

Answer Key to "What Do You Know About Camp Douglas?" T/F Worksheet

1. True.
2. True.
Although named for Stephen A. Douglas, only 5 of the 66 acres of the camp were his land.
3. False.
Camp Douglas was located in the Bronzeville area of Chicago's near-south side. The northern boundary was 31st Street, south to 33rd Street, east to Cottage Grove Avenue, and west to Giles Avenue (2 blocks west of Martin Luther King Drive). Most the land on which the camp was located belonged to the family of Henry and Clementine Graves. Mrs. Graves decided to stay in her home during the existence of Camp Douglas.
4. False.
Camp Douglas opened in August 1861. It remained in existence until December 1865, when all buildings were razed, and the land returned to the Graves family.
5. True.
6. True .
Beginning in August 1861, the camp was the reception and training site for Union volunteers from the northern third of Illinois. Approximately, 40,000 Union soldiers were trained at the camp, including African Americans.
7. False.
Camp Douglas was the third largest facility in the US. It was the largest military facility in Illinois during the Civil War. Camp Douglas became a prisoner-of-war camp in 1862. Approximately 30,000 prisoners-of-war were held at Camp Douglas over time with a maximum of over 12,000 held in late 1864. When the war ended in 1865, the prisoners-of-war were released.
8. False.
Prisons were organized in 1861, but treatment of prisoners was not addressed until 1863.
9. False.
Between 5,000 and 6,000 died, mostly from disease. When the camp was built, funding for a sewer was not approved. Crowded and unsanitary conditions led to exposure to a variety of diseases.
10. True
11. False.
Food was often less than adequate and medical care was insufficient and rudimentary.
12. True .
Those who died were initially buried in the City Cemetery which is now Lincoln Park. In April 1867, they were moved to Oak Woods Cemetery.
13. False
The camp had twelve different commanders.
14. True
15. True