



Camp Douglas News

Committed to the Preservation of Chicago History



Camp Douglas Restoration Foundation

Chicago, Illinois

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Project Phases:

Awareness and Support: 2010-2014

Site Location and Site Planning: 2012-2014

Archaeological Investigation: 2012-2013

Virtual Camp Douglas: 2014

Construction: 2014-2015

Thanks to Volunteers

The following were the amazing volunteers at the archaeological excavation:

MATTHEW ALICZ, ANNA ALKOTO, ROMAN ANDRMSHKO, RICK BABCOCK, PAUL BARILE, NICHOLE CONSTANTINE, ANGE EKLOU, AYOBAMI EKLOU, CARL GERGITS, MARY GERGITS, CHRISTOPHER GOMEZ, CLAUDIA GRABOWSKI, JACKIE HACKETT, ELISSA ISAIS, NANCY JACKSON, ELIZABETH KAPLE, DAVID J. KELLER, LINDA KELLER, KATLYN KIRBY, ANDRED LEITH, SAMUEL LISEC, KRISTIE MAYBERRY, ROBIN NEUMANN, RHONESHA ROWE, RANDALL SCHULTZ, ELIF SENTURK, BROOK TOLAND.

Thanks to all...YOU'RE THE BEST!

Also special thanks to Lynn Crivello, Liza Balistreri, and John Price of the Chicago Public Schools main office and Dr. Saifurafat Giwa incoming principal and Dr. Cheryl Watkins outgoing principal of Pershing. All cooperated to make the project a success. Dr. Nancy Jackson and her staff of Prologue schools also provided special support.

Camp Douglas Restoration Foundation—Latest News

SUCCESSFUL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION-2013

Led by Michael Gregory, DePaul University, 28 volunteers conducted an excavation of six units at Pershing East Magnet School, 3200 S. Calumet, October 26 and 29. Artifacts found are being cleaned and cataloged by DePaul students. This process is expected to be completed by yearend. Early results have been published by CDRF and are available on the CDRF website, www.campdouglas.org. Analysis by Dr. Gregory will be completed early next year and the value of future excavations



will be determined. Financial support was provided by the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Foundation and Clark Roofing, Broadview, IL.

ROBERT GIRARDI JOINS CDRF BOARD

Robert I. Girardi is an author and historian and has become a popular speaker and consultant on the American Civil War for audiences of all ages. He has spoken to historical societies and Civil War groups all over the United States and is a well known authority on the subject in the Chicago area where he has been interviewed on both radio and television on aspects of the Civil War. Welcome Rob!

Special Education Program

Dean Rodkin and Roy Malone, Directors, CDRF developed a special program for third grade students of Pershing East Magnet School.

On Monday, October 28, 60 students joined the excavation site to participate in a program that consisted of:

1. Reading and reading comprehension: A booklet was created entitled "Guide for Young Archaeologists." This booklet discussed archaeology, paleontology, fossils and artifacts. Students were expected to read and discuss the content with group leaders.
2. Word find game followed the reading. Here students located words from the reading material in a word maze.
3. Simulated Dig: Students were introduced to plastic tubs filled with sand, artifacts, and fossils. They used small shovels and rakes to search the sand. As they found objects they placed them on photographs of the



items and discussed with the group leader if the object was old or new and why. This step introduced the students to

archaeological excavations, handling of artifacts, and the evaluation of artifacts.

4. Excavation Site: Students were led to the excavation site and to one of the excavation units. The senior person on the unit, usually a trained

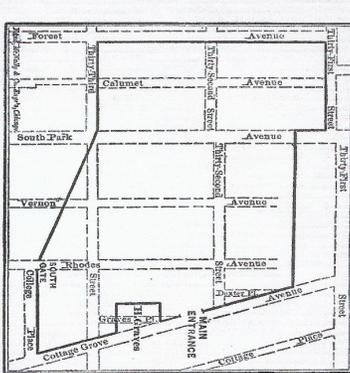
archaeologist, explained what was being done and demonstrated techniques used to excavate the site. Actual artifacts were shown to and handled by the students. Students then had an opportunity to participate in the excavation by using trowels and brushes to dig in the unit. They operate screening devices to remove sand and dirt from possible artifacts.

5. Follow up questions were provided to group leaders to review and summarize the activity with students.

In the photo above students are discussing the excavation with Andrew Leith, Archaeologist, Field Museum.

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CAMP DOUGLAS, 1864-5.

Map prepared by William Bross for a paper read before the
Chicago Historical Society, June 18, 1878

*A Chicago Story that Must
to be Told*

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Successful Events

Over 30 people attended presentations by CDRF at the Hyde Park Historical Society and the Des Plaines Historical Society in November.

Artifacts Found-2013

While artifacts are still being studied here are photos of a two items found:



Revolver:
Probably a
toy from the
early 20th
century.



Cobalt blue pill
bottle from the late
19th to early 20th
century.

Recollections-Letters, Diaries and Journals

Note: This section is devoted to letters, diaries and journals of Civil War veterans. Often considered the best source of contemporaneous information on the war, readers must be cautioned that this material represents individual experiences and feelings. Letters often reflected what the writer thought recipient wanted to hear. In addition, many of the journals were written well after the war and include the frailties of age and time. Grammatical and spelling errors have not been corrected in quotes.

Robert Anderson Bagley arrived at Camp Douglas January 27, 1863 and was released March 27, 1865. For most of this time he acted as a nurse in the prisoner's hospital. On January 13, 1865, he wrote in his diary.



drawing the reins tighter each day.”

(The Bagby diary, original located at the Museum of the Confederacy, Richmond, VA, has been transcribed by CDRF and is available at the “Store” at www.ccampdouglas.org.)

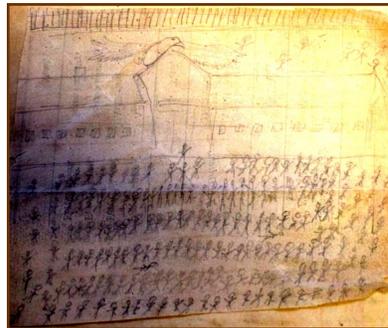
“A man in one of the wards of the 3rd Division, a guard shot at someone out in the square, and the ball entered the leg of this man in the hospital. The other man [in the square] was said just before day [light] that morning went to the privy to make water but because of debility [weakness or feebleness] could not reach the privy and it broke. He took hold with his hand to check the flow when a police guard saw him. He thought the young man was getting his pants to make water in the street. The ball entered the leg below the knee, breaking the first bone and lodging in the left foot just below the ankle joint. After supper the doctor came in and amputated the right leg. The young man bore the operation well. They failed to reach the privy and I could see they were

Curtis R. Burke, prisoner at Camp Douglas from August 18, 1863 until March 2, 1865 gave the following account of medical treatment offered prisoners at Camp Douglas.

“Sunday December 13th, 1863. Weather rainy. I went to Doctor Pettis and had my pet (the swelling in the pit of my right arm) examined, and he said it was not ready to be lanced. I also got a prescription to get some cough medicine in a bottle. I had been annoyed by a severe cough for several nights. I went to the drugstore and the clerk gave me about two inches of a stick of licorice and told me that it would do me more good. They were playing cards and I suppose did not wish to stop to put up the prescription.”

Sam Houston Jr. Drawing

The Foundation recently acquired a drawing by Sam Houston, son of the Texas hero Sam Houston. The drawing (Right) was contained in a letter written by James H. Jenkins, 7th Texas Infantry. Jenkins and Houston were prisoners at Camp Douglas in mid-1862. Both were captured at Shiloh and transported to Camp Douglas in April 1862.



Jenkins was exchanged in September 1862. Houston, 2nd Texan Infantry, wounded at Shiloh was also sent to Camp Douglas, arriving April 8, 1862. The letter by Jenkins contains the following statement “The above picture was drawn by Sam Houston, Jr. of Texas while a prisoner of war at Chicago, Illinois.

Artifacts Fund

CDRF has established a special fund to be used for the acquisition of artifacts relating to Camp Douglas. The Sam Houston, Jr. drawing mentioned above and photographs from the camp photographer, D. F. Brandon, described in the Fall 2012 *Camp Douglas News*, are examples of artifacts identified as meaningful for the Foundation's collection. To support this important effort, please send your contributions to the Foundation marked Artifacts Fund or donate on line at www.campdouglas.org.

Special Thanks: The Board of Directors of CDRF reluctantly accepted the resignation of Michael Weeks from the board. Michael's dedication to Camp Douglas has been important to the work of the Foundation. He will be missed. We look forward to his continued support. Thank you, Michael.