



Broadway, Beverly Drive, and Lake Front Drive were all once populated with many structures that no longer exist.

What happened to change the town so dramatically?

The Beverly Shores Depot Museum and Art Gallery has undertaken a project to further its commitment to "Keeping the Past Present." At each site a trail marker will be erected showing a brief description of what used to stand there—along with a QR code allowing digital access to additional details about the site, which may include a virtual tour.

THE SITES



Trail Marker

Using This Guide

The map on the first page contains numbers which correspond to the various site numbers. There will be a trail marker at each site providing a brief description of the historic site, and what previously stood in the spot.

Virtual Tour

At each site there is a QR (Quick Response) code for access to digital information which may include a virtual tour.

1



Beverly Shores Depot Museum & Art Gallery

Built in 1929, the Depot is an example of “Insull Spanish” architecture, a Mediterranean Revival style.

Years of effort by Beverly Shores townspeople preserved the station, placed on the National Register of Historic Places in July 1989.



2



Sales/Administration Building

The Real Estate Sales and Administration Building was built in 1927. It was originally divided into a front sales office and separate living quarters for a live-in salesman and caretaker. The building has served as the Beverly Shores Administration Building since 1951.



3



Beverly Shores Hotel

The Hotel was built in 1934 to house visitors. In 1952 it became a nursing home. The Indiana Dunes National Park acquired it in 1966. The building was destroyed by fire in 1974. Gardens behind the hotel were composed of native plants.



4



Colonial Village

In 1935 Robert Bartlett brought the Colonial Village, an exhibit in the *Chicago Century of Progress*, to Beverly Shores, a shrewd move to further a marketing opportunity. Remaining structures were eventually removed by the Indiana Dunes National Park who restored the land to a natural state, a change which covered most sites with plants or water.



5



Native American Presence

Paleo-Indians were in the area from 12,000-9,000 BCE during the last stage of glacial advance. The area was a key hunting ground. European contact and tribal competition caused some tribes to move west, while others sought to control large trading areas.



6



Theatre of the Dunes

The Theatre of the Dunes (1935-1945) was Indiana's first summer theater. The building used by the Theatre of the Dunes had been used as offices for the Bartlett Real Estate company before it became a theater. This location created a comfortable venue for seeing plays.



7



Old North Church

The Old North Church is the only remaining structure of the ten Colonial Village buildings from the 1933-34 Chicago Century of Progress Exposition that real estate developer Robert Bartlett moved it to Beverly Shores as a marketing ploy.



8



Old Post Office

The Post Office shared space with Irwin's Village Store. Once inside, P.O. boxes were on the left, and an ice cream counter was in the back on the right side. Now, the building is a private residence.



9



Beverly Shores School

The school opened in 1931 with two classrooms and a small downstairs gymnasium/lunch room. One teacher taught 1st through 3rd grades, and the other teacher 4th through 6th grades. 7th and 8th grades were added in 1964. The school closed in 1980 due to falling enrollment. It was demolished in 1986.



10



Lenard's

Thousands traveled from Chicago each weekend on the Chicago South Shore & South Bend Railroad to Lenard's, a resort near the water's edge, with a private beach and a dining room that extended over the lake, where dinner while watching the setting sun was something special.



11



Red Lantern

The former Lenard's was purchased in 1967. Extensive renovations were made to create The Red Lantern. The 25 hotel rooms were completely re-done. The property was purchased by the National Park Service in 1969. It continued operation until 1986 when it was removed by the National Park. The area is now the Lake View Scenic Overlook.



12



Gone But Not Forgotten

In 1966 The Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore was created, and homes were acquired for the purpose of creating and preserving the lakefront in its natural state. The property owners were given a lease opportunity. After the owners' leases expired the buildings were removed.



13



Shore Erosion

Lake Front Drive has always been in danger of eroding. In 1951 a section was lost. In 1973 sections were lost but repaired. In the 1980s the Army Corps of Engineers constructed a rock revetment. The 2020 attack on Lake Front Drive caused portions to be lost. Many other breaches in the dune bluff were endangering the road, so a new revetment was built.



14



Former Resorts

Before the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore was created in 1966, seventeen known resorts existed. Beverly Shores was a popular spot for Chicago vacationers, many families remained all summer, with the working parent commuting to Chicago.

After the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore was established it acquired many Beverly Shores properties. Those buildings have since been removed.



OUR STORY

SAVING A LANDMARK,
MAKING A COMMUNITY

Years of effort by Beverly Shores townspeople, spearheaded by The Dunes Woman's Club, preserved the station.

The Depot enriches the lives of visitors by preserving and telling the story of Beverly Shores and this area, featuring exhibits by artists from our region, and hosting events providing opportunities for people to gather and connect.

PLEASE DONATE

If you like what you see, please donate to Beverly Shores Museum and Art Gallery so that we can continue to grow.

Mail a check to:

Beverly Shores Museum and Art Gallery, Inc.
PO Box 305 Beverly Shores, IN. 46301

Or to pay by credit card, debit card or PayPal, visit: www.bsdepot.org