



PARKS, FORESTRY & RECREATION COMMITTEE
Monday, February 21, 2022, 7:00 PM
Meeting will be held in person.
North Conference Room, Floor 2, City Hall
75 N Bonson Street, Platteville, WI

- I. Call Meeting to Order
- II. Citizen Comments
- III. Approval of Minutes: January 17, 2022
- IV. Presentation-Friends of Indian Park
- V. Staff Update
 - a. Recreation Department Staff Introductions
 - b. Broske Center
 - c. Recreation Programs
- VI. Old Business
- VII. New Business
 - a. Platteville Inclusive Playground
 - b. Senior Center Van Process
 - c. Eco Friendly First Steps
- VIII. March 21, 2022, meeting date
- IX. Adjournment

****Masks are required in Municipal Building****

If attendance requires special accommodation, please contact (608) 348-9741, ext. 2238

PARKS, FORESTRY, & RECREATION COMMITTEE

Monday, January 17, 2022 Minutes

The regular meeting of the Platteville Parks, Forestry, and Recreation Committee of the City of Platteville was called to order by Jason Artz at 7:00 p.m. in the North Conference Room.

ROLL CALL

Present: Jason Artz, Don Francis, Erin Ihm, Suraya Strobl, Cindy Tang (Zoom),

Not Present: Victoria Hundhausen, Brian Whisenant

Staff in Attendance: Adam Ruechel and Howard Crofoot

Members of the Public: Robert and Elizabeth Gates, Kim Zielinski, Sam Villeneuve, Morgan Arnold, Christina Burr

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Robert and Elizabeth Gates spoke under Citizen Comments. They are concerned about staffing at the Pool this summer. They appreciate the City including an increase in pay for Lifeguards, plus reimbursing the cost of training for Lifeguards. They believe more should be done to incentivize young people to become Lifeguards. They are pledging \$10,000 toward Lifeguard incentives to help toward solving staffing issues. They are hoping others may join them and are willing to pledge lesser amounts over the next few years to continue incentive programs. They will leave it to Staff to figure out the best combination of signing bonuses, end of summer bonuses, wages while in training, pay and reimbursement for Red Cross swim instructor training, or other incentives. City Manager Ruechel thanked them for their concern and generosity in not just pointing out a problem but proposing and funding solutions.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Suraya Strobl to approve the minutes from December 20, 2021, seconded by Cindy Tang. Motion carried.

STAFF UPDATE:

- a. **Broske Center Fees** – Adam Ruechel went over the Financial Report in the packet. He cautioned that there may be outstanding receipts and expenses not included in the report, but it should be noted that as of December 31, 2021 there was net revenue over expenses of \$6,147.05. Any excess revenue stays in the fund to support future maintenance on the building. He also noted that Lifeline is planning to come in to install sound boards to reduce the noise in the building the week of January 24. This schedule may change if Lifeline employees are still off work recovering from COVID.
- b. **Recreation Programs** – Adam Ruechel noted that programs are continuing as normal, including basketball, volleyball and pickleball. The Indoor Park youth program at Westview School on Saturdays had about 45 participants.
- c. **City of Platteville Park, Forestry and Recreation Fund Accounts** – Adam Ruechel said that Committee member Cindy Tang asked for an update on the various fund accounts. He presented a list of 13 Trust Funds and Park Impact Fees ranging from \$300 to \$71,764.19. There is an account for general recreation donations of \$5,250.00. Adam went on to explain the three Endowment Funds. All three are being managed by the Community Fund of Southwest Wisconsin. The Parks Endowment Fund is for any park. There is \$73,537.40 in the account with \$8,734.59 spendable. The Legion Park Endowment Fund is just for Legion Park for maintenance of baseball, softball and related uses. There is \$23,197.60 in the account with \$2,893.64 spendable. The Orlo Clayton Smith Park and Legion Field Endowment Fund is for only those two parks. There is \$396,978.73 in the account with \$149,601.62 spendable. Howard Crofoot spoke of Orlo and Cyril Clayton as brothers who worked for the City as Street Maintenance employees and loved Platteville enough to leave large trust funds for these parks.

OLD BUSINESS

Recreation Department Transition – Adam Ruechel talked about the process of hiring new employees. He said that he made an offer today to the top candidate for the Parks and Recreation Director position. Once that position is hired and on board, staff will hire the new Recreation Coordinator position. The new Office Assistant will be on board as of January 31.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Update from Platteville Inclusive Playground Committee** – Christina Burr of the Platteville Inclusive Playground Committee gave a presentation of the status so far. Two grants have been submitted by Angie Wright. A CDBG-CV grant has been submitted by the City. Angie Wright is working on another four grants to be submitted in February. The group has raised over \$91,000 since inception in November. They are hopeful that they will have funding in had to allow for ordering the playground equipment by June 1 to be installed by November. Even if the City is successful in getting the CDB-CV grant with 100% funding, there are items that cannot be funded with this grant, including upgrades to the bathrooms in the Stone Shelter. The group has other enhancements that will need additional funding.

- b. Request for Recommendation of Financial Support**– Christina Burr said that most of the donors want to know that the City is pledging financial support for this project. The Committee is asking for a pledge of \$100,000 with no conditions, qualifications or restrictions. Any such conditions would make other donors consider the same conditions. Motion by Erin Ihm to recommend that the Common Council pledge \$100,000 from Trusts or Endowments as the City sees fit with no restrictions on the pledge. Second by Cindy Tang. Motion carried unanimously.

NEXT MEETING – Monday, February 21, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Motion to adjourn by Suraya Strobl, seconded by Erin Ihm. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Minutes by Howard Crofoot

To: City of Platteville Parks and Recreation Department
From: Friends of Indian Park (Laurie Graney, Kristal Prohaska, Terry Burns)
Date: February 17, 2022
Cc: Adam Ruechel, City Manager
Re: How to best communicate the history of Indian Park to the people of Platteville
(Update and focus group meeting for 2021 Wisconsin Humanities mini-grant)

We will be joining you this week to give a report on our 2021 Wisconsin Humanities mini-grant (attached) entitled “Unraveling the Mysteries of Indian Park and Developing a Vision for the Future.” Per our discussion this January with Platteville City Manager Adam Ruechel, we also would like to count this as one of our grant’s focus group discussions, where we present our findings and listen to how you think this history is best communicated to the people of Platteville. Since the Parks and Recreation Department sponsored the grant, it only makes sense that you are one of our focus groups!

Since the membership of the Parks and Recreation Department has changed somewhat since we first submitted the grant and you also have a new Director, we also are including some background information. We have attached:

- 1) The original grant (this is included in our e-mail to Adam as a separate file because of its length.)
- 2) Documentation of park status as a catalogued cemetery
- 3) E-mail from State Historic Society saying it likely qualifies for an Historic Marker.
- 4) Possible text for a State Historic Marker based upon our research
- 5) An historic survey of the park with a timeline and references, including links to articles and two presentations we have given at the Platteville Senior Center
- 6) Possible text for state historic designation

If the Parks and Recreation Department feels that signage is the best way (or even *a* way) to communicate this history, we would ask for your endorsement to work with either your director or the city manager to obtain a State Historical Marker. The city’s Historic Preservation Commission endorsed this idea earlier this week at their monthly meeting.

The Possibility of an Historic Marker Sign

Along with helping educate people in Platteville about the history of Indian Park, such signage would also attract visitors, as some people have on their “bucket list” the goal of visiting all Historical Markers in the state! We feel that purchasing such a marker would be a win-win situation for the citizens of the city and the city itself. However, since Indian Park is city property, the city must apply rather than our citizen’s group. The property now known as Indian Park--once called Hill Graveyard, then Presbyterian Burying Ground, then Cemetery Park,

Rountree Park, 4th Street Park/Cemetery, and North Park before being called “Indian Park”-- connects to many of the historic currents that ran through early Platteville, as our research shows.

Our Research on Indian Park

Links to our on-line articles and presentations follow on the pages attached, as part of the historic survey of the park with a timeline and references. Laurie Graney has traced this parcel of land through city records (especially tax records) to try to determine how this parcel of land donated as a cemetery “in perpetuity” by John Rountree became a city park. We have also researched the history of those buried there and how the site connects to events and movements in Platteville’s recorded history such as a) the small-pox epidemic, b) the cholera epidemic, c) the anti- and pro-slavery factions connected to Platteville Academy, the Presbyterian and Congregational churches, and city founder Rountree; we have also investigated the stories of Native American mounds, possible burials, and Pow-Wows held on the site. Its these latter traditions that gave the park its name.

Two years ago, in addition to applying for and being approved for the attached grant, we asked the Historic Presentation Commission to extend “local historic designation” to this park. On September 22, 2020, the HPC unanimously voted to support a local historic designation for Indian Park and sent this recommendation to the City of Platteville Common Council (as can be noted from the minutes of that meeting). On October 27, 2020, the Common Council unanimously agreed (again, as reflected in the minutes of that meeting.)

In a parallel development, last year the State of Wisconsin catalogued Indian Park Cemetery ((47-GT-0721) as a cemetery, with the document signed on April 20th, 2021, and sent to Grant County Register of Deeds. Also, because Platteville native Richard Graney has an ancestor buried in the park, he and Laurie also filled out a "Registry of Interested Persons Application" and filed it with Wisconsin State Historic Society in 2018, and it was approved (via the 1985 Wisconsin Act 316 under the direct kinship rule) that December. That grave of Graney’s ancestor, War of 1812 veteran Thomas P. Aiken, bears an official government marker furnished by the Department of Veteran’s Affairs.

As noted above, at the HPC’s last meeting on February 15, 2020, they endorsed pursuing Historic Marker signage for India Park.

As part of our grant, we have also researched non-invasive ways to discover more about the purported Native American Mounds in the park. Because it was a cholera burial ground, the Mississippi Valley Archeological Center (MVAC) associated with UW-La Crosse suggested non-invasive exploration, and indeed the cataloguing as a cemetery prevents invasive exploration. That leaves open other options such a ground-penetrating radar.

To finish the work specifically delineated by the grant, we need to talk with citizens and the Parks and Recreation Board about how to best communicate the history of Indian Park to the people of Platteville. Therefore, we also come to your meeting to listen and record your thoughts about the best way to tell this story!

We look forward to meeting with you Monday!

NOTICE OF LOCATION OF
CATALOGUED BURIAL SITE

822250

822250
July 12 2021
Andrea Noethe
Register of Deeds
GRANT COUNTY WI
11:45 AM
Fee Pd:30.00
TransFee:0.00
Exempt:
Pgs:1

DOCUMENT # BWHS-21-03-001
SITE #/BURIAL # GT-0721/BGT-0349
SITE NAME Indian Park Cemetery
OWNERS NAME City of Platteville
OWNERS ADDRESS 75 N. Bonson Street
Platteville, WI 53818

WHEREAS, the legislature intends by 1985 Wisconsin Act 316 to assure that all human Burials be accorded equal treatment and respect for human dignity without reference to ethnic origins, cultural backgrounds or religious affiliations; and WHEREAS, Wis. Stats. § 157.70(2)(a) provides that the Director of the Wisconsin Historical Society shall identify and record in a catalog, burial sites in this state, together with sufficient contiguous land necessary to protect the burial site from disturbance; and WHEREAS, § 7011(13), Wis. Stats provides a property tax exemption for land containing a burial site, which is entered in the state catalog of burial sites and that this makes the property tax treatment of burial sites consistent with the property tax treatment of cemeteries; and WHEREAS, § 157.70(5)(b), Wis. Stats. provides that no person may intentionally cause or permit the disturbance of a cataloged burial site without a permit from the Director of the Wisconsin Historical Society. Now therefore be it known that the following described lands contain a cataloged burial site and are subject to the protection and provisions of 1985 Wisconsin Act 316.

RETURN TO:
Amy L. Rosebrough
Burial Sites Preservation
Wisconsin Historical Society
816 State Street
Madison, Wisconsin 53706-1482
Parcel Identification Numbers
271-01269-0000

Indian Park Cemetery (GT-0721, BGT-0349)

This cemetery is located in the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 15, Township 3 North, Range 1 West, City of Platteville, Grant County, Wisconsin, comprising the entirety of parcel 271-01269-0000, also described as Lots 9 and 20 and the N 48.5' of Lots 10 and 19 of the Covell Addition of the City of Platteville.

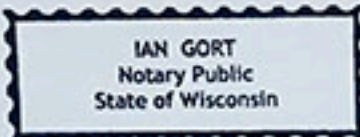
THIS INSTRUMENT DRAFTED BY

Amy L. Rosebrough
Amy L. Rosebrough

dated this 20th day of April 2021

Signature of Daina J. Penkiunas

Daina J. Penkiunas
State Historic Preservation Officer
Wisconsin Historical Society



ACKNOWLEDGMENT STATE OF WISCONSIN, DANE COUNTY
Personally came before me this 20 day of April 2021

to me known to be the person(s) who executed the
foregoing instrument and acknowledge the same.

Signature of Ian Gort

Ian Gort
My Commission Expires July 30, 2023

The Cholera Burial Ground at Indian Park State Historical Marker Pre-Application

FITZIE HEIMDAHL <fitzie.heimdahl@wisc.edu>

Wed 1/26/2022 10:29 AM

To: Teresa M Burns <burnst@uwplatt.edu>

 4 attachments (4 MB)

State Historical Markers Application Form July 2020.pdf; Marker Model J Model J 72x54 Two Post Marker.jpg; Model B 16x24 Small City Marker.jpg; Model F 36x24 City Marker.jpg;

Hello Teresa,

My name is Fizzie Heimdahl. I am the State Historical Markers Program Coordinator with the Wisconsin Historical Society. We have received and reviewed your pre-application for a State Historical Marker dedicated to the Cholera Burial Ground at Indian Park State.

We believe your topic meets the criteria for a State Historical Marker. As you develop your final application, you will need to work with Dr. Amy L. Rosebrough and James Skibo, our State Archaeologists in the State Historic Preservation Office. They will also be able to assist you in the rules and regulations regarding burial sites. IT will be important for you to work with them to determine where and how you should place your proposed State Historical Marker on the site.

<https://www.wisconsinhistory.org/Records/Article/CS15239>

Dr. Amy L. Rosebrough - Dr. Rosebrough is a leading expert on the Effigy Mound builders of Wisconsin.

Amy L. Rosebrough
Staff Archaeologist
State Historic Preservation Office

Wisconsin Historical Society
816 State Street Madison, WI 53706
608-264-6494
Amy.rosebrough@wisconsinhistory.org

James Skibo State Archaeologist
State Archaeology and Maritime Preservation Program
Wisconsin Historical Society
816 State Street Madison, WI 53706
608-264-6496
statearchaeologist@wisconsinhistory.org

It is also important to remember that the landscape of Indian Mounds are a sacred place of burial. It is a cemetery built by ancestors of living people. The place has deep significance to our Native Communities and other descendants of those who are buried here. It will be important for you to consult with the Native American Community.

I have attached a copy of the final marker application, as well as photos of the marker models we have available.

I am here to assist as needed as you work through the final application process.

Sincerely,

-Fitzie Heimdahl

Fitzie Heimdahl

State Historical Markers Program Coordinator

Wisconsin Historical Society

(715) 471-0770

fitzie.heimdahl@wisconsinhistory.org

Wisconsin Historical Society

[Collecting, Preserving, and Sharing Stories Since 1846](#)

Possible Signage for State Historical Marker

“The Old Burial Ground at Indian Park”

When pioneers arrived in Platteville in 1827, this parcel of land sat upon a ridge six to eight feet higher than it stands today and it overlooked a marshy ravine with many springs. According to early settlers, the mound in the center was believed to be a larger Native American conical mound, and some also reported a linear mound nearby. This parcel also became an early burial ground for settlers, and it likely includes victims of the 1843-1844 smallpox epidemic. City founder John Rountree deeded this land to the German Presbyterian church in 1848. The deed specifically states that the parcel should “forever remain a public burial ground.” Through 1855, there were many victims of cholera. There is a marked grave for War of 1812 veteran Thomas Aiken here. Although not marked, Aiken’s son’s fiancée, Eleanor Donaldson is also buried here. Aiken and Donaldson died of cholera in 1850. Those buried under the flat stone on the north side of the cemetery have never been identified. It is possible that an entire family could be buried here.

In 1849 the issue of slavery divided the Presbyterian church, whose leadership included Rev. John Lewis and Josiah Pickard. Pickard was a deacon of the church and was also the Platteville Academy principal. These individuals were strong abolitionists in contrast to Rountree, who had owned slaves. In 1849, the church took an unusual step of changing denominations. The Wisconsin State Legislature passed Act 25, which allowed the church to change its name and form of government to that of Congregational. A recorded 1849 Grant County deed transfer states the church property was to include a one-acre parcel known as the "Presbyterian Burying Ground". Later documents show this cemetery being called “Hill Graveyard” and “Fourth Street Cemetery”. As years passed and the city grew, the burial ground, which was once on the outside of town, became surrounded by buildings. In 1917 the state legislature passed another act, Chapter 307, which allowed the cemetery to become public property. In 1918 the Platteville Common Council voted to level the park and to remove all the remains; however, this was not done, as families were actively prevented from removing their dead, perhaps because they had died of cholera. Those early settlers remain here to this day.

Historic Survey with References

Following this introduction, we have listed information and sources chronologically for the reader's convenience. The attached Powerpoint also lists what name was used for Indian Park in what years; a more detailed account of the names may be found at <https://driftlessroadtrip.com/Indian-Park-naming-history>.

We have also written about the park's history in three articles. The first introduces the subject; the second looks particularly at the Indian Park as a cholera burial ground, and the final one looks at it as a likely location of one conical (and perhaps one linear) Native American Mound. These articles by Laurie Graney, Kristal Prohaska and Terry Burns are available here:

- “The Mysteries of Indian Park—Part I” Available: <https://driftlessroadtrip.com/the-mysteries-of-indian-park/>
- “Indian Park Part II: The Cholera Burial” Available: <https://driftlessroadtrip.com/the-mysteries-of-indian-park-part-ii/>
- “Indian Park Part III: The Mystery of the Mounds” Available: <https://driftlessroadtrip.com/indian-park-part-iii-the-mystery-of-the-mounds/>
- “Platteville Ninety Years Ago, as the Site Appeared to our Pioneers / Also Some Account of the Abundance of Water that Greeted Early Settlers” by J. H. Evans, from the January 31, 1917 *Platteville Journal* and made available here: <https://driftlessroadtrip.com/what-did-platteville-look-like-in-1827/>
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Before 1834 The property has no (known) name. It was part of Ho-Chunk territory; the Ho-Chunk consider themselves the descendants of “Mound Builders.” Conical and linear mounds typically appear on high bluffs or near water sources; Platteville was once home to a plethora of natural springs including at least four along what became 4th street (Source: “Platteville Ninety Years Ago, as the Site Appeared to our Pioneers / Also Some Account of the Abundance of Water that Greeted Early Settlers” by J. H. Evans, from the January 31, 1917 *Platteville Journal*). Later accounts (see 1918, 1962) refer to Native American gatherings in the park. Those of two long-time residents [Marjory Lathrop (Dana) Livingston, as recorded by her niece, Kay Tiedemann Young; Laura Graney as recorded by her daughter-in-law Laurie Graney] tell of one long gathering in the late 19-teens. Doris Schiel, who is now in her 90s, remembers her grandmother Mary Toomey Rouse walking with her through the park and telling her it used to be hilly (which matches the account of the 1917 *Platteville Journal* article about the area in 1827) and that there used to be more than one mound.

Other sources referred to in presentation: *Indian Mounds of Wisconsin* by former state archaeologist Robert Birmingham and Amy Rosenbrough; *Spirits of the Earth* by Robert Birmingham; *Indian Nations of Wisconsin* by Patty Loew. Additional information provided by Ho-Chunk Historical Preservation officer William Quackenbush and Effigy Mounds National Monument lead ranger David Barland-Liles.

1834, 1835

After the 1834 opening of the land office in Mineral Point, the surveying was begun to plot out the first lots and sections of Platteville. Finished in 1835, this is known as the “Original Plan of the Village of Platteville.” City founder and slave-owner John Rountree advertises that he has “laid out a new Town at Platteville.” Source: *North Western Gazette and Galena Advertiser*, September 13, 1835, as reprinted in James A Wilgus, “History of Old Platteville 1827-1835,” *Wisconsin Magazine of History*, Vol. 28. No. 1 (Sep.1944) frontispiece.

1836

The “Original Plan of the Village of Platteville” was enlarged. (Source: City of Platteville, Grant County, Wisconsin, Intensive Survey Report, October 2005.) Twenty-eight lots were added to the city. [Source: James A. Wilgus, “History of Old Platteville 1827-1835” as cited above, p. 80.] This addition including the area where Indian Park is located, which will come to be known as “Covell’s Addition.”

1839

Reverend Alvin McCord Dixon, founder of Platteville Academy (precursor to today’s UW-Platteville) comes to Platteville in autumn 1839. Previously, Dixon had been the first student to matriculate at Illinois College, from where he graduated in 1836. While living in Quincy, Illinois, after his graduation, Dixon became a known conductor on the Underground Railroad. Dixon remained in Platteville for five years during which he labored for the causes of education and evangelization. The Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin ordained Dixon in 1842. [Source: Platteville Presbyterian/Congregational Church Records].

1841

The first Platteville Academy is built at 40 West Cedar Street. Dixon founds the Academy and Rountree donates the land; the original building is shared with the Prebyterian church which meets on the upper floor and the Academy on the lower floor. Source: *Platteville Journal*, *Grant County Centennial Edition*, Sept. 1936. Pg. 8; *History of Grant County*, 1881, Pg. 699. Both articles make reference to Rev. Alvin McCord Dixon as founder; more information following.

1842

Rev. Alvin McCord Dixon was an early minister of the current Platteville Congregational Church (Presbyterian Church until 1849) and as noted above, founds the Platteville Academy. Rev. Dixon was a “conductor” in the underground railroad. Sources: John Nelson Davidson, *Negro Slavery in Wisconsin and the Underground Railroad* (Milwaukee: Parkman Club Papers, 1897) p. 13; *Fiftieth Anniversary of the First Congregational Church, Emerald Grove, Wis., December 5 and 6, 1896* - biography of Alvin Dixon mentions his being a conductor on the underground railroad and his family moving from Tennessee to Illinois to escape the effects of

slavery; “Early Days in Platteville,” by D.J. Gardner, Truman O. Douglass, Maria Greene Douglass, as cited above; Wilbur Henry Sibert, *The Underground Railroad from Slavery to Freedom* (1898) also mentions Alvin Dixon's grandfather Robert McCord and David McCord from Bond County, Illinois as being known conductors of the underground railroad, p. 404.

1843-1844

Victims of the smallpox epidemic in Platteville, which ran from December 1843 to February 1844) were buried at “the Fourth Street site,” as Indian Park was sometimes called in the mid-20th century. Sources: *Capital Times*, Dec. 12, 1962 (“Many Historical Mysteries in Platteville Cemeteries”); “Early Days in Platteville,” by D.J. Gardner, Truman O. Douglass, Maria Greene Douglass, in *Wisconsin Magazine of History*, Vol. VI, Number 1, September 1922 and later reprinted as a separate book.

1848

In February of 1848, city founder John Rountree deeds the land which is now Indian Park to the German Presbyterian Church for use as a burial ground. The deed also indicates that the land “shall be at this time and forever remain a public burial ground for the interment of the dead.” (Source: Deed, Grant County, Wisconsin, Register of Deeds.)

Rev. John Lewis becomes installed as the Presbyterian Church pastor in 1848. (Source: “The Congregational Church of Platteville, Brief synopsis of its history” in *History of Grant County*, Castello Holford, 1900.)

Rev. Lewis also teaches at the first Academy with Josiah Pickard. As mentioned, the Academy and the church share a building. Source: *History of the Platteville Academy* by James Alva Wilgus (1942); “Personnel Recollections of Platteville” by Maria Green Douglass in *Wisconsin Magazine of History*, Vol. VI, Number 1, September 1922; *Summary History of the Synod of the West* by Joseph L. Mihelec available <https://www.dbq.edu/media/library/collections/Summary-History-of-the-Synod-of-the-West.pdf>

The cemetery thus has a close relationship to the anti-slavery Presbyterian church and the Platteville Academy (which will become the State Normal School then merge with the mining college to become UW-Platteville.) Yet it is a gift from the slave-owning city founder, John Rountree. This tension will play itself out over the next many decades. For instance, in 1859, school trustees will refuse to admit a “mulatto” girl, Ellen Woodell, because of objections from “former slave owning families,” and the then-Principal, Josiah Pickard, threatens to resign. Source: Jeff Flynn-Paul, Damian Pargas, *Slaving Zones* (Brill, 2018) p. 306.

While other actions in Platteville finally force Rountree to free his slaves, Alvin McCord Dixon continues to “conduct” the underground railroad, likely via his relatives, the McCords, who live in “Abolition Hollow” outside of town. Source: “Personal Recollections of Platteville” by Maria

Greene Douglass, *op. cit* Structures of the buildings from that time are still visible. Source: personal visit to current owners of property.

1849

Explosions at the Powder mill (beginning in 1849) added to the cemetery population. Source: *Capital Times*, Dec. 12, 1962. On the Powder Mill Explosions in Platteville generally, see Holford, *History of Grant County, Wisconsin*, 1900; and “The Old Powder Mills at Platteville,” by Irma and Luther Zellmer, in the Wed. July 20, 1891 *Grant County Witness*, Platteville Wisconsin. At this time only two cemeteries exist in Platteville; some of the dead are buried in what is now Indian Park. Location of the other cemetery is not known and it appears to have been built over.

Slavery divides the local Presbyterian church and by a special act of the 1849 State Legislature, Chapter 25, the church changes its name and form of government from Presbyterian to Congregational. Source: “Historic Principals, Conscience, and Church Government” as cited by Carlos Wilton in *Principles of Presbyterian Policy* (Geneva Press, 2016) p. 31; Wisconsin State Legislature, 1849, Chapter 25. (* Signed by Nelson Dewey.) Rev. Lewis assisted with this transition of the church and though he is a Presbyterian minister, becomes minister of the Congregationalist church. Presumably the name of the “burying ground” (Indian Park) does not change, because in later 19th century records it is referred to as either “Hill Cemetery,” “Hill Graveyard,” or “Presbyterian Burial Ground” (see notations below.)

July 1849, the trustees of the Presbyterian Church transfer ownership of the church property, including the “one- acre lot intended, described, and used for public burying ground” for the sum of one dollar to the Congregational Church. Each deed names five trustees from both churches. Edward Estabrook, Joel Potter and J.W. Clarke are named as trustees on both deeds. Chapter 25 of the 1849 Wisconsin State Legislature makes the Congregational Church the "successors in law" of the Presbyterian Church. Sources: Deed, Grant County, Wisconsin, Register of Deeds; Chapter 25 of the 1849 Wisconsin State Legislature; Cemeteries Article by J.W. Murphy, Platteville, Wisconsin RE: Local Cemeteries, Southwest Wisconsin Room, UW-Platteville.

Josiah Pickard is one of the trustees of the Presbyterian Church. Source: Deed, Grant County, Wisconsin, Register of Deeds.

1850

The cholera epidemic strikes Wisconsin from this year through 1855, with 1850 as the peak year. Source: Peter Harstad, “Disease and Sickness on the Wisconsin Frontier: Cholera,” in *Wisconsin Magazine of History*, Vol. 43, Number 3, Spring 1960, pp. 203-220.

At least thirty people die in 1850 alone, including multiple people in some families . Source: *U.S., Federal Census Mortality Schedules Index, 1850-1880* [database on-line].

Thomas Paine Aiken and Eleanor Donelson pass away due to the cholera epidemic of 1850. They are both buried in the cemetery (now Indian Park). Sources: *Thomas Paine Aiken Family*

History, by Laura Graney and Donna (Aiken) King-Coad; Grant County Genealogical Society; Cholera in Platteville, Wisconsin; History of Grant County, Wisconsin, Holford, 1900.; The Platteville Journal, April 3, 1975; The Platteville Journal, April 8, 1975. The Platteville Journal, July 1976. (Platteville cholera epidemic sources: *The Capital Times*, Dec. 12, 1962; *Depression in Pioneer Days –The James Ryerson Kays Story*.) Thomas Aiken is also a veteran of the War of 1812. Sources: Daughters of the War of 1812; *Thomas Paine Aiken Family History*.

In an 1853 news article (see entry immediately below), the writer states that there are only two cemeteries in Platteville. Since the Thomas Aiken and Eleanor Donelson are buried there and since cholera was a highly contagious and dreaded disease, it seems a safe deduction that others with cholera were buried in the same location. Three other individuals are listed as buried there (source: Find-a-Grave.com) and an 1898 *Grant County Witness* article says that about “thirty” cholera victims are buried in the cemetery. The Federal Mortality Index associated with the 1850 census shows about this many people dead of cholera in the Platteville area, but notably the actual number must be much higher because (as two examples) Aiken and Donelson do not appear in that index because they died after it was compiled. The worst year of the epidemic was 1850 but it continued through 1855.

1853-1854

References to the cemetery in the local newspaper, owned by John Rountree, call it “Hill Graveyard” then “Hill Cemetery.” Sources: *Independent American* November 11, 1853 and October 20, 1854.

1860

On September 2, 1860, Rev. John Lewis died at the age of 43. Lewis was very much respected and loved in the Platteville community. People referred to him as “Saint John.” Lewis was laid to rest on an afternoon of “autumnal splendor.” The entire Academy followed his casket to the cemetery. Source: *Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin*, held at Beaver Dam Oct 4-5 1860, p. 25.

Congregationalist church records say that Rev. Lewis is buried in Hillside cemetery, but there’s no marker there for him. Also, the walk from the old Presbyterian/Congregationalist church to Hillside cemetery is rather far, whereas “Hill Graveyard” was only a block away, down Lewis Street. Lewis’s gravestone today is in Greenwood cemetery... which really makes no sense at all unless it was moved there from Hill Cemetery when some stones were moved in 1918 (see 1918 entry).

A delinquent tax document shows the sale of the cemetery for 1857 delinquent taxes. W.R. Beach represented Grant County in the purchase of this parcel. Source: Tax roll, Grant County, Wisconsin. Curiously, cemeteries are supposed to be exempt from tax and John Rountree has specifically stated the land should not be taxed (see 1848 entry.)

1869

Eliphalet W. Covell and Rebecca P. and Electra Lewis quit claim deed to John Rountree for \$50. Source: Register of Deeds, Grant County Wisconsin.

1895 and 1900

Tax rolls indicate the land is in John Rountree's estate (although previous legal notices and deed transfers states that the land has been given perpetually as a free burying ground and the land Rountree deeds to Lewis explicitly exclude the cemetery.) Source: Tax rolls, Grant County Wisconsin.

1898

Newspaper article from the *Grant County Witness* indicates that approximately 30 cholera burials were made in this cemetery. It also notes that John Rountrees heirs have sued the Presbyterian Synod "to eject them from the ground and terminate its use as a cemetery." Source: *Grant County Witness*, May 11, 1898. Why they have sued the Presbyterian Synod rather than the Congregationalist church or city of Platteville are not clear, but the land is referred to as the "Presbyterian Burial Ground: (which seems odd, since it is now supposed to be part of the Congregationalist church yet has somehow wound up listed in Rountree's estate. Nowhere is there a record of the Congregationalist church ever selling the land.)

1901

A lien is recorded by E.B. Rice for compensation for materials, labor and attorney fees for the caring of the "Presbyterian burying ground." Source: Deed, Grant County, Wisconsin, Register of Deeds. That same year, O.W. Barret purchases the cemetery from E.B. Rice and Della Rice for \$500.00. Source: Deed, Grant County, Wisconsin, Register of Deeds. E.B. Rice lived next to the cemetery and was apparently caring for it.

1901 & 1902

Tax rolls show O.W. Barrett as the owner but no taxes were paid as the said property is a "cemetery" and "graveyard". Source: Tax rolls, Grant County, Wisconsin

1903

Tax roll record is left blank. Source: Tax rolls, Grant County, Wisconsin.

1904

Tax rolls indicate the property is now "public property". Source: Tax rolls, Grant County, Wisconsin.

1907 thru 1910

The property is listed as "Public Property". Source: Tax rolls, Grant County, Wisconsin.

1911 thru 1919

The property is listed as "Unknown Owner". Source: Tax rolls, Grant County, Wisconsin.

1917

May 29, 1917 – The state legislature passes an act to “vacate” the cemetery. The city is given six months from the passage of the act to “remove all remains” to suitable lots in Greenwood Cemetery in the said City of Platteville. Thereafter, the use of said lands for interment shall be prohibited and the title thereto shall be vested in the said City of Platteville. [Platteville City Council meeting minutes show that the council did not vote to remove the remains from the cemetery until April 3, 1918, over 10 months from the passage of this act. Once this task was completed, the city council authorized and empowered the Rountree Park Committee to level the surface to the ground, etc. (The remains of several individuals still remain in Indian Park, as these individuals died of cholera. At that point in time, it was believed, if the remains were “dug up” the dreaded disease could once again be spread.)] Laurie Graney read through the Platteville City Council meeting for over two years from this date, did not observe where the Rountree Park Committee reported back to the council that their task had been completed. Sources: State Legislature Minutes, Platteville City Council records.

The Aiken family ordered grave markers for Thomas Aiken and Eleanor Donelson to be placed at the “new” cemetery where their remains were to be moved. According to both newspaper accounts and Laura Graney’s accounts to her daughter-in-law Laurie, the Aiken family was prevented from moving these remains, as Thomas Aiken and Eleanor Donelson had died of cholera and there was fear of spreading the cholera once again. The grave markers were found on the family century farm several years back. Laura Graney said that she and Laurie’s father-in-law, Wilburn, had buried the grave markers and indicated the approximate location of them. Copies of the grave markers photos have been sent to the Wisconsin State Historical Society. Sources: *Thomas P. Aiken Family History*, *Platteville Journal*. Photocopy of Laura Graney’s 1975 letter to the *Platteville Journal* and their subsequent articles are included in the Powerpoint.

From February 1917 on, the *Platteville Journal* is understandably dominated by stories of World War I and the draft of local young men who are serving overseas. The place once known as Hill Graveyard and now called “Cemetery Park” is not mentioned.

Interestingly, one local young man killed in World War I, Leo Kane, is who the local American Legion/VFW is named after, and that is the group who, with Laura Graney (Thomas Aiken’s great-granddaughter) secure the soldier’s headstone for Thomas P. Aiken.

1918

Platteville Common Council votes to remove and rebury bodies found in “Rountree Park” (formerly Cemetery Park formerly Hill Graveyard) and authorizes the Rountree Park Committee to “level the surface of the ground”. Source: Common Council Minutes dated April 3, 1918, city of Platteville, Wisconsin.

The Platteville Journal continues to focus on World War I, as one would expect. That fall, another epidemic, the Spanish flu, breaks out.

According to Laura Graney's 1975 letter to the *Platteville Journal* and her family history, her father William Aiken was actively prevented from removing the bodies of Thomas Aiken and Eleanor Donelson because they died of cholera.

1918?

Sometime in the late 19-teens, a multi-day Native American gathering takes place in the park. Sources: Account of Laura Graney (granddaughter of Thomas Aiken), as recorded by herself as well as by Laurie and Richard Graney, Account of Marjory Lathrop (Dana) Livingston, as recorded by her niece, Kay Tiedemann Young. Both Laura (Aiken) Graney and Marjory Lathrop (Dana) Livingston independently recalled a gathering held sometime around 1915-1920.

The *Capital Times*, Dec. 12, 1962 ("Many Historical Mysteries in Platteville Cemeteries") states that there had been repeated native gatherings there that for some reason "stopped abruptly." Note how this corresponds to the 1918 vote to remove all bodies (though there is no record that bodies ever were removed) and to "level" the ground.

The native gathering lasted more than one day ("several" in one account; "a few days and nights" in the other.) Kay Tiedemann Young writes that according to her aunt, "The people camped right near or at the park and made a lot of noise for many hours. They sang and hollered, [her aunt thought], to keep white people away. The noise was particularly loud at night. At least that what I think she told me."

If there were/is a conical mound in the center (and a linear mound on the side), this gathering would make even more sense, as such places are to this day considered sacred to the Ho-Chunk. Source: Ho-Chunk elder Chloris Loew, as quoted at Effigy Mounds National Monument.

1920 - 1923

The property is listed as "Park lots." Source: Tax rolls, Grant County, Wisconsin.

1924 - 1928

The property is listed as "City Park." Source: Tax rolls, Grant County, Wisconsin.

1929 thru 1961

The property is listed as "North Park." Source: Tax rolls, Grant County, Wisconsin.

1959

The common council asks then-city attorney Robert C. Block to secure an abstract of the property (then known as "North Park"). The purpose of this was for "ascertaining the status of the title so that a decision could be made as to whether or not the City should sell the property as building lots. Source: Letter to Mr. Lawrence C. Kindschi, City Clerk, Platteville, Wisconsin dated November 10, 1959.

1985

The First Congregational Church of Platteville, WI is entered into the National Register of Historic Places by the United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service.

1986

The City of Platteville applies for the removal of interior lot lines to create one lot. Source: Register of Deeds, Grant County, WI.

Request for State and National Historic Designation for Indian Park

The property now known as Indian Park--once called Hill Graveyard, then Presbyterian Burying Ground, then Cemetery Park, Rountree Park, 4th Street Park/Cemetery, and North Park before being called "Indian Park"--connects to most of the great historic currents that run through Platteville, Wisconsin, as well as to three other properties already on the National Historic Register: the First Congregationalist Church (as its cemetery, even though it was then called the "Presbyterian Burial Grounds"), Rountree Hall (once home of Platteville Academy) and the home of city founder John Hawkins Rountree.

In terms of significant historical persons, Indian Park not only connects to founder Rountree but also to of Rev. John Lewis and Alvin Dixon, who some sources call the "conductor" of Platteville's Underground Railroad. Through these three men, it also connects to the Platteville Academy, which received (along with schools in Madison and Milwaukee) one of the first educational charters. Platteville Academy later became the first state Normal School then merged with the Mining School to become what is now UW-Platteville. In the time period during which it most connects to what is now Indian Park, Platteville Academy shared a building with the Presbyterian church run by Rev. Lewis with classes meeting on one floor and the church on the other. The Presbyterian church's anti-slavery stance, again as documented by research, caused tensions within Platteville Academy in several documentable ways particularly surfacing when one "mulatto" woman, Ellen Wooddell, sought admission.

As our research shows, this land, given by John Rountree to the city to be a free burial ground and also connected to Rev. John Lewis and the Presbyterian then Congregationalist church through numerous transactions we have documented, also connects to these three men of prominent historic interest--Rountree, Lewis and Dixon, as well as a fourth, Josiah Pickard—and through them to this history of religion in this area and the religious and civic conflict over slavery, inasmuch as the Presbyterian church and Lewis, Dixon and Pickard were adamantly anti-slavery. It also shows how political disputes influenced education, through the sad story of Ellen Wooddell.

Platteville's Presbyterian church took the highly unusual step of changing denominations, becoming the Congregationalist church, as state legislative records attest. Despite this, Rev. Lewis remained their minister until his death in 1855. As noted above, the Congregationalist church here in Platteville (to which the cemetery once called Hill Graveyard but by that time the "Presbyterian Burial Ground" was then deeded) is also on the National Register of Historic Places. The Congregationalist church actually never gave up the deed to the land, though

they do appear to have forgotten about it, perhaps because of protracted legal squabbles with Rountree's heirs, which we've also documented.

Along with a connection to historic personages, historic designation may be connected to significant historic events. We've mentioned the pro- and anti-slavery squabbles connected to the place. But even more overtly documentable is its history as a burial ground for people who died during epidemics. Likely it holds smallpox burials from the 1840s and definitely it holds cholera burials from 1850-1855. The most famous such burial, and the only one legibly marked, is that of 1812 veteran Thomas Paine Aiken, whose headstone was erected through the work of his descendent Laura Graney and the Leo Kane post of the American Legion/VFW. Also, the state and city ordered (in 1917 then 1918) that the burials be removed, and some likely were: we have documented others (up to 30) that were not removed because they were cholera burials.

Along with the verifiable cholera burials, our research revealed the probable burial there of Rev. John Lewis (who, since he died of tuberculosis rather than cholera or smallpox, was likely one of the bodies or at least headstones moved in 1917, the year when the city ordered bodies removed and the park leveled.) Notably, some families like the Aikens were explicitly prevented from removing the bodies of their loved ones because they'd died of cholera and we have records of that also. As late as 1950, when some were exploring the idea of building houses on the site of what had by then changed from Cemetery Park, Rountree Park, North Park, Indian Park and 4th Street Cemetery but was mainly called Indian Park—again, as we've documented—city attorney Block advised against building anything there, presumably because one may not disturb cemeteries unless the cemetery was vacated and this was never completely done. Block's letter is still on file with the legal firm he once founded. Why did he advise this? Well, as mentioned, "Indian Park" was a cholera burial ground. It's also referred to that way in two 20th century city guidebooks. When the decision was made in 1918 to vacate the cemetery, it was not carried out by everyone. The city and its residents were largely preoccupied with World War I – the draft age was about to be raised up to 40 just before the war's end! – and after that, the Spanish flu epidemic when soldiers returned home. Because of this, the city paper does not at all discuss or give notice of these orders by the state and city to vacate the cemetery.

As stated, the area now called Indian Park already meets the state and national requirements for historic designation. We received local historic designation in fall 2020 via the unanimous vote of the Platteville Historic Commission then the City Common Council that fall. It's listed by the state as an uncatalogued cemetery, to this day, and Amy Rosebrough has informed us we should soon be listed as a catalogued cemetery.

The park also contains an illegible so-called “mystery stone” which may be even older than these burials, which brings us to our final point about the potential for archaeological research. Note that none of what we’ve discussed so far connects to the name “Indian Park.” The name comes from the belief that an “Indian” is buried in the mound in the middle, and the probability that the park contains at least two native burial grounds. When Platteville was settled, the area now called Indian Park was near a gorge and several springs. The area has since been leveled, and we have documented part of that leveling. While it still may offer the possibility of archaeological discoveries, our request for state and national historic designation comes from documentable historic events such as cholera burials and tax records, not from the Native American gatherings and possible mounds that gave the park its name.

The name of park thus likely reflects possible Indian burial and mounds as well as memories of Native Pow-Wows on that site that ended abruptly around 1917. While this history is fascinating, it is not the most compelling reason for nomination. We mention it because the site *may* offer the possibility of archaeological work. For more than 100 years, some here have been told or even taught in elementary school that there was a mound or mounds in the park. Students used to be led out to the park from OE Gray for a talk on “Indian Mounds” and the need to treat them with respect, back in the day when there was still a protective marker around the mound in the middle. Older residents we’ve interviewed also remember native gatherings there through the 19-teens (and these were, according to a 1962 article, regular events until stopping abruptly in the late 19-teens.) Older residents also remember more than one mound or at the least, the area once being hilly (hence the name Hill Graveyard) and in fact a 1917 detailed description of how the land looked in 1827 states that the area along 4th street contained four springs and a gorge. The site offers an abundance of opportunity for archaeological study, both of the probably mounds, the so-called “mystery stone,” and also to answer the questions of 1) whether victims of the Powder Mill explosions in the mid to late 1800s were also buried there and if the “graveyard diggings,” an early mining site, was also at this location. Yet we believe the site qualifies for state and national designation not for these reasons, but because of those spelled out in the first two pages of this document.

Thank you for your time in reading this!

Unraveling the Mysteries of Indian Park and Developing a Vision for the Future

Wisconsin Humanities MINI Grant -February 2021

City of Platteville Parks and Recreations Department

Luke Peters
PO Box 780
75 N Bonson St.
Platteville, WI 53818

O: 608-348-9741 x2242
EIN: 39-6005569
DUNS: 040792392

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petersl@platteville.org
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Application Form

General Instructions and Basic Information

INSTRUCTIONS

The grant application has seven parts. Please complete all fields unless identified as optional. If you need to collaborate with teammates or a fiscal agent on any part of this form you can click the "collaborate" button on the upper right corner to allow that individual access to this form.

NOTE:

Required questions are marked with an asterisk (*). If left blank you will not be able to submit the application. The submission will not be complete until all required questions are answered.

We strongly encourage you to write your answers in a separate file (offline, not in this system). Then copy and paste into this online form. Special fonts and emphases will not transfer.

IMPORTANT: Please consult <https://wisconsinhumanities.org/wp-content/uploads/Sept2020GrantApplicationInstructionFINAL.pdf><https://wisconsinhumanities.org/wp-content/uploads/Sept2020GrantApplicationInstructionFINAL.pdf> INSTRUCTIONS HERE for detailed instructions for filling out this application!

Project Name*

Enter a title for your project. Think of one that you will use to promote your project to the public.

Unraveling the Mysteries of Indian Park and Developing a Vision for the Future

Project End Date*

Enter the ending date for your project.

The project period begins with the award of the grant. The project end date is the date by which you will have incurred or legally encumbered all project expenses. Enter the **last day of the month** sometime following the date of the last public program. Within 90 days of this date WH grantees are required to submit final financial and program reports.

12/31/2022

Amount Requested*

This is the amount requested from Wisconsin Humanities to cover expenses incurred **during the project** period from the award date to the project end date. **The amount of funds requested should match the total amount listed in the itemized budget** (below).

Amount Requested rounded down to nearest dollar

(For example - \$1,549 - **NOT** \$1,549.95). Total not more than \$2,000.

\$1,961.00

Matching Funds*

Enter the amount of matching funds for this project.

- Must be equal to or greater than the funds requested.

- Can include both cash and the value of in-kind budget items.
- Should be the same as the total amount listed in your itemized budget (below).
- Should be directly attributable to the project.
- **Round down to the nearest dollar** (for example - \$2,495 - NOT \$2,495.87)

\$5,319.00

Project Director First Name*

The Project Director is responsible for directing the proposed program and submitting the final report. The Project Director and the Fiscal Agent cannot be the same person.

Luke

Project Director Last Name*

Peters

Project Director Prefix

Project Director Email*

petersl@platteville.org

Project Director Street Address*

75 N. Bonson St.

Project Director additional street address information (optional)

PO Box 780

Project Director City*

Platteville

Project Director State*

WI

Project Director Zip Code*

53818

Project Director Day-time Phone*

Please provide a daytime contact number in this format: (xxx) xxx-xxxx ext. xx

(608) 348-9741 ext. 2242

Project Director Cell Phone (optional)

Please provide a daytime contact number in this format:(xxx) xxx-xxxx

Organization Information

Program Responsibility*

Is the organization **implementing** this project different from the Fiscal Sponsor Organization for which you provided an EIN and DUNS information? (For example a library that is using a city as its fiscal sponsor.) If YES please complete the Programming Organization fields.

Yes

Programming Organization Name (when not the same as Fiscal Sponsor Organization)

Only enter Programming Organization if the organization implementing the project is **NOT** the same as the organization to which checks will be written.

City of Platteville Parks and Recreation Department

Programming Organization Street Address

If the Programming Organization is different from the Fiscal Sponsor Organization, please provide the address.

75 N. Bonson St./PO Box 780

Programming Organization City

If the Programming Organization is different from the Fiscal Sponsor Organization, please provide the address.

Platteville

Programming Organization State

If the Programming Organization is different from the Fiscal Sponsor Organization, please provide the two-digit state code.

WI

Programming Organization Zip Code

If the Programming Organization is different from the Fiscal Sponsor Organization, please provide the Zip Code.

53818

Organization Information*

Describe the organization that is *implementing* the proposed project: its mission, activities, and public programs.

The City of Platteville maintains a small-town atmosphere, which values culture, education, recreation, and wellness. We work closely with individuals, businesses, organizations, and schools to provide adequate facilities to meet the growing demands of residents and visitors. Some of our recent public-private partnerships include paving and lighting the Rountree Branch Trail, the Platteville Public Library, and the

Broske Event Center at Legion Park. We aspire to continue to build upon these successes and offer new facilities and programming that contribute to the well-being of individuals and families, the attractiveness of neighborhoods, and the social and economic health of our community.

The Parks & Recreation Department is committed to improving the quality of life for residents and visitors to the City of Platteville. They want to make Platteville a better place to live, work, and play. They strive to provide creative, fun-filled activities the entire family can enjoy. Platteville has 22 parks and recreational facilities. While most are city-owned properties, four are owned by the Platteville School District and one by the Wisconsin National Guard. These parks provide opportunities for formal and informal social gatherings such as festivals, recreational events, or chance meetings. Great park facilities enhance community pride. The Platteville Parks and Recreation Department is committed to maintaining and growing our partnerships with other departments and agencies, as well as private and community organizations, businesses and Platteville residents with the goal of developing a wide variety of programs and resources. Dedicated coordination and collaboration greatly enhance the Parks and Recreation Department's ability to fulfill the community's aspirations and the goals and open lines of communication ensure we are using our resources wisely.

Organization or Project Website

www.platteville.org/recreation

County*

In which county is the Fiscal Sponsor Organization located?

Grant

List the Congressional and Legislative district numbers where the **Fiscal Sponsor Organization** is located. District information can be obtained from the Wisconsin State Legislature (<http://www.legis.state.wi.us/waml/>).

Congressional District

03

State Senate District

17

State Legislative District

49

Fiscal Agent First Name*

The **Fiscal Agent** is the person responsible for maintaining financial records of grant expenditures and submitting financial reports to WH. The Project Director and Fiscal Agent may not be the same person.

Sheila

Fiscal Agent Last Name*

Horner

Fiscal Agent Prefix

Fiscal Agent Street Address*

75 N. Bonson St./PO Box 780

Fiscal Agent City*

Platteville

Fiscal Agent Zip Code*

53818

Fiscal Agent Email Address*

horners@platteville.org

Fiscal Agent Phone Number*

Please provide a daytime contact number in this format:(xxx) xxx-xxxx ext. xx

(608) 348-9741

Fiscal Agent Cell Phone (optional)

Please provide a daytime contact number in this format: (xxx) xxx-xxxx

SAM.gov (System for Award Management)*

Does your organization currently have SAM.gov registration?

- SAM.gov registration is **NOT** currently mandatory for WH funding but it is strongly encouraged.
- If the sponsoring organization does not have SAM.gov registration it will not affect your eligibility to receive a grant.
- **SAM.gov registration is FREE.** WH does not endorse third party vendors that offer to register organizations for SAM.gov for a sometimes substantial fee.

For registration and information, please go to System for Award Management (www.sam.gov). You will need your DUNS number and Taxpayer Identification number (TIN) issued by the IRS to register. Allow up to 15 business days after registration is completed for registration to be activated.

Yes we have SAM.gov registration

Project Proposal

INSTRUCTIONS

Please consult ([LINK](#)) for detailed instructions.

TIPS:

- Draft your descriptions in another file and copy and paste to avoid lost work.
- Read through the questions first to avoid redundancy.
- The project description should demonstrate a firm grasp of the subject matter of your project, an ability to organize and carry out the project, and clearly defined involvement of humanities experts.
- If your project description intrigues reviewers, they are likely to think that your project will interest your target audience as well.
- Write in a straightforward style and avoid jargon.

Project Abstract*

Provide a BRIEF description of the project

The proposed project is a partnership between the City of Platteville Parks and Recreation Department and the Friends of Indian Park. The project seeks to further document the factual and speculative history of Indian Park, investigate options for archaeological research on the site, and engage the community in a dialogue about the history and future of the park. To accomplish these goals, the Friends of Indian Park project lead Terry Burns will work with City Liaison Rachel Vang to research and compile existing and new information about the history of Indian Park. The project team will also consult with archaeological experts regarding non-invasive research techniques and will obtain estimates for those techniques best suited to determining the presence and history of any human remains that may be buried in Indian Park. The project team will then seek funding to complete the archaeological research. After the team has a more complete picture of the story of Indian Park they will convene five to seven focus group discussions and if able a larger community forum to discuss and develop a plan for future naming, interpretation, and use of Indian Park.

Project Description*

Describe your project. Include research, planning, and public programs. Please address the following:

1. Provide a preview of the subject matter you will be sharing with participants. Help us understand the ideas your project explores.
2. What are two or three of the key questions that your project addresses?
3. What format and venue will you use for your public program(s)?
4. How will this format help your participants engage with the subject matter?

FOR AUDIO, VIDEO & DIGITAL HUMANITIES PROJECTS ONLY:

For projects solely for the development of a film, podcast, game, website or other digital humanities, in addition to **1 and 2** above, address the following:

1. Provide a treatment that describes the structure, theme, style, format, voice and point of view of your project.
2. When available provide a script/scenario.
3. Please include a justification for this format and the distribution plan for this project.
4. Use the supporting materials section to provide a link to sample work.

See detailed instructions [here](#).

Preview of Subject Matter

Most Platteville residents know the location of Indian Park, but few know how this small parcel of land has intersected with many of the major historic events and people important to the City's history. There are a plethora of historic facts and speculation associated with Indian Park, many connected to some of the most painful times in the city's history: the removal of native peoples; the 1850s smallpox and cholera epidemics; tensions between city founder (and slave owner) John Rountree and the anti-slavery Presbyterian church; a mining history that brought prosperity but also drained the natural springs once abundant in the area; and possibly the 1850 Powder Mill explosion that claimed the lives of several Platteville residents (See Supporting

Materials for additional background information). Over the past several years, the Friends of Indian Park, led by Laurie Graney, Terry Burns, and Kristal Prohaska, have developed a presentation and web blog dedicated to presenting the known and speculative history of the park (See Supporting Materials).

As noted above, this approximately one-acre green space in the middle of residential Platteville has a long and very convoluted history that includes many mysteries. This project will mainly focus on the land's history as a burial ground. From the mid-1800s to early 1900s, the Park was a cemetery and there is strong evidence that at least two, and likely more, early Platteville settlers are still buried there. The Park includes a marker for Thomas Aiken, an early Platteville settler and veteran of the War of 1812 who died in the cholera epidemic of 1850. The marker placement was approved by the Platteville Common Council in 1976 after Laura Graney, Aiken's great granddaughter, presented evidence supporting the fact that Aiken and his son's fiancé Elinor Donelson were still buried in the park and requested the veteran's marker for Aiken. There is another "mystery" stone marker in the park with an illegible inscription that is commonly believed to be a grave marker and local lore says that the slight rise in the center of the park is the remnant of a Native American conical mound, possibly a burial mound.

Questions this Project Addresses

The proposed project will build on the research the Friends have already done and attempt to fill in the gaps and provide evidence to support or debunk the speculative theories about the park.

The project can be divided into three main parts:

1. Historical Research: What parts of that history require further research? Can we find evidence to support or debunk speculations?
2. Archaeological Research: Are there human remains in Indian Park? If so, are they likely Native American burial mounds or are they remains from the small-pox or cholera epidemics? What archaeological research techniques are available to help determine the presence or absence of human remains or artifacts? Which technique/s is best suited to the situation? How much would that research cost? Where can the Friends and the City find funding to conduct this research?
3. Public Dialogue: How would stakeholders like the history of Indian Park preserved and communicated? Should the park be re-named? What types of interpretive signage and/or programming should be developed? How should the park be used?

The first half of the grant project period will be devoted to reviewing the existing research, identifying gaps, compiling a list of those gaps as well as speculative theories, and developing a plan for further research to attempt to find information to fill in the gaps and prove or disprove speculative theories. At the same time, the project team will contact archaeological experts to explore various research techniques to determine whether the park indeed has human remains; and if so, approximately how many persons remain buried there and are they likely remnants of Native American Mounds or the remains of early Platteville settlers. We would also seek guidance on how to determine the age of the "mystery stone" and deciphering its inscription.

Format and Venue for Public Programming

Once we have completed the archaeological research, we will schedule five to seven focus groups and a larger community meeting to initiate a dialogue about the history and future of Indian Park. Prior to the focus groups, we will create a summary of all the known history of the park. These materials will be made available on the City and Friends of Indian Park websites and in hard copy at the Platteville Public Library and to anyone who requests. We will also publicize the findings through a press release and public program offered in partnership with The Mining & Rollo Jamison Museums.

The exact timing of the focus groups will depend on how quickly we can secure funding for the archaeological research. We anticipate the focus groups beginning in late 2021 and into 2022. Each focus group will include five to seven people. We will engage the services of an experienced moderator through the UW-Extension service or another group such as the Local Voices Network (<https://lvn.org/>). The City Liaison and a member of the Friends of Indian Park will sit in on each of the focus groups. Focus group participants will be asked to read the materials about Indian Park. Potential focus group topics of discussion include:

- How should the history of the Park be communicated?

- Should there be interpretive signage at the park? If so, what information should be presented?
- Should the Park become an interactive educational area?
- Should the Park be fenced and labeled a cemetery?
- Is there interest in guided interpretation/tours of the park either via an app or in-person?
- Considering the history of the park, what should happen with the name? Should Indian Park be maintained, or would it be better to use one of the old names or develop a new name for the space?

Each focus group will include a different target audience to try to ensure the project considers a diverse set opinion. Following are some potential focus group audiences:

1. Platteville residents living in the vicinity of Indian Park.
2. People under the age of 30 with little knowledge of the park. Including UW-Platteville students.
3. Humanities experts with backgrounds in either historical cemeteries or Native American Mounds, including at least two members of the Ho-Chunk nation.
4. Employees of the City of Platteville including at least two Parks and Recreation Department staff and at least two Museum Department staff and Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Board members.
5. People over the age of 60 with little knowledge of the park.
6. Middle and High School students.
7. Residents between the ages of 35 and 60.
8. Residents who identify as Native American or who have Native American connections.

Using the information gathered in the focus groups, we will then convene a larger community meeting to present several big picture options and allow for additional dialogue and community input. We hope to hold the focus group meetings in person at Indian Park or at City Hall. The larger community meeting will be held either at the City Hall Auditorium or at the Platteville Public Library. All meetings will follow protocols in place at the time regarding masks, social distancing, and other Covid-19 consideration. If we are unable to hold in-person meetings, the City has ample experience hosting Zoom meetings. If the larger community meeting is not feasible, the project team may consider developing a short community survey to solicit additional public input.

Project Goals and Objectives*

Why is your organization developing this project? What need or interest in the community are you intending to address? What goals have you set for the project?

Indian Park is currently a small green space in the middle of the city with nothing to indicate its historical importance. With the recent designation of the park as a local historic site, the City and the Friends would like to recognize Indian Park's historical significance within the City of Platteville and within the broader context of Upper Mississippi River Valley Indigenous history. In order to do so, we need to unravel some of the remaining mysteries of the park.

We view this project as the first phase of a three-phase project. In Phase 1, we will conduct historical and archeological research to document known and speculative history of the park and hold facilitated community discussions to develop a vision for the future of the park. In Phase 2, we will use the findings from Phase 1 research and community discussions to develop and construct interpretive signage for the park and begin instituting to shared community vision for the future of the park. In Phase 3, we will develop additional interpretation and continue implementing the vision for the park. This would be the phase where Parks and Recreation and the Friends partner with the Museums to develop and execute Museum-based interpretation and possible guided site tours and/or an app for self-guided tours if desired.

Desired outcomes of the project include increased knowledge and community recognition of the historical significance of the park; incorporation of interpretive signage at the park explaining its historical context and significance; development of relationships with relevant Indigenous communities and leaders; and support for the City's strategic goals of economic development (through educational tourism), focus on history, and emphasis on equity, inclusivity, and diversity.

Project Promotion/Audience*

What audience(s) does your project serve? How will you publicize the project to your intended audiences?

Our main audience will be residents of Platteville. Over time, as interpretive information is added to the park and the site becomes better known, it may draw heritage tourists or those interested in Native American history. Presentations at the Senior Center by the Friends of Indian Park have already generated interest in this subject among older people in the community. Through the proposed project we hope to engage a broader, more diverse audience in a facilitated discussion about the history of the park and how to best communicate and preserve that history.

The project will be promoted through the social media channels of both the City and the Friends of Indian Park and through press releases to local media outlets. We will also post to Platteville focused Facebook groups "Platteville (P-Vegas) Discussions" and "Things of Interest in Platteville, Wisconsin." As mentioned above, materials will also be placed on the Parks and Recreation and Friends of Indian Park websites.

We hope to actively engage at least 100 people through the focus groups and a community meeting. We believe an additional 200 to 500 people will engage with the materials presented on the website and through social media. In the long-term, we believe the project has the potential to reach several thousand people.

Expected Audience Attendance*

How many people do you anticipate attending your program/events?

100

Project Partners*

Describe the organizations with which you are collaborating on this project and why. What are their roles? Cite established or new organizational partnerships.

Friends of Indian Park is an ad-hoc volunteer group with more than 100 members. The group is dedicated to supporting and investigating the history of the land now known as "Indian Park," and the persons buried there. The Friends group has been the community leader relating to Indian Park and is largely responsible for initiating community interest in the park and its history. The Parks and Recreation Department has been collaborating with the Friends for more than a year. The Friends will be an equal partner in the proposed project. Terry Burns will serve as the project lead for the Friends and will co-director the project along with Luke Peters. Burns will also serve as one of the humanities experts (additional info below). Members of the Friends have done extensive research on the history of Indian Park and have given three presentations highlighting this ongoing research. Many of the research findings are available on the group's website (<https://driftlessroadtrip.com/friends-of-indian-park/>). For the proposed project Friends members will assist with compiling research, completing additional research, evaluating archaeological techniques, seeking funding for archaeological research, and participating in the focus groups and community meeting. Additionally, the Friends group prepared the materials submitted to Platteville's Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) that resulted in the recognition of Indian Park as a site of local historical significance (See Supporting Documents). The group intends to seek State and National Recognition at a later date. The proposed project will provide additional information that will be important for the State and Federal applications.

The Platteville Museum Department is a peripheral partner for this phase of the project. Museum staff will participate in a focus group and the community meeting and provide research consulting as needed. In

future phases of the project addressing the development of interpretive materials the Museums may play a larger role in the project. As two city departments, the Museums and Parks and Recreation occasionally collaborate on community projects. The Museums began a dialogue with the Friends of Indian Park in September 2020. The Museums will partner with the Friends and Parks and Recreation on a public program presenting the findings of the proposed project.

Humanities Expertise*

List the names and affiliations of your humanities expert(s) and **briefly** summarize the roles they will play in your project.

Complete and upload the **required project personnel forms** to provide details for each humanities expert, the Project Director, and other key personnel (below).

Dr. Terry Burns is former chair of Humanities at UW-Platteville and a Professor Emerita of English. She is also a retired member of UW-Platteville's Ethnic Studies and Gender Studies Programs and a founding member of the UW-Platteville Intertribal Pow-wow Committee, which ran from 1999-2011. Among Burns' areas of expertise are Native American Studies; she has a forthcoming book tentatively titled A Library for my People co-written with Zuni elder Kenneth Seowtewa. Dr. Burns will serve as the project lead for the Friends of Indian Park and will work closely with City Liaison Rachel Vang to plan and manage the project. She will assist with compiling existing research and creating a summary document, recruiting focus groups participants, writing press releases and other publicity, and researching archaeological techniques.

Rachel Vang will serve as the City Liaison for the project. She, along with Dr. Burns, will plan and manage the project. Ms. Vang has a Master of Science in Applied Archaeology and a Graduate Certificate in Museum Studies. She has research experience in applied anthropological research, human osteology, American Indigenous Studies - specifically Mimbres pottery and other funerary materials in museum contexts. Her MS Thesis was titled, "Mimbres Painted Pottery: Art, Artifact, or Ancestor? Conversations Concerning Repatriation, Treatment, and Considerations for Contested Collections in Museums" (<https://cornerstone.lib.mnsu.edu/etds/911/>).

Laurie Graney has had a life-long interest in local area history and is a member of the Grant County Historical Society, the Grant County Genealogical Society and the Rollo Jamison and Mining Museums. In the past she has volunteered time to help the Grant County Historical Society with organizing files and transcribing documents. She has lived in southwest Wisconsin all her life, as did her parents and grandparents, and is a descendent by marriage of Thomas Aiken, one of those known to have been buried in Indian Park. She is the person who originally began research into Indian Park several years ago.

Project Personnel Forms are required for the Project Director, humanities expert(s), and other key personnel, regardless of whether WH funds are being requested for their services. Forms are *required* for anyone for whom WH funds are requested.

Project Personnel Forms*

Download and complete the form **HERE**.

Please use a separate form for each individual, but upload them as one file.

Project Personnel Forms All.pdf

Evaluation*

How will you evaluate the impacts of your project on your audience, participants, and partners?

What kinds of feedback will you collect and how will you use it?

What outcomes do you anticipate within the community and in your organization as a result of the project?

The desired outcomes of the overall project were addressed above in the Goals and Objectives section. For this phase of the project anticipated outcomes include:

- Increased public interest in Indian Park. Public interest will be evaluated through social media engagement, attendance at the community meeting, level of interest in focus group participation, and qualitative/antidotal reports from the project team.
- Increased knowledge of history of Indian Park. Increased knowledge will be evaluated through website analytics to determine how many people viewed the information, attendance at the community meeting, and qualitative/antidotal reports from the project team based on community interactions and observations.
- Conclusive evidence confirming the number of burials in Indian Park of evidence disproving that human graves remain on park land. Evidence of the burial sites would be determined by the archaeological research technique deemed best for the task and evidence of success would be based on completion of the research.
- Information about the approximate age of any human remains found in the park. This outcome would also hinge on our ability to complete the archaeological research and possibly additional historical research on past burials. Determination of success will largely be based on our ability to complete to archaeological research.
- Conclusive evidence of the existence or absence of a Native American mound. There is extensive local lore about a large Native American gathering held at the park site in the late 1800s or early 1900s and it is commonly believed that the slight rise at the center of the park is the remains of a conical Native American mound. Archaeological research will help determine the whether the rise is indeed a conical mound. Additional historical research may shed additional light on the truth behind the legend of the large Native American gathering. Community dialogue may also shed light on more memories and family stories that could add to the narrative. Determination of success will largely be based on our ability to complete to archaeological and historical research.
- Community vision for future of Indian Park. The historical and archaeological research will provide a basis for telling the story of Indian Park. Once we have a better grasp on the story it can be presented to the community and the resulting dialogue will help plan a future vision for the park. The focus groups and community meeting will be central to this dialogue. This outcome will be evaluated largely by counting the number of people engaged in the planning process and the development of consensus around a plan for the park. We will consider our engagement efforts to be a success if we recruit at least 35 people who are not associated with the Friends of Indian Park and are not Parks and Recreation or Museum staff for the focus groups and if the community meeting draws at least 40 people who did not participate in the focus groups and also are not associated with the Friends or City.

Calendar/Timeline

Calendar of Events*

- Provide a list that includes each activity and/or public event planned for this project. Use this format: **Date/title of the activity or event/location**
- If an event date or location is not confirmed, list the title of the activity and note it as TBD.
- Please list only those events occurring within the defined project period.

March – May 202 Compile existing research, identify gaps, and develop a research plan to address missing information.

April 2021 Consult with archaeologist/research techniques and solicit bids for completing archaeological research
 May 2021 Begin seeking funding for archaeological research
 TBD/Fall 2021 Conduct archaeological research
 TBD/Begin Fall 2021 Conduct Focus Groups
 TBD/Spring 2022 Hold Community Meeting

Budget

INSTRUCTIONS

Click for [HERE](#) detailed instructions for completing the Budget portion of this application!

The project budget of expenses is as important as the project description. Make sure activities you describe are accounted for in your budget. Likewise, make certain that each item in your budget relates to an activity in your project description. Your budget should represent actual expenses (not any income) related to your project. Please do not inflate your budget and be sure to check your math.

Your project budget request has two parts: the budget form and the budget description. Both must be completed.

Use the provided budget form (download form below).

List expenses you are requesting to be paid for by Wisconsin Humanities in the most appropriate budget category. Your budget should represent actual anticipated expenses for the project and should not exceed the grant request. WH funds may only cover expenses within the project period.

Budget Summary Form*

Right click and save this BUDGET FORM to your device, complete the form, save it, and then upload the completed form below. SHOW ONLY EXPENSES within the project period, not to exceed the requested amount.

Copy of WH_Budget_Form-Indian Park.pdf

Budget Description*

Please use this space to provide more detail on your budget items.

- Describe the sources of cash and in-kind match and which funds have been secured and which are pending.
- Describe what rates or formulas were used to calculate personnel time or federally negotiated indirect costs.
- Describe if you are charging admission or registration fees, the total you expect to collect and what you plan to do with any surplus. Wisconsin Humanities strongly encourages the use of scholarships, free admission days, and other flexible admission policies that make WH-funded projects accessible to participants for whom a fee could present an obstacle.
- Explain any other aspects of your budget that need clarification, such as a request for personnel costs other than honoraria, particularly high honoraria, equipment purchases and specific supplies.

Matching Funds (In-kind)

Luke Peters, Project Director (25 hrs @ \$27.46/hr + fringe of 40%= \$961). Peters will work City liaison Rachel Vang and co-director Terry Burns to coordinate and direct the project.

Sheila Horner, Fiscal Agent (10 hrs @\$28.59/hr+40% fringe =\$400) Horner will oversee the project finances and retain all grant financial records.

Friends of Indian Park: Friends' time is valued at the nationally recognized volunteer rate of \$27.20/hour (Independent Sector, July 2020, <https://independentsector.org/value-of-volunteer-time-2020/>).

Terry Burns, Project Co-Director (50 hrs @ @27.20=\$1,360). Burns will work closely with Vang and Peters to direct the project. She will be involved oversee all aspects of the project and will also serve as a Humanities expert.

Laurie Graney, Lead Researcher for the Friends (40 hr @ \$27.40 = 1,088). Graney will assist with compiling existing research, conducting additional research, and evaluating archaeology techniques, and participate in the focus groups and community meeting.

Other Friends members (50 hrs @ @27.20=\$1,360). Other Friends member will assist in general research, publicity, and will help coordinate the focus groups and community meetings.

Promotion: The City and the Friends will provide promotion of the project and meetings through social media, email, and print valued at approximately \$100.

Other: Zoom subscription: The City will provide access to their Zoom subscription should meetings need to be conducted virtually, valued at \$50.

WH Request

Program Personnel

Rachel Vang, City Liaison (40 hrs @\$20/hr+7.65% fringe=\$861). Requested funds would allow Vang to work 40 hours over the project period. Vang will work with Peters and Burns to coordinate project tasks. Vang will assist with compiling research, completing additional research, and evaluating archaeological techniques. Vang is currently employed part-time at The Mining & Rollo Jamison Museums, however, this project is not related to her museum work and Parks and Recreation Department would employ Vang for these extra hours to serve as the City Liaison to the project. Once the project is complete Vang's employment with Parks and Recreation would terminate.

Honoraria for Humanities experts: Humanities experts who participate in the focus group will received an honorarium of \$100 for their participation. We anticipate recruiting at least five Humanities experts.

Meeting facilitation: A meeting facilitator from UW-Extension or another qualified organization will receive a stipend of \$100/meeting for facilitating the focus groups. We have budgeted for five meetings, if more than five meetings occur we will find organizational funding to cover or will negotiate a reduced rate with the facilitator.

Supplies: The \$50 budgeted would be used for flip chart paper, markers, post-its and other supplies for the focus groups and community meetings. The exact supplies needed will be determined in consultation with the meeting facilitator.

Duplicating and Printing: \$50 will be dedicated to providing hard copy documents to focus group participants and for handouts for the community meeting.

Certifications

Upload a signed W-9 for the Fiscal Sponsor Organization*

You can download a blank W-9 form from the IRS [here](#).

The completed W-9 should list the Fiscal Sponsor Organization that will receive grant funds. Note that it requires an authorized signature.

Any checks issued for grant funds awarded will be mailed to the address listed on the W-9 form, unless Wisconsin Humanities is otherwise notified.

W9.pdf

REQUIRED CERTIFICATION

The applicant certifies to Wisconsin Humanities that:

1. The submission of this proposal has been authorized by the governing body of the applicant organization or group, and the Project Director and Fiscal Agent listed are authorized to act as the representatives of the applicant in connection with this proposal.
2. The applicant organization is constituted for nonprofit reasons.
3. Any funds granted as a result of this proposal will be administered in accordance with all guidelines and provisions of Wisconsin Humanities and the National Endowment for the Humanities.
4. The fiscal sponsor has not been debarred or suspended from receiving federal funds, is not delinquent on federal debt, and is in compliance with non-discrimination statutes.
5. The applicant organization will ensure that any funds granted as a result of this proposal will not be expended on entities or persons who have been debarred or otherwise excluded from receiving federal funds. (Please see the electronic Code of Federal Regulations Title 2 Part 200.331 at 2 CFR 200.331 for more information. Also, please see the U.S. GSA website at <https://www.sam.gov/SAM/pages/public/index.jsf> and search on exclusion records as necessary.)
6. Any income derived from this Wisconsin Humanities-funded project (if awarded), will be used to cover other allowable costs of the project or will be used to support other projects in the humanities.
7. The applicant organization or group certifies the participation of project personnel identified and described in the attached project personnel forms.

WH Certification Form

The certification form, listing the seven statements above, [must be downloaded, signed by both the project director and fiscal agent](#) for the proposed project and uploaded with both signatures. **This application will not be accepted without completion of this process.** If you have trouble scanning or uploading the document you may email the form to meg.turvilleheitz@wisconsinhumanities.org or street mail the completed form to the address listed on the form. The project director and fiscal agent may sign separate forms to email/mail if needed.

DOWNLOAD CERTIFICATION FORM HERE

IMG_20210130_0001.pdf

Supporting Documents

Provide only those supporting materials that are directly relevant to your project.

Letters

Upload a *one-page* letter from each collaborating organization as one file. Additional letters of support may be included to provide evidence of community interest in and support for your project, the quality of the humanities content of your project, and your organization's ability to carry out the project successfully.

- The file must be in one of the allowable format types - either Word, Excel, pdf, or jpg.

Letters of Support.pdf

Additional Supporting Materials

When appropriate, you may upload a schematic (e.g. for an exhibit), photo or other supporting material in an allowable file type. Please note the size limit for uploads and scale your supporting materials accordingly.

You can add here a **short** description of additional supporting materials, if needed.

HPC docs for WH.pdf

Application for Historic Property Designation documents - includes photos and background information about Indian Park.

Additional Supporting Materials - Weblink

You may include a link to a website, drop box or other appropriate site to demonstrate work or provide supplementary information. Please be sure to only provide information relevant to the current proposal.

<https://driftlessroadtrip.com/friends-of-indian-park/>

Additional Supporting Materials - Weblink

File Attachment Summary

Applicant File Uploads

- Project Personnel Forms All.pdf
- Copy of WH_Budget_Form-Indian Park.pdf
- W9.pdf
- IMG_20210130_0001.pdf
- Letters of Support.pdf
- HPC docs for WH.pdf

PROJECT PERSONNEL FORMS

Following please find the following personnel forms:

Name	Role
Luke Peters	Project Director
Sheila Horner	Fiscal Agent
Rachel Vang	Key Personnel/Humanities Expert
Dr. Teresa Burns	Co-Director/Humanities Expert
Laurie Graney	Humanities Expert



**WISCONSIN
HUMANITIES**

PROJECT PERSONNEL FORM

Complete individual forms for the Project Director, each humanities expert, and other key personnel. Be sure to include a form for each individual for whom you are requesting Wisconsin Humanities funds. Please UPLOAD all forms in a single file where directed in the application.

Personnel: Name: Luke Peters
Address: 75 N. Bonson/PO Box 780, Platteville, WI 53818

Daytime phone: (608) 348-9741 x 2242
Email: petersl@platteville.org

Job Title & Organization: *Parks and Recreation Director, City of Platteville*

1. **Education:** Describe field of study, institution, including degrees, if any.

University of Wisconsin Stevens Point

B.S. Double majored in Recreation and Resource Management

- *Courses included recreation planning, site design, tourism, public relations, park interpretation, landscape architecture, urban forestry and economics.*

University of Wisconsin Eau Claire

2. **Background:** Describe the particular background and research interests that qualify this person as a resource for the program.

Luke Peters has been the Parks and Recreation Director for the City of Platteville since 2013. He is experienced in staff and project management and managed update to the City's Park and Recreation Plan which included public meetings and a public survey.

3. **Role:** Describe the specific role of this person in the proposed project. Pay particular attention to how the participating humanities scholars will use their humanities expertise.

Peters will be responsible overall project management, but will delegate day-to-day project work to City Liaison, Rachel Vang and project co-director Terry Burns. Vang and Burns will communicate regularly with Peters and he will approve the overall project direction and activities.



WISCONSIN
HUMANITIES

PROJECT PERSONNEL FORM

Complete individual forms for the Project Director, each humanities expert, and other key personnel. Be sure to include a form for each individual for whom you are requesting Wisconsin Humanities funds. Please UPLOAD all forms in a single file where directed in the application.

Personnel: Name: Sheila Horner
Address: PO Box 780, Platteville, WI 53818
Daytime phone: 608-348-9741
Email: horners@platteville.org

Job Title & Organization: *Comptroller, City of Platteville*

1. **Education:** Describe field of study, institution, including degrees, if any.

Bachelor of Business Administration – BBA, Business Administration and Management, General, Herzing University

2. **Background:** Describe the particular background and research interests that qualify this person as a resource for the program.

Ms. Horner was hired as the Comptroller for the City of Platteville in January 2021. As Comptroller, she oversees the accounting and financial reporting procedures for the City of Platteville. She previously worked as the Municipal Clerk for the Village of Potosi where she managed the everyday Operations of the Village of Potos; including securing confidential information, organizing and maintaining records, and creating forms, letters and reports upon request.

3. **Role:** Describe the specific role of this person in the proposed project. Pay particular attention to how the participating humanities scholars will use their humanities expertise.

Horner will serve as the fiscal agent for the project.



WISCONSIN
HUMANITIES

PROJECT PERSONNEL FORM

Complete individual forms for the Project Director, each humanities expert, and other key personnel. Be sure to include a form for each individual for whom you are requesting Wisconsin Humanities funds. Please UPLOAD all forms in a single file where directed in the application.

Personnel: Name: Rachel Vang
Address: 30 N Elm Street, Apt. 226, Platteville, WI 53818
Daytime phone: (715) 252-70247
Email: muscolmgr@platteville.org

Job Title & Organization: *Museum Specialist – Collections Management, The Mining & Rollo Jamison Museums*

1. **Education:** Describe field of study, institution, including degrees, if any.

M.S. Applied Anthropology and Graduate Certificate in Museum Studies, 2019, Minnesota State University, Mankato. Fields of Study: Museum Studies, Anthropology, American Indigenous Studies

B.A. Studio Arts Ceramics emphasis, minor in Anthropology, 2012, UW-Eau Claire. Coursework in Art, Art History, Anthropology, and American Indigenous Studies.

2. **Background:** Describe the particular background and research interests that qualify this person as a resource for the program.

Experience with archaeological excavation, ethnoarchaeology, archival research, interview techniques, and artifact/specimen preparation. Research interest and American Indigenous studies, education in curation, exhibition, and museology. Research experience with historical cemeteries.

3. **Role:** Describe the specific role of this person in the proposed project. Pay particular attention to how the participating humanities scholars will use their humanities expertise.

Ms. Vang will work closely with Dr. Burns to develop and manage the project. She will assist with compiling existing research, conducting additional research, and creating a summary document, and researching archaeological techniques. Her previous anthropological research, particularly related to historical cemeteries will be particularly valuable to the proposed project.



WISCONSIN
HUMANITIES

PROJECT PERSONNEL FORM

Complete individual forms for the Project Director, each humanities expert, and other key personnel. Be sure to include a form for each individual for whom you are requesting Wisconsin Humanities funds. Please UPLOAD all forms in a single file where directed in the application.

Personnel: Laurie Graney
7313 State Road 80, PO Box 240, Platteville, WI 53818
(608) 642-0464
lagraney@yahoo.com

Job Title & Organization: *Co-chair of Friends of Indian Park and Retired secretary for the Platteville Police Department.*

1. **Education:** Describe field of study, institution, including degrees, if any.

Southwest Wisconsin Technical College – degree in Business Machines

2. **Background:** Describe the particular background and research interests that qualify this person as a resource for the program.

I have had a life-long interest in local area history. I am a member of the Grant County Historical Society, the Grant County Genealogical Society and the Rollo Jamison and Mining Museums. In the past I have volunteered time to help the Grant County Historical Society with organizing and transcribing files. I have lived in southwest Wisconsin all my life, as did my parents and grandparents. I have enjoyed collecting and sharing stories about this area. My husband, Dick Graney, is a direct descendent of one of the individuals that is buried in Indian Park (Thomas Paine Aiken, a War of 1812 veteran). My mother-in-law, Laura Graney, was instrumental in getting Aiken's burial location recognized. Laura worked with the American/Legion/V. F. W. to get a veteran's marker erected in the park. This marker is the only legible grave marker in Indian Park. Later, in an effort to understand how this cemetery became a park, I researched the many deed transactions and tax records of the property. Kristal Prohaska joined in the research, then Terry Burns. Together in 2020, we started the Friends of Indian Park group and gave several presentations on this history. Kristal and I currently chair the Friends of Indian Park group with Terry as an active writer and researcher and approximately 50 local members.

3. **Role:** Describe the specific role of this person in the proposed project. Pay particular attention to how the

I have researched numerous City of Platteville tax role records and deed transfers for Indian Park as well as deaths that occurred in Platteville and the surrounding area during the time Indian Park (then the Presbyterian Burying Ground) was an active cemetery. My specific role would be to ensure the facts are correct about the known history of the park, as is recorded in legal and civic information and in the written history of the Aiken-Graney family and to assist with compiling existing research and completing additional research as necessary. I will also participate in the focus groups and community meetings.



PROJECT PERSONNEL FORM

WISCONSIN HUMANITIES

Complete individual forms for the Project Director, each humanities expert, and other key personnel. Be sure to include a form for each individual for whom you are requesting Wisconsin Humanities funds. Please UPLOAD all forms in a single file where directed in the application.

Personnel: Dr. Teresa M. Burns
1190 Union Street. Platteville, WI 53818
(608) 642-1308
burnst@uwplatt.edu

Job Title & Organization: *Professor of English Emerita, Humanities Department, UW-Platteville*

1. Education: Describe field of study, institution, including degrees, if any.

University of Houston: Ph.D. in Literature and Fiction Writing. Graduated 5-15-93.

University of Florida: M.A. in English/Creative Writing with thesis. Graduated 5-86.

University of Florida: B.A. in English with honors thesis. Graduated with high departmental honors 8-84.

2. Background: Describe the particular background and research interests that qualify this person as a resource for the program.

As the former chair (for nine years) of the largest department (Humanities) on the UW-Platteville campus and former chair of the Faculty Senate, I have experience with administrative processes and managing large groups. I've also facilitated many focus groups.

*I'm also a retired member of UW-Platteville's Ethnic Studies and Gender Studies Programs and a founding member of the UW-Platteville Intertribal Pow-wow Committee, which ran from 1999-2011. Among my areas of expertise are Native American Studies; I have a forthcoming book tentatively titled *A Library for my People* co-written with Zuni elder Kenneth Seowtewa. I also have a keen interest in local history and serve on the Board of Directors for Grant County (WI) Historical Society. As a founding member of Friends of Indian Park, I've helped Laurie Graney and Kristal Prohaska write up their research and then leveraged my contacts in academic and elsewhere to look at possible paths forward for this project.*

3. Role: Describe the specific role of this person in the proposed project. Pay particular attention to how the

As co-director of this project, I will serve as the project lead for the Friends of Indian Park and will work closely with City Liaison Rachel Vang to plan and manage the project. She will assist with compiling existing research and creating a summary document, recruiting focus groups participants, facilitate focus group discussions, write press releases and other publicity as needed, and research archaeological techniques via the expertise of colleagues at the UW-La Crosse Mississippi Valley Archeological Center, the State of Wisconsin Historical Society, and possibly private archeological firms as seems appropriate.

WISCONSIN HUMANITIES GRANT BUDGET FORM

	WH REQUEST	MATCHING FUNDS	TOTAL
PERSONNEL			
<i>Administrative Personnel (list by name):</i>			
Sheila Horner, Fiscal Agent (10 hrs @ \$40.02/hr. (includes fringe))		400.00	400.00
Luke Peters, Parks and Recreation Director (25 hrs@\$37.07/hr (includes fringe))		961.00	961.00
			0.00
			0.00
			0.00
			0.00
<i>Program Personnel (list by name):</i>			
Rachel Vang, City Liason (40 hrs @ \$21.53)	861.00		861.00
Terry Burns, Friends of Indian Park /Co-Director (50 hrs @ \$27.20)		1,360.00	1,360.00
Laurie Graney, Friends of Indian Park (40 hrs at \$27.20/hr)		1,088.00	1,088.00
Other Friends of Indian Park time (50 hrs. at \$27.20/hr.)		1,360.00	1,360.00
Meeting Facilitations (5 meetings @\$100/meeting	500.00		500.00
Honoraria for Humanities focus groups participants (\$100 x 5)	500.00		500.00
TRAVEL, FOOD, and LODGING			
			0.00
			0.00
			0.00
			0.00
			0.00
			0.00
HOSPITALITY			
			0.00
			0.00
SUPPLIES and SERVICES			
Supplies: flip chart paper, markers, post-its	50.00		50.00
Duplicating & Printing: printing/copping materials for focus groups	50.00		50.00
			0.00
Postage:			0.00
Equipment Rental:			0.00
Promotion: social media, email, and print		100.00	100.00
Facility Rental:			0.00
Other: Zoom subscription		50.00	50.00
			0.00
			0.00
			0.00
INDIRECT COSTS			
WH Does Not Pay Indirect or Overhead Costs			0.00
TOTALS (Transfer Totals to the Application)	1,961.00	5,319.00	7,280.00

Please remember that the applicant must assume at least 50% of the total cost of the project, which may include in-kind support.

Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification

**Give Form to the
requester. Do not
send to the IRS.**

▶ Go to www.irs.gov/FormW9 for instructions and the latest information.

Print or type. See Specific Instructions on page 3.	<p>1 Name (as shown on your income tax return). Name is required on this line; do not leave this line blank.</p> <p>City of Platteville/City of Platteville Parks and Recreation Department</p>	
	<p>2 Business name/disregarded entity name, if different from above</p>	
	<p>3 Check appropriate box for federal tax classification of the person whose name is entered on line 1. Check only one of the following seven boxes.</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Individual/sole proprietor or single-member LLC <input type="checkbox"/> C Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> S Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Trust/estate <input type="checkbox"/> Limited liability company. Enter the tax classification (C=C corporation, S=S corporation, P=Partnership) ▶ _____ Note: Check the appropriate box in the line above for the tax classification of the single-member owner. Do not check LLC if the LLC is classified as a single-member LLC that is disregarded from the owner unless the owner of the LLC is another LLC that is not disregarded from the owner for U.S. federal tax purposes. Otherwise, a single-member LLC that is disregarded from the owner should check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (see instructions) ▶ Government </p>	<p>4 Exemptions (codes apply only to certain entities, not individuals; see instructions on page 3):</p> <p>Exempt payee code (if any) _____</p> <p>Exemption from FATCA reporting code (if any) _____</p> <p style="font-size: small;">(Applies to accounts maintained outside the U.S.)</p>
	<p>5 Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.) See instructions.</p> <p>75 N Bonson St, PO Box 780</p>	<p>Requester's name and address (optional)</p>
	<p>6 City, state, and ZIP code</p> <p>Platteville WI 53818-0780</p>	
	<p>7 List account number(s) here (optional)</p>	

Part I Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on line 1 to avoid backup withholding. For individuals, this is generally your social security number (SSN). However, for a resident alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the instructions for Part I, later. For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see *How to get a TIN*, later.

Note: If the account is in more than one name, see the instructions for line 1. Also see *What Name and Number To Give the Requester* for guidelines on whose number to enter.

Social security number									
-				-					
or									
Employer identification number									
3	9								
-									

Part II Certification

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

- The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me); and
- I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding; and
- I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below); and
- The FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that I am exempt from FATCA reporting is correct.

Certification instructions. You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and generally, payments other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. See the instructions for Part II, later.

Sign Here	Signature of U.S. person ▶ <i>Beth VanNatta</i>	Date ▶ 9/18/2020
------------------	-------------------------------------------------	-------------------------

General Instructions

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

Future developments. For the latest information about developments related to Form W-9 and its instructions, such as legislation enacted after they were published, go to www.irs.gov/FormW9.

Purpose of Form

An individual or entity (Form W-9 requester) who is required to file an information return with the IRS must obtain your correct taxpayer identification number (TIN) which may be your social security number (SSN), individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN), adoption taxpayer identification number (ATIN), or employer identification number (EIN), to report on an information return the amount paid to you, or other amount reportable on an information return. Examples of information returns include, but are not limited to, the following.

- Form 1099-INT (interest earned or paid)
- Form 1099-DIV (dividends, including those from stocks or mutual funds)
- Form 1099-MISC (various types of income, prizes, awards, or gross proceeds)
- Form 1099-B (stock or mutual fund sales and certain other transactions by brokers)
- Form 1099-S (proceeds from real estate transactions)
- Form 1099-K (merchant card and third party network transactions)
- Form 1098 (home mortgage interest), 1098-E (student loan interest), 1098-T (tuition)
- Form 1099-C (canceled debt)
- Form 1099-A (acquisition or abandonment of secured property)

Use Form W-9 only if you are a U.S. person (including a resident alien), to provide your correct TIN.

If you do not return Form W-9 to the requester with a TIN, you might be subject to backup withholding. See What is backup withholding, later.



Certifications

The Applicant hereby certifies to Wisconsin Humanities that:

1. The submission of this proposal has been authorized by the governing body of the applicant organization or group, and the Project Director and Fiscal Agent listed are authorized to act as the representatives of the applicant in connection with this proposal.
2. The applicant organization or group is constituted for nonprofit reasons.
3. Any funds granted as a result of this proposal will be administered in accordance with all guidelines and provisions of Wisconsin Humanities and the National Endowment for the Humanities. For reference, please see WH's *Guidelines for Fiscal Agents*.
4. The fiscal sponsor has not been debarred from receiving federal funds and is in compliance with non-discrimination statutes.
5. The applicant organization will ensure that any funds granted as a result of this proposal will not be expended on entities or persons who have been debarred or otherwise excluded from receiving federal funds. (Please see the electronic Code of Federal Regulations Title 2 Part 200.331 at [2 CFR 200.331](#) for more information. Also, please see the U.S. GSA website at <https://www.sam.gov/SAM/pages/public/index.jsf> and search on exclusion records as necessary.)
6. Any program related income derived from this WH-funded project (if awarded), will be used to cover other allowable costs of the project or will be used to support other projects in the humanities.
7. The applicant organization or group certifies the participation of project personnel identified and described in the attached project personnel forms.

Project Director

Signature: Luke Peters Date: 1/29/2021
Project Director's Name (typed or printed): Luke Peters
PD Organization: City of Platteville
PD Email address: petersl@platteville.org

Fiscal Agent

Signature: Sheila Horner Date: 1/29/2021
Fiscal Agent's Name (typed or printed): Sheila Horner
FA Organization: City of Platteville
FA Email address: horners@platteville.org

This form, with signatures, may be uploaded to the application, emailed to meg.turvilleheitz@wisconsinhumanities.org or, if these options are unavailable, mailed to Wisconsin Humanities, 3801 Regent St. Suite 101, Madison, WI 53705.

Friends of Indian Park

<https://driftlessroadtrip.com/friends-of-indian-park/>
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/756306555142835/>

P.O. Box 240

Platteville, WI 53818

January 28, 2021

Wisconsin Humanities Mini-Grants Program
3801 Regent St. Suite 101
Madison, WI 53705

Dear Mini-Grant Selection Committee,

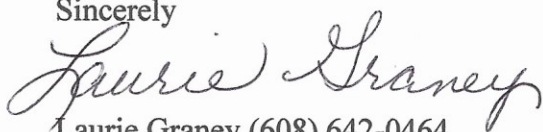
As the co-presidents of a groups dedicated to supporting the history and physical structures of Indian Park including the stories of persons buried there, we enthusiastically support this project.

As the grant proposal describes, we have spent much time the past several years researching the history of Indian Park. We've presented this research in Platteville at public forums hosted by the Senior Center and worked with the City of Platteville Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) then the City of Platteville Common Council to gain local historic designation for this property and increased awareness of its history as a cholera burial ground and possible Native American mound site.

We have come to a place where we need more archaeological expertise and where the city needs focused discussions with different stakeholders. This grant would allow us to work with the city to build upon the information we've already drawn together and to find what archaeological techniques are available to determine the presence or absence of human remains and other artifacts in the park. It would also allow us to work with different stakeholders to create a vision for how the history of this park might be preserved.

Once again, Friends of Indian Park gives their enthusiastic support to this project. Thank you for your time in reading this letter. If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at the phone or e-mails below.

Sincerely



Laurie Graney (608) 642-0464

lagraney@yahoo.com



Kristal Prohaska (608) 732-2633

prohaskakristal@gmail.com

Co-Presidents
Friends of Indian Park



January 28, 2021

Wisconsin Humanities
Mini-Grants Program
3801 Regent St. Suite 101
Madison, WI 53705

Dear Wisconsin Humanities Staff and Committee Members,

I am writing to support the City of Platteville Parks and Recreation Department's "Unraveling the Mysteries of Indian Park and Developing a Vision for the Future" project. Platteville's landscapes are rich in layers of human history that reveal the lives and character of multiple generations of peoples since the end of the last Ice Age. The material culture of both American Indian and Euro-American peoples who developed a way of life in the lead-zinc district of the Upper Mississippi Valley continues to be discovered as concerned citizens give voice to the potential of collecting new archeological evidence on City lands.

Research to date by members of the Friends of Indian Park has revealed that Indian Park has played an important, yet largely undocumented, role in Platteville's history. Information about the park's past has captured the imaginations of City residents, leadership included, and there is consensus to seek additional information on such matters as whether the park remains a 19th-century pandemic cemetery, whether topographic features represent a Native American effigy or burial mound, and whether other surface features represent additional layers of history such as informal grave sites. This new information will enable the City to re-interpret the significance of Indian Park and to engage community members about what the future of the park could and should be. This work will result in the development of an appropriately respectful plan for the future.

The Mining & Rollo Jamison Museums are pleased to play a supporting role in the project. Museum staff will provide research and project management consulting and will participate in focus groups to help determine a future vision for the park. We look forward to future phases when the Museum may play a role in helping to develop interpretive materials for the site and possibly incorporate the history of Indian Park exhibits elsewhere in the City, including at the Museums.

We support the project and encourage your support.

Sincerely,

Erik Fleisch, Museum Director
The Mining & Rollo Jamison Museums

APPLICATION FOR A
HISTORIC PROPERTY DESIGNATION
 CITY OF PLATTEVILLE, WISCONSIN



General Information (please type or print clearly)

	Owner	Applicant/Agent
Name	City of Platteville	Garry C. Prohaska
Address	Indian Park 11413 Street Platteville, WI	280 Division, Platteville, WI
Phone		608 732-2633
Fax		NA
Email		pkhplatt@yahoo.com

Signature The undersigned person hereby petitions the Historic Preservation Commission of the City of Platteville, Wisconsin, to designate the property described below as a Historic Structure or Site.

Name: Garry C. Prohaska Date: Aug 18, 2020

The above person is the: Property Owner Agent for the Owner Applicant

I wish to nominate this property because: (check one or more boxes)

- I wish to protect the property.
- This property is threatened with demolition or destruction.
- This property has historic significance.
- This property has been owned or occupied by a prominent or significant person(s).

Property Information

Address of Property: N. 4th Street Platteville, WI

Present Use of Property: Park (Indian Park)

If known, provide the following information:

Historic Name of Property: Presbyterian Church Cemetery

Name of Architect: NA

Other properties in Platteville designed by Architect: _____

Name of Builder: NA

Other properties in Platteville constructed by Builder: _____

Date of Construction: NA

Type and/or Style of Architecture: _____

Known alterations or additions made since this structure was built: (please check all that apply)

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Building additions. | <input type="checkbox"/> Replacement siding/residing. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Removal of porches/portions of structure. | <input type="checkbox"/> Removal of decorative details. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Moved from its original location.
(if moved, why, from where and when) | <input type="checkbox"/> Replacement of doors and/or windows. |

The dates of major alterations or additions were _____

Briefly describe any changes checked above.

N/A

Sources of Information: Please list, or attach photocopies, of the sources of information that were used to determine the historical significance of the property.

(Please see attachments.)

Photographs. Please submit clear, recent photographs that show all sides of the exterior of the structure and all associated accessory buildings that will be considered for designation. Provide copies of any historic photos of the building or property that are available.

Map. Please draw, or provide a copy of, a map of the property. Include all structures, adjoining streets, and other major features. Photographs of the building should be keyed to this sketch.

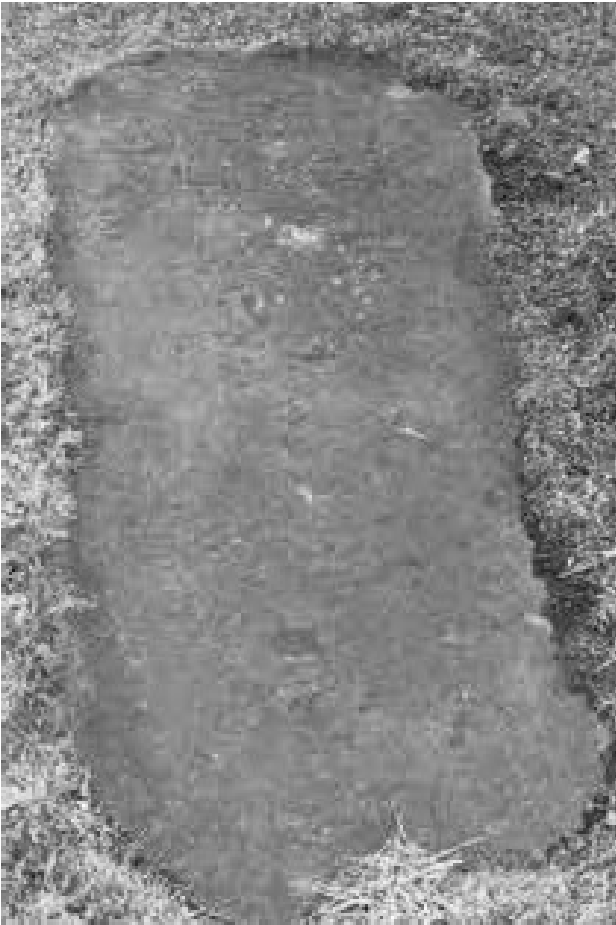
This completed form and any related documentation should be submitted to:
City of Platteville Historic Preservation Commission
75 N. Bonson Street
Platteville, WI 53818

Questions may be directed to:
City of Platteville, Department of Community Planning & Development at 608-348-9741

Note: Financial assistance, in the form of tax credits, may be available for approved rehabilitation work on properties that meet State and National criteria. For more information, contact Jim Sewell from the Wisconsin Historical Society at 608-264-6490, or jasewell@whs.wisc.edu.

OFFICE USE ONLY
Date Form Submitted: 8/25/2020 File Number: HPC2020_01
Historic Preservation Commission Action & Date: _____









ITEM #US29113

Platteville City - West

From Grant County 1918, Wisconsin
Published by Geo. A. Ogle and Co. in 1918

27101269000



Show search results for 27101269000



60ft

Digital



Applicant(s):

Laura Graney
PO Box 240
Platteville, WI
608-642-0464
lagraney@yahoo.com

Kristal Prohaska
280 Division Street
Platteville, WI
608-732-4238
prohaskakristal@gmail.com

Dr. Teresa Burns
1190 Union Street
Platteville 53818
608 642 1308
burnst@uwplatt.edu

*Above individuals originally submitted the application for Indian Park to be locally designated, but they were not legal applicants. Their names are included here as persons who have researched the history of Indian Park and as well as citizens supporting the local designation of the property.

What do you know about the history of the property?

-Before European conquest, likely before 1000 C.E.: Indigenous peoples, likely ancestors of present-day Ho-Chunk, build mounds on the park. These mounds were somewhat leveled in 1918 (see entries below), and 1 to 1.5 feet of fill added. (When the street work was done in the spring of 2019 by the city of Platteville, an archeologist was required to be on site. It is at that time, that photographic proof of the fill was taken. This would coincide with the City of Platteville's Common Council Agenda of April 13, 1918.) Source of photographic documentation, Kristal Prohaska.

-The current park was a burial ground for Native Americans. Source: Capital Times, Dec. 12, 1962; The Platteville Journal, April 3, 1975; The Platteville Journal, "White People are Buried There" by Laura Graney, April 8, 1975. The following persons independently concerning the conical mound: Marjory Lathrop (Dana) Livingston, as recorded by her niece, Kay Tiedemann; Mary Toomey Rouse, as told to her granddaughter, Doris Rouse Scheil; Laura Graney as told to her son Richard Graney. Platteville elementary school teacher Beulah Berry and others would take classes over to the park to talk about the Indian mound. (Concerning Native Americans in the Platteville Area: History of Native Americans in the Platteville area, The Wisconsin Archeologist, Vol. 15 December, No 4 by C.E. Brown and A. O Barton; Native American Lead Mining in the Galena River Valley and the Potential for Archaeological Research, by Phillip G. Millhouse.)

-There also exists a large flat limestone capstone that is engraved with letters within the park. The date of this stone and who is buried there has been illegible for years.

-1836 Following what is known as the "Original Plan of the Village of Platteville", the following year this survey was enlarged. Source: City of Platteville, Grant County, Wisconsin, Intensive Survey Report, October 2005. Twenty-eight lots were added to the city with this addition including the area where Indian Park is located. Source: History of Old Platteville 1827-1835 by James A. Wilgus from the Wisconsin Magazine of History, Vol. 28. No. 1 (Sep.1944) page 80.

-Victims of the small pox epidemic in Platteville (from December of 1843 to February of 1844) were buried at the Fourth Street site. Source: Capital Times, Dec. 12, 1962; (Small pox epidemic in Platteville; Early Days in Platteville, by D.J. Gardner, Truman O. Douglass, Maria Greene Douglass, reprinted from the Wisconsin Magazine of History, Vol. VI, Number 1, September 1922.)

-Powder mill explosions (beginning in 1849) added to the cemetery population. Source: Capital Times, Dec. 12, 1962. (Powder Mill Explosions in Platteville - History of Grant County, Wisconsin, Holford, 1900.)

-In February of 1848, John Rountree deeds the land to the German Presbyterian Church for use as a burial ground. The deed also indicates that the land "shall be at this time and forever remain a public burial ground for the interment of the dead." Source: Deed, Grant County, Wisconsin, Register of Deeds.

-Rev. John Lewis becomes installed as the Presbyterian Church pastor in 1848. Source: The Congregational Church of Platteville. Brief synopsis of its history; History of Grant County, Holford, 1900.

*Rev. Lewis assisted with this transition of the church in 1849. Rev. Lewis also teaches at the first Academy with Josiah Pickard. Source: History of the Platteville Academy by James Alva Wilgus; Personnel Recollections of Platteville by Maria Green Douglass; Summary History of the Synod of the West by Joseph L. Mihelec.

*Slavery divides the church and by a special act of the 1849 State Legislature, Chapter 25, the church changes its name and form of government from Presbyterian to Congregational. Source:

-July 1849, the trustees of the Presbyterian Church transfer ownership of the church property, including the "one- acre lot intended, described, and used for public burying ground"

to the Congregational Church for the sum of one dollar. Sources: Deed, Grant County, Wisconsin, Register of Deeds; Cemeteries Article by J.W. Murphy, Platteville, Wisconsin RE: Local Cemeteries, Southwest Wisconsin Room, UW-Platteville.

*Josiah Pickard is one of the trustees of the Presbyterian Church. Source: Deed, Grant County, Wisconsin, Register of Deeds.

-1850, Thomas Paine Aiken and Eleanor Donelson pass away due to the cholera epidemic of 1850. They are both buried in the cemetery (now Indian Park). Sources: Grant County Genealogical Society; (Cholera in Platteville, Wisconsin; History of Grant County, Wisconsin, Holford, 1900.)

Thomas Paine Aiken family history; The Platteville Journal, April 3, 1975; The Platteville Journal, April 8, 1975. The Platteville Journal, July 1976. (Platteville cholera epidemic sources: The Capital Times, Dec. 12, 1962; Depression in Pioneer Days –The James Ryerson Kays Story.)

*Thomas Aiken is also a veteran of the War of 1812. Sources: Daughters of the War of 1812; and Thomas Paine Aiken family history.

- References to the cemetery calling it "Hill Graveyard". Sources: Independent American newspaper, November 11, 1853 and October 20, 1854.

-1855 John Rountree deeds 21 acres to John Lewis "less one acre" which was deeded to the trustees of the Presbyterian Church on February 22, 1848. Source: Register of Deeds, Grant County, Wisconsin.

-1861 A delinquent tax document shows the sale of the cemetery for 1857 delinquent taxes. W.R. Beach represented Grant County in the purchase of this parcel. Source; Tax roll, Grant County, Wisconsin.

-1869 Eliphalet W. Covell and Rebecca P. and Electa Lewis (Rev. John Lewis's wife) quit claim deed to John Rountree for \$50. (Note: Neither the Covell's or Electa owned the cemetery.) Source: Register of Deeds, Grant County Wisconsin.

-1895 and 1900 tax rolls indicate the land is in John Rountree's estate. Source: Tax rolls, Grant County Wisconsin.

-1898 Newspaper article from the Grant County Witness indicates that approximately 30 burials were made in this cemetery. Source: Grant County Witness, May 11, 1898.

-1901 A lien is recorded by E.B. Rice for compensation for materials, labor and attorney fees for the caring of the "Presbyterian burying ground." Source: Deed, Grant County, Wisconsin, Register of Deeds.

1901 O.W. Barret purchases the cemetery from E.B. Rice and Della Rice for \$500.00. Source: Deed, Grant County, Wisconsin, Register of Deeds.

-1901 & 1902 Tax rolls show O.W. Barrett as the owner but no taxes were paid as the said property is a "cemetery" and "graveyard". Source: Tax rolls, Grant County, Wisconsin

-1903 Tax roll record is left blank. Source: Tax rolls, Grant County, Wisconsin.

-1904 Tax rolls indicate the property is now "public property". Source: Tax rolls, Grant County, Wisconsin.

-1907 thru 1910 the property is listed as "Public Property". Source: Tax rolls, Grant County, Wisconsin.

-1911 thru 1919 the property is listed as "Unknown Owner". Source: Tax rolls, Grant County, Wisconsin.

-1917 June 1, 1917 In Chapter 307, Laws of 1917, in an act by the state the cemetery becomes the property of the city of Platteville Source: Platteville Paper, June 1, 1917; Wisconsin State Legislature website.

-1918 Common Council votes to remove and rebury bodies found in "Rountree Park" and authorizes the Rountree Park Committee to "level the surface of the ground". Source: Common Council Minutes dated April 3, 1918, city of Platteville, Wisconsin.

-1920 thru 1923 property is listed as "Park lots". Source: Tax rolls, Grant County, Wisconsin.

-1924 thru 1928 property is listed as "City Park". Source: Tax rolls, Grant County, Wisconsin.

-1929 thru 1961 property is listed as "North Park". Source: Tax rolls, Grant County, Wisconsin.

-1959 The common council asks then city attorney Robert C. Block to secure an abstract of the property (then known as "North Park"). The purpose of this was for "ascertaining the status of the title so that a decision could be made as to whether or not the City should sell the property as building lots. Source: Letter to Mr. Lawrence C. Kindschi, City Clerk, Platteville, Wisconsin dated November 10, 1959.

-1986 City of Platteville applies for the removal of interior lot lines to create one lot. Source: Register of Deeds, Grant County, WI.

**THE CITY OF PLATTEVILLE, WISCONSIN
PFRC SUMMARY SHEET**

**PFRC SECTION:
ITEM NUMBER: IV-
VII**

**TITLE: Staff Notes for Parks, Forestry, and Recreation
Committee Meeting**

**DATE
February 21, 2022
VOTE REQUIRED:
Majority**

PREPARED BY: Adam Ruechel, City Manager

Presentation-Friends of Indian Park

During the meeting a presentation will occur from the members of the Friends of Indian Park. Commissions members will be receiving a list of documents which will be discussed in more detail.

Staff Update

- A. Recreation Department Staff Introductions
 - a. During the meeting City Manager Ruechel will officially introduce Bob Lowe and Adam Bartels as the new Parks and Recreation Director and the new Recreation & Community Events Coordinator.
- B. Broske Center
 - a. During the meeting City Staff will go over the monthly financials for the Broske Center.
 - b. Parks and Recreation Staff will also provide updates about event bookings, etc.
- C. Recreation Programs
 - a. Parks and Recreation Staff will provide an update to members about the ending of winter programming and the planning of upcoming spring and summer programming.

Old Business

None

New Business

- A. Platteville Inclusive Playground
 - a. Discussion will be had during the meeting about an update on the status of the CDBG-CV Application for Inclusive Playground and Trail Extension.
- B. Senior Center Van Process
 - a. Staff will discuss with commission members the latest information regarding the purchase of a handicap accessible van for the Platteville Senior Center and what will be presented to the common council.
- C. Eco Friendly First Steps
 - a. Staff will discuss with commission members about policies and procedures which are being looked at for implementation to become more ecologically friendly.

Next Meeting Date

Establish if quorum can be achieved for next meeting Monday, February 21, 2021, at 7pm in the Council Chambers.