

FIXING UP THE LAKE FRONT

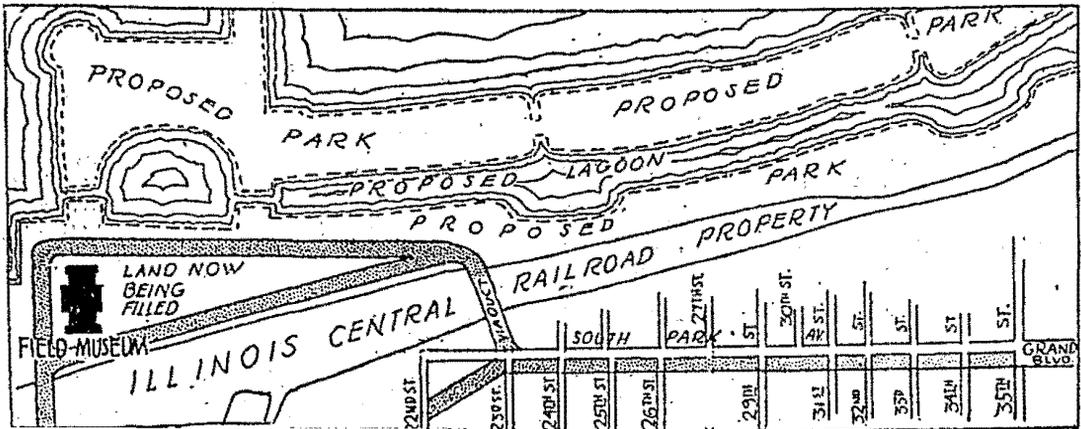


Diagram showing proposed widening of South Park avenue and lake front improvements south from the Field museum to 35th street.

New Boulevard Plan

THE widening of the South Park avenue, the construction of a new broad viaduct across the Illinois Central tracks and the extension of the highway system along the lake front, which will open to the city a new boulevard link from the south side to the loop, approached one step nearer realization yesterday when the condemnation and special assessment commissioners filed their report with the clerk of the Circuit court.

Actual work on the new improvement will be started as fast as the condemnation proceedings progress in the courts, which will not be later than this summer, according to the attorneys for the south park board.

The plan contemplates the widening of South Park boulevard to 198 feet between 23d and 35th streets, making it uniform in width with Grand boulevard, which extends from 35th street south to the entrance to Washington park at 51st street. It will thus provide a continuous thoroughfare of the present width of Grand boulevard from Washington park north to 23d street, where a viaduct over the Illinois Central tracks, 145 feet in width, will connect it with; other driveways to be built on the filled-in land along the lake shore.

After crossing the viaduct, the boulevard will turn north again, dividing into two branches, one passing to the east and the other to the west of the Field museum.

As the east side of South Park avenue is in alignment with the east side of Grand boulevard only the property on the west side of the thoroughfare will be condemned. The value of the land and buildings to be condemned has been fixed by the commissioners at \$3,316,720.04.

Most of the lake front to be traversed by the boulevard already has been filled in so that it will be possible to carry forward that portion of the work and the construction of the viaduct simultaneously with the widening of South Park avenue. A portion of the new link, at least, probably will be thrown open to automobilists by next winter.