



# Camp Douglas News

*Committed to the Preservation of Chicago History*



Camp Douglas Restoration Foundation

Chicago, Illinois

Summer 2018

Volume 9, Issue 2

## Project Phases:

Awareness and Support: 2010-ongoing

Site Planning: 2014-2018

Archaeological Investigations: 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018

Construction: To be determined

## Special Thanks

CDRF has had many of individuals volunteer their time and energy to the Foundation's efforts.

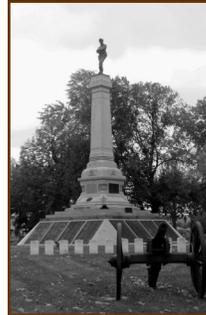
In addition to nearly 300 volunteers who have participated in our nine archaeological excavations, we want to give special thanks to the following:

Chris Brink and Nicole Grinbarg –special dig support; Laura Laudadio & Eric Creighton-development of the ArcGIS overlay maps; Katharine Kendzy Gringold-information on the Henry Graves family; Ethel Dawn Griffin O'Neal and James O'Neal- history of the Griffin Funeral Home; M.J. Grinstead-editor of CDRF publications; Matt Crawford, City of Chicago, & Ted Karamanski-Landmark application; Dan Joyce, Kenosha CW Museum-ground penetrating radar support; Paula Robinson, Black Metropolis National Heritage Area Commission & Sherry Williams, Bronzeville Historical Society-continued support; Alderman E. Burke and Alderman Sophia King-City of Chicago support; Anthony and Anila Saineghi-dig hosts. Karl Sandstrom-photos

## Camp Douglas Restoration Foundation—Latest News

### Removal of Oak Woods Monument

Recently, there has been a movement to remove the monument at Oak Woods Cemetery as a symbol of white supremacy. CDRF is strongly opposed to the removal of the monument. We believe it is a memorial to those Confederate soldiers who died in Chicago and are buried there. It neither represents racial hatred nor aggrandizes any Confederate leader.



Oak Woods Monument

excavations. During this summer and fall we expect to conduct excavations in several parkways and boulevard median strips. In addition, we plan to conduct a third investigation of 3224 M.L. King Drive on property owned by Anthony and Anila Saineghi.

Specific dates of these activities will be distributed to those on our "Interested to Dig" email list. To be added to that list, email interest to [dkeller@campdouglas.org](mailto:dkeller@campdouglas.org).

### Future Archaeological Work

After nine successful archaeological investigations, CDRF is planning additional



## ArcGIS Overlay Maps Created

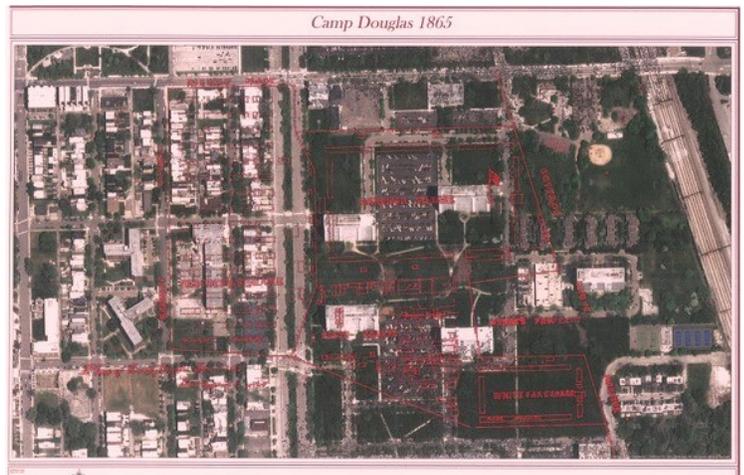
Special thanks to Laura Laudadio and Eric Creighton for creating special images of Camp Douglas using the ArcGIS computer program.

The image shown here is a Google satellite with a 1865 drawing, probably by Colonel J.A. Potter, Union Quartermaster.

Using known camp boundaries, the 1865 drawing, seen in red, was superimposed on the satellite image. This overlay allows CDRF to locate camp's features, with relative certainty. Since we have not located any evidence of the stockade fence, the overlay can be off by several feet based on the camp's distance from known features such as streets that were in existence at the time of the camp

Using this map during our April 2018 excavation at 3224 M.L. King Drive, archaeologist Mike Gregory was able to identify the likely base for a post of a

Camp Douglas 1865



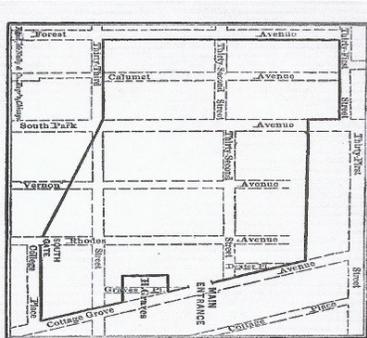
prisoner barracks. (See article on page 2.)

These overlays are critical in CDRF's evaluation of potential archaeological sites as well as in sharing accurate information on the camp features on contemporary images.

Laura and Eric have also provided an overlay of Prisoners Square that provides excellent detail of that portion of the camp. The next project is to locate excavation units of all prior archaeological sites.

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



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

*Camp Douglas  
Artifacts*



Ink Well



Haversack J-hook



Tooth brush

## *Data Base Development Needed*

CDRF continues to receive a growing number of requests from descendants for information on prisoners and guards at Camp Douglas. In addition, many descendants have shared information on individuals from the camp.

The National Archives, Oak Woods Cemetery monument, Ancestry.com, Fold3, and various other web sites have information of those who served or were prisoners at Camp Douglas.

Unfortunately, this information is scattered over several places and is difficult to navigate.



Names at Oak Woods Cemetery



Prisoner Record

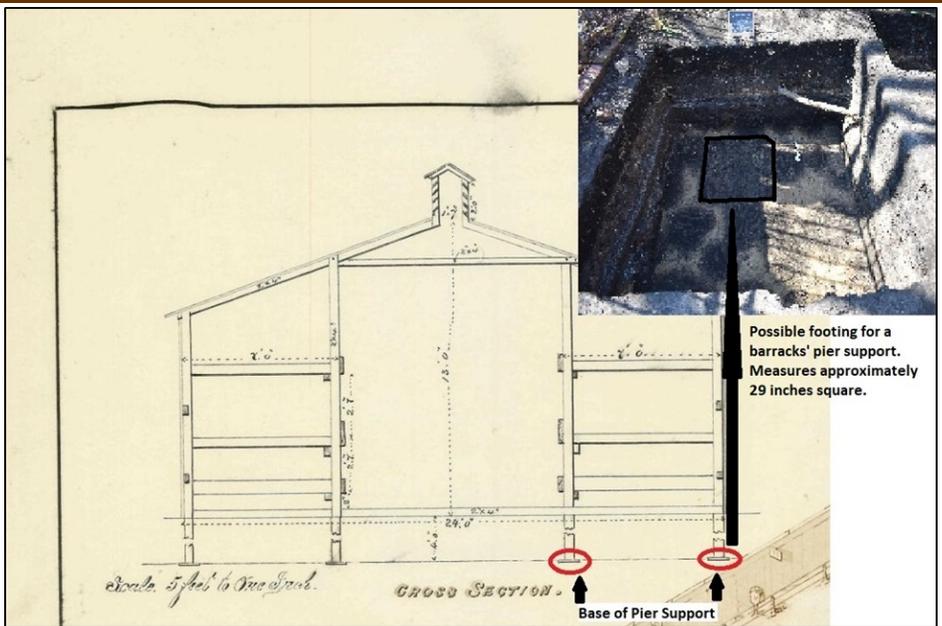
CDRF has developed a plan to create a data base using this information to be a shared archive for those interested in identifying individuals or other interested parties.

We are looking for partners to support the costs of developing this data base. The total cost for capturing the information is

approximately \$10,000. Digitized information on Ancestry.com, the marker at Oak Woods, and CDRF data is estimated to provide information on at least 15,000 individuals.

A detailed outline of the project is available. Those interested should contact Dean Rodkin at [drodkin@campdouglas.org](mailto:drodkin@campdouglas.org).

## *Footings for Prisoner Barracks*



Pictured here is a cross section of a prisoner barracks from a drawing by Colonel J.A. Potter, Quartermaster, circa 1864. At the bottom of the drawing are footings for the posts of the barracks. While the exact dimensions are unknown, it is believed that the feature, shown in the photograph approximate the size of the footings. The feature was at the Camp Douglas level of the 2018 spring excavation and was unusually symmetrical.

On the ArcGIF overlay on page 1, the excavation is at the southeast corner of a barracks in Prisoner Square.

Archaeologist Mike Gregory in carefully excavating the feature during the recent excavation believes it is probably the footing of the barracks. It is impossible, with existing information to determine for certain the origin of the feature.

CDRF plans to conduct another excavation on this site with the objective of locating another barracks post. Based on drawings and descriptions available it is believed that the location of the next post of the structure can be found.

The next excavation is likely to be done in the summer or fall 2018.