



Camp Douglas News

Committed to the Preservation of Chicago History



Camp Douglas Restoration Foundation

Chicago, Illinois

Summer 2016

Volume 7, Issue 2

Dig V^olunteers

ERIKA ARREOLA, MARI BARNES, THOMAS BERLANGERO, CHRIS BRINK, CARLA BROOKE, ERIC CAMPBELL, THOMAS COYNE, WAYNE ETHERIDGE, COLLEEN FAHEY, MARLISA FEIN, CHRISTINA FLOE, TOMAS GORMAN, NICOLE GRINBARG, ANNA HAU, CAROLYN HAU, ERIC HAU, HEATHER HICKEY, ANDREW IRVIE, PETER IRVINE, ELISSA ISAIS, DONALD JONES, LISA JONES, LINDA KELLER, LAURA LAUDADIO, KRISREN LOPEZ, IAN MCKITTERICK, ASHLEY PURPURA, REX ROBINETTE, RHONDA ROBINETTE, DEAN RODKIN, PETER SHUKSTOR, CAROL SOMMERS, NICHOLAS SOMMERS, GINGER STANCIEL, AUREN STANCIEL, THOMAS SUHS, JEANNE SYLVESTER, JOSEPH WHEELER, MARGIT WILLIS,

Of special note, Chris Brink, Nichole Grinbarg, and Margit Willis have participated in five of the six excavations on this site. Laura Laudadio has participated in four.

Camp Douglas Restoration Foundation—Latest News

Additional Documents Acquired

CDRF acquired two letters from prisoners at Camp Douglas and an unidentified CDV by D. F. Brandon, photographer at Camp Douglas. See page two for detail of the letters.

Seventh Archaeological Investigation

May 10 through May 26, CDRF and DePaul University conducted additional archaeological excavations on the grounds of John J. Pershing Magnet School, Calumet Avenue and 33rd Street.

Thirty-nine volunteers (see sidebar) directed by Dr. Michael Gregory continue to find both Civil War Military and interesting civilian artifacts. military artifacts included a tunic button and percussion caps. Interesting civilian artifacts found were a U.S. penny dated 1859 and a 1908 leather horse license issued by the City of Chicago.



National Register of Historic Places

CDRF's efforts to have the footprint of the Camp listed on the National Register of Historic Places is moving forward.

The article below discusses details of the Register and CDRF's approach to the listing application.

Of significance is the desire to have as much support as possible to accompany our application. Written letters of support can be sent to:

Board of Directors
Camp Douglas Restoration Foundation
1368 N. Mohawk, 2S
Chicago, IL 60610

A petition is also available at <https://www.change.org/p/camp-douglas-restoration-foundation-add-camp-douglas-to-the-national-register-of-historic-places>

Your support is appreciated!

National Register of Historic Places

The Civil War was in the heart of Chicago. Today, however, this site is under threat of being wiped from memory. To ensure the proper recognition of this important historic facility for generations to come, the Camp Douglas Restoration Foundation is applying to the National Register of Historic Places for listing of Camp Douglas on the Register.

What is the National Register of Historic Places?

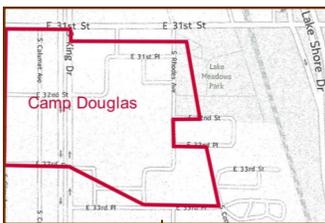
The National Register of Historic Places is the official list of the Nation's historic places that are deemed worthy of preservation. Authorized by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places is part of a program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect America's historic and archaeological resources. For more information on the National Register, please visit www.nps.gov/nr/national_register_fundamentals.htm

Why does Camp Douglas qualify for a listing when there are no standing structures left?

The Camp Douglas Restoration Foundation and DePaul University have conducted seven archaeological investigations on the area of Camp Douglas between 2012 and 2016 and have found significant Civil War military artifacts from and evidence of the Camp, which was the largest military installation in Illinois during the Civil War.

What is the result of the listing? Listing in the National Register of Historic Places provides formal recognition of a property's historical, architectural, or archaeological significance based on national standards used by every state. Results include:

- o Becoming part of the National Register Archives, a public, searchable database that provides a wealth of research information
- o Encouraging preservation of historic resources by documenting a property's historical significance



o Opportunities for federal grants and possible State and Federal tax benefits

o Networking with other historic property owners, touring historic areas, or chat with preservationists through conferences, workshops, and preservation organizations.

What does this listing mean to property owners in the listed area?

Listing on the National Register of Historic Places places no obligations on private property owners. The listing does not automatically invoke local historic district zoning or local landmark designation, but rather creates an opportunity to showcase the history of the community while still allowing economic progress.

Who is involved in the approval process? The Illinois State Historic Preservation Office receives an application from a sponsoring source; in the case of Camp Douglas, they will receive an application from the Camp Douglas Restoration Foundation (CDRF). After their review and approval, the State of Illinois National Register Review Board makes a recommendation to the National Park Service in Washington, D.C.

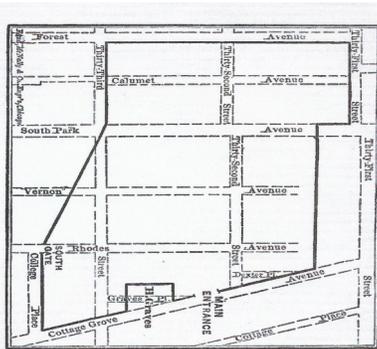
What can I do to get Camp Douglas listed on the National Register of Historic Places?

First of all, thank you for your support! The Camp Douglas Restoration Foundation is preparing an application for listing. It would be most helpful if you could sign this petition and share with your friends. (See Latest News above.)

Is there anything else that I should know about this process? We understand that this information can be confusing, but want to assure you that we have the best interest of both private property owners and the historic preservation of Camp Douglas at heart. We love being a part of the vibrant Bronzeville community and look forward to great things to come in the future. If you have any questions or concerns whatsoever, please contact the Camp Douglas Restoration Foundation at info@campdouglas.org or 312-751-1693.

Camp Douglas Restoration
Foundation
Chicago, Illinois
www.campdouglas.org

David L. Keller, Managing Director
1368 N. Mohawk 2S
Chicago, IL 60610
Tel: 312-751-1693
Mobile: 312-859-1940



CAMP DOUGLAS, 1864-5.
Map prepared by William Bross for a paper read before the
Chicago Historical Society, June 15, 1878

*A Chicago Story that Must
Be Told*

Join us at:
www.campdouglas.org

*R. W. Taylor
&
Richard Hawes*

Unfortunately there is little information of the background or fate of Hawes and Taylor. Both appeared to be part of Morgan's Raiders (10th Kentucky Cavalry). National Park Service Civil War records show both as privates when they entered service and privates when they left service.

A Robert Taylor was found in Diamond's 10th Kentucky Cavalry. This unit is different from the 10th Kentucky Cavalry. It was formed in Fall 1863 operating in eastern Kentucky until 1865

It appears that Taylor and Hawes both survived the war as their names are not listed among the 29 soldiers of the 10th contained on the tablets at Oak Woods cemetery.

No records could be found at fold3.com of either individual.

Neither Taylor or Hawes can be found on rosters of the 10th Kentucky Cavalry. At the State of Kentucky archives.

Anyone with information on these two soldiers, please contact CDRF.

Richard Hawes and R. W. Taylor Letters

**Camp Douglas Restoration
Foundation Acquires These Two
Significant Letters**

Camp Douglas November
22nd 1864

Dear Sister,

I have not had a letter from home since yours of the 25th ult. I recd letter from his Mother few days since stating that Brother and George had arrived with the remains of our dear brother and that he was laid by the side of dear Mother. Though seemingly an empty consolidation it is a gratifying thought that he rests among those whom he beloved. And who will cherish his memory.

Dear Sister, does not this bereavement remind us most forcibly that we are to be parted from all the dearest objects on earth and will it not create within us a desire to enjoy the life in which there is no parting or sorrow. My thoughts of dear Father, sisters and brothers are accompanied all the time with hope and prayer that we may humble ourselves and put our trust in God. I recd letter from Aunt Rachel some days since., was glad to hear that the children had good opportunity for learning. The weather at present feels most like winter, though it has been pleasant for some time past. We are a great deal more comfortably provided in barracks and were withal (sic) to keep warm, than last winter, but our rations much shorter, The health of prison is good at present (with exception of smallpox, there are more cases of it than any time before) as it has been since we came here, probably better. I wrote Brother to send me in letter some good vaccine matter. I had some put in my arm little more than week ago, which took, but I think healing too fast. Ben Lancaster frm our Co. was taken to hospital day before yesterday with smallpox. All other boys from our section well. Dick and myself both well. I am sometimes troubled with derangement of Bowels, but they have been more regular lately. Love to all. Affy,

R. W. Taylor 10 Ky bar. 14

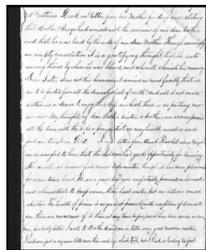
[Editor Notes]

Taylor's discussion of death and the importance of family is typical of the period.

For an excellent discussion of Victorian death see Drew Gilpin Foust's excellent book *This Republic Suffering, Death and the American Civil War*, Alfred A. Knopf, New York, 2008.

Taylor's discussion of camp life including health, food, and weather is also typical of comments by other prisoners.

Taylor was a fortunate prisoner in that his family was in an area under Union



Taylor Letter



Hawes Letter

control. This allowed him to receive mail, food, clothing, and money from his family.

Camp Douglas
Nov 17th, 1863

Dear Sister,

As I just had my picture taken I concluded to write a few lines although I wrote some time ago without receiving an answer but do not think you received it. Bob received yours and Millies Letter. You do not know how bad we feel when we do not get a letter. I heard from Scott yesterday. They were all well, and having a revival at Providence. Some 15 having joined among the rest David Davis. I sent Mama and Lute one of my photographs and am looking for an answer. Did you see Mr. Johns.

Write and give me all the news. Tell George tht he is a very poor

correspondent. Tell him to send me some Tobacco for Smoking as Bob and myself are both out. Willis D. is said to be very smart. By his Aunt Lute and Grandmama they say he knew my picture s soon as he saw it. I am in hopes his smartness will leave him as he gets old as it does other Smart children.

You speak of attending a concert and of the general sounds of pleasure in the neighborhood, I am glad to hear that it is so that you still a some pleasures but I am afraid it will not last. I fear for the welfare of all my friends if this Civil War lasts much longer. You must write as often as you can. Make George write. My love to all. Tell Mama to send us something to eat for Christmas. I hope you will like my picture. It is better than the first taken. Bob sends love to all. Write soon to your affectionate Brother.

Richard Hawes
Co E. 10th Ky Cav.
Camp Douglas
Ill

[Editor Notes]

Obviously, Hawes is much interested in receiving mail, especially from George.

His reference to a "Smart Child" appears to refer to a precocious or problem child that will grow out of his smartness.

Photographs were available by D. F. Brandon who maintained a studio during most of Camp Douglas' time. (See the Fall 2012 newsletter for an article on Brandon.)

Like Taylor, Hawes has access to family and those valuable items they could send. Tobacco was a medium of exchange at Camp Douglas and could offer an advantage to bartering.

Both Taylor and Hawes are considered "Have Prisoners" in *The story of Camp Douglas, Chicago's Forgotten Civil War Prison*, David L. Keller, History Press, 2015