

Timeline of Lake Forest History

Prepared by the Lake Forest-Lake Bluff Historical Society for the community's Sesquicentennial

[Note: This document is a work-in-progress. The Lake Forest-Lake Bluff Historical Society welcomes submissions and revisions from members of the community.]

1695

- The French establish a trading post at Little Fort (Waukegan).

Late 1700s

- The Potawatomi expand their territory to northern Illinois and Lake County in order to control the fur trade.

1795

- Treaty of Greenville; the U.S. takes over Native American land including the future site of downtown Chicago.

1818

- Illinois is admitted to the union as the 21st state.

1833

- Green Bay Military Road appears as a blazed trail (near present-day Waukegan Road).
- The Treaty of Chicago is signed, ceding Native American land in Illinois to the U.S. Government.

1835

- Michael Meehan builds his homestead near Old Telegraph Road, the first in the area.

1836

- The first stage coaches follow old Green Bay Road.
- Michael Yore arrives from Ireland and builds a log cabin near present-day Waukegan and Everett Roads.

1838

- The Swanton family brick farmhouse, in the Greek Revival style, is built – perhaps Lake Forest's oldest building (later incorporated into Shaw's Barnhouse)

c. 1840

- The Kerrigan house, the only home within the original plat of Lake Forest which predates the plat, is built on present-day Sheridan Road.

1844

- St. Michael's Church, one of the earliest Catholic churches in the state, is built on the west side of present-day Waukegan Road in West Deerfield Township.

1846

- The first post office in the area is established, near present-day Waukegan Road and Route 60 – it is known as the Emmet Post Office.

1847

- The first telegraph line between Chicago and Milwaukee runs along what is now Telegraph Road.

1850

- Five to six full stage coaches are running daily between Chicago and Waukegan.

1853

- St. Patrick Catholic Church and Cemetery is established, on the east side of Waukegan Road near the intersection of Melody Road.

- 1855**
- The first rail line running through Lake County is completed through Waukegan.
- 1856**
- The Lake Forest Association is organized in February at the Second Presbyterian Church in Chicago.
- 1857**
- Lind University is chartered, underwritten by an \$80,000 pledge of property by Sylvester Lind.
 - Lake Forest is platted; Almerin Hotchkiss' town plan plots Lake Forest in irregular lots within a park-like setting along the lake.
- 1858**
- The first hotel in Lake Forest, designed by Asher Carter, opens on what is now Triangle Park.
 - Lake Forest Academy opens in the hotel.
 - The first Lake Forest estate, the home of Dr. Charles H. Quinlan, is built north of Deerpath.
- 1859**
- The Gilbert Rossiter house, an Italianate villa, is constructed on Deerpath.
 - Dickinsons' Seminary for Young Ladies opens.
 - First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest is organized.
 - The first business house in Lake Forest, the Wright store, is built on the northeast corner of Deerpath and McKinley.
 - The Sylvester Lind home is built on Deerpath.
- 1860**
- The D.R. Holt house, an Italianate villa called The Homestead, is constructed near the northwest corner of Sheridan and College Roads (570 N. Sheridan).
- 1861**
- The City of Lake Forest is chartered on February 21.
 - First ordinance approved by the City Council: "Be it ordained by the common council of the City of Lake Forest that no person elected to the office of Alderman of said city shall receive any salary for his services as Alderman."
 - Harvey M. Thompson becomes mayor of Lake Forest.
 - The Collegiate Department of Lind University begins operations.
 - The Harvey M. Thompson house is built on Sheridan (660 N. Sheridan).
 - The first Lake Forest Academy commencement is held.
- 1862**
- The first public elementary school, Quinlan School, is opened at Walnut and Washington roads; 48 pupils attend classes in the new schoolhouse.
- 1863**
- The Street Commission is instructed to "cut all thistles now growing in the streets within the City limits."
 - Lind University's Collegiate Department disbands amidst the Civil War; the University is reduced to a boys' preparatory program.
- 1865**
- William Sage Johnston becomes mayor of Lake Forest.
 - Lind University is rechartered as Lake Forest University.
- 1866**
- David J. Lake becomes mayor of Lake Forest.
 - The African Methodist Episcopal Church is organized.

1867

- Harvey M. Thompson becomes mayor of Lake Forest (2nd term).
- Rev. Baxter Dickinson closes his Seminary for Young Ladies.

1868

- Sylvester Lind becomes mayor of Lake Forest.
- Joseph O'Neill establishes O'Neill's Hardware.
- Noble Avenue School is established in north Lake Forest.

1869

- The City Council agrees to rent a room in the James Anderson store for \$5 per month, including fire and lights, with said room designated "the Council Chamber of the City of Lake Forest."
- Lake Forest receives a charter school district.
- Ferry Hall opens.
- The John V. Farwell estate at 888 East Deerpath is constructed, from Portland cement.

1870

- Samuel Ezra Barnum becomes mayor of Lake Forest.
- The Sen. Charles B. Farwell estate, Fairlawn, is constructed on block bounded by Deerpath, Lake, and Mayflower Roads and Spring Lane.
- Oakhurst is designed by Burnham and Root for Ezra Joseph Warner.
- The population of Lake Forest is about 800.
- The African Methodist Episcopal Church erects a frame church building at the present corner of Maplewood and Washington Road.

1871

- John V. Farwell becomes mayor of Lake Forest.
- The Lake Forest (or New) Hotel, the town's second, is launched, built south of Mayflower Park on what is now the Schweppe estate.

1872

- The Lilacs is built for Simon S. Reid on the southwest corner of Sheridan and College Roads.

1873

- Samuel Ezra Barnum becomes mayor of Lake Forest (2nd term).

1874

- The City Council instructs the superintendent of public schools to employ a principal of the public schools for the ensuing year at \$70 per month and an assistant principal at \$30 per month.
- Sylvester Lind becomes mayor of Lake Forest (2nd term).
- The Chicago-Milwaukee railroad is built through the Lake Forest area.
- Samuel Blackler opens his butcher shop.

1875

- The first Church of St. Mary, a frame building, is constructed.
- Merrie Meade, the Calvin Durand home, is constructed.

1876

- Lake Forest University opens a coeducational Collegiate Department.
- Rev. Robert W. Patterson is first president of Lake Forest University.
- The Lake Forest Academy's baseball team loses to the Chicago White Sox 31-1.

1877

- The first dormitory and classroom building at Lake Forest College – the former New Hotel – burns a year and a half after its founding.
- Amzi Benedict becomes mayor of Lake Forest.

1878

- President Rutherford B. Hayes visits Lake Forest.
- Sylvester Lind becomes mayor of Lake Forest (3rd term).
- The Lake Forest Association is dissolved.
- Rev. Daniel Seelye Gregory is president of Lake Forest University.

1879

- Samuel Ezra Barnum becomes mayor of Lake Forest (3rd term).
- South School opens in the former home of Rev. Baxter Dickinson.

1880

- W.C. Larned commissions William LeBaron Jenney to design Blair Lodge.
- The first College commencement is held.
- The population of Lake Forest is 877.
- North Hall, a gift from Charles B. Farwell, is built to house Lake Forest Academy.

1881

- Sylvester Lind becomes mayor of Lake Forest (4th term).
- Rev. James McClure arrives in Lake Forest as Presbyterian minister.

1881-1884

- Lake Forest adopts City Seal and Motto: “Naturae et Scientiae Amor” (“Love of Nature and Science”)

1882

- Lake Forest Cemetery Commission is organized.
- Fire ravages much of Lake Forest’s downtown business district.

1884

- Amzi Benedict becomes mayor of Lake Forest (2nd term).

1886

- Joseph B. Durand becomes mayor of Lake Forest.
- Rev. William C. Roberts is president of Lake Forest University.

1887

- Lake Forest Art Institute, precursor to Durand Art Institute, is organized.
- New First Presbyterian Church building, designed in the Shingle style by Cobb and Frost, is dedicated.

1888

- Moses Lewis Scudder becomes mayor of Lake Forest.
- West School is built at the corner of Oakwood and Deerpath.
- Alcott School is founded as a private elementary school in a three-room cottage on what is now the Lake Forest College campus.
- Noble Avenue School discontinues operations.
- Fort Sheridan is constructed.

1889

- Walter Cranston Larned becomes mayor of Lake Forest.
- New water tower is constructed.

1890

- The population of Lake Forest is 1,203.
- North Gymnasium is built on Lake Forest College campus.

1891

- Calvin Durand Jr. becomes mayor of Lake Forest.
- The Durand Art Institute is constructed, designed by Henry Ives Cobb.

1892

- Charles Blair MacDonald lays out the first golf links in Chicago on the grounds of Fairlawn.

1893

- The first Lake Forest fire brigade is organized to protect the life, safety and property of local residents.
- Henry Ives Cobb builds for himself what was then the largest home in town, on Green Bay Road; Frederick Law Olmsted designs the grounds.
- O.C. Simonds drafts a plan for grounds of Lake Forest University.
- John Merle Coulter is president of Lake Forest University.

1894

- The new Central School building opens on Illinois Road as the first consolidated K-12 public school in Lake Forest.

1895

- Telephone service arrives in Lake Forest
- The first police officer, James Gordon, is appointed.
- Edward F. Gorton becomes mayor of Lake Forest.
- The Blackler Building is constructed on the southwest corner of Deerpath and Western.
- The Lake Forest Golf Club is formed and a nine-hole course is designed on the Leander McCormick farm.
- Argyllshire, the Cyrus McCormick III house, is constructed.
- Pembroke Hall, the David B. Jones house on Green Bay Road, is designed by Cobb.
- The Onwentsia Club is organized.
- St. Patrick Church is struck by lightning and burns to the ground.

1896

- The Highland Park Electric Light Company brings electricity to Lake Forest.
- Publication of the *Lake Forester* begins.
- Walden, the Cyrus McCormick Jr. home designed by Jarvis Hunt, is constructed.
- The Onwentsia Club opens on the grounds of the Henry Ives Cobb home.
- North School for the primary grades is established on North Sheridan Road.
- Ardleigh, the John V. Farwell Jr. house, is constructed.

1897

- Ragdale is constructed on Green Bay Road by Howard Van Doren Shaw.
- The North Shore Electric line is built through Lake Forest.
- The Lake Forest Horse Show begins.
- Rev. James G. K. McClure is president of Lake Forest University.

1898

- Lake Forest City Hall is constructed at Deerpath and Forest Avenue, designed by architects Frost and Granger, and financed by a \$10,000 Franchise Fee from the North Shore Electric Railroad Company.
- The City establishes a public library and appoints the first library board. The library is housed in the new City Hall.
- The Fire Department is established at City Hall

- Alice Home Hospital, the predecessor to Lake Forest Hospital, is erected on the Lake Forest College campus.
- Westleigh is built on Green Bay Road for Louis F. Swift.
- The Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit is organized.
- Lois Durand Hall is built on Lake Forest College campus as a women's dormitory.

1899

- C.G. Wenban opens a funeral home, ambulance and delivery service at 101 Deerpath Road.
- Arthur Somerville Reid Memorial Library and Lily Reid Holt Memorial Chapel are built on Lake Forest College campus as a gift from Mrs. Simon Reid.

1900

- The population of Lake Forest is 2,215.
- The first automobile, a black Winton, is introduced to Lake Forest by Arthur Farwell, son of J. V. Farwell.
- A \$15,000 bond issue is approved by the voters to acquire the Gorton School site and construct a school house.
- The Chicago and North Western Railroad station is constructed, designed by Frost and Granger.
- Rookwoods is constructed on Waukegan Road for Miss Helen Culver.
- Arthur Aldis purchases the estate at the southeast corner of Deerpath and Green Bay Road.
- The Onwentsia Hunt Club is started.

1901

- Mayor Gorton orders motorists to carry a light after dark to avoid collisions with pedestrians and other vehicles.
- O.C. Simonds proposes a revised cemetery plan.
- Rev. Richard Harlan is president of Lake Forest College.

1902

- A severe epidemic of scarlet fever breaks out during the winter months and the entire city is placed under quarantine.
- The North Gas Company brings gas lamps into the community despite considerable opposition from a number of residents who fear the lamps will kill the trees and shrubbery and result in the community taking on an "urban" appearance.
- Mark Morton becomes mayor of Lake Forest.
- The Winter Club is established and its Charles Frost-designed clubhouse is constructed.
- The Church of the Holy Spirit building is constructed in the English Gothic style, designed by Alfred Granger.
- Krafft's Drugstore opens.
- The Lake Forest Women's Club is organized.

1903

- An ordinance is passed concerning certain self-propelled vehicles along streets, highways, and public places in the City of Lake Forest: no automobile, autocar, steamroller, etc., shall be operated at a greater rate of speed than 8 mph.
- Fredrik Herman Gade becomes mayor of Lake Forest.
- John Griffith opens his real estate office, originally located on the south side of Deerpath Road just west of the Blackler Building.
- Lake Forest College divests itself of professional schools, becomes solely an undergraduate institution.
- The Albert Blake Dick house, Westmoreland, is constructed.
- Alcott School moves to Sheridan Road and Deerpath.

1904

- The Griffith Block building is constructed at 768 North Western Avenue.
- Construction begins on J. Ogden Armour's Melody Farms.
- The Anderson building is constructed on northwest corner of Western and Deerpath.
- The Great Lakes Naval Training Center is authorized.
- The Academy of the Sacred Heart (Barat College) is moved from Chicago to Lake Forest.

- North School closes.
- The Union Pacific New Line for freight opens.

1905

- Central School is renamed Gorton in honor of former mayor Edward F. Gorton.
- The Charles Garfield King home on Ridge Road is constructed.

1906

- David H. Jackson becomes mayor of Lake Forest.
- Howard Van Doren Shaw designs the Edward L. Baker home on Sheridan Road in the English Arts and Crafts style.
- The first Deerpath Inn is opened by the Patterson family on Deerpath Road.
- The Young Men's Club is organized.
- Arcady Farm is built at the northwest corner of Waukegan Road and Route 60 for the Meeker family.
- Durand Commons is designed on Lake Forest College campus by Howard Van Doren Shaw.

1907

- First National Bank of Lake Forest opens.
- John Scholte Nollen is president of Lake Forest College.

1908

- The Women's Club inaugurates Lake Forest Day with support from the Young Men's Club. Proceeds go to the construction of a contagious hospital to supplement Alice Home Hospital.
- At the request of the Women's Temperance Union of the North Shore, the City Council passes an ordinance prohibiting the delivery of intoxicating liquor within the City and prohibiting children from being employed in the business of delivering intoxicating liquors.
- Clifford Barnes commissions Howard Van Doren Shaw to build Glen Rowan.
- Construction begins on Villa Turicum, designed by Charles Platt for Harold Fowler McCormick and Edith Rockefeller McCormick.

1909

- Frederik Herman Gade becomes mayor of Lake Forest (2nd term).
- The second Church of St. Mary's building is constructed at the corner of Green Bay and Illinois Roads.

1910

- The population of Lake Forest is about 3,300.
- Lake Forest Improvement League Chairman Walter S. Brewster presents a comprehensive improvement and beautification plan for the streets and general cleanliness in Lake Forest to the City Council. The intent is to cement Lake Forest's status as "the best, safest, healthiest and the most beautiful suburb of Chicago." The plan calls for the extensive planting of trees and the seeding of parkways downtown.
- C. Frederic Childs becomes mayor of Lake Forest.
- The City establishes first professional fire department.
- St. Patrick Church is rebuilt at the northeast corner of Everett and Waukegan Roads.

1911

- The Police Department purchases a motorcycle for their use.
- The Lake Forest Good Roads Association, originally formed for the purpose of sprinkling the streets of Lake Forest, dissolves, donating its sprinkler cart to the City of Lake Forest.
- John T. Pirie Sr. becomes mayor of Lake Forest.
- The Walter and Kate Brewster estate is designed by Howard Van Doren Shaw.
- The Lake Forest YWCA is organized.
- Great Lakes Naval Training Station is dedicated.

1912

- The City Council passes an ordinance prohibiting the exhibition of obscene and immoral pictures and regulating the exhibition of pictures of the classes and kinds “commonly shown in mutoscopes, kinescopes, cinematographs, and penny arcades.”
- Architect Charles A. Platt designs Villa Turicum for Harold and Edith McCormick. The 44-room house on 300 acres is estimated to cost \$5 million.
- West School is rebuilt and renamed in honor of John J. Halsey.
- The Lake Forest Garden Club is formed.

1913

- Max Cohn opens his grocery store at 1005 McKinley Road.
- The city’s first motorized fire engine is purchased.
- Old Elm Club is organized by Onwentsia members.

1914

- The City hires its first full-time professional fire fighter to operate the new motor fire truck.
- Leverett Thompson becomes mayor of Lake Forest.
- Havenswood, the E.L. Ryerson estate designed by Howard Van Doren Shaw, is constructed.
- Everett School, a two-room brick building, is constructed.

1915

- The building plans for the improvement of the Market Square business district by the Lake Forest Improvement Association are submitted and approved by City Council.
- William Mather Lewis becomes mayor of Lake Forest.
- Lake Foresters vote 495-452 against screening movies on Sundays.
- Construction begins on A. Watson Armour’s Elawa Farms property.
- John G. Shedd commissions Mayflower Place for his daughter Laura and her husband Charles Schweppe.
- Rev. George Roberts becomes pastor of First Presbyterian Church.

1916

- Plans for the construction of the Young Men’s Club House (the “Old Rec Center”) including the upper floor of the bank building are submitted for Council review.
- The City Council approves an ordinance to prevent ducks and chickens from running at large in the city of Lake Forest.
- The Charles P. Pike home is constructed.
- Kerosene street lamps are installed throughout Lake Forest.
- F. Scott Fitzgerald visits Ginevra King in Lake Forest.

1917

- Market Square is completed at a cost of \$750,000. The square is called “the first integrated and artfully designed shopping center in the country.”
- Keene H. Addington becomes mayor of Lake Forest.
- The Lake Forest War Emergency Union is organized.
- Market Square flagpole installed as a tribute to WWI soldiers.
- The School of St. Mary is built next to the church.

1918

- Sixteen Lake Foresters are killed in WWI.
- News of the armistice ending WWI prompts the bell ringer at City Hall to such enthusiasm that the bell cracks and is never used again.
- Barat College is chartered by the state as a four-year college.

1919

- Henry A. Rumsey becomes mayor of Lake Forest.

- During the milk strike of 1919, milk is brought in from Highland Park.
- In May, the City buys an electric siren and begins daily testing of the siren at noon.
- The American Legion charts George Alexander McKinlock Jr. Post 264 in Lake Forest.
- The Lake Forest Girl Scout Troop is organized by Lillian Low.
- Col. William F. Thorpe founds Thorpe Academy on seven acres at Sheridan Road and Spruce Avenue.

1920

- The City Council approves the acquisition of the water system from the Lake Forest Water Company for a special assessment of \$250,000.
- Kiddle's opens, providing bike sales, rental, and repairs.
- The population of Lake Forest is about 3,600.
- Fairlawn burns down.

1921

- The American Legion takes over sponsorship of Lake Forest Day.
- Rev. Herbert McComb Moore is president of Lake Forest College.

1922

- The City of Lake Forest establishes the Zoning Commission.
- Lake Forest Sports Shop opens.

1923

- The City Council adopts the first zoning ordinance.
- The Lake Forest/Lake Bluff Kiwanis Club is established.
- Fairlawn is rebuilt for Grace Farwell Winston McGann and Robert McGann.

1924

- The Prince of Wales (Edward VIII) visits Lake Forest.
- Knollwood Club is formed.

1925

- The main fire station is built at Forest Avenue and Southgate across from City Hall.
- Green Bay Road is declared a "pleasure driveway" by City ordinance, barring burden-carrying vehicles.
- Farwell Winston becomes mayor of Lake Forest.
- Lake Forest Academy and Ferry Hall separate from Lake Forest College.

1926

- The City Council adopts an ordinance establishing the Lake Forest Plan Commission.
- The Crown Prince Gustavus Adolphus and Princess Louise of Sweden visit Lake Forest.
- The residents of Lake Forest approve the annexation of an area west of Skokie Highway consisting of 9 square miles.
- Construction on the Deerpath Theater begins; cost is \$175,000.
- The Skokie Valley Route of the North Shore Interurban opens.
- David Adler designs Albert Lasker's Mill Road Farm estate in Everett (west Lake Forest).
- The Foundation for Architecture and Landscape Architecture is organized by the Lake Forest Garden Club and housed at Lake Forest College.

1927

- The League of Women Voters of Lake Forest is formed.
- The first nine holes of the Deerpath Municipal Golf Course are opened, with resident membership at \$18 per year.
- Plans for a new clubhouse at the Onwentsia Club are announced. The structure is estimated to cost \$500,000.
- The City Council passes an ordinance redistricting the city into four wards instead of three.
- Anderson's Trust building is constructed.

- Albert Lasker's Mill Road Farm golf course is completed.

1928

- Albert Blake Dick Jr. becomes mayor of Lake Forest.
- The Deerpath Theater opens.
- Samuel Insull buys Mellody Farms and plans to turn it into a country club.
- The Lake Forest Day School is founded on Deerpath.
- The Noble Brandon Judah home is completed on Westminster, designed by Philip Goodwin.

1929

- The City Council passes a resolution favoring the de-annexation of Lake Forest from the Deerfield-Shields Township High School District and establishing a high school within its own boundaries.
- Mrs. C.H. Schweppe and Mrs. K.C. Reed donate \$250,000 for a fully-equipped library building, in the memory of Mr. Kersey Coates Reed.
- The new Deer Path Inn opens on Illinois Road.
- A private railroad car, the Deerpath, is initiated on the Chicago and North Western Railroad.

1930

- The population of Lake Forest is 6,554.
- Lake Forest Day School begins construction on a new facility on Green Bay Road.
- Lake Forest Day is cancelled.
- The Lake Forest Community Council is created as a clearinghouse for relief work.

1931

- Albert D. Farwell becomes mayor of Lake Forest.
- The Lake Forest Library is constructed, designed by architect Edwin D. Clark.
- Marshall Field's department store moves into the anchor position in Market Square.
- Helander's opens as a printing business.
- Skokie Highway (Rte. 41) is completed through Lake Forest.

1932

- Construction begins on new federally-funded Post Office building, designed by Ralph Milman in the art deco style.

1933

- New post office opens.

1934

- Francis E. Manierre becomes mayor of Lake Forest.
- Alcott School becomes Bell School in honor of the school's proprietor Allen C. Bell.

1935

- Lake Forest High School opens as an arm of Deerfield-Shields High School.

1934-1937

- The City Council passes an ordinance to make Eastern Standard Time the official time of Lake Forest
- Breakwaters are installed along the lakeshore.
- Stringent milk inspection laws are enacted due to the outbreak of typhoid and other diseases.

1937

- Kent Chandler becomes mayor of Lake Forest.
- Smith's Men's Store opens

1937-1940

- The water pumping station is constructed.
- Lake Forest is divided into specific districts for business, industry, and dwellings, with lot and house size specified.

1939

- The City Council passes an ordinance creating the office of the city manager. Mr. John C. McNicol, head of the Water Department, is appointed City Manager.

1940

- The population of Lake Forest is about 7,200.
- The City Council approves the construction of a new hospital facility on 24 acres of land east of the Skokie donated by Mrs. A.B. Dick Sr. The Alice Home Hospital becomes a dormitory at Lake Forest College.
- Richard H. Mabbatt becomes mayor of Lake Forest.
- Lake Forest College's football team is undefeated.

1941

- The City purchases 58 acres of Villa Turicum for park purposes.

1942

- The City Council approves an ordinance to authorize the Mayor to carry out blackouts and air raid protection measures.
- Lake Forest Hospital, designed by Anderson and Ticknor, is completed.
- Ernest Johnson is president of Lake Forest College.

1943

- Charles F. Clarke becomes mayor of Lake Forest.
- The Office of Civilian Defense is organized as a clearinghouse for quarters for officers at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center. Many soldiers are housed in Lake Forest homes.

1945

- 1,200 Lake Foresters serve in WWII, along with 800 Lake Forest College graduates and 400 Lake Forest Academy graduates.

1946

- Edward K. Welles becomes mayor of Lake Forest.

1947

- Lake Forest Academy moves to Mellody Farms.

1948

- The City enters into a lease agreement for use of the Young Men's Club for City recreational, educational, and social purposes.
- John O. Giles becomes mayor of Lake Forest.

1949

- The first Lake Forest Board of Education is organized.
- School District 115 is formed and the administration of Lake Forest High School is transferred to Lake Forest.

1950

- The population of Lake Forest is 7,819.
- A change of the date of Lake Forest Day is considered due to the incident of polio cases.
- The Board of Education of School District 67 purchases 31.35 acres east of the Skokie river to be used for Deerpath School.

1951

- Walter Paul McBride becomes mayor of Lake Forest.

1951-1954

- The war memorial in Market Square is erected.
- Automatic gates are installed at railroad crossings.

1952

- The issuing of bonds for the construction of the Deer Path School is authorized by the City Council.

1954

- The City Council establishes the Lake Forest Playground and Recreation Board.
- Elliot Donnelley becomes mayor of Lake Forest.

1955

- Deer Path School opens.
- Halsey School is torn down.

1956

- The City passes an ordinance regulating the architectural design of buildings within the city and establishing the Building Review Board.

1957

- Sheridan School opens.
- A new Everett School is built down the road from the original building, which is converted into a fire station.
- Morrison Waud becomes mayor of Lake Forest.

1957-1960

- City annexes part of Vernon Township east of the Toll Road and south of Everett Road.
- The police department begins using radar.
- Market Square is renovated.

1958

- The City approves the process of fluoridating Lake Forest's water supply.
- In response to numerous resident complaints, the City Council passes an ordinance prohibiting the landing of aircraft within the city limits.
- The new Everett School opens.
- The Lake Forest Symphony is started.
- Lake Forest Day School and Bell School merge to form Lake Forest Country Day School.

1960

- George R. Beach Jr. becomes mayor of Lake Forest.
- William Graham Cole is president of Lake Forest College.
- The population of Lake Forest is 10,687.

1961

- The City of Lake Forest celebrates its Centennial Anniversary.
- The Academy of the Sacred Heart is moved to a separate campus from Barat College and becomes the Woodlands Academy of the Sacred Heart.

1962

- Cherokee School opens.

1963

- The City adopts the Official Plan for the City of Lake Forest, to control in a rational manner its future growth.
- Michael Cudahy becomes mayor of Lake Forest.

1963-1966

- An ice storm causes much damage in Lake Forest.
- U.S. Highway 41 is relocated.
- The City passes a dog leash law and laws for the licensing and regulation of cats.

1966

- Willard K. Jaques becomes mayor of Lake Forest.

1967

- Lake Forest Open Lands Association is founded.

1969

- Bruce MacFarlane becomes mayor of Lake Forest.

1970

- Kent Chandler becomes mayor of Lake Forest.
- Eugene Hotchkiss III is president of Lake Forest College.

1971

- The Gorton Community Center Commission is established in the former Gorton School to operate the facility as a public community cultural, recreational, and educational center.

1972

- The City Council establishes the Construction Codes Commission to review matters pertaining to the building construction codes of the city.
- Gorton School is closed.
- The Lake Forest-Lake Bluff Historical Society is formed.

1973

- Aidan I. Mullett becomes mayor of Lake Forest.

1973-1975

- The City establishes its first long-range planning committee.
- A tax on utility bills is introduced, avoiding an increase in property taxes.

1975

- James Swarthout becomes mayor of Lake Forest.

1976

- The Lake Forest Preservation Foundation is formed.

1978

- The City adopts the "Official Comprehensive Plan of 1978" to assist the future planning and development of the City in a manner traditional to Lake Forest.
- The residents of Lake Forest approve the construction of a new City recreational facility to be located at Deerpath Park.
- Frank Waldeck becomes mayor of Lake Forest.
- Market Square is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

1980

- CROYA is established.

1978-1981

- First tree ordinance is passed, requiring permits to be granted to cut down large trees.
- Provisions for Chicago Bears training facility at Lake Forest College are finalized.

1981

- The City adopts the Residential Historic Preservation Ordinance to regulate development and aesthetic alterations to historically significant areas and to preserve the ambiance of Lake Forest.
- Gerhard E. Seidal becomes mayor of Lake Forest.

1982

- Barat College becomes a coeducational institution.

1981-1984

- Lake Forest holds its first contested mayoral election.
- The annual tree-lighting ceremony is initiated.
- The City creates the Senior Citizen Commission.

1984

- Frank Farwell is elected mayor of Lake Forest.

1986

- The City acquires the historic Ragdale property and maintains it as the fourth-largest artist colony in the nation.

1987

- Marshall C. Strenger is elected mayor of Lake Forest.
- Lake Forest Beach reopens on Memorial Day after rehabilitation funded through the City.

1987-1990

- The City annexes the Lake Forest Academy and Conway Farms properties.
- The city's 911 system is implemented.

1989

- Municipal officials enact the nation's first building-scale ordinance to regulate the demolition of residences and the construction of oversized replacements.

1990

- Charles Clarke Jr. is elected mayor of Lake Forest.
- The population of Lake Forest is 17,836.

1990-1993

- The City Council passes a ban on leaf burning.
- City-wide recycling program begins.
- City's first Tax Increment Financing District (TIF).

1991

- Conway Farms Golf Club opens.

1993

- Rhett Butler is elected mayor of Lake Forest.
- David C. Spadafora is president of Lake Forest College.

1993-1996

- Historic restoration of City Hall is completed.

- West Lake Forest undergoes development, including the West Number 2 Fire Station, the West train station, and Settler's Square.
- The Masonic Lodge is purchased as an interim City Hall, and then provided to the Lake Forest-Lake Bluff Historical Society.
- The Newell's Reserve/Open Lands project is approved.
- City Council meetings are televised

1996

- Cornelius (Ron) Waud is elected mayor of Lake Forest.

1996-1999

- Initiation of Elawa Farm project.
- The Historic Preservation Commission, the Senior Resource Commission, and the Cultural Arts Commission are created.

1999

- Howard Kerr is elected mayor of Lake Forest.

1999-2002

- Market Square 2000 partnership for rehabilitation of infrastructure begins
- Grove Cultural Campus is developed by the City

2000

- The population of Lake Forest is 20,059.

2001

- Stephen D. Schutt is president of Lake Forest College.
- Barat College is purchased by DePaul University.

2002

- John E. Preschlack is elected mayor of Lake Forest.

2002-2005

- Lake Forest residents pass a referendum designating Lake Forest as a Home Rule community.

2005

- S. Michael Rummel is elected mayor of Lake Forest.

2006

- Barat College closes.

2007

- Lake Forest Academy and Lake Forest College celebrate their sesquicentennial.

2008

- Addition to Lake Forest High School opens.

2009

- First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest celebrates its sesquicentennial.
- A new, LEED-certified Municipal Services building is constructed and opened on Field Drive.
- James J. Cowhey Jr. is elected mayor of Lake Forest.

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For additions or revisions to this timeline, contact the Lake Forest-Lake Bluff Historical Society at 847.234.5253 or info@lflbhistory.org.