



# What's Out There Chicago

**Kid's Guide  
+ Activities**

# Welcome to the What's Out There Chicago Kid's Guide!

Chicago, a city of celebrated, well-known architecture, is also home to remarkable and pioneering works of landscape architecture, from the Prairie style epitomized by Alfred Caldwell's Lily Pool and Jens Jensen's Columbus Park to significant 20th century landscapes that include the roof garden atop the Modernist Lake Point Tower and Dan Kiley's geometric design for the Art Institute of Chicago's South Garden.

Visit the What's Out There Chicago website [www.tclf.org/landscapes/wot-weekend-chicago](http://www.tclf.org/landscapes/wot-weekend-chicago) to learn more...

This Kid's Guide is part of TCLF's ongoing Cultural Landscapes as Classrooms (CLC) series, which teaches people to "read" the landscapes and cityscapes that are part of their surroundings, to understand how changes affect these special places, and to become better stewards of this shared cultural landscape heritage. The booklet is filled with fun activities, engaging games, and things to look for at 18 Chicago sites. The Kid's Guide encourages visitors to discover the city's unique and historically significant landscape legacy. Take it with you when you visit Chicagoland.

Visit [www.tclf.org/classrooms](http://www.tclf.org/classrooms) to learn more...



## The Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF)

The 12-year old Cultural Landscape Foundation provides people with the ability to see, understand and value landscape architecture and its practitioners, in the way many people have learned to do with buildings and their designers. Through its Web site, lectures, outreach and publishing, TCLF broadens the support and understanding for cultural landscapes nationwide to help safeguard our priceless heritage for future generations.

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## Partners





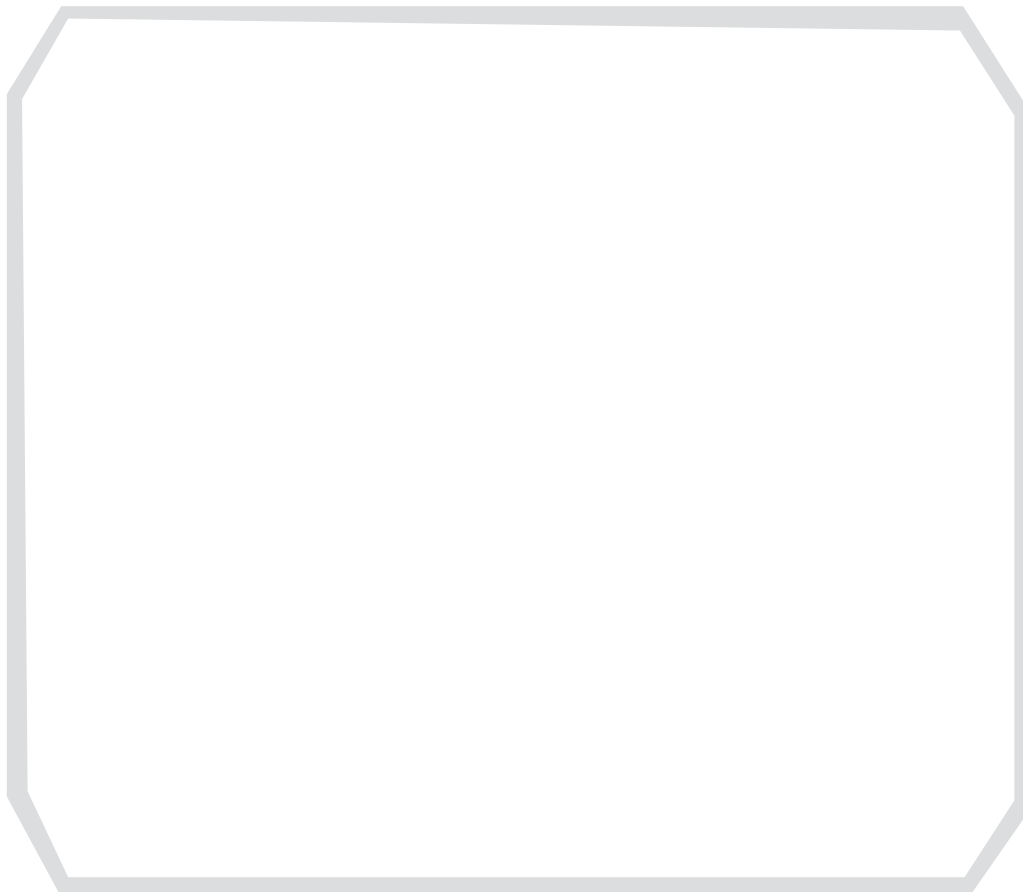
## Art Institute of Chicago - South Garden

The Art Institute of Chicago was built in 1893 in conjunction with the World's Columbian Exposition. Contrasting the Beaux Art style of the museum, the South Garden was designed by landscape architect Dan Kiley and was installed between 1962-1967. Tucked away under a canopy of trees, it is a wonderful place to escape the hustle and bustle of Michigan Avenue.

### Stop & See Can you spot the following in the South Garden...

- ☐ Tree trunks covered in vines
- ☐ Wide steps that go down to an orange graveled path
- ☐ Low cement benches
- ☐ Water coming from the mouths of two fish
- ☐ A place where sunlight peeks through the trees
- ☐ A wide pool of water

### Draw your favorite part of the garden



### Wonder Spot

The South Garden is an oasis **RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF A VERY BUSY CITY**. What elements of the garden do you like the most? How do you feel when you are in this space?

### FUN FACTS & Things to Consider

- Dan Kiley thought that geometric shapes were necessary in design to bring order and understanding to our surroundings. He also believed firmly that humans are a part of nature, not separate from it. Do you think this garden conveys those beliefs?
- At the back of the garden is "The Fountain of the Great Lakes," created by sculptor Lorado Taft in 1913. The five women pouring water from shells represent the five Great Lakes and the water flows through their shells the same way water flows through the five Great Lakes.
- As this garden was actually built atop an underground parking lot, it is a "rooftop garden" just like nearby Millennium Park.
- The trees that create a dense canopy, or cover on the garden, are Hawthorns. Look up close for the needle-sharp thorns and you'll understand how the tree got its name! Native Americans used these thorns for stitching fabric and leather.

### Parent Tip

The North Garden, designed by landscape architect Laurie Olin in 1960, is on the north end of the block. Look for the "Red Flying Dragon" sculpture by Alexander Caldwell. If you and your family are enjoying looking at sculpture, you should visit Millennium Park to enjoy the newly installed works by Mexican Sculptor Yvonne Domenge.





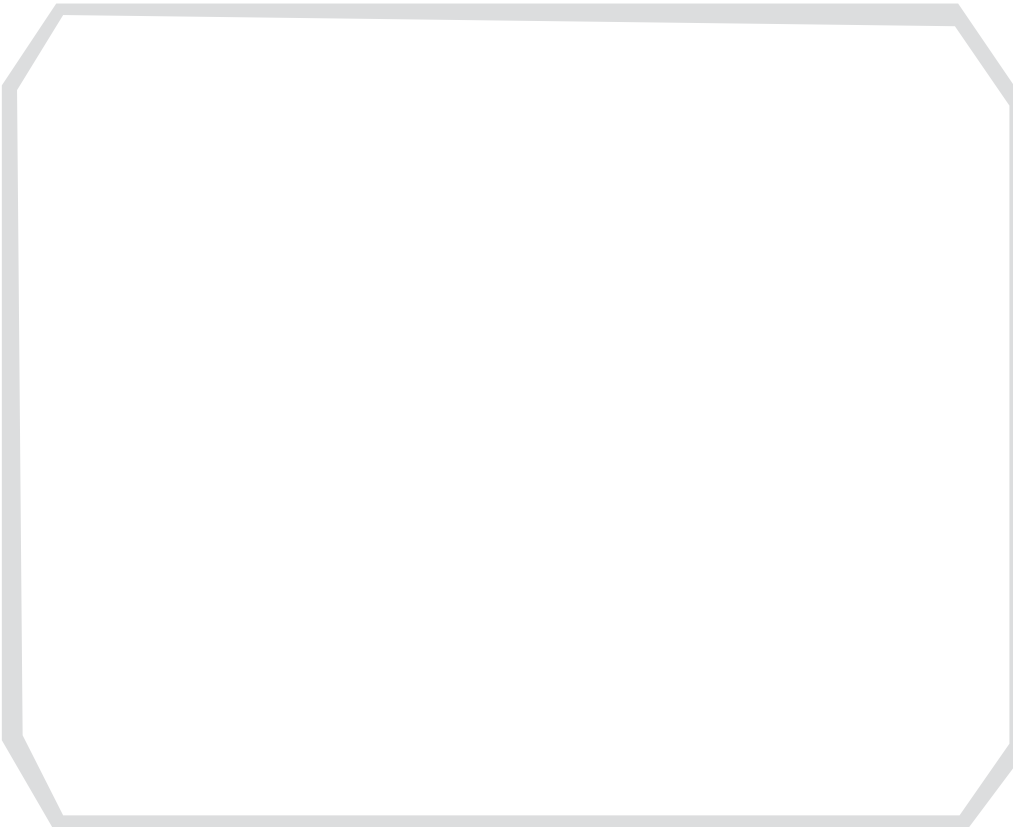
## Columbus Park

Conceived between 1915 and 1920 by landscape architect and conservationist Jens Jensen, Columbus is a park rich with wonder, delight and enduring naturalistic features. Jensen considered it to be his masterpiece. On the National Register of Historic Places, Columbus Park exemplifies Jensen's signature Prairie style.

### Stop & See Can you spot the following in Columbus Park...

- ❑ A spot where flat stones form a bridge
- ❑ A green, grassy "stage" where you could put on a performance
- ❑ Places where the sun might peek though the trees onto the water or ground below
- ❑ Two fountains where the rocks are stacked horizontally
- ❑ The spot near the Refectory (boat house) where rocks form both a bridge and a dam to create a small circular pool

### Draw your favorite part of the park



### Wonder Spot

Columbus Park is full of spots to enjoy the sounds of **TRICKLING WATER** or the sun peeking though trees onto stones or grass. Jens Jensen designed many of these elements almost 100 years ago. What's your favorite spot? If you could design a place for children that will last for 100 years, what would you include in your design?

### FUN FACTS & Things to Consider

- At a time when it was popular to build structured playgrounds Jens Jensen wanted kids to have open, grassy areas where they could be noisy and active. Where do you prefer to play when you're in a place like Columbus Park?
- Are the areas around the lagoon flat like a typical park? No, Jensen wanted this place to have hills, rocks, water, and meandering paths so that you could feel closer to nature.
- Near the playground on the easternmost side of the park, there is a large circular stone bench, a Council Ring. Jensen designed this based on Nordic and Native American traditions. It is a place for storytelling, friendship, campfires and quiet thinking. In a Council Ring, everyone is equal.
- The waterfalls at the end of the Prairie River are considered the park's most impressive features. Why? Do you think the waterfalls happened naturally or were they man-made?

### Parent Tip

Visit Columbus Park on your computer! TCLF has an interactive tour with photographs, maps, historical facts and a guided walk to see the waterfalls and the prairie river. Go to <http://tclf.org/columbus> to get started.



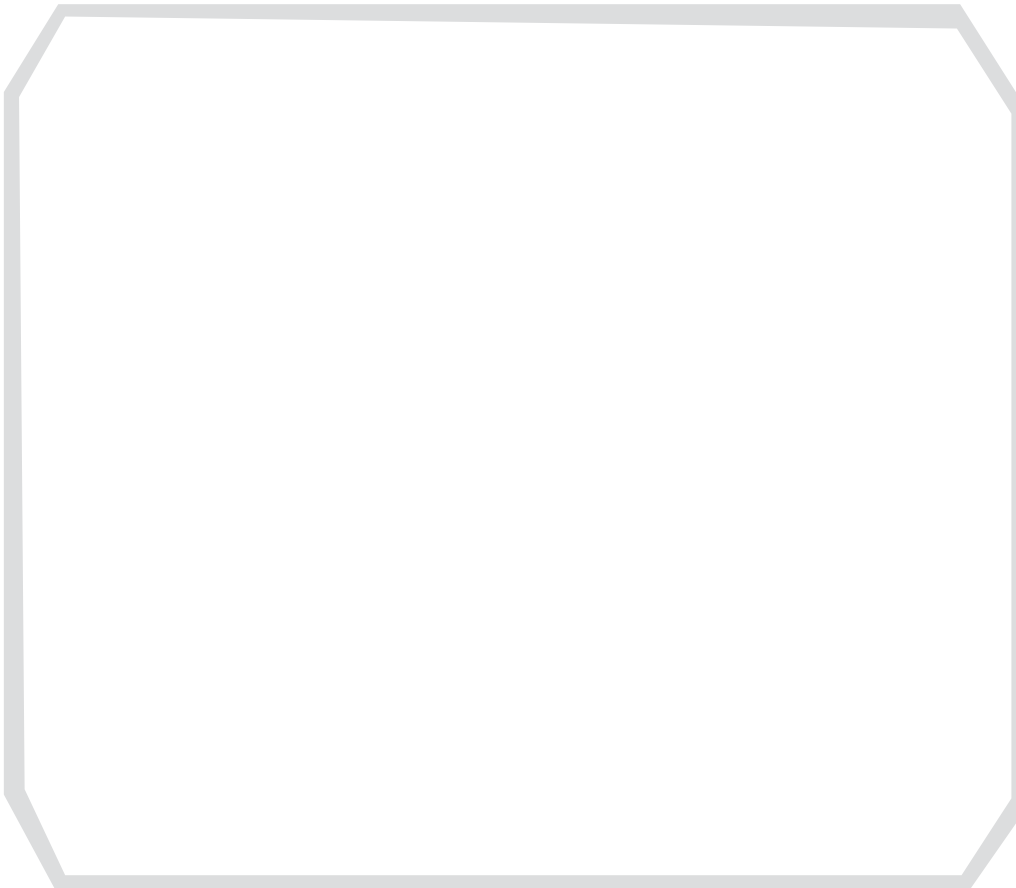
## Daley Plaza

Located in the heart of the Loop, Daley Plaza covers the southern half taken up by the Civic Center. The building and plaza were designed in 1963 by architect Jacques Brownson of C.F. Murphy Associates. Originally named the Chicago Civic Center, it was renamed Richard J. Daley Plaza, on December 27, 1976 in honor of the late Mayor who died while in office the week prior.

### Stop & See Can you spot the following in Daley Plaza...

- ☐ A fountain gently shooting up rows of water
- ☐ A spot to sit under a few trees
- ☐ A place where kids could slide
- ☐ A large Joan Miro sculpture across the street (look south) that has a red circle near its base and a fork-shaped headdress
- ☐ Four granite panels on City Hall depicting playgrounds, schools, parks, and water supply

### Draw your favorite part of the plaza



### Wonder Spot

Daley Plaza is the **CIVIC HUB** of Chicago. People are constantly coming and going. But it's also a place where you can rest or even play. Walk around the Plaza and choose a spot that you like best. If you had to design a public space for city government, what would it look like?

### FUN FACTS & Things to Consider

- This was the first major public building to be constructed in a modern International style rather than that of classical architecture. The architecture is based on the steel and glass skyscrapers of architect Mies van der Rohe. To compare the styles, look due west at City Hall. That is classical architecture. How are the two buildings different?
- The 50-foot tall sculpture by Pablo Picasso is made of "Core-Ten" steel, the same material as the exterior of the Daley Center. The artist designed it as a gift to the city of Chicago. Picasso never explained what it is supposed to represent and there are many theories and ideas. What does it look like to you?
- The "eternal flame" on the eastern end of the plaza is a memorial to those who perished in the World War I, World War II, The Korean War and The Vietnam War.
- The plaza was used in the 1980 movie The Blues Brothers.

### Parent Tip

Two blocks south on Clark Street is Exelon Plaza, adjacent to Chase Tower. How does it differ from Daley Plaza? Make sure to walk down and then up on the east end to see the ceramic mosaic, The Four Seasons by artist Mark Chagall.



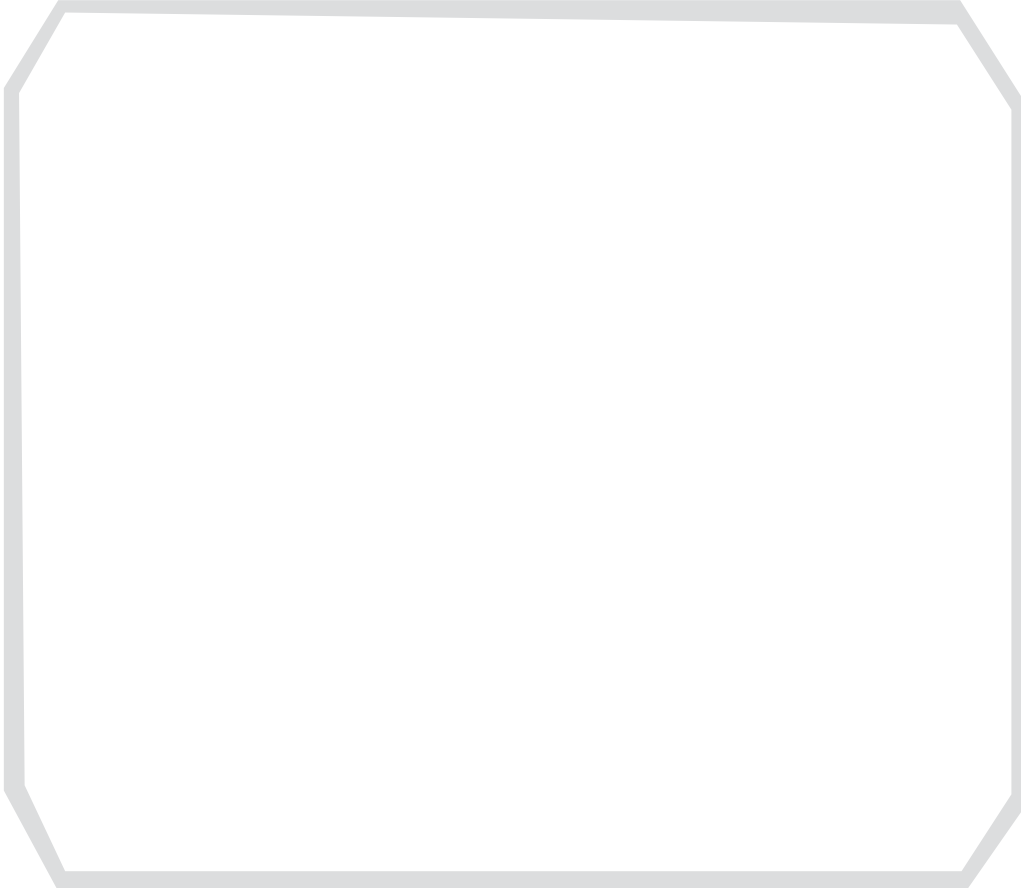
## Douglas Park

Douglas Park is named after Stephen A. Douglas (1813–1861), a United States Senator who was an excellent public speaker and helped bring the Illinois Central Railroad to Chicago. In 1871, William Le Baron Jenney completed plans for the entire West Park System that included Douglas, Garfield and Humboldt Parks.

### Stop & See Can you spot the following in Douglas Park...

- ❑ Places along the lagoon where the trees dip into the water
- ❑ Uniquely shaped benches with extra tall backs that Jensen designed himself
- ❑ A stone bridge designed by Jenney
- ❑ A pool of water encircled by 12 willow trees
- ❑ Cattail decorations on the base of black lamps
- ❑ Iron work and giant arches on the Flower House

### Draw your favorite part of the park



### Wonder Spot

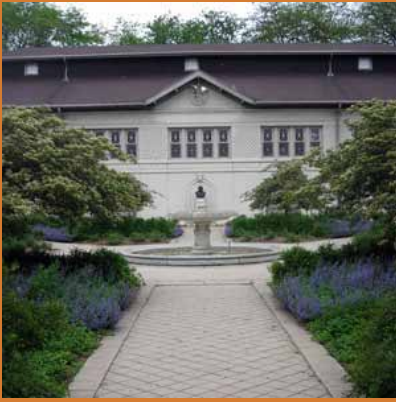
The area near the Lily Pool and the area near the Flower House are quite different in their layout. Which do you prefer? Find a spot that you like and sit there for a few minutes. What did you see or hear?

### FUN FACTS & Things to Consider

- William Le Baron Jenney is known as the Father of the Skyscraper. In Douglas Park he used his engineering skills to transform the marshy site into a park by hauling in sand and manure from the stockyards.
- Douglas Park had one of the first outdoor public swimming pools in the city.
- Ogden Avenue was originally a major streetcar thoroughfare through Douglas Park and later a part of Route 66. Look for a historic Route 66 marker near the park.
- In 1905 landscape architect Jens Jensen was brought on to make improvements to the park. He added a lily pool, formal garden, shelter known as Flower Hall, and a reflecting pool to create a screen between Ogden Avenue and the ball fields.
- Is the area around the lagoon flat like a typical park? It isn't, because Jensen wanted it to have hills, curves and meandering paths so you could feel closer to nature.

### Parent Tip

Douglas Park's restored lagoon is stocked regularly with fish. You can check out rods and a small tackle packet for free from the Douglas Park Library (3353 W. 13th St.) all you need is a library card. Call the library at 312-747-3725 for more information.



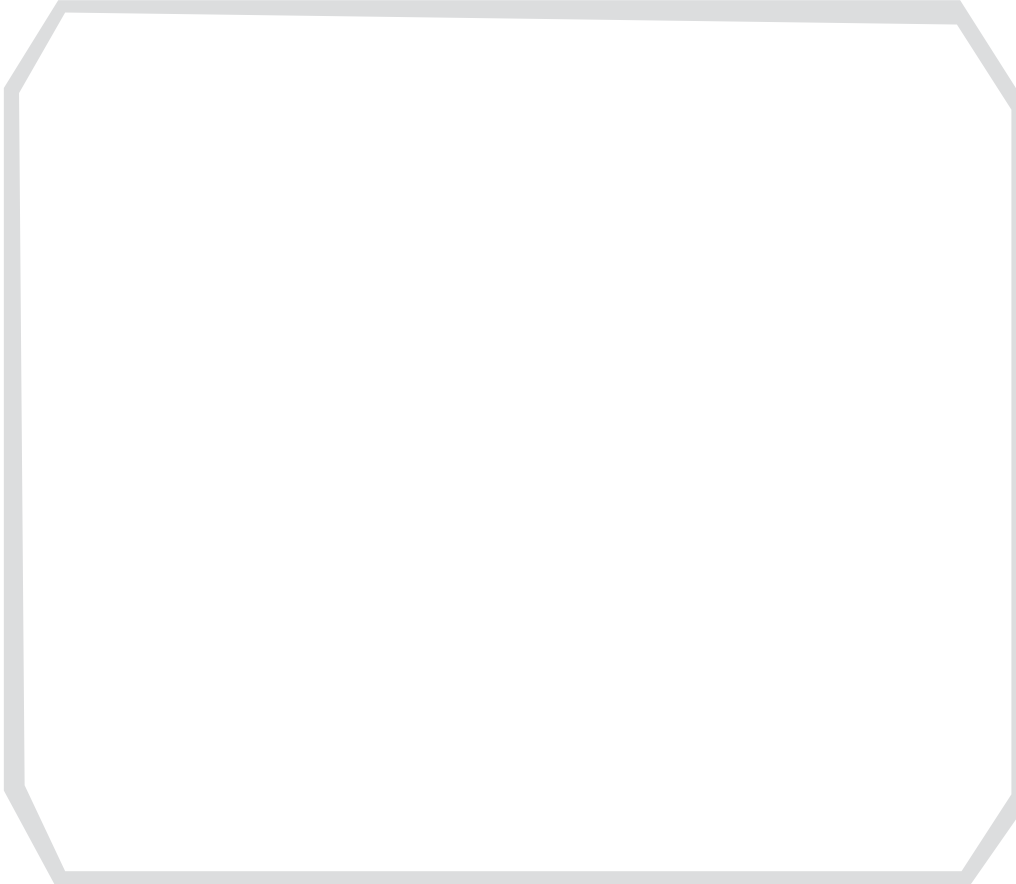
## Fuller Park

Designed by the Olmsted Brothers and opened in 1911, Fuller Park is on the National Register of Historic Places. It is named in honor of Melville W. Fuller, a prominent lawyer who served as a Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court. Although the park has adapted to modern needs, it has experienced few physical changes and maintains much of its original fabric.

### Stop & See Can you spot the following in Fuller Park...

- ❑ A large fountain topped with a lotus blossom
- ❑ A long series of ornamental concrete steps (known as The Grandstand) behind basketball courts
- ❑ Swirly “S” shaped stones covered in moss
- ❑ Diamond patterns on the sides of buildings
- ❑ A mural depicting the explorer Rene-Robert de la Salle at Starved Rock, gazing across the prairie

### Draw your favorite part of the garden



### Wonder Spot

In the early 1900's parks like Fuller provided “BREATHING SPACES” to their congested neighborhoods. Find a spot where you feel like you could get your own “breathing space” and stay there for a couple of minutes without saying anything.

### FUN FACTS & Things to Consider

- The field house was designed by architect Edward Bennett of D. H. Burnham and Co. Daniel Burnham and Bennett wrote the 1909 Plan of Chicago that guaranteed open parkland (including the lakefront) for all Chicagoans to enjoy. So next time you're enjoying a day in a park or the lake, thank Burnham & Bennett for their dedication!
- Fuller Park's field house is the first of its kind and you won't see many other Chicago park buildings laid out quite the same way. Bennett designed a symmetrical complex of buildings flanking a central outdoor children's courtyard. How many paths in the courtyard lead to its center?
- The bust of Melville Fuller was installed in the courtyard in 1913. It was created by sculptor William Ordway Partridge, the same artist who created the Shakespeare Monument that stands in Lincoln Park. What animal is above Fuller's bust?

### Parent Tip

Two blocks north of Fuller Park is Eden Place, an urban nature center and community garden. Check out their website at [www.edenplacenaturecenter.com](http://www.edenplacenaturecenter.com) to find out about upcoming programs and farmers markets.



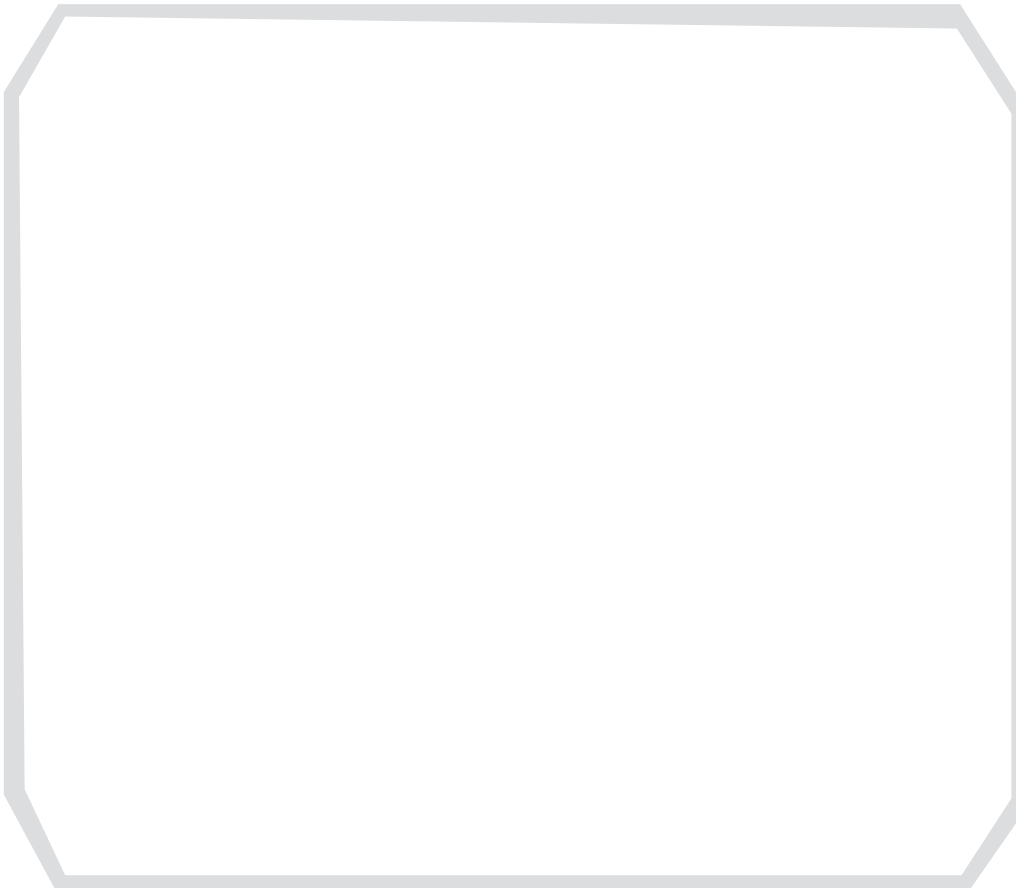
## Garfield Park Conservatory

Considered revolutionary when it first opened in 1908, the Garfield Park Conservatory was described as a work of “landscape art under glass.” Designed by Jens Jensen, the structure was unlike its 19th century predecessors, and one of the largest conservatories in the world. In 1994, the Chicago Park District embarked on a multi-million dollar restoration plan that brought improvements to the aging facility.

### Stop & See Can you spot the following in the Conservatory...

- ❑ Soft green moss growing on the rocks in the Fern Room. (It's okay to touch!)
- ❑ Giant yellow lily pads made of glass floating on water in the Aroid House
- ❑ Banana plants growing in Sugar from the Sun – look up
- ❑ The Sensitive Plant in the Children's Garden
- ❑ A winding labyrinth behind the conservatory

### Draw your favorite part of the conservatory



### Wonder Spot

The Garfield Park Conservatory was designed to be a place where people could **WONDER AT THE BEAUTY OF THE PLANT WORLD** and take refuge from the hustle and bustle of city life. Find a place in the conservatory that you like most. Sit there for two minutes without saying a word.

### FUN FACTS & Things to Consider

- Jen Jensen used the local landscape for inspiration in the design for the conservatory. He designed the outside to look like a giant haystack instead of a palace or glass house. Where do you normally find haystacks?
- A Double Coconut Palm is part of the conservatory's plant collection. Its seed is one of the largest in the world, bigger than a football! Where do you think it is?
- The oldest pair of plants at the conservatory are the cycads, each labeled Giant Dioon and flanking the Fern Room stairs. They were purchased in the early 1900's and at that time were a couple hundred years old—so they are older than George Washington!
- To get the waterfall at the back of the Fern Room to sound just right (like a “prairie waterfall”) Jensen had the workmen building it listen to a classical music record called Spring Song by the composer Felix Mendelssohn.

### Parent Tip

Garfield Park Conservatory Alliance offers free family events and programs year-round. Highlights include County Fair, Creatures of the Night, Morning Glories and more. Check out [www.garfield-conservatory.org](http://www.garfield-conservatory.org) for details.





## Graceland Cemetery

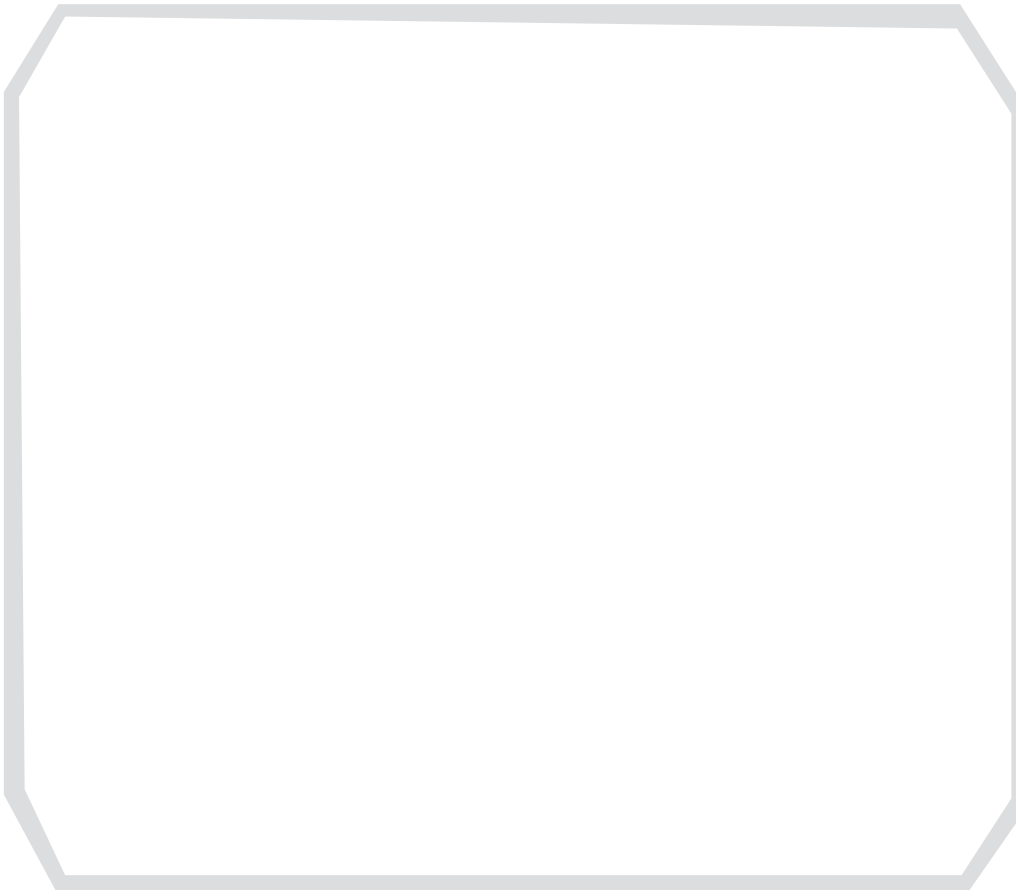
Established in 1860 and designed by landscape architects H.W.S. Cleveland and O.C. Simonds, Graceland is a masterpiece of Midwestern landscape architecture. Its architecturally significant monuments and markers cover 119 acres of land.

Make sure to stop at the Visitors Center at the entrance to receive a map so that you can easily locate the numbered markers detailed below.

### Stop & See Can you spot the following in the Cemetery...

- ❑ A marker for Daniel Burnham, whose vision preserved the city's lakefront. # 18 on map
- ❑ A large Celtic Knight made of black stone, created by sculptor Laredo Taft. #7 on map
- ❑ A pyramid with an angel on one side of the door and a sphinx on the other. Look for the serpent coiled around a doorhandle and peer through the screen for a surprise. #9 on map
- ❑ A gravestone in the shape of a baseball. #31 on map

### Draw your favorite part of the cemetery



### Wonder Spot

O.C. Simonds designed Graceland to be a beautifully landscaped park with an abundance of trees, plants, lovely views and soothing water features. Find a spot in the cemetery where you feel most comfortable. Enjoy a few minutes there. Does it feel peaceful to you here?

### FUN FACTS & Things to Consider

- The western boundary of the cemetery is Clark Street. Formerly known as Green Bay Road, it was originally an old Indian Trail.
- O.C. Simonds designed Graceland to look like a natural landscape. People used to even come to cemeteries like Graceland for picnics and to escape the noise of the city.
- The Getty Tomb (#20 on map) designed in 1890 by architect Louis Sullivan is considered the masterpiece of the cemetery and has been described as the beginning of modern architecture. In 1971 it was declared a City Landmark
- As you walk through Graceland, you'll see many obelisks. An obelisk is a monument that goes back to ancient Egypt. The obelisk represented a ray of light or a sunbeam. It symbolized the sun at its zenith and marked the tombs of royalty. How many obelisks do you see as you walk through the cemetery? They are decorated with images from nature.

### Parent Tip

An excellent guide for exploring Graceland is Barbara Lanctot's *A Walk Through Graceland Cemetery*. It is no longer in print but you can find it at many Chicago libraries. Note that her numbers for markers have since changed.



## Grant Park – Clarence Buckingham Memorial Fountain

The Clarence Buckingham Memorial Fountain is the centerpiece of Grant Park. Constructed out of Georgia Pink Marble, it was completed in 1927 and designed by architect Edward H. Bennett. He wanted a giant fountain that would bring the park together without blocking views of Lake Michigan. It is one of the world's largest fountains.

### Stop & See Can you spot the following at or near the Fountain...

- Twelve fish heads with water coming out of their mouths
- Shell designs on the fountain
- Nearby trees that look almost like walls
- The highest point of the water shooting from the top
- A place nearby where roses are growing
- Bronze cattails in the water

### Draw your favorite part of the fountain

### Wonder Spot

People from all over the world come to see Buckingham Fountain. Which aspect of the fountain do you like best? If you were to design a fountain, what would it look like and where would you place it?

### FUN FACTS & Things to Consider

- The fountain represents Lake Michigan; and the four pairs of sea horses, built by French sculptor Marcel Loyau, represent the four states that border the lake: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin.
- Each pair of seahorses consists of a male and a female. The male is distinguished by having a “mustache” and the female by distinct webbing on the fins.
- Philanthropist Kate Buckingham donated one million dollars for the fountain, which was dedicated to her brother Clarence and inspired by the fountains at Versailles.
- For years the fountain was manually operated by two engineers who each worked a twelve hour shift in a room in the base of the fountain. The operations were fully computerized in 1980.
- The fountain is powered by 3 pumps that push 14,100 gallons of water per minute through 134 water jets.

### Parent Tip

Two blocks north of the fountain is the Modern Wing at the Art Institute of Chicago. It has an engaging family area. On weekends they often have free hands-on art activities. Check the website for more details at [www.artic.edu](http://www.artic.edu).



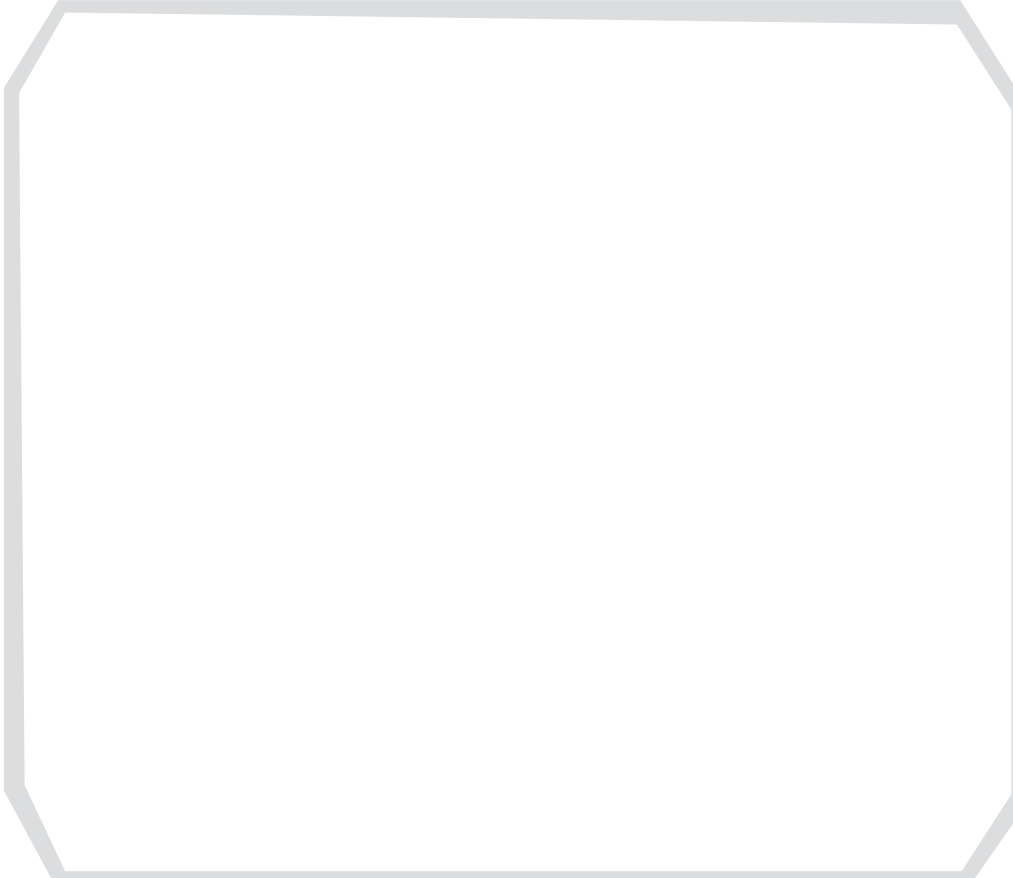
## Grant Park South Sculpture Walk

Grant Park is often referred to as Chicago's "Front Yard." Originally named Lake Park, in 1901 it was renamed to honor Ulysses S. Grant, the 18th president of the United States. Today, it is a tapestry of impressive trees, formal walkways, neo-classical architecture and beautiful gardens and sculptures. This walk will focus on the southern end of the park, starting at Balbo Street and heading south toward Roosevelt Road.

### Stop & See Can you spot the following in Grant Park...

- ❑ A sea of enormous bronze legs
- ❑ A spot that looks like an "outdoor room" where trees and walkways act as "walls"
- ❑ A family of bears on the pedestal of a music-themed sculpture
- ❑ A pair of granite fragments from Chicago original Central Station Hint: look west of Metra tracks and north of Roosevelt Road
- ❑ A stone serpent and stag

### Draw your favorite part of the walk



### Wonder Spot

Grant Park has many gardens and places to stop and rest or to **APPRECIATE ART** or simply **ENJOY BEING IN THE PARK**. Find a spot that appeals to you. Sit there quietly for two minutes. Ask yourself why you chose this special spot.

### FUN FACTS & Things to Consider

- The Spirit of Music sculpture honors Theodore Thomas, the first conductor of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. The granite backdrop was missing for decades before a jogger discovered pieces of the original along the edge of the lake. The CPD retrieved them, restored the sculpture and exedra (the formal name for the backdrop) and installed the monument at its present location.
- Politician and war hero John Alexander Logan was instrumental in creating Memorial Day. His monument is actually an empty tomb. He and his wife were to have their remains moved to the tomb from Washington, D.C. but it never happened.
- Joseph Rosenberg worked as a newsboy. He could never convince merchants to give him a drink of water on a hot day. He vowed that if he were ever wealthy, he'd create a fountain where newsboys could get a drink, and kept his promise. The fountain stands at Michigan Ave. & 11th St.

### Parent Tip

The CPD website has descriptions of all of the sculptures and monuments in Grant Park. Go to the home page at [www.chicagoparkdistrict.com](http://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com) and then click on "Fountains, Monuments and Sculptures" on the right-hand side.



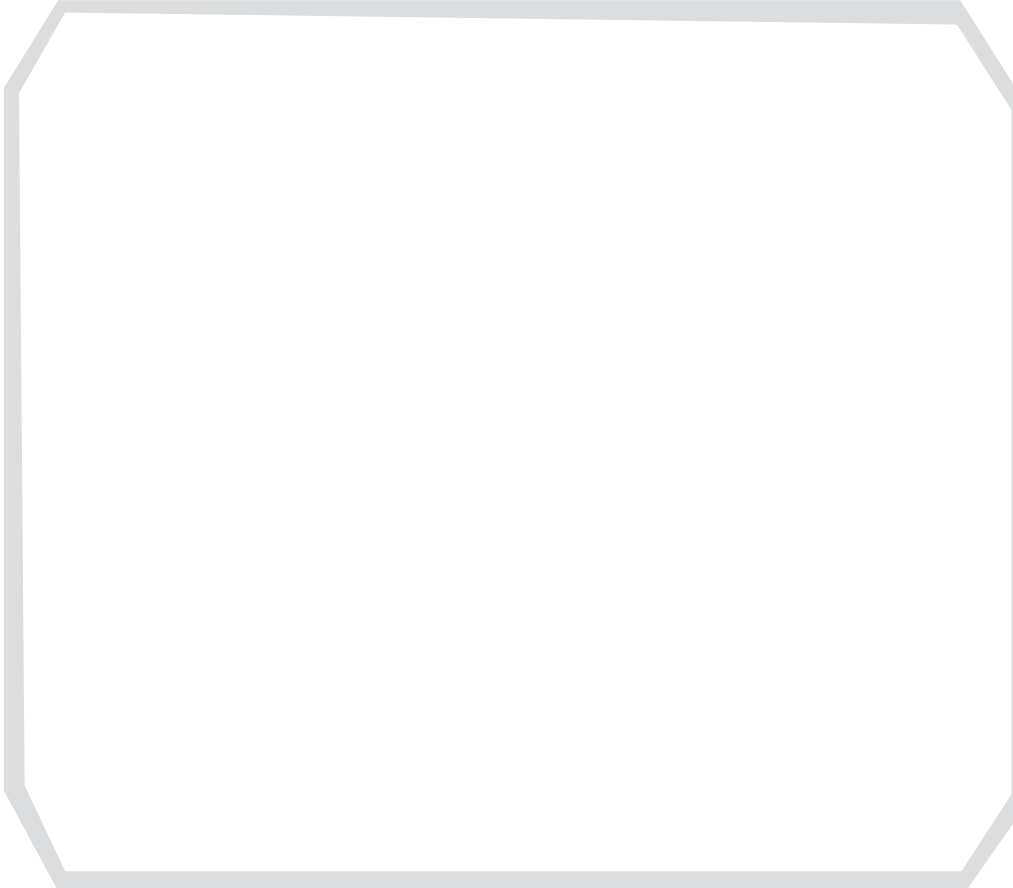
## Humboldt Park

Originally known as North Park, in 1869 the park was renamed in honor of German explorer, naturalist and scientist Baron Friedrich Heinrich Alexander von Humboldt. Landscape architect Jens Jensen designed much of the park, experimenting with his evolving “Prairie style.” Many of the historic elements of the park, including the lagoon, boathouse and stables, were recently restored.

### Stop & See Can you spot the following in Humboldt Park...

- ☐ Places along the lagoon where rocks are stacked to make steps
- ☐ Large green lanterns near the boathouse
- ☐ A 10-foot tall bronze statue of Alexander von Humboldt with a twig in his hand and a globe at his feet
- ☐ A solar wind turbine near the Prairie River
- ☐ Large arches on the boathouse building. How many can you count?

### Draw your favorite part of the garden



### Wonder Spot

Humboldt Park has a great number and variety of trees. In the late 1800's, the **TREES PROVIDED SHADE AND BEAUTY** for visitors who often rode their horses through the park. Find a tree in the park that you like the most. Sit under it for two minutes without saying anything.

### FUN FACTS & Things to Consider

- In the early 1900's boating on the lagoon was a popular summer pastime. In 1912 you could rent a boat for one hour for the fee of 15 cents. Today, you can take sailing classes, launching from the historic boathouse.
- Sculptor Edward Kenneys created the two large bison sculptures that sit on the east end of the rose garden. Look closely at the bison's large heads -- are they exactly the same? Kenneys is also the artist who created the two famous lions that sit in front of the Art Institute of Chicago.
- The meandering “Prairie River” on the west side of the park was designed by Jens Jensen, who kept his office in the turret of the nearby stables. The river was inspired by natural rivers Jensen saw when he took trips to the countryside. In his book *Siftings*, he said, “I have always thought that if the city cannot come to the country, than the country must come to the city.”

### Parent Tip

There is an free audio tour of Humboldt Park on the Chicago Park District website at [www.chicagoparkdistrict.com](http://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com). Teeming with facts about the park's history and design, it is narrated by Julia Bachrach, historian for the CPD.





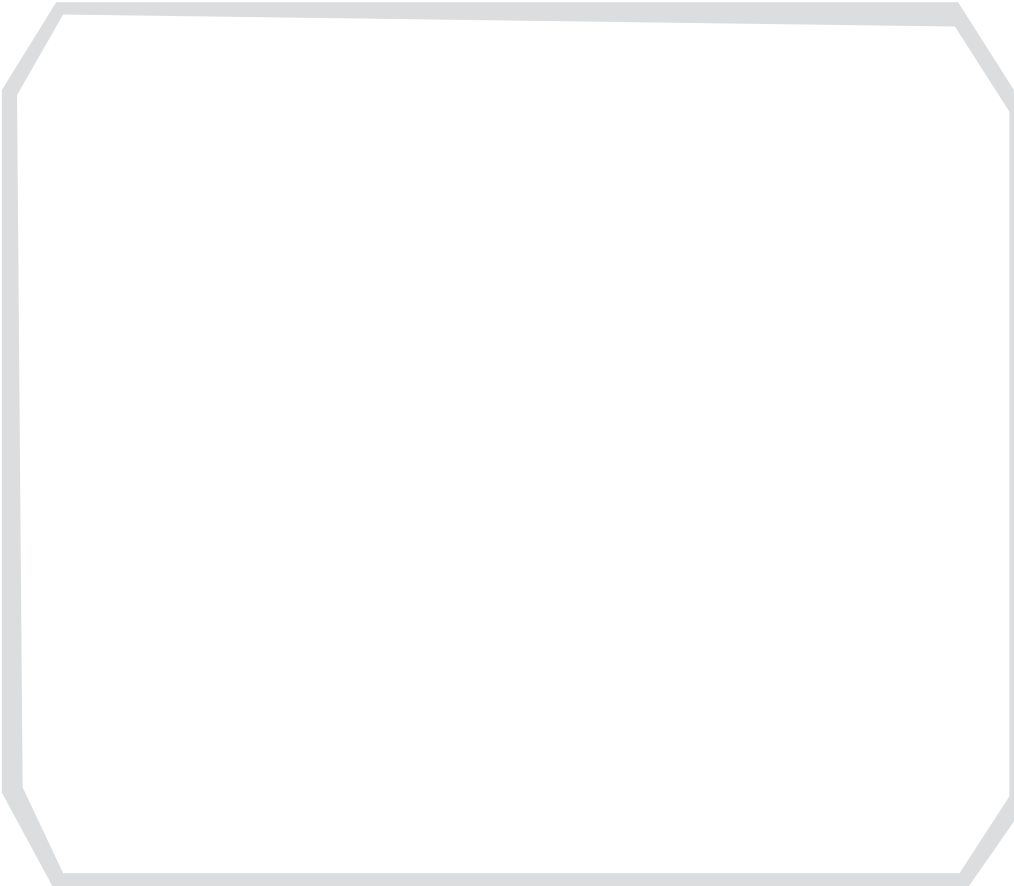
## Lincoln Park Conservatory

The Lincoln Park Conservatory was constructed and opened in phases between 1890 and 1895. Built of glass and metal, it has four main rooms to showcase plants: The Palm, the Fern Room, The Orchid Room and The Show House.

### Stop & See Can you spot the following in the Conservatory...

- ❑ A garden of “conifer trees,” trees that have green needles for leaves
- ❑ A statue of a girl looking into a pond. What's swimming in the pond?
- ❑ A “sausage tree” with giant weird-looking fruit
- ❑ A room with plants that grew at the same time as the dinosaurs
- ❑ An underpass that leads to Grandmother's Garden and a statue of William Shakespeare

### Draw your favorite part of the conservatory



### Wonder Spot

The Lincoln Park Conservatory was designed to be a place where people could wonder at the beauty of the plant world and **TAKE REFUGE FROM THE HUSTLE AND BUSTLE OF CITY LIFE**. Find a place in the conservatory that you like most. Sit there for two minutes without saying a word.

### FUN FACTS & Things to Consider

- The Palm House is the biggest room in the conservatory – it is 50 feet high at its center. This lush room houses more than two dozen species of palms from all over the world. Which one is your favorite?
- Architects Joseph Lyman Silsbee and Mifflin E. Bell designed the conservatory. Silsbee gave the conservatory an exotic form by creating a series of trusses in the shape of what is called an “ogee arch.” Touch your two index fingers together to make a tent shape, with both of your thumbs pointing to the ground. The space inside your fingers and thumbs is an ogee arch. Do you see it anywhere on the conservatory? Hint: look up.
- Outside of the conservatory in the formal garden is the Bates Fountain, which is also known as “Storks at Play.” Look for cattails, birds, fish and child-like creatures that are half-boy, half-fish. All of the bronze figures on the fountain are put away in storage every winter.

### Parent Tip

Lincoln Park Conservatory is located next to the Lincoln Park Zoo, one of the last few free zoos in the U.S. Find out about upcoming programs by visiting [www.lpzoo.org](http://www.lpzoo.org).



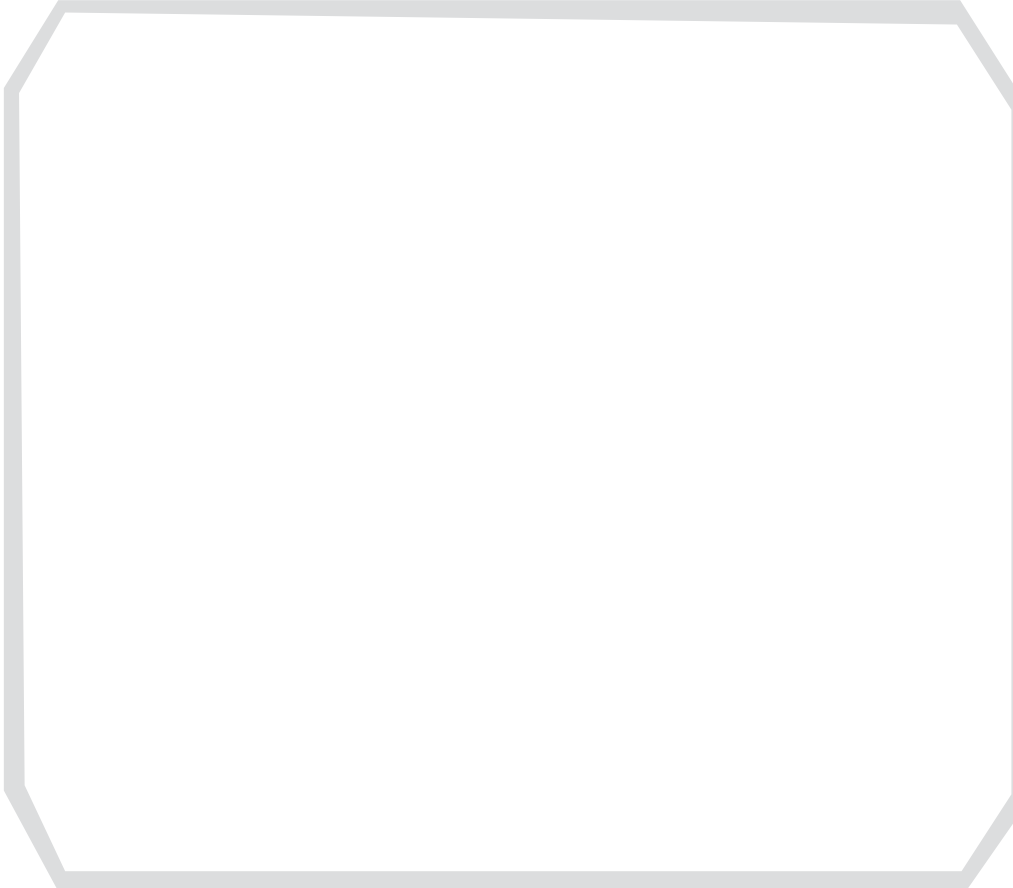
## Midway Plaisance

The Midway Plaisance is a one-mile linear stretch of park that was conceived in 1871 by landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted and architect Calvert Vaux. Originally a flat and marshy site, Olmsted envisioned a canal-like waterway that would connect what is now Jackson Park to the east and Washington Park to the west. The canal never came to fruition, but in 1893 the Midway Plaisance was the site for amusement and education at the World's Columbian Exposition.

### Stop & See Can you spot the following in Midway Plaisance...

- ❑ Laredo Taft's own face in his sculpture.  
Hint: read the plaque at the base for clues.
- ❑ An inscription in the Allison Davis Garden with "One must chart his course and sail."
- ❑ A place where the grass slopes down lower than the sidewalks.
- ❑ A kiosk that explains Chicago's boulevards.
- ❑ A statue of Carl von Linné, the Swedish botanist, physician, and zoologist.

### Draw your favorite part of the park



### Wonder Spot

The Midway Plaisance has many spots to play and others where you can sit quietly. Which do you prefer and why?

### FUN FACTS & Things to Consider

- Olmsted & Vaux named the park after the French word "plaisance" which translates roughly as "place for boating."
- If you stand in the center of the Midway, where the Ice Rink is located, you will be standing where the world's first Ferris Wheel debuted at the 1893 Columbian Exposition. 264-feet tall at its highest point, the Ferris Wheel had 36 cars, each with a capacity of 60 people. The 20 minute ride cost 50 cents per person.
- After the Exposition, panels on the Midway were dug down below grade level, but the canal was never completed. These sunken areas have remained playing fields ever since, often muddy ones, due to the landscape.
- Laredo Taft's sculpture The Fountain of Time sits at the west end of the park. Commissioned in 1922 by The Art Institute of Chicago, it was inspired by a poem entitled the Paradox of Time by Henry Austin Dobson.

### Parent Tip

East of the Midway is Jackson Park's Wooded Island. Designed by Olmsted, it is a designated nature area with Burr Oaks that are at least 500 years old. You can download an Activity Sheet for the garden on TCLF's website, [www.tclf.org](http://www.tclf.org).



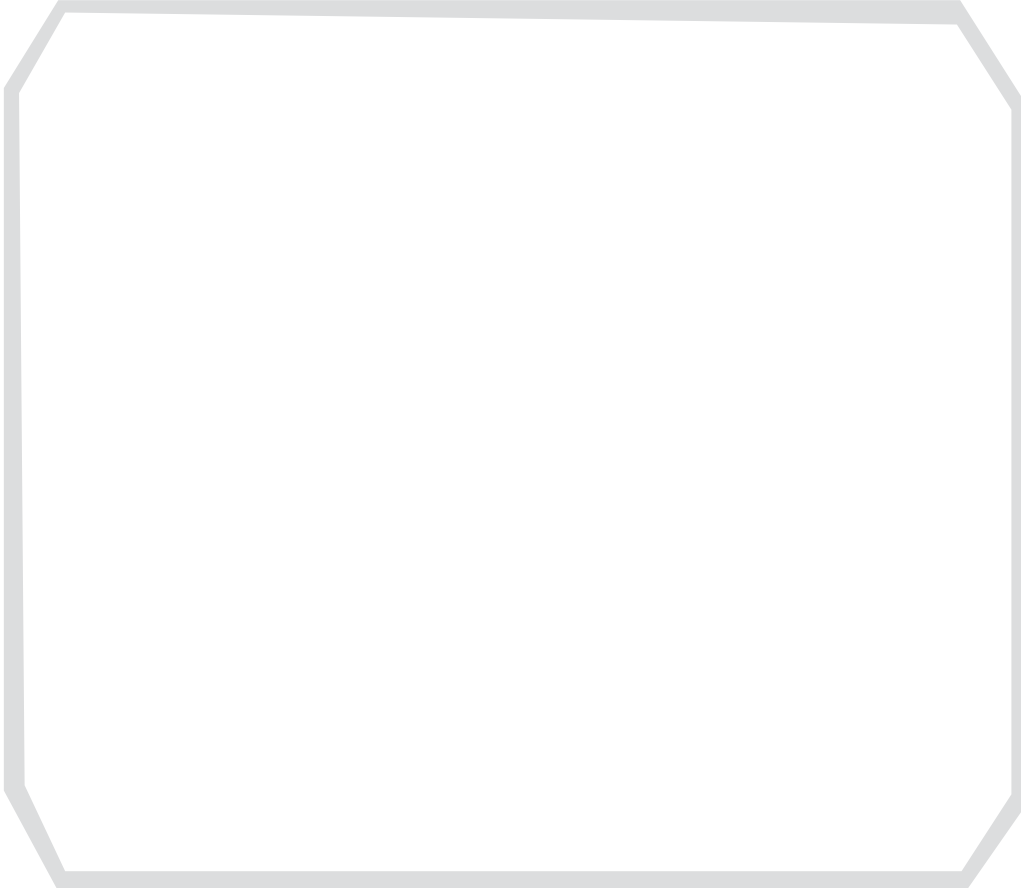
## Millennium Park

Opening in July, 2004, Millennium Park has become one of Chicago's most popular destinations. Many consider it to be the city's most important project since the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893. The 24.5 acre park is a center for art, music, architecture and landscape design and most of the programming offered is free and open to the public.

### Stop & See Can you spot the following in Millennium Park...

- ❑ A modern bridge made of steel and wood
- ❑ A sculpture of a bright red tree with two orange seed pods sitting nearby
- ❑ A wooden walkway near a low basin of water where you can cool off your feet
- ❑ A place where you can relax on the grass
- ❑ The world's longest picnic table, made entirely of recycled plastic
- ❑ A fountain that is not The Crown Fountain

### Draw your favorite part of the park



### Wonder Spot

Millennium Park has many places to play, to delight in art, music, plants and water. Some spots are **ACTIVE** and others are **QUIET** and allow for **RELAXATION**. Find a spot that appeals to you. Ask yourself why you chose this special spot.

### FUN FACTS & Things to Consider

- The Pritzker Pavilion, designed by world famous architect Frank Gehry, is made of 1,570 tons of structural steel.
- Anish Kapoor's stainless steel sculpture, "Cloud Gate" (nicknamed "The Bean") was actually inspired by a single drop of liquid mercury.
- The steel structure that wraps around the Lurie Garden is called "The Shoulder Hedge" – a reference to Carl Sandberg's poem "Chicago" and the line, "City of Big Shoulders." Chicago was the birthplace of the steel skyscraper.
- The Crown Fountain, by Spanish artist Juame Plensa, randomly features the faces of hundreds of Chicago residents who have water coming out of their mouths. This is a modern take on the traditional use of mythological beings in fountains, where faces were sculpted with open mouths to allow water, a symbol of life, to flow.
- The park is considered the world's largest rooftop garden.

### Parent Tip

From June to August, Millennium Park hosts the Target Family Fun Tent in the Chase Promenade. Families can enjoy free activities, performances, readings and spaces for open-ended play with blocks, hula hoops and more. It's open 7 days a week from 10 am – 3 pm.



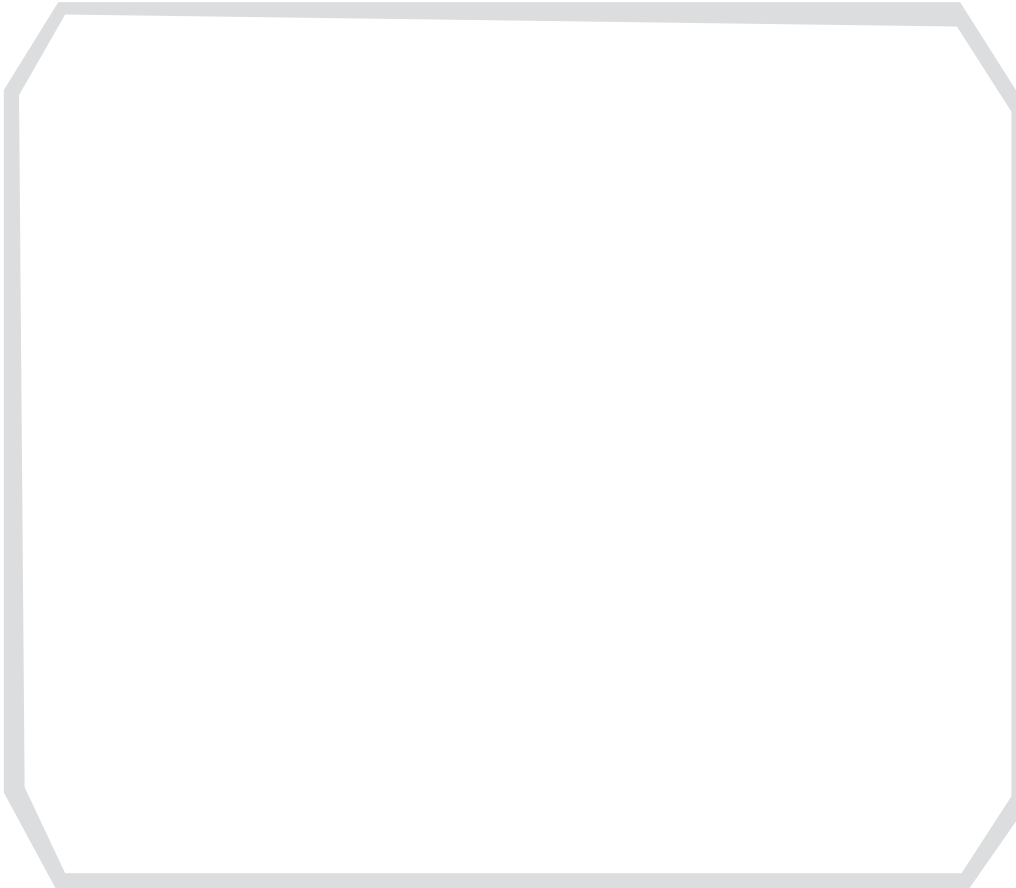
## North Pond, Lincoln Park

Originally, the site of North Pond was a lakefront dune, filled with scrub oak and other shore vegetation. Then, for a short time it was a dumping ground for the rapidly growing city. Finally, it was converted into a healthy park pond. It is a part of Lincoln Park, which is Chicago's largest park, covering 1,208 linear acres.

### Stop & See Can you spot the following at the North Pond...

- ❑ Mallard ducks swimming in the water (note: the male has the shiny green head and the female is dappled brown)
- ❑ Native plants as tall, or taller, than an adult
- ❑ A green wooden gazebo-like shelter
- ❑ An old bridge and underpass made of stones
- ❑ A marker on the northwest side that designates the abandoned shoreline of Lake Michigan

### Draw your favorite part of the garden



### Wonder Spot

North Pond has a narrow footpath that runs along its eastern side. In some spots it gets quite close to the water. Walk carefully along the path until you find a tree, plant or an animal that captures your attention. Sit there for a few minutes without saying anything.

### FUN FACTS & Things to Consider

- North Pond is an important wildlife area. It is a lakefront flyway area for about 200 species of birds, and is the site where Mayor Daley and the US Fish and Wildlife Service signed an Urban Conservation Treaty for Migratory Birds.
- The Chicago Park District allows some fallen trees along the pond to remain down so that animals can find shelter or make their homes there.
- You might notice black fencing wrapped around the base of some trees near the water. For the past three years, North Pond has been home to several industrious beavers. The fencing protects the larger trees from being chewed on and damaged.
- The cement dock near the museum was created for people to practice their fly-casting. Walk on it and look north to the logs near the water – there are often turtles sunning, sometimes as many as a dozen at a time!

### Parent Tip

North Pond is home to many birds, some who call the area home. The Chicago Ornithological Society hosts free bird walks at North Pond throughout the year. Check their website for dates & times, [www.chicagobirder.org](http://www.chicagobirder.org).





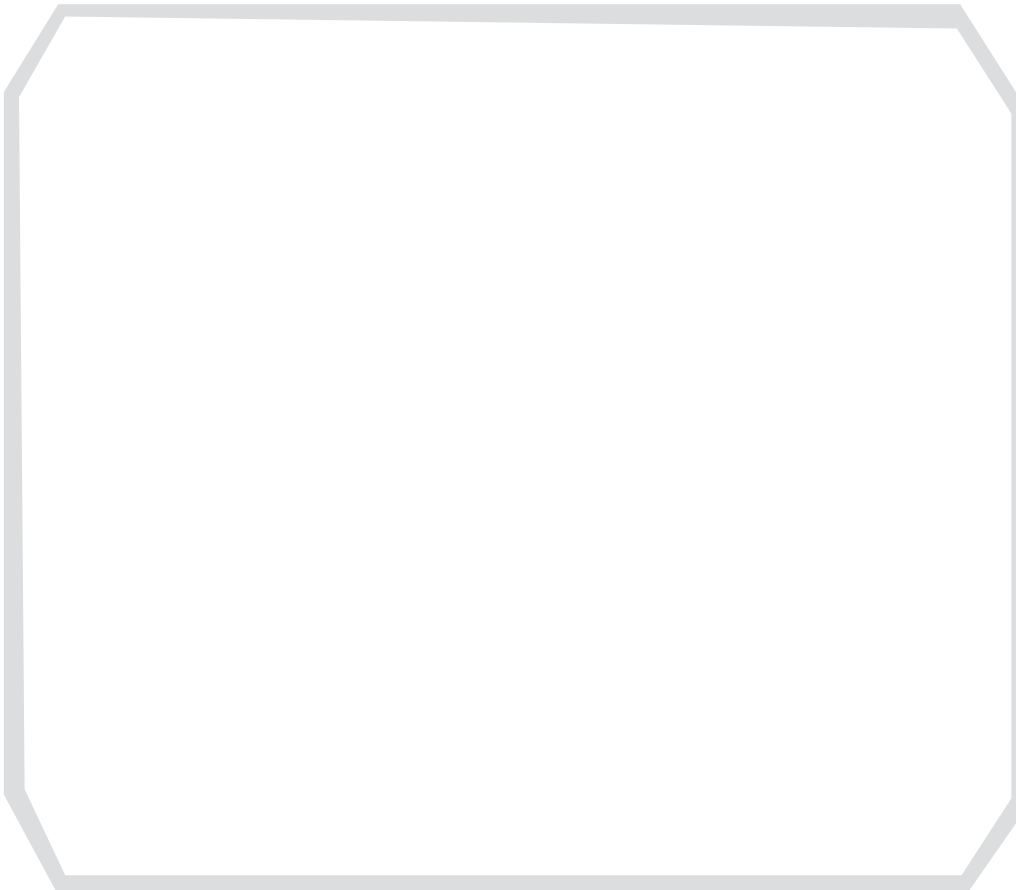
## Osaka Garden, Jackson Park

In 1893, Japan presented Chicago with the Ho-o-den (Phoenix Pavillion) for the World's Fair. In 1936, the Chicago Park District established a Japanese garden and teahouse in Jackson Park to complement the Ho-o-den. In 1993, the garden was re-named "Osaka Garden" to honor the Chicago-Osaka sister city relationship.

### Stop & See Can you spot the following in the Osaka Garden...

- ☐ A tree that looks like an old lady bending over to wash her hair in the lagoon.
- ☐ Lotus shapes on lanterns and bridges
- ☐ An "island" of rocks that looks like a turtle
- ☐ Water spilling from a "mountain" of rocks
- ☐ A tree whose leaves are green year-round
- ☐ A stone serpent and stag

### Draw your favorite part of the garden



### Wonder Spot

Japanese gardens are designed so that people can connect with nature in a place of peace and beauty. **EVEN IN BUSY CITIES LIKE CHICAGO!** Find a spot in the garden that you like the most. Sit there for two minutes without saying anything.

### FUN FACTS & Things to Consider

- Niwa is the Japanese word for garden. The Osaka Garden is a traditional "stroll" garden and its circular path is meant to bring you to different moments of surprise and wonder. What surprises do you think you'll find?
- The brown moon bridge at the lagoon is steep on purpose. By taking careful steps it forces you to slow down and calm down as you enter the garden. How do you think it got its name?
- In the culture of Japanese gardens, it is believed that all rocks have a human or animal spirit and they are placed very thoughtfully based on what they possess. Looking around the garden do you see spirits in any of the rocks?
- The stone lanterns located throughout the garden are called Kasuga Lanterns. They are decorated with images from nature. The large Kasuga Lantern in front of the brown fence is more than 100 years old.

### Parent Tip

The Osaka Garden is a "four season" garden, meaning it has natural beauty all year long. Try coming back each season and talking to your children about the changes they observe. Another four season garden to visit is the Lurie Garden in Millennium Park.



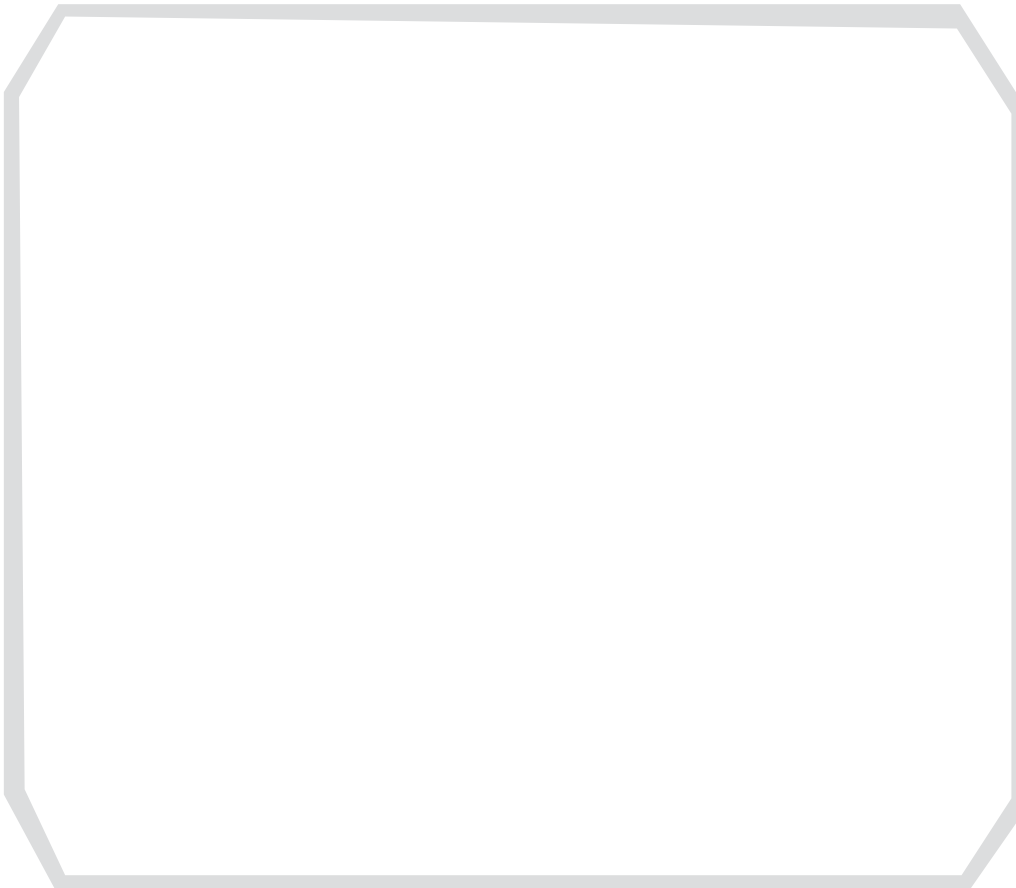
## Sherman Park

Sherman Park is a lovely and well-preserved example of the neighborhood parks designed by the Olmsted Brothers and D.H. Burnham & Company architects in 1904. Today the 60-acre park is on the National Register of Historic Places.

### Stop & See Can you spot the following in Sherman Park...

- ❑ A large terrace overlooking the lagoon
- ❑ A rocky old dock covered with moss just south of the terrace
- ❑ A mural with a Native American passing a peace pipe
- ❑ The outside of the field house is decorated with 12-petaled flowers toward the top of the building. The flowers on the north side are slightly different than those on the south side. What is the difference?

### Draw your favorite part of the park



### Wonder Spot

In the early 1900's parks like Sherman provided "BREATHING SPACES" for their congested neighborhoods. They also provided places where kids and adults could play and see friends and neighbors. Find a spot where you feel like you could have your own "breathing space."

### FUN FACTS & Things to Consider

- The landscape helped determine how the park was designed. Since it was a low and swampy site, the Olmsted Brothers created a meandering lagoon that looped around an island of ball fields with gently rolling landscapes planted with trees and shrubs.
- The park had special significance for Daniel H. Burnham, as it honors his father-in-law, John Sherman, founder of the nearby Union Stockyards.
- There are four bridges in the park: the two in the southern section have a rough pebble "naturalistic" finish and the two in the northern section have a smoother finish with a more shallow arch.
- The murals in the field house illustrate important moments in early American history and were painted between 1911-1916 by students from the Art Institute of Chicago

### Parent Tip

The Sherman Park Library is on the southeast corner of the park. Look for the book, *City in a Garden: A Photographic History of Chicago's Parks* by Julia Sniderman Bachrach. It has historic photos of the park and provides more information on its design.



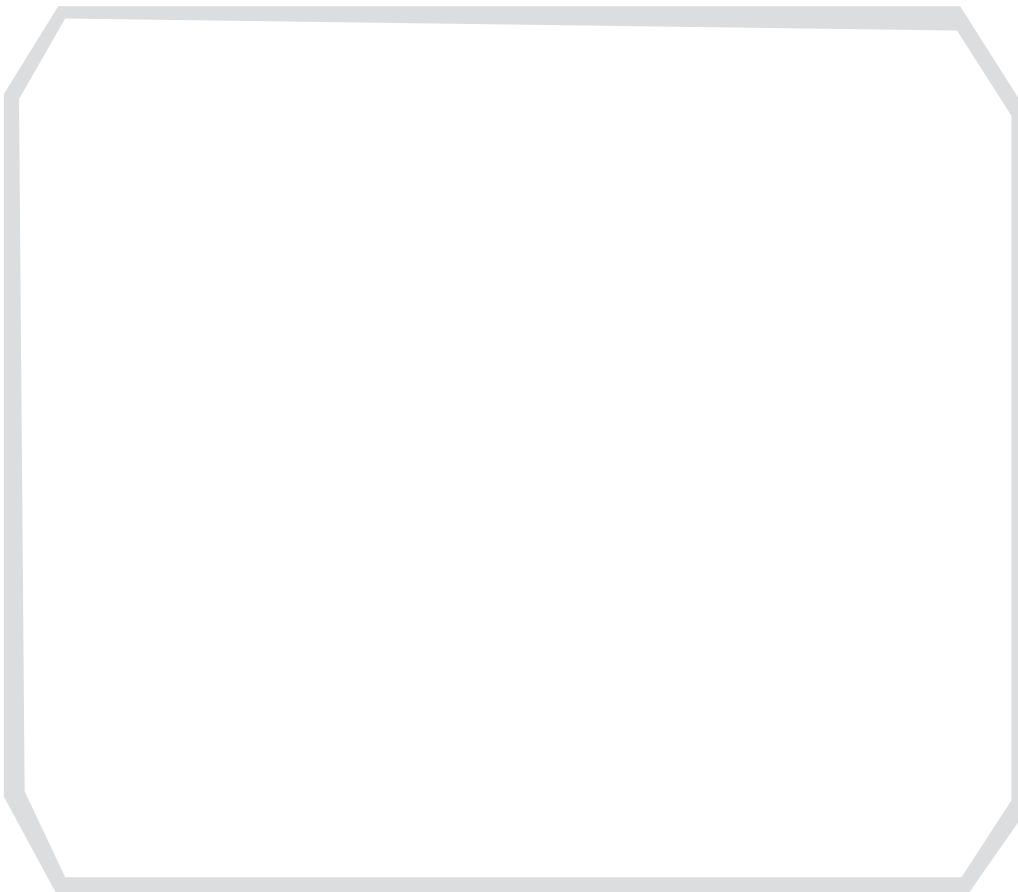
## Washington Park

Washington Park was conceived in 1871 by landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted and architect Calvert Vaux. Originally it joined up with what is now Jackson Park and the Midway Plaisance and the three combined were known as South Park. In 1881 the western division of was re-named Washington Park to honor George Washington, this nation's first president.

### Stop & See Can you spot the following in Washington Park...

- ❑ A fishing pier and boardwalk on the northwest side of the lagoon
- ❑ A spot where the ground has small mounds, known in the community as Seven Hillss
- ❑ A playground near the pool with a unique map of the park
- ❑ A hidden waterfall on the northeast side of the lagoon
- ❑ An open meadow where sheep might graze

### Draw your favorite part of the park



### Wonder Spot

In some parts of Washington Park, the **GROUND IS NOT FLAT BUT ROLLS GENTLY.**

Find a spot where there might be a small hill or berm. Sit there quietly for a few minutes. How does it feel to be in this kind of landscape?

### FUN FACTS & Things to Consider

- Much of the park was designed before cars even existed! The park's paths were intended for pedestrians, horses, carriages and horse-drawn wagons. The open meadows edged with trees and shrubs were designed to make visitors feel calm and relaxed.
- Olmsted is known as the "father of landscape architecture" and is responsible for important and much loved public spaces all over the country. He designed New York's Central Park, the U.S. Capitol grounds, Yosemite Valley and the grounds for the World's Columbian Exposition in nearby Jackson Park.
- Sheep have grazed at the park not once but twice! In the 1880's they grazed on the South Open Green (now athletic fields) and in 1906 a sheep fold and pen was built on Bynum Island on the southeast end of the lagoon. Sheep were herded throughout the park daily until 1920.

### Parent Tip

The DuSable Museum of African American History resides in Washington Park. It is the first and oldest museum of its kind. Check their website at [www.dusablemuseum.org](http://www.dusablemuseum.org) for upcoming events and programs.



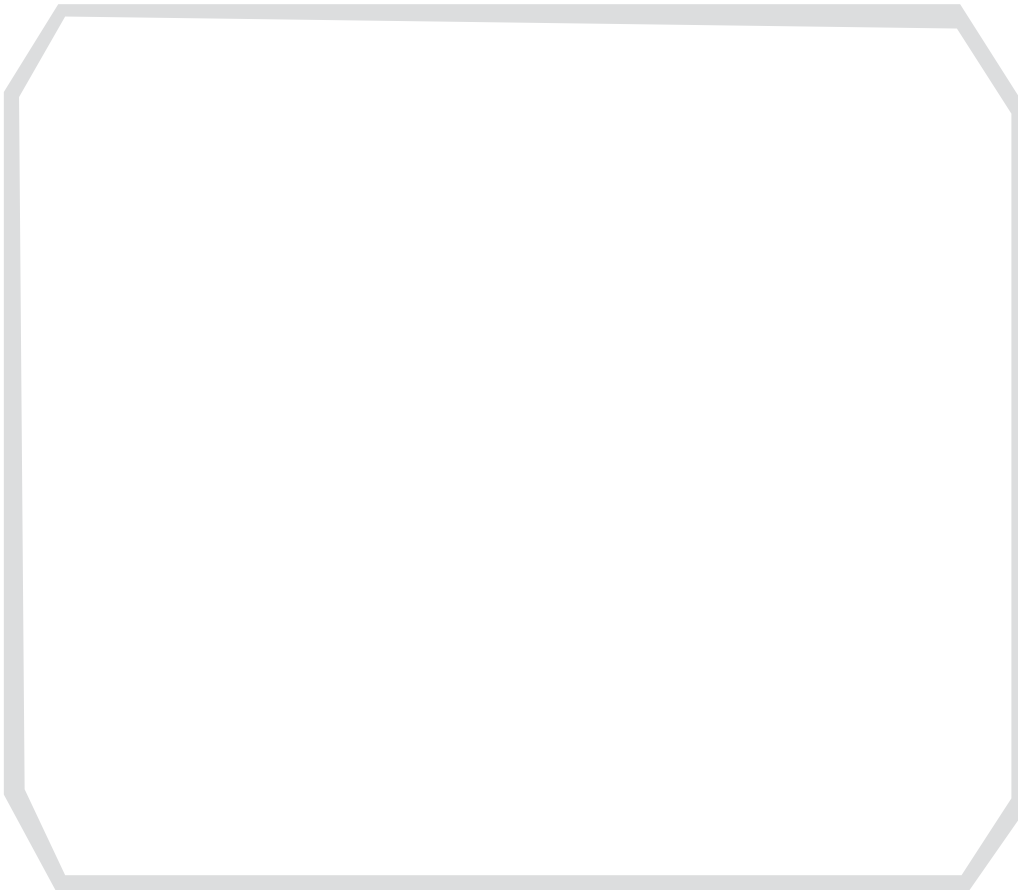
## Wicker Park

A popular neighborhood park since its inception, the 4-acre parcel of land was donated to the city in 1870 by the developers (and brothers) Charles G. and Joel H. Wicker so that it could be made into a public park. They were the original founders of the surrounding Wicker Park neighborhood.

### Stop & See Can you spot the following in Wicker Park...

- Diamond patterns on the field house
- Short, squatty trees branches you can almost touch
- A place where you could play chess or checkers
- Plants growing vertically up a wall
- A rain barrel that can catch water
- Places where you can rest in the shade

### Draw your favorite part of the park



### Wonder Spot

Wicker Park has many **PLANTS, TREES AND A BUBBLING FOUNTAIN** to enjoy. Find a spot in the park that you like. What about it is appealing to you?

### FUN FACTS & Things to Consider

- The triangular park originally had fencing to keep the roaming cows out. Why would there have been cows so near the park?
- The fountain at the center of the park is made of granite and its base was installed between 1892-1895. Do you see any animals decorating the fountain?
- Throughout its history the park has maintained the Wicker Family name. Charles Gustavus Wicker once said - long before Nike - "If something needs to be done *just do it.*"
- The gardens throughout the park have been created and maintained by a great variety of people who live in the neighborhood. A few of the garden sections are named after people who worked especially hard. The Casey Wismont Fountain Gardens were named to honor Mr. Wismont, known for watering all the trees in the park and the neighborhood with a coffee cup!

### Parent Tip

Wicker Park has many galleries, shops and coffee houses to explore. The Wormhole coffee house at 1462 N. Milwaukee Ave. is filled with 80s film mementos -- look for the Back to the Future car in the window!