

Chicago Street Names that Derive from the Fire of 1871

Avers Avenue: Frederick Avers was born in New York in 1831. He came to Chicago and surveyed and subdivided the property in 1872. He was the builder of the Sherman House before the Chicago Fire, as well as the home of Marshall Field. He took a prominent role in the rebuilding of the city after the fire.

Berkeley Avenue: In remembrance for \$10,000 gift from the city of Boston Boston after the Chicago Fire. Named for a principal Boston thoroughfare originally named for Lord Berkeley of London.

Burley Avenue: August Harris Burley organized the city's first fire company. He secured funds from the county for recruiting purposes at the opening of the Civil War. He was a member of the Board of Public Works and also served as city comptroller.

Chalmers Place: Named after George Chalmers of the firm of Chalmers and McBean. The firm was responsible for many of the Loop buildings after the fire.

Drake Avenue: Named after John B. Drake, owner of the Tremont at the time of the Chicago Fire. He became city fire commissioner in 1873.

Drew Street: Named after Charles W. Drew, President of Chicago Fire Underwriters, in 1885.

Keota Avenue: Indian word for "Fire has gone out" (from the Algonquin word *keahta*).

Kerfoot Avenue: Named after William Kerfoot, a realtor who helped rebuild after the Chicago Fire.

Legg Street: Vacated after the Fire ran from Michigan Ave. (Pine) to St. Clair (Sand) between Chicago Ave.

Magnolia Avenue: Named after a tugboat that saved many lives during the 1871 Fire.

Mason Avenue: Named after Roswell B. Mason, I.C.R.R. builder and mayor of the city during the Fire.

Medill Avenue: Named after Joseph Medill, who purchased the *Chicago Tribune*. He later became mayor of the city of Chicago.

Nelson Street: Named after Andrew Nelson, one of the first Lincoln Park Commissioners. He was a subdivider and suffered heavy losses in 1871 fire.

Root Street: Named after James P. Root, member of the Board of Equalization. He also had a large investment in real estate after the 1871 Fire.

Sheridan Road: After Lt. Gen. P. H. Sheridan, hero of the Civil War. He was in charge of the city when martial law was declared after the Fire.

Stockton Drive: Named after Gen. Joseph Stockton, a hero of the Fire. He was credited with saving invaluable land title records. He served as commissioner of the Lincoln Park District from 1869 to 1892.