

Living History of Illinois and Chicago®

<u>Living History of Illinois and Chicago®</u> – Facebook Group. <u>Living History of Illinois and Chicago Digital Library</u> <u>Living History of Illinois Gazette</u> - The Free Daily Illinois Newspaper. <u>Illinois History Store®</u> – Vintage Illinois and Chicago logo products.

THE BALLROOM

FINEST DANCING FLOOR IN AMERICA

White City Amusement Park, 63rd Street and South Parkway, Chicago, IL (1905)

In great big Chicago, with its endless demand for amusements and recreation, there has never before been constructed a ballroom or dancing floor with the capacity of the celebrated ballroom at White City. The Ballroom is located in an enormous building, 170 feet long and 100 feet wide, having sufficient accommodations for 1,000 persons on the floor.



The floor itself is the finest ever constructed west of New York City, having been built of the finest quality hard white maple, with a finish which rivals the polish on a piano. All about the dancing floor are located cafe tables and chairs, each with its menu card containing a list of temperance drinks. No liquor is sold in the Ballroom. A large and



Living History of Illinois and Chicago®

Living History of Illinois and Chicago® – Facebook Group. Living History of Illinois and Chicago Digital Library Living History of Illinois Gazette - The Free Daily Illinois Newspaper. Illinois History Store® – Vintage Illinois and Chicago logo products.

roomy balcony is similarly arranged, although in the scores of beautifully decorated boxes are to be found comfortable seats in which tired sight-seers may find rest and comfort. Music is supplied by a high-class orchestra, which is supplemented by a magnificent Orchestrion. This instrument as purchased by the White City management in St. Louis. It was originally constructed for exhibition in the French section of the Liberal Arts Building at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition.

A skilled and diplomatic Master of Ceremonies has full charge of the Ballroom, and it is his duty and the duty of his numerous well-trained assistants to see that patrons are not subjected to any objectionable features or annoying occurrences. No opportunity exists for indiscriminate methods to be adopted by any of the participants in the enjoyment of dancing on the Ballroom floor. The conduct of every person present must be absolutely without reproach. A small charge is made for the privilege of dancing.

It is the policy of the management to refuse admittance to persons of an objectionable character or appearance and indiscreet individuals who may successfully elude the vigilance of the Master of Ceremonies and secure admission will receive but scant courtesy.

At no time will any person present find it necessary to appeal to the management for protection from unwelcome advances by strangers.

Such methods have been in vogue in seashore and mountain resorts for years, and they are meeting with universal favor among the people who visit White City. They are adopted for the purpose of preserving the dignity and keeping inviolate the personal privileges of anyone who may patronize this form of amusement.