuker helped create – the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center.¹⁵³

¹⁵³ Bob Goldsborough, "Calvin R. Stuker: 1923-2013, Cook County Board member, Skokie trustee," *Chicago Tribune*; 13 May 2013: 2.6.

Carl R. Hansen Woods

Carl R. Hansen was a Republican Elk Grove township committeeman¹⁵⁴ and county commissioner. After his county election in 1974, he told the *Chicago Tribune* the county board was a 'sham' and that then-president George Dunne was a 'do-nothing'.¹⁵⁵ Among other legislation, he sponsored a resolution that saved at least six hundred acres of Forest Preserve property by banning sanitary landfills. He retired from the board in 2006.¹⁵⁶

¹⁵⁴ Frank Zahour. "Hansen Replaces Clarke: G. O. P. Primary Fight Still Possible." *Chicago Tribune*, 01 Dec 1973. <http://flagship.luc.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/historical-newspapers/hansen-replaces-clarke/docview/171061248/se-2?accountid=12163>.

¹⁵⁵ Fred Orehek, "County Board is 'Sham,' Hansen Says." *Chicago Tribune*, 19 Oct 1974. <http://flagship.luc.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/historical-newspapers/county-board-is-sham-hansen-says/docview/171165004/se-2?accountid=12163>.

¹⁵⁶ "House Resolution 1551." Illinois General Assembly website. <https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/fulltext.asp?DocName=&SessionId=50&GA=94&DocType=HR&DocNum=1551&GAID=8&LegID=26527&SpecSess=&Session=>.

Cummings Square

Cummings Square is named for Edward A. Cummings, a prominent realtor in the River Forest area. Among his accomplishments was the development of a Forest Park neighborhood he called “Spotless Town” between Harlem and Desplaines and Jackson and Hannah. Cummings hired Frank Lloyd Wright to design his real estate office near the current site of Cummings Square. In addition, he allowed the River Forest Tennis Club to operate on a portion of what is now Cummings Square. In 1906, the club hired Frank Lloyd Wright to design their building on at that site. When the Forest Preserve District came into the square the building was moved.¹⁵⁷ The tract was donated to the Forest Preserve District in 1922 after Cummings’ death. The gift included funds for a suitable improvement, building or monument of the Forest Preserve’s choosing. In 1931, District Superintendent Charles Sauers approved a plan for the gift to be used to landscape the square and include a bandstand known today as the Cummings Memorial.¹⁵⁸

Assessment: Cummings’ bequest is responsible for the site of the District’s headquarters. At least since the early 1920s, the site was known as the “Cummings Tract.” There is no evidence that indicates the name should be changed.

¹⁵⁷ Deb Kadin. “Overlooked Cummings Square in River Forest slated for 2015 Upgrades.” *Wednesday Journal of Oak Park and River Forest*, 03 July 2014. <https://www.oakpark.com/2014/07/03/overlooked-cummings-square-in-river-forest-slated-for-2015-upgrades/>

¹⁵⁸ “River Forest Affairs,” *Oak Leaves*, 13 February 1931, 73.

Elizabeth A. Conkey Forest/Elizabeth A. Conkey-North/Elizabeth A. Conkey-South

Elizabeth A. Conkey (1884—1964) was a Democratic National Committeewoman and Cook County Commissioner. She was elected in 1934 and was re-elected each time she ran afterwards. This role included Commissioner of Public Welfare in 1932 and the first female jury Commissioner in 1931. She was also a veteran of the Woman's Democratic Club, which formed after women earned the right to vote. Conkey attended her first national convention in 1924.¹⁵⁹ She also served as president of the Federation of Illinois Women Democratic Clubs.¹⁶⁰

Conkey came under scrutiny in 1928 when her name appeared on a salary list for the Sanitary District. Conkey justified her salary as necessary to pay for her political expenditures, that she answered correspondence for Thomas Donovan, a Sanitary District attorney and chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee, and that she "worked every minute" she had time from politics. However, she acknowledged said time was limited. Conkey complained without a job in government an ordinary person could not afford to play a role in politics, particularly on a national level. Because she had quit the job prior to the story of her semi-ghost payroll position becoming public, no criminal investigation followed and Conkey went on to play a more prominent role in county government.¹⁶¹

Assessment: Conkey was among the first generation of Illinois women to serve as an elected official. She was committed to the Cook County Democratic Party organization for good and ill. Her work as County Commissioner did not focus on the forest preserves but on juvenile issues and public welfare. As one of the few sites named for a woman and her role in broadening political participation, Conkey's name should remain.

¹⁵⁹ "MRS. CONKEY, TOP DEMOCRAT, DIES AT AGE 80: WAS COOK COUNTY COMMISSIONER." *Chicago Tribune*, <http://flagship.luc.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/historical-newspapers/mrs-conkey-top-democrat-dies-at-age-80/docview/179362622/se-2?accountid=12163>.

¹⁶⁰ "Name Forest Area After Mrs. Conkey." *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 05 Feb 1957. <http://flagship.luc.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/historical-newspapers/name-forest-area-after-mrs-conkey/docview/180082502/se-2?accountid=12163>.

¹⁶¹ "USES DRAINAGE JOB TO PAY HER WAY IN POLITICS: MRS. CONKEY MAY RUN FOR ALDERMAN NOW." *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 04 Dec 1928. <http://flagship.luc.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/historical-newspapers/uses-drainage-job-pay-her-way-politics/docview/180938614/se-2?accountid=12163>.

Cermak Woods/Cermack Family Aquatic Center/Cermack Quarry

Anton J. Cermak (1873 –1933) was one of the most influential political figures in twentieth century Chicago political history. He served in the Illinois General Assembly, as President of the Cook County Board, and Mayor of Chicago.

Cermak was an immigrant from what is now the Czech Republic. He arrived in the United States with his parents in 1874. His father worked in the coal mines of central Illinois and young Anton joined him in the deep shafts when he came of age. When Cermak was sixteen, the family moved to Chicago. After working a number of odd jobs, Cermak eventually earned enough to buy his own horse and team, earning a living selling firewood and hauling cargo. He also sought to improve his education by attending night school. He began his political career the old fashion way—as a precinct captain which led in 1902 to his election as an Illinois State Representative.

In 1909, he graduated to the Chicago City Council with his base of support in the Twelfth Ward and the near west side community known as Pilsen which was so dominated by Czech immigrants it was named for the Bohemian city famous for its beer. It was no accident that another element of support of his political rise were individuals and business interested in ending prohibition. One of Cermak’s nicknames was “Mr. Wet.” As his popularity grew, Cermak aspired for more and, in 1922, he was elected President of the Cook County Board. In that position, he pushed through a major forest preserve expansion of 12,000 acres, although outside observers complained that the way the purchases were done greatly inflated the cost to the public. In addition, the expansion of paved roads in the County was done through contracts “favorable to political allies” such as former board president Dan Ryan. Perhaps most controversially, he engineered the move of Cook County Criminal Court from downtown to the Lawndale neighborhood then dominated by Czech Americans.¹⁶²

As he became more experienced in the way of Chicago politics, he came to resent the stranglehold of Irish politicians on political power. Cermak cleverly built a coalition of voters who had suffered neglect from the Democratic Party’s Irish powerbrokers and/or the largely native-born Republican Party—then still a force in city politics. Polish, Italian, and, of course, Czech voters came to see him as a champion. Cermak built on this by reaching out to African Americans and wooing them from the Party of Lincoln. His big breakthrough in Bronzeville came when he convinced William Dawson to switch to the Democratic Party. This led to Dawson eventually being elected to Congress and becoming the boss of Chicago black politics for the next generation. Cermak finally took over the Chicago Democratic Party and received the nomination for mayor. Republican incumbent

¹⁶² Paul W. Zemitzsch, “Anton Cermak's Chicago: familiar politics, problems,” *Chicago Tribune*, 20 Mar 1983: a1; Dominic Pacyga, *Chicago: A Biography* (Chicago: Univ. of Chicago Press, 2009), 256-59.

Big Bill Thompson ran a xenophobic campaign in which he mocked Cermak's un-American name and derided his humble origins by dubbing him "pushcart Tony." Cermak got the last laugh when voters reacted negatively to such tactics and put him in the mayor's office. Yet less than a year later Cermak was dead, slain by an assassin's bullet. The shot had been fired at President Franklin Roosevelt by an anarchist, but Cermak was the one struck.¹⁶³

Today, Cermak is better known for his death than what he built in his life. His coalition of a wide variety of ethnic and immigrant groups with Irish politicians and an increasingly Democratic leaning African American electorate became the core of the Cook County Democratic political machine that would endure in one form or another through the rest of the century. In his brief time as mayor, he limited the independence of alderman and made the City Council bend to the mayor's will. The lakefront museum campus and the subway system also are legacies of his career. Ironically, the machine he built was inherited by the Irish establishment which went on to elect a series of Irish American mayors.¹⁶⁴

¹⁶³ Pacyga, *Chicago*, 261-262.

¹⁶⁴ *Ibid.*, 261-264.

Harms Flatwoods Nature Preserve/Harms Woods-Central/Harms Woods-North/Harms Woods-South

Harms Flatwoods Nature Preserve and the various sections of Harms Woods is named after Heinrich ‘Henry’ Harms (1832—1914) who is considered the founder of Skokie, Illinois. Harms emigrated to the United States from the former German state of Prussia in 1851 and settled on a farm near Chicago. He operated the first settled business in the area—a general store—and expanded his business enterprise into a post office, a saloon, a dancehall, and a boarding house. He was responsible for the area’s first roads and the tolls that supported them, three school districts, and swampland drainage in the Skokie Valley that allowed village expansion.¹⁶⁵ Harms served as postmaster, township constable, Commissioner of Highways, and Cook County Drainage Commissioner, among other roles.¹⁶⁶

¹⁶⁵ “Harms, Henry.” Rogers Park/West Ridge Historical Society. Last edited April 11, 2013.

https://www.rpwrhs.org/w/index.php?title=Harms,_Henry.

¹⁶⁶ *Heinrich (Henry) Harms Photograph, circa 1914*, Skokie History Project (Illinois Digital Archives), 2021-12-26, <http://www.idaillinois.org/digital/collection/skokiepo02/id/2406>.

Dan Ryan Visitors Center/Dan Ryan Woods-91st Street/Dan Ryan Woods-Central/Dan Ryan Woods-East/Dan Ryan Woods-North/Dan Ryan Woods-South/Dan Ryan Woods-West

Daniel Ryan, Sr. (1862-1923) was a member of the County Board for nine years and briefly served as President following the death of Peter Reinberg. In 1924, the Beverly Hills Forest Preserve was renamed in his honor.

Daniel Ryan was born in County Tipperary, Ireland in 1862. He immigrated to the United States, eventually settling in Chicago. His first job—like for so many immigrants in those days—was in the Chicago Union Stock Yards. He rose from herding cows to becoming a stock buyer. With his profits, he invested in a cement contracting concern. His political career was based in the 32nd Ward and it led to his election in 1914 to the County Board. As befitting the owner of a cement company, he championed the paving of county roads. During his single term as Board President, he authored an article in the *Chicago Tribune* “County Forests’ Paved Highways Entice Millions: Preserves Are Mecca for Autos.” In this article, he trumpeted county road paving projects. He argued that “the forest preserve district is a promoter of the automobile, and the motor car, in turn, is a popularizer of the preserves.”¹⁶⁷

After filling out Reinberg’s term as Board President, Ryan—who was reelected to the county board—was outmaneuvered by Anton Cermak and lost his position as President. Shortly after the leadership change Ryan suffered a stroke and died. Cermak then sponsored the elevation of Daniel Ryan, Jr. to fill the fallen father’s seat on the board—beginning that Ryan’s long career in Cook County Democratic Party politics.

¹⁶⁷ Daniel Ryan, “County Forests’ Paved Highways Entice Millions: Preserves Are Mecca for Autos, Ryan Say,” *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 29 January 1922: D13.

Carlson Springs Wood

Margery C. Carlson (1893—1985) was a pioneering botanist and Northwest University professor. After receiving her PhD from the University of Wisconsin, Dr. Carlson became the first female tenured faculty member at Northwestern. She is credited with collecting rare plants from South and Central America. Her rare plant findings can be seen at the Field Museum of Natural History.¹⁶⁸ From 1934 to 1938, Dr. Carlson served as a Forest Preserve Board Commissioner. Dr. Carlson was the first woman to lead a “scientific safari” into the El Salvadorean mountains.¹⁶⁹ She did this with the Field Museum’s Kate Staley, who was Carlson’s life partner. Their 1948 Central American expedition covered over 10,000 miles, brought back over 4,000 specimens, and 100 living plants. In 1961, she was elected to the Natural History Advisory Committee for Illinois Beach State Park. Dr. Carlson also served on the Board of the Cook County Forest Preserves. A life-long conservationist, Carlson organized the Illinois Chapter of the Nature Conservancy and spearhead the preservation of a 400-acre tract on the Vermillion River that is today known as the Margery C. Carlson Nature Preserve.¹⁷⁰

Assessment: This name seems appropriate due to Dr. Carlson’s significant role in environmental protection and her connection to the CCFPD.

¹⁶⁸ "Obituaries: Margery Carlson, 92, Botanist, NU Professor," *Chicago Tribune*, Jul 07, 1985.

<http://flagship.luc.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/historical-newspapers/obituaries/docview/176230148/se-2?accountid=12163>.

¹⁶⁹ Genevieve Flavin. "EXOTIC BLOOMS BECKON PAIR OF INTREPID WOMEN: N.U. BOTANIST LEADS LATIN SAFAR,." *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 02 January 1949.

<http://flagship.luc.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/historical-newspapers/exotic-blooms-beckon-pair-intrepid-women/docview/177564061/se-2?accountid=12163>.

¹⁷⁰ "KERNER PICKS STATE PARK COMMITTEE." *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 31 December 1961.

<http://flagship.luc.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/historical-newspapers/kerner-picks-state-park-committee/docview/183074159/se-2?accountid=12163>.

George W. Dunne National Driving Range/George W. Dunne National Golf Course/George W. Dunne National Golf Course Ponds

George W. Dunne (1913 –2006) was one of the leading figures in the Cook County Democratic “machine” of the mid-to-late twentieth century. He was President of the Cook County Board of Commissioners from 1969 to 1991, the longest tenure of anyone holding that office.

Dunne was born to Irish immigrants on the Northside of Chicago but attended high school at De LaSalle Institute, a key to networking within the city Democratic party. This led to patronage jobs with the Chicago Park District. Dunne served in the Air Force during the Korean War. His political career began when he was appointed to fill a vacant seat in the Illinois State House. He was reelected four times and rose to become the Democratic floor leader in Springfield. A loyal ally of Chicago Mayor Richard J. Daley, Dunne was appointed to the County Board in 1963 and was elected president in 1969.

In the early 1970s, Dunne’s administration of County business was hit by accusations of corruption by the *Chicago Tribune* and the Better Government Association. Charges of \$14.2 million in waste, mostly in redundant staffing related to patronage, were deflected by Dunne as based on inaccurate information and he was never indicted of any criminal wrongdoing. There were, however, irregularities. His company, Near North Insurance Agency, received millions of dollars of contracts to insure government buildings and projects--contracts often awarded without competitive bidding. Yet, again, Dunne, always affable, found a way to deflect criticism. Journalist Mike Royko once commented “Dunne really didn't say much, while giving the impression that he was. That's always been part of his style.” To his credit, throughout his career Dunne sought to limit political conflicts. At the time of Dunne’s retirement, the *Tribune* commented “His courtly and gentle nature won over anyone around him, even those who were rankled when his aphorisms strayed into sexism. As a political boss, he kept lines open to all factions in the Democratic Party, whether the party was at peace or war. Yet as president of the County Board, he abruptly shut out partisans who disagreed with him.”¹⁷¹

George Dunne’s last year at the head of the county was marred by accusations that he had sexually harassed several female Forest Preserve Police. However, further investigations revealed the relationships were consensual. In the end, the problem with Dunne’s long administration of the County was not what he did, rather with all that he did not allow to be done. In the face of County medical facilities and prisons suffering from

¹⁷¹ George Bliss, “B. G. A. Asks Waste Probe: Raps Dunne for Inaction on Charges,” *Chicago Tribune*, 31 January 1972; Mike Royko, “Elder statesman? Not George Dunne,” *Chicago Tribune*, November 20, 1989, 3; “An era ends as George Dunne leaves.” *Chicago Tribune*, 01 December 1990: 18.

neglect and overcrowding, “George Dunne sat silent,” according to the *Tribune*, “and by doing so deeply tarnished a career that was otherwise successful.”¹⁷²

¹⁷²Thomas Hardy and Charles Mount., “Dunne Brings Victory Out of Scandal,” *Chicago Tribune*, 03 May 1988; “An era ends as George Dunne leaves.” *Chicago Tribune*, 01 December 1990: 18.

Joe Louis "The Champ" Golf Course

The golf course is named for Joseph Louis Barrow (1914 – 1981), one of the greatest and most influential boxers of all time.

Joe Louis was born in rural Alabama to the descendants of ex-slaves who made a living sharecropping cotton. In 1926, Louis's family moved to Detroit following harassment by the Ku Klux Klan. He began boxing at the age of seventeen and, although he lost his first fight, he quickly climbed the ranks of amateur fighters, winning several Golden Gloves championships. Louis began his professional career in 1934 on Chicago's southside.

His early success did not put him on track for a shot at the heavyweight title. Racial prejudice and white memories of the defiant taboo transgressions of a previous black champion, Jack Johnson, retarded Louis's progress. To counter this, Louis cultivated a humble, clean-cut public persona. This helped him secure a marquee bout with Primo Carnera, a former champion from Italy and often promoted as a symbol of that nation's newfound strength under Benito Mussolini. Louis knocked Carnera out in a fight that was symbolically significant to the America's black community as it came at the same time as Italy was attempting to conquer Ethiopia, Africa's sole independent state. That and other significant victories led to Louis being named the No.1 contender for the heavy weight title. Unfortunately, in June 1936 Louis was knocked-out by German champion Max Schmeling, in what was expected to only be a tune-up fight for Louis. Despite this humiliating loss, Louis was given a title shot against heavy-weight champion James Braddock. During the fight in Chicago in June of 1937, Louis survived a first round knock-down to win the championship. All across the country, African Americans listened on the radio and poured into the streets in celebration.¹⁷³

The victory led to one of the most politically significant fights in boxing history. After he had defeated Louis in 1936, Schmeling returned to Germany where he was embraced by the Nazi regime as a symbol of Aryan supremacy and the prowess of the Third Reich over the degenerate United States. The political nature of a Schmeling-Louis rematch was highlighted further when Louis was invited to the White House and got a pep-talk from Franklin D. Roosevelt. When the fight finally took place in June 1938, Louis stunned Schmeling with a furious attack that put the German on the canvas in just over two minutes.

Louis held his heavyweight title longer than any boxer in history, from 1937 to 1949. In World War II, he served in the U.S. Army and used his celebrity to push for fair treatment for black soldiers in the segregated military. In one intervention, his influence helped young Jackie Robinson receive his commission as an officer, sparking a long friendship between the two sport icons. Louis also made civil rights progress in the sport of

¹⁷³For a superb account of Louis's career see, Lewis A. Erenberg, *The Greatest Fight of Our Generation: Louis vs. Schmeling* (New York: Oxford Univ. Press, 2007).

golf. He was an avid amateur player and, in 1952, he appeared in the San Diego Open. It was the first time a black man was allowed at a Professional Golf Association event, and it paved the way for a generation of African American players in the 1960s. Louis's post-war life was dogged by financial difficulties as his many business ventures failed. This included an influential but short-lived jazz club on the southside of Chicago, the Rhumboogie Café. The majority of the money Louis won in his long career went to managers.

Louis died in 1981 and was buried in Arlington National Cemetery. His old opponent Max Schmeling, with whom Louis had maintained a long friendship, was among the pallbearers. In August 1989, the Cook County Forest Preserve dedicated the former Pipe o' Peace Golf Course in Riverdale in honor of the former champion. The name change followed a \$5 million rehabilitation done with the goal of "making golf more attractive to minorities."¹⁷⁴

¹⁷⁴ "Joe Louis golf course to open in Riverdale," *Chicago Tribune*, 05 July 1989: 7.

John P. Touhy Highland Woods Golf Course/John P. Touhy Highland Woods Driving Range/Highland Woods Golf Course Ponds (Water Body)

The golf course and driving range are named for Chicago area politician John P. Touhy (1919 – 1983). John P. Touhy was the son of a noted Chicago politician, John J. Touhy. The elder Touhy was the long-time boss of the 27th Ward and a Sanitary District Trustee. Touhy's ward organization was widely perceived as deeply implicated in corrupt practices and, in 1932, he was tried for conspiracy to commit graft. Nonetheless, in 1951 John J. Touhy became a Cook County Commissioner, position to which the son also would later be elected.¹⁷⁵

John P. Touhy received a frightening introduction to how rough Chicago politics could be when in 1932 mobsters attempted to kidnap his father but, instead, mistakenly abducted 13- year-old John P. and the father's chauffeur. Although John P. was quickly released, the incident may explain why he was sent away to a Catholic boarding school in rural Wisconsin for high school. He later attended college in at Georgetown University. After service in World War II Touhy earned a law degree at DePaul University. Mixing politics and business, Touhy founded a snow removal business that secured a lucrative city contract. Over the years, the company made Touhy a millionaire.¹⁷⁶

Backed by his father's 27th Ward organization in 1949, Touhy was elected to the Illinois General Assembly where he served until 1971. When he ascended to the speakership of the state house in 1965, the *Chicago Tribune* somewhat inaccurately celebrated him as one half of the only father and son team in Illinois politics. When Chicago was hit with a massive snowstorm in 1967, Touhy was assailed by African American legislators for blocking attempts to protect black property owners on the west side including the largely black 27th Ward that Touhy represented even though he lived on Lake Shore Drive. In 1973, he became the head of the state Democratic Party and held that influential position for nine years, working as a close ally of Chicago Mayor Richard J. Daley. In the wake of assuming the party post, Touhy resigned from the County Board. In 1982, Touhy retired from active political life, a year later he was dead of a heart attack at the age of sixty-four.¹⁷⁷

Touhy died while playing golf so perhaps it was seen as fitting when the Highland Woods Golf Course and Driving Range was named in his honor in 1990.

¹⁷⁵ "Bullet Misses John J. Touhy, Canal Trustee," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 20 January 1932: 5.

¹⁷⁶ "John J. Touhy's Son Kidnaped, Then Set Free: -John J. Touhy's Son Is Kidnaped and Then Freed," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 10 November 1932: 1

¹⁷⁷ Actually, father and son political careers were and are a long tradition in Illinois Democratic politics. "Touhy Known as a Doer in the Illinois House: Speaker Lets Others Do the Talking," *Chicago Tribune*, 12 January 1965: 2; "Touhy Fights Snow Looters Resolution," *Chicago Tribune*, 01 February 1967: 3. "John P. Touhy, 64, ex-speaker of Illinois House, party leader," *Chicago Tribune*, 29 September 1983: d14.

Zanders Woods/Camp Zanders

Zanders Woods is named after nineteenth century residents of Thornton, Illinois. They owned twenty-six acres that later became part of the forest preserve. The Zander family continues to be active in the Thornton area well into the twenty-first century.¹⁷⁸ Camp Zanders is a Boy Scout Camp that is no longer in use.

¹⁷⁸ For more information see "Zander Woods" in Roberts Mann, *Origin of Names and Histories of Places, Including Major Forests and Holdings, Picnic Areas and Recreational Facilities, Nature Preserves, Aquatic Areas, and Wildlife Refuges in the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois* (Oak Park: Cook County Forest Preserve District, 1965).

Mathew Bieszczat Volunteer Resource Center

Mathew Bieszczat (1902-1995) was an alderman and Democratic committeeman of the 26th Ward, a Cook County Board member, and a secretary of the Democratic Party of Cook County. Bieszczat worked his way up in the Democratic Machine initially being rewarded with a post as city license inspector. In 1945, he was chosen alderman of the 26th Ward in a special election. He earned the trust of Richard J. Daley who had him appointed as the secretary of the Cook County Democratic Party, a post he held from 1953 to 1982. Bieszczat served in the City Council until 1960 when he was given a sinecure as bailiff in Municipal Court.

In 1966, he was elected to the County Board where he served for twenty years. Bieszczat's political career was based on balancing the city's large Polish population with the largely Irish controlled Democratic Party. In 1985, he emphasized that identification when he proposed an amendment to a bill that would have set aside thirty percent of County contracts for minority owned businesses. His amendment proposed that the definition of minority be expanded to include people with origins in Poland, Russia, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Romania, Germany, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Ireland and Italy." The maneuver led to the temporary tabling of a set-aside ordinance. When the motion later passed, Bieszczat complained, "It's all minorities. They're the bosses now. We don't belong in this country anymore. I'm leaving. I've had enough--listening to this crap all day." Bieszczat's political career ended the way it began, following the orders of the Democratic Party organization. He was dumped from the County Board in 1986 after ethnic and racial changes made it necessary for the party to reach out beyond the Polish-Eastern European constituency that he long represented.¹⁷⁹

¹⁷⁹ Kenan Heise, "Obituaries: Former city Ald. Mathew Bieszczat, 93," *Chicago Tribune*, 03 May 1995: 2C9; Manuel Galvan and Robert Davis, "6TH Ward Race Mirrors State of City Politics," *Chicago Tribune*, 12 March 1986: 1; Charles Mount, "Minority Contracts Divide County Board," *Chicago Tribune*, 13 June 1985: 3.

Brownell Woods

This site is named for the Brownell Improvement Company which, in the first half of the twentieth century, was a major supplier of both building and road construction materials. At one time, they operated the world's largest stone crushing plant, providing aggregate for concrete road surfaces. The movement to pave roads in rural Cook County coincided with the establishment of the Forest Preserves and motorists and construction companies exerted considerable influence on the Forest Preserve District to provide paved road access to the preserves. Brownell was a particularly important company in the paving business because they owned the vast Thornton Quarry, one of the largest limestone deposits in the world. They had four trains operating at any one-time bringing limestone to the surface aided by a fleet of early internal combustion trucks. Brownell Woods is located near Thornton, Illinois where the company had extensive real estate holdings ¹⁸⁰

¹⁸⁰ J.C.Burton, "Pulling Illinois Out of the Mud," *Motor Age*, Vol. XXV, No.17 (April 1914), 1; Donald G. Mikulic, *Stone: Two Hundred Years of Illinois' Critical Construction Resource*, (Menasha, WI: Weis Earth Science Museum, n.d.), https://www.iaap-aggregates.org/uploads/1/1/0/0/110027599/history_of_stone_mining.pdf, accessed February 2022.

Camp Shabbona Woods

This site is named after a prominent American Indian in the Chicago area. Shabbona (c.1775-1859) was an Odawa man born near the Kankakee River in what is now Will County. He lived his life as a Potawatomi, a tribe closely and linguistically allied with the Odawa. At a young age, Shabbona was regarded as a *Wkema/Ogima* which in the *Bodéwadmi Mwen* language of the Potawatomi is often translated as chief. As a warrior, he fought the expansion of United States power in the Great Lakes region. He sided with the famed Shawnee war leader Tecumseh in the War of 1812 and was with him in the disastrous Battle of the Thames where the Tecumseh was killed. Thereafter, he reconciled himself to having to live with the Americans.

During the Red Bird Uprising in 1827 and the Black Hawk War in 1832 Shabbona won the gratitude of early white settlers by providing warning of potential hostilities and by his work to ensure the Potawatomi did not generally participate in the violence. He participated in a number of treaties with the United States. For his part in the 1829 Second Treaty of Prairie du Chien, Shabbona was awarded a 1,280-acre reserve in DeKalb County, Illinois. In the wake of the 1833 Treaty of Chicago, the Illinois Potawatomi were exiled west of the Mississippi River. In 1849, while Shabbona was visiting friend and relations in the west, his large reserve was declared vacant and expropriated by white “settlers.” Rendered homeless, Shabbona moved repeatedly for several years until he was finally gifted a small tract near Morris, Illinois where he died in 1859.¹⁸¹

¹⁸¹ Ulrich Danckers, et al, “Shabbona,” *Early Chicago*, https://earlychicago.com/encyclopedia_letter_s/, accessed February, 2022.

Chipilly Woods

This forest preserve is named for a World War I battle fought by the 131st Infantry regiment in August 1918. The regiment had originally been organized as the First Infantry, Illinois National Guard, with the nickname the “Dandy First.” When it was sent overseas, it became part of the 33rd Division, American Expeditionary Forces. On August 9, 1918, the 131st attacked strongly held trenches at Chipilly Ridge. In the two-day battle, they routed the German Army capturing more than 700 enemy troops, thirty pieces of artillery, one hundred machine guns and, remarkably, a German airplane. This was at the dear cost of 1,000 men killed in the 33rd Division. Among the heroes of the battle was a young Serbian immigrant from Chicago, Jake Mandushich, who led his comrades forward when all the officers in his unit had been killed. In hand-to-hand fighting, he personally killed five Germans and captured fifteen more. For this activity, he was the first Chicagoan in the conflict to win the Congressional Medal of Honor.¹⁸²

The tract was originally named for the battle in 1923 and was rededicated in an official ceremony in 1964.

¹⁸² Frederic Louis Huidekoper, “The History of the 33rd Division A.E.F.,” *Illinois in the World War (Volume III)*, edited by Theodore Pease, (Springfield: Illinois State Historical Library, 1921), 498, 504–506, 509, 511; *Time Magazine*, September 7, 1959, <http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,825946,00.html>, accessed, January 2022.

Camp Dan Beard

This site is named for Daniel Carter "Uncle Dan" Beard (1850-1941), an early leader in the Boy Scout movement. He was a professional illustrator and author. In 1905, he founded the Sons of Daniel Boone with the goal of keeping alive America's frontier traditions in contemporary youth. When the Boy Scouts of America were founded five years later, Beard merged with their fledgling organization and served as a leader for the next thirty years. He became an Eagle Scout at age sixty-four. Among his important roles was as editor of their national publication *Boys' Life*. Beard also played a major role in organizing the Camp Fire Girls.¹⁸³

Camp Dan Beard was operated by the Boy Scouts for more than fifty years before being renovated by the Cook County Forest Preserve District and opened for public use.

¹⁸³ James Terry White, "Beard, Daniel Carter". *The National Cyclopædia of American Biography*. New York: J. T. White, 1930), 373–374.

Catherine Chevalier Woods

Catherine Chevalier was the Metis (mixed-blood) wife of influential fur trader and Potawatomi councilor Alexander Robinson. She was the daughter of influential French-Potawatomi mixed-blood fur trader François Pierre Chevalier. The fact that Robinson already had an Indian wife named Sahsos according to *mariage à la facon du pays* (the custom of the country) did not stop Justice of the Peace John Kinzie from presiding over the nuptials in 1826. By all accounts, Catherine and the first wife lived cordially together, raising Robinson's ten children. The Robinsons were practicing Catholics and played a role in bringing the first priest to Chicago.

The family lived on a tract of land deeded to Alexander Robinson for his services negotiating the Second Treaty of Prairie Du Chien in 1829. Catherine Chevalier was buried on that tract as were several of her children. Her granddaughters Frances Winters and Catherine Boettcher lived on the land until 1941 when the Forest Preserve District evicted them. The county acquired the property via a condemnation procedure in the 1920s. In 2010, alleged descendants claimed the acquisition was improperly executed.¹⁸⁴

¹⁸⁴ Ulrich Danckers, Jane Meredith, John Svenson, and Helen Tanner, *A Compendium of Early Chicago* (Menominee Falls, Wisc.: Inland Press, 1999) 275, 301; Mark Konkol, "Chief's relatives want land back - Records show government stole land from them, say heirs, who hope to build casino," *Chicago Sun-Times*, 09 February 2010, 15.

Charles Chick Evans Golf Course

The golf course is named for Charles E. "Chick" Evans Jr. (1890-1979). Evans was a world-famous golfer and long-time resident of the Chicago area. Born in Indianapolis, his family moved to Chicago when he was eight years old. He attended school in Evanston and took up the game of golf which he quickly mastered.

His fame on the links began in 1910 when he defeated a field of professional golfers in the Western Open. He followed this up in 1916 with the then unprecedented accomplishment of winning both the U.S. Amateur title and U.S. Open in the same year. Remarkably, Evans resisted pressure to become a professional golfer. "Within minutes of winning the National Open, I had several very lucrative offers to turn professional," Evans said later. "My mother and I talked it over, and we decided I would remain an amateur forever." They also decided since the money he was awarded came from golf it should go back to golf through an endowment to help others. This was remarkable because Evans was not especially wealthy. He was forced to leave Northwestern University prior to graduation due to a lack of funds. As a boy, he earned money as a caddy at the Edgewater Golf Course, hence in the wake of his championships he worked with the Western Golf Association to establish the Evans Scholarship which from 1930 to the present provides funding for caddies aspiring to attend college.¹⁸⁵

Evans continued to play as an amateur, eventually competing in over fifty open events and winning the Illinois Open in 1968 when he was well into his seventies. More importantly, his scholarship program has helped 11,556 young men and women attend and graduate from college as Evans Scholars.

¹⁸⁵ Gary Reinmuth, "Evan's Game Transcended By His Enduring Legacy," *Chicago Tribune*, 28 June 1999.

Camp Sullivan

Camp Sullivan is named for Roger Charles Sullivan (1861-1920), the boss of the Chicago Democratic Machine from the 1890s until his death in 1920. Sullivan was unique in that he only held elective office once, in 1890, when he was elected clerk of the Cook County Probate Court. Rather, he wielded influence from behind the scenes, often relying on his wealth to build alliances. Sullivan was particularly influential in the development of the Chicago area utility monopolies, Peoples Gas and Commonwealth Edison. In 1895, his political influence ensured that Chicago offered franchises to the Ogden Gas Company and the Cosmopolitan Electric Company, both which were headed by Sullivan. This proved extremely lucrative for Sullivan. The *New York Times* reported made \$8 million on the deal. Business historian Forrest McDonald credited Sullivan with pioneering a new approach to machine politics and economics. Sullivan was never indicted or accused of wrongdoing because he never tried to profit directly from city business, instead he used his influence to win money and power through government contracts and patronage. In 1916, Sullivan suffered two notable political setbacks. He was defeated for a seat in the U.S. Senate, and he failed in an effort to be named Woodrow Wilson's Vice President at the Democratic Party Convention in Denver.¹⁸⁶

Camp Sullivan Scout Camp is located on the site of Sullivan's vacation home in the woods near Palos Heights, Illinois. His mansion was for a time used to house campers but was eventually torn down.

¹⁸⁶ "Roger C. Sullivan, Political 'Boss,' Dies. Chicago Democratic Leader Succumbs at His Home from Heart Disease at 59. Made \$8,000,000 In Gas. "Read Out" of His Party by Bryan, He Led the Movement That Finally Made Wilson President," *New York Times*, 15 April 1920, accessed February 2022. Also see, Forest McDonald, *Insull: The Rise and Fall of a Billionaire Utility Tycoon* (Chicago: Univ. of Chicago Press, 1962).

Bergman Slough

Forest Preserve records indicate the site is named after the former landowner. However, a review of historic real estate maps between 1862 and 1920 do not indicate a Bergman as owner of the tract. Rather, the property appears to have belonged to the Weir family. According to communications from the President of the Palos Historical Society, the Weirs built a small schoolhouse on the land that was in use as late as the early 1940s. The prairie adjacent to the slough was improved for agriculture at some point by the installation of clay drainage tiles. Between 2001 and 2009, those tiles were removed as part of a prairie restoration.¹⁸⁷

¹⁸⁷ Bob Busch, Personal communication, April 4, 2022; Minutes of the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission, September 15, 2020, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Springfield, 5.

McMahon Woods and Fen Nature Preserve/Dan McMahon Woods

Daniel McMahon was a descendant of early settlers and an employee of the Palos Division of the Forest Preserve District. The McMahons are documented as settled in the area as early as 1862 and it is likely that they came earlier during the building of the Illinois and Michigan Canal through the area between 1836 and 1848 when numerous Irish laborers were employed.¹⁸⁸

¹⁸⁸ W.L. Flower, Map of Cook County, Illinois, 1862, <https://www.loc.gov/maps/?dates=1862&fa=location:illinois%7Clocation:cook+county>, accessed, February 2022.

Evans Field

This site is named for Wallace Evans (1886-1949) who operated a farm on the site. Evans specialized in raising game birds such as pheasants. The original farm was quite large, approaching 700 acres. In 1914, the *Chicago Daily Tribune* described the business as the largest game farm in the world. The son of Welsh immigrants, Evans developed his love for game birds from his father who raised pheasants in the old country. His first pheasant coop was in his Oak Park backyard. His thousands of pheasants were all raised free-range. Evans sold his birds (20,000 pheasants annually) to zoos as well as state conservation officials intent on stocking birds for hunting. Ducks were also raised on several ponds and deer roamed free on the property. Three million feet of mesh netting kept the birds on the farm.¹⁸⁹

¹⁸⁹ Frank Ridgway, "Wild Game Farming," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 06 July 1919: C4.

Linne Woods

This site was named in 1954 for Carl von Linné (1707-1778) a Swedish scientist who formalized the binomial genus and species taxonomic system. His seminal works include the *Systema Naturae* (1735), the *Species Plantarum* (1736), and the *Philosophica Botanica* (1738). Also known by the Latin version of his name, Linnaeus, he shares in scientific stature with names such as Darwin or Einstein. He is also a figure of particular ethnic pride for Swedish Americans.¹⁹⁰

¹⁹⁰ For more information see “*Carolus Linnaeus*,” *Britannica*, <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Carolus-Linnaeus>.

Thaddeus S. “Ted” Lechowicz Woods

Thaddeus S. “Ted” Lechowicz (1938-2009) was an Illinois State Representative, State Senator, member of the Cook County Board of Commissioners, and a cornerstone of the Northwest Side’s Polish community. His life story represents Chicago’s ethnic blue-collar culture and embodied the idea of the American Dream.

Born on December 20th, 1938, to Polish American factory workers, not much is known about Mr. Lechowicz’s childhood. After graduating from Weber High School, a mainstay of the Belmont Cragin neighborhood, he pursued higher education at Wright Junior College. Being from a lower-middle class Polish family, he had to work through college and did so by seeking employment at a local butcher shop. Upon earning his associate degree from Wright in 1958, he attended North Park University where he earned a bachelor's degree in economics in 1960. After briefly attending graduate school at DePaul University, he enlisted in the United States Army. He served as Commander of Company A of the 108th Supply and Transportation Battalion of the 33rd division of the Illinois National Guard. Lechowicz achieved the rank of Lieutenant, and his service would later be recognized through awards given to him by the Veterans of Foreign Wars organization.¹

Lechowicz’s political career began in Cook County. His first position was as an analyst for the Cook County Circuit Courts. His employment with the Circuit Courts coincided with his work as a precinct captain of the Democratic Party of Illinois. After acquiring a taste for politics, Lechowicz decided to run for the Illinois General Assembly in 1969. He was successful and represented Illinois’ 17th Representative District. He quickly became one of the most prominent members, being designated Assistant Majority Leader and Assistant Minority Leader of the 81st and 82nd General Assemblies, respectively. Following his time as a State Representative, he was elected to the Illinois State Senate in 1983, representing the state’s 6th Legislative District. Once in the Senate, he was again designated Assistant Majority Leader and held that position until his retirement in 1992.¹⁹²

During his later years in the Senate, Lechowicz decided to return to Chicago politics and ran for the presidency of the Cook County Board of Commissioners in 1990. He was unsuccessful in his run for president but was subsequently elected to the Board and he served as a Forest Preserve District Commissioner. He promoted the improvement of healthcare for all Chicagoans and his efforts then, as well as his prior work in the General Assembly, were paramount in facilitating construction of the new John H. Stroger, Jr. Hospital of Cook County in 2002.¹⁹³ Upon his death in 2009 colleagues from the Board remembered Lechowicz for his unsuccessful effort to save the toboggan slides, something

¹⁹¹ Illinois State Senate, Senate Resolution #0980 (2009).

¹⁹² Trevor Jensen and Hal Dardick, “Thaddeus ‘Ted’ Lechowicz: 1938-2009: County commissioner, legislator; Democratic Party committeeman represented Northwest Side in Illinois General Assembly, Cook County Board,” *Chicago Tribune*, 06 January 2009, 1:22; Illinois State Senate Resolution.

¹⁹³ Jensen and Dardick.

he greatly enjoyed as a boy growing up on the north side of the city, as well as for his successful effort to renovate the Whelan Aquatic Center.¹⁹⁴

Having been born to parents who had spent most of their childhoods in Poland, Lechowicz prided himself on his Polish heritage and was a member of many heritage organizations such as the Polish American Police Association of Chicago, the United Polish American Council, and the Copernicus Foundation. The site had previously been known as Indian Road Woods.

¹⁹⁴ Abdon M. Pallasch, Longtime state senator-Cook County commissioner made failed bid for board president in '90," *Chicago Sun-Times*, 06 January 2009.

Mary Mix McDonald Woods

Mary Mix McDonald (1925-2018) was a Cook County Commissioner from 1974 until 1994. McDonald was life-long Republican from the Village of Lincolnwood. When she joined the County Board in 1974, she was the first Republican women to serve. She paid particular attention to issues related to the county hospital and the Botanic Garden. McDonald Woods is a one-hundred-acre annex to the gardens that she helped to raise the funds for purchase. McDonald also served on the Regional Transit Authority Board from 1995-2007.

"She was without question the classiest person who ever sat on the Cook County Board," said Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas, who was a new member of the County Board when she met McDonald. "She left a lasting legacy because her pet projects were everything involving the county -- health, the (Chicago Botanic) Garden, the zoo, the jails."¹⁹⁶

¹⁹⁶ Meghan Graydon, "Mary McDonald, former Cook County commissioner, dies," *Chicago Tribune*, 17 January 2018, accessed February 2022.

Miller Meadow-North/Miller Meadow-South

George Miller (1872-1969) was a Cook County Commissioner from Oak Park. He served as a Republican member from 1914 to 1954 save for four years between 1926 and 1930 when he was an assistant state's attorney. George Miller made a significant contribution to the Forest Preserve District through his service on the initial "Plan Committee" which mapped out critical early real estate purchases. Miller also served two terms in the state legislature, was a member of the Oak Park Village Board, and, in 1912, became one of Oak Park's first park commissioners. As a suburban Republican, Miller was a vocal critic of the links between the Chicago Democratic Machine and the Cook County Board. In 1943, he was particularly incensed by a \$3 million bill shunted by Chicago to the County budget to pay Municipal Court costs, most of which, he alleged, were to pay an excess number of bailiffs and clerks employed privileged by patronage. He earned his skepticism of the machine early in his career. In 1912, he won a seat in the state legislature only to have the Cook County Canvassing Board throw out 485 Republican votes, claiming they were not properly certified and award the seat to the Democratic candidate. Incensed, Miller filed an injunction on the results and was ruled elected by a state canvassing board that found no irregularities with the ballots.¹⁹⁷

¹⁹⁷ "George Miller, Ex-County Official, Dies, G. O. P. Leader Served in Legislature," *Chicago Tribune*, 07 January 1969: c14; "Blames County Money Straits on City Machine: Miller Says Democrats Shunted Bill," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 24 January 1943: 17; "Democrats Lose Their Majority: Lead in House Wiped Out by Election of Two More Republican Candidates. Errors in Count Shown. State Canvassing Board Awards Certificates to Miller and Kirkpatrick," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 13 December 1912: 4.

Morrill Meadow

This site is named for John Barstow Morrill (1892-1960), Cook County Forest Preserve Landscape Architect. He was an Oak Park resident who graduated from Harvard University and joined the Forest Preserve District in 1928 as a landscape architect. He was nationally known for his influential work on the remaking of the Skokie Lagoons. He also played a role in the early work to preserve the Chicago Portage Historic Site, a place whose history he made himself expert.¹⁹⁸

¹⁹⁸ "JOHN MORRILL MEMORIAL SET FOR SATURDAY," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 23 March 1960: a6

McClaghrey Spring Woods

This site is named after one of the previous owners, Richard S. McClaghery. McClaghery came to Palos Township in the 1830s. Another McClaghry [note different spelling] who lived in the area was Matthew, who in 1850 was one of the first Commissioners of Palos Township. Richard McClaghery donated one acre of his land for the township's first school, a one room affair. Patrick Caraher inherited the property and, in 1921, contested the Forest Preserves condemnation of the land. The case went to the Illinois State Supreme Court which determined the fair value due Caraher. The later, however, did win the right to erect a large stone monument inscribed "Caraher 1863" which still stands prominently near the woods today.¹⁹⁹

The Supreme Court decision provided a fair description of the site at the time of the sale:

"There were about 122.73 acres of fertile, tillable land and 271 acres of forest, covered with native trees of good size and different varieties. Mill creek runs through the tract from north to south and there are about twenty-five springs of water on it. There were three sets of buildings on the tract and it was fenced with barb-wire of four strands. The timber land consists of hills and ravines, and the appellees took the position that the most profitable use of the whole tract was for subdivision into lots of a few acres each for country homes. That position was contested by the appellant, which offered evidence of value on the basis that the land was suitable for farm and pasture purposes."²⁰⁰

¹⁹⁹ Michele Mohr. "What is in a Name," *Chicago Tribune*, October 23, 2004; Alfred T. Andreas, *History of Cook County* (Chicago: Western Publishing Company, 1884); Newton Bateman, Paul Selby, "Palos Township," *Historical Encyclopedia Illinois* (Chicago: Munsell Publishing Company, 1905), 790.

²⁰⁰ Forest Preserve District v. Caraher, 299 Ill. 11 (1921), June 22, 1921, Illinois Supreme Court · No. 13853 299, 11.

Joe Orr Woods

This site named for proximity to Joe Orr Road. Orr was the owner of the Joe Orr Coal Company of Chicago Heights. In June 1920, the Joe Orr Coal Company paved Chicago Heights Main Street which was a local portion of the Dixie Highway running cross-country North to South.²⁰¹

²⁰¹ James R. Wright, *The Dixie Highway in Illinois* (Chicago: Arcadia Press, 2009).

Thatcher Woods/Thatcher Pond/Thatcher Woods Glen

Thatcher Woods/Thatcher Pond/Thatcher Woods are named for David C. Thatcher (1814-1869) who came to Chicago from upstate New York at the age of twenty-four and in short order made a fortune in construction. He built a swing bridge over the Chicago River and later a tunnel under the river to facilitate street traffic. He also established a firearms manufacturing business. Thatcher built a substantial brick house on the fringe of the city. That structure later would house the Forest Preserves' Trailside Museum. Thatcher died in 1869 in France while on a trip planned to help him recoup his health.²⁰²

²⁰² "David Cunningham Thatcher," *Find a Grave*, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/75931137/david-cunningham-thatcher>, Accessed February 2022.

Harold "Hal" Tyrrell Trailside Museum

Harold L. Tyrrell (1928-1990) was a Cook County Board Commissioner at the time of his death in 1990. He was born in Forest Park in 1928, educated at Austin High School, and earned an engineering degree from the University of Illinois. He was the long serving manager of the Industrial Sales Division of the Hanley Co., a Pennsylvania-based brick manufacturer.

Tyrrell became involved in politics when he joined the Proviso Township Republican Organization. Beginning in 1971, he served as a Township Committeeman and as Chairman of Elementary School District 102 in his hometown of La Grange Park. From 1975 to 1978, he was Chairman of the Cook County GOP Central Committee. He first was elected to the County Board in 1974. He was re-elected three times and was a candidate for his fifth term when he suffered a fatal heart attack. His Forest Preserve service included the Chairmanship of the Brookfield Zoo Board. At the time of his death, the *Chicago Tribune* noted: "In his years on the County Board, Mr. Tyrrell was often vocally critical of the spending practices of the board's Democratic majority; in most cases he lost the argument for political reasons." A fellow Republican commissioner, Richard Siebel added, "He was thorough and truly a watchdog on the taxpayers' dollars."²⁰³

In 1989, Tyrrell was appointed by Board President George Dunne to a committee to examine whether the Trailside Museum in Forest Park should continue to serve as a shelter for injured animals. Investigation by Tyrrell and Commissioner Bobbie Steele (D-Chicago) revealed that the museum building was in poor condition and that it was overcrowded with injured pets that should have been handled by veterinarians or domestic animal shelters. Working with the Citizens to Save Trailside, Tyrrell and Steele recommended focusing Trailside's program on indigenous wild animals with the goal of returning them to the wild where possible. In 1990, upon Tyrrell's death, the Trailside Museum was named in his honor.²⁰⁴

²⁰³ William Recktenwald, "Harold L. Tyrrell, 62, county commissioner," *Chicago Tribune*, 12 February 1990: 7.

²⁰⁴ Charles Mount, "Future gets brighter for Trailside Museum," *Chicago Tribune*, 12 July 1989: N6.

Sidney Yates Flatwoods

Sidney R. Yates (1909-2000) was a United States Congressman from 1949 to 1963 and 1965 to 1999. He was the son of Lithuanian Jewish immigrants, born in Chicago, and educated at Lake View High School and the University of Chicago. A gifted athlete, he earned all-Big Ten honors in basketball and for a time played professionally. After service in World War II, he began his political career with election to Congress. Yates was staunch liberal Democrat with long and influential service on the House Appropriations Committee. Yates was known as a strong supporter of the State of Israel and later helped secure the establishment of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC. He was an influential sponsor of the National Endowment for the Arts and federal environmental protection measures, especially the establishment of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. When he left Congress in 1999, he was the longest serving member of that body from the State of Illinois.²⁰⁵

²⁰⁵ "YATES, Sidney Richard," *Biographical Directory of the United States Congress*, <https://bioguide.congress.gov/search/bio/Y000013>, accessed February 2022.

Turnbull Woods

This site is named for Thomas Turnbull, an early settler in the area. The Turnbull family lived on the property raising dairy cows until 1917. In that year, William David Turnbull sold the land to the Cook County Forest Preserve District.²⁰⁶ Turnbull Woods is adjacent to McDonald Woods and associated with Openlands. A pedestrian pathway connects Turnbull Woods and McDonald Woods as well as the Braeside Metra Station in Highland Park to the Chicago Botanic Garden.²⁰⁷

²⁰⁶ Phillip Whitfield, "County Board Commissioners Renames Turnbull Woods in Honor of Mary McDonald," *Garden Talk*, Vol.10 (1995).

²⁰⁷ *Turnbull Woods*, <https://openlands.org/places/turnbull-woods-2/>. Accessed, 23 May 2022.

Woodrow Wilson Woods

Woodrow Wilson (1856-1924) was twenty-eighth President of the United States, 1912-1920. Virginia-born, he was the first Southerner elected President after the American Civil War. He was an academic scholar who earned a PhD in Political Science from Johns Hopkins University and later became President of Princeton University. That appointment led him to the governorship of New Jersey and, in 1912, to the Democratic Party nomination for the Presidency. As president, he supported and signed a wide range of progressive legislation, including tariff reform, the reinstatement of a federal income tax, the creation of the Federal Reserve System, child labor restrictions, and natural resource protection. Wilson is most famous for leading America into World War I and the issuing of his Fourteen Points which he hoped would “end all wars” through the creation of a League of Nations. The plan proved a failure.

Wilson brought the prejudices of his southern upbringing to the White House. One of his first actions as President was to introduce segregation to federal workplaces. Under his administration, no black officers were commissioned in either the Army or the Navy, although this changed after thousands of African Americans were drafted into the service for World War I. These racist actions were consistent with Wilson’s pro-Confederate historical writings, his role at Princeton in discouraging black students, and his support for the pro-Ku Klux Klan film *Birth of a Nation*.

The woods were named for Wilson in 1924 on the occasion of his death.²⁰⁸

²⁰⁸ For more on Wilson see, John Milton Cooper, ed. *Reconsidering Woodrow Wilson: Progressivism, Internationalism, War, and Peace* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Univ. Press, 2008).

Wentworth Prairie/Wentworth Woods

Wentworth Prairie and Wentworth Woods commemorate John Wentworth (1815-1888), Chicago's 19th Mayor and the city's first Republican Mayor. Born in 1815 in Sandwich, New Hampshire, Wentworth migrated to Chicago in 1836. By 1837, he owned the *Democrat*, Chicago's oldest paper. Active in the Democratic Party, represented Illinois in the U.S. House of Representatives for a total of seven terms. He supported harbor improvements, expansion, the Wilmot Proviso (to keep slavery out of the territory acquired as a result of the Mexican War) and opposed the Compromise of 1850 and the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854 (which established popular sovereignty, allowing the potential of the spread of slavery into the territories). His unhappiness with the Democratic Party's accommodation of slavery resulted in his move to the newly established Republican Party in 1856. He served two non-consecutive terms as mayor of Chicago (1857-58 and 1860-1861).

After his time as mayor, Wentworth was a member of the 1862 Illinois Constitutional Convention and served as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives from 1863 to 1867. While in Congress, he supported the Radical Republican agenda, including the 14th Amendment to the Constitution and the Freedman's Bureau. After his return to Chicago, Wentworth engaged in real estate. At his death in 1888, he was buried in Rosehill Cemetery.²⁰⁹

²⁰⁹ W. Roger Biles, "Wentworth, John, (1815-1888), in *Biographical Dictionary of American Mayors, 1820-1980*, eds. Melvin G. Holli and Peter d'A. Jones (Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1981), 387.

Henry De Tonty Woods/Tonti Slough

Henry De Tonty Woods commemorates the French explorer and fur trader Henri de Tonti who accompanied René-Robert Cavalier, Sieur de LaSalle on LaSalle's explorations of the Great Lakes and the Illinois and Mississippi River systems during the latter quarter of the 1600s. Their explorations served as the basis for the French claim to this area and de Tonti, along with LaSalle, appear to be the first Europeans to utilize the Chicago Portage. De Tonti was also instrumental in the establishment of Peoria, Illinois and Arkansas Post, Arkansas. Given his fur trading activities, de Tonti appeared to value positive relationships with the Native American tribes he encountered as these relationships furthered the profitability of the trade.²¹⁰

²¹⁰ "Henri De Tonty," *Britannica*, <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Henri-de-Tonty>, accessed 05/27/2022; "Henri de Tonti," *Encyclopedia of Arkansas*, <https://encyclopediaofarkansas.net/media/henri-de-tonti-386/>, accessed 05/27/2022; "Henri de Tonti – the Founder of Peoria," https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&ved=2ahUKEwjWxZLXkiH4AhWmQzABHW0wDsEQFnoECGEQAQ&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.peoriahistoricalsociety.org%2Fassets%2Fimages%2FHenrideTontiBioFullLength.pdf&usg=AOvVaw1_9bYD1OUu6ZxWVGLODpL, accessed 05/27/2022. See also *The Chicago Portage*, http://drupal.library.cmu.edu/chicago/history_people, accessed 5/29/2022.

Caldwell Woods/Caldwell Golf Course/Caldwell-Sauganash Reserve

Billy Caldwell aka Sauganash (1780-1841) was an important figure in early Chicago history.²¹¹ He was a Metis, born of a Mohawk Indian woman and a Scots-Irish father. After his first seven years were spent as an orphan among the Mohawk, Caldwell was raised as an illegitimate son by his father who was an officer in the British military. He was apprenticed to a fur trader working in the Lake Michigan region. During the War of 1812, he served as an officer in the British military leading American Indians against American forces attempting to invade Canada.²¹²

In 1820, Caldwell returned to Chicago, a place he had frequented before the War of 1812. Here he worked as a fur trader and later as an official go-between for United States dealings with the Potawatomi Indians of the region. Caldwell's ability to speak English, French, and Anishinaabemowin (the language of the Potawatomi, Odawa, and Ojibwe) and his history of working with Indians as a trader and soldier made him a figure useful to both sides. He was officially designated by the United States as a Potawatomi "chief" even though he was never a member of that tribe. Caldwell served in that role from 1827 to 1833 during which time he helped to negotiate several treaties, all of which resulted in the cession of vast amounts of Indian land. The last of these was the Treaty of Chicago in 1833 which set the stage for the removal of the Potawatomi from the Great Lakes region homeland. For his work on these treaties, Caldwell was well compensated. The government awarded him a large tract of land along the North Branch of the Chicago River that is today the site of Caldwell Woods and the golf course named in his honor. He also received a substantial life annuity and a \$5,000 payment (which in 2021 dollars would equal over \$1.6 million).

Caldwell, however, was more than just a profiteer of the ethnic cleansing of the Chicago area. He did identify strongly with the Potawatomi people. He twice married Anishinaabe women who died in childbirth. He tried to use his resources to educate Potawatomi children. In 1823, when Chicago hosted its first schoolteacher, Caldwell offered to pay for the tuition and books for all Indian children who would attend if they would put off Euro-American style clothes, for which he also offered to pay. Although he had owned the first frame house in Chicago, helped found the town's first Catholic Church, served as a justice of the peace, and an election commissioner, he was not accepted by the Yankee majority that moved to Chicago in the wake of the 1833 treaty.

He came to again identify himself as an Indian. When the Potawatomi were removed west to near Council Bluffs, Iowa, Caldwell and his family went with them. In 1834 he wrote to his white half-brother defending his negotiation of the 1833 treaty: "I am perfectly easy in mind about those faults [sic] reports against me - I told you all that I would

²¹¹ Anthropologist James Clifton contended that Caldwell's Indian name was "sakonosh", which translates best as "English-speaking Canadian."

²¹² Ulrich Danckers, et al, *Early Chicago* (Menominee Falls, Wisc.: Inland Press, 1999), 93.

not be a political Indian anymore than what would be of benefit to my red brethren that is to take them over the Mississippi in order to draw them from this scene of destruction." Caldwell, like many mixed blood or Metis born on the north American frontier, was an individual caught between two worlds troubled by the impossibility of his situation.²¹³

²¹³ James T. Clifton, "Personal and Ethnic Identity on the Great Lakes Frontier: The Case of Billy Caldwell, Anglo-Canadian," *Ethnohistory* 25:1 (1978): 69-94.

Erickson Woods/William N. Erickson Preserve

This site is named after William N. Erickson (1899-1974), a long-time boss of Republican politics in Cook County. The Evanston resident was first elected to the Cook County Board in 1934. In World War II, he briefly served in the United States Navy. From 1947 to 1954, he was County Board Chair, the first Republican to do so since 1914. Erickson had a well-publicized feud with John J. Duffy when the latter lost the election for County Board Chair. This clash was in stark contrast to Erickson's ability to work cordially with county Democrats. Mayor Richard J. Daley was a long-time friend.²¹⁴

Erickson's bipartisan popularity was underscored by an annual picnic that were held in his honor beginning in 1934. Between 1,000 and 3,000 Democrats as well as Republican faithful annually turned out for a day of golf and feasting. As a nod to Erickson's Swedish heritage, pickled herring was present in abundance.²¹⁵

In 1952, Erickson was indicted by a Cook County Grand Jury in a ghost payroll scheme connected with his control of county patronage positions. He vigorously denied any wrongdoing. The indictment forced Erickson to abandon the race for the Republican gubernatorial nomination in which he had been the frontrunner. The charges were connected to national exposure of the Chicago Outfit's connection to politics as a result of the investigations of U.S. Senator Estes Kefauver. The boss of GOP west side politics was deeply implicated in both the ghost pay-roll scandal and mob connections. Yet, he was acquitted of all charges and then refused to testify against Erickson. Because of that decision, all charges were dropped against Erickson. That same year Erickson was forced to defend his hiring of a group of Northwestern University athletic stars by the Forest Preserve District. He claimed that despite the demands of their studies and sports they were good workers.²¹⁶

²¹⁴ "William Erickson dies at 75," *Chicago Tribune*, 04 March 1974: c13.

²¹⁵ "Mark Erickson Day with Picnic in Harms Woods," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 03 September 1944: N1.

²¹⁶ "Vote to Indict Erickson and 2 Aids in County Job Scandal: Jurors Allege Fraud Plot, Malfeasance," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 16 April 1952: 1; James L. Merriner, *Gangsters and Goo Goos: Corruption and Reform in Chicago* (Carbondale: Southern Illinois Univ. Press, 2004), 163-6, "5 N. U. Athletes Hold Part Time County Jobs, Sponsored by Erickson, County Board President," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 22 February 1952: b2.

Arie Crown Forest/Arie Crown Trail-Unpaved

Formerly known as Cantigny Woods, what is now Arie Crown Forest and Arie Crown Trail were renamed in 1965 to honor Arie Crown, the father of Col. Henry Crown. Arie and Ida Crown were among the many Jewish Eastern Europeans migrating to the United States in the late nineteenth century. He and his wife created a solid foundation for their children. Two of his sons, Henry and Irving, founded Material Service Corporation in 1919. Although this building supply company's fortunes fluctuated with the economy, Henry Crown and his family prospered. In 1959, the Material Service Corporation merged with the General Dynamics Corporation in 1959. Col. Henry Crown (a rank acquired during his service in World War II) was "head of one of America's wealthiest families at the time of his death in 1990."²¹⁷

In 1947, the Crown family created the Arie and Ida Crown Memorial Foundation to give back to the community. In 2009, the Arie and Ida Crown Memorial Foundation was re-envisioned and replaced by the Crown Family Philanthropies.²¹⁸

²¹⁷ Kenan Heise, "Col. Henry Crown, 94, Chicago philanthropist, business leader," *Chicago Tribune*, 15 August 1990, D11C.

²¹⁸ *Crown Family Philanthropies*, <https://crownfamilyphilanthropies.org/about>, accessed 06 June 2022.

Jurgensen Woods North Nature Preserve

The site is named for the Jurgensen family that was prominent in Bloom Township. According to Roberts Mann in 1912 and again 1925, the Forest Preserve bought land that now includes the nature preserve from Peter and Fred Jurgensen. Nothing more could be found about the Jurgensens. The area was designated a nature preserve in 1965.

Somme Woods/Somme Prairie/Somme Prairie Nature Preserve

This site is named for a famous World War I battlefield. In 1918, several thousand American troops fought alongside the British and French in the Second Battle of Somme. It was one of the first combat experiences of the American Expeditionary Force.

St. Mihiel Woods/St. Mihiel Reservation (Preserve)/St. Mihiel Woods-West

This site is named after the World War I Battle of Saint-Mihiel which took place between 12-16 September 1918. It was the first American led offensive of the war and included well over 100,000 American soldiers commanded by General John J. Pershing. More than 7,000 soldiers were casualties in the hard fight which ended in the defeat and retreat by the German forces.

George Rodgers Clark Woods

George Rogers Clark was an officer in the Virginia militia who served in the American Revolution. He was responsible for a series of campaigns in 1778 and 1779 that drove the British out of southern Indiana and Illinois. These victories are often given credit for the new United States receiving the territory between the Appalachian Mountains and the Mississippi River in the Treaty of Paris that ended the American Revolution. Clark also made a name for himself as an Indian fighter and was responsible for indigenous people losing control over large parts of Kentucky. In the 1790s, he became disgruntled by the failure of Congress to pay the debt he incurred winning victories during the war and for a time negotiated with Spanish and French agents attempting to take the western territories from the new United States. Clark, like many Virginia-born westerners, was a slave owner.²¹⁹

²¹⁹ George Rogers Clark, Library of Virginia, *Dictionary of Virginia Biography*, https://www.lva.virginia.gov/public/dvb/bio.php?b=Clark_George_Rogers, accessed June 2022.

Gurdon S. Hubbard Forest

Gurdon S. Hubbard was one of the most important early settlers in Chicago history. Born in Connecticut, he came to Chicago in the wake of the War of 1812 at the age of sixteen. Originally, he was a fur trader operating posts in Michigan and southern Illinois. He crossed the Chicago Portage many times and left a vivid account of its difficulties. Later in life, when he was a successful businessman, he played a key role in the planning and building of the Illinois and Michigan Canal that ended use of the portage and made Chicago a key commercial city. Additionally, it was Hubbard who began the meat packing business in Chicago. In 1861, when the Civil War broke out, Hubbard, although he was sixty years of age, enlisted as a private soldier to fight the slaveholder's revolt. However, infirmities prevented him from completing his term of enlistment. The Chicago Fire ruined many of his businesses.²²⁰

²²⁰For more detail see: Lloyd Wendt, *Swift Walker: An Informal Biography of Gurdon Saltonstall Hubbard* (Lake Bluff, Illinois: Regnery Books, 1986).

La Framboise Preserves/La Framboise Woods

Claude La Framboise (1795-1872) was the son of a French fur trader and a Potawatomi woman. He was an early Chicago resident and a member of the Fort Dearborn garrison. In 1812, he was one of the few people to survive the Battle of Fort Dearborn. Later, he served as an interpreter for the U.S. government at the Second Treaty of Fond du Lac and, for his services, he was rewarded with a tract of land along the Des Plaines River which is now part of the Forest Preserves. He later also served in the Black Hawk War.²²¹

²²¹ Claude LaFramboise, *Early Chicago*, https://earlychicago.com/encyclopedia_letter_l/, Accessed June, 2022.

Pothiers (Victorie) Reserve

Victoire Pothiers was the daughter of French fur trader Jean Baptiste Mirandeu and an Odawa woman. In 1828, she married Joseph Pothiers. In 1829, for services rendered at the Second Treaty of Fond du Lac, she received 1 1/2 section of land as a reservation on the Chicago River, between land granted to her sister Jane Mirandeu and Billy Caldwell's reservation. The family moved to Milwaukee in 1835 following the removal of the Potawatomi from the Chicago area.²²²

²²²Victorie Pothiers, *Early Chicago*, https://earlychicago.com/encyclopedia_letter_p/, Accessed June 2022.

Teason's Woods

This site is named after the landowners Jeanne and Frederick Teason who sold to the land to the Forest Preserve in 1926. A William Teason also worked for the Forest Preserve in a law enforcement capacity for many years.²²³

²²³ Roberts Mann, *Origin of Names and Histories of Places, Including Major Forests and Holdings, Picnic Areas and Recreational Facilities, Nature Preserves, Aquatic Areas, and Wildlife Refuges in the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois* (Oak Park: Cook County Forest Preserve District, 1965).

Catherine Mitchell Pond

Catherine Mitchell was a resident of Riverside. She was a nature lover who advocated for preserving natural areas along the Des Plaines River. The site was formerly known as Catherine Mitchell Lagoon.²²⁴

²²⁴ Roberts Mann, *Origin of Names and Histories of Places, Including Major Forests and Holdings, Picnic Areas and Recreational Facilities, Nature Preserves, Aquatic Areas, and Wildlife Refuges in the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois* (Oak Park: Cook County Forest Preserve District, 1965), Addendum 3, 4.

Joe's Pond

This water feature was constructed by the Cook County Forest Preserve District under the direction of engineer Joseph Reichert. The pond is named after him.²²⁵

²²⁵ Roberts Mann, *Origin of Names and Histories of Places, Including Major Forests and Holdings, Picnic Areas and Recreational Facilities, Nature Preserves, Aquatic Areas, and Wildlife Refuges in the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois* (Oak Park: Cook County Forest Preserve District, 1965), Addendum 3, 4.

Tampier Lake/Tampier Lake Boating Center/Tampier Lake-North/Tampier Lake-West/Tampier Slough/Tampier Wetland

This water feature was created with funds from the federal Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act, passed by Congress in 1950. The act provides funding to state fish and wildlife agencies to support recreational fishing. The funds come from taxes on sport fishing equipment. The Tampier family lived on the marshy land that was transformed through excavation into the current lake.²²⁶

²²⁶ "The Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act explained," *Wildlife For All*, <https://wildlifeforall.us/resources/dingell-johnson-sport-fish-restoration-act-explained/>, Accessed June 2022; Roberts Mann, *Origin of Names and Histories of Places, Including Major Forests and Holdings, Picnic Areas and Recreational Facilities, Nature Preserves, Aquatic Areas, and Wildlife Refuges in the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois* (Oak Park: Cook County Forest Preserve District, 1965), Addendum 3, 3.

Bemis Woods-North/Bemis Woods-South

These sites are named for Anna Louise Bemis who was a Forest Preserve Commissioner from 1923 to 1926. She personally supported the youth Camp Bemis in the area. Scout camps were also formerly in the area. Anna Louise Bemis was the wife of E.W. Bemis, PhD who was a noted economist and who worked closely with Chicago officials in lawsuits against both People's Gas and Illinois Bell Telephone.²²⁷

²²⁷ "Dr. E. W. Bemis, "Noted Utility Appraiser, Dies: Represented Public in More than 200 Cases," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 27 September 1930: 22; Roberts Mann, *Origin of Names and Histories of Places, Including Major Forests and Holdings, Picnic Areas and Recreational Facilities, Nature Preserves, Aquatic Areas, and Wildlife Refuges in the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois* (Oak Park: Cook County Forest Preserve District, 1965), 8.

Warren G. Harding Woods

This site is named in honor of the 29th President of the United States. Harding (1865-1923) was a Republican who served from 1921 until his death in 1923. His death by heart attack early in his term was regarded as a tragedy by his contemporaries with whom he was immensely popular for his promise to return America to “normalcy” after the tumult of World War I and the Red Scare. However, after his death his reputation suffered when a series of scandals rocked his administration, many of which involved his circle of friends known as the “Ohio Gang.” Since the 1950s, Harding has been generally ranked by historians as among the worst presidents.²²⁸

²²⁸ “Warren G. Harding,” *White House Historical Association*, <https://www.whitehouse.gov/about-the-white-house/presidents/warren-g-harding/>, Accessed June 2022.

Schiller Playfield/Schiller Pond/Schiller Woods-East/Schiller Woods-South/Schiller Woods-West

These sites are named for Johann Christoph Friedrich von Schiller (1759 –1805), a German playwright, poet, and philosopher. In the late nineteenth century, German Chicagoans formed a singing society named in his honor and based at the Lincoln Turnverein Hall. During the summer, they often would hold picnics at an outdoor dancehall known as Schiller Park. The suburb near the site as well as the former site of the dancehall took the name “Schiller Park.”²²⁹

²²⁹ Roberts Mann, *Origin of Names and Histories of Places, Including Major Forests and Holdings, Picnic Areas and Recreational Facilities, Nature Preserves, Aquatic Areas, and Wildlife Refuges in the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois* (Oak Park: Cook County Forest Preserve District, 1965), 48; “Schiller Park, *Encyclopedia of Chicago*, <http://www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org/pages/1119.html>, Accessed June 2022.

Schuth's Grove

This site is named after an early twentieth century dance pavilion and picnic ground operated by August Schuth. In 1922, it was purchased by the Cook County Forest Preserve.²³⁰

²³⁰ Roberts Mann, *Origin of Names and Histories of Places, Including Major Forests and Holdings, Picnic Areas and Recreational Facilities, Nature Preserves, Aquatic Areas, and Wildlife Refuges in the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois* (Oak Park: Cook County Forest Preserve District, 1965), 50.

Schubert's Woods

This site is named after an early twentieth century dance pavilion known as Schubert's Grove. August Schubert sold this property in 1917 and it became part of the Cook County Forest Preserves a year later.²³¹

²³¹ Roberts Mann, *Origin of Names and Histories of Places, Including Major Forests and Holdings, Picnic Areas and Recreational Facilities, Nature Preserves, Aquatic Areas, and Wildlife Refuges in the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois* (Oak Park: Cook County Forest Preserve District, 1965), 49.

Spears Woods

This site is named after John Spear who was one of the early European-American settlers in Palos Township. He operated a farm at this site for many years. In 1924, the Forest Preserve District purchased the land from Catherine Blanche Spears.²³²

²³² Roberts Mann, *Origin of Names and Histories of Places, Including Major Forests and Holdings, Picnic Areas and Recreational Facilities, Nature Preserves, Aquatic Areas, and Wildlife Refuges in the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois* (Oak Park: Cook County Forest Preserve District, 1965), 53.

Sweet Woods

This site was acquired by the Forest Preserve in 1917 from Merrill K. Sweet and that name was then affixed to the woods. In the 1930s, a Civilian Conservation Corps camp was located near Sweet Woods.²³³

²³³ Roberts Mann, *Origin of Names and Histories of Places, Including Major Forests and Holdings, Picnic Areas and Recreational Facilities, Nature Preserves, Aquatic Areas, and Wildlife Refuges in the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois* (Oak Park: Cook County Forest Preserve District, 1965), 56.

Foreman Woods

Henry G. Foreman (1860-1932) was one of the key founders of the Forest Preserve District. He was a native Chicagoan, banker, real estate developer, and an influential figure in the Jewish community. He served as president of the Board of Cook County Commissioners from 1902 to 1904. He headed the Outer Belt Park Commission in 1904 and was a staunch supporter of the 1905 referendum to establish a forest preserve district in the county. During his time as president of Chicago's South Park Commission, he championed the building of small neighborhood recreation areas that included field houses, gyms, bath houses, and libraries. This earned him the sobriquet "Father of the Small Parks." During his time at the head of the park board, fourteen large parks were also built on the south side of the city.²³⁴

²³⁴ "Funeral Services Held for Henry G. Foreman, Prominent Jewish Leader of Chicago," *Jewish Telegraphic Archive*, <https://www.jta.org/archive/funeral-services-held-for-henry-g-foreman-prominent-jewish-leader-of-chicago>, accessed June 2022.

Theodore Stone Forest

This site is named after a Cook County attorney who represented the Forest Preserves as a legal advisor. He also drafted ordinances²³⁵ that regulated equestrian use of the Forest Preserves. The naming in honor of Stone came at the request of District Superintendent Cap Sauers.

²³⁵ Roberts Mann, *Origin of Names and Histories of Places, Including Major Forests and Holdings, Picnic Areas and Recreational Facilities, Nature Preserves, Aquatic Areas, and Wildlife Refuges in the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois* (Oak Park: Cook County Forest Preserve District, 1965), 59.

Steger Woods

This name was affixed to the site by Roberts Mann because of its proximity to Steger Road. This was a strange choice because the property includes the site of the John McCoy homestead. McCoy was reputed to be a veteran of the American Revolution. In 1926, the Daughters of the American Revolution erected a stone monument at the site. According to local lore, the McCoy's were known to maintain friendly relations with the local Potawatomi and they opposed Indian removal. In the 1850s, John McCoy's descendants were credited with working with the Underground Railroad to help enslaved people escape to Canada.²³⁶

²³⁶ Roberts Mann, *Origin of Names and Histories of Places, Including Major Forests and Holdings, Picnic Areas and Recreational Facilities, Nature Preserves, Aquatic Areas, and Wildlife Refuges in the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois* (Oak Park: Cook County Forest Preserve District, 1965), 49-50.

Senne Woods

Senne Woods is named after Henry C. Senne (1826-1911) who was a German born Republican member of the Cook County Board in the late nineteenth century. From 1887 to 1889 he was president of the board. Senne was a successful lumber merchant, banker, and four term mayor of Des Plaines, Illinois.²³⁷

²³⁷ "Henry C. Senne," *The Political Graveyard: Politicians in the Lumber and Timber Business in Illinois*, <https://politicalgraveyard.com/geo/IL/lumber.html>, Accessed June 2022.

Ida Lake

This water feature was created as a borrow pit for the construction of Interstate-55. It is named for Ida Crown (1871-1956) wife of millionaire philanthropist Henry Crown. The lake is located in the Arie Crown Forest.²³⁸

²³⁸ Roberts Mann, *Origin of Names and Histories of Places, Including Major Forests and Holdings, Picnic Areas and Recreational Facilities, Nature Preserves, Aquatic Areas, and Wildlife Refuges in the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois* (Oak Park: Cook County Forest Preserve District, 1965), Addendum, 3, p.4

Rubio Woods

Rubio Woods takes its name from the wife of Cook County Board President Daniel Ryan. Ruby O'Connor Ryan (1902–1998) replaced her husband on the County Board in 1961 when Daniel Ryan died of a heart attack. Ruby Ryan continued to serve on the Board until 1981. The site was originally named Rubiosee for some reason and later shortened to Rubio.²³⁹

²³⁹ Roberts Mann, *Origin of Names and Histories of Places, Including Major Forests and Holdings, Picnic Areas and Recreational Facilities, Nature Preserves, Aquatic Areas, and Wildlife Refuges in the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois* (Oak Park: Cook County Forest Preserve District, 1965),45; John R. Schmidt, "Who Was Dan Ryan?" *WBEZ Stories*, <https://www.wbez.org/stories/who-was-dan-ryan/a22dfe55-8bcb-404f-9922-dc8e07ac3cd0>, Accessed June 2022.

Tuma Lake (Water Body)

Tuma Lake is a man-made water feature in the Palos Division. It was developed to serve two summer camps, the Boy Scout Camp Kiwanis and the Skokol Camp on the other side of the lake. The Skokol was a Bohemian youth group and the influence of Anton Cermak no doubt played a role in the camp's development. The lake was named after the previous landowner. Both camps served young people into the 1970s. Later in the 1970s, they were closed, and the buildings demolished.²⁴⁰

²⁴⁰ John Husar, "Only memories left of getaway camps: Facilities once delighted urban dwellers," *Chicago Tribune*, 27 April 1997: A9.

Whistler Woods

The origin of this site name is uncertain. However, considering the tendency of early Forest Preserve administrators to name sites after figures that related to early Chicago history such as Gurdon Hubbard, Billy Caldwell, and Alexander Robinson it is possible the site was named for John Whistler (ca. 1756 –1829). He was an Irish born American soldier who commanded the troops that established Fort Dearborn at the site of Chicago in 1803. His son and grandson followed him into the military, the later becoming a famous artist best known of the painting “Whistler’s Mother.”²⁴¹

²⁴¹ Ann Durkin Keating, “Fort Dearborn,” *Encyclopedia of Chicago*, <http://www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org/pages/477.html>, accessed July, 2022.

McCoy Woods

There does not appear to be a current site using this name. The area is located near the old Sauk Trail in the Thorn Creek area. John McCoy was an early settler from Vermont who settled in the area in 1834. He is reputed to have been a Revolutionary War veteran. His son, Lorenzo McCoy, a War of 1812 veteran also settled in the area at the same time. They continued in the area through the ante-bellum period and during the 1850s. The family was reputed to have kept a station on the Underground Railroad.²⁴²

²⁴² Roberts Mann, *Origin of Names and Histories of Places, Including Major Forests and Holdings, Picnic Areas and Recreational Facilities, Nature Preserves, Aquatic Areas, and Wildlife Refuges in the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois* (Oak Park: Cook County Forest Preserve District, 1965), 49-50.

Eggers Grove/Eggers Grove Slough

This site is named after an early landowner in the area just north of Wolf Lake. According to an 1861 real estate map, an immigrant from what is now Germany, Frederick Eggers, owned the southeast quarter of fraction section 17 and the north half of the northeast corner of fractional section 20 in Cook County. The map erroneously lists the owner as “F. Eggen.” However, U.S. census data indicates the spelling is Eggers.²⁴³ In 1820, Frederick Eggers was born in Hanover in the German state of Lower Saxony. He came to America with his brother Heinrich. Both became involved in farming and eventually real estate speculation in the lands along the Illinois/Indiana border. In 1851 Frederick bought 321 acres near Whiting, Indiana and, in 1869, acquired an additional 80 acres. Eggers died in 1891 after subdividing his Cook County land.²⁴⁴

²⁴³ : S. H. Burnhans and J. Van. Vechten, “Map of Cook County, Illinois, 1861, ” <https://www.loc.gov/resource/g4103c.la000104/>, accessed June 2022.

²⁴⁴ Powell A. Moore, *The Calumet Region Indiana's Last Frontier* (Indiana Historical Bureau, 1959), 183.

LaBuy Lake (Water Body)

This site would appear to be named after a prominent Chicago attorney and judge Walter J. LaBuy (1888 –1967). He was a graduate of DePaul University Law School who went on to become a judge in United States Court of the Northern District of Illinois where he presided over numerous high-profile cases related to political corruption, the Chicago Outfit, and corporate issues, including the celebrated Tucker Motor Car trial.²⁴⁵ Before becoming a federal judge, LaBuy served as a Cook County Commissioner from 1930 to 1933.²⁴⁶

²⁴⁵ Thomas Furlong, "Tucker Fraud trial Opens: Plea for Delay Is Denied by Judge LaBuy," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, October 4, 1949, 3.

²⁴⁶ "LaBuy, Walter J.," *Federal Judicial Center*, <https://www.fjc.gov/node/1383546>, accessed July 2022.

Major Gale Woods

This site, which is not currently in use, may be named for Major Gale of the 131st US Infantry (First Illinois National Guard). His unit was captured by the Germans in World War I on October 9, 1918.²⁴⁷

²⁴⁷ J.B. Sanborn, *The 131st US Infantry (First Illinois National Guard) in the World War*. 1919.
<https://books.google.com/books?id=UJ20AAAAMAAJ&pg=PA246&lpg=PA246&dq=major+Gale+Illinois+131st+US+infantry&source=bl&ots=12YhNnZGnj&sig=ACfU3U3xUfeujVdyIkj085M9hMfIVs-J2w&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwiF9Nvm9Yj5AhV6kYkEHV5BugQ6AF6BAGZEAM#v=onepage&q=major%20Gale%20Illinois%20131st%20US%20infantry&f=false>. Accessed July 20, 2022.

Camp Baden Powell

This site, not currently in use, was a boy scout camp. It was named for Robert Baden-Powell, 1st Baron Baden Powell (1857-1941), who founded the Boy Scouts, Girls Scouts, and Girl Guides.²⁴⁸

²⁴⁸ "Robert Baden-Powell, 1st Baron Baden Powell, <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Girl-Guides-and-Girl-Scouts>. Accessed July 20, 2022.

Names with Natural Features, Historic and/or Cultural Association, or No Information
Bluff Spring Fen Nature Preserve/Bluff Spring Fens Ponds (Water Body)
Bobolink Meadow Land and Water Reserve
Calumet City Prairie and Marsh Nature Preserve
Chicago Portage National Historic Site
Cranberry Slough Nature Preserve
Deer Grove Lake (Water Body)/Deer Grove Trails-Paved & Unpaved/Deer Grove West Woodland & Wetland Nature Preserve/Deer Grove-East/Deer Grove-West
Forest Glen Woods
Green Lake/Green Lake Family Aquatic Center/Green Lake Woods
Orland Grassland Land and Water Reserves
Palos Fen Nature Preserve
Palos Hills
Paw Paw Woods Nature Preserve
Powderhorn Prairie and Marsh Nature Preserve
Sagawau Canyon Nature Preserve/Sagawau Environmental Learning Center
Salt Creek Woods Nature Preserve
Sand Ridge Prairie Nature Preserve
Sauk Trail Woods-Central/Sauk Train Woods-East/Sauk Trail Woods-North/Sauk Lake (Entry)/Sauk Lake (Water Body)/Sauk Trail Woods-South
Shoe Factory Road Prairie Nature Preserve
Spring Lake Equestrian Parking/Spring Lake Nature Preserve/Spring Lake (Water Body)/Spring Lake Trails-Unpaved
Thornton-Lansing Road Nature Preserve
Wolf Road Prairie Nature Preserve

**CATEGORY 2- ADOPT & MAKE OFFICIAL NAMES
OF PRESERVE SITES AND FACILITIES THAT ENJOY COMMON
RECOGNITION AMONG BOTH STAFF AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC**

Algonquin Woods

Alphonse Pond

Arrowhead Lake (Entry)/Arrowhead Lake (Water Body)

Axehead Lake (Entry)/Axehead Lake (Water Body)

Bachelor's Grove Woods

Barrington Road Pond (Entry)/Barrington Road Pond (Water Body)

Belly Deep Slough (Entry)/Belly Deep Slough (WaterBody)

Beverly Lake (Entry)/Beverly Lake (WaterBody)

Big Bend Lake (Entry)/Big Bend Lake (Water Body)

Blandings Grove Family Picnic Area

Blue Beech Family Picnic Area

Bobolink Family Picnic Area

Bode East/Bode Lake (Entry)/Bode Lake North (Water Body)/Bode Lade South (Water Body)

Boomerang Slough (Water Body)

Bouncing Bet Slough (Water Body)

Bremen Grove

Brookfield Woods

Buffalo Pond (Water Body)/Buffalo Woods Family Picnic Center/Buffalo Woods-Central/Buffalo Woods-North/Buffalo Woods-South

Bullfrog Lake (Entry)/Bullfrog Lake (Water Body)/Camp Bull Frog

Bunker Hill Woods – Battle of Bunker Hill?

Bur Oak Woods

Buttonbush Slough (Water Body)

C.C.C. Quarry (Water Body)
Cal Sag Trail - Paved
Callahan Grove (Unknown) – No information
Calumet City Meadow
Calumet Woods
Camp Alphonse
Camp Ground Road Woods
Camp Kiwanis Equestrian Staging Area
Camp Pine Woods
Catalina Grove Family Picnic Area
Centennial Trail- Paved
Che Che Pin Qua Woods
Cherry Hill Woods
Chippewa Woods
Clayhole Woods
Columbia Woods
Cooper's Hawk Family Picnic Area
Country Lane Woods
Crabtree Lake (Water Body)/Crabtree Nature Center/Crabtree Preserve
Cranberry Slough (Water Body)
Crawdad Slough (Entry)/Crawdad Slough (Water Body)
Crooked Creek Woods
Dam No. 1 Woods-East/Dam No. 1-West
Dam No. 2 Woods

Dam No. 4 Woods-East
Des Plaines Trail -Unpaved
Dixmoor Playfield
Dolton Avenue Prairie
Edgebrook Golf Course/Edgebrook Woods
Firefly Slough (Water Body)
Flatfoot Lake (Entry)/Flatfoot Lake (Water Body)
Flossmoor Road Trailhead
Forest Way Grove
Forty Acre Woods
Fullerton Woods/Fullerton Woods Family Picnic Area
General Headquarters
Glenview Woods/Glenview Woods-North/Glenview Woods-South
Goeselville Family Picnic Area
Goose Lake (Water Body)
Grassy Ridge Meadow
Great Egret Family Picnic Area
Groundhog Slough (Water Body)
Halsted Woods
Hambone Lake (Water Body)
Hickory Hills Woods
Hidden Pond (Water Body)/Hidden Pond Woods-East/Hidden Pond Woods-West
Hogwash Slough (Water Body)
Horsecollar Slough (Water Body)

Horsetail Lake (Entry)/Horsetail Lake (Water Body)
Indian Boundary Family Picnic Area/Indian Boundary Golf Course
Indian Hill Woods
Iroquois Woods
Irving Park Road Canoe Landing
Katydid Slough (Water Body)
Kennedy Pond (Water Body)
Killdeer Meadow
Kickapoo Woods
King's Grove
LaGrange Park Woods
Lake Avenue Woods-East/Lake Avenue Woods-West
Lansing Woods
Laughton Trading Post and Ford
Lions Woods
Little Calumet Boat Launch
Little Red Schoolhouse Farm Pond (Water Body)/Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center
Longjohn Slough (Water Body)
Maple Lake (Water Body)/Maple Lake Boating Center/Maple Lake Overlook/Maple Lake-East
Massasauga Family Picnic Area
Maywood Grove
Meadowlark Golf Course/Meadowlark Pond (Water Body)
Midlothian Meadows/Midlothian Reservoir (Water Body)/Midlothian Reservoir (Entry)
Mud Lake (Water Body)

National Grove-North/National Grove-South
North Branch Trails - Paved & Unpaved
North Creek Meadow
Northwestern Woods
Oak Forest Heritage Preserve East/Oak Forest Reserve West
Old Stover Trailhead
Orland Grassland South
Orland Grove
Ottawa Trail Woods-North/Ottawa Trail Woods-South
Palos Park Woods-North/Palos Park Woods-South/Palos Trail-Unpaved
Papoose Lake (Entry)/Papoose Lake (Water Body)
Pee Wee Slough (Water Body)
Penny Road Pond (Entry)/Penny Road (Water Body)
Pioneer Woods
Plank Road Meadow Boat Launch
Plum Creek Meadow/Plum Creek Preserve
Pollywog Slough (Water Body)
Poplar Creek Trailhead
Poplar Creek Equestrian Parking/Poplar Creek Trail – Paved & Unpaved
Possum Hollow Woods
Potawatomi Pond (Water Body)/Potawatomi Pond (Entry)
Powderhorn Lake (Entry)/Powderhorn Pond (Water Body)
Quentin Road Pond (Water Body)
Quercus Woods Family Picnic Area

Rain Barrel Slough (Water Body)
Red Gate Woods
Redwing Slough (Water Body)
River Bend Family Picnic Area
River Oaks Golf Course
River Trail Nature Center
Rolling Knolls (Entry)/Rolling Knolls (Water Body)
Sag Quarries (Entry)/Sag Quarries East (Water Body)/Sag Quarries West (Water Body)
Sag Valley Equestrian Trailhead/Sag Valley Trail - Unpaved
Saganashkee Slough (Water Body)/Saganashkee Slough Boat Launch/Saganashkee Slough-Central/Saganashkee Slough-East
Salt Creek Trail- Paved & Unpaved
Sand Ridge Nature Center/Sand Ridge Pond (Water Body)
Schaumburg Road Grassland
Silver Creek Family Picnic Area
Skokie Lagoons (Water Body)
Sod Farm Pond 1 (Water Body) /Sod Farm Pond 2 (Water Body)
Spring Creek Valley Headwaters
St. Paul Woods
Stony Ford Canoe Landing
Sundown Meadow
Sunset Bridge Meadow
Sunset Ridge Woods
Swallow Cliff Woods-North/Swallow Cliff Woods-South
Thorn Creek Trails - Paved & Unpaved

Tinley Creek Trails - Paved & Unpaved/Tinley Creek Woods
Tomahawk Slough (Water Body)
Tower Road/Tower Road Boat Launch/Tower Road Pond (Water Body)
Tryner's Pond (Water Body) (Unknown) – No Information
Turtlehead Lake (Entry)/Turtlehead Lake (Water Body)/Turtlehead Pond East & West (Water Body)
Twenty-Sixth St Woods-East/Twenty-Sixth St Woods-West
Vollmer Road Grove/Vollmer Road Wildlife Ponds (Water Body)
Wampum Lake (Entry)/Wampum Lake (Water Body)
Watersmeet Woods
Wayside Woods
Westchester Woods
White Eagle Woods-North/White Eagle Woods-South
White Oak Woods
Will –Cook Marshes (Water Body)
Willow Springs Woods
Wolf Lake Overlook/Wolf Lake Prairie/Wolf Road Woods
Woodland Meadow
Yankee Woods
Zoo Woods

Appendix D

Name Scoring Template and Instructions

Instructions for ECSI Review of Forest Preserves Site Names (Individual)

Lines 3-5: Add name of the preserve being reviewed, reviewer's name, and date review was completed.

SECTION 1: DISQUALIFIED/NOT QUALIFIED NAMES

This section seeks to determine whether the name aligns with the Forest Preserves' Permanent Naming Policy and Racial Equity Diversity Inclusion (REDI) goals. One of the Forest Preserves' diversity and inclusion guiding principles is to: "Disrupt inequitable systems and exclusionary practices at the Forest Preserves (both internal and external) and replace them with systems and practices of inclusion."

A response of Qualified, Not Qualified, or Disqualified is required. Please complete the strengths and weaknesses section.

1. Please determine, based on information available to you, whether the name is offensive, insensitive, linguistically corrupted or modified.

Indicate "Qualified" if the name is not offensive, insensitive, linguistically corrupted or modified

Indicate "Not Qualified" if the name is offensive, insensitive, linguistically corrupted or modified

Indicate "Disqualified" if the name is extremely offensive, insensitive, linguistically corrupted or modified and in your opinion should be disqualified

Complete the "Notes" section to indicate how you arrived at your decision.

2. Please determine, based on information available to you, if the individual the site is named after is still alive or has been deceased for less than five years.

Indicate "Qualified" if the name of the site is named after an individual who has been deceased for more than five years

Indicate "Not Qualified" if the named after an individual that is still alive or has been deceased for less than five years

Complete the "Notes" section to indicate how you arrived at your decision.

3. Please determine, based on information available to you, if the individual helped to advance or supported racial, gender or ethnic inequity. Racial inequity occurs when racial, gender or ethnic identity determines how one fares in society.

Indicate "Qualified" if the individual did not contribute to advancing or supporting racial, gender, or ethnic inequity

Indicate "Not Qualified" if the individual helped to advance or supported racial, gender, or ethnic inequity

Indicate "Disqualified" if individual was pivotal in creating or supporting racial, gender or ethnic inequity, and in your opinion should be disqualified

Complete the "Notes" section to indicate how you arrived at your decision.

SECTION 2: PREFERRED NAMES

This section seeks to determine whether the name aligns with the Forest Preserves' Permanent Naming Policy and its Preference & Top Priority Policy (see P. 3, #2c).

4. Please determine, based on information available to you, if the name (not the individual) relates to a historic event, geographic or geologic feature, ecological feature, or local cultural heritage or traditions?

This question is worth a total of 5 points. Please indicate your score from 0-5 in the box and please complete the “Notes” section to indicate the strengths and weaknesses of this name and how you arrived at your score.

5. Please determine, based on the information available to you, if the name of the forest preserve is named after an individual of local, state, or national significance?

This question is worth a total of 5 points. Please indicate your score from 0-5 in the box and please complete the “Notes” section to indicate the strengths and weaknesses of this name and how you arrived at your score.

SECTION 3: OTHER ELIGIBLE NAMES

This section seeks to determine whether the name aligns with the Forest Preserves’ Permanent Naming Policy, REDI goals, and Equity, Cultural Sensitivity and Inclusion Values.

6. Please determine, based on the information available to you, if the person advanced the protection, enjoyment, and health of natural areas in the region or in Cook County.

This question is worth a total of 4 points. Please indicate your score from 0-4 in the box and complete the “Notes” section to indicate the strengths and weaknesses of this name and how you arrived at your score.

7. Please determine, based on the information available to you, if the individual represents a historically excluded or marginalized racial and/or ethnic community. The Forest Preserves defines “historically excluded communities” as populations sharing a particular characteristic, as well as geographic communities, who have been and continually are systematically denied a full opportunity to participate in aspects of economic, social, and civil life.

This question is worth a total of 2 points. Please indicate your score from 0-2 in the box and complete the “Notes” section to indicate the strengths and weaknesses of this name and how you arrived at your score.

8. Please determine, based on information available to you, if the individual advanced racial equity, diversity, and inclusion at the Forest Preserves, within the conservation field or on a local, national, or international level.

This question is worth a total of 2 points. Please indicate your score from 0-2 in the box and complete the “Notes” section to indicate the strengths and weaknesses of this name and how you arrived at your score.

9. Please determine, based on the information available to you, if the individual is representative of indigenous culture/people/traditional knowledge. No points to be awarded to individuals who promoted romanticized representations of indigenous people. Romanticizing Native Americans means promoting practices or activities that reinforce stereotypes that all Native Americans were the same or had the same cultural values.

This question is worth a total of 2 points. Please indicate your score from 0-2 in the box and complete the “Notes” section to indicate the strengths and weaknesses of this name and how you arrived at your score.

Forest Preserves' Criteria for Reviewing Existing* Names
***Names approved prior to the adoption of the 2018 Permanent Naming Policy**

Name of Preserve
 Name of Reviewer
 Date Reviewed

Alignment with:	Qualified/Not Qualified Names/Disqualified	Select one: Qualified/Not Qualified/Disqualified	Strengths	Weaknesses
1 Permanent Naming Policy	Offensive or insensitive names; Linguistically corrupted or modified names			
2 Permanent Naming Policy	Name of living person or person who has been deceased for less than 5 years			
3 REDI	The individual advanced racial /gender / ethnic <i>inequity</i>			
Alignment with:	Preferred Names	Maximum Score	Strengths	Weaknesses
4 Permanent Naming Policy	Name relates to a historic event, geographic or geologic feature, ecological feature, or to local cultural heritage or traditions	5		
5 Permanent Naming Policy	The forest preserve is named after an individual of local, state, or national significance	5		
Alignment with:	Other Eligible Names	Maximum Score	Strengths	Weaknesses
6 Permanent Naming Policy	Individual significantly advanced the protection, enjoyment, and health of natural areas in the region or in Cook County	4		
7 REDI	The individual represents a historically excluded or marginalized racial and/or ethnic community	2		
8 REDI	The individual advanced racial equity, diversity and inclusion at the Forest Preserves or within the conservation field or on a local, national, or international level	2		
9 ESCI Values	Representative of Indigenous Culture/ People/Traditional knowledge; no points to be awarded to individuals who promoted romanticized representations of indigenous people	2		
Subtotal		20		

Appendix E

Review of 16 Priority Names

Forest Preserves' Criteria for Reviewing Existing* Names
 *Names approved prior to the adoption of the 2018 Permanent Naming Policy

Preserve Named after an Individual: Allison Woods

Individual: Albert J. Allison

Review Date: 06/30/22

Review Group/ Name(s) :

Team D

Alignment with:	Qualified/Not Qualified Names/Disqualified	Select one: Qualified/Not Qualified/Disqualified	Reviewer: 1 2 3			Strengths	Weaknesses
			Q	Q	Q		
1 Permanent Naming Policy	Offensive or insensitive names; Linguistically corrupted or modified names		Q	Q	Q	Not an offensive name	N/A
2 Permanent Naming Policy	Name of living person or person who has been deceased for less than 5 years		Q	Q	Q	Dead more than 5 years	N/A
3 REDI	The individual advanced racial /gender / ethnic inequity		Q	Q	Q	No indication that he advanced inequity	None Identified
Alignment with:	Preferred Names	Maximum Score	Score			Strengths	Weaknesses
4 Permanent Naming Policy	Name relates to a historic event, geographic or geologic feature, ecological feature, or to local cultural heritage or traditions	5	1	0	0	The tract of land was acquired from the Allison family via condemnation. Name is reflective of the owner's name.	N/A
5 Permanent Naming Policy	The forest preserve is named after an individual of local, state, or national significance	5	0	0	0	N/A	No indication of the family's historical significance.
Alignment with:	Other Eligible Names	Maximum Score	Score			Strengths	Weaknesses
6 Permanent Naming Policy	Individual significantly advanced the protection, enjoyment, and health of natural areas in the region or in Cook County	4	0	0	0	N/A	No evidence the family played any role in local or national conservation.
7 REDI	The individual represents a historically excluded or marginalized racial and/or ethnic community	2	0	0	0	N/A	No evidence that the family were members of a historically excluded community.
8 REDI	The individual advanced racial equity, diversity and inclusion at the Forest Preserves or within the conservation field or on a local, national, or international level	2	0	0	0	N/A	No indication that the family advanced REDI.
9 ESCI Values	Representative of Indigenous Culture/ People/Traditional knowledge; no points to be awarded to individuals who promoted romanticized representations of indigenous people	2	0	0	0	N/A	The family did not represent these ESCI values.
Subtotal		20	1	0	0		

Score of "0" is not meant to reflect or indicate anything negative, but rather to represent "not applicable"

Forest Preserves' Criteria for Reviewing Existing* Names
*** Names approved prior to the adoption of the 2018 Permanent Naming Policy**

Preserve Named after an Individual: Frank Bobrytzke Forest
 Individual: Frank Bobrytzke
 Review Date: 06/30/22
 Review Group/ Name(s) : Team A

Alignment with:	Qualified/Not Qualified Names/Disqualified	Reviewer: 1 2 3			Select one: Qualified/Not Qualified/Disqualified	Strengths	Weaknesses
		Q	Q	Q			
1 Permanent Naming Policy	Offensive or insensitive names; Linguistically corrupted or modified names		Q	Q	Q	N/A	N/A
2 Permanent Naming Policy	Name of living person or person who has been deceased for less than 5 years		Q	Q	Q	N/A	N/A
3 REDI	The individual advanced racial/gender/ethnic inequity		Q	Q	Q	No indication that he advanced inequity	None identified
	Alignment with:						
	Preferred Names						
4 Permanent Naming Policy	Name relates to a historic event; geographic or geologic feature, ecological feature, or to local cultural heritage or traditions		0	0	0	N/A	N/A
5 Permanent Naming Policy	The forest preserve is named after an individual of local, state, or national significance		1	1	1	Was a Cook County commissioner from 1934 to 1966.	As Commissioner his involvement was with county real estate, not forest preserves
	Alignment with:						
	Other Eligible Names						
6 Permanent Naming Policy	Individual significantly advanced the protection, enjoyment, and health of natural areas in the region or in Cook County		0	0	0	N/A	No direct relationship to FP. As a Commish he used his influence to hinder public benefit for private gain on multiple occasions. His work with the County's tax committee was tied to 2 controversial and corrupt building sells.
7 REDI	The individual represents a historically excluded or marginalized racial and/or ethnic community		0	0	0	N/A	N/A
8 REDI	The individual advanced racial equity, diversity and inclusion at the Forest Preserves or within the conservation field or on a local, national, or international level		1	1	0	Bobrytzke advocated for Polish immigrants displaced by WWII.	N/A
9 ESCI Values	Representative of Indigenous Culture/ People/Traditional knowledge; no points to be awarded to individuals who promoted romanticized representations of indigenous people		0	0	0	N/A	N/A
	Subtotal		20	2	2	1	

Score of "0" is not meant to reflect or indicate anything negative, but rather to represent "not applicable"

Forest Preserves' Criteria for Reviewing Existing* Names
 *Names approved prior to the adoption of the 2018 Permanent Naming Policy

Preserve Named after an Individual: Cap Sauers Holding Nature Preserve
 Individual: Charles G. "Cap" Sauers
 Review Date: 06/30/22

Alignment with:	Qualified/Not Qualified Names/Disqualified	Reviewer: 1 2 3			Maximum Score	Score	Strengths	Weaknesses
		Select one: Qualified/Not Qualified/Disqualified	Q	Q				
1 Permanent Naming Policy	Offensive or insensitive names; Linguistically corrupted or modified names		Q	Q	Q	Not an offensive name	N/A	
2 Permanent Naming Policy	Name of living person or person who has been deceased for less than 5 years		Q	Q	Q	Dead more than 5 years	N/A	
3 REDI	The individual advanced racial/ gender / ethnic inequity		Q	Q	Q	No indication that he advanced inequity	None Identified	
Alignment with:	Preferred Names	Maximum Score	Score			Strengths	Weaknesses	
4 Permanent Naming Policy	Name relates to a historic event, geographic or geologic feature, ecological feature, or to local cultural heritage or traditions	5	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	
5 Permanent Naming Policy	The forest preserve is named after an individual of local, state, or national significance	5	5	5	5	Cap Sauers was a local leader AND a national leader in conservation. He chaired the Natl Parks Adv Board and the IL Dept of Cons Adv Board.	N/A	
Alignment with:	Other Eligible Names	Maximum Score	Score			Strengths	Weaknesses	
6 Permanent Naming Policy	Individual significantly advanced the protection, enjoyment, and health of natural areas in the region or in Cook County	4	4	4	4	Sauers was committed to the District's mission. He planted trees and oversaw a huge investment in picnic groves, parking lots, trails, pools, and the Skokie Lagoons. He successfully promoted legislation to allow the expansion of the preserves. Increased FPCC's acreage to almost 60,000 acres.	N/A	
7 REDI	The individual represents a historically excluded or marginalized racial and/or ethnic community	2	0	0	0	N/A	He was not a member of a historically excluded community.	
8 REDI	The individual advanced racial equity, diversity and inclusion at the Forest Preserves or within the conservation field or on a local, national, or international level	2	1	1	1	He was focused on making nature recreation available for people with limited resources. And not cater to political patronage.	N/A	
9 ESCI Values	Representative of Indigenous Culture/ People/Traditional knowledge; no points to be awarded to individuals who promoted romanticized representations of indigenous people	2	0	0	0	N/A	He did not represent these ESCI values. Not enough information.	
Subtotal		20	10	10	10			

Score of "0" is not meant to reflect or indicate anything negative, but rather to represent "not applicable"

Forest Preserves' Criteria for Reviewing Existing* Names
 *Names approved prior to the adoption of the 2018 Permanent Naming Policy

Preserve Named after an Individual/ Event		GAR Woods		Reviewer: 1 2 3		Select one: Qualified/Not Qualified/Disqualified		Strengths		Weaknesses	
Review Group/ Name(s) :	Individual:	Review Date:	Team B	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q
Alignment with:	Qualified/Not Qualified Names/Disqualified	Offensive or insensitive names; Linguistically corrupted or modified names	Preferred Names	Maximum Score	Score	Score	Score	Score	Score	Score	Score
1	Permanent Naming Policy							N/A		N/A	
2	Permanent Naming Policy							GAR disbanded in 1956		N/A	
3	REDI							GAR admitted everyone regardless of gender and race; did not admit confederates		None Identified	
4	Permanent Naming Policy			5	4	5	5	Organized at the end of the Civil War, GAR insisted that the federal government adopt the first social welfare programs in American history. These included pensions for disabled veterans, widows, and orphan children. What GAR did at the time was very unique and inclusive.		GAR was organized at the local level - some posts brought together veterans of similar military units or of similar ethnic background or who lived in the same vicinity. Some posts were all-white or all-black while others were integrated. GAR missed an opportunity to insist that all of its posts be integrated - this is unfortunate, since this is what the Civil War was about. The organization was disbanded in 1956 because its members died out.	
5	Permanent Naming Policy			5	0	0	0	our score of "0" is not meant to reflect or indicate anything negative, but rather to represent "not applicable"		Not awarded any points because this is not an individual, but the group itself is very significant historically and on a national level.	
6	Permanent Naming Policy			4	0	0	0	our score of "0" is not meant to reflect or indicate anything negative, but rather to represent "not applicable"		N/A	
7	REDI			2	0	0	0	our score of "0" is not meant to reflect or indicate anything negative, but rather to represent "not applicable"		N/A	
8	REDI			2	0	0	0	our score of "0" is not meant to reflect or indicate anything negative, but rather to represent "not applicable"		N/A	
9	ESCI Values			2	0	0	0	our score of "0" is not meant to reflect or indicate anything negative, but rather to represent "not applicable"		N/A	
Subtotal				20	4	5	5				

Score of "0" is not meant to reflect or indicate anything negative, but rather to represent "not applicable"

Forest Preserves' Criteria for Reviewing Existing* Names
 *Names approved prior to the adoption of the 2018 Permanent Naming Policy

Preserve Named after an Individual: John J. Duffy Preserve
 Individual: John J. Duffy
 Review Date: 06/30/22
 Review Group/ Name(s) : Team C

Alignment with:	Qualified/Not Qualified Names/Disqualified	Select one: Qualified/Not Qualified/Disqualified	Reviewer: 1 2 3			Strengths	Weaknesses
			Q	Q	Q		
1 Permanent Naming Policy	Offensive or insensitive names; Linguistically corrupted or modified names					N/A	N/A
2 Permanent Naming Policy	Name of living person or person who has been deceased for less than 5 years					N/A	N/A
3 REDI	The individual advanced racial /gender / ethnic inequity		DQ	DQ	DQ	NONE	Advanced racial inequity for his actions related to public housing in AA neighborhoods.
Alignment with:	Preferred Names	Maximum Score	Score			Strengths	Weaknesses
4 Permanent Naming Policy	Name relates to a historic event, geographic or geologic feature, ecological feature, or to local cultural heritage or traditions	5	0	0	0	N/A	N/A
5 Permanent Naming Policy	The forest preserve is named after an individual of local, state, or national significance	5	0	0	0	N/A	In our view Duffy did not have any significance to the FPCC or nature, outside of his ward/District.
Alignment with:	Other Eligible Names	Maximum Score	Score			Strengths	Weaknesses
6 Permanent Naming Policy	Individual significantly advanced the protection, enjoyment, and health of natural areas in the region or in Cook County	4	0	0	0	N/A	N/A
7 REDI	The individual represents a historically excluded or marginalized racial and/or ethnic community	2	0	0	0	N/A	N/A
8 REDI	The individual advanced racial equity, diversity and inclusion at the Forest Preserves or within the conservation field or on a local, national, or international level	2	0	0	0	N/A	N/A
9 ESCI Values	Representative of Indigenous Culture/ People/Traditional knowledge; no points to be awarded to individuals who promoted romanticized representations of indigenous people	2	0	0	0	N/A	N/A
Subtotal		20	0	0	0		

Score of "0" is not meant to reflect or indicate anything negative, but rather to represent "not applicable"

Forest Preserves' Criteria for Reviewing Existing* Names
*** Names approved prior to the adoption of the 2018 Permanent Naming Policy**

Preserve Named after an Individual: Arthur L. Janura Preserve
 Individual: Arthur L. Janura
 Review Date: 06/30/22
 Review Group/ Name(s) : Team

Alignment with:	Qualified/Not Qualified Names/Disqualified	Reviewer: 1 2 3					Select one: Qualified/Not Qualified/Disqualified	Strengths	Weaknesses
		Q	Q	Q	Q	Q			
1 Permanent Naming Policy	Offensive or insensitive names; Linguistically corrupted or modified names						N/A	N/A	
2 Permanent Naming Policy	Name of living person or person who has been deceased for less than 5 years						N/A	N/A	
3 REDI	The individual advanced racial/gender/ethnic inequity						No indication that he advanced inequity	None identified	
Alignment with:	Preferred Names	Score					Maximum Score	Strengths	Weaknesses
4 Permanent Naming Policy	Name relates to a historic event; geographic or geologic feature, ecological feature, or to local cultural heritage or traditions	0	0	0	0	0	5	N/A	
5 Permanent Naming Policy	The forest preserve is named after an individual of local, state, or national significance	1	1	1	1	1	5	Started as a senior forester, then Head of Maintenance (19 yrs.) Forest Preserve General Superintendent (27 yrs.) total of 46 years. He was wholly devoted to the FP.	he utilized patronage status to hire and fire at will.
Alignment with:	Other Eligible Names	Score					Maximum Score	Strengths	Weaknesses
6 Permanent Naming Policy	Individual significantly advanced the protection, enjoyment, and health of natural areas in the region or in Cook County	4	4	4	4	4	4	For all his faults, he treated the taxpayer's dollar as if it were his own, and was tight with FP \$. 50,000 acres acquired under his tenure.	Used FP housing to control employees, and controlled decision making of the Citizen Advisory of Board.
7 REDI	The individual represents a historically excluded or marginalized racial and/or ethnic community	0	0	0	0	0	2	N/A	N/A
8 REDI	The individual advanced racial equity, diversity and inclusion at the Forest Preserves or within the conservation field or on a local, national, or international level	0	0	0	0	0	2	N/A	N/A
9 ESCI Values	Representative of Indigenous Culture/ People/Traditional knowledge; no points to be awarded to individuals who promoted romanticized representations of indigenous people	0	0	0	0	0	2	N/A	N/A
Subtotal							20		

Score of "0" is not meant to reflect or indicate anything negative, but rather to represent "not applicable"

Forest Preserves' Criteria for Reviewing Existing* Names
 *Names approved prior to the adoption of the 2018 Permanent Naming Policy

Preserve Named after an Individual: Thomas Jefferson Woods
 Individual: Thomas Jefferson
 Review Date: 06/30/22
 Review Group/ Name(s) : Team C

Alignment with:	Qualified/Not Qualified Names/Disqualified Offensive or insensitive names; Linguistically corrupted or modified names	Select one: Qualified/Not Qualified/Disqualified	Reviewer: 1 2 3			Strengths	Weaknesses
			Q	Q	Q		
1 Permanent Naming Policy	Offensive or insensitive names; Linguistically corrupted or modified names		Q	Q	Q	N/A	N/A
2 Permanent Naming Policy	Name of living person or person who has been deceased for less than 5 years		Q	Q	Q	N/A	N/A
3 REDI	The individual advanced racial /gender / ethnic <i>inequity</i>		DQ	DQ	DQ	NONE	Slave owner & supporter; harm to Native Americans; etc.
Alignment with:	Preferred Names	Maximum Score	Score			Strengths	Weaknesses
4 Permanent Naming Policy	Name relates to a historic event, geographic or geologic feature, ecological feature, or to local cultural heritage or traditions	5	0	0	0	N/A	N/A
5 Permanent Naming Policy	The forest preserve is named after an individual of local, state, or national significance	5	5	5	0	US President	N/A
Alignment with:	Other Eligible Names	Maximum Score	Score			Strengths	Weaknesses
6 Permanent Naming Policy	Individual significantly advanced the protection, enjoyment, and health of natural areas in the region or in Cook County	4	0	0	0	N/A	N/A
7 REDI	The individual represents a historically excluded or marginalized racial and/or ethnic community	2	0	0	0	N/A	N/A
8 REDI	The individual advanced racial equity, diversity and inclusion at the Forest Preserves or within the conservation field or on a local, national, or international level	2	0	0	0	N/A	N/A
9 ESCI Values	Representative of Indigenous Culture/ People/Traditional knowledge; no points to be awarded to individuals who promoted romanticized representations of indigenous people	2	0	0	0	N/A	N/A
Subtotal		20	5	5	0		

Score of "0" is not meant to reflect or indicate anything
negative, but rather to represent "not applicable"

Forest Preserves' Criteria for Reviewing Existing* Names
***Names approved prior to the adoption of the 2018 Permanent Naming Policy**

Preserve Named after an Individual: Jens Jensen Grasslands, Woods and Water Reserve

Individual: Jens Jensen

Review Date: 06/30/22

Review Group/ Name(s) :

1 2 3

Team A

Alignment with:	Qualified/Not Qualified Names/Disqualified	Select one: Qualified/Not Qualified/Disqualified			Strengths	Weaknesses
		Q	Q	Q		
1 Permanent Naming Policy	Offensive or insensitive names; Linguistically corrupted or modified names		Q	Q	N/A	N/A
2 Permanent Naming Policy	Name of living person or person who has been deceased for less than 5 years		Q	Q	N/A	N/A
3 REDI	The individual advanced racial/gender / ethnic inequity		Q	Q	No indication that he advanced inequity	None identified
Alignment with:	Preferred Names	Maximum Score	Score	Score	Strengths	Weaknesses
4 Permanent Naming Policy	Name relates to a historic event, geographic or geologic feature, ecological feature, or to local cultural heritage or traditions	5	0	0	N/A	N/A
5 Permanent Naming Policy	The forest preserve is named after an individual of local, state, or national significance	5	5	5	a nationally recognized conservationist and prairie-style landscape architect, played an important role in the development of the Forest Preserve as well as the City of Chicago's Park System.	N/A
Alignment with:	Other Eligible Names	Maximum Score	Score	Score	Strengths	Weaknesses
6 Permanent Naming Policy	Individual significantly advanced the protection, enjoyment, and health of natural areas in the region or in Cook County	4	4	4	Played an important role in the development of the FPCC. Saw the value of preserving the native landscape, developed a map identifying significant natural areas to protect. he was also a champion of natural ecology and the importance of nature to balance the modern and industrial	NONE IDENTIFIED
7 REDI	The individual represents a historically excluded or marginalized racial and/or ethnic community	2	0	0	N/A	N/A
8 REDI	The individual advanced racial equity, diversity and inclusion at the Forest Preserves or within the conservation field or on a local, national, or international level	2	0	0	N/A	His emphasis on place and the utilization of natural plantings, historians, have argued that natural landscaping represents an important component of National Socialism. They contend that a primary focus on native plants and landscapes is racist and in line with National Socialist landscapers who wished to "purge" foreign plants. TOTALLY DISCREDITED
9 ESCI Values	Representative of Indigenous Culture/ People/Traditional knowledge; no points to be awarded to individuals who promoted romanticized representations of indigenous people	2	0	0	N/A	N/A
	Subtotal	20	9	9	9	9

Score of "0" is not meant to reflect or indicate anything negative, but rather to represent "not applicable"

Forest Preserves' Criteria for Reviewing Existing* Names
 *Names approved prior to the adoption of the 2018 Permanent Naming Policy

Preserve Named after an Individual: Individual: Review Date: Review Group/ Name(s) :	Labagh Woods Ella La Bagh 06/30/22	Team D	Reviewer: 1 2 3			Select one: Qualified/Not Qualified/Disqualified	Strengths	Weaknesses
			Q	Q	Q			
1	Permanent Naming Policy	Offensive or insensitive names; Linguistically corrupted or modified names				Not an offensive name	N/A	
2	Permanent Naming Policy	Name of living person or person who has been deceased for less than 5 years				Dead more than 5 years	N/A	
3	REDI	The individual advanced racial/ gender / ethnic inequity				No indication that she advanced inequity	None Identified	
Alignment with:			Maximum Score	Score	Score	Strengths	Weaknesses	
4	Permanent Naming Policy	Name relates to a historic event, geographic or geologic feature, ecological feature, or to local cultural heritage or traditions	5	0	0	N/A	N/A	
5	Permanent Naming Policy	The forest preserve is named after an individual of local, state, or national significance	5	5	5	Labagh was a naturalist and a local civic leader with the Irving Park Woman's Club.	N/A	
Alignment with:			Maximum Score	Score	Score	Strengths	Weaknesses	
6	Permanent Naming Policy	Individual significantly advanced the protection, enjoyment, and health of natural areas in the region or in Cook County	4	4	4	She led a campaign to protect the natural area now named for her. She also worked to protect other natural areas in other parts of the state.	N/A	
2	REDI	The individual represents a historically excluded or marginalized racial and/or ethnic community	2	2	2	She is one of the only women from that era who was honored with a site in her name.	N/A	
8	REDI	The individual advanced racial equity, diversity and inclusion at the Forest Preserves or within the conservation field or on a local, national, or international level	2	1	1	Her leadership is an inspiration to other women in the conservation field. As a woman in conservation and forestry she would have been a minority in the field based on gender. The renaming of Labagh was due to the Irving Park Woman's Club to commemorate Labagh's work.	There was no direct action to advance REDI, but she was an inspiration to Women.	
9	ESCI Values	Representative of Indigenous Culture/ People/Traditional knowledge; no points to be awarded to individuals who promoted romanticized representations of indigenous people	2	0	0	N/A	She did not represent these ESCI values.	
Subtotal			20	12	12			

Score of "0" is not meant to reflect or indicate anything negative, but rather to represent "not applicable"

Forest Preserves' Criteria for Reviewing Existing* Names
***Names approved prior to the adoption of the 2018 Permanent Naming Policy**

Preserve Named after an Individual: **George F. Nixon Woods**
 Individual: **George F. Nixon**
 Review Date: **06/30/22**

Alignment with:	Qualified/Not Qualified Names/Disqualified	Reviewer: 1 2 3			Strengths	Weaknesses
		Select one: Qualified/Not Qualified/Disqualified	1	2		
1 Permanent Naming Policy	Offensive or insensitive names; Linguistically corrupted or modified names		Q	Q	Q	N/A
2 Permanent Naming Policy	Name of living person or person who has been deceased for less than 5 years		Q	Q	Q	N/A
3 REDI	The individual advanced racial /gender / ethnic <i>inequity</i>		DQ	DQ	DQ	NONE Nixon opposed expansion of public housing to the suburbs (based on opposition to socialism). He developed a "restricted" subdivision in Westchester which likely barred Jews and African Americans. Took advantage of discriminatory housing practices
Alignment with:	Preferred Names	Maximum Score	Score	Score	Strengths	Weaknesses
4 Permanent Naming Policy	Name relates to a historic event, geographic or geologic feature, ecological feature, or to local cultural heritage or traditions	5	0	0	0	N/A
5 Permanent Naming Policy	The forest preserve is named after an individual of local, state, or national significance	5	1	1	1	Cook County Commissioner for sixteen years Was a professional real estate developer and leading figure in real estate development between 1930-50
Alignment with:	Other Eligible Names	Maximum Score	Score	Score	Strengths	Weaknesses
6 Permanent Naming Policy	Individual significantly advanced the protection, enjoyment, and health of natural areas in the region or in Cook County	4	0	0	1	NONE IDENTIFIED Nixon objected to Supt. Sauters excavated dirt for a fishing lake to be excavated for free. Nixon countered the dirt was of greater value and requested payment of \$72,000 for topsoil as well as the lake dug for free.
7 REDI	The individual represents a historically excluded or marginalized racial and/or ethnic community	2	0	0	0	N/A
8 REDI	The individual advanced racial equity, diversity and inclusion at the Forest Preserves or within the conservation field or on a local, national, or international level	2	0	0	0	N/A Had his housing subdivision "zoned restricted" which meant that it barred Jews and African Americans.
9 ESCI Values	Representative of Indigenous Culture/ People/Traditional knowledge; no points to be awarded to individuals who promoted romanticized representations of indigenous people	2	0	0	0	N/A
Subtotal			20	1	1	2

Score of "0" is not meant to reflect or indicate anything negative, but rather to represent "not applicable"

Forest Preserves' Criteria for Reviewing Existing* Names
 *Names approved prior to the adoption of the 2018 Permanent Naming Policy

Preserve Named after an Individual: Michael J. O'Malley Preserve
 Individual: Michael J. O'Malley
 Review Date: 06/30/22
 Review Group/ Name(s) : Team C

Alignment with:	Qualified/Not-Qualified Names/Disqualified	Select one: Qualified/Not-Qualified/Disqualified	Reviewer: 1 2 3			Strengths	Weaknesses
			Q	Q	Q		
1 Permanent Naming Policy	Offensive or insensitive names; Linguistically corrupted or modified names		Q	Q	Q	N/A	N/A
2 Permanent Naming Policy	Name of living person or person who has been deceased for less than 5 years		Q	Q	Q	N/A	N/A
3 REDI	The individual advanced racial /gender / ethnic inequity		Q	Q	Q	No indication that he advanced inequity	None Identified
Alignment with:	Preferred Names	Maximum Score	Score	Score	Score	Strengths	Weaknesses
4 Permanent Naming Policy	Name relates to a historic event, geographic or geologic feature, ecological feature, or to local cultural heritage or traditions	5	0	0	0	N/A	N/A
5 Permanent Naming Policy	The forest preserve is named after an individual of local, state, or national significance	5	0	0	0	N/A	N/A
Alignment with:	Other Eligible Names	Maximum Score	Score	Score	Score	Strengths	Weaknesses
6 Permanent Naming Policy	Individual significantly advanced the protection, enjoyment, and health of natural areas in the region or in Cook County	4	TBD	TBD	TBD	if in his will, he decided to leave the 100 acres to the FPCC, he gets high score (4). If it was just his family that donated the land, then he doesn't get high score (2). Justification for 2- is based on his positive environmental record that merits acknowledgment.	N/A
7 REDI	The individual represents a historically excluded or marginalized racial and/or ethnic community	2	0	0	0	N/A	N/A
8 REDI	The individual advanced racial equity, diversity and inclusion at the Forest Preserves or within the conservation field or on a local, national, or international level	2	0	0	0	N/A	N/A
9 ESCI Values	Representative of Indigenous Culture/ People/Traditional knowledge; no points to be awarded to individuals who promoted romanticized representations of indigenous people	2	0	0	0	N/A	N/A
Subtotal		20	###	###	###		

Score of '0' is not meant to reflect or indicate anything negative, but rather to represent "not applicable"

Forest Preserves' Criteria for Reviewing Existing* Names
 *Names approved prior to the adoption of the 2018 Permanent Naming Policy

Preserve Named after an Individual: Dwight H. Perkins Woods
 Individual: Dwight H. Perkins
 Review Date: 06/30/22

Alignment with:	Qualified/Not Qualified Names/Disqualified	Reviewer: 1 2 3			Maximum Score	Score	Strengths	Weaknesses
		Select one: Qualified/Not Qualified/Disqualified	Q	Q				
1 Permanent Naming Policy	Offensive or insensitive names; Linguistically corrupted or modified names					N/A	N/A	
2 Permanent Naming Policy	Name of living person or person who has been deceased for less than 5 years					Died in 1941	N/A	
3 REDI	The individual advanced racial/ gender / ethnic inequity					No indication that he advanced inequity	None Identified	
Alignment with:	Preferred Names					Strengths	Weaknesses	
4 Permanent Naming Policy	Name relates to a historic event, geographic or geologic feature, ecological feature, or to local cultural heritage or traditions	5	3	3	3	This name represents an individual so does not apply to this question in our opinion, however, because his contributions helped to establish the forest preserves we felt that he contributed to a local historic event	N/A	
5 Permanent Naming Policy	The forest preserve is named after an individual of local, state, or national significance	5	4	4	5	D. Perkins is significant locally for his role in helping to found the forest preserves and his commitment to protecting prairies and nature; also enjoyed a national reputation as a 20th century architect and had progressive ideas about education that he implemented in his design of schools, etc.	lack information regarding policies he supported	
Alignment with:	Other Eligible Names					Strengths	Weaknesses	
6 Permanent Naming Policy	Individual significantly advanced the protection, enjoyment, and health of natural areas in the region or in Cook County	4	3	4	4	helped found the Forest Preserves! He was an open space advocate and committed to protecting prairies and nature, particularly protecting nature in an urban setting. Worked tirelessly to conduct nature hikes and preserve forests. Also supported education and helped to take legal actions.	Not sure if efforts that were highlighted in the report confirm that it resulted in equitable or inclusive for all.	
7 REDI	The individual represents a historically excluded or marginalized racial and/or ethnic community	2	0	0	0	our score of "0" is not meant to reflect or indicate anything negative, but rather to represent "not applicable"	N/A	
8 REDI	The individual advanced racial equity, diversity and inclusion at the Forest Preserves or within the conservation field or on a local, national, or international level	2	1	1	1	Not enough information. He did believe in progressive education and incorporated that into his architecture design; he promoted and supported access to nature for everyone. But lack information to understand how he would have advanced equity.	more information is needed.	
9 ESCI Values	Representative of Indigenous Culture/ People/Traditional knowledge; no points to be awarded to individuals who promoted romanticized representations of indigenous people	2	0	0	0	our score of "0" is not meant to reflect or indicate anything negative, but rather to represent "not applicable"	N/A	
Subtotal		20	11	12	13			

Score of "0" is not meant to reflect or indicate anything negative, but rather to represent "not applicable"

Forest Preserves' Criteria for Reviewing Existing* Names
 *Names approved prior to the adoption of the 2018 Permanent Naming Policy

Preserve Named after an Individual: Pulaski Woods
 Individual: Casimir Pulaski
 Review Date: 06/30/22
 Review Group/ Name(s) : Team D

Alignment with:	Qualified/Not Qualified Names/Disqualified Offensive or insensitive names; Linguistically corrupted or modified names	Select one: Qualified/Not Qualified/Disqualified	Reviewer: 1 2 3			Weaknesses
			Q	Q	Q	
1 Permanent Naming Policy	Offensive or insensitive names; Linguistically corrupted or modified names		Q	Q	Q	N/A
2 Permanent Naming Policy	Name of living person or person who has been deceased for less than 5 years		Q	Q	Q	N/A
3 REDI	The individual advanced racial /gender / ethnic inequity		Q	Q	Q	None Identified
Alignment with:	Preferred Names	Maximum Score	Score			Weaknesses
4 Permanent Naming Policy	Name relates to a historic event, geographic or geologic feature, ecological feature, or to local cultural heritage or traditions	5	0	0	0	N/A
5 Permanent Naming Policy	The forest preserve is named after an individual of local, state, or national significance	5	3	5	5	Pulaski was a hero of the American Revolution. Brought Pride to the Polish Community and is well celebrated.
Alignment with:	Other Eligible Names	Maximum Score	Score			Weaknesses
6 Permanent Naming Policy	Individual significantly advanced the protection, enjoyment, and health of natural areas in the region or in Cook County	4	0	0	0	N/A
7 REDI	The individual represents a historically excluded or marginalized racial and/or ethnic community	2	1	1	1	Trans citizens have been drawn to his fame after a 2019 study of his exhumed remains suggest the possibility that he had female physical characteristics. Represents an immigrant population. Polish ethnic minority community and more recently LGBTQ.
8 REDI	The individual advanced racial equity, diversity and inclusion at the Forest Preserves or within the conservation field or on a local, national, or international level	2	0	1	1	LGBTQ community has identified this individual as a source of pride per research.
9 ESCI Values	Representative of Indigenous Culture/ People/Traditional knowledge; no points to be awarded to individuals who promoted romanticized representations of indigenous people	2	0	0	0	He did not represent these ESCI values.
Subtotal		20	4	7	7	

Score of "0" is not meant to reflect or indicate anything negative, but rather to represent "not applicable"

Forest Preserves' Criteria for Reviewing Existing* Names
 *Names approved prior to the adoption of the 2018 Permanent Naming Policy

Preserve Named after an Individual: Robinson Homestead
 Individual: Alexander Robinson
 Review Date: 06/30/22
 Review Group/ Name(s) : Team B

Alignment with:	Qualified/Not Qualified Names/Disqualified	Reviewer: 1 2 3				Maximum Score	Preferred Names	Strengths	Weaknesses
		Select one: Qualified/Not Qualified/Disqualified	Q	Q	Q				
1 Permanent Naming Policy	Offensive or insensitive names; Linguistically corrupted or modified names							N/A	
2 Permanent Naming Policy	Name of living person or person who has been deceased for less than 5 years							N/A	
3 REDI	The individual advanced racial /gender / ethnic inequity							Although he was a member of the Native American community he was involved in ethnic cleansing in the early founding of Cook County. He played a significant role in the selling off of native lands	
Alignment with:	Preferred Names	Maximum Score	Score			Strengths	Weaknesses		
4 Permanent Naming Policy	Name relates to a historic event; geographic or geologic feature, ecological feature, or to local cultural heritage or traditions	5	3	3	3		He played an important role in the region and was considered a prominent figure in his time; his land is now managed by the forest preserves. While he is not an "event" his name directly relates to significant events.		
5 Permanent Naming Policy	The forest preserve is named after an individual of local, state, or national significance	5	5	4	5		is a controversial figure as he was instrumental in treaty negotiations that led to the loss of Indian lands. Notable Potawatomi leaders Topenebe and Leopold Pokagon journeyed all the way to Washington, DC to complain about the failure of Robinson and Caldwell to well represent the Anishinaabe. However, white settlers were determined to steal land from Native Americans and it's doubtful that Robinson could have done anything to prevent that.		
Alignment with:	Other Eligible Names	Maximum Score	Score			Strengths	Weaknesses		
6 Permanent Naming Policy	Individual significantly advanced the protection, enjoyment, and health of natural areas in the region or in Cook County	4	2	1	0		Not enough information to determine motives		
7 REDI	The individual represents a historically excluded or marginalized racial and/or ethnic community	2	2	2	2		Robinson was a Metis (half Native American, half European) and played a pivotal- if complicated and perhaps troublesome - role in Native American affairs and treaty negotiations. It is both a strength and a weakness.		
8 REDI	The individual advanced racial equity, diversity and inclusion at the Forest Preserves or within the conservation field or on a local, national, or international level	2	0	0	0		Not enough information to determine motives		
9 ESCI Values	Representative of Indigenous Culture/ People/Traditional knowledge; no points to be awarded to individuals who promoted romanticized representations of indigenous people	2	1	1	2		He was white when he needed to be and Native when it suited him.		
Subtotal		20	13	11	12				

Score of "0" is not meant to reflect or indicate anything negative, but rather to represent "not applicable"

Forest Preserves' Criteria for Reviewing Existing* Names
 *Names approved prior to the adoption of the 2018 Permanent Naming Policy

Preserve Named after an Individual: Seymour Simon Preserve
 Individual: Seymour Simon
 Review Date: 06/30/22
 Review Group/ Name(s) : Team B

Alignment with:	Qualified/Not Qualified Names/Disqualified	Reviewer: 1 2 3					Strengths	Weaknesses
		Select one: Qualified/Not Qualified/Disqualified	Q	Q	Q	Q		
1 Permanent Naming Policy	Offensive or insensitive names; Linguistically corrupted or modified names						N/A	N/A
2 Permanent Naming Policy	Name of living person or person who has been deceased for less than 5 years						Died in 2006	N/A
3 REDI	The individual advanced racial /gender / ethnic inequity						No indication that he advanced inequity	None Identified
Alignment with:	Preferred Names	Maximum Score	Score			Strengths	Weaknesses	
4 Permanent Naming Policy	Name relates to a historic event, geographic or geologic feature, ecological feature, or to local cultural heritage or traditions	5	0	0	0	our score of "0" is not meant to reflect or indicate anything negative, but rather to represent "not applicable"	N/A	
5 Permanent Naming Policy	The forest preserve is named after an individual of local, state, or national significance	5	3	2	3	Has local relevance as a politician with a 70-year career that included being Cook County Board President from 1962-1966. Lack of information to determine motives	Unclear if Simon really believed in open housing or was simply saying this to be a thorn in political opponents sides: "Simon called a press conference and criticized Keane for his stated resistance to open housing agreements made by Mayor Daley with Dr. Martin Luther King saying the city was "honor bound" to uphold an end to racial real estate restrictions." He was loyal to the Democratic Machine.	
Alignment with:	Other Eligible Names	Maximum Score	Score			Strengths	Weaknesses	
6 Permanent Naming Policy	Individual significantly advanced the protection, enjoyment, and health of natural areas in the region or in Cook County	4	0	0	0	not enough information to determine what his connection and commitment to the Preserves was	N/A	
7 REDI	The individual represents a historically excluded or marginalized racial and/or ethnic community	2	1	2	2	He was Jewish	N/A	
8 REDI	The individual advanced racial equity, diversity and inclusion at the Forest Preserves or within the conservation field or on a local, national, or international level	2	0	0	0	our score of "0" is not meant to reflect or indicate anything negative, but rather to represent "not applicable"	Not enough information to determine motives	
9 ESCI Values	Representative of Indigenous Culture/ People/Traditional knowledge; no points to be awarded to individuals who promoted romanticized representations of indigenous people	2	0	0	0	our score of "0" is not meant to reflect or indicate anything negative, but rather to represent "not applicable"	N/A	
Subtotal		20	4	4	5			

Score of "0" is not meant to reflect or indicate anything negative, but rather to represent "not applicable"

Appendix F

Resolution 19-0354 (9/24/2019) - Adoption of a Permanent Naming Policy and Permanent Naming Policy



Legislation Text

File #: 19-0354, **Version:** 1

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

TO APPROVE AND ADOPT THE PERMANENT NAMING POLICY

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) recognizes that proper names are essential locational tools and navigational aids; that names are the beginnings and ends of journeys and destinations; that names are place markers and focal points through symbolism, association and remembrance; and that names may have powerful positive meanings for people and provide opportunities to promote community harmony; and

WHEREAS, in 2018 the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners officially recognized and adopted names of Forest Preserves lands and amenities to reflect its rich and diverse heritage; and

WHEREAS, a Permanent Naming Policy can help to safeguard the Forest Preserves’ prestige and heritage; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Permanent Naming Policy provides guidance and direction in the naming and renaming of Forest Preserves properties, facilities, natural areas, and other public places; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Permanent Naming Policy ensures an inclusive, consultative, and transparent naming and renaming process that will engage the public and is intended to stand the test of time; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Permanent Naming Policy govern all permanent naming and renaming opportunities, but would not govern temporary naming recognition opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Permanent Naming Policy provides for a Naming Committee that is comprised of individuals appointed by the General Superintendent and that is responsible for reviewing all requests for permanent naming, as well as renaming opportunities so as to ensure that requests comply with the Permanent Naming Policy; and

WHEREAS, based on the recommendations of the Naming Committee, the General Superintendent would be responsible for presenting permanent naming and renaming opportunities to the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners, which would retain the responsibility of approving the naming or renaming of Forest Preserves properties, facilities, natural areas, and other public places; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by President, Toni Preckwinkle and the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners that the Permanent Naming Policy is hereby adopted by resolution and is effective immediately.