



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.

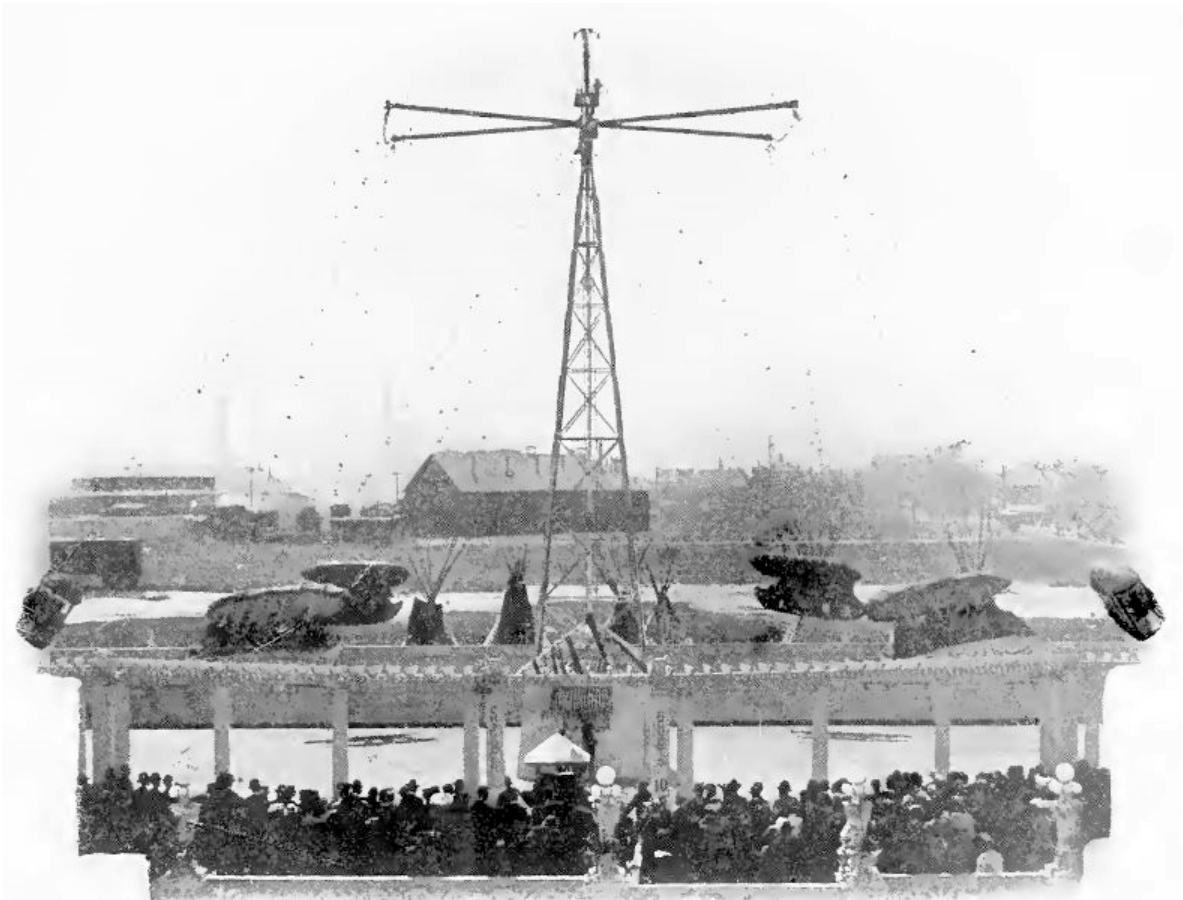
[Illinois History Store®](#) – Vintage Illinois and Chicago logo products.

THE FLYING AIRSHIPS

AN UP-TO-DATE METHOD OF AERIAL NAVIGATION

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

Directly across the Sunken Gardens from the entrance, being the first structure which a spectator sees as he enters the grounds—is the Flying Airships. This is the ideal place for the seeker for a new sensation. Here a person may enjoy all the novelty and exhilaration of a real airship ride without undergoing any of the dangers commonly associated with that form of sport. The attraction was installed in White City after a long and careful study. It represents Sir Hiram Maxim's idea of safe and sane aerial navigation, and has been completed after a great amount of labor.



Flying Airships



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.

A giant framework of steel composes the base, around which the airships glide at a high rate of speed. This frame is similar to a pyramid in shape and is a hundred feet in height. Across the top of the pyramid there are several steel beams, from which the airships hang pendant by strong steel cables. Each car seats over a dozen persons, and there are about eight cars—thus many persons can take the ride at the same time. When all the occupants of the airships are seated, the cars begin to revolve slowly around the steel frame. The motion becomes faster and faster, and as the speed increases the cars mount higher and higher into the air. After revolving a few moments the cars attain a great speed and rise to a height of about thirty feet. The occupants of the cars are securely tied in, so as to prevent all possibility of accidents, and they shout with delight as they experience for the first time the novelty of aerial navigation.