



Camp Douglas News

Committed to the Preservation of Chicago History



Camp Douglas Restoration Foundation

Chicago, Illinois

Spring 2015

Volume 6, Issue 1

Project Phases:

Awareness and Support: 2010-2014

Site Planning: 2014-2015

Archaeological Investigation: 2012-2013, 2014-2015

Construction: 2015-2016

*Social
Media*

Coming Soon!

The Foundation has had an inactive Facebook page for some time. Thanks to volunteer Mary Brennan, who has a real job as Marketing Director for Broadway In Chicago, our social media will soon become an integral part of our communications.

Mary is developing a plan to multiply all social media outlets. This plan will include a schedule for updating social media sites and a program for periodic outreach through social media.

Anyone with information or ideas should contact us at www.campdouglas.org.

Support CDRF

Don't miss the Camp Douglas items that are for sale on www.campdouglas.org.

Purchase of these items supports the efforts of the Foundation.

SHOP TODAY!

Camp Douglas Restoration Foundation—Latest News

Museum Location

The Camp Douglas Restoration Foundation and Prologue, Inc. have reached an agreement in principle to locate the Camp Douglas Museum on the grounds of the former Griffin Funeral Home, 3232 S. King Drive.

The museum will be part of a museum campus that will include other exhibits important to the Bronzeville Community.

Plans are currently being prepared to provide a museum quality, historically accurate, facility to house the Camp Douglas Museum.

The photo above is a drawing of an 1864 prisoner barracks reproduction that will house the education and interpretive center operated by the Foundation



anonymous architectural firm, the Foundation now has a scale model of the museum. In addition, Chicago artist Meredith Bratt has created renderings of the new museum in its location at 3232 S. King Drive. These will be used for fund raising and community

outreach about the museum.

Fund Raising

The foundation will soon begin a campaign to raise \$ 2,500,000 for the construction and development of the Camp Douglas Museum.

Help is needed in supporting this campaign:

- Anyone interesting in volunteering to work on the campaign should contact dkeller@campdouglas.org.
- Those wishing to donate money should send contributions to the Foundation or make donations at www.campdouglas.org.

Camp Douglas Model

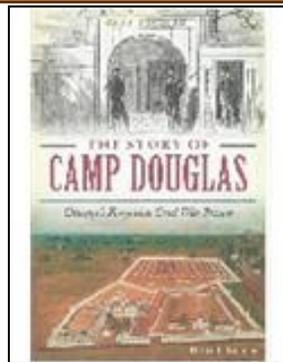
Thanks to the generous donation by an

The Story of Camp Douglas, Chicago's Forgotten Civil War Prison

The Story of Camp Douglas, Chicago's Forgotten Civil War Prison was released to bookstores March 23.

This is the first book written about Camp Douglas in over fifteen years. Written by Camp Douglas Restoration Foundation's Managing Director, David Keller, it has been received by historians with accolades "a wonderful contribution to POW history," "the most comprehensive study to date of the camp's history," "remarkably researched," "David Keller is one of those tenacious historians who have succeeded in expanding our knowledge of Camp Douglas."

The 250 page book contains over 50 photographs, etchings, and maps of camp features and activities. Beginning with the role of Chicago in the Civil War, *The Story of Camp Douglas* takes the reader on a journey from the selection of the Camp Douglas site and construction in 1861 until the camp was closed



in 1865. Conditions of the camp, life as a prisoner, prison guards, and prison management are explored. The use of the camp as a reception center for Union soldiers, housing for paroled Union soldiers, and one of the largest prison camps holding nearly 30,000 Confederate soldiers is placed within the context of the 19th Century and the historic development of treatment of prisoners of war.

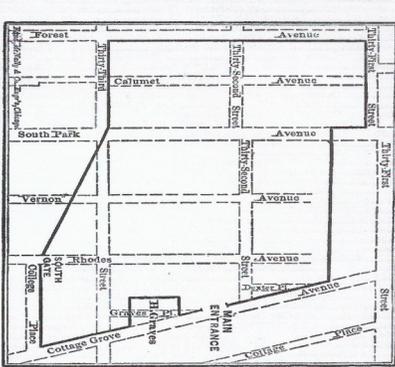
Daily camp life is told through the diaries, journals, and letters of five Confederate Prisoners. These men represented life at Camp Douglas for the entire time of the camp's existence.

The history of prisoners of war, reasons for prisoner treatment, and other Union and Confederate prisons are also discussed.

The book is available in leading bookstores, Amazon.com, and on the Foundation website, www.campdouglas.org. Proceeds from book sales benefits the Camp Douglas Restoration.

Camp Douglas Restoration
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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
Be Told*

Join us at:
www.campdouglas.org

Upcoming Events

Presentations:

April 18, 12:00 noon-Daughters of
the Union, Monarch Landing, Naperville, IL.

July 23, 7:00 pm-Orland Park
Public Library, Orland Park IL.

August 14, 1:00 pm-Civil War
Museum, Kenosha, WI

December 11, 5:30 pm-Chicago
Civil War Round Table, Holiday Inn
Chicago O'Hare, Rosemont, IL

Special Events:

April 18, 9:00 am-4:00pm-
Chicagoland Civil War Show, Du Page
County Fair Grounds, Wheaton, IL.

May 2-May 3, 9:00 am- 5:00 pm-
Ohio Civil War Show, Richland County
Fair Grounds, Mansfield, OH

May 16,-17,- Naperville Settlement
Civil War Days, Naperville, IL

Recollections-Letters, Diaries and Journals

Editor's 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 the 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

Mail- An Important Part of Camp Life

Camp Douglas, Ill.
Mar. 12th, 1864

Dear Father,

Your kind letter of the 29th was received and read with interest George also received one from sister. It always cheers us up to hear from the old home stead. You know that Georges very delicate and what inclined to have the blues anyway. I dont think that his health is quite as good as it was when you were hear. The dyspepsy and chronic diarea are the two diseases that he suffers with.

We heard directly from Brother John this week he is well and getting along first rate. The gentle man that brought the news belongs to the same Regt. that John does and is intimately acquainted with him.

This gentleman was captured the 25th of Feb. James Gill is well so are Johnson West, Charley and all the rest of the neighbor boys that are hear. We kneed some more P. Stamps. When you write your letters they must not be Longer that two pages of note or one of this kind of paper. I would like to have two callico and two woolen shirts if you could find a convient way to send them.



George joins me in love to all.

Your sons, Wm H Adams
Co. G 3rd Kentucky Cavalry

October 1, 1864. I was up early and felt in fine health. Turned out to be a general exchange of prisoners. The morning was cool. I learned there was a riot in the city [and] an attempt was made to rob a bank. The particulars I did not learn.

In the evening I received some postage stamps from Mrs. Morris, though the express office. I got a line from John T. Shanks who was acting for the express office informing me of paper, envelopes and writing material. I suppose he kept the paper and envelopes I did not know how many stamps that he was good at. I concluded I would investigate the matter and if he had any right to this. All was sent in for charitable purposes. I was to distribute the material as the detainees needed it and I suppose Mrs. Morris had obtained permission to send such.

Diary of prisoner Robert Anderson Bagby
1st Northwest Missouri Cavalry

(Note: Mail was generally available to prisoners if they had family or friends in areas controlled by the Union Army. Robert Bagby, however, made no mention in his diary of receiving any communications from home)

Profile of Dr. Michael Gregory

Michael Gregory, Ph.D. has managed three archaeological excavations with the Foundation on the site of Camp Douglas.

Michael is a Visiting Professor in the Anthropology Department of De Paul University and manages the DePaul Archaeology Field School. The Field School has done extensive work in Maywood, IL on the site of early African American settlements as well as the Camp Douglas site.

A native of Virginia, Mike joined DePaul University in 2009. He received his BS from Washington & Lee and his M.A. and PH.D from Arizona State University.



Michael has participated in archaeological investigations in Virginia, Arizona, and in the Midwest, including Isle Royale and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. He has written extensively on these excavations.

Michael's calm demeanor, cool manner in training volunteers, and special interest in teaching youngsters has made him an indispensable member of the Camp Douglas team.

Shown in the photo, Michael is a hands-on manager. He gets as dirty as the most active volunteer and always has a kind word for everyone.

Thanks, Mike, for all you do!