Evidence of multiple glaciations was recognized in North America in the latter part of the 19th century based on degrees of weathering, lithologically differing superimposed till units, and degrees of fluvial dissection of surfaces. Leverett formally named four glaciations (Wisconsin, Illinoian, Kansan, and Nebraskan) and three interglacial periods (Sangamon, Yarmouth, Afton) in 1899. The names of the oldest two glacial and the oldest interglacial stage are rarely used now because it has been demonstrated that these deposits represent multiple glacial events of widely differing age. These are now termed “pre-Illinoian”. The relative age of Illinoian and Wisconsin deposits in central U.S. that was initially suggested by the development of buried and degree of preservation of glacial landforms, has been supported by TL and other dating techniques, but there are still major disagreements about the precise age of various events, especially those beyond the range of radiocarbon. In Illinois, there is accepted evidence for 3 glacial episodes (Liman, Monican, and Jubilee) separated by warmer non-glacial intervals, although recent work suggests that there were more glacial events. Glacial landforms are poorly preserved on the Illinoian surface, partly because of erosion and a cover of loess, but moraines, drumlins and hummocky sand and gravel can be recognized. Loess is extensive in Illinois and the sequence includes multiple buried soils. A very well developed buried soil (Sangamon) overlies these deposits and is preserved in broad upland areas where erosion during the Wisconsin glaciation has not removed it. The length of time over which the soil formed varies spatially, but the most intensive development probably took place in MIS 5e. Glaciers likely entered the U.S. from Canada in MIS 4, but did not extend southward nearly as far as the late Wisconsin advance. This LGM advance entered the U.S. by about 26,000 BP and retreated from the Great Lakes basin soon after 10,000 BP. Landforms from this advance are well preserved and record significantly different climate from north to south at the glacial maximum.