



# Northwest Chicago Historical Society

*Your Neighborhood Historical Society*

Newsletter January 2012

Number XV

## **Whiskey Breakfast; a Book Review • A History of Kosciuszko Park A Photo History of a Jefferson Park House**

The second half of 2011 was filled with exciting events for the Northwest Chicago Historical Society. Our collaboration with organizations such as Forgotten Chicago, the Chicago Portage Association, and the Bohemian National Cemetery have enabled us to direct people to informative lectures and tours throughout the Northwest side. Additionally, our relationships with other Historical Societies, such as those in Edgebrook, Niles and Northbrook, have connected local historians throughout the area.

This past year, we established a walking tour of Jefferson Park. The historic Gale Street Inn was instrumental in helping us to succeed, pairing one of our tours with a fabulous lunch. Attendees were thrilled to enjoy cold beer and hot ribs in the restaurant right after the tour. We also were fortunate to pair a tour with some improvisational comedy at The Gift Theater, a landmark local theater in downtown Jefferson Park.

In this issue of the NWCHS newsletter, we discover Kosciuszko ("Koz") Park and how it ties in with the rich Polish history in the Logan Square and Avondale neighborhoods. The last 100 years have brought about marked change in the area, but we can still find some remnants of the past through an examination of the park and local streets today. Additionally, we review the pictorial history of a Jefferson Park home. As it is unusual to find many pictures of the inside of a home during this period, these photographs are extraordinary. This issue begins with a book review about growing up Swedish in Chicago: Whiskey Breakfast, by Richard C. Lindberg.

Please feel free to send us comments or letters for potential publishing. We are also open to including articles that you may have written about something that interests you on the Northwest side of Chicago.

We hope to see you in 2012! - *Susanna Ernst*

## Mission Statement:

As the Northwest Chicago Historical Society, our mission is to educate others about the history of the Northwest neighborhoods of Chicago. We will accomplish this through discussion at meetings, public tours and events, and dissemination of historical documents and photos through publications. Additionally, we desire to collaborate with others in the community to continue to maintain and preserve the history of our collective neighborhoods. By linking the past with the present and the future, we will provide awareness and create appreciation for our place in Chicago's and Illinois' history.

# The Northwest Chicago Historical Society

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## Membership:

\$15.00 per calendar year

\$10.00 for 65 years old and over

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# Letters



Beverly Janke

Martha Carseth

Beverly Janke of Oriole Park in Chicago, spotted herself and friend Martha Carseth in the center page photo of the last NWCHS Newsletter. See Northwest Chicago Historical Society July 2011 Newsletter – Jefferson Township’s Oldest Church.

And in response to the Letters section in the January 2011 NWCHS Newsletter she states that there was a tavern on Higgins Avenue called Joker Joe’s.



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# Book Review: Whiskey Breakfast: My Swedish Family, My American Life

by **Richard C. Lindberg**

*Submitted by Frances Archer*

In *Whiskey Breakfast*, historian and author Richard C. Lindberg blends public and personal history into a fascinating and sometimes heart-breaking memoir of growing up in Chicago with Swedish immigrant parents and grandparents.

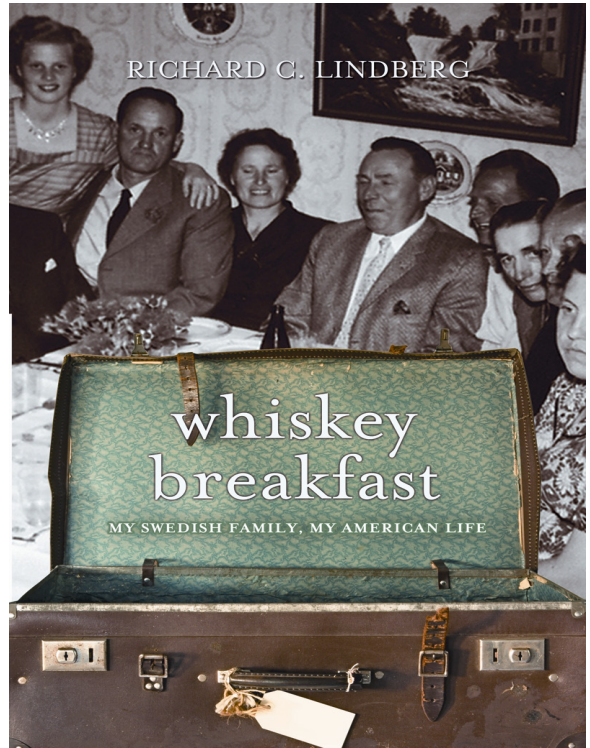
Living in Chicago today you wouldn't know it, but at one time Swedish immigrants and their descendants represented a significant percentage of Chicago's population. Until 1960, the Swedish population made up the city's fifth largest ethnic group.

Swedish immigrants, like other immigrant groups in Chicago, settled in a series of their own neighborhoods, where they recreated the look, feel, and tastes of their native land. In all, there were three different Swedetowns, and what we know as Andersonville was the last.

## Swedetown was no Andersonville

Lindberg retraces the various paths that brought his grandparents and parents from Sweden to Chicago. He describes their early experiences in the Belmont and Clark Swedetown and later further north on Clark at Foster, where "[T]hey were dedicated—in different ways—to the business of survival and busy forging their meager successes in a new land."

Back then, Swedetown wasn't home to quaint upscale shops and restaurants. Clark Street between Belmont and Foster was "a ribbon of drab storefronts, musty taverns reeking of stale cigarette smoke, transient hotels and boarding houses, fish markets and bakeries." Some of the landmarks of Swedish-American life that Lindberg mentions are the Swedish Village Restaurant, Viking Sports Club, Svithiod Singing Club, Simon's Tavern, Verdandi Hall, and Idrott Café.



**Frances Archer is a frequent contributor to this newsletter and has a blot on the regional history of this area. Please visit her website:**

**<http://francesarcher.com>**



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The life of Lindberg's father helps explain the old saying that the Swedes built Chicago. Upon arriving in Chicago in 1924, Oscar W. Lindberg worked as a carpenter on the construction of Soldier Field. He advanced to building prefabricated Sears houses and then started his own company, O.W. Lindberg Construction. He built homes all over the North Shore and the first synagogue in Skokie.

### **Nightmare in Norwood Park**

In 1927, Lindberg's maternal grandparents left their apartment on Winnemac in Swedetown for a shot at the American dream in a home on Navarre Avenue in New Norwood Park. When Lindberg was two, his parents divorced and it was to this house that he and his mother retreated.

Richard's grandmother was still alive and she was an embittered woman who despised Oscar Lindberg and had no affection for his son, Richard, her grandchild. Lindberg's mother became increasingly depressed and dropped any pretense of participating in life. For young Richard Lindberg, home life in Norwood Park was a nightmare. Visiting his alcoholic father in Skokie was no picnic, either.

But the worst of Lindberg's childhood experiences took place at Onahan Elementary School. At a time when there was nothing worse than being different, Lindberg didn't fit in.

### **Grease is the Word**

Norwood Park's main business district ran along Northwest Highway between Raven and Niagra. The mom-and-pop storefronts Lindberg recalls in his book include: Tony's Toy Shop; Stolle's Bakery; Pankau's Drugs; Meersman Electric Shop; Hansen's Barber Shop; Jerry's Drug Store, and Studsrup's Drugstore (where Linderge worked for \$1.10 an hour in 1969). Other business in the area he mentions are Lockwood Castle, where they stuck sparklers in ice cream sundaes, Lilac Farms, National Tea and Wally and Mary's penny candy store.

Lindberg attended Taft High School, the same school as Jim Jacobs, class of 1960 and creator of the original Grease. Jacobs immortalized two popular Norwood Park joints, Parsi's and Carnival Drive-in, in his play. Both places—and the greasers who hung out there—were still around in Lindberg's teen years.

### **A tale for Chicagoans of all backgrounds**

Whatever you're interested in—Chicago history, neighborhood history, suburban (Skokie) history or even Swedish history, chances are you'll learn something new from Lindberg's book. And whatever neighborhood you're from, chances are at some point you've covered some of the same territory as the people who make up Lindberg's multigenerational tale. The experiences of his family, while extreme, are not far removed from the challenges many immigrants have faced building new lives in Chicago.



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## Early Photos of Norwood Park



**Norwood Park Train Station**



**Early Norwood Park Post Office**



**Early Norwood Park Parade. Norwood Park Athletic Association float shown.**

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in the Parish Center Chapel

*1st Friday Adoration*  
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*1st Saturday Devotion*  
Parish Center Chapel 10:00am-3:30pm

*Holy Hour*

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Our warmest welcome to all who celebrate with us, whether visitors, neighbors, long-time residents, or newly arrived in the Neighborhood.

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We welcome you to join with us in our celebration of God's Word.

Reverend Robert Fedek, *Pastor*



## A History of Kosciuszko Park

*By Dan Pogorzelski*

Spanning the Chicago Community Areas of Logan Square and Avondale, the neighborhood of Kosciuszko Park lies on the city's Northwest Side where the brick homes and two-flats of the Bungalow Belt mesh with the impressive former factories along the Pulaski Avenue Industrial Corridor. Colloquially known by locals as "Koz Park", or even the "Land of Koz", the area is a prime example of a local identity born through the coming together of locals thanks to the green spaces set aside by the foresight of Chicago's Progressive civic leaders.

The boundaries of Kosciuszko Park are generally held to be Central Park Avenue to the East, the Milwaukee District/North Line Railroad tracks to the West, George to the North, and Altgeld to the South.



**Ice skaters enjoying a winter's day in front of the fieldhouse at Kosciuszko Park in 1964.**

*Photo Courtesy of the Chicago Park District*

Most of the land between Fullerton and Diversey Avenues as well as Kimball Avenue to Pulaski Road was empty as late as the 1880's, mostly consisting of the rural "truck farms" that peppered much of Jefferson Township. This began to change with the annexation of this rustic hinterland to the city in 1889 in anticipation of the World's Columbian Exposition that would focus the country's eyes on Chicago just a few short years later in 1893.

A glance of these parts thanks to an old Rand McNally map of Chicago from 1892 reveals just how different the original designations of local streets were before the great unification of Chicago's street and address system in 1908. Thus while Hamlin Avenue would be instantly recognizable to any resident today, plenty of other street names would surely not. Harding Avenue was dubbed Mittman, while Altgeld Street was named Dunning after the infamous insane asylum that once occupied the land where Wright College Campus now stands. Springfield Avenue had a split personality in Kosciuszko Park, bearing the name of the Czech religious reformer Jan Hus south of Diversey Avenue, but it was Lincoln Avenue just to the north of it. Anyone taking a casual stroll down Carroll Street back then would now find themselves on George Street in the vicinity of St. Hyacinth Basilica's parish plant.

The most interesting scoop we'll stumble on from looking over Kosciuszko Park's bygone street names however is found on Wrightwood Avenue, originally laid out as "Pennock Boulevard", the main thoroughfare of what was planned to be a hefty industrial and residential district. The development was so renowned that we can find an entry on the suburb in a "History of Cook County, Illinois" authored by Weston Arthur Goodspeed and Daniel David Healy:

"The little village of Pennock was located at Diversey Street and Ballou (now St. Louis), Fullerton and Crawford (now Pulaski) Avenues. Lots were laid out, subdivisions added, and business enterprises made their appearance. Homer Pennock was the most prominent figure there in early days."

Founded by mining entrepreneur Homer Pennock, high hopes were held out for the mining magnate's pet project. Fortuitously located next to the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railway, otherwise known as the old "Milwaukee Road", Pennock spared no effort to grow his factory town. Unfortunately, a string of setbacks would thwart Homer Pennock's plans, beginning with a flooded mine that left him unable to finance construction, and ending with a fire that destroyed the town's main factory ultimately undid the project. An article from 1903 in the Chicago Tribune titled "A Deserted Village in Chicago" writes about Pennock's industrial ruins as an intriguing local curiosity, familiar to numerous onlookers traveling up and down the nearby railway, complete with photos of the derelict structures.



10. **Homer Pennock** *Photo Courtesy of Janet Klein*

Interestingly enough Pennock, Illinois wasn't the only place named after this ill-fated businessman- Homer, Alaska, the birthplace of author Tom Bodett, is named after Homer Pennock as well.

While Homer Pennock's industrial suburb failed, Chicago's rapid expansion transformed the area's farms into clusters of factories and homes. At the turn of the 20th century as settlement was booming, Kosciuszko Park and Avondale were at the Northwestern edge of the Milwaukee Avenue "Polish Corridor"- a contiguous stretch of Polish settlement which spanned Milwaukee Avenue all the way from Polonia Triangle at Milwaukee, Division and Ashland to Irving Park Road. A dense network of fraternal and religious organizations in the corridor was vital to helping these new immigrants adjust and prosper in their new surroundings. Historian Edward Kantowicz argues that the genesis behind this Northwesterly route of Polish migration was simple- it was along Milwaukee Avenue that Poles traversed as they headed from Polish Downtown to St. Adalbert's Cemetery in Niles during funeral processions to bury their dead. As Polish migration increased, Poles headed this way thanks to familiarity with the promising land that lay undeveloped along this Northwesterly stretch. It was to these parts that Poles headed as they became more prosperous in striving, like others, to take part in the "American Dream".

Kosciuszko Park offered more than just a less congested setting for its new residents. First and foremost was the wealth of jobs available nearby. Due to its proximity to rail along the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad, the area developed a plethora of industry that still survives in the city's Pulaski Industrial Corridor. It was adjacent to his own factory that Mr. Walter E. Olson built what the Chicago Tribune put at the top of its list of the "Seven Lost Wonders of Chicago", the Olson Park and Waterfall Complex, a 22-acre garden and waterfall remembered by Chicagoans citywide as the place they fondly reminisce heading out to for family trips on the weekend. The ambitious project took 200 workers more than six months to fashion it out of 800 tons of stone and 800 yards of soil. Today many of these same factories have been converted into chic loft residences as demand for this kind of housing escalates.

Adjacent to Kosciuszko Park's border with Avondale proper near the intersection of George Street and Lawndale Avenue is St. Hyacinth Basilica, which began in 1894 as a refuge for locals to tend to their spiritual needs. A local shrine, St. Hyacinth's features relics associated with Pope John Paul II, as well as an icon with an ornate jeweled crown that was blessed by the late pontiff as well. Founded as a Polish Roman Catholic Parish, the current building was completed in 1921 by the noted architectural duo of Worthmann and Steinbach, the same that built many of Chicago's "Polish Cathedrals" such as St. Mary of the Angels or Holy Innocents. St. Hyacinth's three spires tower over the surrounding area, and can be seen as far away as the Kennedy Expressway. With seating for over 2,000 people, stained glass windows imported from the workshop of F.X. Zettler of Munich, massive bronze doors cast by CzesBaw Dzwigaj, and its painted saucer dome measuring 3,000 square feet with over 150 figures, this sacred space is sure to stir the soul.



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Other institutions further enriched the institutional fabric of the Polish community in the area. In 1897, the Polish Franciscan Sisters began building an expansive complex on Schubert and Hamlin Avenues with the construction of St. Joseph Home for the Aged and Crippled, a structure that would also serve as the motherhouse for the order. When it opened in 1898, it became the city's first and oldest Catholic nursing home. Two years later the sisters would build St. Vincent's Orphanage next door which would care for more than 500 children before the opening of St. Hedwig's Orphanage in Niles. One of the industries the nuns took upon themselves to support these charitable activities was a church vestment workshop which opened in 1909 on the second floor. Many of these Polish nuns were expert seamstresses, having learned these skills in the Old World. It was in this building in Kosciuszko Park that historian and author Victoria Granacki notes these sisters "designed, embroidered, stitched, and painted all manner of priestly vestments, altar cloths, communion veils, and processional banners and flags." In 1928 the Franciscan Sisters further expanded the complex by building a new St. Joseph Home of Chicago, a structure that stood until recently at 2650 North Ridgeway. Designed by the distinguished firm of Slupkowski and Piontek who built many of the most prestigious commissions in Chicago's Polish community such as the Art Deco headquarters of the Polish National Alliance and Holy Trinity High School among others, the brick structure was an imposing edifice. One of the building's highlights was a lovely chapel with a masterfully crafted altar that was dedicated to the Black Madonna. The entire complex was sold to a developer who subsequently razed the entire complex, while the new "St. Joseph Village" opened in 2005 on the site of the former Madonna High School and now operates at 4021 W. Belmont Avenue. The park later became home to one of the two first Polish language Saturday schools in Chicago. While the school has since moved out of their small quarters at the park fieldhouse, the Tadeusz Kościuszko School of Polish Language continues to educate over 1,000 students to the present day, reminding all of its origins in Kosciuszko Park with its name.

It was the park of Kosciuszko Park however that weaved together the disparate subdivisions and people into one community. Dedicated in 1916, Kosciuszko Park owes its name to the Polish patriot Tadeusz Kosciuszko. Best known as the designer and builder of West Point, Kosciuszko fought in the American Revolution and was awarded with U.S. citizenship and the rank of brigadier general as a reward. Kosciuszko was one of the original parks of the Northwest Park District which was established in 1911. One of the ambitious goals of the Northwest Park District that was in keeping with the spirit of the Progressive Movement popular at the time was to provide one park for each of the ten square miles under its jurisdiction. Beginning in 1914, the district began to purchase land for what would eventually become Mozart, Kelyvn, and Kosciuszko Parks, and improvement on these three sites began almost immediately. For Kosciuszko, noted architect Albert A. Schwartz designed a Tudor revival-style fieldhouse, expanded in 1936 to include an assembly hall, just two short years after the 22 separate park districts were consolidated into the Chicago Park District. The park complex expanded during the 1980's with the addition of a new natatorium at the corner of Diversey and Avers.

The green space afforded by the park quickly became the backdrop for community gatherings. Residents utilized the grounds at Kosciuszko Park for bonfires, festivals and neighborhood celebrations, and for a time, even an ice skating rink that would be set up every winter. Summertime brought the opportunity for outdoor festivities, peppered with sports and amateur shows featuring softball games, social dancing, a music appreciation hour, and the occasional visit by the city's "mobile zoo". The strength of these bonds of friendship formed through these events at Kosciuszko Park can be gleaned from a story in the Chicago Tribune from 1940 which writes about area residents banding together for a Saturday night "Birthday Benefit Dance" at the park fieldhouse. This noble endeavor was held to aid Stella Sahaj, a poor young 34 year old girl who at the time had been bedridden with arthritis for almost 11 years.





**Photo of scaffolding on the fieldhouse at Kosciuszko Park.**

*Photo Courtesy of the Chicago Park District*

A more recent neighborhood treasure has been the creation of a combination mural/ mosaic by local children attending one of the park's art classes in the main hall of the fieldhouse in 1998 that has now become one of the most celebrated local landmarks. Reading "Welcome to the land of Koz", it colorfully illustrates a lush tropical habitat. While the head of this project claimed their main inspiration was their fondness for Hawaii, the tropical motifs that dominate this artwork deeply resonated with much of the local Latino population, whose roots trace back to the Caribbean in Puerto Rico and Cuba. The park continues its tradition as a hub integrating new arrivals into the neighborhood, the same as it did half a century ago when the fieldhouse was used for English Language classes for the throngs of "Displaced Persons" from Eastern Europe after World War II.

Neighborhood institutions and business also served a vital role in bringing together the community as well. Locals recall the Rainbow Bowling Alley that once sat across the street. Plenty of folks would dine on hamburgers and other fast food fare at the Gossage Grill on Diversey and Pulaski. Still others recount the wooden swing in front of Indian Joe's on the corner of Hamlin and Diversey, along with plenty of other local hangouts such as Smithy's on Hamlin and George, Frank's Candy Store or the Dog House. Many area children would attend grade school in the neighborhood at James Monroe and St. Hyacinth.

Plenty of interesting details of neighborhood history relating to the history of the park have been forgotten over time. Few residents today are aware of the once popular Kosciuszko Park Branch of the Chicago Public Library that existed for decades on the second floor of the park fieldhouse. The library was an invaluable asset for residents with a circulation of 4,036 books in 1920 alone!

Local lore also ties in a famous, or more precisely, infamous figure to Kosciuszko Park- John Dillinger. Known as Public Enemy #1, Dillinger took a gamble with a shady surgeon in the still nascent field of plastic surgery in his bid to evade capture. Dillinger went under the knife at Dr. Probasco's home at 2509 N. Crawford Avenue (now Pulaski Road) on May 29th of 1934, which involved removing a mole, smoothing out the cleft of his chin, as well as the implantation of tendons from a kangaroo in his face. Unfortunately for Dillinger, the results were not what he hoped for, and he was shot outside the Biograph Theater less than two months later on July 22nd. A scandal broke out when news about the operation surfaced, and Dr. Probasco plunged to his death after he jumped out the window during police questioning four days later. The good doctor's apartment building on Pulaski where the operation took place is no more, having been torn down with an extension from the building next door replacing it at 2511 N. Pulaski.

Today "The Land of Koz" is a diverse neighborhood, and becoming even more so as gentrification advances further northwest. New people are entering Kosciuszko Park and joining earlier residents whose roots trace back to Latin America and Poland. Yet the park that lent the neighborhood its name still serves its residents, where through play, performance, and even the occasional outdoor film screening it functions as the venue, the community comes together.

## **Homer Pennock - An excerpt from *The Homer Spit: Coal, Gold and Con Men***

*by Janet R. Klein*

*Who was this man for whom our community was named a century ago? What is known of him that would support the sentence, from *An Adventure in Alaska*, that he was "...the most talented confidence man that ever operated on this continent"?*

*Scant information about Homer Pennock exists. Terse references to him and his operations occur in mining records, magazines, newspapers, books, city directories, census records and on his death certificate. Contradictory information exists about Pennock, sometimes even within one article. Some mistakes are relatively insignificant; others may have been perpetrated or left uncorrected by Pennock, himself.*

*Con men often prefer to remain secretive, elusive, anonymous; and erroneous information can be beneficial. For example, Della Murray Banks and her husband, Austin, accompanied Pennock to the Spit in 1896 and 1897. In a series of articles describing their experiences, she called him a "Michigan man". Pennock is a surname common in that state, there's a town called Homer (not named after this man), and his first swindle was spear-headed out of the Detroit area; however, Pennock was a New York man. He was born there, he maintained a working residence there much of his life and he died there.*

*The earliest reference to Homer Pennock and, possibly, the first scam he concocted occurred in Canada in 1871. The 31 year old "discovered" an incredible outcrop of tin. An elaborate report, complete with a geologic map and schematics of the outcrop, was published. Pennock and partners induced American capitalists around Detroit to form an investment company. Surveyors mapped an entire township, named Homer (presumably after him), which extended about 12 miles along the coast and 10 miles inland from the Canadian Shore of Lake Superior.*

*A curious mining geologist, who questioned the presence of such rich tin in the region, secretly explored the site and found it fraudulent. He exposed the scam, yet investors ignored his warning and continued to purchase the stock.*

This work is an excerpt from *The Homer Spit: Coal, Gold and Con Men* by Janet R. Klein. You can read more about Homer Pennock and the community in Alaska that still bears his name in this book as well as another penned by Ms. Klein titled *Kachemak Bay Communities: Their Histories, Their Mysteries*. Copies are available for purchase from the author via email at [jrklein@homernet.net](mailto:jrklein@homernet.net)



# Shop Local Shop Six Corners

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## A Photo History of a Jefferson Park House



**Shown is the grass covered street in front of the house at 5351 W. Winona. The house shown at the right is still standing and is located at Long and Carman.**

This house was built sometime in the late 1800's and is located at 5351 W. Winona in Chicago. The land itself had many owners starting with Elijah Wentworth in 1838.

Elijah Wentworth took up a claim near what is today the neighborhood transit station along with the property that one day would become 5351 W. Winona. Elijah built a hotel of logs and opened a tavern on the site that is now the transit station.

Other famous people have owned the 5351 W. Winona property. David S. Dunning before 1874 owned the property. The Dunning neighborhood of the northwest side of Chicago is named after the David Dunning family.

After 1874, Luzerne D. Lowell, who was married to Clara S. Lowell, daughter of Charles Dickinson owned the property. Charles Dickinson owned the famous tavern on Milwaukee Ave. near 6 corners.

After 1881, Clark Roberts own the property. He lived in a large house on the west side of Milwaukee Ave just south of Wilson Park. Roberts Square is named after his family. Other early owners were: John Day, David Gillard, Arthur Dickinson, Anna Swanson and Fred Eldred.





***Top:*** Side view of the house with shed shown in back. ***Bottom:*** Back of the house shown. Note the lack of houses in the neighborhood.

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Are you an active member  
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additional \$950.00 discount!



**Shown is the owner of the house, which we believe is Anna Swanson. Anna was a teacher at the Jefferson School. The Jefferson School was located where the Beaubien Elementary School now stands.**



# THE GREATER INDEPENDENCE PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

## 2012 Independence Park Farmers Market

SUNDAYS  
9 AM – 1 PM:

- June 10
- June 24
- July 15
- July 29
- Aug 12
- Aug 26
- Sept 9
- Sept 23
- Oct 14
- Oct 28



*"The nearby Independence Park Farmers Market is also worth a trip. This fast-growing market will satisfy with its array of produce, plants, and baked goods."*

*Michelin Guide,  
Chicago Edition*

**Irving Park Road. (4000 N.) at Hamlin Avenue (3800 W.) Chicago, IL**  
East of Pulaski Road, the Kennedy Expressway and CTA Blue Line

[www.gipna.org](http://www.gipna.org)



## ■ ■ ■ GIPNA ■ ■ ■

Civic-minded individuals who believe that a unified community that faces modern challenges can affect real, lasting change formed the Greater Independence Park Neighborhood Association (GIPNA).

### MISSION STATEMENT

The Greater Independence Park Neighborhood Association (GIPNA) is dedicated to maintaining and enhancing the quality of life in the Independence Park community by involving, informing, and encouraging people to participate in matters relating to the community, and by protecting the historical, social, cultural, and architectural character of the neighborhood.



### BECOME A MEMBER

GIPNA is always looking for new volunteers and ideas. Join today! E-mail to us at: [gipna@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gipna@sbcglobal.net)



### CONTACT GIPNA

Mail:  
**GIPNA, PO Box 18184, Chicago, IL 60618**  
E-mail:  
[gipna@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gipna@sbcglobal.net)  
Web site:  
[www.gipna.org](http://www.gipna.org)





**Top:** Brass coal or wood burning heating stove on far left. Dinning area shown in center with part of a piano showing on far right.



**Left:** Lovely curved glass china cabinet.

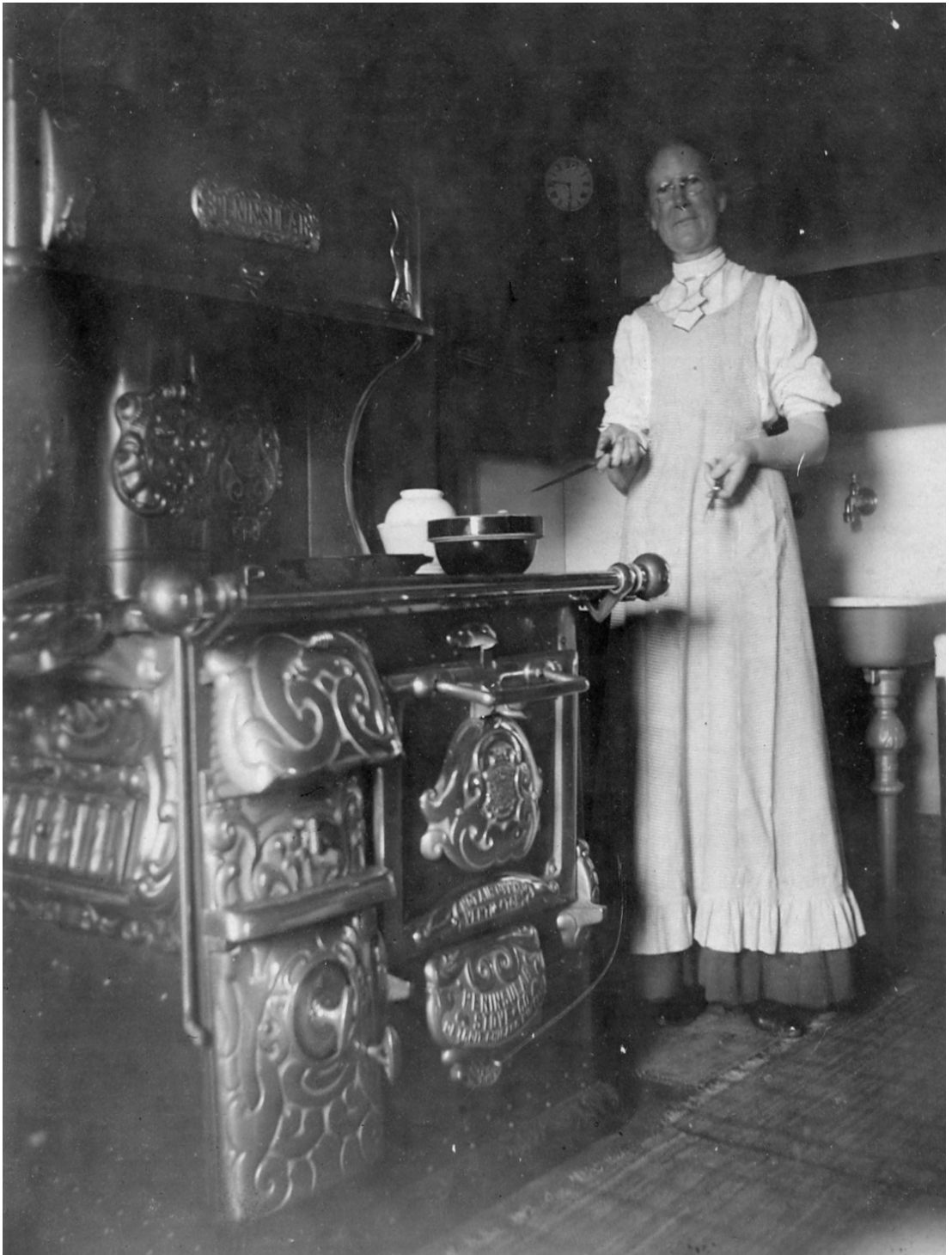
What are seldom seen in old pictures of houses are interior photos. These photos document how people lived in the late 1800's. No doubt that some of these furnishings go back to the mid 1800's.



Old time kitchen shown above with sink and calendar in the background. The door leads into the back bedroom. Peninsular Stove Company's wood burning cooking stove shown above on left and on page 23.

Sitting at the piano, Anna with some visiting young relatives. Sheet music on the piano is a "Cradle Song", *Close Those Tired Eyes*.







# Your Lake Geneva Escape...

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**Top: Bedroom photo with dresser shown.**

*Note: All photos images of both the exterior and interior of this house were supplied by the Northwest Chicago Historical Society.*

This house is now owned by Rita Kuan Miyagi and her husband. Rita is an architect who specializes in restorations of old homes.



**Rita Kuan**  
**Caprioprisby Architectural Design**  
**106 South Washington Street**  
**Hinsdale, Illinois 60521**  
**630.323.7554 x103**





*Top:* Wood or coal burning heater on the left with an old style desk in the corner. Note the thermometer mounted on the wood trim on the right. The mounting holes for this thermometer are still seen in the woodwork today.



An old style icebox can be seen in the center of the Kitchen photo at left



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