

ChicagoHistoryMuseum

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Media Contact:
Lauren R. Dolan
312-799-2161

SCHAUMBURG: FROM CORNFIELD TO WOODFIELD

Discover the history of this bustling modern suburban community

CHICAGO (August 2, 2007) – The Chicago History Museum will open its second installment within the KPMG and Paul and Katherine Snyder Community Gallery on Saturday, August 18, 2007. *Schaumburg: From Cornfield to Woodfield* explores this northwestern suburban community and how changing notions of the American Dream shaped its history.

This exhibition is broken into four major sections outlining how Schaumburg became the community it is today. The first section, **Schaumburg It Shall Be!**, focuses on the German immigrant farmers who settled the area in the 1840s. The second section, **Going, Going, Gone!**, looks at the transformation from farmland to suburbia in the decades following World War II. The third section, **A Suburban Metropolis**, examines how the completion of the Northwest Tollway in 1959 triggered rapid growth that drew scores of young families seeking pleasant surroundings. The last section, **Now What?**, focuses on the future of Schaumburg, its plans for the Schaumburg Center for the Performing Arts and a new public transportation system that would link Schaumburg to other suburbs – the first of its kind in the nation.

“The Community Gallery helps bring attention and awareness to the histories of communities within and around the city of Chicago,” said Gary T. Johnson, museum president. “Schaumburg is a well-known suburb to many, but its history is not. We hope our visitors will find this exhibition a link to the past and the city’s importance today.”

The Chicago History Museum would like to thank the following individuals and institutions that loaned materials to help make this exhibition possible. The Village of Schaumburg; Volkening Heritage Farm at Spring Valley, Schaumburg Park District; Schaumburg Township District Library; Schaumburg Township Historical Society; Hoffman Estates Museum; St. Peter Lutheran Church; Schaumburg High School; Schaumburg Flyers; Motorola, Inc.; Woodfield Mall; Illinois Department of Transportation; and numerous private lenders who shared their memories, insights, and family treasures.

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The Chicago History Museum, a major museum and research center for Chicago and American history, is located at 1601 N. Clark Street. The Museum can be reached by CTA buses 11, 22, 36, 72, 151, and 156. Parking is conveniently located one block north of the Museum at Clark and LaSalle Streets (enter on Stockton Drive). Admission to the Museum is a suggested donation of \$12 adults, \$10 seniors/students, free for children 12 years and younger. General Admission is free on Mondays. Please call 312.642.4600 or visit us at www.chicagohistory.org.