Naming Committee

REPORT & RECOMMENDATIONS



Including Major Forests and Holdings, Nature Preserves, Fishing Lakes, Wildlife Refuges, Recreational Facilities, Nature Centers, Campgrounds, Golf Courses and Aquatic Centers in the Forest Preserves of Cook County

Presented to the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners • September 11, 2018



NAMING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

CO-CHAIRS

Pamela Sielski-Planning & Development
Michelle Uting-Office of the General Superintendent

MEMBERS

Eileen Figel-Office of the General Superintendent
Cathy Geraghty-Office of the General Superintendent
John McCabe-Resource Management
Diana Krug-Resource Management
Jim Chelsvig (retired)-Conservation &
Experiential Programming
Adam Kessel-Conservation & Experiential Programming

Adam Kessel-Conservation & Experiential Programming
Chris Slattery-Planning & Development
Kindy Kruller-Planning & Development
Karen Vaughan-Permits, Rentals & Concessions
Leonard Dufkis (retired)-Facilities & Fleet Maintenance

EXTERNAL ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVES

Benjamin Cox-Friends of the Forest Preserves Shelley Davis-Forest Preserve Foundation

TECHNICAL ADVISORS

Delio Calzolari-Governmental Stacina Stagner-Communications Anthony Tindall-Policy Advisor Garrett Wais-GIS Dennis White-Legal

REFERENCE

Origins of Names and Histories of Places, Roberts Mann, 1964–65

NAMING

The Preserves has more than 560 names including:

- 23 major forest preserve holdings
- 91 water bodies
- 23 trails
- 6 Nature Centers



The names of the natural areas, trails and facilities of the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the Preserves) honor the unique plants and animals that call these lands and waters home, celebrate distinct geographic features, and pay homage to the Midwest's subtle yet powerful landscape. These names also mark historic events and earlier cultures, and acknowledge individuals who have had a significant impact on the Preserves. On a more prosaic note, these names also help people find their way to the forest preserves and to the many amenities they provide.

This report includes recommendations to:

- 1. Confirm a comprehensive list of existing names Category 1
- 2. Officially adopt informal names which are commonly used by the public and staff Category 2

A complete list of forest preserve names is attached to this report and is separated into the two categories, as well as the zone and commissioner district that the forest preserve falls into. Also attached to this report is the Origins of Names and Histories of Places compiled in 1965 by Roberts Mann, the Preserves' first Conservation Department Director, and used as a reference by the Naming Committee.

HISTORY

On May 21, 1923 a committee on nomenclature was appointed by the Preserve's President to select appropriate names of the various tracts then owned or recommended for acquisition by the Preserves. In 1924, this committee recommended that 42 areas be officially named. Deer Grove, Camp Reinberg, Pottawatomi Woods and Somme Preserve were among these first 42 named sites.

Naming Committee Overview:

In 2015 the General Superintendent appointed a Naming Committee that was asked to accomplish the following:

Phase 1

To determine the correct and official names of all current holdings.

Phase 2.

To develop a Permanent Naming Policy that would be presented to the Board for review.

This report reflects the completion of the first Phase. Phase 2—developing a Permanent Naming Policy-is in progress. The Forest Preserves' Policy Committee and the Naming Committee have worked together to draft a Permanent Naming Policy that will be shared with Commissioners in the near future for review and adoption.

The Naming Committee is charged with protecting the natural and cultural history reflected in the names of many of the forest preserves and to ensure that these holdings are accurately represented on maps, signs, and other wayfinding in order to avoid confusion and so that Cook County residents can easily find the forest preserves and the amenities they offer.

Naming Committee Membership:

The Naming Committee is comprised of individuals appointed by the General Superintendent and/or the President of the Board of Commissioners, or their assigned designees. The Naming Committee includes representatives from the following Preserves departments: Conservation and Experiential Programming, Facilities & Fleet Maintenance, Office of the General Superintendent, Permits, Rentals & Concessions, Planning & Development, and Resource Management, and has the following technical advisors that can be called upon as needed: communications. legal, government, policy, and GIS. In addition, two external organizations are part of the committee-the Forest Preserve Foundation, an organization committed to raising funds to advance the mission of the Preserves, and Friends of the Forest Preserves, an organization focused on safeguarding the Preserves for all to enjoy.

Naming Committee Progress from 2015 to 2018:

Phase 1:

To determine the correct and official names of all current holdings.

Throughout 2015 and 2016 the Naming Committee undertook an exhaustive examination of the names of all the Preserves' holdings, including water bodies, to determine which names had been officially adopted, which names were in common use but had never received formal Board approval, and which

A subcommittee of the Naming Committee consulted maps, Preserves' Board Minutes, archives, the Origin of Names and Histories of Places compiled by Roberts Mann in 1964-65, conducted internet research, and consulted with longstanding and knowledgeable staff members to compile a comprehensive list of all known forest preserve names and their status.

names had been retired or were no longer commonly used.

Other agencies, such as the US Geological Survey that also create maps that are referenced nationally and internationally, were consulted to confirm the names of aquatic bodies such as rivers, lakes, and streams that may be on or run through the Preserves' boundaries. Based on this research the Naming Committee has organized the names of the forest preserves into two categories:

1. Official Preserves Site and Facility Names

Many of the Preserves sites-both land and water-as well as facilities have already been officially adopted, enjoy common recognition among both staff and the general public, and represent significant investment from the Preserves by being included on maps, signs, wayfinding, and other materials.

The Naming Committee recommends that all of these names be formally recognized as the official names to both have a clear record and to avoid any confusion in the future.

2. Names of Forest Preserves Sites and Facilities that **Enjoy Common Recognition Among both Staff and** the General Public

Many forest preserve names enjoy broad recognition among both staff and the general public and represent significant investment from the Preserves in collateral. This collateral can include the forest preserve name being listed on maps. signs, wayfinding, websites, etc. However, there is no record of these names having ever been officially adopted by the Preserves' Board.

The Naming Committee recommends that these names be officially adopted.

WRITINGS



Origins of Names & Histories of Places was compiled in 1964-65 by Roberts Mann a **Forest Preserves Landscape** Architect, in response to the question:

Where did that name Ottawa **Trail Woods come from?**

CATEGORY 1

Reconfirm Official Names of Preserve Sites & Facilities

Many forest preserve sites—both land and water—as well as facilities, have already been officially adopted, enjoy common recognition among both staff and the general public, and represent significant investment from the Preserves by being included on maps, signs, wayfinding, and other materials.

The Naming Committee recommends that all of these names be formally recognized as the official names to both have a clear record and to avoid any confusion in the future.



| CATEGORY 1 | APPROVAL DATE | ZONE | COMMISSIONER DISTRICT(S) |
|---|------------------|---------|--------------------------|
| Arie Crown Forest | 1965 | Central | 17 |
| Arie Crown Trail- Unpaved | 1965 | Central | 17 |
| Arthur L. Janura Preserve | 1998 | NW | 15 |
| Baker's Lake Nature Preserve | 1984 | NW | 14 |
| Baker's Lake Younghusband Prairie | 1964 | NW | 14 |
| Bartel Grassland Land and Water Reserve | 2003 | SW | 6 |
| Beaubien Woods | 1965 | South | 4,5,6 |
| Beaubien Woods Boat Launch | 1965 | South | 5 |
| Belleau Lake (Entry) | 1923 | North | 17 |
| Belleau Lake (Water Body) | 1923 | North | 17 |
| Black Partridge Woods | 1964 | SW | 17 |
| Black Partridge Woods Nature Preserve | 1964 | SW | 17 |
| Blue Star Memorial Woods | 1924 | North | 14 |
| Bluff Spring Fen Nature Preserve | 1987 | NW | 15 |
| Bluff Spring Fen Ponds (Water Body) | 1987 | NW | 15 |
| Bobolink Meadow Land and Water Reserve | 2017 | SW | 6 |
| Brezina Woods | 1965 | Central | 16 |
| Burnham Greenway - Paved | 1924 | South | 4 |
| Burnham Woods Golf Course | 1924 | South | 4 |
| Burnham Prairie Nature Preserve | 2003 | South | 4 |
| Burnham Woods | 1924 | South | 4 |
| Busse Forest - North | 1965 | NW | 15 |
| Busse Forest - South | 1965 | NW | 15 |
| Busse Forest - West | 1965 | NW | 15 |
| Busse Forest - Central | 1965 | NW | 15 |
| Busse Forest Elk Pasture | 1965 | NW | 15 |
| Busse Forest Main Dam (Entry) | 1965 | NW | 15 |
| Busse Forest Nature Preserve | 1964 | NW | 15 |
| Busse Lake Beisner Road Access | 1965 | NW | 15 |



| | _ | | | |
|--|------------------|---------|-----------------------------|--|
| CATEGORY 1 | APPROVAL DATE | ZONE | COMMISSIONER DISTRICT(S) | |
| Busse Lake Boating Center | 1965 | NW | 15 | |
| Busse Main Pool (Water Body) | 1965 | NW | 15 | |
| Busse North Pool (Water Body) | 1965 | NW | 15 | |
| Busse South Pool (Water Body) | 1965 | NW | 15 | |
| Busse Trail-Paved | 1965 | NW | 15 | |
| Caldwell Woods | 1965 | North | 9 | |
| Billy Caldwell Golf Course | 1965 | North | 10 | |
| Calumet City Prairie and Marsh Nature Preserve | 2007 | South | 4 | |
| Calvin R. Sutker Grove | 2005 | North | 13 | |
| Camp Reinberg | 1924 | NW | 14 | |
| Cap Sauers Holding Nature Preserve | 1924 | SW | 17 | |
| Carl R. Hansen Woods | 2010 | NW | 15 | |
| Carlson Springs Woods | 1965 | SW | 6 | |
| Cermak Family Aquatic Center | 1965 | Central | 16 | |
| Cermak Quarry (Water Body) | 1965 | Central | 16 | |
| Cermak Woods | 1965 | Central | 16 | |
| Charles Chick Evans Golf Course | 1970 | North | 13 | |
| Chicago Portage National Historic Site | 1952 | Central | 16 | |
| Chipilly Woods | 1923 | North | 14 | |
| Clayton F. Smith Preserve | 1924 | SW | 17 | |
| Cranberry Slough Nature Preserve | 1965 | SW | 17 | |
| Cummings Square (General Headquarters) | 1924 | Central | 9 | |
| Dan Ryan Visitors Center | 1965 | South | 4 | |
| Dan Ryan Woods-91st Street | 1965 | South | 11 | |
| Dan Ryan Woods-Central | 1965 | South | 4 | |
| Dan Ryan Woods-East | 1965 | South | 4 | |
| Dan Ryan Woods-North | 1965 | South | 3 | |
| Dan Ryan Woods-South | 1965 | South | 11 | |
| Dan Ryan Woods-West | 1965 | South | 4 | |



| CATEGORY 1 | APPROVAL DATE | ZONE | COMMISSIONER DISTRICT(S) | |
|---|------------------|---------|-----------------------------|--|
| Deer Grove Lake (Water Body) | 1924 | NW | 14 | |
| Deer Grove Trails -Paved & Unpaved | 1924 | NW | 14 | |
| Deer Grove West Woodland & Wetland Nature Preserve | 2008 | NW | 14 | |
| Deer Grove-East | 1924 | NW | 14 | |
| Deer Grove-West | 1924 | NW | 14 | |
| Edward M. Sneed Forest | 1964 | SW | 17 | |
| Elizabeth A. Conkey Forest | 1924 | SW | 17 | |
| Elizabeth A. Conkey Forest-North | 1924 | SW | 6 | |
| Elizabeth A. Conkey Forest-South | 1924 | SW | 6 | |
| Erickson Woods | 1924 | North | 13 | |
| Forest Glen Woods | 1965 | North | 10 | |
| Frank Bobrytzke Forest | 1924 | North | 13 | |
| G.A.R. Woods | 1965 | Central | 9 | |
| George F. Nixon Forest | 1924 | North | 9,13 | |
| George W. Dunne National Driving Range | 1991 | SW | 6 | |
| George W. Dunne National Golf Course | 1991 | SW | 6 | |
| George W. Dunne National Golf Course Ponds (Water Body) | 1991 | SW | 6 | |
| Green Lake (Water Body) | 1932 | South | 4 | |
| Green Lake Family Aquatic Center | 1932 | South | 4 | |
| Green Lake Woods | 1932 | South | 4 | |
| Harms Flatwoods Nature Preserve | 2017 | North | 9 | |
| Harms Woods-Central | 1924 | North | 9 | |
| Harms Woods-North | 1924 | North | 9 | |
| Harms Woods-South | 1924 | North | 9 | |
| Harold "Hal" Tyrrell Trailside Museum | 1990 | Central | 9 | |
| Harry H. Semrow Driving Range | 1990 | North | 9 | |
| Irene C. Hernandez Family Picnic Area | 1997 | North | 12 | |
| Jens Jensen Grasslands & Woods Land & Water Reserve | 2017 | NW | 14 | |
| Jens Jensen Preserve | 2002 | NW | 14 | |



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|--|------------------|---------|-----------------------------|--|
| CATEGORY 1 | APPROVAL DATE | ZONE | COMMISSIONER DISTRICT(S) | |
| Jerome Huppert Woods | 2000 | North | 9 | |
| Joe Louis "The Champ" Golf Course | 1989 | South | 5 | |
| John E. Traeger Family Picnic Area | 1993 | North | 9 | |
| John P. Touhy Highland Wood Driving Range | 1990 | NW | 15 | |
| John P. Touhy Highland Woods Golf Course | 1990 | NW | 15 | |
| John Husar I&M Canal Trail - Paved | 2002 | SW | 17, 16 | |
| John Husar I&M Canal Trailhead | 2002 | SW | 17 | |
| John J. Duffy Preserve | 1924 | SW | 17 | |
| Jurgensen Woods North Nature Preserve | 1965 | South | 6 | |
| LaBagh Woods | 1940 | North | 12 | |
| Linne Woods | 1965 | North | 13 | |
| Mary Mix McDonald Woods | 1994 | North | 13 | |
| Mathew Bieszczat Volunteer Resource Center | 2005 | North | 10 | |
| McCormick Woods | 1965 | Central | 16 | |
| McMahon Woods and Fen Nature Preserve | 2009 | SW | 17 | |
| Michael J. O'Malley Preserve | 2004 | South | 6 | |
| Miller Meadow-North | 1965 | Central | 1 | |
| Miller Meadow-South | 1965 | Central | 1 | |
| Ned Brown Meadow | 1924 | NW | 15 | |
| Orland Grassland Land and Water Reserves | 2003 | SW | 17 | |
| Palos Fen Nature Preserve | 1984 | SW | 17 | |
| Palos Hills | 1924 | SW | 13, 9 | |
| Paul H. Douglas Preserve | 1966 | NW | 15 | |
| Paul H. Douglas Trail - Paved | 1966 | NW | 15 | |
| Paw Paw Woods Nature Preserve | 1964 | SW | 17 | |
| Perkins Woods | 1917 | North | 17 | |
| Powderhorn Prairie and Marsh Nature Preserve | 2007 | South | 4 | |
| Pulaski Woods | 1965 | SW | 17 | |
| Pulaski Woods-East | 1965 | SW | 17 | |



| CATEGORY 1 | | ROVAL ATE | ZONE | COMMISSIONER DISTRICT(S) |
|---|---|--------------|---------|-----------------------------|
| Pulaski Woods-South | 1 | 1965 | SW | 17 |
| Roman Pucinski Preserve | 2 | 2002 | North | 10 |
| Sagawau Canyon Nature Preserve | 1 | .984 | SW | 17 |
| Sagawau Environmental Learning Center | 2 | 2010 | SW | 17 |
| Salt Creek Woods Nature Preserve | 1 | 1964 | Central | 17 |
| Sand Ridge Prairie Nature Preserve | 1 | 1964 | South | 4 |
| Sauk Trail Woods-Central | 1 | 1924 | South | 6 |
| Sauk Trail Woods-East | 1 | .924 | South | 6 |
| Sauk Trail Woods-North | 1 | 1924 | South | 6 |
| Sauk Lake (Entry) | 1 | .924 | South | 6 |
| Sauk Lake (Water Body) | 1 | 924 | South | 6 |
| Sauk Trail Woods-South | 1 | 924 | South | 6 |
| Seymour Simon Preserve | 1 | 1966 | North | 9 |
| Shabbona Woods | 1 | 1924 | South | 4 |
| Shoe Factory Road Prairie Nature Preserve | 1 | 1965 | NW | 15 |
| Sidney Yates Flatwoods | 1 | 1996 | North | 9 |
| Somme Prairie Grove | 1 | 924 | North | 14 |
| Somme Prairie Nature Preserve | 1 | 1994 | North | 14 |
| Somme Woods | 1 | 1924 | North | 14 |
| Spring Lake Equestrian Parking | 1 | 1964 | NW | 15 |
| Spring Lake Nature Preserve | 1 | 1964 | NW | 15 |
| Spring Lake (Water Body) | 1 | 1964 | NW | 15 |
| Spring Lake Trails- Unpaved | 1 | 1964 | NW | 15 |
| St. Mihiel Woods-East | 1 | .924 | SW | 6 |
| Thaddeus S. "Ted" Lechowicz | 2 | 2009 | North | 10 |
| Thatcher Pond | 1 | .924 | Central | 9 |
| Thatcher Woods | 1 | 924 | Central | 9 |
| Thatcher Woods Glen | 1 | 924 | Central | 9 |
| Theodore Stone Forest | 1 | 1963 | Central | 16 |



| CATEGORY 1 | APPROVAL DATE | ZONE | COMMISSIONER DISTRICT(S) |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|---------|-----------------------------|
| Thomas Jefferson Woods | 1965 | Central | 9 |
| Thornton-Lansing Road Nature Preserve | 1965 | South | 6 |
| Turnbull Woods | 1924 | North | 13 |
| William N. Erickson Preserve | 1924 | North | 14 |
| Wolf Road Prairie Nature Preserve | 1988 | Central | 17 |
| Woodrow Wilson Woods | 1924 | South | 5 |

CATEGORY 2

Adopt Names of Forest Preserve Sites & Facilities Based on Common Recognition from the General Public and Staff

Many forest preserve names enjoy broad recognition among both staff and the general public and represent significant investment from the Preserves in collateral, including the preserve name being listed on maps, signs, wayfinding, websites, etc.

However, there is no record of these names having ever been officially adopted by the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners.

The Naming Committee recommends that these names be officially adopted.



| CATEGORY 2 | ZONE | COMMISSIONER |
|------------------------------------|---------|--------------|
| | | DISTRICT(S) |
| Algonquin Woods | North | 9 |
| Allison Woods | North | 9 |
| Alphonse Pond | NW | 14 |
| Andrew Toman Grove | Central | 16 |
| Arrowhead Lake (Entry) | SW | 17 |
| Arrowhead Lake (Water Body) | SW | 17 |
| Axehead Lake (Entry) | North | 9 |
| Axehead Lake (Water Body) | North | 9 |
| Bachelor's Grove Woods | SW | 6 |
| Baker's Lake (Water Body) | NW | 14 |
| Baker's Lake Overlook | NW | 14 |
| Barrington Road Pond (Entry) | NW | 15 |
| Barrington Road Pond (Water Body) | NW | 15 |
| Beck Lake (Entry) | North | 9 |
| Beck Lake (Water Body) | North | 9 |
| Belly Deep Slough (Entry) | SW | 17 |
| Belly Deep Slough (Water Body) | SW | 17 |
| Bemis Woods-North | Central | 17 |
| Bemis Woods-South | Central | 17 |
| Bergman Slough (Water Body) | SW | 17 |
| Beverly Lake (Entry) | NW | 15 |
| Beverly Lake (Water Body) | NW | 15 |
| Big Bend Lake (Entry) | North | 17 |
| Big Bend Lake (Water Body) | North | 17 |
| Blandings Grove Family Picnic Area | North | 9 |
| Blue Beech Family Picnic Area | North | 9 |
| Bob Mann Woods | Central | 17 |



| CATEGORY 2 | ZONE | COMMISSIONER DISTRICT(S) |
|----------------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|
| Bobolink Family Picnic Area | SW | 6 |
| Bode East | NW | 15 |
| Bode Lake (Entry) | NW | 15 |
| Bode Lake North (Water Body) | NW | 15 |
| Bode Lake South (Water Body) | NW | 15 |
| Boomerang Slough (Water Body) | SW | 17 |
| Bouncing Bet Slough (Water Body) | SW | 17 |
| Bremen Grove | SW | 6 |
| Brookfield Woods | Central | 16 |
| Brownell Woods | South | 6 |
| Buffalo Pond (Water Body) | SW | 17 |
| Buffalo Woods Family Picnic Area | SW | 17 |
| Buffalo Woods-Central | SW | 17 |
| Buffalo Woods-North | SW | 17 |
| Buffalo Woods-South | SW | 17 |
| Bullfrog Lake (Entry) | SW | 17 |
| Bullfrog Lake (Water Body) | SW | 17 |
| Bunker Hill Woods | North | 13 |
| Bur Oak Woods | SW | 6 |
| Buttonbush Slough (Water Body) | SW | 17 |
| C.C.C. Quarry (Water Body) | SW | 17 |
| Cal Sag Trail - Paved | SW / South | 17, 6 (5, 4) |
| Callahan Grove | Central | 16 |
| Calumet City Meadow | South | 4 |
| Calumet Woods | South | 5 |
| Camp Alphonse | NW | 14 |
| Camp Bullfrog | SW | 17 |



| CATEGORY 2 | ZONE | COMMISSIONER DISTRICT(S) | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| Camp Dan Beard | North | 14 | | |
| Camp Ground Road Woods | North | 17 | | |
| Camp Kiwanis Equestrian Staging Area | SW | 17 | | |
| Camp Pine Woods | North | 9 | | |
| Camp Shabbona Woods | South | 4 | | |
| Camp Sullivan | SW | 6 | | |
| Catalina Grove Family Picnic Area | SW | 17 | | |
| Catherine Chevalier Woods | North | 9 | | |
| Catherine Mitchell Pond (Water Body) | Central | 16 | | |
| Centennial Trail- Paved | SW | 17 | | |
| Che Che Pin Qua Woods | North | 9 | | |
| Cherry Hill Woods | SW | 17 | | |
| Chippewa Woods | North | 9 | | |
| Clayhole Woods | South | 4 | | |
| Columbia Woods | SW | 17 | | |
| Cooper's Hawk Family Picnic Area | SW | 6 | | |
| Country Lane Woods | SW | 17 | | |
| Crabtree Lake (Water Body) | NW | 15 | | |
| Crabtree Nature Center | NW | 15 | | |
| Crabtree Preserve | NW | 15 | | |
| Cranberry Slough (Water Body) | SW | 17 | | |
| Crawdad Slough (Entry) | SW | 17 | | |
| Crawdad Slough (Water Body) | SW | 17 | | |
| Crooked Creek Woods | SW | 17 | | |
| Dam No. 1 Woods-East | North | 14 | | |
| Dam No. 1 Woods-West | North | 14 | | |
| Dam No. 2 Woods | North | 9 | | |
| | | | | |



| CATEGORY 2 Dam No. 4 Woods-East Dan McMahon Woods Des Plaines Trail -Unpaved Dixmoor Playfield Dolton Avenue Prairie Edgebrook Golf Course Edgebrook Woods Eggers Grove | North SW North South South North North South South South | COMMISSIONER DISTRICT(S) 9 17 14,9 5 4 10 10 4 |
|---|--|--|
| Dan McMahon Woods Des Plaines Trail -Unpaved Dixmoor Playfield Dolton Avenue Prairie Edgebrook Golf Course Edgebrook Woods | SW North South North North South | 17 14,9 5 4 10 |
| Des Plaines Trail -Unpaved Dixmoor Playfield Dolton Avenue Prairie Edgebrook Golf Course Edgebrook Woods | North South North North South | 14,9 5 4 10 |
| Dixmoor Playfield Dolton Avenue Prairie Edgebrook Golf Course Edgebrook Woods | South South North North South | 5 4 10 10 |
| Dolton Avenue Prairie Edgebrook Golf Course Edgebrook Woods | South North North South | 4 10 10 |
| Edgebrook Golf Course Edgebrook Woods | North North South | 10 |
| Edgebrook Woods | North South | 10 |
| | South | |
| Eggers Grove | | 4 |
| | South | |
| Eggers Grove Slough | | 4 |
| Evans Field | North | 9 |
| Firefly Slough (Water Body) | SW | 17 |
| Flatfoot Lake (Entry) | South | 4 |
| Flatfoot Lake (Water Body) | South | 4 |
| Flossmoor Road Trailhead | SW | 5 |
| Forest Way Grove | North | 13 |
| Forty Acre Woods | SW | 17 |
| Fullerton Woods | North | 9 |
| Fullerton Woods Family Picnic Area | North | 9 |
| General Headquarters | Central | 9 |
| Glenview Woods | North | 14 |
| Glenwood Woods-North | South | 6 |
| Glenwood Woods-South | South | 6 |
| Goeselville Family Picnic Area | SW | 6 |
| Goose Lake (Water Body) | SW | 17 |
| Grassy Ridge Meadow | NW | 15 |
| Great Egret Family Picnic Area | NW | 15 |
| Groundhog Slough (Water Body) | SW | 17 |



| CATEGORY 2 | ZONE | COMMISSIONER DISTRICT(S) | | |
|---|---------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| Halsted Woods | South | 5 | | |
| Hambone Lake (Water Body) | SW | 17 | | |
| Henry De Tonty Woods | SW | 17 | | |
| Hickory Hills Woods | SW | 17 | | |
| Hidden Pond (Water Body) | SW | 17 | | |
| Hidden Pond Woods-East | SW | 17 | | |
| Hidden Pond Woods-West | SW | 17 | | |
| Highland Woods Golf Course Ponds (Water Body) | NW | 15 | | |
| Hogwash Slough (Water Body) | SW | 17 | | |
| Horsecollar Slough (Water Body) | SW | 17 | | |
| Horsetail Lake (Entry) | SW | 17 | | |
| Horsetail Lake (Water Body) | SW | 17 | | |
| Ida Lake (Water Body) | Central | 17 | | |
| Indian Boundary Family Picnic Area | North | 9 | | |
| Indian Boundary Golf Course | North | 9 | | |
| Indian Hill Woods | South | 5 | | |
| Iroquois Woods | North | 9 | | |
| Irving Park Road Canoe Landing | North | 9 | | |
| Joe Orr Woods | South | 5 | | |
| Joe's Pond (Water Body) | SW | 17 | | |
| Katydid Slough (Water Body) | SW | 17 | | |
| Kennedy Pond (Water Body) | SW | 17 | | |
| Killdeer Meadow | SW | 6 | | |
| Kickapoo Woods | South | 5 | | |
| King's Grove | South | 6 | | |
| Kloempken Prairie | North | 9 | | |
| LaGrange Park Woods | Central | 17 | | |
| | | • | | |



| CATEGORY 2 Lake Avenue Woods-East Lake Avenue Woods-West Lansing Woods Laughton Trading Post and Ford LaBuy Lake (Water Body) Lions Woods | North North South Central NW North South South | COMMISSIONER DISTRICT(S) 9 9 6 16 15 17 5 |
|---|--|--|
| Lake Avenue Woods-West Lansing Woods Laughton Trading Post and Ford LaBuy Lake (Water Body) Lions Woods | North South Central NW North South | 9 6 16 15 |
| Lansing Woods Laughton Trading Post and Ford LaBuy Lake (Water Body) Lions Woods | South Central NW North South | 6 16 15 17 |
| Laughton Trading Post and Ford LaBuy Lake (Water Body) Lions Woods | Central NW North South | 16 15 17 |
| LaBuy Lake (Water Body) Lions Woods | NW North South | 15 17 |
| Lions Woods | North South | 17 |
| | South | |
| | | 5 |
| Little Calumet Boat Launch | SVA/ | |
| Little Red Schoolhouse Farm Pond (Water Body) | 300 | 17 |
| Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center | SW | 17 |
| Longjohn Slough (Water Body) | SW | 17 |
| Major Taylor Trail -Paved | South | 14, 12, 4, 5 |
| Maple Lake (Water Body) | SW | 17 |
| Maple Lake Boating Center | SW | 17 |
| Maple Lake Overlook | SW | 17 |
| Maple Lake-East | SW | 17 |
| Massasauga Family Picnic Area | North | 14 |
| Maywood Grove | Central | 16 |
| McClaughrey Spring Woods | SW | 17 |
| McGinnis Slough (Entry) | SW | 17 |
| McGinnis Slough (Water Body) | SW | 17 |
| McGinty Pond (Water Body) | SW | 17 |
| Meadowlark Golf Course | Central | 17 |
| Meadowlark Pond (Water Body) | Central | 17 |
| Midlothian Meadows | SW | 5 |
| Midlothian Reservoir (Water Body) | SW | 6 |
| Midlothian Reservoir (Entry) | SW | 6 |
| Morrill Meadow | SW | 17 |



| CATEGORY 2 Mud Lake (Water Body) | ZONE | COMMISSIONER DISTRICT(S) |
|---------------------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|
| Mud Lake (Water Body) | NW | |
| | | 15 |
| National Grove-North | Central | 16 |
| National Grove-South | Central | 16 |
| North Branch Trails - Paved & Unpaved | North | 9, 10, 12-14 |
| North Creek Meadow | South | 6 |
| Northwestern Woods | North | 17 |
| Oak Forest Heritage Preserve East | SW | 5 |
| Oak Forest Heritage Preserve West | SW | 5 |
| Old Stover Trailhead | NW | 15 |
| O'Malley Ponds (Water Body) | South | 6 |
| Orland Grassland South | SW | 17 |
| Orland Grove | SW | 17 |
| Ottawa Trail Woods-North | Central | 16 |
| Ottawa Trail Woods-South | Central | 16 |
| Paddock Woods | SW | 17 |
| Palos Park Woods-North | SW | 17 |
| Palos Park Woods-South | SW | 17 |
| Palos Trail - Unpaved | SW | 17 |
| Papoose Lake (Entry) | SW | 17 |
| Papoose Lake (Water Body) | SW | 17 |
| Pee Wee Slough (Water Body) | SW | 17 |
| Penny Road Pond (Entry) | NW | 15 |
| Penny Road Pond (Water Body) | NW | 15 |
| Pioneer Woods | SW | 17 |
| Plank Road Meadow Boat Launch | Central | 16 |
| Plum Creek Meadow | South | 6 |
| Plum Creek Preserve | South | 6 |



| CATEGORY 2 | ZONE | COMMISSIONER DISTRICT(S) |
|---------------------------------------|---------|--------------------------|
| Pollywog Slough (Water Body) | SW | 17 |
| Poplar Creek Trailhead | NW | 15 |
| Poplar Creek Equestrian Parking | NW | 15 |
| Poplar Creek Trail - Paved & Unpaved | NW | 15 |
| Possum Hollow Woods | Central | 17 |
| Potawatomi Pond (Water Body) | North | 14 |
| Potawatomi Woods (Entry) | North | 14 |
| Powderhorn Lake (Entry) | South | 4 |
| Powderhorn Lake (Water Body) | South | 4 |
| Quentin Road Pond (Water Body) | NW | 14 |
| Quercus Woods Family Picnic Area | Central | 1 |
| Rain Barrel Slough (Water Body) | SW | 17 |
| Red Gate Woods | SW | 17 |
| Redwing Slough (Water Body) | SW | 17 |
| River Bend Family Picnic Area | North | 9 |
| River Oaks Golf Course | South | 4 |
| River Trail Nature Center | North | 9 |
| Robinson Homestead Family Picnic Area | North | 9 |
| Robinson Woods-South | North | 9 |
| Rolling Knolls (Entry) | NW | 15 |
| Rolling Knolls Pond (Water Body) | NW | 15 |
| Rubio Woods | SW | 6 |
| Sag Quarries (Entry) | SW | 17 |
| Sag Quarries East (Water Body) | SW | 17 |
| Sag Quarries West (Water Body) | SW | 17 |
| Sag Valley Equestrian Trailhead | SW | 17 |
| Sag Valley Trail - Unpaved | SW | 17 |
| | | • |



| CATEGORY 2 | ZONE | COMMISSIONER DISTRICT(S) |
|-----------------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|
| Saganashkee Slough (Water Body) | SW | 17 |
| Saganashkee Slough Boat Launch | SW | 17 |
| Saganashkee Slough-Central | SW | 17 |
| Saganashkee Slough-East | SW | 17 |
| Salt Creek Trail- Paved & Unpaved | Central | 17, 16 |
| Sand Ridge Nature Center | South | 4 |
| Sand Ridge Pond (Water Body) | South | 4 |
| Schaumburg Road Grassland | NW | 17 |
| Schiller Playfield | North | 9 |
| Schiller Pond (Water Body) | North | 9 |
| Schiller Woods-East | North | 9 |
| Schiller Woods-South | North | 9 |
| Schiller Woods-West | North | 9 |
| Schubert's Woods | South | 6 |
| Schuth's Grove | Central | 1 |
| Silver Creek Family Picnic Area | Central | 16 |
| Skokie Lagoons (Water Body) | North | 13, 14 |
| Sod Farm Pond 1 (Water Body) | SW | 5,6 |
| Sod Farm Pond 2 (Water Body) | SW | 5,6 |
| Spears Woods | SW | 17 |
| Spring Creek Valley Headwaters | NW | 15 |
| St. Paul Woods | North | 13 |
| Stony Ford Canoe Landing | Central | 16 |
| Sundown Meadow | Central | 17 |
| Sunset Bridge Meadow | North | 9 |
| Sunset Ridge Woods | North | 14 |
| Swallow Cliff Woods-North | SW | 17 |
| | | |



| CATEOODY | 2 | |
|--|---------|--------------------------|
| CATEGORY 2 | ZONE | COMMISSIONER DISTRICT(S) |
| Swallow Cliff Woods-South | SW | 17 |
| Sweet Woods | South | 6 |
| Tampier Greenway Family Picnic Area | SW | 17 |
| Tampier Lake (Water Body) | SW | 17 |
| Tampier Lake Boating Center | SW | 17 |
| Tampier Lake-North | SW | 17 |
| Tampier Lake-West | SW | 17 |
| Tampier Slough (Water Body) | SW | 17 |
| Tampier Wetland (Water Body) | SW | 17 |
| Teason's Woods | SW | 17 |
| Thatcher Woods Glen | Central | 9 |
| Thorn Creek Trails - Paved & Unpaved | South | 5, 6 |
| Tinley Creek Trails - Paved & Unpaved | SW | 17, 6, 5 |
| Tinley Creek Woods | SW | 6 |
| Tomahawk Slough (Water Body) | SW | 17 |
| Tower Road | North | 14 |
| Tower Road Boat Launch | North | 14 |
| Tower Road Pond (Water Body) | North | 13 |
| Tryner's Pond (Water Body) | SW | 6 |
| Tuma Lake (Water Body) | SW | 17 |
| Turtlehead Lake (Entry) | SW | 17 |
| Turtlehead Lake (Water Body) | SW | 17 |
| Turtlehead Pond East & West (Water Body) | SW | 17 |
| Twenty-Sixth St Woods-East | Central | 16 |
| Twenty-Sixth St Woods-West | Central | 16 |
| Vollmer Road Grove | SW | 5 |
| Vollmer Road Wildlife Ponds (Water Body) | SW | 5 |



| CATEGORY 2 | ZONE | COMMISSIONER DISTRICT(S) | |
|---------------------------------|---------|--------------------------|--|
| Wampum Lake (Entry) | South | 6 | |
| Wampum Lake (Water Body) | South | 6 | |
| Watersmeet Woods | North | 14 | |
| Wayside Woods | North | 13 | |
| Wentworth Prairie | South | 4 | |
| Wentworth Woods | South | 4 | |
| Westchester Woods | Central | 16 | |
| Whealan Pool Aquatic Center | North | 9 | |
| Whistler Woods | South | 5 | |
| White Eagle Woods-North | Central | 16 | |
| White Eagle Woods-South | Central | 16 | |
| White Oak Woods | SW | 17 | |
| Will –Cook Marshes (Water Body) | SW | 17 | |
| Willow Springs Woods | SW | 17 | |
| Wolf Lake Overlook | South | 4 | |
| Wolf Road Prairie | Central | 17 | |
| Wolf Road Woods | SW | 17 | |
| Woodland Meadow | NW | 15 | |
| Yankee Woods | SW | 6 | |
| Zanders Woods | South | 6 | |
| Zoo Woods | Central | 17 | |

REFERENCES

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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

of

COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

by 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

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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ARTHUR L. JANURA
GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT

APOLOGIA

This publication was undertaken because of a chance question asked by our landscape architect, one of what might be termed the third generation of forest preserve people: "Where did that name, Ottawa Trail Woods, come from?" None of his contemporaries knew.

The origins of the names of places in the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, and historical facts about many of them, are submitted so that this and future generations may be informed. Their appreciation of these preserves may be enhanced by such knowledge and communicated to the public.

The first generation -- commissioners and employees -- was present during the District's initial phase: the Acquisition Stage. All but a doughty few of them have "gone where the woodbine twineth."

The second generation, including this reporter, was present during the succeeding phase: the Development Stage. Many of them have died or have retired. That phase began after the Advisory Committee was appointed in 1927 and Charles G. Sauers became general superintendent in 1929. Altho acquisition — much of it difficult and costly — was increased, this stage was phenomenal because of the developments constructed by contractors and especially those accomplished by efficient employment of labor furnished by three federal agencies: CCC, CWA, and WPA.

This publication should have been prepared 15 years earlier when many of those who participated in the first and second phases were available. It probably contains errors of omission and of commission.

Much of the information herein was obtained from or verified by the printed proceedings of the Board of Forest Preserve Commissioners from 1915 to 1965, inclusive. Some was obtained from old-timers employed by or familiar with the District. Pertinent data about people and events prominent in the early history of the Chicago region were obtained from authentic books and documents, or from nature bulletins based upon similar research and published by our Conservation Department.

The third and present generation of forest preserve people is implementing what may be called the Refinement Stage, with acquisition and development continuing on a grand scale far beyond the dreams of the men and women who envisioned and strove for the establishment of a forest preserve district.

Included herein are the currently official and many unofficial names of areas and recreational facilities, together with the known or apparent origins of them. Also many local or colloquial names in common use.

They are listed alphabetically. Each is followed by the name, in parentheses, of the division in which it is located. That is followed by the status of the name:
(a) Official -- formally adopted by the Board of Forest Preserve Commissioners; or (b) Unofficial -- informally chosen, or a traditional name, and established by use. For brevity, the Forest Preserve District of Cook County is usually referred to as the FPD; and the Board of Forest Preserve Commissioners as the Board; and the president of that board as the President. The initials RM refer to this reporter.

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NAMES OFFICIALLY ADOPTED

MARCH 24, 1924

On May 21, 1923, a committee on nomenclature was appointed by the President to select appropriate names for the various tracts then owned or recommended for acquisition by the FPD. That committee, consisting of six FPD Commissioners and 17 prominent citizens including Charles H. Wacker who was designated chairman, appointed a special sub-committee with Commissioner (Mrs.) E. W. Bemis as its chairman.

On November 26, 1923, that sub-committee submitted a report which, fortunately, was adopted by the Board. It rejected, for cogent reasons stated, a proposal by several other prominent citizens urging that, inasmuch as certain tracts had been or were to be named for battlefields in France during the recent war (World War I), "this plan of so naming tracts of woodland in the Forest Preserve District be extended with a view that all parts of said Forest Preserve District be ultimately named after such battlefields."

On March 3, 1924, a final report of that sub-committee was submitted by Mrs. Bemis. Referred to the committee on Public Service, it was recommended and was adopted by the Board on March 24, 1924. The names so adopted for 42 areas, briefly described, were printed in the proceedings as follows:

- 1. Dear (sic) Grove and Camp Reinberg, Camp and Preserve. Located on the Northwest Highway and Dundee Road, two miles North of Palatine.
- 2. Foreman Woods (Henry G.). Located on Schamberg (sic) Road, 1 mile West of Rosell (sic) Road. (note by RM: This tract, altho recommended for purchase, was not acquired).
- 3. Elk Grove. Located on Arlington Heights Road and Higgins Road, West.
- 4. Mors Woods (Wheeling Park). Located on North Side of Dundee Road and East of Desplaines River.
- 5. Pottawatomie Woods. Located on South side of Dundee Road. East of Milwaukee Ave. and North of Dam No. 1.
- 6. Winnebago Woods. Located South of Dam No. 1 East of Milwaukee Ave. and North of Winkelman Road.
- 7. Portage Grove. Located South of intersection at West River Road and Milwaukee Ave. and North of Center Road.
- 8. Somme Preserve. Located on Dundee Road and Waukegan Road.

- 9. Turnbull Tract. Located on County Line on the North and Green Bay Road on the South.
- 10. Chewab Skokie. All of the Skokie Valley.
- 11. Memorial Woods. Located on North Branch of Chicago River from Winnetka Ave. to Glenview Road.
- 12. Harms Woods. Located South of Glenview Road and Church Street on the North Branch.
- 13. Linne Woods. Church to Dempster.
- 14. Oskosh Woods. Located on Center Street on the North and Ballard Road on the South (Desplaines River).
- 15. Marne Reservation. Ballard Road to Higgins Road on Desplaines River.
- 16. Miammi Woods. From Dempster Street to Touhy Ave. on the North Branch.
- 17. Sauganash or Caldwell Reserve. From Touhy Avenue to Foster on the North Branch.
- 18. Che-Che-Pinqua. Robinson Indian Reservation. Higgins Road to Grand Avenue, Desplaines River Valley.
- 19. La Frambois Woods. Grand Avenue to North Avenue on the Desplaines River.
- 20. Thatchers Woods. North Avenue to Roosevelt Road on the Desplaines River.
- 21. Cummings Reserve. Harlem and Lake Street.
- 22. Riverside Woods. Roosevelt Road on the North, Mannheim Road on the West, Ogden Avenue on the South and the East River Road on the East.
- 23. Calument Portage (Lyons). Ogden Avenue to Archer Avenue, Desplaines River.
- 24. Warren G. Harding Woods. 31st Street to Ogden Avenue, West of Wolf Road.
- 25. Cantigny Woods. Joliet Road, 5th Avenue and Willow Springs Road.
- 26. Argonne Forest. Archer Avenue to Calumet Feeder.
- 27. Sag Forest. Calumet Feeder on the North and 111th St. on the South.
- 28. Palos Hills. 111th Street on the North and 131st Street.

- 29. Black Partridge Woods. Northwest corner of Lemont Township.
- 30. George Rogers Clark Woods. 135th Street to 143rd Street North of the town of Orland.
- 31. Beverley Hills. Daniel Ryan Woods. 87th and Western Avenue.
- 32. Mascouten Reserve. 143rd Street and Harlem Avenue (2 miles west on Middlothian Country Club.)
- 33. St Mihiel Reservation. From 147th Street along Rock Island R.R. to Tinley Park.
- 34. Kickapoo Grove. 135th Street and Ashland Avenue.
- 35. Whistler Preserve. Halsted and the Calument River, East.
- 36. Beaubien Preserve. Calumet River and Michigan Central R.R. at foot of Lake Calumet.
- 37. Wolf Lake Preserve. State Line and 114th Street.
- 38. Burnham Woods. East of the Town of Burnham and on the State Line.
- 39. Shabbona Woods. Torrence Ave. and 159th Street.
- 40. Gurdon S. Hubbard Forest. In and about the Town of Glenwood.
- 41. Woodrow Wilson Woods. North of Chicago Heights.
- 42. Sauk Trail. Western Avenue to Dixie Highway, County Line on the South.

COMMENT: Many of the foregoing official names are still in use for the areas designated, or parts of them. Some, such as Mors Woods (now Potawatomi Woods), have been replaced, unofficially, by more appropriate names. A few, notably Pottawatomie Woods and La Frambois Woods, have been shifted -- also unofficially -- to adjacent areas. The official names of some large holdings including Portage Grove, Warren G. Harding Woods, Mascouten Reserve, and George Rogers Clark Woods, were rarely used and tacitly abandoned. Many other major holdings of contiguous tracts have been named or renamed officially by the Board, usually without altering the nomenclature of the picnic or other used areas included.

NAMES OFFICIALLY ADOPTED

On or subsequent to March 24, 1924

FOR MAJOR HOLDINGS OF CONTIGUOUS AREAS

ARGONNE FOREST (Palos Division). Commemorating a major battleground in World War I. This hilly triangular area west of Kean Ave., between Archer Ave. and 107th St., is known to geologists as Mt. Forest. As the last (the Wisconsin) glacier melted away, about 12,000 years ago, this was an island between two torrents of water. One poured thru what is now the DesPlaines river valley containing the old Illinois and Michigan Canal, two great railroads, and the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal. The other poured thru what is now the Sag Valley traversed by the Calumet - Sag Canal which links Calumet Harbor and the St. Lawrence Seaway with the Illinois Waterway to the Illinois and Mississippi valleys.

These preserves include, on the ridge west of Wolf Road, the site of the Argonne National Laboratory where, during World War II, the techniques and processes employed in manufacturing the first atomic bomb were perfected and Pandora's box was opened. Exit Hiroshima and the "good old days".

FRANK BOBRYTZKE FOREST (North Branch). Named for a present member of the Board of Forest Preserve Commissioners since 1935. It includes Miami Woods and St. Paul Woods.

NED BROWN PRESERVES (Northwestern). Named for Edward Eagle Brown, member of the original Advisory Committee to the Board of Forest Preserve Commissioners, appointed January 4, 1927, and chairman from 1937 until his death in 1959. These holdings include (and see) Busse Forest, formerly the Elk Grove Preserve.

ELIZABETH A. CONKEY FOREST (Tinley Creek). Named for Mrs. Elizabeth A. Conkey, member of the Board of Forest Preserve Commissioners from 1935 until 1963.

JOHN J. DUFFY PRESERVE (Sag Valley). Named for a member of the Board of Forest Preserve Commissioners from 1951 until his death in 1961, and president from 1961 until his death. It includes what, south of 131st st., was formerly known as Tampier Slough.

WILLIAM N. ERICKSON PRESERVES (Skokie). Named for a present member of the Board of Forest Preserve Commissioners since 1935 and president 1947 to 1951. These preserves include (and see) the Chewab Skokie preserves, the Skokie Lagoons, and the botanic gardens (now under way) between Dundee Road and the Lake - Cook County Line Road. Also a Nike defense installation.

GEORGE F. NIXON FOREST (Skokie). Named for a member of the Board of Forest Preserve Commissioners from 1938 to 1955. It includes Harms Woods and the preserve east of Harms Road from Simpson St. (Route 58, or Golf Road) to Harrison St.

PALOS HILLS PRESERVES (Sag Valley Division). So-named on March 24, 1924. On some maps, including the Chicagoland Map published by the Chicago Tribune, they are designated the Palos Park Preserves, an old name derived from that of the adjacent village. These holdings are located mostly in Palos Township, south of the Calumet - Sag Channel to 143rd St., (Orland Park), and from 86th Ave. to Sag Bridge in Lemont Township. They now include the CAP SAUERS HOLDING and the EDWARD M. SNEED FOREST.

Our nature bulletin No. 710 relates the probable origin of the name "Palos" as follows: In 1850, when Cook county was organized into 27 townships -- now there are 38 -- one of them was called Trenton. After the first election its township board changed the name to Palos.

Reputedly, that was suggested by Melanchon A. Powell, one of the earliest settlers and first postmaster of Palos, because of a tradition that one of his ancestors had been a member of the crew on one of the ships commanded by Christopher Columbus when they sailed from Palos de Frontera in 1492. Palo, in Spanish, may mean a tall tree, the mast of a ship, or a promontory. Palos de Frontera was a seaport beneath a promontory on the Gulf of Cadiz, about 45 miles from Seville.

The first purchase of land by the infant Forest Preserve District of Cook County was authorized on September 25, 1916. It comprised 42 parcels totalling 288.50 acres -- woodlots varying in area from one to 17.68 acres -- at an agreed price of \$90 per acre. They were in what was designated then as Preserve No. 1, now Deer Grove, in Palatine Township.

The second purchase, authorized on that same date, was in the Palos, then designated as Preserve No. 4. Joseph S. Halligan and his heirs or assigns were paid \$10, 605.48 for 80 acres: the south 1/2 of the S.E. 1/4 of Section 9 in Palos Township. By 1918, 2370 acres in that township had been acquired.

CLAYTON F. SMITH PRESERVES (North Branch). Named for a member of the Board of Forest Preserve Commissioners from 1934 until his death in 1962, and president from 1934 to 1946. They include Caldwell Woods, the Christ A. Jensen Toboggan Slides, the Emmett Whealan Swimming Pool, Bunker Hill Woods, and the North Branch Division Headquarters. The slides were named for a member of the Board of Forest Preseve Commissioners from 1946 until his death in 1963.

WILLIAM M. SNEED FOREST (Sag Valley). Named for a member of the Board of Forest Preserve Commissioners from 1938 until his death in 1964. It includes the Swallow Cliff Winter Sports Center, Swallow Cliff Woods, Teason Woods, Cherry Hill Woods, and Horsetail Slough.

CAP SAUERS HOLDING (Sag Valley). Named for Charles Goodwin Sauers, general superintendent of the Forest Preserve District from May 15, 1929, until May 15, 1964. This large unique area, named for a large unique man, designated a Nature Preserve in 1964.

PICNIC AREAS, MEADOWS AND PLAYFIELDS, CAMPS,

and Other Recreational Areas

ALGONQUIN WOODS (DesPlaines). Unofficial. Suggested by RM. An Algonquin was and is an Indian of the great Algonquian family distinguished by the roots of their languages. It included -- see your dictionary -- the Illinois (Illiniwek) confederacy, the Ottawa -- Chippewa (Ojibwe) -- Potawatomi confederacy known as the Three Fires, the Miami, the Shawnee, and many other nations or tribes.

ALLISON WOODS (DesPlaines). Unofficial. Acquired by condemnation in 1918 from J. Albert Allison, Lester Allison, and their sister, Mary E. Helm. The adjacent bridge across the DesPlaines River, on Milwaukee Ave., was long known as the Allison Bridge.

This area is part of the holdings officially designated as Portage Grove (No.7) on March 24, 1924, because of a tradition that Indians, on their way to Chicago in canoes, portaged from the DesPlaines at Lake Ave. Woods or at Dam No. 2 to the North Branch of the Chicago River.

APPLE ORCHARD WOODS (Palos). Unofficial. Suggested by RM because it included the old orchard on 107th St., east of 100th Ave. (The Old Time Country Lane).

ARIE CROWN FOREST (Salt Creek). Official. Named for the father of Col. Henry Crown, a Chicagoan who is an industrial and financial tycoon. Formerly named (and see) cantigny Woods.

BACHELOR GROVE WOODS (Tinley Creek). Unofficial. Suggested by RM for three reasons: because its west boundary is Bachelor Grove Road; because it is traversed by Tinley Creek, originally called Bachelor's Grove Creek; and because Bachelor's Grove was the original name of a forested area including this preserve, Tinley Creek Woods, and adjacent woodlands.

As related in the text accompanying our folding map of the Tinley Creek Division: about 1833, a group of young single men purchased tracts (at \$1.25 per acre) in this vicinity and lived there while perfecting their titles to those lands. Each had a woodlot in the forested area -- similar to the many woodlots in Deer Grove and Busse Forest. Among them was Stephen Rexford, one of the founders of Blue Island.

BEAUBIEN PRESERVE (Calumet). Official. Named for Mark Beaubien, a French Canadian who established the first hotel in Chicago, on Lake St., which he named "Sauganash House" in honor, "by gar!", of his friend Billy Caldwell, the Sauganash (see Caldwell Woods). Until recent years, this preserve was nicknamed "Little Italy" because of the several Italian truck gardeners who were tenants.

BELLEAU WOODS (DesPlaines). Official. Commemorating a battleground in World War I. Originally known as the Sisman Farm but officially designated SENNE WOODS on June 26, 1918. Renamed Belleau Woods in 1923.

BEMIS WOODS (Salt Creek). Unofficial. Formerly known as "Camp Bemis" because a large youth camp with several buildings was located in this area, north of Salt Creek, and was sponsored by Mrs. E.W. Bemis, member of the Board of Forest Preserve Commissioners from 1923 until her retirement in 1926.

Prior to 1936 and the utilization of WPA labor, there was no entrance drive into what is now designated BEMIS WOODS SOUTH — the area between Ogden Ave. and Salt Creek. North of Salt Creek there was a macadam drive which ran due west from Wolf Rd. to the low flat meadow where there was a dam across the creek. This dam, constructed in 1923-24 by forest preserve labor, was similar to Dam No. 1 and Dam No. 2: it had a broad flat apron on the downstream side which served as a ford. That was the only means of access by automobile to the area south of the creek except on unauthorized informal rutted trails from Ogden Ave.

The Camp Bemis buildings were on high ground south of the entrance drive from Wolf Rd. South of the creek was a Boy Scout log cabin similar to many others that had been constructed by the District thru out the preserves. The dam provided a popular swimming and wading place until the creek became grossly polluted and such use was prohibited. On May 17, 1932, the Board ordered that this dam be removed.

Noteworthy and exemplary is the fact that the construction of an entrance drive from Ogden Ave., with parking spaces in Bemis Woods South, and similar improvements in Bemis Woods North, eliminated eleven miles of rutted trails made by automobiles driven helter skelter thru this preserve -- trails destructive to the woodlands and to enjoyment of them.

BLACKHAWK WCODS (Salt Creek). Unofficial. Named for Black Sparrow Hawk, the great chieftain of the Sauk (or Sac) and Fox Indians who led them in the 'Blackhawk War' of 1832: a revolt against the shameful treatment accorded to him and his tribes by the American whites.

This small area on the east bank of the DesPlaines River, just north of Ogden Ave., was once occupied by the Mueller Brewery described and pictured in the "History of Riverside", edited by Dr. S.S. Fuller and on file in the Riverside Public Library. The entrances to the brewery's huge storage tunnels underground, walled and arched with brick, were filled and obliterated in 1933. It was destroyed by fire in 1873.

BLACK PARTRIDGE WOODS (Palos). Official. Designated a Nature Preserve (1964). Probably its name was suggested by Ransom E. Kennicott, chief forester of the F.P.D. from its organization on February 11, 1915, until his death in 1934, and its chief administrator until June, 1927, when M.S. Szymczak became general superintendent. Szymczak resigned, effective December 3, 1928, after being elected Clerk of the Superior Court.

John Berry served as acting general superintendent until the appointment of Charles G. Sauers on May 15, 1929.

Ransom Kennicott was historically minded with a predeliction for Indian lore and names. He and especially Peter Reinberg, first president of the Board, were instrumental in the adoption of this and other Indian names, notably: Miami Woods, Caldwell Woods, Billy Caldwell Golf Course, Shabbona Woods, Sauk Trail Woods, Sauk Lake, and Chewab Skokie (the Skokie Marsh).

Black Partridge, according to Mrs. John H. Kinzie in her book, Wau-Bun (a narrative of early Chicago history and especially the Fort Dearborn massacre in 1812), was chief of a Potawatomi band at Aux Sable Creek southwest of Channahon and Joliet. His Indian name was Muck-Ke-Tay Pe-nay. She describes him as a superb physical specimen and a "good Indian", always a friend of the white men. She credits him with saving Mrs. Helm, daughter of Mrs. John Kinzie, mother of John H. and wife of Lt. Helm, second in command under Capt. Heald, from death during the massacre.

BREZINA WOODS (Salt Creek). Official. Formerly Mannheim Woods but chosen by Mr. Sauers to be officially renamed for Joseph L. Brezina, employed from 1925 to 1931 in the Forest Preserve District nursery at Dam No. 2 and later at a nursery in what is now Brezina Woods; and as assistant chief forester from 1931 until his death in 1953. During the latter period he was acting superintendent of Division Four (now Salt Creek Division) until he became superintendent of our present nursery south of Ogden Ave. and east of Wolf Road, constructed and established by a C.C.C. company.

BROOKFIELD WOODS (Salt Creek). Unofficial. Sugested by RM because it is a minor area on 31st St. opposite the Brookfield Zoo (Chicago Zoological Park).

BROWNELL WOODS (Thorn Creek). Unofficial. Selected by RM because this tract of 50.55 acres was purchased November 8, 1918, from the Brownell Improvement Company for \$12,637.50. The great quarry west of William St. (Vincennes Road) in Thornton was formerly named the Moulding-Brownell Quarry.

BUFFALO WOODS (Palos). Unofficial. Selected because this area — between Kean Ave. and Mannheim Road (U.S.45), from 87th St. to what would be 83rd St. — was formerly enclosed by a chain link fence as a pasture for a small herd of buffalo including an irascible bull y-clept "Tony Cermak". The herd dwindled from diseases, the public became disinterested in them, and they were disposed of in 1933. The fence was traded to and removed by the Archer Woods Cemetery, Inc., located on the east side of Kean Ave., in exchange for a small triangular piece of property which they owned on the west side of that highway just north of 87th St. It is now part of Buffalo Grove No. 4.

Kean Ave. is on a half section line that jogs slightly east at 87th St., the boundary between Lyons and Palos townships. Consequently, there is a slight reverse curve in the Kean Ave. pavement which isolated that triangular piece of cemetery property on the west side of it. We needed the property more than the fence.

BUNKER HILL WOODS (North Branch). Unofficial. Named for the Bunker Hill Golf Course (privately owned) which formerly occupied this property -- now part of the Clayton F. Smith Preserve.

BUR OAK WOODS (Tinley Creek). Unofficial. Selected because the timber on the area is predominately of this species.

BUSSE FOREST (Northwest) Official. Now part of the Ned Brown Preserves and designated a Nature Preserve in 1964. Formerly Elk Grove, its local name since pioneer times, the name of that township, and the name of the neighboring village. The following information was contained in a mimcographed publication issued by the Conservation Department in 1950:

Elk Grove, that magnificently wooded 1700-acre forest preserve lying on both sides of Higgins Road, south of Arlington Heights, has been renamed BUSSE FOREST. The Board of Forest Preserve Commissioners thus honored William Busse, member of that board since the Forest Preserve District of Cook County was organized in 1916, a member of the Board of County Commissioners since 1900 -- except for two years at the time of the Bull Moose uprising in 1912 -- president of the board from 1907 to 1910, and always a potent factor in shaping the acts and policies of that body.

In doing so, Cook County has honored not only a distinguished citizen but also what he stands for as a member of the Busse family. Descended from a German pioneer, seven generations of that family have established a community in Elk Grove Township which is splendidly typical of many midwest communities. Industrious, thrifty and scrupulously honest, they are characterized by their love of God, love of family, love of freedom, and love of the land. Their roots are in the soil.

Cook County was Indian country when the completion of the Erie Canal, linking the Great Lakes with the Hudson River and the Atlantic Ocean, brought a wave of "Yankees" from New England to the Middle West and a land boom to Chicago. With the starting of the Illinois and Michigan Canal -- Thomas Jefferson's dream of linking the Great Lakes with the Gulf of Mexico -- came the Irish. The Germans tidily wound up their affairs and followed. They bought good land. They built. They are still there, holding title to farms purchased from the original settlers who obtained them from the United States government for a song. The Yankees moved to town.

In 1848 the Galena and Chicago Union Railroad sent a teakettle engine, with two flimsy open cars, out on its first run of five miles from Chicago. In 1848 the electric telegraph linked Chicago with the east. And in 1348,

from Hanover, Germany, came Johann Frederich Busse with his wife and six children. They travelled on foot from Chicago to the clay knobs of what is now Hanover Township, and then back along the Indian trail -- now Algonquin Road and State Route 62 -- to Elk Grove. They stopped at the tavern of Samuel Page.

That night -- July 1, 1848 -- Frederich Busse paid Samuel Page \$2500 for 160 acres of land, and \$200 more for the farm stock and tools thereon, including: two horses with double harness, six cows with calves, two yearling heifers, all the hens and chickens, four fire pans, two besteads, six chairs, two stoves, one churn, and one yellow dog.

In those days, every settler living near it, or out on the rolling prairie, owned a parcel of Elk Grove as a woodlot where he got his firewood, fence posts and rails, and maybe timbers for his cabin and barn. There was one man, a sort of surveyor, who marked off and blazed the boundary trees of these little tracts. Frederich Busse bought 5 acres and, later, 40 acres on the west side, including where the fenced-in elk pasture now is. Growing old, with an invalid wife, he gave 5 acres to each of five children. To Louis, Commissioner Busse's father, he gave 10 acres with the proviso that the old folks be provided with all necessary firewood, every third egg from the home farm, and one gallon of milk per day. This was done.

At the time of the Busse Centennial in 1948, that family numbered 1087 blood relatives and 443 relatives by marriage.

The commissioner is now in his 86th year. When and if he will reminisce about his origins, inevitably he steers the conversation back to the land and the people who have kept it fruitful. As a boy in his teens, he helped his father operate a creamery and make hand-cheese. He married. He moved to Mt. Prospect. He built up a business and then another and another that are still operated by Busse's. He ran for office. People trusted him. He's still in office. But, outside of what the Forest Preserve District has taken, he and his kin still own the land which gave them freedom. ***

CALDWELL WOODS (North Branch). Official. Suggested by president Peter Reinberg (see Black Partridge Woods). Named for Billy Caldwell, a chief of the Potawatomi and prominent in the early history of Chicago. He was known as The Sauganash - meaning "The Englishman" -- because he was the son of a Potawatomi woman by Capt. Wm. Caldwell of the British Army and the British Indian Department at Detroit and Amherstburg. Capt. Caldwell was the son of Sir James Caldwell of Castle Caldwell, Fermangh County, Ireland. After being reared and educated by his father, Billy joined his mother's people at Chicago. At the time of the Fort Dearborn massacre, his presence and tactful efforts saved the lives of the Kinzie family.

At the treaty of Prairie du Chien, in 1829, Billy Caldwell and another half-breed, Alexander Robinson (Che-che-pin-quay), were made chiefs of the

*** Note: Mr. Busse died in 1955, aged 91 years.

Ottawa -- Chippew -- Potawatomi confederation known as the "Three Fires". It was thru their efforts and those of Shabbona, Claude LaFramboise and other friendly intermediaries, that, by this treaty and subsequent treaties in 1832 and 1833, the Indians were induced to leave this region and resettle on land west of the Mississippi.

As a reward for years of friendly services and their influence with the Indians, the United States Government made land grants to several individuals. (See Shabbona Woods, Robinson Reserve Woods and see LaFramboise Woods).

The Billy Caldwell Reserve of 1600 acres, on both sides of the North Branch of the Chicago River, has a rhomboid shape. Its southeasterly boundary is the Indian Boundary Line (Rogers Ave.). See ROBINSON RESERVE for explanation of this line. Indian Road is on its westerly boundary parallel to Elston Ave.; Sauganash Ave. is on its easterly boundary; the northwesterly boundary is between and parallel to Tonty and Mendota Avenues - also parellel to the Indian Boundary Line.

Adjoining and north of the Caldwell Reserve, east of Milwaukee Ave., is the 320-acre reserve granted to Victoire (Victoria) Pothier. North of that is the 160-acre reserve granted to Jane Miranda (Mirandeau). These two Potawatomi women were with the Kinzie family at the time of the Fort Dearborn massacre. Later, Victoria became one of Shabbona's wives.

CALUMET CITY PLAYFIELD (Thorn Creek). Unofficial. Located within Calumet City.

CALUMET WOODS (Calumet). Unofficial. Formerly called Calumet Grove, where the famous Ragen's Colts, an athletic organization from the stockyards district in Chicago, held their turbulent annual outings. In the 1880's it was known as Pfeiffer's Woods and was a popular place for lodge, club and church picnics. It lies between Ashland Ave. and the Little Calumet River, south of Blue Island, where that stream makes a big bend to flow easterly.

On the maps and in accounts by early explorers, this river was variously called Konomick, Killamick, Calamick, and sundry other versions of its Indian name which, some claim, meant "white beaver". Eventually, Calumet became the accepted name. On the map of Cook County published in 1851 by James H. Rees, it is called the Little Calumet River to distinguish it from the Grand Calumet River and their common outlet to Lake Michigan: The Calumet River -- now the entrance to Calumet Harbor and Lake Calumet.

Calumet had become the appellation universally used for the Indians' ceremonial pipe of peace which had a long reed stem. It is a French word derived from calamus, Latin for "reed". Chalumet is the French word for a shepherd's pipe; chalumeau is an obsolete single-reed wind instrument.

CAMP GROUND ROAD (family picnic area) (Des Plaines). Unofficial. Selected by RM because its access drive, from Algonquin Rd. (Route 62) to Oakton St., was formerly the southern portion of the Camp Ground Road which provided access to Chautaugua Park (Methodist Camp Ground) and to our Northwestern Park Woods at DesPlaines.

CAMP PINE WOODS (Des Plaines). Unofficial. Also known as Dam No. 2 Woods North. Located east of the river on the access road from Lake Ave. to Camp Pine. That camp, orginally a CCC camp, is allocated to the Girl Scout Council of Northwest Cook County.

CAMP REINBERG (Northwestern). Official. Originally part of Preserve No. 1, now Deer Grove. Named for Peter Reinberg, elected president of the Board of Forest Preserve Commissioners when it first met and organized on February 11, 1915. He served as president until his death on February 21, 1921, when he was succeeded by Daniel Ryan (Senior) who was similarly elected by his fellow commissioners.

On April 2, 1917, the Plan Committee (appointed February 28, 1916; see DEER GROVE) presented a momentous report (see PERKINS WOODS) recommending, in Section 4, purchase of "The Wilson Deer Grove Park property, comprising 80 acres, less the railroad, and being described as the West Half of the Southwest Quarter of Section 3-42-10 (except right-of-way of Waukegan, Rockford & Elgin Traction Company)".

The report stated that the property could be purchased for \$11,600, that title could be furnished in about 30 days, and that it "contains several buildings some of which may be used as shelter-shed and conveniences for the public", and recommended that it be included in Preserve No. 1. On May 3, 1917, the Board authorized the purchase of "Wilson Deer Grove Park" except 3.84 acres occupied by the little P, LZ & W railroad and two acres retained by the farm yard -- a net of 74.16 acres -- for \$11,416. The buildings became the inspiration and nucleus of Camp Reinberg.

In his annual message on January 7, 1918, president Reinberg reported that during July and August, 1917, 600 children of poor parents, and their mothers, were given ten day outings at "Deer Grove Park". In his annual message on January 6, 1919, he reported: "The outing camp on the Palatine Preserve (See Deer Grove) was a notable event last summer in the lives of more than 1,100 mothers and children from the congested districts of Chicago...... They were sent out by the Out-door Relief Department and charity organizations and were cared for by the Welfare Department. I trust the board may find it possible to increase the number of these outing camps and extend their benefits to a far greater number of poor children."

Within a few years the District had constructed two huge dormitories, a huge mess hall and kitchen, bath houses, toilets and several small buildings, all east of Quintens Rd, to create what was named Camp Reinberg.

In the late 30's, two groups of cabins were added by the C.C.C. Originally, and for many years, Camp Reinberg was operated by the Cook County Bureau of Public Welfare, but was maintained by the F.P.D. at increasingly great expenditures of materials and labor -- both skilled and unskilled. Now it is allocated to, operated by, and maintained by the Camp Reinberg Association, a non-profit welfare organization supported by the Community Chest and other donors.

CAMPS. For information about Camp Sagawau, reserved for outdoor education programs; Camps Alphonse, Falcon, Glenview, Sullivan, and Zanders -- welfare camps operated by the F.P.D., for which use-permits are issued; and the several camps allocated to youth organizations; SEE ADDENDUM NO. ONE.

CANTIGNY WOODS (Salt Creek). Now, and see, ARIE CROWN FOREST. The original name, commemorating a battlefield in World War I and suggested by Col. R.R. McCormick, publisher and editor of the Chicago Tribune, was officially adopted on March 24, 1924. To eliminate confusion with Cantigny Farm near Wheaton, Site of the First Division memorial, this preserve was officially re-named Arie Crown Forest.

CARLSON SPRINGS (Tinley Creek). Official. Named for a member of the Board of Forest Preserve Commissioners from 1934 to 1938. Of all the springs and flowing "artesian" wells formerly plentiful in certain sections of Cook county, this is one of the few still flowing, altho its volume is much reduced. The best one is alongside the Bluff Road to Black Partridge Woods.

CERMAK WOODS (Salt Creek). Official. This preserve, the swimming pool, and the old quarry were named for Anton J. Cermak, member and president of the Board of Forest Preserve Commissioners from 1922 until April 1931, when he was elected mayor of Chicago. The Board elected Commissioner Emmet Whealan as president to fill out "A.J.'s" unexpired term.

Before its acquisition by the District this area was known as Cream City Park, having been occupied by an amusement park so-named.

CHE-CHE-PIN-QUA WOODS (Indian Boundary). Unofficial. Selected by RM. The Indian name, meaning "blinking eyes" and bestowed because of a facial mannerism or tic, of Alexander Robinson. Several spellings were recorded, including "che-che-bin-quay X his mark" on the Treaty at Prairie du Chien, Chee-chee-pin-quay, and Chee-chee-bin-quay.

Robinson, like Billy Caldwell, was a half-breed. Hurlbut, in Chicago Antiquities, cites one account relating that he was the son of an Ottawa woman (whose father was a Frenchman) and a British officer at Mackinac in 1762. When questioned in 1866 by Draper, secretary of the Wisconsin State Historical Society, Robinson claimed to be the son of an Ottawa woman and a Scotch trader in 1789.

Appearing as a witness in the famous "Sand-Bar case" at Chicago in 1858, when questioned by Abraham Lincoln and other attorneys, Robinson stated that he did not know the date and place of his birth. Had he been born in 1762 he would have been 110 years old at the time of his death in 1872, and 96 at the time of that trial when all witnesses agree that he appeared to be at least 30 years younger.

However, on the hugh rhyolite boulder installed in the Robinson family cemetery on East River Road just north of Lawrence Ave., are incised inscriptions copied verbatim from the original gravestones, broken by vandals and partly illegible by weathering, including: "Alexander Robinson -- Aged 110 years -- April 22, 1872 -- Chief of Pottawatomies, Chippewa and Ottawa Nations of Indians".

On September 28, 1826, altho he already had a childless Indian wife, Robinson was married by John Kinzie, J.P., to Catherine (Cateche) Chevalier, daughter of Francois Chevalier, a chief in the confederacy of the Three Fires: the Potawatomi, Chippewa and Ottawa. After Francois died, Robinson became a chief and was recognized as such when he signed the Treaty of Prairie du Chien on July 29, 1829.

For further information about this character before, during and after the Fort Dearborn massacre in 1812, see (herein) ROBINSON RESERVE WOODS.

CHERRY HILL WOODS (Sag Valley). Unofficial. This name, suggested for the area south of Horsetail Slough -- an old field overrun by Chokecherry trees -- was applied instead to the knoll on the east side of Willow Springs Road (104th Ave.) and north of Horsetail Slough. At one time it was occupied by the St. Leo (Catholic) youth camp.

CHIPPILY WOODS (Skokie). So named in a resolution presented by Commissioner Busse and adopted August 6, 1923. Now officially renamed CHIPILLY 131st INFANTRY WOODS. Closed to public use for several years because of a contaminated well, it has now been reactivated and developed as a picnic area. On August 9, 1964, it was renamed and dedicated with appropriate ceremonies. This Illinois regiment was organized in 1874 and known as "The Dandy First". Eventually it became the 131st Infantry Regiment of the 33rd Division and, in 1918 was victorious in the battle of Chipilly Ridge.

CHIPPEWA WOODS (Indian Boundary). Unofficial. Selected by R M. "Chippewa" is the anglicized version of Ojibwe or Ojibway (which may be written either way), one of the largest tribes of Indians. "Ojibway" means "roast until puckered up", referring to the puckered seams of their moccasins. They are of Algonkian (Algonquin) stock, closely related to and associated with (originally as one nation) the Ottawa and Potawatomi in a confederation referred to as the Three Fires.

Mostly, the Chippewa inhabited northern Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and North Dakota, as we las southern Canada. They were warlike "Canoe Indians" who made superior birchbark canoes and were great hunters, subsisting largely on fish and game. They were probably the best informed and the strictest observers of the medicine lodge ceremonies. Their knowledge of plants, both in their own environment and far away, was probably the best of any group of Indians and they made innumerable uses of plants for medicines, foods, fibres, dyes, and miscellaneous purposes.

CLAY HOLE WOODS (Thorn Creek). Unofficial.

Green Lake Pool was designed and built as "Clay Hole Pool" because it was contiguous with and obtained its water supply from a deep clay pit excavated to obtain clay for making brick. There was an inclined railway track for bringing cars of clay out of the pit and it is believed that one or more "dinky" locomotives remain on the bottom.

The name was officially changed to Green Lake Pool by the Board on September 6, 1932, in response to a petition from the Women's Club of Harvey. As Juliet said to Romeo: "What's in a name?.... A rose by any other name would smell as sweet."

COLUMBIA WOODS (Palos). Unofficial. This tract, many years ago, was a picnic grove and amusement park -- with a merry-go-round, Ferris Wheel, bowling alley, etc. -- called Columbia Park. That name has presisted locally.

CONKEY FOREST (OR WOODS). (Tinley Creek). Officially named, and see, ELIZABETH A. CONKEY FOREST.

COUNTRY LANE WOODS (Palos). Unofficial. The name was suggested by the famous sign at the entrance to the adjacent dirt road:

I am an Old Time Country Lane
Now I have been officially Vacated and Closed
(I never liked automobiles anyway)
I invite you to walk -- as folks
have walked for generations -and be friendly with my trees,
my wild flowers and my wild creatures

The south portion of this road (100th Ave.) was originally part of a road that angled thru what is now Camp Kiwanis to 99th St., thence northwesterly to 104th Ave. thence along the northern boundary of Fairmount Cemetery to Archer Ave. It was vacated by Palos Township and closed to traffic. At the 107th St. (formerly Bluff Road) entrance there used to be an Indian Trail tree.

CRABAPPLE WOODS (Sag Valley). Unofficial. Chosen by RM because of the dense thickets of wild crabapples south and east of the oak knoll at 123rd St. and US 45. This area, the west 1/2 of the SW 1/4 of Sec 27, T37N, R12E, was locally called Robson's Woods, that being the name of our caretaker there for many years. On the south half of it, until recent years, was the McCord School -- a one-room rural schoolhouse named for the third man to settle in Palos Twp., John McCord.

East of Crabapple Woods and adjoining the south half of it is the 40-acre tract (SE 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Sec. 27) acquired July 5, 1918 from Lloyd J. Spencer. It was noted for a great variety and abundance of woodland wildflowers and, in a ravine along its east boundary -- the half-section line (92nd Ave.) -- Spencer Spring. Thru that ravine, Mill Creek (or Paddock Creek) flows northerly in Palos Park.

At 92nd Ave., 126th St. ends and there, for many years after the F.P.D. acquired the tract, was a wooden stairway for access to the ravine, a suspension bridge across the creek, and the spring. There was also a dam and a water wheel. After Spencer Spring ceased to flow, those facilities were removed.

CROOKED CREEK WOODS (Palos). Unofficial. Chosen by RM because Crooked Creek defines the northern extent of the picnic area. That watercourse, frequently dry but sometimes a brawling stream, originates near Willow Springs Road and 95th St. where it receives the overflow from Crawdad Slough and Longjohn Slough. From there it meanders southeasterly -being joined successively by the outlets from Button bush Slough, Cranberry Slough (designated a Nature Reserve, 1964) and Belly Deep Slough -- until it is within several yards of Kean Ave. where it makes a hairpin bend. From there it meanders southwesterly, crosses US 45, crosses 107th St. three times and finally, at 107th St. and Willow Springs Road, discharges into Saganashkee Slough.

CUMMINGS SQUARE (Indian Boundary). Officially designated CUMMINGS RESERVE on March 24, 1924. This tract was conveyed to the F.P.D by Edmund A. Cummings and Henry J. Foreman as trustees of the River Forest Land Association under deeds in trust made by Philip H. Gray on December 1, 1905, and September 7, 1921. The tract was conveyed for and in consideration of \$95,000!

In his last will and testament (February 4, 1922), E.A. Cummings bequeathed \$25,000 to the Chicago Title & Trust Company, as trustee, to be "expended as soon as practicable after my death, with the consent and approval of the Trustees (sic) of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois, for the beautification and improvement of the "Cummings Tract" located at the Northwest (N.W.) corner of Harlem Ave. and West Lake Street, River Forest, Illinois, or for the erection of some suitable improvement or building or memorial therein."

On February 18, 1924, the Board of F.P.D. commissioners approved the proposal and plans for a Edmund Augustus Cummings Memorial submitted by a "Committee of Ten" appointed by River Forest and Oak Park citiznes assembled in a mass meeting for that purpose. The structure was to be a band stand, of concrete faced with limestone masonry, having restrooms, toilets and a tool room beneath the stage. It was to be used for "concerts, tableaux, festivals, etc."

In spite of protests by another group of citizens, it was built as planned -- except for a wading pool in front of it -- and completed in 1925. The facilities beneath it proved to be so subject to vandalism and disorderly conduct, so superfluous, and so expensive to maintain, that they were discontinued and obliterated during the 1930's. Later, the hemispherical shell over the stage deteriorated and was removed also.

Prior to 1905 this tract had been used by the River Forest Golf Club. Then, when the River Forest Tennis Club was organized, E.A. Cummings granted them free use of the north half of it which they occupied until it was acquired by the F.P.D.

The nine tennis courts and the club house presently within the fenced enclosure at the northeast corner of Cummings Square are used exclusively and maintained by the Oak Park Tennis Club, a corporation. In accordance with an agreement approved by the Board of F.P.D. Commissioners on May 20, 1924, this corporation was granted permission, right and authority to construct, operate and maintain 12 tennis courts and a clubhouse on that property at their own expense but subject to several provisions. From time to time that eight-year agreement has been renewed.

The original owner of the land including parts of Forest Park, River Forest, and what is now Cummings Square, by a patent from the U.S. Government issued June 25, 1835, was John F. Stearns. Thru three subsequent owners -- Joel Parker, Reuben Whaples and George Croush -- it descended to John S. Quick on December 29, 1852. He founded a town called Harlem, including part of what is now Forest Park and including Quick's subdivision of the NE 1/4 of Section 12-39-12 -- now a part of River Forest. What is now Harlem Ave. was called Washington St.; Lake St. was Pennsylvania Ave.; Bonnie Brae was Park St.; and Quick Ave. was Madison St.

In 1888 the property descended to John H.S. Quick whose home still stands on the NW corner of Quick and Bonnie Brae. At one time it was sold for taxes and acquired by the famous Hetty Green of New York. In 1905 it descended to Philip H. Gray who conveyed it in trust to the River Forest Land Association with Edmund A. Cummings and Henry G. Foreman named as trustees.

DAM NO. ONE WOODS (DesPlaines). Unofficial. Originally part of Preserve No. 2. That portion north of the dam was officially named Pottawatomie Woods on March 24, 1924. However that name was rarely used and the area became commonly known as Dam No. 1, North. Later, the name Potawatomi Woods was applied to what had been designated as Mors Woods, north of Dundee Road.

Dam No. 1, completed in 1918, was the first of four similar structures built by F. P.D. employees using a rented concrete mixer and gravel from pits on our own property. Its total cost was about \$2100. The others were Dam No. 2, Dam No. 4 (north of Devon Ave. but since removed), and a dam across Salt Creek in Bemis Woods (since removed).

For some reason now obscure, Dam No. 3 got lost. Henry Grandt, now retired but one of our first employees, thinks that it was intended to be constructed across the DesPlaines River north of DesPlaines. Or it may have been recommended to be built, at the "South end of Thatcher Park", by Ransom Kennicott, Chief Forester, on June 23, 1919.

On January 6, 1919, in his annual message, president Peter Reinberg included: "Probably the most important...(improvement)...was the beginning of construction work on a series of combined dams and roadways in the DesPlaines River. One of these dams has been completed and the value of the improvement has been proved. These dams raise the water for a distance of five or six miles above them, making it suitable for boating, fishing and swimming.... The dams are built with a broad upper surface that provides a roadway across the river for autos, wagons and pedestrians excepting in time of flood water".

Actually, pedestrians used a footbridge installed on the crest of the dam each year before the picnic season. The roadway was a ford -- a broad flat concrete apron a few feet lower than the crest. It became a favorite place for fishermen and also for washing cars. Eventually the foot bridges and use of the fords were discontinued at all dams.

In a bound volume published by the District in 1921 -- The Forest Preserves of Cook County -- the Forestry Department section includes: "The two dams... (No. 1 and No. 2).... constructed in the DesPlaines River have proved so successful and have added so greatly to the attractiveness of the District that it has been proposed to add to their number until they are distributed across the chain of Preserves, making possible a canoe course from one end of the county to the other. These dams will be about six miles apart and each will back the water to the dam above, affording swimming, boating and fishing. As these dams provide not only usable water but also a footbridge and a novel ford for automobiles and other vehicular traffic at a cost of about \$5,000 each, they are economical as well as adding much to the general attractiveness of the Preserves".

Ransom E. Kennicott, then Chief Forester, who undoubtedly wrote those words and indeed most of that publication, did not anticipate the gross pollution of all our streams, which rendered then dangerously unfit for swimming and destroyed the fishlife.

However, that program has been revived to facilitate canoeing and boating -- uses which have increased greatly in recent years. Thru the efforts of a Clean Streams Committee and the Metropolitan Sanitary District of Chicago, pollution in the DesPlaines has been and is being reduced sufficiently to forecast the restoration of desirable fishlife in the DesPlaines.

Since 1940, with funds appropriated by the state legislautre for expenditure by the Illinois Division of Waterways, the crest of the Hoffman Dam at Lyons has been raised 18 inches and four low-flow dams have been constructed across the DesPlaines: south of Dempster St. and the C & N W R R, north of Touhy Ave, south of Devon Ave., and at Armitage Ave.

Four more such dams will be constructed when funds become available: north of Central Ave., at Hawthorn Lane in DesPlaines; south of Irving Park Blvd., and north of Madison St.

These low-flow dams, inundated during high water, are so located with respect to the gradient of the river bed that, even in drought periods, there will be a minimum of two feet of water at the toe of each dam and four feet at its crest. Each has an inclined rollway for passage of canoes and boats.

At Dam No. 1, until swimming was prohibited, there were -- on the east side of the river -- a bathhouse, concession stands, a merry-go-round, a pony ring, boats and canoes for rent, and electric lights for night uses.

DAM NO. 2 (DesPlaines). Unoffical. This dam cost more than Dam No. 1 and was not completed until 1919 because, during the preceeding winter, the easterly portion of it failed and had to be rebuilt.

On the east bank, until swimming had to be prohibited, there was a bathhouse, a chute-the-chute slide, concession stands, boats for rent, and electric lights. Also east of the river, south of the dam, there was a full-fledged amusement park with a Ferris wheel, merry-go-round, miniature railroad, etc., etc. A large timber footbridge spanned the river just below the dam. At the west end of it was a log cabin used as a headquarters and police station.

The original F.P.D. nursery was located here on the west side of the river, with other plantations on the west side of Milwaukee ave. east of the Dam No. 2 area.

DAM NO. 4 (Indian Boundary). Unofficial. Completed in 1921, the dam for which this area is named was removed in 1938. The location, with a steep high bank on the wooded east side of the river, was not favorable for swimming nor for amusement devices.

<u>DAN McMAHON WOODS</u> (Palos). Unofficial. Named for a long-time employee in the Palos division, a descendant of two of the early settlers in Palos Township, who formerly owned this property and resided there until his death.

DAN RYAN WOODS (Calumet). Official. Named for Daniel Ryan, Sr., member of the Board of Forest Preserve Commissioners from its organization on February 11, 1915, until his death in 1923; and president from 1921, when he was elected by the Board to complete the unexpired term of Peter Reinberg, until his death. Originally, on March 24, 1924, it had been named BEVERLY HILLS.

DEER GROVE (Northwestern). Official. On February 11, 1915, the Board of Commissioners of Cook County met for the first time as Ex-officio Members of the Board of Forest Preserve Commissioners. Commissioner William Busse moved that Commissioner Peter Reinberg, president of the County Board, be elected president, which motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

At their seventh meeting, on February 28, 1916, at the call of the president, Commissioner Busse moved that the president be authorized to appoint a

"Plan Committee" which "shall devise ways and means for the most expeditious, economical and practical method of acquiring the land, the purchase of which is desirable for the purposes of the District"; and that, in addition to the president acting as chairman, it should consist of four members of the Board and four citizens residing in the District.

The motion was adopted, whereupon president Reinberg appointed Commissioners Daniel Ryan, William Busse, Owen O'Malley, and George A. Miller; also Messrs. Charles H. Wacker (president of the Chicago Plan Commission), J.C. Vaughan (a grower of seeds and nursery stock and a leading horticuralist -- as was Reinberg), William A Peterson (proprietor of the Peterson Nurseries and a leading horticulturist), and Dwight H. Perkins (for many years an advocate of the preservation of the forests of Cook County and one of the originators of the Outer Belt Park System -- as it was originally conceived and proposed).

On April 26, 1916, three valuators -- whose duties were to appraise the lands recommended for purchase by the Plan Committee, and whose salaries were fixed at \$3000.00 per annum -- were appointed and one of them, Henry P. Kranz, became Real Estate Agent to serve without additional pay and negotiate with owners for the purchases of the properties.

The first report by the Plan Committee, cu June 26, 1916, recommended acquisition of approximately 1000 acres of wooded tracts in Palatine Township -- within boundaries indicated on an accompanying map which included 101 parcels and much of what is now the Deer Grove Preserve. Similar recommendations for acquisitions in other parts of the county were submitted at intervals and as rapidly as the committee could survey each area, assess its desirability, and determine what should be excluded as well as what should be included.

That committee did a remarkable job and an all-important job for many years. As soon as the Board was organized it began to receive offers of properties for sale, and recommendations or petitions -- from local or civic or nature loving groups and organizations -- that this or that area be acquired. All such offers and requests were referred to the Plan Committee. By and large, its recommendations prevailed. In 1927 it was superseded by the Advisory Committee of prominent citizens appointed by President Anton J. Cermak.

On July 17, 1916, the Board's Real Estate Committee (Commissioners O'Malley, Ryan, Kasperski, Busse and Miller) recommended that "for simplicity in accounting, the Palatine tract be carried on the books and records of the Board as Forest Preserve No. 1, and that the preserves hereafter selected be numbered in consecutive order". That was adopted and continued until 1918 when, the number having increased to 16, it was abandoned. Until then the expenditures to purchase lands, and for salaries, labor wages and "incidental expenses" within each numbered preserve, were carried as separate accounts.

On September 25, 1916, the District acquired title, from 16 owners, to 288.53 acres in Preserve No. 1 -- 42 parcels varying in size from 1.00 to 17.68 acres -- at an agreed price of \$70.00 per acre -- for a total of \$5,575.00. That was the

all-time low. Other tracts in this preserve were obtained at \$90 per acre, \$100 per acre, and more. In his annual message on January 7, 1918, President Reinberg reported that 942 acres in "Deer Grove Park" had been acquired for a total of \$103, 372.00.

Land owners got smart fast. On October 20, 1916, 19 owners -- most of them canny Germans -- submitted their woodlots in Elk Grove (now Busse Forest) for purchase at \$200 per acre. In Forest Preserve No. 2, south of Dundee Road at Wheeling, Henry Grandt and William Hamer asked and received \$175 per acre for their lands east of the DesPlaines river, and \$225 per acre for lands west of the river and fronting on Milwaukee Avenue. The Mors tract of 130 acres north of Dundee Road, now Potawatomi Woods, was purchased for \$192.50 per acre.

Forest Preserve Number One, "formerly Deer Grove Park", was formally dedicated on Saturday, June 16, 1917, under the auspices of the Board and the County Superintendent of Schools, at a Country Life Festival in which the children of the public schools and the citizens of Palatine, Elk Grove, Barrington, Wheeling and other townships participated. All county and forest preserve employees were granted a half-holiday to attend.

That was that. And this is a logical place to interpolate brief descriptions of the 16 numbered preserves, including areas recommended by the Plan Committee and as originally established in ordinances enacted by the Board.

- No. 1: Deer Grove
- No. 2: Both sides of the DesPlaines River from the Lake County Line south to Milwaukee Avenue.
- No. 3: Both sides of the DesPlaines River from North Avenue to Madison Street.
- No. 4: Palos Township and the adjacent portion of Lyons Township north of Archer Road.
- No. 5: Beverly Hills
- No. 6: Along North Branch of Chicago River from Crawford Ave. to Lake County line.
- No. 7: Both sides of Salt Creek from DuPage County line to DesPlaines River; also, along said river from that junction south to the Santa Fe Railroad.

- (N. E. -- the historic Chicago Portage was not included !!)
- No. 8: The Kittoe and other tracts. (N. B. -- comprising what is now Belleau Woods at DesPlaines).
- No. 9: The West 1/2 of the SW 1/4 of Sec. 14, and the East 1/2 of the SE 1/4 of Sec. 15, all in T41N, R13E, Niles Township.(N.B. -- This property, between Dempster St. and Church St. on both sides of Crawford Ave., included what is now the Timber Ridge section of the village of Skokie. Isolated, and too small an area, it should not have been recommended and was never purchasesd).
- No. 10: Both sides of Thorn Creek from the Will County line to the EJ&E RR.
- No. 11; Both sides of the DesPlaines River from Milwaukee Ave. to North Ave.
- No. 12: Elk Grove (N. B. -- now Busse Forest in the Ned Brown Preserves).
- No. 13; Approximately 300 acres in Lyons Township (the E 1/2 of the SE 1/4 of Sec. 20, and the W 1/2 of Sec. 21, T38N, R12E); (N.B. -- Now the Arie Crown Forest, formerly Cantigny Woods).
- No. 14: Both sides of Thorn Creek from Glenwood to Thornton, and eastward on both sides of Crab Creek (now called North Creek) in Bloom and Thornton Townships.
- No. 15: The Skokie Marsh and adjacent wooded lands.
- No. 16: Recommended by the Plan Committee for purchase on October 10, 1917, and approved by the Board, this is another small isolated tract that should not have been proposed and was not acquired. Located on the south side of Schaumberg Road about a mile west of Roselle Road, it comprised 50.66 wooded acres in the SE 1/4 of Sec. 21, Schaumberg Township, and was submitted at \$110.00 per acre by the owner, Walter Schween. On November 28, 1917, the District obtained an option, recorded on July 26, 1918, to purchase this tract, and on March 24, 1924 it was officially named Foreman (Henry G.) Woods by the Board, but for some reason the option was never exercised.

EDGEBROOK WOODS (North Branch). Unofficial but the accepted name ever since the property was acquired, because of its location in the community of that name. Edgebrook Golf Course, originally built with only 9 holes, was so-named for the same reason. Billy Caldwell Golf Course was originally known as Edgebrook No. 2.

EGGERS GROVE (Calumet). Unofficial. According to our real estate record, the major portion of this preserve -- "about 100 acres South of 112th St. lying west of State Line east of Rail Road and north of 116th St." -- was purchased from E.A. Egger (and associates, notably one Hausler) of 10200 Ave. L, South Chicago, Illinois, on March 22, 1919, at an agreed price of \$1000 per acre.

ELIZABETH A. CONKEY FOREST (Tinley Creek). Official. See foregoing list of "Names Officially adopted for Conglomerate Groups of Contiguous Holdings".

EVANS FIELD (Indian Boundary). Unofficial. When this tract was owned by John Esch (who also owned the property west of the river), it was leased by a man named Evans who fenced it and operated therein a "wild game farm" which included pheasants and deer. According to Albert E. Scharf's research and map (1901), this was the site of an Indian Village and chipping station. Originally, opposite Evans Field and a little east of Thatcher Road, there were five oval mounds, 3 or more feet high and from 18 to 40 feet apart. In 1868 they were opened by Robert Kennicot, the famous young naturalist and the first director of the Chicago Academy of Sciences. He found eleven skeletons of aborigines who died long before Columbus discovered America. The skulls, bones and artifacts collected were destroyed by the Chicago Fire in 1871.

FOREST GLEN WOODS (North Branch). Official. The name is derived from that of the adjacent community and of Forest Glen Avenue which is the south boundary of this picnic area. However, those names were probably suggested originally by the abrupt descent into the wooded valley of the North Branch of the Chicago River.

FORTY ACRE WOODS (Sag Valley). Unofficial. Selected by RM because this is a separate 40-acre tract: the NW 1/4 of the Nw 1/4 of Section 27, T37N, R12E, in Palos Township.

FULLERTON WOODS (Indian Boundary). Unofficial. Selected by RM because Fullerton Avenue is the north boundary of these areas east and west of First Ave.

G.A.R. WOODS (Indian Boundary). Official. Commemorating that organization of veterans of the Civil War: the Grand Army of the Republic. This area north of Washington Blvd., and Thomas Jefferson Woods south of it, were created when the District constructed and paved this street, including a concrete arch bridge across the DesPlaines River and an elaborate boulevard lighting system, from Thatcher Ave. to First Ave. These areas and the preserve west of the river were parts of the Steele Tract of 55.19 acres acquired in 1917 from the heirs of Geo. Steele for \$68,898.35. The portion west of the rive had been a tree nursery and most of the stock was removed by the Maywood Nursery Co.

GEORGE A. MILLER MEADOW (Salt Creek). Official. Named for a member of the board of Forest Preserve Commissions from February 11, 1915 until he retired in 1954. This is the preserve which the University of Illinois unseccessfully tried to obtain for its Chicago campus. It surrounds the F.P.D. Central Warehouse, Garage and Shop in buildings which were constructed for and operated by the Sanitary District of Chicago as an experimental sewage treatment plant. The designs of the Southwest Treatment Plant in Stickney and the activated sludge plant west of Evanston were based upon data obtained here.

The buildings, scheduled for demolition, and the property were acquired by the F.P.D. in 1934.

During the "Depression Years" most of Miller Meadow was utilized by "relief gardens", tended and harvested by familes on relief, to produce food for themselves and others.

Near Roosevelt Road is a boulder commemorating the fact that here is the site of the original Checkerboard Field established in 1919 by David L. Behncke of Forest Park. It was a "grasshopper field" with no landing or take-off strip.

From 1920 to 1923 it was leased by the U.S. Post Office Department for the first air mail flights from and to the Chicago region. After 1923 the Checkerboard Field was relocated on the Hines Hospital property west of First Ave. Contrary to a popular belief, it was from this later field that Charles Lindberg flew air mail planes to and from St. Louis; and not from the original field.

After 1923 the original field was occupied by Yackey Aircraft. In 1927 or 1928, Yackey was killed here when, flying a monoplane with a revolutionary wing design, one wing came off and he plunged 2000 feet to his death. David Behncke became a pilot on American and United Airlines and founded the Air Line Pilots Association.

GLENVIEW WOODS (Skokie). On March 24, 1924, the preserves along the North Branch of the Chicago River (including the Middle and the Skokie (East) Forks), from Winnetka Ave. to Glenview Road, were officially named MEMORIAL WOODS. Later, the picnic area now called GLENVIEW WOODS between Harms Road and the river, from Glenview Road to Lake Ave., was unofficially named GLENVIEW MEMORIAL WOODS to distinguish it from what was then known as Glenview Woods, just south of Glenview Road, which has been better named HARMS WOODS NORTH.

After World War I, the U.S. Army turned over a huge quantity of surplus tools, materials and equipment to the F.P.D. They were stored in a large frame warehouse, just north of Glenview Road, built for that purpose. Included were thousands of crates of axes, picks, pick mattocks, and handles for them; also saws, hammers, sledges, portable forges, grinders, lathes, and thousands of kegs of 90-penny and railroad spikes.

Eventually, all of the tools were used by F.P.D. personnel, by relief labor, and by CWA and WPA personnel. The machinery and the spikes were bartered for equipment needed in the shops in the Central Warehouse and Garage.

During CCC days (1934-1942) the area from Glenview Road to Lake Ave. was occupied by the barracks, offices, etcetera of the 10 CCC companies which constructed the Skokie Lagoons project and other improvements and facilities in our Skokie Division.

GLENWOOD WOODS (Thorn Creek). Unofficial. Selected by RM because these areas are within the village of Glenwood. They are part of what was designated, on March 24, 1924, as the Gurdon S. Hubbard Forest named for a pioneer citizen of Chicago who contributed much to its early history and growth.

Glenwood is located on the Old Hubbard (fur trading) Trail to Danville (Ill.), which was later extended to Vincennes, Indiana, with a connection to Shawneetown, Illinois on the Ohio River. Vincennes Ave. in Chicago and Blue Island; the Thornton-Blue Island Road; Vincennes Ave. from Thornton to Glenwood; and the Chicago - Heights - Glenwood Road; all follow the route of the Old Hubbard Trail. Eventually it was improved and known as State Road. In Crete (Will Co.) there is a milepost which marked that early highway.

HALSTED WOODS (Thorn Creek). Unofficial. Selected by RM because Halsted St. in Chicago Heights is the west boundary of this preserve located north of 10th Street.

HARMS WOODS (Skokie). Official. Now included in the GEORGE F. NIXON FOREST. On March 24, 1924, the preserves along the North Branch of the Chicago River, from Glenview Road to Church St., were officially named HARMS WCODS. The entrances to picnic areas in this preserve are on Harms Road. Originally, before the Edens Expressway was built, Harms Road ran catawampus and then northerly from the intersection of Lincoln Ave. and Grosse Point Road, just north of Main St. in the old German town of Niles Center - now part of Skokie.

Harms Road was named for Henry Harms who, altho he was not the first settler in Niles Township, is generally credited with being the founder of Niles Center. After coming to this country from Mecklenburg in 1831, and working on a farm near Chicago for three years, he moved to Niles Center and built a small frame house where the town hall now stands.

He was abuilder who, as a contractor, helped lay the foundations of the Cook County Courthouse. He ran a general store at Lincoln Ave. and Oakton St. until his brother-in-law, George C. Klehm, took it over. He held many public offices in the village and township, and owned the toll rights on Lincoln Ave. until about 1890. He was widely known as "Farmer Harms".

HICKORY HILLS WOODS (Palos). Unofficial. Formerly called Walnut Grove merely because the Walnut Hills Country Club was south of it. Renamed because it is now bordered on the east and south sides, by the Hickory Hills Golf Course. Opposite, on the north side of 95th St. is the Village of Hickory Hills.

<u>HIDDEN POND WOODS</u> (Palos). Unofficial. Selected by RM because it is featured by a pond hidden from view of traffic on Kean Ave. and on U.S. 45. Originally this was a farm pond for watering livestock and poultry, created by damming the ravine.

HOFMANN TOWER and HOFMANN DAM (Salt Creek). Unofficial. Commonly mispelled "Hoffman", as on our Salt Creek Division folding map. Named, by the public, for George Hofmann who built these monolithic, reinforced concrete structures.

For many years Mr. Hofman had adamantly refused to sell them and the adjoining property or even listen to proposals. He died on March 18, 1942. In 1946 the F.P.D. acquired them, by condemnation proceedings and for \$31,525, from his heirs. Included were 6.791 acres of land, 3,803 acres of water, the dam across the DesPlaines River, the retaining walls and boat dock, the famous tower, and the adjoining picnic area.

Probably in the 1840's or early 50's, three Hofmann brothers -- George, John and Valentine -- emigrated from Germany to America (see BUSSE FOREST) and finally settled in Chicago near Western Ave. Before the Civil War, John and Valentine had removed to Lyons -- one of the oldest and most important communities west of Chicago, altho the Village of Lyons was not incorporated as such until 1888. Both acquired considerable property. Valentine became the proprietor of a tavern and picnic grove at what is now Mangam's Chateau.

George remained in Chicago, but he acquired Leonhardt's tavern in Lyons -formerly the famous Doty's tavern (see PLANK ROAD MEADOW) -- and the
triangle between Ogden Ave., Barry Point Road -- now a remnant of the first
improved road in Cook County -- and Joliet Avenue. There he operated a "horse
yard" where, during the Civil War, horses and mules were bought and sold
to the Union army. In Chicago he built and operated the Hofmann Brewery.

His son, George Jr., inherited that tavern, the triangle, and the brewery which, after repeal of the Prohibition Amendment, was sold to the Peter Fox Brewing Company. He acquired the Valentine tavern and picnic grove; also other property including the sites of the tower and the dam which he constructed about 1908.

Various theories of what was George Hofmann's purpose in building those monumental structures have been advanced. One was that electric power would be generated and sold. Most probable is the reason confided to this compiler by an old acquaintance of Mr. Hofmann: that he intended to provide a vacation resort for underprivileged children in Chicago and other cities.

They would be housed and fed in what is now the Chateau and in adjacent buildings. They would be taken on scenic boatrides up the Des Plaines River, and he purchased 11 launches for that purpose. The triangle was cleared, sodded, a high iron fence enclosed it, an underpass to it from the basement of the tower was constructed beneath Barry Point Road, as a place for games, evening concerts, etcetera.

Altho, for a time, the tower was festooned with electric lights and the public enjoyed boat rides on the river. Mr. Hofmann became so discourage by sewage pollution in the river, and excessive silting above the dam, that the entire project was abandoned.

About 1950, the crest of the dam was raised 18 inches, with funds allocated to the Illinois Division of Waterways by the state legislature, so that water would be backed up to the low-flow dam to be constructed south of Madison St. (see DAM NC. ONE).

Meanwhile, with its doors and windows boarded shut, because it is too dangerous for public use, the rugged old tower stands empty and alone.

"The best laid schemes o' mice an' men

Gang aft a - gley".

INDIAN HILL WOODS (Thorn Creek). Unofficial. Selected by RM because, according to local tradition, this was the site of an Indian village. A favorite place for sledding and sliding in winter.

INDIAN ROAD WOODS (North Branch). Unofficial. Selected by RM because its westerly boundary is Indian Road, which is also the westerly boundary of the Billy Caldwell Reserve. (See Caldwell Woods).

IROQUOIS WOODS (DesPlaines). Unofficial. Selected by RM for no pertinent reason other than that it is an Indian name - the name of the great and powerful confederation of six warlike eastern nations: the Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga, Seneca and, after 1722, the Tuscarora. Further, this region was visited at various and many times by war parties of Iroquois who came thru the Great Lakes in their big war canoes to harass, massacre and capture the Illini, Miami, Potawatomi and other Indians with villages along the Illinois river and its tributaries as far as Peoria.

THOMAS JEFFERSON WOODS (Indian Boundary). Official. This portion of the Steele Tract - See G. A. R. Woods - was so named by a resolution presented on June 21, 1926, by president Anton J. Cermak and adopted by the Board. The purpose was to honor Thomas Jefferson on July 4, 1926 - the 100th anniversary of his death and the 150th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the birth of our nation.

JOE ORR WOODS (Thorn Creek). Unofficial. Selected because this area is located between Joe Orr Road and Thorn Creek. Joe Orr was a prominent citizen of Chicago Heights and owner of the Chicago Heights Coal Company which contracted to build and pave state, county, city and village highways and streets.

JURGENSEN WOODS (Previously misspelled as "Jurgenson") (Thorn Creek). Unofficial. Designated a Nature Reserve in 1964. It includes the first purchase of "certain tracts of land along Crab Creek" (now called North Creek) in Section 2, T35 N, R14E, in Bloom Township: 194,876 acres acquired from Peter Jurgensen et al for \$200 per acre in 1913. The remainder was acquired in 1925 from Fred C. Jurgensen and from Peter Jurgensen et al for \$400 per acre. Hence the name.

This preserve contains acres of blueberries, many uncommon herbaceous plants, sour gum and sassafras trees, a woodland with big deciduous trees, and an early F.P.D. plantation of jack pines.

KICKAPOO MEADOW (or WOODS) (Calumet). Unofficial. Selected by RM as an appropriate Indian name. The Kickapoo Indians are prominent in the history of the Northwest Territory and of Illinois. Prior to 1713, having been driven out of western Wisconsin by the Sioux, they had villages along the Rock River and in the vicinity of Chicago. Finally they and the Wascoutin, to whom they were related and allied, established themselves in the vast territory - largely prairies but well watered - between the Illinois and Wabash rivers, south of the Kankakee and nearly as far as Vincennes. To do so they drove out the Piankeshaw, a Miami band. (See Miami Woods).

One of their most populous villages and an extensive burial ground was about four miles west of Danville - now commemorated by Kickapoo State Park. Another was in McLean Co. (Illinois), and they had others along the Embarrass and Kaskaskia rivers. This warlike tribe early became enemies of the French and, later, of the Americans. They sided with the British during the War of 1812. They joined Tecumseh and his brother, the Prophet, to fight against the U.S. Troops in the Battle of Tippecanoe.

LABAGH WCODS (North Branch).. Official. Formerly known as Snell's Woods because in 1922, the FPD purchased the NW 1/4 of Section 10, T40N, R13E, 160 Acres, from the estate of the former owner - a man named Snell for \$359,000.00. Reputedly, he had operated a tollgate on the Northwestern Plank Road constructed in 1849 and 1850 from Chicago to Wheeling on what is now Milwaukee Avenue. Snell's Woods was that portion of the quarter-section south of the North Branch of the Chicago River, north of Foster Avenue, between Cicero Ave. and what would be Kostner Ave. if extended.

This preserve, heavily used as a picnic center, was officially renamed LABAGH WOODS by the Board, in 1940, honoring Mrs. Ella Labagh: a long time resident of Chicago, a prominent member of the Irving Park Women's Club, and a stalwart worker in the movement to establish a forest preserve district in Cook County.

LA FRAMBOISE WOODS (Indian Boundary). Official. The name applied, now, only to the small wooded tract, in River Grove, between Grand Ave. and the Milwaukee Railroad, east of the DesPlaines River and west of the Indian Boundary Line which, running diagonally southwest, intersects Grand Ave. at a point just east of that river.

Originally - on March 24, 1924 - the Board adopted "La Frambois Woods. Grand Avenue to North Avenue on the Desplaines River." Also: "Che-Che-Pinqua. Robinson Indian Reservation. Higgins Road to Grand Avenue, Desplaines River valley."

The Board erred in naming the preserves from Grand Ave. to North Ave. to Higgins Road for Robinson. Its purpose at that time was to commemorate grants made by the terms of the Treaty at Prairie du Chien in 1829 (See ROBINSON RESERVE), including:

"To Claude La Framboise, one section of land on the Rivere Aux Plaines adjoining the line of purchase of 1816."

As established by early surveyors, the north boundary of this reserve, and the south boundary of the Robinson Reserve was at a half-section line which would be Addison Street if extended. The southerly and easterly boundary was the Indian Boundary Line - "The line of purchase of 1816". The west boundary was at a section line which is Rose St. in Franklin Park and 25th Ave. in Melrose Park. The short east boundary from Belmont Ave. to addison street was not at what is now Cumberland Avenue, a half-section line, but for some reason was at what is now Pontiac Avenue, a short block east of Cumberland.

That portion of the La Framboise Reserve between the Milwaukee Railroad and Belmont Avenue, east of the river, is now occupied by St. Joseph's Cemetery. From Forest Preserve Drive to Addison Street it is occupied by our Indian Boundary Golf Course.

LA GRANGE PARK WOODS (Salt Creek). Unofficial. Selected by RIM because it lies within the village limits of LaGrange Park.

LAKE AVENUE WOODS (DesPlaines). Unofficial. Selected by RM because the two picnic areas - west and east of the river - are located on the north side of Lake Avenue, which is called Euclid Avenue west of River Road (US 45). This is the central portion of what was officially designated as Portage Grove on March 24, 1924. See Allison Woods.

<u>LANSING WOODS</u> (Thorn Creek). Unofficial. Selected by RM because its north boundary, 183rd Street, is the south boundary of the village of Lansing.

<u>LAUGHTON TRADING POST AND FORD</u> (Ottawa Trail Woods in the Salt Creek Division). The following account was published in our Nature Bulletin No. 696, issued December 1, 1962:

In 1827, David and Bernardus (Barney) Laughton built a tavern in what is now Riverside. It was located north the present bridge between that village and Lyons, on the Barry Point trail from Chicago. A short distance downstream is a limestone ledge and shallow ford where that trail, and two important Potawatomi trails, crossed the DesPlaines River.

The Laughtons were far-sighted business men. They had been Indian traders at Hardscrabble, or Lee's Place, on the South Branch of the Chicago River near Damen Avenue. That was the head of navigation on the river and the eastern end of the Chicago Portage route. Later it became the eastern terminus of the Illinois and whichigan Canal, and eventually the Sanitary and Ship Canal.

But the Potawatomi trade at Hardscrabble was dwindling; it would be better at Riverside. The fur trade was dwindling. The propsed canal from there to Ottawa would end the travel in canoes or boats by fur traders, explorers, missionaries, or anyone using the Chicago Portage route to the Illinois and Mississippi valleys. Further, with the growth of white settlements along the Illinois River and westward from Chicago, overland travel was increasing rapidly.

So the Laughtons moved to Riverside and, in 1830, purchased the quarter section upon which their tavern stood. Barry Point trail became part of the first country road built in Cook County and Laughton Tavern, in 1834, was a stop-over on the first stage coach line westward from Chicago,

Meanwhile they had established a trading post on another much-travelled overland route: the old Portage Trail which began at Hardscrabble and paralleled the water route thru Mud Lake on high ground north of it. Laughton's trading post was just east of where that trail forded the DesPlaines River and then angled southwesterly to join what is now U.S. 66, an old Indian trail and overland route to Joliet, Ottawa, and the Illinois valley. The ford was about a half-mile north of where Portage Creek entered the river and a mile south of Riverside.

In those days the DesPlaines curved easterly until, near Harlem Avenue, it made a hairpin turn and flowed southwest down the valley. There was also a cut-off channel thru what is now Cahterine Mitchell Lagoon, and a large island between it and the main channel. The Portage Trail or Laughton Ford was just north of that island. The old channel, the ford, and the island were obliterated when, in order to construct the Sanitary Canal, the river was straightened and a levee built to prevent it from overflowing eastward.

Mud Lake was a long swamp with two shallow channels emptying easterly into the South Branch and westerly, on the other side of a low continental divide, into the DesPlaines. Sometimes, when it became nearly dry, a portage of seven miles, from Hardscrabble to Portage Creek, was necessary. During long drouths the DesPlaines became so shallow between a succession of pools that portages of 25 miles to Cache Island at Romeo, or 50 to the mouth of Kankakee, or almost 100 miles to Starved Rock, had to be made. Consequently, the Portage Trail was intensively travelled but eventually -- after the I & M Canal was completed, Archer Avenue was built, and the Southwest Plank Road was laid on Ogden Avenue -- it disappeared.

The 1 ocations of "Lawton's trading House" and the ford were defined in an 1332 report by a U.S. engineer and shown on a later map. There we found a rectangular depression -- apparently an old cellar. It is in Ottawa Trail Woods, two blocks north of the 47th Street entrance and 400 feet west of the drive thru that forest preserve. At each corner there is a low masonry wall. In the center is a boulder commemorating that historic site.

LINNE WOODS (North Branch). Official. Formerly known also as Wayside-Inn, the name of an enclosed dancing pavilion and tavern on this property. The following information was published in our Nature Bulletin No. 383, issued May 22, 1954:

Linne Woods, the forst preserve along the north Branch of the Chicago River north of Dempster Street in Morton Grove, is named in honor of Carl Linne, born on May 23, 1707, in Rashault, a village in the southernmost part of Sweden. He became a scientist so great that he is called the "Father of Systematic Botany" and his Latin name, Linnaeus, is known and used by all botanists and zoologists. The 200th anniversary of his birth was observed throughout the world as a red-letter day in the history of human culture.

Last year, too, was noteworthy because in 1753 he published his monumental work, Species Plantarum, which named, described and classified all the plant species then known to exist and by a system universally used today. In this system, each plant and each animal is assigned a name consisting of two words, Latin or Latin in form: the first being the name of the genus or related kinds; the second being the name of the species, which produces offspring having the same distinctive characteristics. This eliminates the confusion created by the use of different common names in various localities for a certain species, or the same common name for species that are different. The tree most commonly known as the hackberry, is called sugarberry in six states, nettle tree in three, and is variously known as hoop ash, juniper tree, and bastard elm in other states, but it has only one scientific name: Celtis occidentalis.

Any encyclopedia contains an outline of the life of Linnaeus. The eldest son of the pastor of a little church and intended to be a clergyman, he rose to become the royal physician, was made a noble with the name von Linne, was a member of the most learned academies and societies of Europe, and became world famous as Sweden's greatest scientist and writer. As a university professor of medicine and botany, every year he sent pupils on research expeditions, including Captain Cook's voyage of discovery, and from them received rare or previously unknown plants from every land.

Small of stature, slightly stooped, with beautiful brown eyes, Linnaeus had all the usual human failings but he had an absorbing love of nature, an extraordinary capacity for observing natural objects, and a passion for naming and classifying everything he saw. When only 26, he planned his life's work and made a long list of scientific works which he proposed to write. He was a prodigious worker, rapidly completing and publishing one huge volume after another. His Systema Natura, a vast catalog of all the plant and animal species then known to him, was published in 1735, followed by several epoch-making works, while Linnaeus was getting his medical degree in Holland.

After returning to Sweden in 1733, already famous, he was finally made professor of medicine and natural history at the University of Upsala, where he remained for the rest of his life. His descriptions of his journeys thru Lappland and the Swedish provinces are considered some of the finest writing in Swedish literature. He died in 1778 and was entombed in the Upsala Cathedral.

Until his time, the names of plants were largely derived from monastery gardens, or chosen in honor of some botanist -- a jumbled, incoherent mess. His first two-name system of classification was based on the sexual characteristics of the flowers of plants but he later perfected the better natural system which is used today. He was not so successful with his classification of the animal kingdom but many of the names he proposed are still used. That this radical reform was accomplished at one stroke by an unknown young man with only a few short years of inadequate scientific training is evidence of his great genius.

LIONS WOODS (DesPlaines). Unofficial. So-called because this area had been allocated to and used by the Lions Club of DesPlaines. Surmounting each gatepost at the entrance is a lion's head.

MAPLE LAKE WOODS (Palos). Unofficial. This area would be more properly called "Maple Hill Woods". At least in the 1920's, from Archer Avenue southward it was commonly known as Maple Hill because of the abundance of sugar maples and their gorgeous autumn foliage.

In 1924, in conjunction with the Cook County Highway Department, which was constructing and paving 95th Street from a Y intersection at Archer Avenue up the hill and eastward, the Forest Preserve District contracted for the construction of a dam across the deep narrow ravine which was the outlet for the 50 acres of lowland south of 95th Street east of Wolf Road, and now submerged by what was appropriately named Maple Lake. The dam, with its overflow spillway, was built by Jaicks Brothers, contractors, at a total cost of \$18,426.86.

Until about 1939, when it was discontineed for reasons pertaining to public health, swimming was an exceedingly popular pastime on the south shore near the west end of Maple Lake, and there were a bathhouse, toilets and concession stands to accomodate the public. With little fishing, the lake had become overpopulated with goldfish, carp, and millions of stunted bluegills. A scientific fish management program was instituted, including rowboats for rental to fishermen.

At what is now designated Maple Lake Woods (West), there was a log cabin dedicated September 26, 1926 - built by the F.P.D. for and used by the Forges Post of the American Legion. Several hundred feet west, in a clearing, there was a much larger log building - the 40 and 8 Chalet - built for and used by that organization of veterans who served in France with the A.E.F. during World War I. Eventually, both log structures were destroyed by fires.

MAYWOOD GROVE (or WOODS) (Indian Boundary). Unofficial. Selected by RM because, at that time, DesPlaines Avenue (north of Lake St.) was a township road and the east boundary of Maywood. The area east of that road, then unincorporated, has been annexed by Maywood whose east boundary now is the river. The concrete "mushroom" picnic shelter was experimental and is the only one of its type.

MC CLAUGHREY SPRING WOODS (formerly misspelled McClaughry)(Sag Forest). Unofficial. The name was chosen and urged by old residents of the vicinity. Matthew McClaughrey came to Cook Co. in 1834 and settled on a farm in Palos Township in 1844. On February 16, 1857, his son -Richard S. McClaughrey, later a cook County Commissioner - purchased the SE 1/4 of Section 22-37-12, including this area, from Philo R. Haven who obtained it from Nathan Bolles who obtained it from the U.S. Government by a patent issued October 1,1839. Eventually it descended to Patrick Caraher from whom it was obtained by the F. P.D. on October 16, 1923, by condemnation after prolonged litigation. In the first trial of the condemnation suit against Caraher, a jury awarded him \$159,000.00 - a verdict which was set aside by the Supreme Court on an appeal taken by the District. When the condemnation suit was tried a second time the jury could not agree on a verdict. During the third trial Caraher, thru his attorneys, offered to accept \$325.00 per acre for the land including improvements valued at about \$25,000. The offer was accepted by the District and the deal closed as directed by the Board on September 24, 1923. Caraher received \$127,962.25 for 393.73 acres of land and the improvements.

In its reversal of the verdict awarded by the first jury, the Supreme held that the land could not be considered as real property and the trees upon it as a separate commodity: That the land, with its trees, must be considered as a unit in awarding compensation.

Originally there was a fine spring at the foot of the sandy ("groundhog") clay cliff on the west side of the creek at this location, accessible by a footbridge across the stream. During "Prohibition" and after, as at the spring in the ravine at Swallow Cliff Woods, hundreds of people came here to fill jugs with this water for making home-brew. Unfortunately, the flow decreased and finally ceased after the dynamiting used in widening the Calumet - Sag Canal. The following information about such springs was included in our Nature Bulletin No. 618: Springs -- cold, clear springs bubbling from hillsides or welling up from secret depths -- played an important part in the settlement of these United States from the Blue Ridge mountains of Virginia and the Great Smokies in Tennessee to the Ozarks of Illinois, Missouri and Arkansas. Always more plentiful in mountainous and hilly country, they were much more numerous and vigorous in those days before the great forests were cut over or destroyed. Then, most of the rainfall was retained and sank into the ground. Springs are fed by ground water.

Here in Cook County the village of Willow Springs got its name from the fact that there used to be a fine spring, with a hugh willow beside it, downhill from Archer Avenue and near the old I & M Canal. What used to be the largest spring in the Chicago region -- Mammoth Springs -- is on Spring Road just west of Salt Creek and south of Roosevelt Road in DuPage County. Its flow is now a mere trickle but Elmhurst, three miles north, secured its entire water supply from this spring, thru a wooden pipeline, until the population exceeded 5,000.

Most of the springs in Chicagoland are, or were, in stream valleys: generally in outcrops of gravel, sand, or very sandy clay; altho some issue at the base of limestone cliffs and quarry walls. Those at Carlson Spring Woods, Potawatomi Woods and Black Partridge Woods are still flowing altho three of six in the latter preserve become mere seeps during drouths. There is a fine one along the Bluff Road leading to it. Those at McClaughrey Spring Woods and Swallow Cliff Woods have ceased to flow, possibly due to the heavy use of explosives when the Calumet-Sag Canal was widened.

MCCormick (daughter of old John D.) who donated to the Forest Preserve District the property now occupied by the Chicago Zoological Park - commonly known as Brookfield Zoo - with the stipulation that it be used for that purpose. Most of this property, south of 31st Street to the old West Towns Street Railway, and from Forbes Road (now First Avenue) to Prairie Avenue west of Salt Creek, had been a subdivision with winding streets: part of the McCormick Addition to Hollywood. Its water supply was furnished by a 4-inch cast-iron pipe extending northeasterly across the DesPlaines River (and exposed on its bed) to a main in North Riverside.

In the 1930's, until the Zoo installed its own deep well and we likewise drilled a well, the McCormick Woods picnic area was dependent upon a drinking fountain connected to that measly 4-inch line. At the north end of McCormick Woods was a huge frame structure - a dormitory with a mess hall and recreation facilities - occupied by Hull House (The Jane Addams settlement house in Chicago) as a rest home for young women. Later, until it was destroyed by fire, this was occupied by the Cornwall Post of the American Legion.

MC MAHON WOODS (Palos). See Dam McMahon Woods.

MIAMI WOODS (North Branch). Official. The preserves along the North Branch of the Chicago River from Dempster Street to Touhy Avenue were officially designated as MIAMMI WOODS by the Board on March 24, 1924. However, in 1964, the preserves from Dempster Street to Oakton Street were officially redesignated as the FRANK BOBRYTZKE FOREST. It includes St. Paul Woods and Miami Woods (East and West).

Miami is the anglicized name of a confederation of Indians, a closely knit "family" including four principal bands: the Miami, the Eel-River, the Wea, and the Pankeshaw. (Note: As a rule, ethnologists do not pluralize Indian names - they do not speak of "Miamies", "Weas", "Potawatomies", "Chippewas", or "Kickapoos" - and that rule is observed in this publication).

The Wea band is known to have had a village at Chicago in 1718, but only for a short period because of their fear of the Chippewa and Potawatomi. The following information is abstructed from "The Illinois and Indiana Indians", by Hiram W. Beckwith, published in 1884:

The Miami once lived west of the Mississippi. From there they migrated northward, thence eastward, thence southward and eastward thru Wisconsin and northern Illinois into northern Indiana and northwestern Ohio. Apparently they were or became a branch of the great Illini confederacy. They were known to the Iroquois and hence the British as the "Twigh-twees" for some reason. Their great capital was at Ft. Wayne.

In 1684 there were populous villages including 1300 Miami, 500 Wea and 150 Piankeshaw in company with the Illini at and around what is now Utica, near the fort and trading post of LaSalle and Tonti at Starved Rock, Illinois. At one time, until the Piankeshaw were driven out by the Kickapoo (See Kickapoo Meadow), the country of the Miami confederation extended westward to the watershed between the Wabash and Illinois rivers - west of that were their kinsmen, the Illini - and southward to Vincennes.

By the terms of the Treaty of Greenville, and subsequent treaties, they ceded or sold their territories to the Americans and, debauched and demoralized, removed across the Mississippi from whence they had come, two centuries earlier.

MIDLOTHIAN MEADOW (Tinley Creek). Unofficial. Chosen by Mr. Sauers because it is flat, virtually treeless, and adjacent to the Village of Midlothian. This large triangular tract - north of 159th Street (US 6) and west of Crawford Ave. - was farmed for many years by the Oak Forest Hospital, a Cook County institution.

MILLER MEADOW (Salt Creek). See George A. Miller Meadow.

NATIONAL WOODS (Salt Creek). Unofficial. The origin or significane of the name is unknown now, but when the F.P.D. acquired the property bordering on 30th Street it had been commercially operated as a recreation area called National Park. (See below).

The first purchase in this preserve was "thirty acres of forest land, known as Reissig Grove on the east bank of the DesPlaines River". It had been recommended by Dwight H. Perkins in a communication to the Board on November 3, 1916. This tract was known for many years as "the Riverside Groves": Nos. 1, 2 and 3. On it were two dance pavilions with bars, concession stands, etc; also, west of the Scottish Old People's Home, a large frame house occupied by David McHale, supervisor of this and neighboring preserves.

On June 22, 1925, Dave McHale reported to the Board that he was "in complete possession of National Park at Riverside". Actually, the preserves between 31st Street and 26th street are in North Riverside. Subsequently, this entire preserve became known as National Grove - now renamed National Woods.

NIXON FOREST (Skokie). Officially named GEORGE F. NIXON WOODS for a member of the Board of Forest Preserve Commissioners from 1939 to 1954. It includes Harms Woods.

NORTH CREEK MEADOW (Thorn Creek). Unofficial. So named because North Creek, originally called Crab Creek, flows thru this tract - flat as a pancake - which was formerly the Lansing Airport Golf Course.

NORTHWESTERN PARK WOODS (DesPlaines). Unofficial. Known as Northwestern Park when and long before we bought it. Adjacent to and south of the C&NW Railroad, it had been a popular place for large gatherings of people hauled to and from it by that railroad. There is an underpass which provided access to the north (eastbound) track - this being a "left-handed" railroad similar to those in England and unique in America.

When we acquired the tract from R.F. Schenck on April 24, 1917, it included a gallimaufry of frame buildings - a huge dance pavilion, bar and concession stands, etcetera - and a tremendous hackberry tree. On it, near the river, the city of DesPlaines had a deep well, pump house and elevated tank.

This is one of several areas similarly equipped, which, during the horse-and-buggy days and for several years after we acquired them, were heavily used in summers by political, ethnic, religious and commercial or industrial picnics. Many of them were huge annual "outings" conducted primarily to make money which financed other activities. In the same category were: Linne Woods (Wayside Inn) and St. Paul Woods at Morton Grove, served by the Milwaukee Railroad; Schiller Woods, served by the Soo Line; Schuth's Woods and National Woods, served by the West Towns Street Railway; McBride's Grove (now White Eagle Woods); Leafy Grove (long gone) on Archer Ave. near Kean Ave.; and Calumet Woods near Blue Island.

In each of them we inherited not only a lot of flimsy frame structures difficult and expensive to maintain, but also a demand for a type of use foreign to the purpose and ethics of the forest preserves. They attracted and, indeed, were fitted only for picnics devoted usually to dancing, games, drinking and gambling; picnics where few went into the surrounding preserve beyond the nearest privy. It took courage to progressively remove those structures, replace them with more appropriate facilities, and thus change the pattern of use.

OAK FOREST WOODS (Tinley Creek). So named because of its proximity to the Oak Forest Hospital which, in turn, was so named for the predominately oak forest in the adjacent St. Mihiel Preserve.

OTTAWA TRAIL WOODS (Salt Creek). Unofficial. Incidentally, it was a query by Dick Buck, our chief landscape architect, about the origin and fitness of that name that prompted the undertaking of this publication. It was chosen by RM because this preserve includes (and see) the Laughton Trading Post and the Laughton Ford located on the old Portage Trail from Chicago to Ottawa. It should have been named Portage Trail Woods.

Originally this was known as McBride's woods and much of it had been fenced as a pasture for sore-footed draft horses from Chicago. Originally, and as late as 1935, it contained many huge white, red and black oaks but pasturing, frequent fires, five years of severe drouths (1932-36), and old age, caused most of them to die.

The clearing north of the woodland, now bisected by US 66, was known as McBride's Grove. South of 40th Street, now part of White Eagle Woods, there was a large open dancing pavilion.

PADDOCK WOODS (Sag Forest). Unofficial. Located on 86th Ave., this was formerly and carelessly named 86th Ave. Woods. A Type B (masonry) shelter was constructed there by the CCC. That shelter was destroyed by fire. At the behest of old residents in Palos Township, this picnic area was renamed PADDOCK WOODS. The tract was acquired in 1917 from Margaret Betymann. In 1889 it was acquired by George Betzemann from the unpopular Patrick Caraher.

A.T. Andreas, in his History of Cook County (published in 1884), relates that the Paddock's were the first family of white settlers in what is now Palos Township. He was followed by Schuyler Brown and two young men who married Paddock girls: John McCord and Samuel Mahaffay. Old-timers claim that Mill Creek - which originates at McGinnis Slough and flows thru the village of Palos Park and McClaughrey Spring Woods to discharge into the Calumet-Sag Canal east of US 45 - should be called Paddock Creek. "Anyhow", they snort, "there never was no mill on it!"

PALOS PARK WOODS (Sag Forest). Unofficial. Chosen by RM because of its proximity to that village and because it surrounds the Palos Park School on the north side of 119th Street. This area might, logically, have been named Caraher Woods - we acquired the property from Patrick Caraher - but that was opposed by old-timers - many of them Irish - who contended that the Carahers had been sufficiently and unduly honored by the monument at the intersection of Kean Ave. and 119th Street.

For many years there was a building just south of where Route 83 is now located, west of 86th Ave., occupied by the Irish-American Club. It was destroyed by fire.

PAW PAW WOODS (Palos). Unofficial. Designated a Nature Preserve in 1964. Chosen by RM because here, alongside Archer Ave., are several pawpaw (or papaw) trees - the most northern occurence of this species in Illinois, altho they grow in southern Michigan and southern Ontario. There are also a few in Black Partridge Woods, a few in the Tinley Creek valley west of Harlem Ave., and a lot of them in Pilcher Park east of Joliet. Our pawpaws bloom in some years - they have a six-petal brownish-maroon flower - but never bear the nature fruit jocularly known as the "Hoosier banana".

This woodland is also notable for its wildflowers, spicebush, and two other southern species of trees: some shingle oaks and one big chinquapin.

PERKINS WOODS (Skokie). Officially named <u>DWIGHT H. PERKINS WOODS</u>. In Section 3 of a report by the Plan Committee submitted to and adopted by the Board on April 2, 1917, there was an ill-advised recommendation that two wooded areas in the City of Evanston - both of them small and isolated - be purchased. Only one was acquired: a block bounded by Colfax Street, Grant Street, Bennett Ave. and Ewing Ave., in northwestern Evanston, separated by a small park from the Lincolnwood School.

Dwight H. Perkins, for whom the area was named, was a distinguished citizen and landscape architect who had been one of the originators of the Outer Belt Park System idea and a prime mover in the establishment of the Forest Preserve District. He was one of four citizen members of the Plan Committee appointed by Peter Reinberg on February 28, 1916. (See DEER GROVE)

Section 4 of that report, submitted and adopted on April 2, 1917, recommended purchase of the 80-acre tract (Wilson's Deer Grove Park) east of Quintens Road and adjacent to Preserve No. 1 (now Deer Grove). See CAMP REINBERG. Sections 1 and 2, however, were momentous. They had far-reaching effects upon the nature and extent of subsequent acquisitions.

Section 1 presented a resolution: "RESOLVED, That we, the members of the Plan Committee of the Forest Preserve District, favor the purchase wherever practicable of land on both sides of streams located along the borders of forest preserves, so that the Forest Preserve District Commissioners may have such control of streams and sewage disposal as would belong to the owners of land along such streams".

Section 2 presented another resolution: RESOLVED, That we, the members of the Plan Committee of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, favor the purchase of forest lands bordering upon the Skokie as well as certain portions of said Skokie which are marshes, provided the same can be bought at prices which are reasonable in the judgement of the Forest Preserve Real Estate Committee; and, provided further, that the report of the Attorneys shows that such action can be taken legally".

Eventually, some of those tracts were acquired by condemnation, after prolonged litigation decided by the Supreme Court of Illinois, and at prices which would have horrified the members of that Plan Committee.

PIONEER WOODS (Palos). Unofficial. Chosen by RM because, on the brow of the hill overlooking Sag Valley, there was a log house known as the Shea Cabin. When we acquired the tract from the Flannery estate in 1919, it was the only improvement listed. An abstract of title is not available but it seems likely that the cabin was built by and/or occupied by John D. Shea who was Clerk of Palos Township (1871-73) and also Assessor (1873-74). The cabin was burned by vandals during the 1940's.

Our abstracts of property acquired in the Palos region abound with Irish names of original and former owners, some of whom acquired the land by patent from the United State Government. That also obtains in and near the valleys of the lower DesPlaines and the Illinois rivers as far as Ottawa. Many of those original owners paid for the land with "land script" issued by the Canal Commission in payment for work performed upon the Illinois and Michigan Canal. In the cemetery of St. James Church, founded in 1337 on the headland above Archer Ave. and 107th Street - the site of an Indian village, lookout and signal station - there are many headstones bearing Irish names.

Further: before, during and after the 1840's, many hundreds of thousands of people emigrated from Ireland to America because of gross overpopulation, oppressive taxes and English landlords, poverty and famines. Year after year, a blight had destroyed their principal food crop: potatoes, known to this day as "spuds" or "murphies".

Thousands came to Chicago by cheap water transportation: up the Hudson to Albany, on the newly completed Erie Canal to Buffalo, and thru the Great Lakes. Many found work on the I & M Canal being constructed by the State of Illinois to provide a navigable waterway from Lake Wichigan to the head of navigation on the Illinois River at Peru-LaSalle.

On July 4, 1836, with a great celebration at Canal Port (Chicago) the first spadeful of earth was dug. The canal was constructed with Irish muscle - hand labor supplemented by teams of horses and mules. Due to floods, labor scarcity, and the panic of 1837, little progress was made before work was abandoned in 1842. The State of Illinois had gone broke - bankrupt. Construction was resumed in 1845 and the canal - 96 miles long from Bridgeport to Peru-LaSalle - was completed in 1848. In 1830 there were only 1310 people in that part of Illinois north of Peoria. In 1850 there were 125,708 concentrated mostly in the Chicago region and along the waterway. Thousands of them were Irish who, using "land script" issued by the Canal Commission and money they had earned by hard labor, had purchased what they came for: LAND.

PLANK ROAD MEADOW or SOUTHWESTERN PLANK ROAD MEADOW and BOAT LAUNCHING SITE (Salt Creek). Unofficial. Chosen by Mr. Sauers because Ogden Ave. was originally the Southwestern Plank Road, the first of several built in the Chicago region. The following information, much of it obtained from "Chicago's Highways - Old and New", by Mils M. Quaife, was published in our Nature Bulletin No. 739:

For ten years after Chicago, with a population of 4,170, was chartered as a city in 1837, its commerce and growth were crippled by wretched transportation to and from the hinterlands. During many periods of each year it was surrounded and isolated by mud, and water.

To be sure, there were dirt thoroughfares in all directions, graded and drained as best they could in those days, but not surfaced. No one who has never experienced it can appreciate how gooey and gluey a black prairie soil can be when wet. A wagon's wheels often become solid cylinders of mud as wide as a bass drum.

Then, in 1848, there occurred a "break through": three developments of vital importance. In July the Illinois and Michigan Canal from Chi cago to Peru and the Illinois River, started in 1836, was finally completed and opened for traffic.

In October the Galena and Chicago Union, the first railroad (now part of the Chicago & Northwestern Ry.), was completed across the Slough of Despond and to the DesPlaines River. Within a few years, five other railroads had

arrived: the Michigan Southern, the Michigan Central, the Rock Island, the Illinois Central, and the Burlington.

And in September, 1848, the Southwestern Plank Road was completed from Chicago to Doty's Tavern at what is now the intersection of Ogden Ave. with Joliet Ave. in Lyons. In 1850 it was extended to Brush Hill and Fullersburg (now Hinsdale), and in 1851 to Naperville. From there, a plank road was built to Oswego and Little Rock; and another to Warrenville, St. Charles, and Sycamore.

That was the first of a network of plank roads that radiated outward like the spokes of a wheel. Chicago was the hub. In 1849, the Northwestern Plank Road was constructed on Milwaukee Ave. to Oak Ridge at what is now Irving Park Blvd.; thence to Dutchman's Point (now Niles); and finally to Wheeling. The Western Plank Road was built westerly from Oak Ridge to Bloomingdale in DuPage County and thence to Elgin.

In 1851 the Southern Plank Road was constructed along the lines of State Street and Vincennes Ave. as far as Kyle's Tavern at about 83rd Street where it was halted by the approach of the Illinois Central Railroad. In 1854 the Blue Island Plank Road was completed on Western Ave. to its junction with Blue Island Ave., then the southwest corner of Chicago. There was also a 5-mile plank road parallel to the lake shore from North Ave. and Clark Street to Green Bay Road.

In 1839 a plank road was built in Canada, instigated by the governor-general who had seen them in Russia. The idea spread to New York, Wisconsin, Illinois and Indiana where laws governing the incorporation of plank road companies were enacted. Built at a cost of about \$2000 per mile, they were very profitable at first. There were toll gates at intervals of 5 or 6 miles. On the first stretch of the Southwestern Plank Road, the tolls were 12 1/2¢ (one "bit") for a man on horseback, two bits for a single team, and three bits for a 4-horse vehicle.

Usually there was a row of heavy stringers on each side of an 8 or 16-foot roadway, and across them were laid (but not spiked) heavy planks of pine and hemlock or better, oak and walnut. However, the planks soon warped, decayed, and frequently floated away or were "borrowed" by neighboring settlers. After a few years, with little or no maintenace, most plank roads became so discomfortable and dangerous that they were abandoned. The decline of those "revolutionary improvements" was almost as vapid as their rise.

POSSUM HOLLOW (Salt Creek). Unofficial. Suggested by Richard Gleason as the name by which this tract has been known locally for many years.

POTAWATOMI WOODS (DesPlaines). Unofficial. Chosen by RM. On March 24, 1924, the Board adopted MORS WOODS(Wheeling Park) as the name of this preserve - 129,6396 acres located on the north side of Dundee Road and east of the DesPlaines river - acquired in 1917 (for \$24,955.60) from Catherine and Caroline Mors.

On March 24, 1924, the Board also adopted POTTAWATOMIE WOODS as the name of the preserve south of Dundee Road and north of Dam No. 1. However, by common consent and usage, this became known as Dam No. 1 Woods, North. Consequently, the correct version of this Indian name was applied to what had been known as Mors Woods.

That name meant "People of the "lace of Fire" but there have been about as many ways of spelling it as there are varieties of Heinz's pickles. Depending upon the nationality and literacy of the recorder or historian, they ranged from "Potavalamia (Henri de Tonti) and Peoutewatamie" (Ft. Harmar Treaty, 1789) to "Pattawatomies" (used in the Washington, D.C. treaty of 1868). The Chicago Tribune insists upon "Pottawatomie". We have adopted "Potawatomi" used by Major Long (Long's Expedition to the St. Peter's River) and adopted by the Smithsonian Institution, Bureau of American Ethnology, in its Bulletin No. 30: Handbook of American Indians.

There were several bands: the Potawatomi of the Huron, the Pokagon Potawatomi, the Potawatomi of the Wabash, the Prairie Potawatomi, and the Potawatomi of the Woods - those inhabiting the Chicago region. The confederacy - called The Three Fires - of the Potawatomi with two closely related Western Algonquin nations, the Ottawa and the Chippewa (Ojibwe), has been discussed elsewhere (See Black Partridge Woods, Caldwell Woods, and Chippewa Woods).

PULASKI WOODS (Palos). Official. Named for Casimir Pulaski who, after being commander-in-chief of the patriot forces in Poland, was exiled and came to America. In our Revolutionary War, after volunteering his services, George Washington made him a Brigadier General and Chief of Cavalry. He was mortally wounded at Savannah, Georgia, on October 11, 1779. A boulder monument to him was erected in our Pulaski Woods (East).

RED GATE WOODS (Palos) Unofficial (Selected by RM). The saga of Red Gate Woods reminds me of the barber shop song about Old MacDonald who had a farm. It begins with Ferdinand Hersog, a farmer who, in early days, lived on the ridge southerly from Archer Ave. and about 3/4 mile west of Wolf Road in the West 1/2 of Section 7-37-12. He built a private road to his homestead from Archer Ave. where he maintained a bright red gate.

Across from that gate, on the northerly side of the highway, there had been a notorious saloon and picnic grove since the days when the Sanitary and Ship canal was built. When the interurban line from Chicago to Joliet was constructed alongside Archer Ave., it scheduled a stop at "Red Gate". Later the tavern, after assuming that name, was destroyed and the FPD acquired this property also.

We acquired the Herzog property from his many heirs in 1918. His road was used for access to the upper (north) part of our Palos Golf Course (now abandoned). Now two trails intersect at his homesite distinguished by some fine elms and a view overlooking the valley between Horse Collar Slough, Bullfrog Lake, and Pulaski Woods West.

In recent years we developed a picnic area at the edge of the Woodland south of Archer Ave. and west of the ravine which is west of the old road to farmer Herzog's homestead. We named it RED GATE WOODS.

ROBINSON RESERVE (Indian Boundary). Unofficial, On March 24, 1924, the Board adopted the name "Che-Che-Pinquay, Robinson Indian Reserve" for the preserves along the DesPlaines River from Higgins Road to Grand Ave. Nowadays, "Robinson Reserve", or "Robinson Woods" is used only for those areas immediately south and north of Lawrence Ave., between the river and East River Road. Now, Che-che-pin-quay, Alexander Robinson's Indian name. (see CHE-CHE-PIN-QUA WOODS), designates only the picnic area on the south side of Irving Park Blvd, west of Cumberland Ave.

By the terms of the treaty negotiated with the Sauk, Fox, Sioux and the "Three Fires" (the allied Chippewa, Ottawa and Potawatomi), at Prairie du Chien in 1829, grants of land (reserves) were made to several members of the latter three tribes, including one in DeKalb Co. to Shabbona (See SHABBONA WOODS) and the following in Cook County:

"To Claude LaGramboise, one section of land on the Riviere Aux Pleins adjoining the line of purchase of 1816."

"To Alexander Robinson, for himself and his children two sections on the Rivere Aux Pleins above and adjoining the tract herein granted to Claude La Gramboise".

"To Billy Caldwell, two and one-half sections on the Chicago River above and adjoining the line of purchase of 1816".

"To Victoire Pothier, one-half section on the Chicago river above and adjoining the tract herein granted to Billy Caldwell".

"To Jane Miranda, one-quarter section on the Chicago river above and beyond the tract herein granted to Victoire Pothier".

"To Archange Ouilmette, a Pottawatomie woman, wife of Antoine Ouilmette, two sections for herself and her children on Lake Michigan south of and adjoining the northern boundary of the cession herein made by the Indians aforesaid to the United States".

The grants to Shabbona, La Framboise, Caldwell and Robinson were made as rewards for the consistently friendly services to the Americans, and their influence as loyal intermediaries with the Indians before, during and after the Dearborn massacre - See CALDWELL WOODS. Caldwell, Victoire Pothier, Jane Miranda, and the wife of LaFramboise stood by the John Kinzie family during the massacre and it was Caldwell who saved their lives. Afterward, he and Robinson conveyed the Kinzies, Capt. Heald and Mrs. Heald, and a few other survivors around the lake in boats to St. Joseph, Michigan.

In those grants the term "line of purchase of 1816" refers to the Indian Boundary Line. At Edwardsville, Illinois on August 24, 1816 - with the support of Shabbona, Caldwell, LaGramboise and Robinson - a treaty was negotiated with the "Three Fires" whereby they ceded to the United States a strip of land from Lake Michigan to the Fox River, the Kankakee River, the Illinois River at Ottawa. The primary purpose was to provide a corridor thru which a canal could be built to provide a navigable waterway from Lake Michigan to the head of navigation on the Illinois.

The boundaries of that strip - the north and the south Indian Boundary Lines - were stipulated in the treaty as follows: "Beginning on the left bank of the Fox River of Illinois ten miles above the mouth of said Fox River; thence running so as to cross Sandy Creek, ten miles above its mouth; thence in a direct line to a point ten miles north of the west end of the portage between Chicago Creek (Ed. Note: the south Branch of the Chicago River), which empties into Lake Michigan and the River Auxpleine, a fork of the Illinois; thence in a direct line to a point on Lake Michigan, ten miles northward of the mouth of Chicago Creek; thence along the lake to a point ten miles southward of the mouth of said Chicago Creek; thence in a direct line to a point on the Kankakee, ten miles above its mouth; thence with the said Kankakee and the Illinois River to the mouth of the Fox River and thence to the beginning".

The south Indian Boundary Line, from the lake at a point slightly north of the entrance to Calumet Harbor, to the Kankakee River, is as straight as an arrow. The George Brennan Highway, named for a former "boss" of the Cook County Democrats, is located on this line from Western Ave. in Blue Island to 175th Street. The 20-mile wide strip between the two Indian Boundary Lines was surveyed and its section lines established in the early 1830's. The country south of it was surveyed later by different men working northward from a base line much farther south. Because of accumulating errors their section lines did not jibe with those established within the strip by their predecessors. As a result, there are pronounced jogs in important north-south highways such as Kedzie, Crawford, Cicero and Route 42-A.; likewise in east-west highways on 159th, 167th, 175th and 183rd Streets.

The north Indian Boundary Line has two bends in it: a pronounced angle where it crosses Sandy Creek in Kendall County, and another about at the intersection of Addison Street, Forest Preserve Drive, and Pacific Ave. - which is a section line one mile west of Harlem Ave. That point was established by early surveyors as being 10 miles north of the Chicago Portage - where Portage Creek entered the old channel of the DesPlaines River at its hairpin bend west of Harlem Ave. (See LAUGHTON TRADING POST AND FORD). East of Pacific Ave., Forest Preserve Drive - which was built on the right-of-way of an abandoned railroad track connecting with the Soo Line in Franklin Park - lies on the Indian Boundary Line as far as Narragansett Ave. Rogers Ave. in Chicago is also on this Boundary Line which ends at Lake Michigan between Howard Ave. and Calvary Cemetery.

Returning to ROBINSON RESERVE after a long detour to explain some puzzling situations: the Board included too much territory when it gave that name to the preserves between Higgins Road and Grand Ave. As established by early surveyors, the north boundary of the grant is a little south of Foster Ave. (a half-section line) if it were extended west of Cumberland Ave. The south boundary, which is the north boundary of the La Framboise grant, is at Addison Street. The west boundary is at Rose Street or 25th Ave. in Schiller Park, Franklin Park and Melrose Park. The east boundary from Foster Ave. to Montrose Ave. is East River Road, but from there to Addison Street it is about two blocks west of Cumberland Ave. So, old Blinking Eyes got 160 acres more than the two sections he was granted.

RUBIO WOODS (Tinley Creek). Unofficial. Chosen by the late George Meehan when he was in charge of this and neighboring preserves now included in the Tinley Creek division of the FPD. He was a family friend of the late President of the District, Daniel Ryan, whose wife is now Commissioner Ruby Ryan. Mrs. Ryan's maiden name was Ruby O'Connor, so when this area was developed for public use, George named it Rubiosee - later abbreviated to RUBIO - in her honor.

ST. MIHIEL PRESERVE (Tinley Creek). Official. The preserves along the Rock Island Railroad, from 147th Street to Tinley Park, were officially designated on March 24, 1924, as the ST. MIHIEL RESERVATION, commemorating a major battle in World War I.

Originally the St. Mihiel - Oak Forest wooded area was called Cooper's Grove but the reason for that name is unknown. In 1848 the name of its post office was changed from Cooper's Grove to New Bremen and the one at Bachelor's Grove became Bremen. See BACHELOR GROVE WOODS. After the Rock Island Railroad was completed to Chicago in 1852, a town named Bremen was platted at what is now Tinley Park. Settled mostly by German people, it had street names such as Kirchen Strasse (Church Street) and Market Platz, but the principal north and south street was called Bachelor Grove Avenue. Actually it is Oak Park Ave. - now Route 42-A. In 1892 the town was incorporated as the Village of Tinley Park, named for three brothers - popular Rock Island railroad men - named Tinley.

That name was applied by geologists to a moraine deposited over the Valparaiso moraine by the last glacier, and by geographers to Tinley Creek which had managed to cut its way thru the Tinley moraine and become the outlet for huge swamps imprisoned by and west of that moraine. Our Tinley Creek Woods and Tinley Creek division derived their names from that stream.

ST. PAUL WOODS (North Branch). Unofficial, but in general use before we acquired the property. It had been a privately owned picnic grove, with a huge dancing pavilion, where the Svithiod - Swedish organization and singing society - held and still hold their annual outings. The name St. Paul ensued apparently from the fact that they and other picnicking organizations were transported to and from this area in Morton Grove by the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad - now known as the Milwaukee Road but in those days as the St. Paul.

Originally, Warch 24, 1924, the picnic area was included in Miammi Woods but it is now included in (and see) the Frank Bobrystzke Forest.

SAM STEWART SHELTER (Skokie). Unofficial. Designated by Mr. Sauers (SEE WILLOW ROAD WOODS). The framework of this shelter had been the framework of the original headquarters of 10 CCC companies assigned by the National Park Service in 1933 to build the Skokie Lagoons. That headquarters was located amidst a small grove of bur oaks on a knoll northeast of the intersection of Willow Road with the old Skokie Road.

Eventually it was dismantled and the massive framework, designed for such a purpose, became the framework of this picnic shelter named for a dyed-in-the-wool Hoosier who was chief clerk in that original CCC headquarters.

SALT CREEK WOODS (Salt Creek). Unofficial. Chosen by RM for an obvious reason. This area, along Salt Creek and south of 31st Street from Wolf Road to Brainard Ave., was designated a nature reserve in 1964. A portion of it, fronting on 31st Street, has been unofficially named BOB MANN WOODS.

SAND RIDGE PRAIRE. (Thorn Creek). Unofficial. This area, recently acquired, was designated a Nature Preserve in 1964. Located east of Torrence Ave. and west of the Pennsylvania Railroad, north of Michigan City Road and south of Pulaski Road (154th Street), this is a precious remnant of the original landscapes southwest and south from Calumet City. It contains a variety of the native plants typical of the unique topography: low sand dunes, parallel and alternating with marshy swales. From an airplane you can see ridge after ridge paralleling the shore of Lake Michigan, as if Paul Bunyan had dragged his outstretched fingers southeasterly from Riverdale to Gary.

The last glacier, the Wisconsin, of the Ice Age shaped the main topographical features of Chicagoland. As it melted away - because the earth's climate became warmer - it left Lake Chicago, ancestor of Lake Michigan and originally 60 feet higher than the present lake level. Then - some 15,000 years ago - it was discharging enormous torrents of icy water thru what are now the DesPlaines River and Sag Valleys.

As the glacier retreated its waters found new outlets and finally cut thru the barrier of Niagara limestone at what we call Niagara Falls. As it found these outlets, the level of prehistoric Lake Chicago dropped, successively, about 20 feet, then 15 feet, and finally 20 feet to the average level of the present lake.

We must realize that each stage endured for several thousand years and that during each stage the lake created a beach line plus other topographical features. At the highest level it created what geologists call Glenwood Beach. The Homewood - Thornton - Lansing Road lies on its crest; LaGrange Road (US 45) follows its crest north of LaGrange. The middle stage created the Calumet Beach and that, too, governed the location of some important Indian Trails followed by some modern roads and streets.

The third stage created the Toleston Beach, named for a village that stood on a sand ridge at what is now Gary, Indiana. During this stage a series of parallel dunes or ridges was created. Michigan City Road, originally an Indian Trail, is located on the principal ridge. Our Sand Ridge Nature Center in Shabbona Woods is situated on a minor one.

SAUK LAKE WOODS (Thorn Creek). Unofficial. A section of Sauk Trail Woods. Sauk Lake Lake was created when 26th Street was constructed from Euclid Ave. in Chicago Heights to Western Ave., with a dam and spillway across the narrow Thorn Creek Valley. Much fine timber in the ravire, including walnut, was sacrificed. For many years the lake was a popular place for swimming. There were two beaches, one for whites and the north one for Negroes, with bathhouses and a boat house. Eventually the water became so polluted and rowdyism so frequent, that swimming was prohibited in the interst of public health and safety.

SAUK TRAIL WOODS (Thorn Creek). Official (March 24, 1924). Our Nature Bulletin No. 436 relates the history of Sauk Trail, which is the southern boundary of this preserve and also Schubert's Woods, as follows:

Sauk Trail Road crosses the extreme southern part of Cook County. From Richton Park it runs due west on a section line to Harlem Ave. and then, in Will County, angles slightly northwest to Frankfort. From Richton Park easterly to Dyer, Indiana, where it joins the Lincoln Highway (U.S. 30), it is different from most roads in this region. This appears to be a narrow winding survivor from the horse-and-buggy days. Actually, it is a remnant of the famous Great Sauk Trail.

Originally, the Sauk Trail ran easterly across Illinois from Rock Island to the Illinois River at about where Peru is now, paralleled the north bank of that river to Joliet, and thence easterly to Valparaiso, Indiana. From there it angled northeasterly to LaPorte and on across southern Michigan -- passing thru or near Niles, Three Rivers, Jonesville, Clinton and Ypsilanti -- to Detroit.

For centuries, bands of red men travelled it in single file, on missions of peace or war, until they had beaten a narrow pathway deep in the soil. The Indian, travelling overland, picked the shortest safest route for easy trotting, often following paths worn by deer or buffalo. He was partial to low ridges but went around hills, lakes, swamps and places thick with thorny underbrush. That is why the Sauk Trail is so crooked. When the white men came they followed it -- LaSalle and other explorers, fur traders, missionaries, and parties of soldiers. The early settlers travelled it on horseback. Eventually it became a road used by stage coaches, buggies, farm wagons and now, finally, by automobiles.

The Sauk Trail crossed several very important Indian trails and many others joined it at various points. It crossed what became Hubbard's Trace and the Vincennes road at South Chicago Heights (Brown's Corner). Some nistorians

believe that LaSalle made at least one trip over the Sauk Trail to Fort Miami which he and Tonty had built in 1678 near the mouth of the St. Joseph river in Michigan. It undoubtedly was used by the French after 1697 when they built Fort St. Joseph at Niles. A few miles south of there, at a place they called Parc aux Vaches (the "cow pen" or "buffalo yard"), was where Sauk Trail crossed the St. Joseph river and several important trails radiated from that crossing.

The Sauk (or Sac) and Fox Indians, like the Iroquois, hated the French and sided with the British. That alliance continued during the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812. The British made them an annual payment of goods at Fort Malden, Canada, near Detroit. Later the United States Government, in exchange for lands, annually paid \$600 to the Sauk and \$400 to the Fox in goods delivered at Fort Detroit. So, Chief Blackhawk and his two tribes - men, women, children, ponies and dogs - travelled each year from Rock Island to Detroit over the Sauk Trail, as their painted braves had swiftly travelled it to make war on the French and Americans.

In 1781 an expedition of Spanish soldiers came up the Illinois River, east on Sauk Trail, seized Fort St. Joseph, flew their flag over it for 24 hours, and hastily retreated to St. Louis. In 1803 a company of American soldiers marched over it from Detroit to LaPorte and thence to Chicago where they built Fort Dearborn. About 1838 the Potawatomi in Michigan, Indiana and Illinois sadly travelled it to the Mississippi and their new homes farther west.

Like the Cumberland, Santa Fe and Oregon trails, the Great Sauk Trail made history. Four flags have been carried over it: French, Spanish, English and American. The Indians had no flags.

SCHILLER WOODS and PLAYFIELD (Indian Boundary). Unofficial. Originally known as Schiller Park, and here is an unusual twist: the adjacent suburb took its name from the forest preserve instead of vice versa.

North of Irving Park Blvd., in the latter part of the 19th century and until about 1936, there was a huge open dancing pavilion in a heavily used picnic grove, called Schiller Park, east of the DesPlaines River. West of the river was a village named Kolze (until 1914), settled mostly by German people. In Chicago there was a German singing society - The Schiller Liedertafel - named in honor of the famous lyric poet, dramatist and philosopher, Johann Christoph Friedrich von Schiller. About 80 men of that society still meet every Thursday night in the Lincoln Turnverein Hall at 1005 W. Diversey.

In the 1880's, 90's and early 1900's, on week ends and special occasions, that singing society and crowds of people came to Kolz on the Soo Line Railroad, thence to the river on a spur track, and on the east side of the river gave concerts in a picnic grove named for them: Schiller Park. Of course it included a large dance pavilion which the FPD acquired with the land.

That is why, when Kolze was incorporated as a village in 1914, it was named Schiller Park. However, the names of its post office and railroad station were not changed until 1926.

Just upstream from the Irving Park Blvd. bridge, there used to be a low dam impounding water for a grist mill and for a Soo Line pumping station. East of the river and south of the highway there was another picnic grove, now SCHILLER WOODS SOUTH, with another dance pavilion.

SCHUBERT'S WOODS (Thorn Creek). Unofficial. This property, conveyed to the FPD on January 22, 1918, had been known locally as Schubert's Grove and contained a large open pavilion with a cinder "floor". The abstract of title records that on November 28, 1917, Adolph Weidemann executed a release deed for this property to August Schubert, a bachelor. It is immediately south of Sauk Trail Woods and the entrance is on Sauk Trail Road west of Ashland Avenue.

West of that entrance, on the south side of the read, there is a boulder with a bronze plaque marking the site of the home of John McCoy who came from Rutland, Vermont, and, in 1834, became the second permanent settler in Bloom Township. Reputedly, he had been a soldier in the Revolutionary War. McCoy acquired land on both sides of Sauk Trail. His orchard was on the north side west of Schubert's Woods, and a few old apple trees survive.

The first white settler was Absalom Wells who, in the spring of 1833, built a cabin near Thorn Creek, west of the Vincennes Trace or Hubbard's Trail, in what is now Woodrow Wilson Woods. His family intermarried with the Indians and went with them when they left, a few years later.

The first permanent settler was Adam Brown who, a few weeks later in 1833, came from Guilford, North Carolina, and built a log cabin where Sauk Trail crossed the Vincennes Trace. Now in South Chicago Heights, this intersection of Sauk Trail Road with Vincennes Avenue (or Chicago Ave.), the old Dixie Highway (formerly Illinois Route One and the first state road), is still known as Brown's Corners.

His second child, a daughter named Lovina, was the first white child born in the vicinity of Chicago Heights. Brown and McCoy allowed some of their lands, now part of the Sauk Trail preserves, to be used by Indians and settlers travelling the trail.

Lorenzo McCoy, oldest son of John and a veteran of the War of 1812, also came with his family in 1834 and settled in what is now the western part of Steger. His wife, Sabra, was a daughter of a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and was known among the Potawatomi as the "Good White Woman". In spring they brought her gifts of maple sugar. In autumn they brought her cranberries from peat bogs in Michigan. Her eighth child, Louisa, was the second white child born in Bloom Township.

The Batchelder family, also from Vermont, and the Bell family from Kentucky, came in 1835 and settled on opposite corners of what is now Sauk Trail Road and Western Ave. (a section line). The Bells stayed only a few years but the Batchelder family remained and eventually founded Richton Park.

During the Civil War and a decade before that, the Sauk Trail was the final stage of an "Underground Railroad" on which Negro slaves, escaping from the South, were aided in reaching Canada and freedom. The McCoy and Batchelder homes were "stations" on that route where as many as five Negroes were brought from Joliet and hidden in the cellars until they could be taken at night to the home of Deacon Jones near Dyer.

SCHUTH'S GROVE (or WOODS) (Salt Creek). Unofficial. This small preserve was acquired on August 21, 1922, from August Schuth. It had been privately operated as a commercial picnic grove with a dance pavilion, bar, concession stands, etc., similar to those we inherited in National Woods, Schiller Woods and elsewhere - difficult to maintain and attracting picnics of a type foreign to the nature and purpose of the Forest Preserve District. In the 1930's those frame structures were removed and a large concrete slab was laid to provide a dance platform.

SHABBONA WOODS (Thorn Creek). Official. Designated by the Board on March 24, 1924. Named for an Ottawa Indian who became a famous chief of the Potawatomi. A brief biography of this remarkable man was published as or Nature Bulletin No. 748: Near the entrance to Evergreen Cemetery at Morris, Illinois, stands a monument on which is carved the name SHABBONA. Beneath it rest the bones of a remarkable man. Of him we may say what has been said about the Shawnee chieftain, Tecumseh: "One of the greatest of American Indians, with a superb body, a powerful mind, and the soul of a hero".

Gurdon S. Hubbard, pioneer citizen of Chicago, spoke of "Chaboneh" as remarkable for his generous and forgiving nature, his integrity, and being always a friend to the white settlers.

Shabbona was a tall burly man, with a wide pleasant face, whose name - variously recorded as Shau-be-nee, Chaboneh, Chamblee, and several other ways - meant "strong built like a bear." He and Tecumseh, unlike many Indians, were remarkably temperate: rarely indulging in "fire water" and habitually humane to captives.

Altho no orator, he was a wise and courageous leader who foresaw the futility and the tragic consequences of battling against the ever-growing tide of white settlers. In 1832, when Blackhawk met with the Potawatomi and Ottawa, urging them to join with the Sauk and Fox tribes in warring upon the whites, Shabbona dissented, saying "And the army of pale faces you will have to encounter will be as numerous as the leaves on those trees".

Shabbona was an Ottawa Indian, an Algonquian tribe driven out of southeastern Ontario by the Iroquois and westward to Michigan. From there, allied with the Chippewa and Potawatomi in a confederation called "The Three Fires", they spread southward into Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, and became closely intermingled with the Potawatomi. Their greatest chiefs were Pontiac and, later, Shabbona.

Two of his white friends and biographers say that Shabbona's birthplace was in Canada. Another quotes him as saying that it was along the Maumee river in northwestern Ohio. The best authorities state that he was born, in 1775 or 1776, in one of the Indian villages along the Kankakee river near where it joins the DesPlaines to form the Illinois river, 10 miles upstream from Morris.

His first wife was a daughter of the Potawatomi chief of a band whose village was along the Illinois river near Ottawa. When he died, Shabbona became the chief. A few years later they moved about 25 miles north of Ottawa to a wooded "prairie island" in the southern part of DeKalb county and there, in what is now a DeKalb county forest preserve, is her grave. In the treaty negotiated by the United States with the Sauk, Fox, Sioux and "The Three Fires" at Prairie du Chien in 1829, grants of land were made to Shabbona, Billy Caldwell (The Sauganash), Alexander Robinson (Che-che-pin-qua) and others as rewards for their good deeds. Shabbona received 1280 acres including that prairie island.

In 1807 he was the onw who persuaded most of the Indians in the Northwest Territory to follow Tecumseh in an all-out war, aided by the British, to drive every American from this region. But after Tecumseh was killed and they failed to capture the Fort at Detroit, he transferred his allegiance - permanently-to the United States. During the Blackhawk War he guided American troops on their westward marches across Illinois; and during the subsequent "Winnebago Scare" he spent days and nights warning white settlers in the Illinois valley and as far as Chicago.

Eventually his title to the DeKalb county lands was forfeited and until he died, in 1859, he lived on a 20-acre tract, south of Morris, donated by patriotic white people. Our Shabbona Woods forest preserve, west of Calumet City and site of the Sand Ridge Nature Center, is named for that heroic friend of the white men.

SHOE FACTORY ROAD PRAIRIE (Northwest). Official. Located south of Shoe Factory Road and east of the EJ & E Railroad in Hanover Township. Designated a Nature Preserve in 1964 because this area includes a rare remnant of the original high rolling prairies in northern Illinois as they were before the white men came - before they were grazed and ploughed. In it are preserved the little bluestem grass and many other native plants typical of those prairies.

SKOKIE LAGOONS (Skokie). These seven lagoons between Willow Road and Dundee Road are situated in a wide flat valley of the Skokie River where, originally, there had been a huge marsh. This stream, which arises near Waukegan, is the east fork of the North Branch of the Chicago River. On March 24, 1924, our Skokie valley holdings were designated the CHEWAB SKOKIE, reputedly a Potawatomi name, meaning "Big Wet Prairie", for that famous marsh. Those holdings have been officially renamed the WILLIAM N. ERICKSON PRESERVES.

The Chewab Skokie was a marvelous place, unique in this Chicagoland region of many marshes. Dring spring floods it was a shimmering lake. In summer it became a mysterious sea of native grasses, sedges and swamp flowers, impenetrable except by a few narrow winding channels. It teemed with aquatic life: muskrats and mink; ducks, shore birds and wading birds; redwing and yellow-headed blackbird; marsh wrens, martins and swallows; turtles and fish galore. In 1913 the Illinois State Laboratory of Natural History (now the Illinois Natural History Survey) published a lengthy monograph by Dr. Earl Sherff about the "Vegetation of the Skokie Marsh". It was famous.

On April 2, 1917, the Board of Forest Preserve Commissioners adopted a report of its Plan Committee (signed by Commissioner George A. Miller, Charles H. Wacker and Dwight H. Perkins) which included, among other momentous policy making recommendations, one which urged "purchase of forest lands bordering upon the Skokie as well as certain portions of said Skokie which are marshes".

On March 29, 1920, the Plan Committee recommended purchase of approximately 2000 acres of the Skokie swampland. On December 13, 1920, the Board adopted a resolution to purchase those lands, in spite of local opposition, litigation, and a proposed drainage district.

Unfortunately, before we succeeded in acquiring all of the approximately 200 parcels of property, the Skokie marsh had been ruined. Much of it had been drained by deep ditches dug, thru the muck, peat and underlying mineral clays. Native plants had been replaced largely by new types of rank vegetation. Frequently, in autumn, someone set fire to that growth which started peat fires that burned for months, shrouding the countryside with acrid smoke.

Because its outlet, the Skokie River, was narrow and tortuous, in periods of excessive rainfall the marsh flooded the highways adjacent or crossing it and surrounded homes built too near its borders. The lovely Chewab Skokie had became a nuisance and anathema to residents in adjacent suburbs.

It is impossible to say, now, when and by whom the idea of replacing the marsh with a chain of lagoons was conceived. Perhaps, like Topsy, "it just growed" and met in the minds of such men as Messrs. Windes and Marsh - two fine engineers in Winnetka - and Robert Kingery - also of Winnetka - the indispensable man who was general manager of the Chicago Regional Planning Association and Secretary of the Advisory Committee to the Board of Forest Preserve Commissioners.

The original report of that committee in January. 1929, recommended consideration of a series of lagoons in the Skokie. John Barstow Morrill, landscape architect in our engineering department, prepared preliminary plans - and later a scale model in clay - for such a project.

So that, in June, 1933, when the Civilian Conservation Corps was established, we were so ready with a program and plans that the National Park Service allocated five companies (about 1000 young men) to this project. Within a few months another five companies were assigned to it, and 10 more which were distributed throughout the F.P.D. - the largest concentration of CCC camps in the U.S. We were prepared, and as ye plan, so shall ye reap. We reaped.

Before the CCC was terminated in 1942, the 10 camps had virtually completed the system of seven lagoons with a water area of 190 acres and a flood plain of 400 acres, surrounded by rolling dikes. With dirt-moving equipment and by hand labor they had excavated and distributed four million cubic yards of earth. They had built the main control dam at Willow Road and low dams to maintain minimum water levels in the seven lagoons.

This has been a unique and spectacular development both useful and beautiful. In addition to flood control, fire control and mosquito control, it has provided a recreational area for picnickers, fishermen, and wildlife observers. Q. E.D.

SOMME WCODS (Skokie). Official. Designated as Somme Preserve by the Board on March 24, 1924, commemorating a major battle along the Somme River in France during World War I.

SOUTHWESTERN PLANK ROAD MEADOW (and boat launching site) (Salt Creek). See PLANK ROAD MEADOW.

SPEARS WOODS (Palos). Unofficial. Chosen by RM because it was originally owned by John Spear who - like George Beebe, Jacob Kollar, Edmund Banks, Peter Green, Owen Finnegan and John Williams - was among the early settlers of Palos Township who located in the vicinity of Willow Springs.

John Spear's farm and woodlands, the NW 1/4 of Section 3-37-12 is now bisected by US 45. SPEARS WOODS is on the west side of that highway. The other half, on the east side of US 45, was acquired from Catherine Blanche Spear in 1924 and includes the site of the Spear home, south of 87th Street, distinguished by a magnificent elm and a Kentucky coffee tree - not native here - which he must have planted.

The 1851 map of Cook County shows a road which, beginning at Archer Ave. and Kean Ave., meandered southward past the Spear homestead. It crossed the Au-Sage-Nash-Kee Swamp at the west end of an island - about where Paddock (or Mill) Creek empties into the Calumet-Sag Canal - and thence went diagonally to Swallow Cliff and up the ravince to what is now 119th Street and US 45. Traces of that old road may be seen in Buffalo Woods and at the site of the Spear homestead.

SPRING LAKE PRESERVES (Northwestern). Official. The Spring Lake area between Bateman Road and Statton Road, from the Lake-Cook (County line) Road to Dunlea Road, was designated a Nature Preserve in 1964. A feature of the interiors in Spring Lake, a natural body of water fed by Spring Creek flowing lazily northward thru a broad valley. This provides a wildlife refuge unique for its scenic beauty, with marshes and broad open meadows notable for a variety of prairie flora now rare but once abundant in northeastern Illinois, including big bluestemgrass.

Acquisition of other properties in the Spring Creek vally - eastward from Bateman Road and as far south as Dundee Road - is now in progress. This can become one of the most unique preserves.

STONE (THEODORE): See THEODORE STONE FOREST

STONY FORD (Salt Creek). Unofficial. Chosen by RM because this riverside picnic area - typical of those where people like to park and look and relax - is located where there used to be a ford - intensively used by the Indians - across the DesPlaines River, immediately south of the present bridge on US 66. This ford utilized a limestone ledge which is barely submerged during drouths. It is about one-half mile upstream from the famouse Laughton Ford on the Portage Trail from Chicago to Ottawa (See LAUGHTON TRADING POST AND FORD).

Stony (or stoney) Ford was a strategic and much-used crossing on the principal Indian Trail overland from and to the Illinois valley. Apparently, after crossing there, the trail branched. One branch went eastward to the mouth of the Chicago River at Lake Michigan. The other went northward to what is now Riverside where it was joined by a trail, from the west, which forded the DesPlaines River on another rock ledge (east of the Joliet Ave. bridge). From there, one trail went north along or near the river. Another went northeasterly to Chicago, with a branch which led to Grosse Pointe (Wilmette) and the Green Bay Trail.

STEGER WOODS (Thorn Creek). Unofficial. Chosen by RM because this preserve, between Sauk Trail and Steger Road, is accessible from the latter highway which bisects the village of Steger and is on the line between Cook and Will Counties. It is notable for its bur oaks and for the native buckeyes along Thorn Creek at its northwest corner.

SUNSET RIDGE WOODS (Skokie). Unofficial. This area in Northfield Township fronts on Sunset Ridge Road between Volz Road and the crossings of the Northwestern and Milwaukee railroads. Traversed by the Middle Fork of the North Branch of the Chicago River, it has much to interest hikers and nature lovers. At one time, west of the creek and just north of Volz Road, there was a large log cabin built by the FPD for Boy Scout use.

SWALLOW CLIFF WOODS (Sag Forest). Unofficial. Originally included in the preserves (from 111th Street to 131st Street) designated on March 24, 1924, as the PALOS HILLS, but now part of the EDWARD M. SNEED FOREST. Its name and that of the winter sports center originated from the fact that for many years a numerous colony of bank swallows and some kingfishers nested in burrows they dug in the almost vertical face of an eroded cliff at the mouth of a deep ravine.

This cliff, south of Route 83 and about 200 feet west of US 45, is composed of sandy "groundhog" clay. Its erosion probably began with the building and maintenance of the original road from Archer and Kean Aves. to Orland. (See SPEARS WOODS). After being abandoned, the portion of the road - where it climbed the bluff - eroded so rapidly and so deeply that, in the early 1930's, check dams were constructed across it and the bed was thickly planted with young trees, mostly black locusts.

Before the construction of US 45 and for several years thereafter, the face of this cliff was peppered with holes dug by swallows. People congregated to watch their aerial maneuvers - capturing flying insects and diving into the burrows to feed their young. But the volume of traffic on US 45, and harassment by vandals in spite of a chain link fence built to prevent that, caused the birds to abandon this location and disappear.

One of the first concrete roads in Cook County was built on Kean Ave. from Archer Ave. to 119th Street thence west to 96th Ave., and south on what is now US 45 to 143rd Street at Orland Park. On the hill at the northwest corner of 119th Street and 96th Street was a popular picnic area. From it there was a path (later improved with flagstone steps) down into the ravine where there was a fine spring. During Prohibition, thousands of people came there to fill jugs with water for making homebrew and wine. That spring disappeared after the dynamiting when the Calumet-Sag was widened from US 45 to Willow Springs Road.

Many of the oaks in this old informal picnic area died because of heavy public use, automobile traffic, and the destruction of a succession of concession stands by fires. Finally, CCC and WPA labor was employed to build an entrance drive extending west from US 45, parking spaces, and a masonry concession stand. The old picnic area was covered with black dirt and fertilizer, seeded, fenced and "rested" for a few years. The new and the old picnic areas were named SWALLOW CLIFF WOODS.

SWALLOW CLIFF WINTER SPORTS CENTER (Sag Forest). Unofficial. Now included in the EDWARD M. SNEED FOREST. This tract of 110 acres including a small log cabin built by an early settler, was purchased from Vaclav (James) Blaha.

On June 25, 1923, Commissioner C.S. Peterson introduced a resolution reciting the opportunities afforded in the forest preserves for winter sports, and requesting reports on the probable cost of providing facilities for

skiing at or near the Palos Golf Course; also by what means skating on the DesPlaines River might be encouraged. In support of that resolution, President A.J. Cermak read a statement to the Board. In it he urged the provision of facilities at "Palos Park" for a comprehensive program of winter sports: skiing, skating, hockey, curling, ice polo and snow shoeing - facilities similar to those in the Adirondacks and Canada! He envisioned tournaments of champions and huge crowds of spectators.

On September 24, 1923, a contract was awarded for the construction of a steel ski slide for jumpers, 100 feet high, on the brow of the steep hill west of Swallow Cliff and just east of where the toboggan slides are now located. Its first cost was \$3,475. On February 2, 1924, the first ski jumping tournament was held. In his first annual report as general superintendent, Charles G. Sauers stated that the 1929 meet was a complete success attracting 35,000 people.

Those tournments were an expensive headache. Because of its great height, steepness and length of jump, relatively few skiers - the elite - had the skill and courage required to use this slide. In order to attract the best jumpers in the United States and Canada, their expenses - for travel and the best of hotels, liquor and women - had to be paid and big prizes offered. One year, in order to hold the meet as advertised, carloads of snow had to be imported by rail from Escanaba, Michigan.

The costs of maintenance and operation of this slide were excessive and unjustified. After all, as a purely spectator sport, the events were not in keeping with the lawful purposes of the Forest Preserve District, and in the late 1930's the slide was removed.

Also in 1923, a wooden toboggan slide was built on the steep slope next to the ski slide. Extreme fluctuations in the winter temperatures here render it inadvisable to provide toboggan slides built up out of snow and cakes of ice. That first slide was poorly designed, with bracing that fractured arms and legs carelessly allowed to hang over the side. It was replaced by three wooden slides patterned after a safer one successfully operated in the Milwaukee County Parks. Later, the CCC built three additional slides, a control tower at the top, and a bridge over the earthen troughs extending beyond the ends of the chutes.

Winter sports in Cook County are as chancy and unpredictable as the weather. One year, snow came early, stayed, and we had 65 days of tobogganing. Another year the slides were usable on only 4 or 5 days. But they do get people out-of-doors and the demand for winter sports facilities has been increasing by leaps and bounds.

SWEET WOODS (Thorn Creek). Unofficial. In 1917 we acquired most of this preserve from Merrill K. Sweet et al, at \$250 per acre, namely: the SE 1/4 of Section 34-36-4 except the south 25 rods (412.5 feet), and except 8 acres and also one acre. That tract included Sweet Woods North and Sweet Woods South, separated by North Creek (originally called Crab Creek) which empties into Thorn Creek here.

Also included was the preserve north of Schwab Road, now called Thorn Creek Road, designated a Nature Reserve in 1964 because of its abundance of native wildflowers and flora including sassafras and sour gum trees - southern species present at the northern limit of their range in Illinois and contributing to the fame of the Chicago region as a botanical melting pot.

The eight acres excepted are on the south side of Schwab Road at the west end of Sweet Woods North, and were purchased later from Frank Miller who conducted an enterprise called Thornton Mineral Spring. They included his home, a fine deep well, and a large frame structure in which the well water was bottled for sale. In those days the municipal water supplies in Chicago Heights region, from wells drilled into Niagara limestone, were notoriously smelly and unpalatable. For several years that structure served as the headquarters for Division 6, now the Thorn Creek Division, of the FPD.

In Sweet Woods South was located the CCC camp which built so many parking spaces, shelters, trails, and other facilities badly needed in southeastern Cook County. After the CCC folded in early 1942, that camp became the headquarters for Division 6.

TEASON'S WOODS (Sag Forest). Unofficial. Now included in EDWARD M. SNEED FOREST. Acquired in 1926 from Jennie and Frederick Teason: 20 acres on the east side of 104th Ave. south of the Calumet-Sag Canal, at \$350 per acre plus \$23,00 for the improvements (10-room house, 5-room bungalow, barn, double corn crib and granary, hog house, sheds, etc.). William Teason was employed by the FPD for many years in supervisory capacities and as a member of the police force.

Reputedly, in the early days of the Forest Preserve District, Bill Teason "burned off" the woodlands in the Palos Hills preserves every spring, believing-as many farmers did then - that that killed the weeds, improved the grass, and the wilfflowers destroyed were of no consequence.

I don't doubt it. In those days many farmers paid rental for pasturing large areas in the forest preserves and the District, itself, owned and pastured sheep - notably in Deer Grove - as a patriotic effort during World War I. On our farm in Schuyler County, Illinois, my father was paying the tenant \$10 per year to burn off its 60-acre wooded pasture. In 1925, as an engineer in the Illinois Division of Highways, I saw a widespread ground fire burning for many hours in the wooded preserves adjacent to Willow Springs, but no effort to control it. Tempus fugit.

THATCHER WOODS (Indian Boundary). Official. On March 24, 1924, the preserves along the DesPlaines River from North Ave. to Roosevelt Road (12th St.) were designated THATCHERS (sic) WOODS. Now the name is applied only to the preserve on the east side of the river between North ave. and Chicago Ave.

On March 19, 1917, the Board's Real Estate Committee presented a report stating that the tract in River Forest, known as Thatcher's Woods and approximating 182 acres, could be purchased for \$200,000 with the understanding that "said tract shall be known in perpetuity by some name or

designation which will contain the word Thatcher". The Board adopted that report, authorized its Real Estate Agent to enter into such a contract, and on May 3, 1917, the Comptroller reported that title had been acquired to this tract - the feature of what became Preserve No. 3.

The April, 1964, issue of County Highways Magazine contained an article about the origin of the name of Thatcher Road in Leyden Township. This old road, which begins at North Ave., is a continuation of Thatcher Ave. in River Forest. It winds northward and northwesterly to River Grove where it is now joined by First Ave. (Maywood) and becomes Cumberland Ave. Originally, just south of Belmont Ave., it jogged northeasterly on the Indian Boundary Line and proceded thence north on what is now Pontiac Ave. - east border of the preserve between Belmont Ave. and Addison Street.

Thatcher Ave. originally jogged east a short distance at Division Street, which is why there is a narrow strip of forest preserve between the present pavement and the west (fenced) boundary of Rosary College.

That article in the County Highway Magazine - and God bless the editor, Louis Hunt, for this and many other items of historical interest - relates that "David C. Thatcher came to Chicago from New York State in 1838 and set up a mercantile business. It was so successful that after 16 years he had, as an early day historian put it, "amassed a competency", and at the age of 44 he retired and moved to the locality that has become River Forest. The Chicago & Northwestern railroad at first called its station (there) Thatcher and for a time the western part of the settlement was known by that name.

"David's son, Solomon, his grandson, Solomon Jr., and other family members built the Thatcher M.E. Church in 1873 and presented it to the Methodist Society. The interior was finished with hardwood cut in Thatcher Grove. A Sunday School started earlier had, as teacher, Clara Thatcher and Frances E. Willard who was to become the founder of the W.C.T.U. (Editors note: and a pal of my ancient aunts - spinisters and teachers in Evanston.)

"Solomon Jr. was one of a committee of three that directed the building of the Moody Tabernacle in Chicago (Editors note: one of the finest examples of brickwork anywhere). After living in River Forest 15 years he moved north and was a founder and first president of Lake Bluff."

The original Thatcher home was the brick mansion now occupied by our Trailside Museum at the southwest corner of Thatcher Ave. and Chicago Aves. The large clearing - the playfield - in Thatcher Woods may have been created when timber was cut for the building of the Thatcher M.E. Church.

When we acquired this preserve and until the early 1930's, Chicago Ave. ended at Thatcher Ave. Division St., however, extended west and across the Soo Line Railroad to a small subdivision with several homes near the river. From an entrance at Division Street, there was a drive southward thru the woods to the central clearing and along its easterly edge to a large log cabin that was built to serve as the headquarters of a district including what was originally known as

Preserve No. 3. Until the present headquarters on Forest Preserve Drive was built by WPA, that cabin was the headquartes of Division No. 3, now the Indian Boundary Division.

In 1930, the Sanitary District of Chicago built a big outfall sewer on Chicago Ave., and the Cook County Highway Department then built a bridge across the DesPlaines River and extended Chicago Ave. to First Avenue.

In 1931 the FPD constructed the large masonry shelter or "field house" in Thatcher Woods, with a parking space and an access drive from Chicago Ave.; also a large "overflow" parking space north of Chicago Ave. on what had been used by contractors, for a price, as a dump. Division Street was vacated west of Thatcher Ave., obliterated and planted with young trees - as was the drive southward to the cabin. This project, and the Cermak Pool project which preceded it, were the first major developments constructed after Charles G. Sauers became General Superintendent.

Thatcher Woods is famous for its variety and abundance of spring wildflowers including some species, such as the Virginia mertensia or bluebell, which are now uncommon in the Chicago region. From them and by propagation, John Jedlicka has reintroduced this lovely flower into several preserves. Old-timers say that at one time Thatcher Woods was fenced with a gate at Chicago Ave. where, after paying a fee, people could enter and pick wildflowers at will.

THATCHER WOODS GLEN (Indian Boundary). Unofficial. This area on the south side of Chicago Ave. is part of the Thatcher Tract and, altho several died and were removed, is notable for its tall graceful elms and huge cottonwoods. It is submerged by extreme floods. The lagoon was created, for skating and for youngsters learning to fish, by damming the old channel - an oxbow - of the DesPlaines River. Our Trailside Museum occupies the old Thatcher mansion.

THEODORE STONE FOREST (Salt Creek). Official. Chosen by Mr. Sauers in honor of the late "Ted" Stone who had an abiding interest in and affection for the forest preserves. A specialist in municipal law, for years he served as an attorney representing the District in special cases and as a legal advisor who, for example, prepared the ordinance governing the licensing of equestrians and saddle horses and their use of the trails. He attended all meetings of the Clean Streams Committee and was its legal advisor.

THOMAS JEFFERSON WOODS (Indian Boundary). Official. This area south of Washington Boulevard to Madison Street was named for the author of the Decelaration of Independence, the third President of the United States, architect of the Louisiana Purchase from France, and the statesman who foresaw the vital need for a canal linking Lake Michigan with the Illinois River, and a waterway between the Creat Lakes and the Mississippi valley. See also G.A.R. Woods.

THORNTON WOODS (Thorn Creek). Unofficial. Chosen because this preserve, east of Chicago Road, is adjacent to the Village of Thornton and surrounds the Thornton Sewage Treatment Plant, as well as the Mt. Forest (Negro) Cemetery.

TINLEY CREEK WOODS (Tinley Creek). Unofficial. Chosen by RM because of its proximity to Tinley Creek, originally called Bachelor's Grove Creek but renamed for the Tinley moraine thru which it flows. Also for the Village of Tinley Park (originally Bremen but, when incorporated in 1892, renamed in honor of three Rock Island Railroad men named Tinley). See BACHELOR GROVE WOODS and ST. MIHIEL WOODS. This preserve formerly contained many huge white oaks. Some died because they were weakened by five years of extreme drouths in the 1930's; others were killed by the shoestring fungus, or by an infestation of oak wilt.

TONTY WOODS (Palos). Unofficial. Chosen by Mr. Sauers in honor of an almost forgotten man to whom proper recognition should be given: Henry de Tonty. Located between Archer Ave. and the G.M. & O. Railroad (originally the Chicago & Alton), this tract has been considered as the site for a long narrow lake in the low ground adjacent to that railroad.

The following information about Tonty was published in our Nature Bulletin No. 294, issued February 16, 1952: Among the greatest of the dauntless men who made possible the exploration and settlement of the Mississippi Basin, there is one forgotten man. He was a simple sturdy soldier, blunt and laconic in his speech or his reports, over-shadowed by his brillian chief - LaSalle - whose trusted lieutenant, loyal friend and devoted companion he was. The Forest Preserve District proposes to create a lake and name it for Henry de Tonty, Sieur and Chevalier, Governor of Fort St. Louis in the Province of the Illinois - the Man with the Iron Hand.

Lorenzo Tonty, his father, was a banker in Naples, Italy. After a bloody revolt in 1647, he escaped to Paris where Cardinal Mazarin, also an Italian, had succeeded Cardinal Richelieu as prime minister for Louis XIV. It was Lorenzo Tonty who suggested to Mazarin a system of life insurance which would replenish the royal treasury, and the name "tontine" for such a policy is in your dictionary. Henry, or Henri Tonti, was born in 1650. In 1668 he became a cadet in the French army and served thru seven campaigns, rising to the rank of captain, commanding marines on warships. During a battle at Libisso, Sicily, his right hand was blown off by a grenade. In place of it he wore that iron hook so feared by the Indians as "big medicine". In 1678 he was engaged as LaSalle's lieutenant and they sailed for Quebec.

LaSalle, after talking with Joliet who had explored part of the Mississippi with Father Marquette, determined to find out if it was the long-sought route to China and India. In 1679, they started out in canoes, accompanied by three Recollects (Franciscans)--Fathers Ribourdi, Membre and Hennepin - who as LaSalle extended the dominions of the King of France, would "bring the inhabitants to a knowledge of the Christian religion". From the east shore of Lake Michigan they went up the St. Joseph River, over into the Kankakee and, in 1680, arrived at Peoria where they built Fort Crevecoeur. Father Hennepin

was sent to explore the upper Mississippi. LaSalle went back to Montreal by way of the Chicago Portage, and Tonty, after surveying the site for Fort St. Louis on Starved Rock, planned to meet him at Mackinac.

After Tonty left, Fort Crevecoeur was destroyed, Father Ribourdi was killed by a band of Kickapoos, Tonty narrowly escaped death from an Iroquois war party and, on his trip up the west side of Lake Michigan in midwinter, suffered incredible hardships. They ate decayed pumpkins in an abandoned Potawatomi village, the thongs which fastened the lodge poles, the skins and hoofs of a deer killed by wolves, and a buffalo-hide shield "which gave them bellyaches".

In 1682, LaSalle and Tonty reached the mouth of the Mississippi. LaSalle then returned to France to organize the expedition which finally landed at Matagorda Bay, Texas. After his ship was wrecked and most of the party had died or been killed, he was assassinated by his own men on a desperate overland trip to reach Tonty. Meanshile, Tonty had built Fort St. Louis, rebuilt Fort Crevecoeur, and defeated the terrible Iroquois with a confederation of the Illinois and several other tribes. In 1686 and 1689, with Father Membre, he made fruitless trips down the Mississippi to find his boss. In 1700 he was replaced as governor of Fort St. Louis where he had maintained the supremacy of the French for 20 years and grimly endured neglect and unjustice from his king. He was ordered to Biloxi, where de'lberville had established a settlement. In 1704, at a new colony on the Mobile River, he nursed the sick and buried the dead until he, too, died of yellow fever.

There was a man.

TUMA LAKE (Palos). Unofficial. Named for Frank Tuma who owned 80 acres immediately east of Willow Springs Road and south of 99th Street. In addition to the lake, that tract now includes the Palos Division headquarters, the Sokol Camp immediately south of it, and Camp Kiwanis at 99th Street. For many years the Boy Scout camp was located east of the lake, with an entrance on 100th Ave. before that primitive road was vacated by Palos Township, closed, and became the "Old Time Country Lane".

Tuma Lake provides excellent fishing as well as swimming for youngsters attending the Sokol and Boy Scout camps. It was created when Frank Tuma built an earthen dam across the ravine which is the outlet from a large bowl-shaped depression between the surrounding hills - a depression where, like others in the Palos region, a huge block of ice was left behind as the last glacier melted away and "retreated" northward.

The central building in the Sokol camp was originally a two-story residence with masonry walls, built by Tuma. After it was acquired by the FPD and gutted by fire, it was rebuilt by Joseph Reichert before he was employed by the FPD and, later, became superintendent of Division Five when it included what are now the Palos, Sag Forest and Tinley Creek Divisions.

Frank Tuma also owned 40 acres west of Willow Springs Road, long before that highway was built, and south of 99th Street. In those days 99th Street was a

traveled road, across the swamp which is now Longjohn Slough, to Wolf Road. His home, built in 1907, is now occupied by the curator of the Little Red Schoolhouse nature center. Tuma set out 835 fruit trees and nearly two acres of grapes but only a portion of the orchard remains. On the hill, south of the orchard, he built a farm pond.

When Flavin Road, named for the first chief engineer of the FPD but now known as Willow Springs Road, was constructed on 104th Ave. across the outlet from the swamp west of it and south of 95th Street - then known as Tuma Slough - it inundated 99th Street, which was abandoned. To eliminate confusion with Tuma Lake, the new 35-acre impoundment was later renamed "Longjohn" Wentworth. An early map indicates a tavern so-named at Archer Ave. and Willow Springs Road, and the latter - from Archer to the German Church Road (83rd Street) - was platted as Wentworth Avenue.

In 1886 a one-room rural schoolhouse was built on 99th Street, one-quarter mile west of Willow Springs Road. At that time a road went south from there to the Bluff Road, now 107th Street. Before 99th Street was inundated and closed, the schoolhouse was dragged to a new location on Frank Tuma's property at the southeast corner of 99th Street and Willow Springs Road. In 1953, after the school had been discontinued for lack of pupils, the building was acquired by the FPD, moved to its present location in Tuma's orchard on the brow of the hill overlooking Longjohn Slough, and became the Little Red Schoolhouse nature center - a pioneering facility for outdoor education.

TURNBULL WOODS (Skokie). Official. So-named on March 24, 1924. On October 29, 1917, W.J. Turnbull submitted for purchase, at \$1750 per acre, 80 acres in the NE 1/4 of Section 1, T42N, R12E. Purchase was recommended by the Real Estate Committee, authorized by the Board, and the tract was acquired on November 12, 1917. In his annual message on January 7, 1918, President Peter Reinberg said:

"In rugged natural beauty and splendid growth of timber no woodland acquired by the Board equals the Turnbull tract which lies along the north county line and Green Bay Road, a short distance above Glencoe....... The tract was obtained from the United States in 1843 by Alexander Brand, one of Chicago's first bankers. By him it was transferred to Thomas Turnbull in 1852. The same year Thomas Turnbull gave the land to his son, William James Davis Turnbull, who sold it to the Forest Preserve District. The fine old homestead in which Mr. Turnbull still lives is one of the landmarks of the early settlement of the north shore."

TWENTY-SIXTH STREET WOODS (Salt Creek). Unofficial. Chosen by RM because that is where it is: on the north side of 26th Street from 17th (Maple) Ave. to the I.H.B. Railroad.

WALNUT GROVE (Palos). Now renamed (and see) HICKORY HILLS WOODS.

WAYSIDE INN (or WAYSIDE WOODS). (North Branch). Now renamed (and see) Linne Woods.

WESTCHESTER WOODS (Salt Creek). Unofficial. Chosen because located between LaGrange Road (US 45) and the I.H.B. Railroad, south of 22nd Street which, here, is the south boundary of the Village of Westchester. Before, and for some time after its purchase by the FPD, this was a goat farm for the production of milk. The wildflowers north of Salt Creek were destroyed by the grazing of those animals.

WHISTLER WOODS (Calumet). Unofficial. Origin of name unknown. In 1930 it was known as the Whistler Tract. This is the one and only preserve with a name which could not be traced to any source nor any association of names. Various suggestions - for example: that it was named for Captain John Whistler who commanded the company of soldiers which built Fort Dearborn in 1803 - appear far-fetched and implausible.

The south Indian Boundary Line runs diagonally thru this preserve which is south of the Little Calumet River between Halsted Street and the Pennsylvania Railroad. Formerly, there was a transmission line on 100 feet of right-of-way straddling the I.B. Line, but that was removed and the right-of-way acquired by the F.P.D. in 1955.

In the 1930's, when the Little Calumet was straightened and deepened as a part of the Illinois Waterway from Lake Michigan, by agreement the Corps of Engineers, United States Army, the materal removed by a suction dredge was pumped out and over our property south of the I.B. Line, creating a huge mound which was soon forested by volunteer cottonwood seedlings.

In 1921, the District acquired 113.70 acres, south of the Calumet River, from Walter G. Davis. Also in 1921, most of the land south of the I.B. Line was acquired from John T. McGovern and the abstract of title records that since 1880, it had descended from E. Kellogg Beach to Hector McLean and wife, to George M. Pullman, to the Pullman Land Association, to McGovern.

In 1922 the remaining 32.62 acres south of the I.B. Line were acquired from Clara T. Bay to whom it had descended from George P. Bay who purchased it from Adolph Lund in 1870. Also in 1922, approximately 8 acres north of the I.B. Line were acquired from Cora E. Wendt.

The name "Whistler" does not appear in any discoverable record. Ah'm requsted.

WHITE EAGLE WOODS (Salt Creek). Unofficial. The name has no significance. A new name was required for the areas from 39th Stree to US 66, and this was chosen by RM because it is typically Indian. Among the Sioux, Pawnee, and other western tribes there were Indians whose names were White Eagle but, so far as we know, none of any prominence in this region.

The area south of 40th Street had been known as McBride's Grove (see Ottawa Trail Woods) and had a open dance pavilion. North of 40th Street was Chernaukas Grove (No. 1 and No. 2) with a dance pavilion built of logs by the FPD construction department. It had been operated as a picnic grove by the

previous owner, George Chernaukas, who had had a tavern and, reputedly, a brothel in the yellow brick building on the east bank of the river. Considering the complection of 39th Street then and later, he probably did.

Chernaukas refused to sell and condemnation proceedings were instituted by the FPD. On December 22, 1923, the Chief Attorney notified the Board that a judgment had been obtained in the Circuit Court and the grantor, George M. Chernaukas, was ready to convey to the District, for the purchase price of \$59,000, a warranty deed for that portion of Haas and Powell's Addition to Riverside lying West of the West line of Haas Ave. and North of the South line of Block 7 in said addition east of the Aux Plaines River and South of the South line of Ogden Avenue - 15.765 acres. On April 14, 1924, the Comptroller notified the Board that a Check Letter for that amount had been issued. On the same date the Law Department was directed to notify Chernaukas to vacate the premises immediately.

On July 13, 1927, the Board approved a recommendation that the Illinois Colony Club be permitted to occupy the "Chernaukas House" at Ogden Ave. and the DesPlaines River, gratis, for use of the old people in their group, with the proviso that they were to make their own repairs. This yellow brick building was demolished in 1966 after it had been vacated by the Illinois Colony Club.

It is also of interest to note that on October 20, 1919, the Public Service Committee recommended that the Chief Forester and the Engineer be instructed to submit plans and specifications for an 18-hole golf course "on a tract of land bounded on the North by 39th Street, on the East by Harlem Ave., on the West by the DesPlaines River, and extending on the South to Mud Lake, known as the Portage Preserve", also costs of construction and maintenance. (nb: that was before we owned the Chernaukas property and long before 39th Street was constructed from Haas Ave. to Ogden Ave.). That proposal was approved but on December 22, 1919, the committee reversed itself and recommended that the establishment of this golf course be abandoned. The Board approved the latter recommendation by a vote of 9 Yeas and 6 Nays; whereupon Commissioner Carolan moved that a 9-hoel course be established in the north end of the preserve, south of 39th Street and Ogden Ave., but that motion was defeated by the same margin. Exit golf course.

On March 24, 1924, the preserves along the DesPlaines River "from Ogden Avenue to Archer Avenue" were designated the "Calumet Portage (Lyons)"--a serious mistake: it should have been "Chicago Portage" -- but this nomenclature was abandoned.

WHITE OAK WOODS (Palos). Unofficial. Chosen by RM because white oak is the dominant species of trees in this area and some huge old specimens survive.

WILLOW ROAD WOODS (Skokie). Unofficial. Located on the north side of Willow Road east of the Edens Expressway; adjacent to the Skokie Division Headquarters; accessible to (and see) the SAM STEWART SHELTER by a bridge across the West Diversion Ditch.

WILLOW SPRINGS WOODS (Palos). Unofficial. Chosen by RM because the area is adjacent to the village of that name and the entrance is on Willow Springs Road (formerly Flavin Road). The entrance drive is paved with granite blocks salvaged from the old pavement on Roosevelt Road (12th Street) from Ashland Avenue to Canal Street. Other granite blocks salvaged were used elsewhere, notably to pave the entrance drive to the Palos Golf Course, now abandoned.

The village got its name from the fact that there used to be a big flowing spring bubbling up beside a huge willow tree, a short distance southwest of Wentworth Avenue (Willow Springs Road) and near the old I. & M. Canal. That became a station on the canal and the boats filled their water barrels there.

A. T. Andreas, in his History of Cook County, states that the first settler in Willow Springs was George Beebe who built a log cabin in Section 32 (Lyons Township, between Archer Avenue and the canal), and also a tavern and boarding house. The first merchant was a man named Jarvis. He was succeeded by John Sherwood who also was the first station agent and the second postmaster. He was succeeded by J. H. Banks, son of one of the early settlers in Palos Township, Edmund Banks.

WOODROW WILSON WOODS (Thorn Creek). Officially designated on March 24, 1924, in honor of the President of the United States during and after World War I. On this tract, north of 14th Street (US 30) and west of Chicago Avenue. (Also known as the Chicago and Vincennes Road — the original Dixie Highway) is the site of a cabin built and occupied for a short time by Absalom Wells, the first white settler in Bloom Township. See SCHUBERT'S WOODS.

YANKEE WCODS(Tinley Creek). Unofficial. Chosen by Mr. Sauers because, whereas Tinley Park and the surrounding country was settled mostly by Germans or people of German descent, the previous owners of this preserve were non-Germans -- what Commissioner William Busse used to refer to as "Yankees". (See BUSSE FOREST)

ZANDERS WOODS (Thorn Creek). Unofficial. Chosen because the Zanders family, an old name in Thornton, owned 26 acres of it where the annual picnic of the Lutheran Church in Thornton was held. This area was designated a Nature Preserve in 1964. It is notable for its sassafras trees, lupine, orchis, butterfly weed and other native flora — more than 110 species — of sandy habitat that are now uncommon or rare.

ZOO WOODS (Salt Creek). Unofficial. Chosen because the Brookfield Zoo (Chicago Zoological Park) is on the opposite side of First Avenue. Along the south end is the abandoned right-of-way of the old Chicago and West Towns Street Railway from the city limit of Chicago (originally Crawford Ave.) to La Grange.

Believe it or not, 60 years ago this strip between Forbes Road (now First Ave.) and the DesPlaines River, from 31st Street to the street carline, was an open remnant of the original Illinois prairies -- notable for fringed gentians, bottle gentians, and other prairie plants. Tempus fugit and the haws and crabs take over.

[For []

ADDENDUM NO. ONE

CAMPS

CAMP REINBERG (Northwest). This welfare camp, maintained and operated by the Camp Reinberg Association, has been discussed in the main body of this publication.

The eight camps maintained and operated by youth organizations - five by Boy Scout Councils, two by Girl Scout Councils, and the Sokol (Czechoslovak) organization - were named by them and are not listed.

The following camps are maintained by the Forest Preserve District which issues permits for their use by youth organizations and groups:

CAMP SULLIVAN (Tinley Creek). This property was acquired in 1932 from the estate of Roger C. Sullivan who, in 1916, achieved control of the Democratic organization formerly ruled by Carter Harrison in Cook County. This had been the retreat and summer home of Mr. Sullivan and members of his family.

A large house on the hill - his residence - was used in summer by youth groups for a few years, and then razed becaused of the excessive cost of maintenance and repairs. The big barn was converted into a dormitory and recreation room, with a dining room in the basement. The long chicken house also became a dormitory.

Here, in 1951, our Conservation Department and the Board of Education in Chicago Heights conducted an experimental in-school camp attended by the 5th - grade pupils in the Lincoln School. This was a major step in Outdoor Education in Illinois - a "breakthru" widely publicized and imitated. In the following year, in-school camps from Chicago Heights and Park Forest were conducted at our newly acquired Camp Sagawau, and by Palatine Schools at Camp Reinberg.

CAMP FALCON (Tinley Creek). This camp utilizes the twin cottages in the northwest corner of the Sullivan property. At first they were shared in summer by youth groups sponsored and supervised by the Polish Falcons and the Polish National Alliance, but now are reserved for the Falcons.

Originally, these cottages were the summer homes of two sons-in-law of Roger Sullivan. One of them was Major George Quinlan, the first superintendent of the Cook County Highway Department. The Major was probably responsible for naming Just A Mere Road between 143rd and 147th Streets, which is not located on the half-section line, as are Oak Park Ave. and Bachelor Grove Road, but along the Sullivan property line which is a short distance east of it.

<u>CAMP ALPHONSE</u> (Northwest). For many years allocated to use by St. Alphonsus Church, its parish and related activities, in Chicago. Now a tent

camp under the jurisdiction of the FPD. Located in Deer Grove, north of Dundee Road.

CAMP ZANDERS (Thorn Creek). Another tent camp, located in (and see) Zanders Woods.

CAMP SAGAWAU (Sag Valley)

This 140-acre tract was acquired in 1952 from the Harris Trust and Savings Bank, trustee, and the Chicago Community Trust to which it had been conveyed in trust by the former owner, H.B. Lusch. For many years, and in Mr. Lusch's lifetime, it had been leased to and operated by the Young Women's Christian Association of Chicago as a vacation and rest camp. They had named it Camp Sagawau, partly because it is adjacent to Sag, an unincorporated crossroads hamlet older than Lemont (originally called Athens); also because the camp is on the edge of the Sag valley which, until the Calumet-Sag Channel was built (1911-1922) had been the great Ausagaunashkee or Saganashkee Swamp extending almost to Blue Island, 16 miles eastward.

In addition to Mr. Lusch's cottage and another for the caretaker, the camp comprised 13 cabins with a central bathhouse, a winterized kitchen, mess hall and dormitory, a large assembly hall, and all the facilities for a group camp.

In addition to a wide variety of trees, wildflowers - some of them introduced by Mr. Lusch - and other plant life, the property, located on a dome of the underlying Niagara limestone, is featured by the only rock gorge in Cook County. In and around it are species of ferns and wildflowers found nowhere else in Illinois, and others which are rare. The preserve also includes an old quarry, bordering on old Archer Ave. (abandoned), which provides excellent fishing and is open for public use.

Otherwise, this preserve is not open to the public. The camp is devoted exclusively to year-round programs in Outdoor Education: principally training courses, institutes and workshops for teachers and youth leaders.

ADDENDUM NO. TWO

GOLF COURSES

BILLY CALDWELL (North Branch). A 9-hole course located in the Billy Caldwell Reserve (see CALDWELL WOODS). Originally named Edgebrook No. 2.

BURNHAM WOODS (Calumet). An 18-hole course in Burnham and operated by that village until it was acquired by the FPD.

EDGEBROOK (North Branch). An 18-hole course, originally a 9-hole, named for the Edgebrook community in which it is located - a name probably chosen by the developer of the adjacent subdivision west of Central Ave.

INDIAN BOUNDARY (Indian Boundary). An 18-hole course designed by the Engineering Department of the FPD and built in 1931, by contract, in exactly 90 days - a world record. It extends from the DesPlaines River to Cumberland Ave., between the south line of Robinson's Reserve (Addison St.) and Forest Preserve Blvd. The latter highway is located on the Indian Boundary line from Montrose Ave. to about Pacific Ave. and Addison St. There the boundary line angles more southerly but Forest Preserve Blvd. continues on its previous direction.

MEADOWLARK (Salt Creek). An 9 -hole course designed by the Engineering Department of the FPD and built by contract in 1965-66. This name was suggested by Dick Buck, our present, and third, landscape architect. See Addendum No. 4.

NORTHWESTERN (Skokie). An 18-hole course which, originally, was privately owned and operated as a daily fee course in conjunction with a streetcar line on Harrison St. from Evanston to Harms Road and on across the river to the exclusive Glenview Golf Club. The clubhouse, south of Harrison St. in what is now Harms Woods South, was a large structure of concrete reinforced with railroad rails. Near it were the 1st tee and the 18th green. Their fairways extended southerly across Simpson St. or Golf Road.

After being acquired by the FPD, and after Illinois Route 58 was paved on Simpson St., the course was changed to its present arrangement. The portion north of Simpson St. was abandoned and the old club house was, with difficulty, removed.

PIPE O' PEACE (Calumet). This 18-hole course, west of Halsted St. and south of the Little Calumet River - opposite Whistler Woods - had been privately operated as a daily fee course, with the same name, before it was acquired by the FPD. The name is apt because (see CALUMET WOODS), calumet was an acceptated term for the Indian peace pipe. In frontier times on the Great Plains, the leader of a group of white men, confronting a band of Indians, would produce a pipe and go thru the motions of filling it to signify that they were peaceful. As a preliminary to a conference, where the participants sat in a circle, a decorated ceremonial pipe was solemnly passed from man to man and each took a puff.

ADDENDUM NO. THREE

LAKES, PONDS and SLOUGHS

Originally, with one exception, there were no lakes on any of the lands which are now forest preserves. There were many marshes, some small and some large notably the Skokie and Saganashkee marshes - and "intermittent" ponds that commonly became dry in summer, but no lakes. The exception is Wolf Lake bordering Eggers Woods at the Indiana state line. Otherwise, all of the existing lakes, ponds and sloughs are man made.

Further, almost all of them have been created or developed by the Forest Preserve District for their landscape values, their wildlife values, and for recreational uses - principally fishing. Exceptions are the limestone quarry at Cermak Pool in Lyons; the abandoned quarry an old Archer Ave. at Camp Sagawau; Green Lake, which had been a clay pit dug for material to make brick; and Hambone Lake, at Harlem Ave. and 135th St., which had been excavated by a highway contractor as a borrow pit long before (1930's) the FPD acquired that property.

The Palos preserves, especially, presented many opportunities for developing lakes, ponds and sloughs. The last (the Wisconsin) glacier, as it melted - about 12,000 years ago - left blocks of ice behind it, some of them huge, surrounded by detritus: the Valparaiso and Tinley moraines. After they had melted, those places became potholes, peat bogs and swamps with inadequate outlets or none at all.

Those opportunities were melded by the FPD with the opportunities created by emergency measures taken during the Great Depression of the 1930's: a plethora of labor supplied by "Emerson" relief men, CWA, WPA, and CCC. Several ponds and sloughs were created by an ingenious method which required lots of hand labor but no expensive materials: an earth dam with a spillway which was merely but adequately a wide, sodded, swale ditch around one end of the dam. Another improvization, as at Belly Deep Slough, utilized a highway embankment as the dam, with a small concrete spillway into the culvert outlet.

Those impoundments in the Palos were given picturesque names similar to those encountered in the backwoods of Indiana and Kentucky - folksy names that people talk about.

Some, such as Bouncing Bet Slough, resulted from a questionaire submitted to Forest Preserve people; others - such as Horse Collar, Tomahawk, Horsetail and Boomerang - fittingly referred to the shape of the impoundment. Buttonbush Slough is thickly populated by that acquatic shrub; Cranberry Slough is unique as a peat bog with cranberries and other plant survivors from the post-glacial era. However, Hogwash and Belly Deep and Laughing Squaw were chosen just for the hell of it. Papoose Lake is what she is laughing at.

Similarly, picturesque names were chosen by Roland Eisenbeis, Superintendent of Conservation, for several of the impoundments constructed in recent years by contractors - impoundments designed to provide good fishing and also an attractive appearance in the landscapes. These were constructed in accordance with plans and specifications prepared by our engineering and landscape department, and they included the grading, seeding and planting of the banks.

Six lakes were created as borrow pits providing earth fill for the construction of the Tri-Sate Tollway. One of them, Beck Lake (DesPlaines), was named for the late Edward Scott Beck, formerly managing editor of the Chicago Tribune, as requested by Charles J. Sauers. Mr. Beck's home was in "The Grove" (or Kennicott Grove) on the east side of Milwaukee Ave. north of Glenview Road, overlooking this lake. Another of these "dividends" from the tollway is Potawatomi Pond (DesPlaines) which is an enlargement of an old gravel pit which provided material to surface many miles of roadways during the early years of the FPD. The other four impoundments were named Big Bend Lake (DesPlaines), Belleau lake (DesPlaines, and see Belleau Woods), Axe Head Lake (Indian Boundary), and Turtle Head Lake (Tinley Creek). The latter, largely excavated before the FPD acquired that property, supplied earth hauled the greatest distrances in the history of highway construction in Illinois.

Powderhorn Lake in Burnham Woods (Calumet) was constructed as a borrow pit providing earth fill for the construction of the Chicago Skyway link with the Indiana Tollway. Flatfoot Lake in the Beaubien Preserve (Calumet), and Wampum Lake (north of the Thorn Creek Division headquarters), were constructed as borrow pits providing earth fill for the Calumet (Cottage Grove Avenue) Expressway.

Previous to this expressway and tollway construction, three impoundments had been constructed with federal funds allocated to the Illinois Department of Conservation under the Dingell - Johnson Act: primarily to provide good fishing. A fourth, Tampier Slough, is now being developed.

The first was Saganashkee Slough (Palos) in the Sag Valley. It was created to perpetuate the memories and some of the characteristics of a vast swamp which had-geologically and historically - great importance. The name was chosen by Mr. Sauers.

On the first map of Cook County after it was "laid off" in sections by surveyors - issued by James M. Rees in 1851 - Saganashkee is the name of a swamp which extended from where the Niagara limestone approaches the surface, west of Willow Springs Road, almost to Blue Island. On another early document its name was "Ausagaunashkee" which, interpreters say, meant "slush of the earth". Probably that referred to the underlying peat which, where US 45 underpasses Illinois Route 83, is 22 feet deep.

When the Illinois and Michigan Canal was constructed - it was begun in 1836 but, because of shortages of funds and labor, not completed until 1848 - a feeder ditch was dug easterly thru Saganashkee Swamp to supply that canal with additional water.

In 1909 the Sanitary District of Chicago began construction of the Calumet - Sag Channel as a vital part of the Illinois Deep Waterway - first visualized by Louis Jolliet; later by Thomas Jefferson and John C. Calhoun - connecting Lake Michigan with the Mississippi valley. Interrupted by World war I, the Cal-Sag Channel was completed in 1922. It drained and largely destroyed Saganashkee Swamp which, according to old-timers, had been thick with cattails and sedges, teeming with fish, muskrats and waterfowl - a paradise for fishermen, hunters and trappers.

Papoose Lake (Sag Valley) was the second impoundment constructed with federal funds distributed to the Illinois Department of Conservation under the Dingell - Johnson Act. It is the sophisticated grown-up progeny of its momma, Laughing Squaw, north of McCarthy Road, and tickles her funny bone.

The third such impoundment is Bullfrog Lake in Maple Lake West, adjacent to the old headquarters of Division Five when it included what are now the Palos, Sag Valley and Tinley Creek divisions. The name was chosen by Roland Eisenbeis, altho it is far removed from the impoundment, between Kean Ave. and US 45, called Belly Deep, where those amorous amphibians bellow during warm nights in June.

The fourth "Dingell-Johnson" impoundment is Tampier Slough in that area of the John J. Duffy Woods (Sag Valley) south of 131st Street. The name, widely used, is that of a family - former owners - which lived on a peninsula protruding into the original swamp - originally part of the Busch estate.

A major impoundment is McGinnis Slough (Sag Valley) adjacent to Orland Park. On the U.S. Geological Survey quadrangle map including this area, the name is "McGinnes". Apparently the cartographers erroneously ascribed to this marsh and misspelled - the name of a McGinnis who owned 80 acres at the southwest corner of the marsh and lived on 139th Street in a home overlooking it. The mistake was a natural one by a party of tired surveyors hospitably regaled with refreshments and blarney.

According to grandpa Hedrick and the records of our real estate and map department, most of the McGinnis Slough area north of 139th Street was acquired by the FPD in 1922 and 1923 from John B. Wagner; and most of the Orland Park - McGinnis Slough property south of 139th Street was acquired from Michael Cure.

Old neighbors, however, insist that Frank Campbell, who lived on the west side of 96th Ave. (US 45) at 135th Street owned and his family had always owned the NW 1/4 of Section 4 (T36 N, R12E), and also 44 acres north of the Orland-Palos township line (135th Street) which included the north part of McGinnis Slough. Could be.

Originally, McGinnis Slough was a large swampy place where, in dry summers, local farmers cut the marsh grasses for hay. But when I first saw it, in 1925, somebody - reputedly Cure or one of his tenants operating a picnic area in the

woodland north of 143rd St. and bordering the swamp - had constructed a small concrete box around the mouth of the culvert outlet at 96th Ave., just nort of the Wabash R.R. This had raised the normal water level so much that 139th Street was submerged and abandoned. The marsh had become a slough thickly populated with cattails and sedges - a mecca for wild ducks and geese during their migrations.

During the 1950's, for esoteric reasons, our engineers designed a much wider and higher box culvert at that outlet, and the slough became a lake devoid of emergent vegetation except along its shores: better for fishing but less attractive to waterfowl.

Deer Grove Lake, in the Deer Grove preserve, was created in the early days of the FPD by the construction of a dam across the ravine and outlet from the valley in the easterly part of this preserve. It was built, together with a footbridge, by forest preserve labor; and its primary purpose was to provide a lake where the children in Camp Reinberg might wade, swim and fish. In the 1930's, this dam was replaced by a higher one built by the CCC camp stationed in Deer Grove, causing the lake to extend westerly to the foot of the toboggan slides.

The following impoundments have been discussed in the main body of this publication:

Hidden Pond (Palos). See HIDDEN POND WOODS
Green Lake (Thorn Creek). See CLAY HOLE WOODS
Longjohn Slough (Palos). See TUMA LAKE
Sauk Trail Lake (Thorn Creek). See SAUK LAKE WOODS
Skokie Lagoons (Skokie).
Spring Lake (Northwest). See SPRING LAKE PRESERVES
Tuma Lake (Palos).

MINOR IMPOUNDMENTS

Buffalo Pond (Palos) was excavated in (and see) BUFFALO WOODS to provide a watering place for the small herd of bison formerly kept in this area enclosed by a chain link fence.

Catherine Mitchell Lagoon (Salt Creek). See LAUGHTON TRADING POST AND FORD. Named for a prominent conservationist and nature lover in Riverside.

Ida Lake (Salt Creek). Located in SUNDOWN MEADOW (see Addendum No. Four) which is a part of (and see) the AIRIE CROWN FOREST. Named for the first wife of Colonel Henry Crown. Constructed to provide earth for fill on the Stevenson (Southwest) Expressway, Interstate 55.

Joe's Pond (Palos). A project constructed by Joseph Reichert, superintendent of the Palos Division for many years. We missed a bet by not naming it "Joe's Puddle".

Thatcher Woods Pond (Indian Boundary). Adjacent to the Trailside Museum and to Thatcher Woods Glen. Created by damming an old channel - an oxbow - of the DesPlaines River.

And that, my little chickadees, concludes this taurine excretion.

ADDENDUM NO. FOUR

ADDITIONAL AREAS RECENTLY NAMED

POSSUM HOLLOW (Salt Creek). Unofficial. Suggested by Dick Gleason, supervisor of equipment ever since we had any to maintain and supervise, a master mechanic who made silk purses out of sows' ears and motorized them. Althouthere is no hollow, this area has beaucoup possums and has been known by that name to generations of local residents. Years ago, most of it was subdivided and sewers, water mains, fire hydrants and sidewalks were installed, but nothing more.

SUNDOWN MEADOW (Salt Creek). Unofficial. So-named in memory of John Barstow Morrill, chief landscape architect of the FPD from March 25, 1928, until his death in 1960. A Harvard graduate, he prepared - under the direction of the late Robert Kingery, secretary to the Advisory Committee appointed January 24, 1927 - the plans accompanying the report of that committee which was adopted by the Board on January 23, 1929. His masterpiece was the design of (and see) the Skokie Lagoons.

John always kept in mind this name, Sundown Meadow, seeking an area for which it would be appropriate. Ironically, that did not occur until after he had gone where the woodbine twineth.

Now it has been proposed that the "Doogan property", west of and fronting on US 45, between 107th Street and the Sag Valley, be named "John B. Morrill Meadow". It is eminently suitable and undoubtedly will be approved.

WEIDEMANN GLEN (Sag Valley). Unofficial. Named for Glenn Wiedemann who succeeded John Morrill as our landscape architect. It is a secluded woodland replete with wildflowers and overlooking Groundhog Slough, reached by a lane leading up the hill above the Southwest Highway north of 131st Street. It was Glenn's favorite area and he visited it many times, especially in 1962, when he knew that his days were numbered.

BOB MANN WOODS (Salt Creek). Unofficial. Named for a character hired on October 24, 1930, as assistant to C.C. Estes, then chief construction engineer. Appointed superintendent of maintenance in May, 1932, succeeding James D. Brown who had been the first to occupy that position. Succeeded by Edgar P. Romily in 1945.

Appointed superintendent of the newly created conservation department in 1945. Succeed by Roland F. Eisenbeis in 1954. Remained as conservation editor until retirement on October 31, 1964.

Si monumentum requiris, circumspice.



FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT WATERS

Alphonse Pond - 1 /-2 Arrowhead Lake - 14 9-/ Axehead Lake - 17 2.5 5-1 Baker's Lake - 111 /-/4 Barrington Road Pond - 1 /-/4 Beck Lake - 38 2-3 Belleau Lake - 12 2-5 Belly Deep Slough - 15 7-4 7-5 Beverly Lake - 15 1-7 Big Bend Lake - 27 2-4 Bode Lake North - 10 ーグ Bode Lake South - 10 1-15 Boomerang Slough - 4 7-2 Botanical Garden - 60 3-2 Bouncing Bet Slough - 4 8-5 Brookfield Zoo Pond - 4 6-5 Buffalo Pond - 1 7-2 Bullfrog Lake - 16 7-3 Busse - Main - 417 i-12 1-13 Busse - S.L.P. - 147 /- 0 Busse - N.L.P. - 25 /-/2 Buttonbush Slough - 16 7-4 Catherine Mitchell Pond - 36-5 C.C.C. Quarry - 2 8-1 Cermak Quarry - 2 6-5 Crabtree Lake - 36 /-* Cranberry Slough - 16 7-# Crawdad Slough - 5 7-4 Deer Grove Lake - 15 /-2 Eggers Grove Slough - 40 10-4 Firefly Slough - 1 7-2 Flatfoot Lake - 15 //-2 Goose Pond - 4.25 1-4 Green Lake - 5 11-1 Green Lake Pond - 1 "-1 Groundhog Slough - 14 8-5 Hambone Lake - 8 9-/ Hidden Pond - 1 7-2 Highland Woods Pond #8 - 1 1-9 Highland Woods Pond #5 - 2 /-9 Highland Woods Big Pond - 121-9 Hogwash Slough - 5 7-2 Horsecollar Slough - 2 7-3 Horsetail Lake - 11 8-5 Ida Lake - 10 6-6 Joe's Pond - 8 7-4 Katydid Slough - 4 7-2 Kennedy Pond - 10 8-4 LaBuy Lake - 15 /-4

L.R.S.H. POND - 1 7-4 Longjohn Slough - 40 7-4 Maple Lake - 55 9-4 McGinnis Slough - 303 8-7 McGinty's Pond = 3 9-6 Meadow Lark Pond - 1 6-3 Midlothian Reservoirs - 39 9-5 Mud Lake - 5 /-3 Old Squaw Marshes - 8 8-5 * Papoose Lake - 18.6 8-5 Penny Road Pond - 4 /-4 Pollywog Slough - 5 7-2 Potawatomi Pond - 5 2-1 Powderhorn Lake - 34.5 10-4 Quentins Road Pond - 17 1-2 Rain Barrel Slough - 2 7-3 Redwing Slough - 3 7-4 Regis Pond - 3 8-10 Regis Slough - 10 8-10 Saganashkee Slough - 325 8-1 8-2 Sag Quarry East - 13 8-1 Sag Quarry West - 16 8-1 Sand Ridge Pond - 1.5 11-1 Sauk Lake - 18 //-7 //-8 Schiller Pond - 6 5-2 Skokie Lagoons - 190 3-2 3-3 Sod Farm Pond 1 - 1.5 9-8 Sod Farm Pond 2 - 2.0 9-8 F.P.D. National Golf Course Ponds - 15.2% Spring Lake - 22 1-3 Tampier Lake - 120 8-4 Tampier Slough - 408-6 Thatcher Pond - 1 5.4 Tomahawk Slough - 12 7-3 Tower Road Pond - 5 33 Tryner Pond - 4 9-6 Tuma Lake - 12 7-4 Turtlehead Lake - 12 9-1 Turtlehead Pond East - 4.4 9-1 Turtlehead Pond West - 19-/ Wampum Lake - 35 11-3 Will-Cook Marsh - 15 8-4

Total - 2,643 - 108 areas

* Fishing - 1,724 acres in 42 lakes and ponds There are an additional 123 pond - marsh areas of various sizes throughout the District.

BAKER'S LAKE

The following are notes taken at a joint meeting of the Barrington Historical Society and the Natural History Society of Barrington at the United Methodist Church in Barrington on the evening of October 11, 1984, by C. A. Westcott. This meeting was presided over by Barbara Benson, Director of the Hostorical Society.

- A. Prior to the 1830's and 40's, the general area was open prairies and prairie marshes.
- B. Federal Land Grant dated 10 Sept 1837 recorded the first purchase near Baker's Lake.
- C. The Castle family history indicates:
 - Edward Castle born 1800
 - 1843 he moved to Illinois and walked from Chicago to Deer Grove.
 - 1848? he negotiated underpass beneath C&NW RR.
- D. In 1880 Landwer owned property here.
- E. In 1894 a thoroughbred race track was proposed for this depressional area, as it was know to be a peat bog and a natural amphitheater.
- F. 1907 Otis bought the Landwer property and tile drains were placed under the slough.
- G. In 1918 the property was sold to the Dahir family of Oak Park.
- H. In 1932 & 33 there was a fire reportedly started by Charlie Dahir. Also a dam was constructed.
- I. Bill Klingenberg reports the following:
 A fire started in 1925 by a farmer burning "thistle bundles." The stench of this burning peat lasted for about 3 years. Wright Catlow and Charlie Dahir dynamited outlet under the C&NW RR in the 1920's.
- J. Roy Etters had the following to relate:
 From 1927 to 1933 this area was his "playground." The wooden drainage tiles in the slough were square in cross section about 18 to 24 inches. In 1929 a truck gardener cut tile south of the Campground. There was no lake in 1930 or 1931. The drought of 1932-33 was when the fire started (started by RR engines?). In the summer of 1935, Jim Baker (who owned the land on the east side or the "lake") hired Walbaum & Capuli to ditch and flood the area in order to extinguish the fire. Wildlife began gathering at the Lake by 1936 & 37.