

This is the way I found the forest preserve of Fullersburg some 80 years ago. More than 80 years ago as you go to North Madison St., near Spring Road, you could look to Salt Creek and see big white and pink water lilies -- right north of the bridle path bridge was this big patch of lilies. We used to fish there for pickerel and bass.

Shortly north of that we called a little strip going into the creek an island. On this side of the creek was farm land. I saw corn and wheat grow...which is now covered with trees and shrubbery. You can hardly get through. Further down as we called it "the turn" is known as Section D now. We could sit at this turn and see people with a horse and buggy on York Road. A little further on is the high bank which is still there. We used to meet there always. There wasn't a tree or shrub there at that time. It was known as the Graue Pasture.

Then we went around to what is known as Island # 3 and it was known as "White Bottom". Then coming along to where is now the refreshment stand...we used to call it Mrs. Tring's fishing place. A ways further was known as Henry Liefer's fishing place. Then, a ways further, was the Liederkranz picnic place. Then the bend came on Spring Road -- we called it our swimming place.

Then on to about Washington Street we had a place known as Ruchty's Ice House. Now above the dam on the north side was a lily patch known to have 1000 lilies. Across from the tavern now there was the first ice house (later they built the one mentioned before on Washington Street). Ruchty delivered ice to Hinsdale, Western Springs, LaGrange, Elmhurst, Downers Grove and all along the C. B. & Q. We used to rent boats from Graue who used to own the mill. The Graue Mill is still known and part of the original building still stands. They ground all grain and made flour. Also had a cider press.

Then, coming back to what is entrance of Forest Preserve, was land owned by Domianus -- 5 acres both sides of Spring Road. Gates now on the property known as Forest Preserve. East of that which is now known as Island # 2 was land owned by Frank Meier. Going to what is the big parking lot was all underbrush. This was known as "rabbit heaven"

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