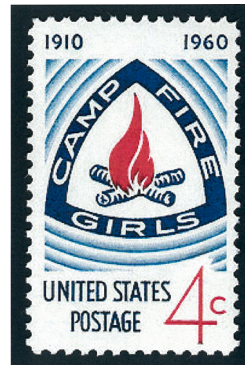


**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON  
PARK RIDGE HISTORY, visit:**

Park Ridge Historical Society / History Center  
721 N. Prospect Avenue  
(847) 696-1973  
www.parkridgehistorycenter.org

Kalo Foundation / Iannelli Studio  
255 N. Northwest Highway  
(847) 792-1970  
www.kalofoundation.org

Park Ridge Public Library  
20 S. Prospect Avenue  
(847) 825-3123  
www.parkridgelibrary.org



A new, fully-illustrated hard-cover history of Park Ridge has been published by the Park Ridge Heritage Committee, and is available for sale:

Milton E. Nelson, *Park Ridge: Milestones of History*  
(Ampersand, Inc., 2017)

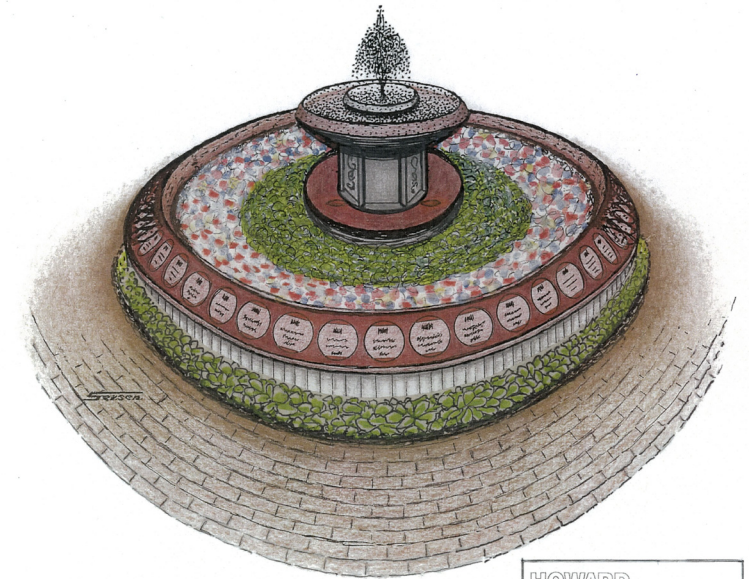


**CAMP FIRE GIRLS FOUNTAIN**

The existing fountain in Hodges Park was dedicated on June 5, 1966, replacing an earlier fountain erected in 1926. Both the 1926 and 1966 fountains were designed by the acclaimed sculptor and designer **Alfonso Iannelli** (1888-1965), whose home and studio were located for fifty years in Park Ridge. The fountains were built to honor the Camp Fire Girls of America. Founded 1910 in Vermont, the Camp Fire Girls were organized in Park Ridge by 1913. The designer of the refurbished fountain with the ring of “milestones” was **Howard Sersen** (1929-2015), a local interior designer who personally knew Alfonso Iannelli. The final “milestone of history” was added in 2018.



**MILESTONES OF HISTORY  
CAMP FIRE GIRLS FOUNTAIN  
PARK RIDGE, ILLINOIS  
HODGES PARK**



• HISTORIC MILESTONES • PARK RIDGE HERITAGE COMMITTEE  
12-10-92



The Park Ridge Heritage Committee restored this fountain in 2007, while also adding a granite ring of plaques to commemorate events and people important to the history of Park Ridge since 1832. The Heritage Committee was assisted by the following to create the “Milestones of History”:

- City of Park Ridge
- Park Ridge Park District
- John D. Simms Family Foundation
- Park Ridge Community Women
- Park Ridge Historical Society
- Dorothy S. Walker Trust

**MILESTONES OF HISTORY  
CAMP FIRE GIRLS FOUNTAIN  
PARK RIDGE, ILLINOIS  
HODGES PARK**

**1832** Pioneers begin to settle here as the Black Hawk War ends. By 1841, land sales begin at \$ 1.25 per acre.

**1837** Chamblee Post Office, named for Chief Shabbona, opens in log cabin of Mancel Talcott, near the Des Plaines River.

**1843** Monroe Congregational Church is organized here. First building erected 1848 near Talcott and Dee Roads (now the Park Ridge Community Church).

**1850** Maine Township, population of 548, is our first local government, at the suggestion of Socrates Rand.

**1854** Penny and Meacham Brick Yard makes clay bricks at Elm and Grand. The town is called Pennyville.

**1856** Railroad service begins here as Chicago, St. Paul & Fond-du-Lac trains stop to serve the Brick Yard.

**1857** Pennyville becomes Brickton, Illinois as the Brickton Post Office is established on Northwest Highway.

**1858** Town of Maine Cemetery at Touhy and Dee chartered on land purchased from Dr. Frederick T. Miner.

**1861-1865** In U. S. Civil War, twelve soldiers from Brickton, Illinois or surrounding area die in service.

**1870** Grant Place School opens as first permanent local school. Built of Brickton bricks, with two classrooms.

**1873** Brickton incorporates as Village of Park Ridge, with population of 405. George B. Carpenter is first President.

**1876** Composer John Alden Carpenter is born here. He adds an American flavor to symphonic music.

**1880s** Heated greenhouses flourish, growing flowers and vegetables. One local specialty is growing mint.

**1886** Captain William P. Black, Park Ridge lawyer and Civil War hero, defends Haymarket anarchists on trial.

**1890** Village of Park Ridge hires first Police Officer. In 1893, a volunteer Fire Company is created.

**1894** Electricity comes to Park Ridge when a generator is built at Electric Hall, Main Street at Fairview.

**1895** An Artists' Colony begins with painters, sculptors and designers locating homes and studios here.

**1896** First Village Hall is built at Touhy and Northwest Highway, on land donated by George B. Carpenter.

**1902** Maine High School opens on Thacker Street for 35 students. It relocates to Dempster and Potter in 1930.

**1903** Frederic W. Goudy, printer and type designer, establishes Village Press, prints fine books in his barn.

**1905** Clara Barck Welles opens Kalo Studio on Grant Place, making fine handmade silverware sold in Chicago.

**1906** Park Ridge Country Club is established by a local tennis club. They leased former Robb family farm.

**1908** The first bank opens in office of Barrows Lumber & Coal Co. at Touhy and Meacham Avenues.

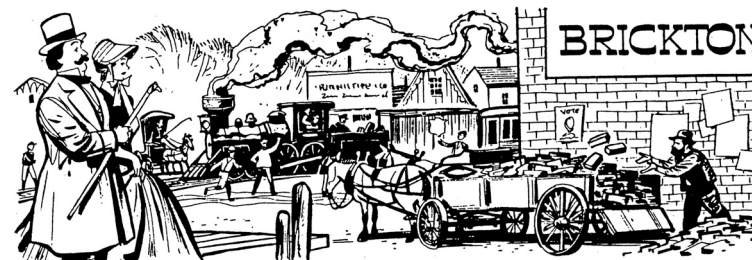
**1908** Illinois Industrial School for Girls relocates from Evanston, builds campus on North Prospect Avenue (becomes Park Ridge School for Girls).

**1910** Park Ridge, population of 2009, votes to incorporate as City. Dr. Albert Buchheit (a dentist) is elected as first Mayor.

**1913** The Park Ridge Public Library opens Uptown in new building donated by Andrew Carnegie of Pittsburgh.

**1914** Park Ridge Park District created by referendum as a separate government. Park Commissioners are elected.

**1917** During World War I, Mother Francis X. Cabrini from Italy, first U.S. saint, purchases a farm here.



**History of Park Ridge**



**1928** Pickwick Theatre is built on Prospect Avenue. It replaces the 1924 Ridge Theater on Vine Avenue.

**1936** Tri-M Music Honor Society is founded at Maine Township High School. The society now has chapters around the world.

**1943** Douglas Aircraft of Orchard Place at Mannheim and Higgins builds C-54 Skymasters for World War II. (This site will become O'Hare Airport in 1949.)

**1959** Lutheran General Hospital is dedicated in new building on Dempster Street in Park Ridge (relocating here from Chicago).

**1960** Park Ridge City Flag is designed by Mayor Raymond Hollis. The Northwest (Kennedy) Expressway opens.

**2016** Hillary Rodham Clinton is candidate for U.S. President, also U.S. Secretary of State (2009), U.S. Senator (2001), and First Lady (1993), Maine South Class of 1965.

