

FARMING

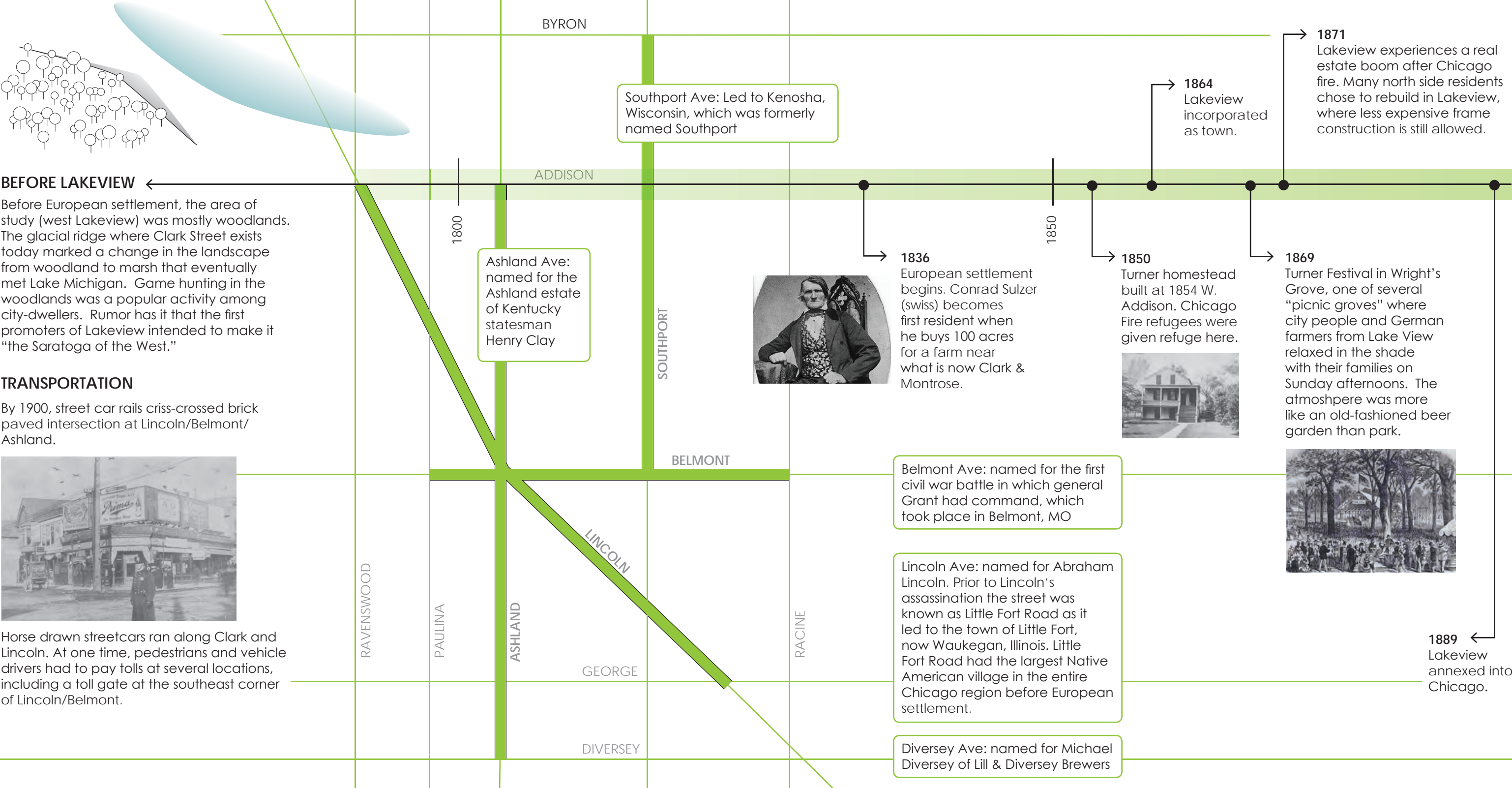
Truck farms operated by German, Luxembourg and Swedish families made Lakeview the **celery capital of the Midwest**. Renowned throughout the Mississippi Valley, Lakeview farmers engaged in a celery trade that extended north to Fargo, west to Denver, south to New Orleans, and east to Pittsburgh.



INDUSTRY

Breweries, brickyards, and railroads were Lakeview's largest employers during the industrial age.

The Best Brewing Company purchased an existing brewery at 1317 Fletcher Avenue (near Belmont and Southport) in 1891. The Best Brewery expanded two years later to include machine, brew, mill, boiler, and engine houses. The brewery, which abutted a railroad spur line to the east, stood on a block which was otherwise residential. After the brewery shut down in 1961, the buildings were eventually renovated as housing units.



CULTURE

Shortly before prohibition, liquor license fees were steeply raised in an attempt to force lower-class dives out of business. However, many saloon owners who could not afford the fee turned to breweries for financial assistance. In exchange, the saloon keeper would sell the supporting brewery's beer exclusively and was thus "tied" to one brand. The Schlitz brewing company of Milwaukee was the most prolific builder of **tied houses** in Chicago around the turn of the century. Lakeview has two well-known Schlitz tied houses that now operate as Schuba's and Southport Lanes. The Schuba's site was one of eight Schlitz tied houses considered for landmark status by City Council in 2010.



COMMERCE

The intersection of **Lincoln, Belmont, and Ashland** was once the largest shopping area outside of the Loop. Photos from the late 1950s through late 1960s show a bustling retail center with several large department stores, most notably, the seven-story Wieboldt's building.

