

Fort St. Louis

Starved Rock State Park

French Explorers led by Rene-Robert Cavalier, Sieur de La Salle and Henry de Tonty built Fort St. Louis on the large butte by the river in the winter of 1682. Called *Le Rocher*, the butte provided an advantageous position for the fort above the Illinois River. A wooden palisade was the only form of defense that La Salle used in securing the site. Inside the fort were a few wooden houses and native shelters. The French intended St. Louis to be the first of several forts to defend against English incursions and keep their settlements confined to the East Coast.

Accompanying the French to the region were allied members of several native tribes from eastern areas, who integrated with the Kaskaskia, the Miami, Shawnee, and Mohican. The tribes established a new settlement at the base of the butte. During the French and Indian wars, the French used the fort as a refuge against attacks by Iroquois, who were allied with the British. The Iroquois forced the settlers, then commanded by Henri de Tonty, to abandon the fort in 1691. French troops commanded by Pierre Deliette may have occupied Fort St. Louis from 1714 to 1718. Deliette's jurisdiction over the region ended when the territory was transferred from Canada to Louisiana. Fur trappers and traders used the fort periodically in the early 18th century until it became too dilapidated.





The marker text reads:

Fort St. Louis

Archaeological Excavations by the state of Illinois

And the University of Chicago have shown Starved Rock the site of the first permanent fortress in the Illinois Country erected 1682-1683 by LaSalle And his Lieutenant Tonte.

Illinois Branch National Society

Daughters of

The American Colonists

1958

St. Paul Community Church

Homewood, Cook County, Illinois

St. Paul's Community Church in Homewood. First formed in 1882 as the German School Parish of Thornton Station, St. Paul Church. It was renamed St. Paul Community church of Homewood in 1931. Through a series of mergers between the Evangelical and Reformed church (of which St. Paul was a member) and the Congregational Christian Church, the church became a member of the United Church of Christ in 1957.

The present sanctuary was dedicated in 1956 and is designed in the shape of an inverted boat (a boat being a traditional symbol for the church). The original church structure remains a part of or facility as the remodeled chapel. The bell that hangs today above the sanctuary is the original bell cast in Pennsylvania in 1865. The church was marked by Midlothian chapter in 1990 in recognition of the church's 125 years of service to the community.





The text reads:

ST. PAUL COMMUNITY CHURCH
Founded on this site by German Settlers
May 21, 1865

This commemorates the anniversary of 125 years
Of spiritual and moral community service
1865-1990

Presented December 1990

By

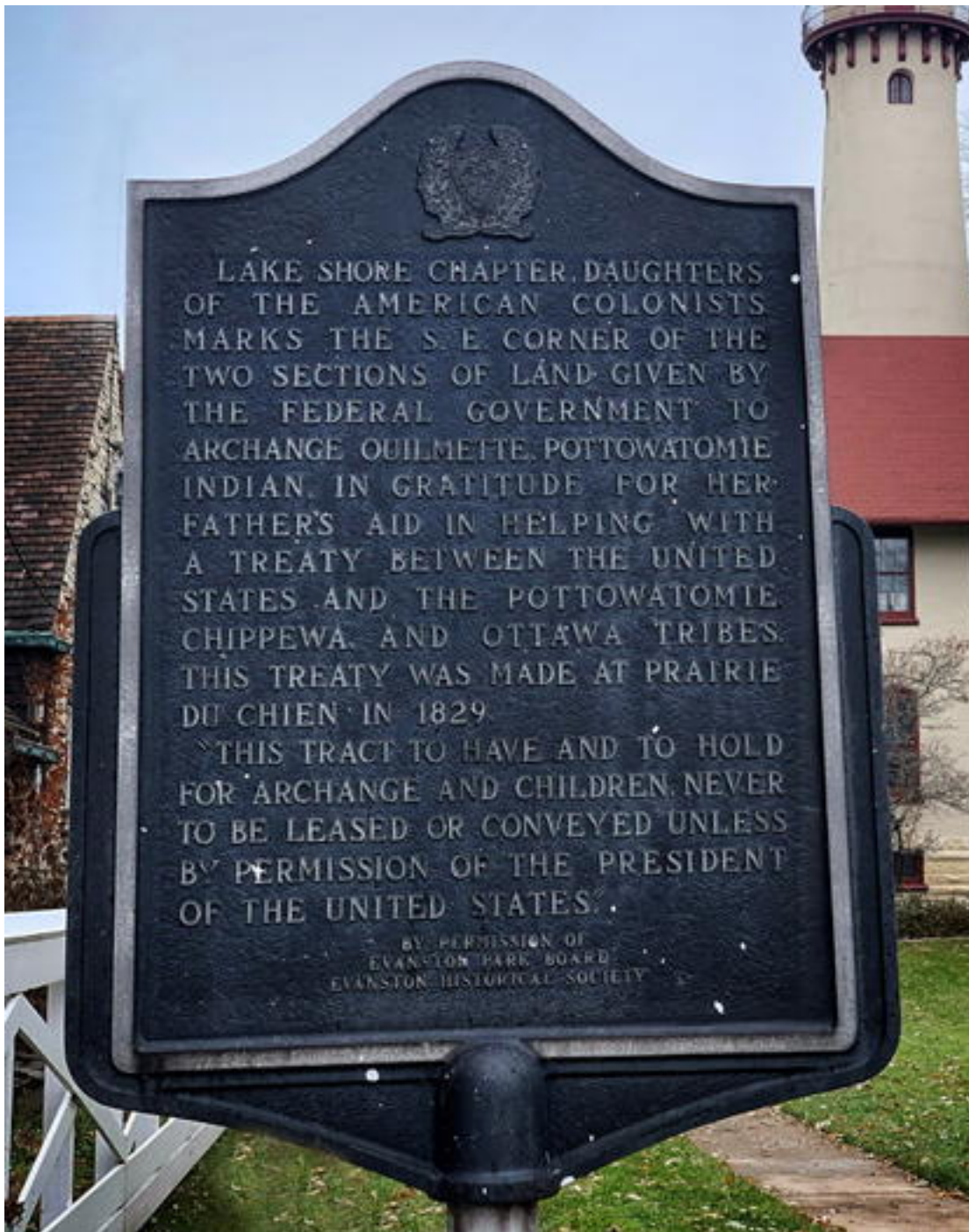
National Society
Daughters of the American Colonists
Midlothian South Suburban Chapter

Grosse Point Lighthouse

The marker was placed to commemorate a treaty between the United States and the Pottawatomie Indians in 1829 –

Grosse Point Lighthouse was built by the United States government in 1873 as the lead lighthouse marking the approach to Chicago after several shipwrecks demonstrated the need. The promontory on which it stands was named Grosse Point (Great Point) by early French explorers and traders in the 17th century. Over the years, the U.S. Government dropped the French 'e' on Point. This area was first charted in 1673 by the famous French explorer and cartographer Louis Joliet and his companion, Father Jacques Marquette, Jesuit missionary. Marquette returned the following year and makes reference in his diary to camping on Grosse Pointe before reaching the Chicago River at Lake Michigan for trade and military purposes. And, he was the first to envision an inland trade network through America's interior from the East Coast through the Great Lakes to the Mississippi River and south to the Gulf of Mexico. With construction of the Erie Canal in 1824 and the Illinois and Michigan Canal in 1848, his vision became a reality. The southern Lake Michigan region was at the axis of this inland waterborne transportation route and it was here that one of America's great cities would grow.





The text reads –

Lake Shore Chapter, Daughters of the American Colonists marks the S/E Corner of the two sections of land given by the Federal Government to Archang Ouilmette, Pottowatomie Indian, in Gratitude for her father's aid in helping with a treaty between the United States and the Pottowatomie, Chippewa, and Ottawa tribes. This treaty was made at Prairie Du Chien in 1829.

“This tract to have and to hold for Archang and children never to be leased or conveyed unless by permission of the President of the United States.”

By Permission of Evanston Park Board, Evanston Historical Society.

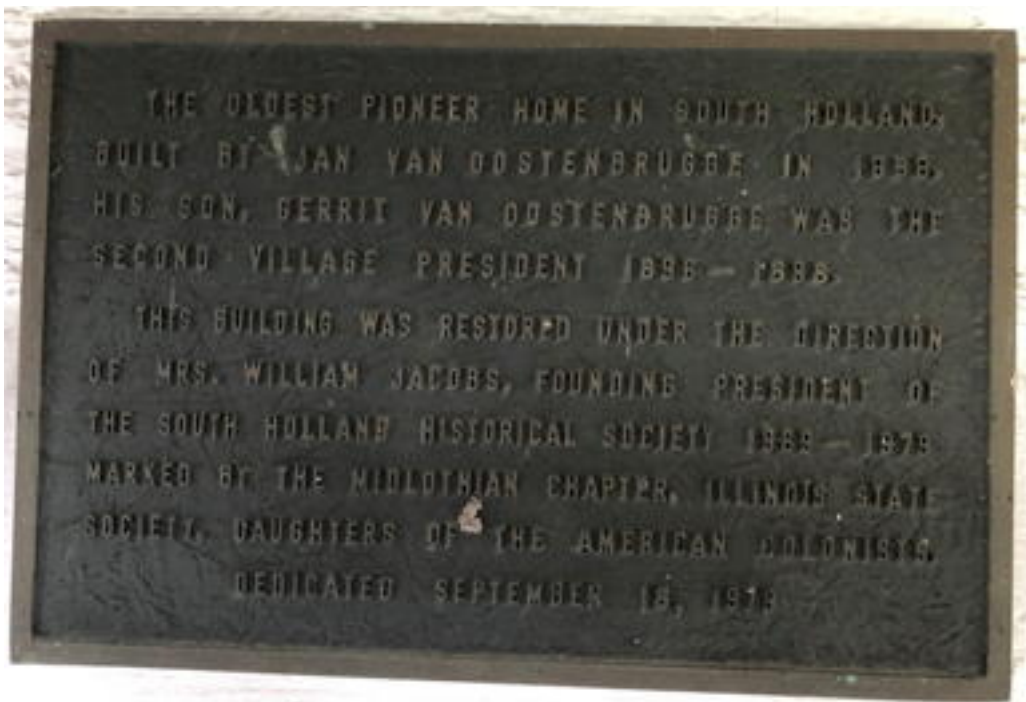
Van Oostenbrugge Centennial Home

444 East 157th Street
South Holland, Cook County, Illinois

The Van Oostenbrugge Centennial Home in South Holland, Illinois.

Jan van Oostenbrugge emigrated from the Netherlands with his wife and children in 1856. They built the home, barn, wagon shed, workshop and corn crib with the materials found on the land that they purchased. The simple layout of their home includes a summer kitchen, whose cooking was done so as not to heat the entire home with the strength of the pot belly stove. A steep staircase leads up to the bedrooms and the children's playroom, complete with the blocks and games. This is the oldest pioneer home remaining in the area. It was restored by the South Historic Society and is open seasonally for tours. This home was marked by Midlothian chapter in 1979.





The text reads:

The oldest pioneer home in South Holland,
Built by Jan Van Oostenbrugge in 1858.

His son, Gerrit van Oostenbrugge was the
Second Village President 1896-1898.

This building was restored under the Direction
Of Mrs. William Jacobs, founding president of
The South Holland Historical Society 1969-1979.
Marked by the Midlothian chapter, Illinois State
Society, Daughters of the American Colonists
Dedicated September 18, 1979