

OPEN THE DOOR TO THE BEST  
EDUCATION IN HISTORY



## Churchville Schoolhouse

*Circa 1846*

*A National Register of Historic Places Property  
Operated by Elmhurst History Museum*

OPEN THE DOOR TO THE  
**Churchville Schoolhouse  
Living History Program**



Participants in the Churchville Schoolhouse Living History Program will take a step back in time to another era and watch history unfold. Meet Miss Arleigh Wheeler, the schoolmarm who taught multi-grade classes under the same roof, who will lead children through the Pledge of Allegiance and the day's lessons. Students will walk in the footsteps of actual schoolchildren who lived on nearby farms and came to the Churchville Schoolhouse each day to learn. In accordance with Miss Wheeler's lesson plans, slate chalkboards and the McGuffey Reader will be used for Reading, Arithmetic, Spelling, and History. Perfect penmanship will be practiced and—behavior permitting—recess will include games played by children of the early 1900s. The program is managed by the staff of the Elmhurst History Museum.

**OPEN THE DOOR TO**  
**Where Then Meets Now**

A memorable living history experience transporting visitors back to rural DuPage County circa 1910.

An interactive learning opportunity that recreates a real school day inside a turn-of-the-century one-room schoolhouse.

A National Register of Historic Places property featuring a well-preserved one-room schoolhouse built circa 1846 on its original site.

An engaging educational experience created by local teachers and facilitated by a history professional.



*Churchville School  
Class of 1895,  
Elmhurst History  
Museum Collection*



*Schoolchildren are  
immersed in a hands-on  
learning experience.*



*Interior of the School-  
house, circa 1895,  
Elmhurst History  
Museum Collection*



*Visitors are transported  
to the early 1900s with an  
authentic schoolmarm.*



## OPEN THE DOOR TO A Memorable Learning Experience

### **Program Description:**

The Schoolhouse program lasts approximately 2.5 hours and includes lessons and recess (time permitting).

**Cost:** \$5 per student (free to Elmhurst and Bensenville schools)

**Limit:** 30 students per session

**Materials:** A teacher's manual with pre- and post-visit instructions and student materials for the field trip are available for each group.

**Grade Level:** The program is appropriate for children in grades two through six and can be adapted for older and younger students.

**Illinois Education Standards:** This program has been designed by educators to meet Illinois Social Science Learning Initiatives.

**Location:** The Schoolhouse is located at 3N784 Church Road, just north of Grand Avenue in Bensenville, Illinois

**NOTE:** *The Churchville Schoolhouse Living History Experience may be combined with a visit to Elmhurst History Museum.*

### **For More Information or to Book a Program:**

**CALL:** Elmhurst History Museum at 630-833-1457

**VISIT:** [churchvilleschoolhouse.org](http://churchvilleschoolhouse.org)

**E-MAIL:** [EHMeducator@elmhurst.org](mailto:EHMeducator@elmhurst.org)

*Churchville Schoolhouse has been completely restored including the addition of restrooms and is accessible for patrons with disabilities.*

## HISTORY OF THE

# Churchville Schoolhouse



The Churchville Schoolhouse, built circa 1846, is one of the oldest structures in DuPage County and one of the few remaining one-room schoolhouses in the State of Illinois on its original site.

Listed in the National Register of Historic Places since 1999,

the Churchville Schoolhouse sits on property that was once part of the Fischer family farm. Children from the towns now known as Elmhurst, Bensenville and Addison attended the school until 1930. From the 1930s–1960s, the Churchville Schoolhouse was used occasionally as a meeting place and as an overflow classroom in the 1950s.

Elmhurst School District 205 took ownership of the old schoolhouse from 1988 – 2001, and used it for living history lessons for elementary students until 1997. School district officials deeded the property to the City of Elmhurst in 2001, and the City and the Elmhurst History Museum began an extensive restoration process which was completed in 2010. The Schoolhouse is now available for school groups and special events.

## THE CHURCHVILLE SCHOOLHOUSE IS MANAGED BY:

Elmhurst History Museum  
120 E. Park Avenue  
Elmhurst, Illinois 60126  
Phone: 630-833-1457  
Web: [elmhursthistory.org](http://elmhursthistory.org)



Supported by:

ELMHURST HERITAGE  
FOUNDATION

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