

Glossary

Blast Furnace: A type of furnace used to create the heat and environment to produce a metal such as iron.

Calumet Shoreline: A former shoreline of Lake Michigan, formed approximately 11,500 years ago, that runs parallel to the Dunes Highway in eastern Porter County (and Ridge Road in central and western Lake County). In Michigan City it crosses Franklin Street at about 9th Street.

Dune: A pile of sand produced by blowing wind.

Foundry: an industrial factory that produces metal castings, usually made of aluminum or cast iron. Foundries use sand to create a mold into which molten metal is poured.

Glenwood Shoreline: The oldest former shoreline of Lake Michigan, formed approximately 12,000 to 14,000 years ago. In Michigan City it crosses Franklin Street about Superior Street.

Gravel: A collection of rounded mineral or rock fragments at least 2 mm in diameter.

Moraine: A raised landmass composed of sediments (sand, silt, gravel) deposited by a melting glacier.

Lake Border Moraine: The younger portion of the Tinley/Lake Border Moraine in northwest Indiana found in Porter County near the Bailly homestead and in Lake County from Hobart to Merrillville.

Tinley Moraine: The older portion of the Tinley/Lake Border Moraine in northwest Indiana, found in Lake and Porter Counties north of the Valparaiso Moraine.

Valparaiso Moraine: The oldest moraine in northwest Indiana extending from the Cedar Lake region, past Valparaiso, northeastward to north of the city of LaPorte. Regionally, it extends from southeast Wisconsin, through Illinois and Indiana, to southwest Michigan.

Pleistocene: The geologic epoch in which the Ice Age occurred. When this era began and ended is still under scrutiny. The International Commission on Stratigraphy (in 2009) listed the dates as 2.6 million to 11,700 years ago.

Quartz: SiO_2 ; A very common mineral composed of silicon and oxygen. The primary constituent of Duneland sand.

Refractory: The ability of a solid material to be heated and maintain its physical and chemical properties, to be heated without deformation and without becoming part of the product.

Sand: An unconsolidated (uncemented) loose material whose grains are larger than 1/16 mm and smaller than 2mm.

Shoal: A portion of a lake or sea bottom where the water is shallow.

Till: Poorly sorted material deposited directly by a glacier.

Tolleston Shoreline: The youngest of Lake Michigan shorelines found north of the Little Calumet River. Formation started about 4,700 years ago. The Tolleston dunes nearest the lake are often called “recent dunes.” In Lake County, the oldest portion of the shoreline, south of the Grand Calumet River, is often called the High Tolleston Shoreline. In Lake County the lower Tolleston shorelines compose a “dune and swale” landscape of more than 100 parallel small ridges.