Chicago World's Fair--View looking southeast from the roof of the Woman's Building—The Japanese Buildings, Wooded Island, Liberal Arts, Agricultural, Electrical, Administration, Mining and Horticultural Buildings appear in the order named from left to right. Photograph, Chicago, Illinois: D. Appleton and Company, 1893. Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division: *Micellaneous Items in High Demand.* <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/97508432/>

This photograph was taken in 1893 depicting a view of the White City portion of the Chicago World’s Fair. The photo was taken by D. Appleton and Company and it depicts a Southeastern view from the roof of Sophia Hayden’s Woman’s Building. The view includes the Japanese buildings and the Liberal Arts, Agricultural, Electrical, Administration, Mining and Horticultural Buildings. The artist also captured the Wooden Island. [[1]](#footnote-1) The Wooded Island was designed by Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux, the designers of Central Park, as a piece of landscape architecture that symbolized the idyllic, rustic and wild American countryside. The island is important because it is the complete opposite of the rest of the World’s Fair, it is a nature sanctuary imbedded in the heart of a city. The island, like Central Park will become very important aspects to city life during the Progressive Era, as a way of escaping the harsh, nasty, and uncivilized reality of living in big cities amongst unsavory immigrants.

The island located on the back sixteen acres of Jackson Park on the shore of Lake Michigan would become Wooded Island. Olmsted dredged the island out of what was once a peninsula. He shaped the dunes of the shore adding underbrush and natural pathways that invited visitors the natural setting and away from the crowds at the White City. The island, although not natural or preserved to its natural state, imbedded the idea of allowing Americans to slip away to the wilderness. Wooded Island is now Paul Douglas Nature Sanctuary. Although much of the island is overgrown, on Wooded Island still remains two gardens from the 1893 fair, the Rose Garden and Osaka Japanese Garden.[[2]](#footnote-2)

1. Chicago World's Fair--View looking southeast from the roof of the Woman's Building—The Japanese Buildings, Wooded Island, Liberal Arts, Agricultural, Electrical, Administration, Mining and Horticultural Buildings appear in the order named from left to right. Photograph, Chicago, Illinois: D. Appleton and Company, 1893. Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division: *Micellaneous Items in High Demand.* <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/97508432/> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. City of Chicago, "Explore Chicago: Wooded Island (in Jackson Park)." Last modified 2012. Accessed November 26, 2012. http://www.explorechicago.org/city/en/things\_see\_do/attractions/park\_district/wooded\_island\_\_in.html. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)