

PROMONTORY POINT

Hyde Park

CHICAGO, Illinois -- **Promontory Point**, at 55th Street and Lake Michigan in Chicago's Hyde Park neighborhood, is an historic landscape with a limestone revetment and field house that was conceived as part of Daniel Burnham's Plan of Chicago in 1909.

The unique park is now threatened by the current plans of the Chicago Park District to reverse its deterioration by encasing it in a concrete and steel seawall, as well as by encroachment from portions of the South Lake Shore Drive reconstruction project. The National Trust is supporting the work of our state and local partners -- Landmarks Preservation Council of Illinois (LPCI) and the Promontory Point Community Task Force -- to fight these plans and preserve the beauty of Promontory Point for generations to come.



Promontory Point, Chicago, IL.

Recent meetings convened by 5th Ward Ald. Leslie Hairston were encouraging, as they required the inclusion of the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (IHPA) in all future review of plans for the Point. IHPA has indicated that they want to see a more detailed design proposal for their review and comment. LPCI and the Task Force believe IHPA should be integrally involved in the development of any design for the Point, and fear that these comments may indicate IHPA's willingness to sign off on a compromise plan that will not save as much historic materials as possible. The Trust, LPCI and the Task Force are joining forces in preparation for potential legal action against the City, if a proper preservation solution is not identified in the course of future discussions.