

Landscape architect Alfred Caldwell redesigned many of Chicago's premier lakefront parks in the late 1920s and early 1930s by adding to them naturalistic plantings and layouts inspired by the ecology of the Midwest. Yet, the Lily Pool is the only one that bears his name. This landscape of historic importance features a waterfall splashing through shady glades walled in by moss covered stone. This design was intended to "mimic a river formed by a melting glacier's flow of water cutting through limestone" according to Julia Brachrah, the Chicago Park District historian. (Chicago Park District web site, 2005). At the south of the pond, a handsome pavilion shows the strong influence of Frank Lloyd Wright, with its low walls and long, flat roof.

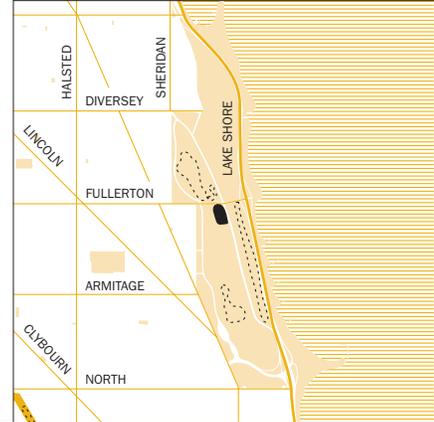
Caldwell wrote in 1942 that he'd planned the Lily Pool as "a hidden garden of the people of Megalopolis," and it still retains that quality of a surprising respite from the lawns used for recreation in Lincoln Park.

The Lily Pool's primary significance for habitat lies in its value for migrating birds. The Lily Pool restoration is one part of an overall effort by the Chicago Park District to improve habitat along the critical lakefront corridor for spring and fall migrants, as well as for nesting birds.

In 1997, the Friends of Lincoln Park (now the Lincoln Park Conservancy) began an effort in cooperation with the Chicago Park District to repair and restore the Lily Pool. The \$2.5 million restoration plan, now implemented, remained faithful to Caldwell's original ideas while including accommodation for disabled visitors and strengthening the site's value for habitat by using native plants that provide food and shelter for birds, butterflies and other wildlife. In addition, docents provide free interpretive tours of the site from spring through fall.

LINCOLN PARK—
ALFRED CALDWELL LILY POOL

Site No 49

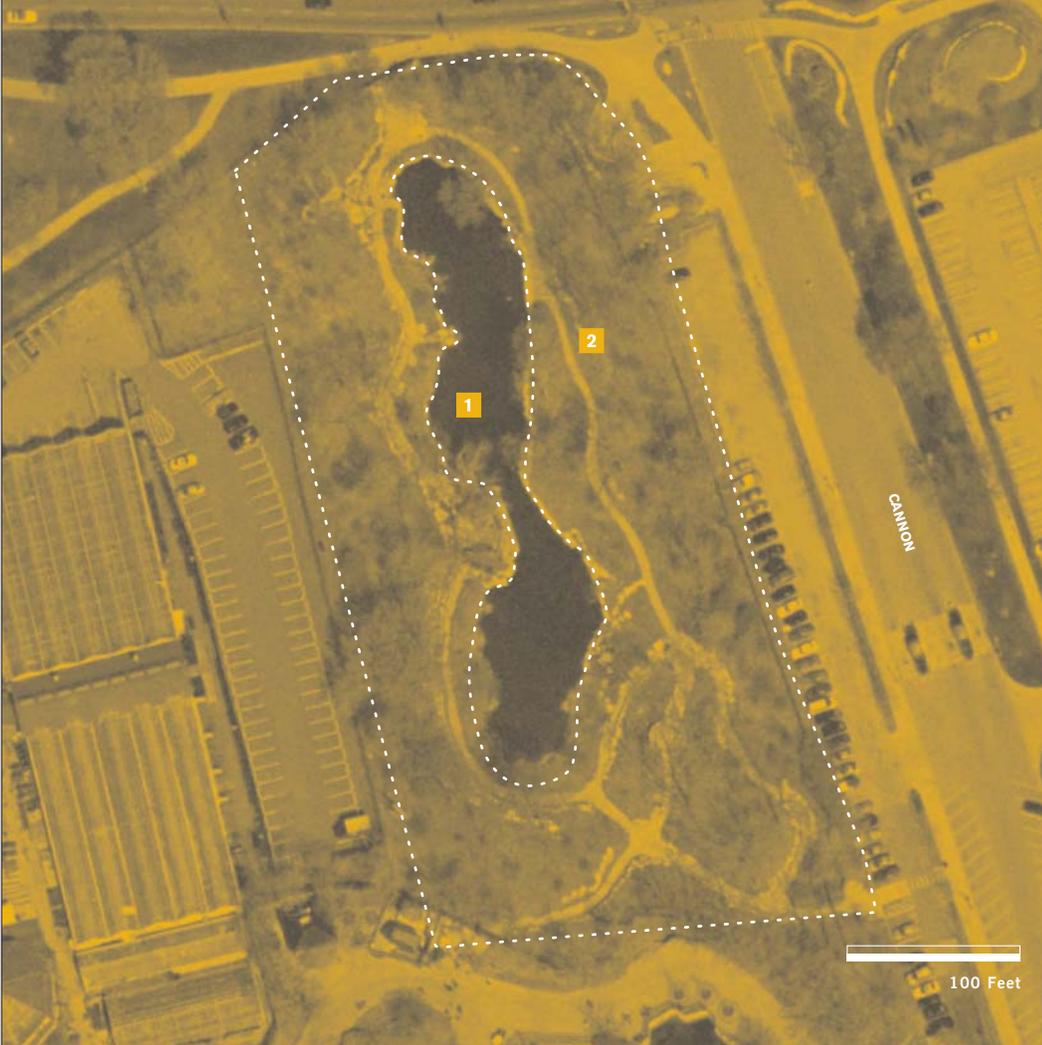


2400 NORTH / 200 WEST



**Lincoln Park—
Alfred Caldwell Lily Pool**

No. 49



ADDRESS 2400 N Cannon Dr
OWNER Chicago Park District
ACREAGE 2.75

HABITATS
1 Aquatic
2 Savanna

DIRECTIONS The Lily Pool can be accessed from the north, off of Fullerton Drive, or through a handicapped accessible entrance on the east side of Cannon Drive. Though it's possible to enter the zoo from the Lily Pool, you cannot go back into the Lily Pool from the south. Paid parking is available in the zoo parking lot off of Fullerton.

Lincoln Park—Marovitz Golf Pond

Chicago Habitat Directory 2005

Page 79