During its time of operation from 1876 to 1943, the Nevada County Narrow Gauge Railroad (NCNGRR) served as the main transportation means for Nevada County. Known also as the “Never Come, Never Go” due to its slow speeds, the railroad hauled out over $200,000,000 dollars worth of gold during its lifetime. Opting for the more maneuverable “narrow gauge” width of track, the railroad stretched 26 miles from Nevada City, making its way into Grass Valley before heading southward. This short trail along Chicago Park used to go along the old railroad bed and ended in Colfax, connecting to the main railroad arteries towards San Francisco.

You can find more about the railroad at the Nevada County Narrow Gauge Railroad Museum located in Nevada City.

Getting there:
From downtown Grass Valley, head toward Colfax on Highway 174. After about 9 miles, turn right onto Lower Colfax Road for the most southern portion of the trail.

Parking - there are no official parking areas designated for this trail, but there are places to pull off along Highway 174. Please respect private property.

Distance: About 1.5 miles.
Elevation change: Nearly level.
Uses: Foot and bike only. No motorized vehicles. Dogs on leash. Respect private property.