



Kenwood was settled in the 1850s by wealthy Chicagoans seeking respite from the increasing congestion of the city. The first of these residents was John A. Kennicott, who built his home near the Illinois Central Railroad at 48th Street. He named the home Kenwood after his ancestral land in Scotland.

Once known as the "Lake Forest of the South Side," Kenwood is a neighborhood that is filled with some of Chicago's best examples of architecture from the late 1800s and the early part of the 20th century. One such example is the Powhatan Apartments, a 22-story, luxury apartment building that overlooks Lake Michigan. Completed in 1929 and named for a Native American tribe, the art-deco Powhatan's exterior features terra-cotta ornamental panels of "conventionalized scenes based upon Native American culture." Neighboring buildings, such as the Algonquin, the Chippewa and the Narragansett, are also named for tribes, and this small area of Kenwood has been given the unofficial name of "Indian Village."

Population Demographic

- Total Population: 17,440
- Median Age: 37.6

Ethnic Demography

- Black non-Hispanic: 67.3%
- Hispanic or Latinx: 2.6%
- Asian non-Hispanic: 7.9%
- White non-Hispanic: 18.3%

Economic Profile

- Owner Occupied: 29.6%
- Renter Occupied: 58.2%
- Median Household Income: \$49,161
- Average people per Household: 1.9

Education Statistics

- No Highschool: 8%
- Highschool: 11.8%
- Associate's Degree: 6.4%
- Bachelor's Degree: 26.2%
- Graduate Degree: 31.6%

FUN FACTS

ASTROPHYSICAL OBSERVATORY

In the 1890s, the Kenwood Astrophysical Observatory, established by astronomer George Ellery Hale, was in Kenwood close to the new (at that time) University of Chicago.

VALERIE JARRETT

American businesswoman and former government official who served as the senior advisor to U.S. President Barack Obama was a resident of Kenwood.

MUDDY WATERS

American blues singer-songwriter and musician who was important in the post-war blues scene and is cited as the "father of modern Chicago blues", lived in Kenwood.

JOURNALIST

Ann Marie Lipinski, a journalist and the curator of the Nieman Foundation for Journalism at Harvard and former editor of the *Chicago Tribune* lives in Kenwood.

NARRAGANSETT

The building was built in 1928 at the peak of apartment construction in Chicago, as apartments had grown in popularity throughout the early 20th century.