

Peoria Heights Ride

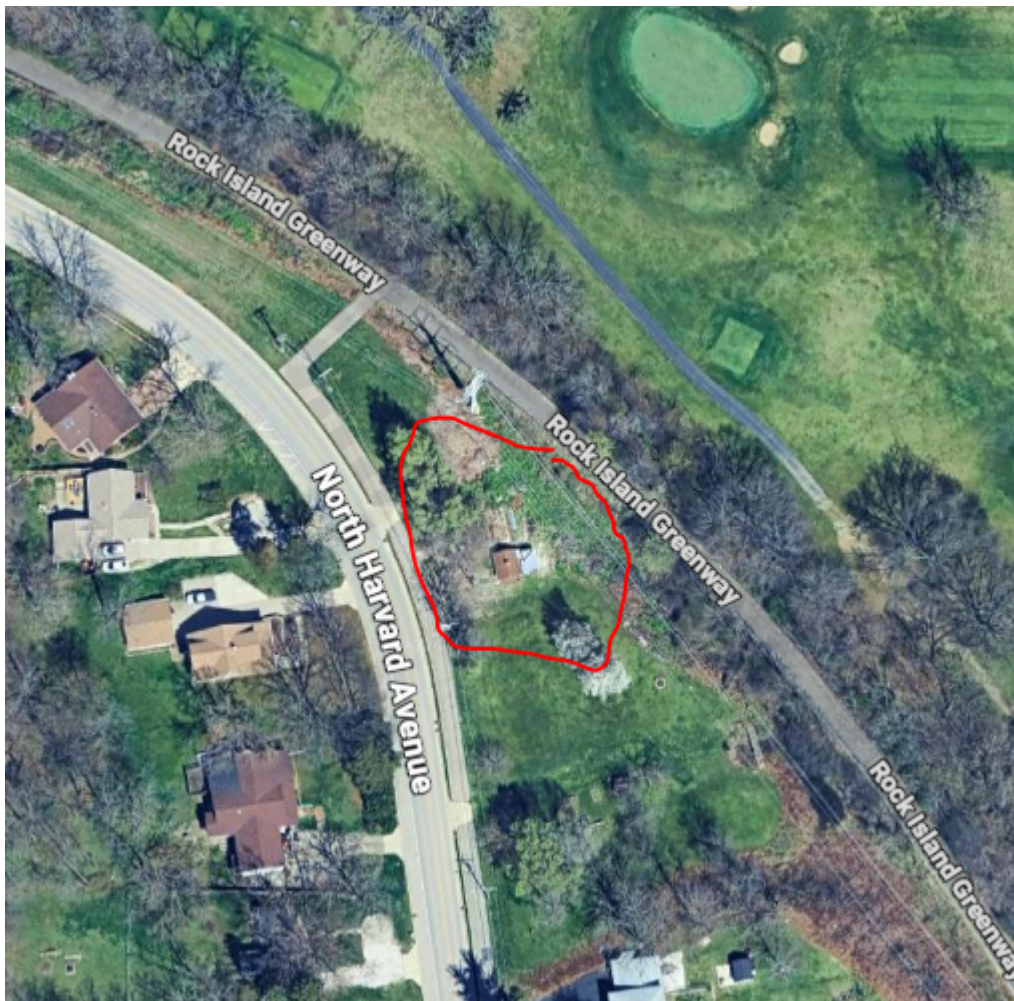
1. Peoria Heights Library established in 1936, moved to current location in Feb of 2000 – two sculptures with no plaques - Bike parts and ~~whale~~. (Whale moved to Donovan Park).
2. In early 1890's village of Prospect Heights was laid out. Incorporated in 1898, name changed in 1901 to Peoria Heights due to fact there was already a Prospect Heights near Chicago.
3. 1893 birthplace of the first gasoline-powered car in America. Charles Duryea, Duryea Motor Wagon Co. (It was mentioned in the West Peoria ride, that the car was developed by the Duryea brothers in a garage in West Peoria, but they moved manufacturing to PH after complaints about the noise and the smell.)
4. Monroe Seiberling owner of Peoria Tire and Rubber Company (1895). Most of the workers still lived in Peoria, which was the reason for needing the trolley. Duryea partnered with Seiberling to produce the Duryea vehicle at the Peoria tire and Rubber Company, but production did not last very long.
5. Glide – JB Bartholomew, started with the Avery company in Galesburg, that moved to North side of Peoria in 1882. Started a side gig making peanut roasters and popcorn wagons. In 1902 started making cars, continued thru 1920, never made more than 500 in a year. The site at Prospect and Seiberling later became the Pabst Plant.
6. Downtown PH – Signs on early auto and bike manufacturing.
7. Downtown PH – Discuss railroad and trolley intersection and how the two didn't get along so the railroad would not allow a grade intersection, so the trolley had to go over. First was a wooden structure 21 feet high with no side rails and just wide enough for the trolly cars.



At 125 years, Peoria Height...
PM Peoria Magazine

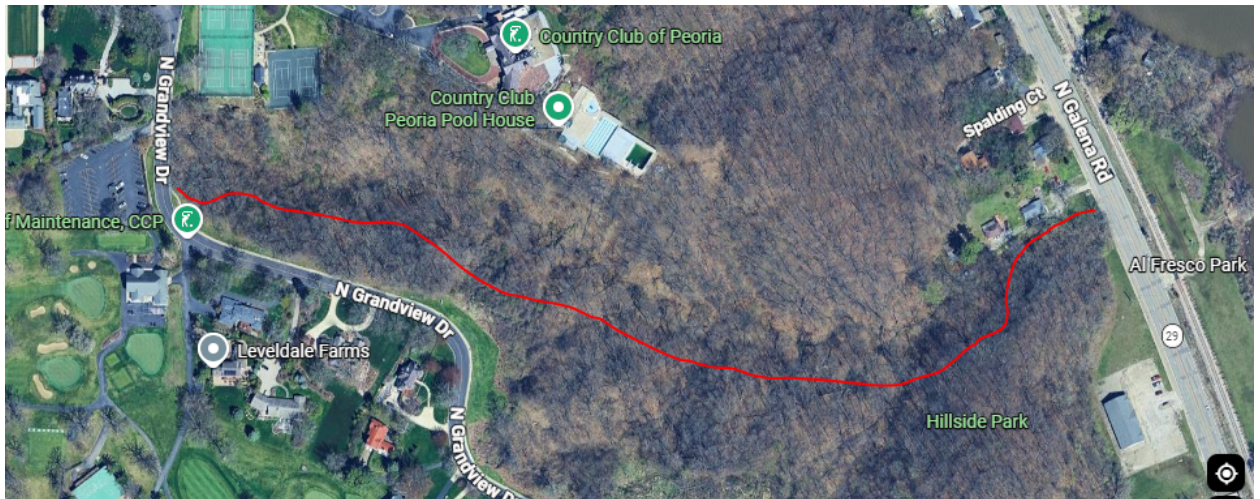
8.

9. On trail - Trefzger's – good old bakery, original building for
- a. Rouse Hazard & Co. bicycle manufacturing plant.
 - i. Charles Durea worked and honed his engineering skills there before building the first successful US gasoline powered car.
 - ii. Produced 20,000 bicycles a year.
 - b. Trefzger's founded in 1861 by Simon Trefzger from Germany.
 - i. Downtown Peoria – on Fulton street and then on Main at Monroe. Many years on Prospect just down from Emo's before moving to the current location.
 - ii. Started out making bread for civil war soldiers stationed near what is now Glen Oak Park.
10. On trail - Site of old greenhouse, hardly anything remains.



11. Teddy Roosevelt named Grandview Drive World's Most Beautiful Drive in 1910.

12. Grandview Dr – Site of trail from Heights to old Al Fresco Amusement Park



13. Grandview Castle – Fire breathing dragons that did not make the Gargoyle ride this year.

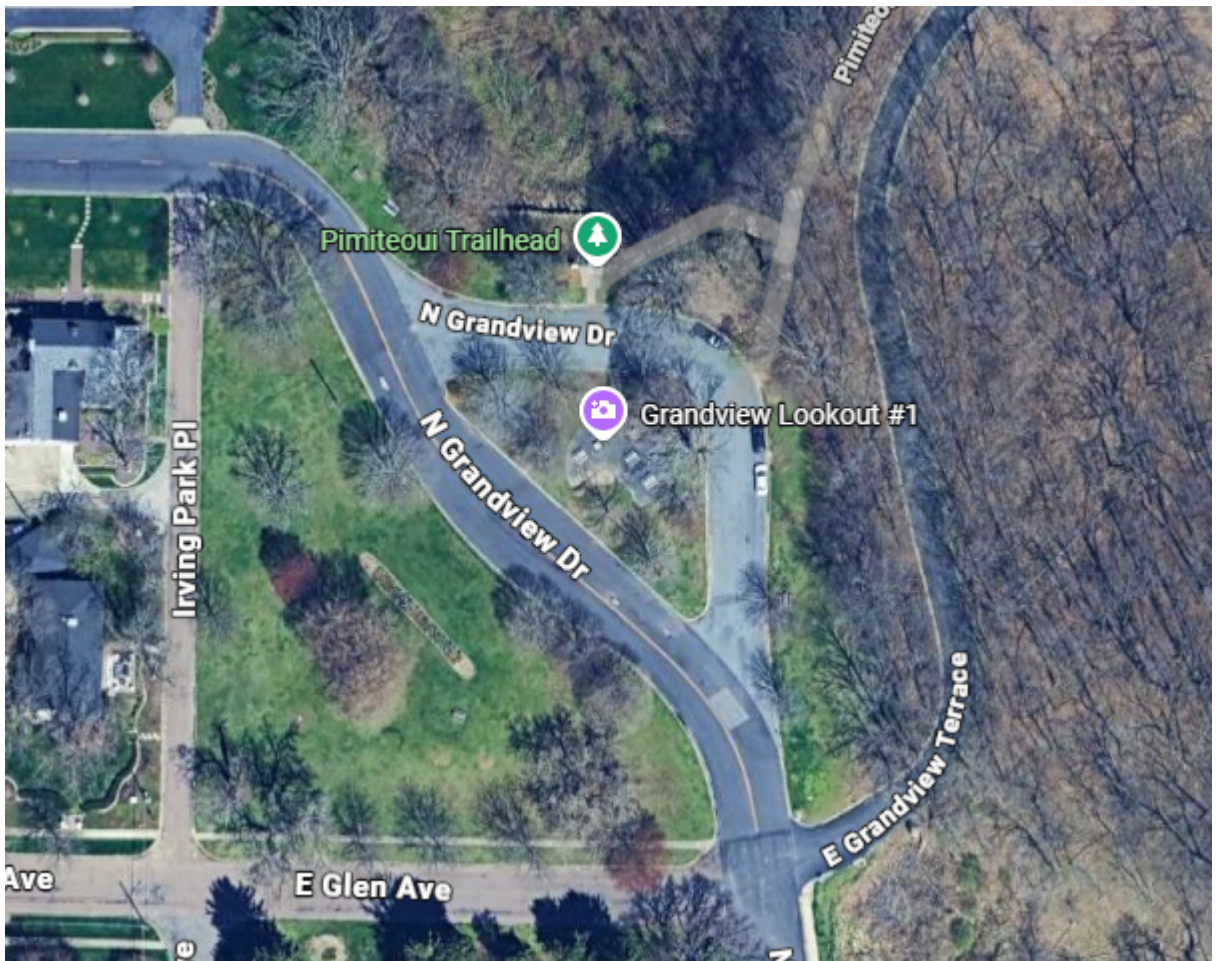


14. Grandview – Site of old fire tower. (Tower was in the little grassy triangle).
Overlook and trail head for path to Forest Park nature center.



Historic Observation Tower...

 Facebook



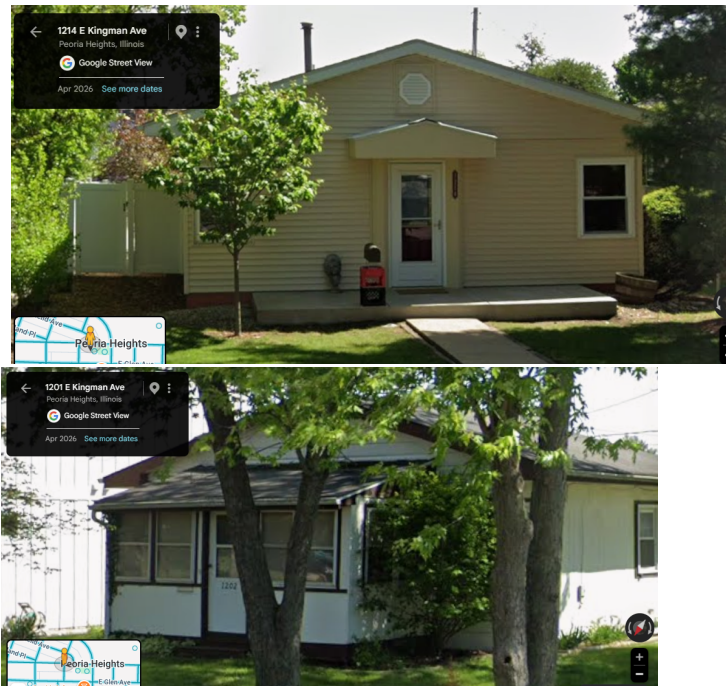
15. Cross Prospect – Tower Park

16. 1214 and 1202 E Kingman Ave - LeTurneau houses – All steel houses built by the LeTurneau company from the late 1930s until the US entered WWII as affordable housing.

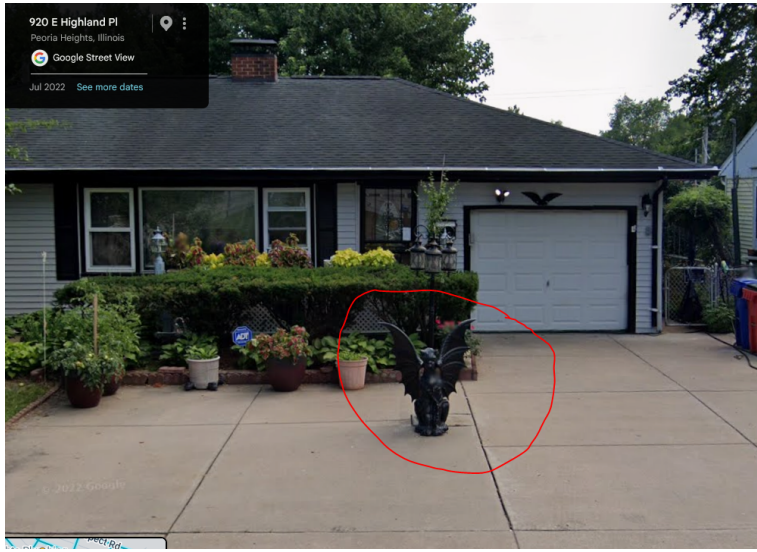
a. There are several in PH and others around the Peoria area.

b. One of these homes can be toured at the Wheels O' Time Museum.

That one was used by was on the Komatsu property (originally the LeTurneau company location) and going to be torn down. A person on one of these Pedal Peoria bike rides recognized that fact and started the discussion that resulted in the house being saved and moved to the museum.



17.920 E Highland Pl - Another gargoyle not on the Gargoyle ride



18. On to Lindbergh plaque. Peoria was a stopover on the Chicago to St. Louis airmail route (1926-1927). On April 15, 1926 an unknown Charles Lindbergh landed at Keller field, also called Brown's field, Peoria's first airport located where the High Point subdivision is now. In August of 1926, a newer Big Hollow Airport was opened near current site of Dick's at Grand Prairie, which then became Lindbergh's Landing point.

19. 120 E Highpoint - 60s era fallout shelter. I'm still trying to get more clarification if this was a fallout shelter, or a tornado shelter, or something else. But it makes a good story.



20. Back to Library taking W. Giles over to the trail.