

# Grayslake, IL

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U.S. CORONAVIRUS BLOG » 'No One Asked For This': Pandemic Unemployment Highest In Months

Community Corner

## Historic Maps Detail Grayslake's History

From the time when land sold for \$1.25 an acre, see the changes in Grayslake history through a dozen historic maps at the Grayslake Heritage Center and Museum.

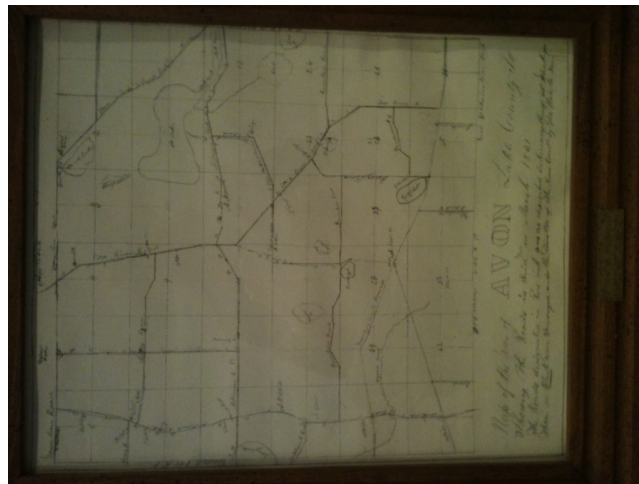
By Marcia Watts Sagendorph, Patch Staff

Nov 22, 2011 12:31 pm CT | Updated Nov 22, 2011 10:23 pm CT

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More than 175 years of Grayslake area history through maps are displayed in a new exhibit in the upper gallery of the .

The maps, mostly from the collection of the Grayslake Historical Society, trace the history of Lake County, Avon Township and the village of Grayslake from the frontier to the present. A dozen historical maps show how the development of roads, railroads and surveyors' tracts were used to form the communities in the Grayslake area.

The maps include:

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- A map created by Albert F. Scharf in 1919 details Native American settlements and trails, as well as early communities and travel routes in Lake County's formative years. Hainesville Road roughly follows the route of the Muquonago trail in Avon Township.
- A survey diagram shows that townships in Illinois were six square miles and were divided into 36 sections of one square mile each. The diagram shows how these sections could be further subdivided. In the early years, land sold for about \$1.25 an acre and 40 acres was the standard for most family farms.
- An 1840 map of Township 45 (Avon Township) includes an unidentified lake in sections 27 and 34. This lake, later named Gray's Lake for early area settler William Gray, inspired the name of the village, which was incorporated in 1895.
- An 1842 map of Avon Township bears the names of the area's original land patent holders. Early settlers such as the Rich, Hendee and Forvor families claimed the farmland and shaped the area's growth.
- In 1886, the Grays Lake subdivision was created. That was among the first steps toward the organization of Grayslake and the development of today's downtown, which occupies Section 26.
- Early roads in Avon Township in 1851 usually had the names of major landholders adjacent to the road or of the road's destination. For example: *North-south roads*: Antioch Road is now Fairfield Road; from Hainesville to Fox River Road is now Hainesville Road; Hendee Road is now Alleghany Road; Harvey Road is now Lake Street; and Fox River Road is now portions of Atkinson Road and Route 83. *East-west roads*: Avery Road is now Montville Road; Miltimore Road is now Rollins Road; Edwards Road is now Shorewood; Runihan (Renehan) Road is now Washington Street; Vandemark Road is now Center Street; and from Town Line to Hainesville now part of Belvidere Road (Route 120) and Route 134. >

- A map of Lake County on the eve of the Civil War. About 1,000 people lived and farmed in the portions of Avon and Fremont townships that eventually became Grayslake. The village of Hainesville provided basic amenities such as a general store and blacksmith shop.
- By 1873, the names of several Avon Township lakes were in flux. Gages Lake was identified as First Lake, Druce Lake as Second Lake, Chittenden Lake as Third Lake and Miltimore Lake as Fourth Lake. Some names stuck, others did not. Taylor's Lake is now known as Highland Lake.
- By 1957, the population of Grayslake was more than 3,700. Familiar landmarks included Grayslake Community High School (now Grayslake Central) and the Grayslake Gelatin Company.
- In 1988, the Grayslake Chamber of Commerce and Industry created a colorful map. A number of local businesses are fixtures in the Grayslake business community.
- The village of Grayslake celebrated its Diamond Jubilee in 1970 and three years later, a map recorded some of the community's historical milestones. Several familiar landmarks such as Jones Island, Memorial Park and the College of Lake County are noted on the map.
- A dozen years after Grayslake was incorporated, a 1907 Avon Township map shows the growth of the community, including a subdivision south of Belvidere Road.

The maps are on display in the upper gallery of the , 164 Hawley St., from noon to 4 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays and during downtown Grayslake community events.

- *Submitted by the Grayslake Historical Society.*

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See more local news

**Local Events**

+ Po.



**Upcoming**

## **Work From Home Webinar (1099 Sales) Expanding Hemp CBD Business**

Fri, Dec 11, 2020 at 11:30 AM  
Grayslake, IL

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## **Hang Out with The Grinch**

Fri, Dec 11, 2020 at 3:00 PM  
Grayslake, IL

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## **Virtual Jingle and Mingle Game Night FunRaiser!**

Fri, Dec 11, 2020 at 7:00 PM  
Grayslake, IL

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## **Featured**

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## **Energy Savings and Safety Forum**

Sat, Dec 12, 2020 at 10:00 AM

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## **Meet Santa & Mrs. Claus at the Fill a Heart 4 Kids Elf Challenge**

Sat, Dec 12, 2020 at 11:00 AM

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## **\*\*December Holiday Packages \*\***

Sat, Dec 12, 2020 at 8:00 PM

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## **The Best Holiday Gifts For Everyone On Your List**

Mon, Dec 21, 2020 at 8:00 PM

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## **Christmas Eve Service**

Thu, Dec 24, 2020 at 5:30 PM

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Grayslake, IL | Local Recommendation | 9h

### Grayslake Elves, Neighbor

Here's more information if you have any questions!

Thank Reply Share



Grayslake, IL | Local Recommendation | 9h

### Grayslake Elves, Neighbor

Elf on the Shelf Starts today!

Here is the first hint to find the Elf:

Thank Reply Share



Grayslake, IL | Neighbor Post | 2d

### Grayslake Elves, Neighbor

Starting this Friday, participate in Grayslake's version of Elf on the Shelf! Over a span of two weeks, multiple elves will be hidden all around Grayslake. Once you find an Elf, take a selfie and send it to one of the social media accounts below to be eligible

[Read more](#)

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Grayslake, IL | Local Question | 2d

### Richard C Kaup, Neighbor

Does this include

Amazon employees?

Thank Reply (1) Share



Grayslake, IL | Local Post | 2d

### Amie Schaenzer, Patch Staff

Small businesses here in Grayslake have been hit hard by the economic impact of the pandemic. Are you trying to shop at more small local businesses this season to help support them in these tough times? What are some of your favorite local shops for gifts?



Thank Reply Share



Grayslake, IL | Local Post | Nov 18

**Amie Schaenzer**, Patch Staff

We wouldn't typically be talking holiday decorations BEFORE Thanksgiving, but, we've heard of and seen a lot of great displays already brightening up local downtowns, homes, etc.

Is your house all decked out for the holidays--interior and/or exterior? Please share any photos, info

[Read more](#)

Thank Reply (3) Share



See more neighbor posts

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**Pressure Washing Business For Sale**

For Sale | Dec 3

**Wood stuff and more**

For Sale | Nov 28

**Woodstuffandmore**

For Sale | Nov 28

**6 Printable Christmas Carols for Kids**

Free Stuff | Nov 28

**FREE Sample - Hemp CBDa Cream (Extra Strength)**



See more classifieds

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2. [📍 Grayslake, IL News](#)  
**Funds Raised For Family After Sisters Die In House Fire**
3. [📍 Grayslake, IL News](#)  
**Grayslake Arts Alliance Opens Online Store**
4. [📍 Grayslake, IL News](#)  
**College Of Lake County Offering Tennis Scholarships**
5. [📍 Grayslake, IL News](#)  
**ComEd Electric Transmission Corridor Vegetation Management In Libertyville**

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Stay up to date on crime and safety with the Neighbors app by Ring

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Libertyville

Vernon Hills

Lake Zurich

Lake Forest-Lake Bluff

Buffalo Grove

Barrington

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