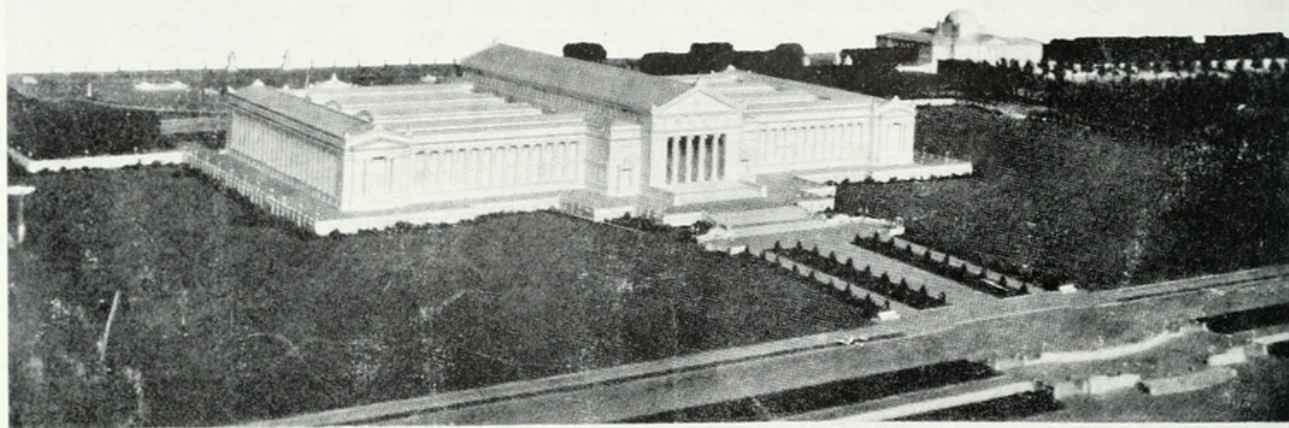


FIELD MUSEUM *from the ground up*

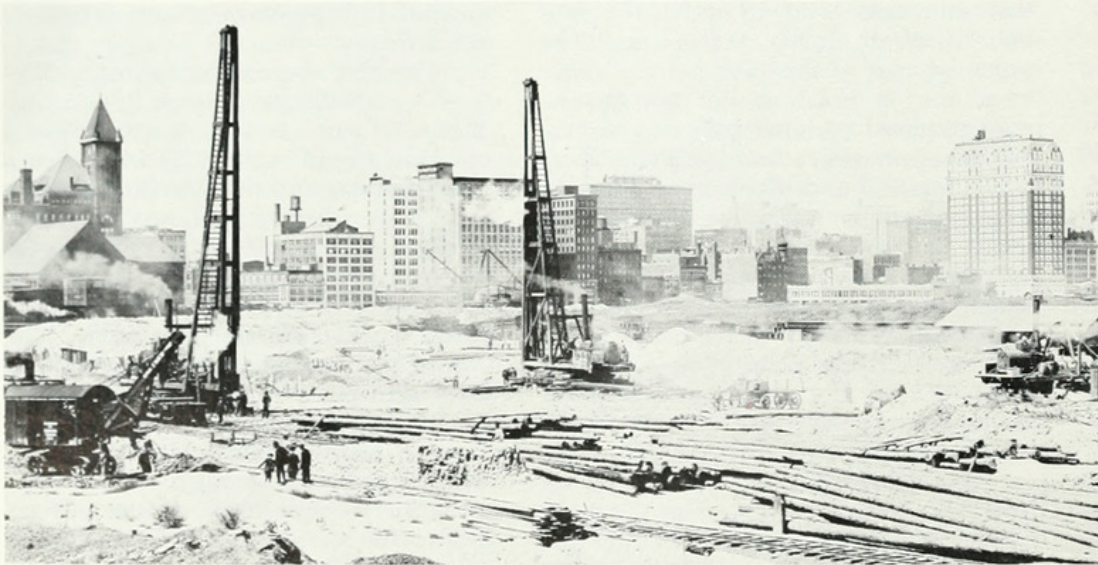


VIEW FROM THE MICHIGAN AVENUE APPROACH



VIEW FROM THE LAKE MICHIGAN SIDE

Architect's drawings, rendered in 1908, of the Grant Park quarters proposed for the Museum. Note that the front of the building here faces west. The city subsequently rejected a proposal to construct the building at the north end of Grant Park. When it was finally built, at the park's south end, the building was turned 90 degrees, to face north.



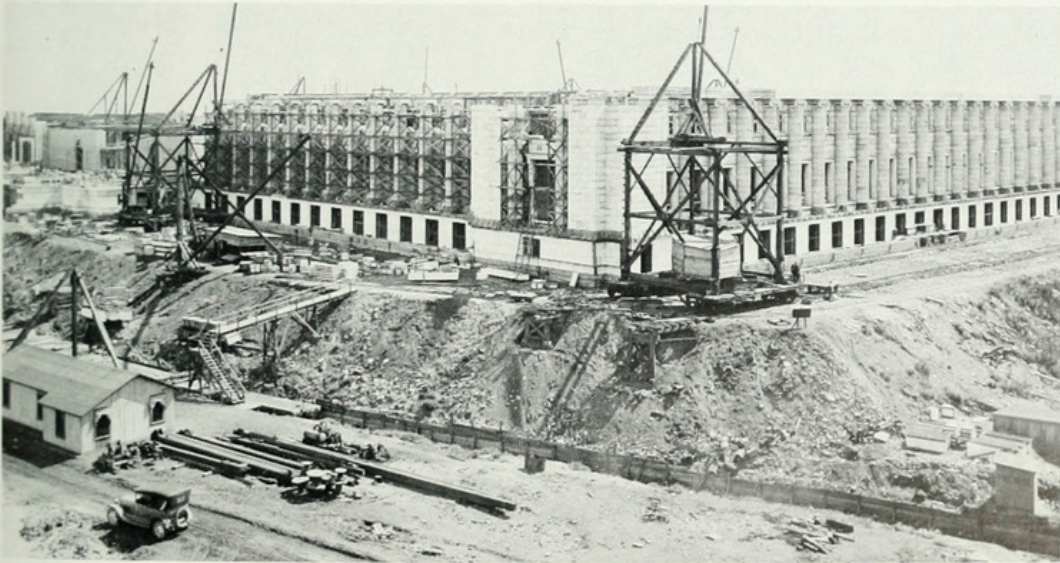
On August 27, 1915, construction of the building is well under way. (It had begun a month earlier, July 26.) Plainly visible are buildings still to be seen 65 years later along Michigan Avenue, notably the Blackstone Hotel (opened 1910), at the right. The Illinois Central Station, with the peaked tower, left, was demolished in 1974.



May 4, 1917. Twenty months have elapsed since the above photo was taken. The foundation now appears complete.

FIFTY-NINE YEARS AGO, on May 2, 1921, Field Museum celebrated a kind of housewarming—the opening of its superb new quarters in Grant Park. It had been just 27 years—less a month—since the Museum's original building had opened its doors in Jackson Park, just four miles south of the new Grant Park location.

But the original building, quickly constructed for use during the World's Columbian Exposition, was doomed to self-destruct in a very short space of time. In little more than a decade, for example, the building's exterior was sloughing off, creating an eyesore that was impractical and too costly to correct. The floor space in the Jackson Park building also soon proved to be inadequate for the rapidly expanding collections. The only sensible solution, the trustees decided, was to find new quarters. The result was the construction of the present building, begun on July 26, 1915. The photos reproduced here tell part of the story of its construction and of the relocation of the collections.

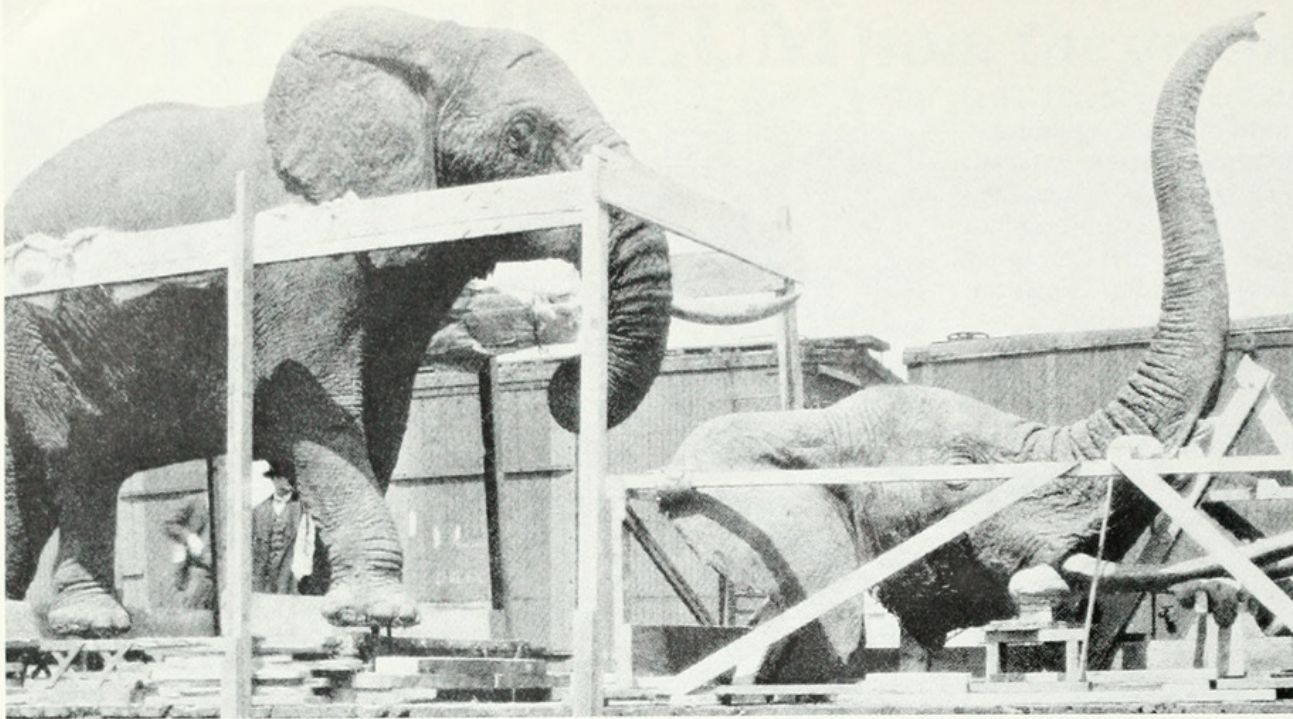


June 5, 1919. The main structure of the Museum building (behind the camera) is now essentially complete. Shown here is the underground railway, subsequently covered by landfill, used to convey coal to, and ashes from, the Museum's original furnaces. The railway connected with a much larger system, many miles in length, that still underlies much of downtown Chicago.

August 21, 1917. Two years since ground was broken; the building is taking shape.



About 1920. What must have been a sea of mud surrounds the completed Museum. The underground railway (shown above) has been covered. Landfill extending into Lake Michigan is still to be added on three sides of the building.

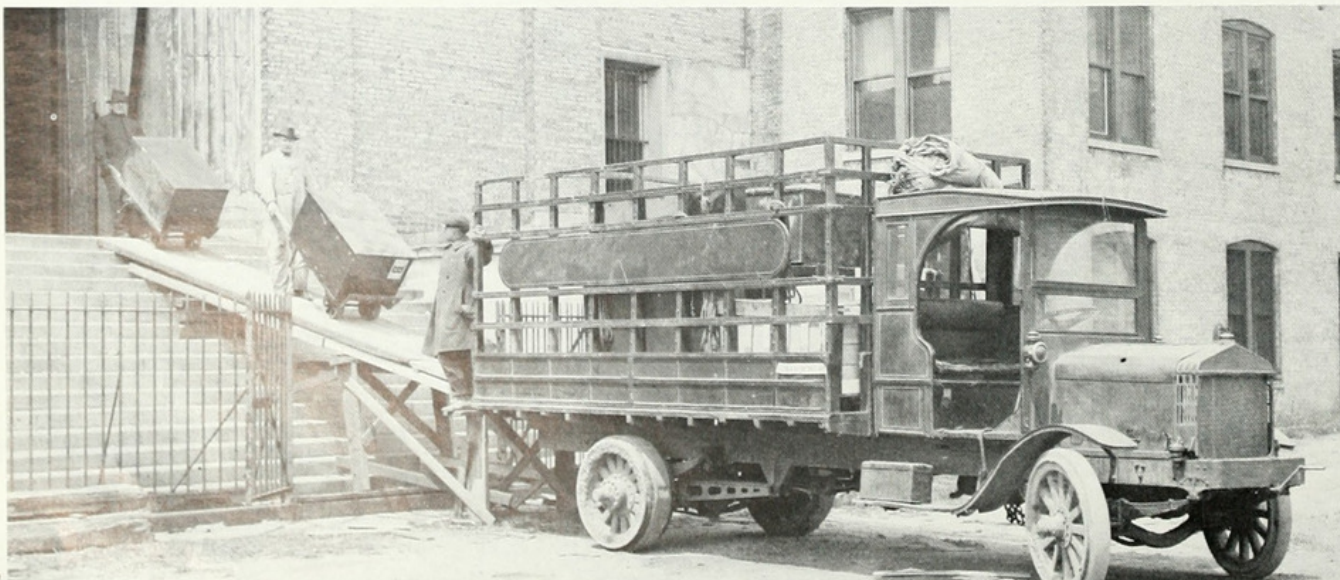


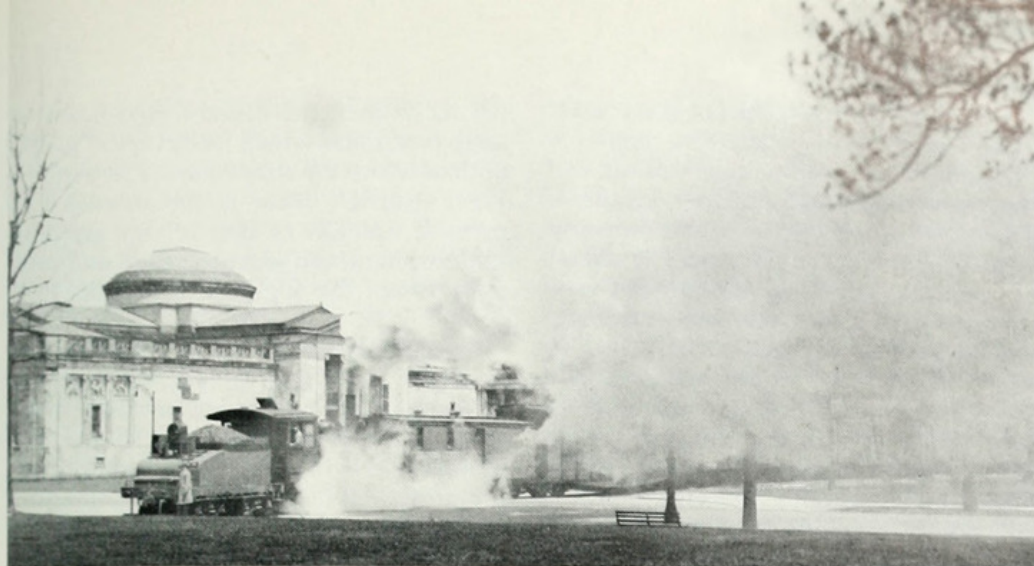
The jammed fighting pair elephants, shot by Carl Akeley in 1906 and put on display in 1909, ride ignominiously on railroad flatcar from the Jackson Park building to the new quarters in Grant Park, four miles north. The taller of the two elephants has been temporarily decapitated for the journey.

Movers with one of the hundreds of display cases, outside the Jackson Park building.



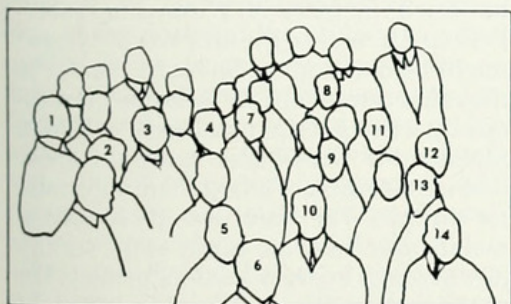
Specimens and cases not carried by rail were transported by truck. Shown leaving the Jackson Park building.





the well-preserved, accepted condition of the original building—though scarcely 25 years old—is clearly visible behind the locomotive. About 1920.

Cornerstone ceremonies at the new Museum building, September 28, 1917. Those present included (1) paleontology curator Elmer S. Riggs, (2) anthropology curator A. B. Lewis, (3) anthropology curator Berthold Laufer, (4) botany curator Charles L. Millspaugh, (5) geology curator Henry W. Nichols, (6) insects curator William J. Gerhardt, (7) director Frederick J. V. Skiff, (8) director David C. Davies, (9) zoology curator Wilfred H. Osgood, (10) accountant Benjamin Bridge, (11) director S. C. Simms, (12) anthropology curator Fay Cooper Cole, (13) botany curator B. E. Dahlgren, (14) security chief Charles L. Owen.



Opening day of the new Grant Park quarters of Field Museum, May 2, 1921.





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