

Community Area #73

Washington Heights

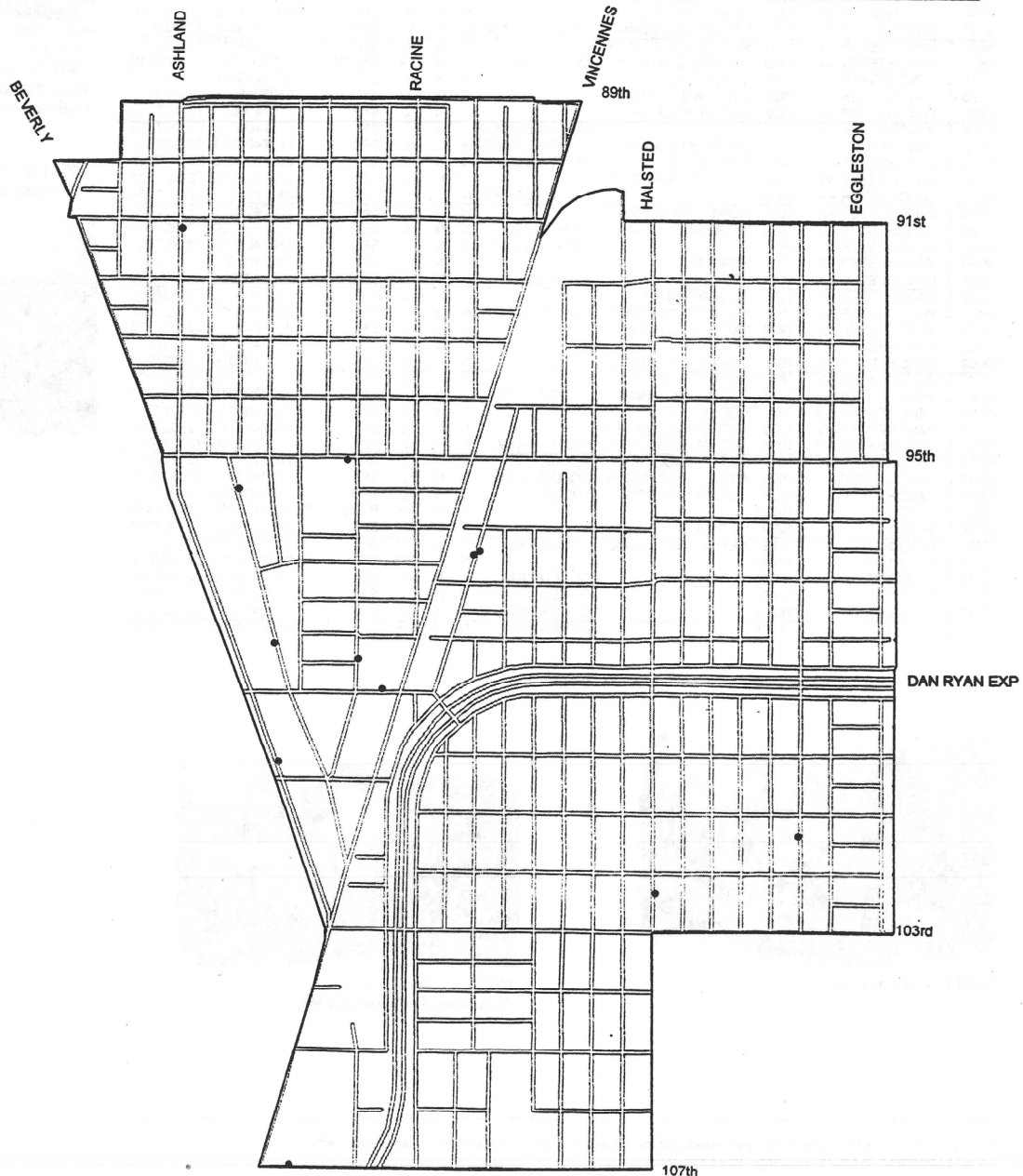
Population: 32,114

Number of Structures: 8,610

Avg. Date of Construction: 1942

Significant Structures: 57

Source: 1990 Census, Harris File, CHRS



(Dots show approximate, rather than specific, locations of significant structures.)
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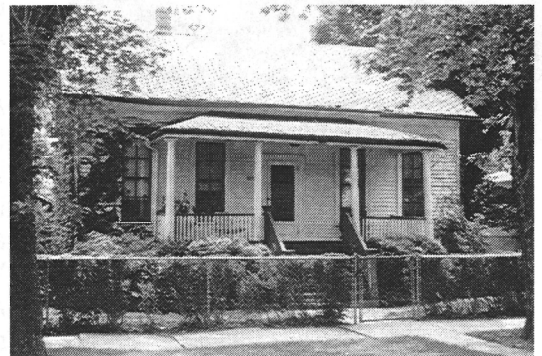
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Like many community areas, Washington Heights is an amalgam of several earlier settlements. Its name is an anachronism because the only "heights," i.e. hills, in the area actually are located to the west in what is now Beverly. The area is bisected by Vincennes Avenue, originally an Indian trail through the area and, during the 19th century, an important route to Chicago from the south. Norman Rexford, an early settler in the area, established a tavern at 91st and Vincennes in 1834, just a year after Chicago was incorporated as a town. Farmers continued to move into the area until the 1860s, when railroads and industry began to dominate the local economy. The area near the intersection of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific and the Panhandle (Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis) railroad lines, at 103rd and Vincennes, became known as "The Crossing."

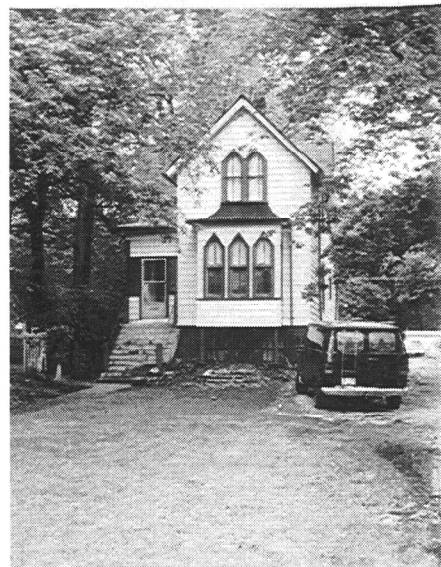
In 1866 the area's first subdivision was created at 103rd and Loomis, extending southeast to Racine and 107th. A new railroad station on the Rock Island Railroad line became the nucleus of the settlement. Houses from this early stage of development include the frame house at 9635 South Genoa, a late example of a modest Greek Revival house, and a larger frame home at 9802 South Winston, distinguished by pointed-arch windows in the Gothic Revival style.

The Village of Washington Heights was incorporated in 1874. Its original boundaries were, roughly, 95th, 107th, Halsted, and Western, which included most of the current Washington Heights community area, plus the Beverly community area.



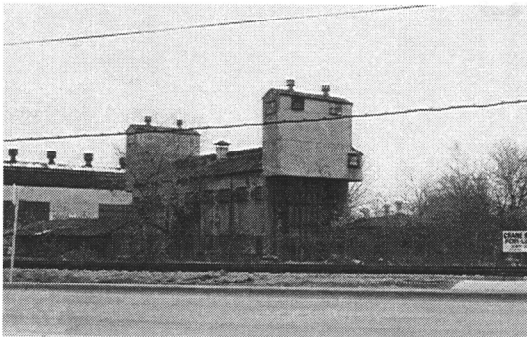
9635 S. Genoa Av.

9802 S. Winston Av.



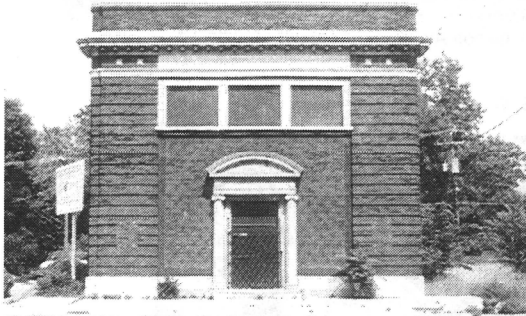
By 1900, the western portion of the village, the high ground west of the Panhandle train line, had become known as Beverly. Ironically, the low-lying eastern portion retained the name of Washington Heights.

Two nearby settlements founded in the 1880s also belong to the current Washington Heights community area, although they historically were outside the boundaries of the Village of Washington Heights. To the east, Fernwood, located along 103rd east of Halsted, grew to a reported 180 homes by 1885. That same year witnessed the establishment of the Brainerd community to the north, between 87th, 91st, Racine, and Ashland. It soon was served by a Rock Island station, built in 1889 at 89th and Loomis. The northern half of Brainerd, north of the Rock Island tracks, is now considered part of the Auburn Gresham community area (# 71).



Chicago Bridge and Iron Company
1408 W. 107th St.

Department of Gas and Electric, City of Chicago
10227 S. Halsted St.



Annexation by Chicago of what is now considered the Washington Heights community area took place in three stages. In 1890 the area north of 95th, including the Brainerd subdivision, was annexed along with South Englewood. Later that year, the Village of Washington Heights voted to join them. Annexation of Fernwood in 1891 brought the last section of the current community area within the city.

Most real estate development in Washington Heights occurred in the 20th century. The southward extension of car lines along major avenues, such as Halsted and Ashland, in the decades following 1900 improved access to the area. The boom of the 1920s brought a doubling of the population to 18,000. The area's streetscapes were completed with brick bungalows, two- and three-flats, and small apartment buildings, constructed between 1920 and the early 1950s.

The focus of the Chicago Historic Resources Survey was on buildings erected prior to 1940. Buildings and developments erected after that date generally are not included in the inventory.

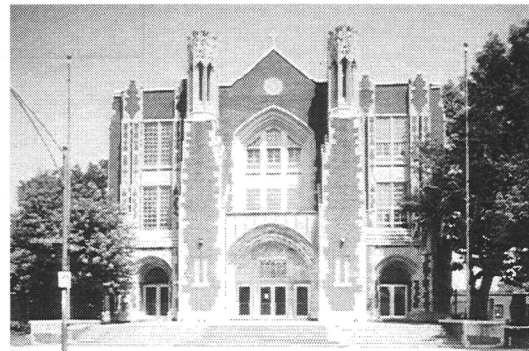
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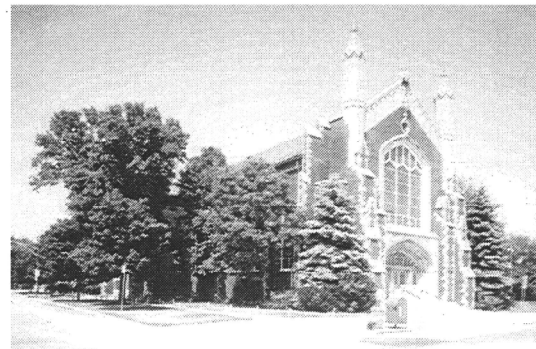
Address	Date	Architect	Building Style	Survey LM	IS	Building Code Type	PIN	Form #
1309 W 95 ST	1899			N	N	OR SCHOOL	2508105001	732110003
1256 W 99 ST	1926	WALLACE, CHARLES	GOthic REV	N	N	OR CHURCH	2508116018	732110005
1408 W 107 ST	1930s			N	N	OR MANUFACT	2517116002	733421001
9101 S ASHLAND AV	1928	RONNEBERG & PIER	MIDDLE EAST	N	N	OR COMM/RES	2505300001	732114001
9995 S BEVERLY AV	1890s		GOthic REV	N	N	OR CHURCH	2508302027	732105001
9635 S GENOA AV	<1870		GREEK REV	N	N	OR SFR	2508210007	732109002
9650 S GENOA AV	1870s			N	N	OR SFR	2508209010	732109001
10227 S HALSTED ST	1919	KALLAL, CHARLES		N	N	OR UTILITY	2509324011	732103002
10130 S PARNELL AV	1880s			N	N	OR SFR	2509320040	732103001
9831 S THROOP ST	1930	WALLACE, CHARLES	GOthic REV	N	N	OR SCHOOL	2518116018	732110004
9541 S WINSTON AV	1895			N	N	OR SFR	2508102009	732110002
9802 S WINSTON AV	<1870			N	N	OR SFR	2508101104	732110001



9541 S. Winston Av.



St. Margaret of Scotland School
9831 S. Throop St.



St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church
1256 W. 99th St.



Academy of Our Lady
1309 W. 95th St.