

CITY OF ROCHESTER
SMALL PARKS AND SQUARES



PARK'S HISTORY, PRESERVATION APPROACH,
MASTER PLAN AND MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

PREPARED FOR

THE CITY OF ROCHESTER

PREPARED BY

CLARK PATTERSON ASSOCIATES

ROCHESTER, NY

LANDSCAPES

WESTPORT, CT

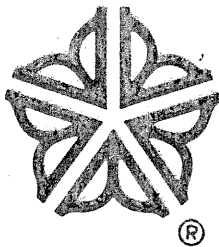
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CHAPTER I



CHAPTER I: THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ROCHESTER'S SMALL PARKS AND SQUARES IN THE WORK OF FREDERICK LAW OLMSTED AND HIS FIRM

Frederick Law Olmsted is best known for his design of large public parks and connecting parkways. Rochester has one of the few examples of an Olmsted-designed park system with several spaces designed for the use of all inhabitants of the city for a particular purpose. The eastern side of Genesee Valley Park was planned for enjoyment of the river views and open meadow scenery, with provision for picnicking, informal games and children's play. The west side was planned for active sports, including provision of boathouses. Highland Park was to offer the inhabitants of Rochester an arboretum of shrubs and a pinetum, with fine views from the circular pavilion at its top. Seneca Park was to provide a promenade and series of vistas of the river gorge, while the edge of the gorge was treated as a scenic reservation, with paths descending to the river edge. To address the open space needs of the community on another scale, the Olmsted firm drew up plans for several small city parks and squares that were primarily for neighborhood use. For the most part these were re-designs of spaces that had been set aside for public use in the early years of city growth. In this chapter the designs of these spaces, in relationship to similar parks for other communities, will be explored.

A. Olmsted's Small Parks and Squares in the New York City Region

Olmsted welcomed the opportunity to design small neighborhood parks and demonstrated from the beginning that he had innovative ideas concerning their treatment. In his first such plan, for Tompkins Park in Brooklyn in 1870, he reversed the usual approaches to planning a square. (See Figure I.1) Traditionally, the center was left open and in turf while trees and shrubs were planted around the perimeter. This tended to produce cramped walkways and gave insufficient view into the park, creating problems of safety. Moreover, the trees shaded out the flowers along the edge, which led either to the dying out of the flowers or a severe regimen of pruning that distorted the shape of the trees. To avoid the problem of shade, some squares were designed without trees, creating beauty of detail by flowering shrubs and plants and sculptural decoration. This approach was more expensive and offered less benefit to its users.

Accordingly, Olmsted proposed to place a grove of trees in the central section of Tompkins Park, flanked by walks and turf outside of which, around the edge, would be an unshaded garden "very bright and elegant with flowering shrubs and plants, and perfect turf." (Papers of FLO, vol. 6, pp. 395-98)

Olmsted's plan for Tompkins Park shows the extent to which he sought to solve a series of social and design issues in his treatment of even very small public spaces [in this instance, two acres]. It was also the first step in his planning of small parks and squares in several cities, during which he demonstrated his characteristic desire to take the particular conditions and needs of a project and provide a unique solution.

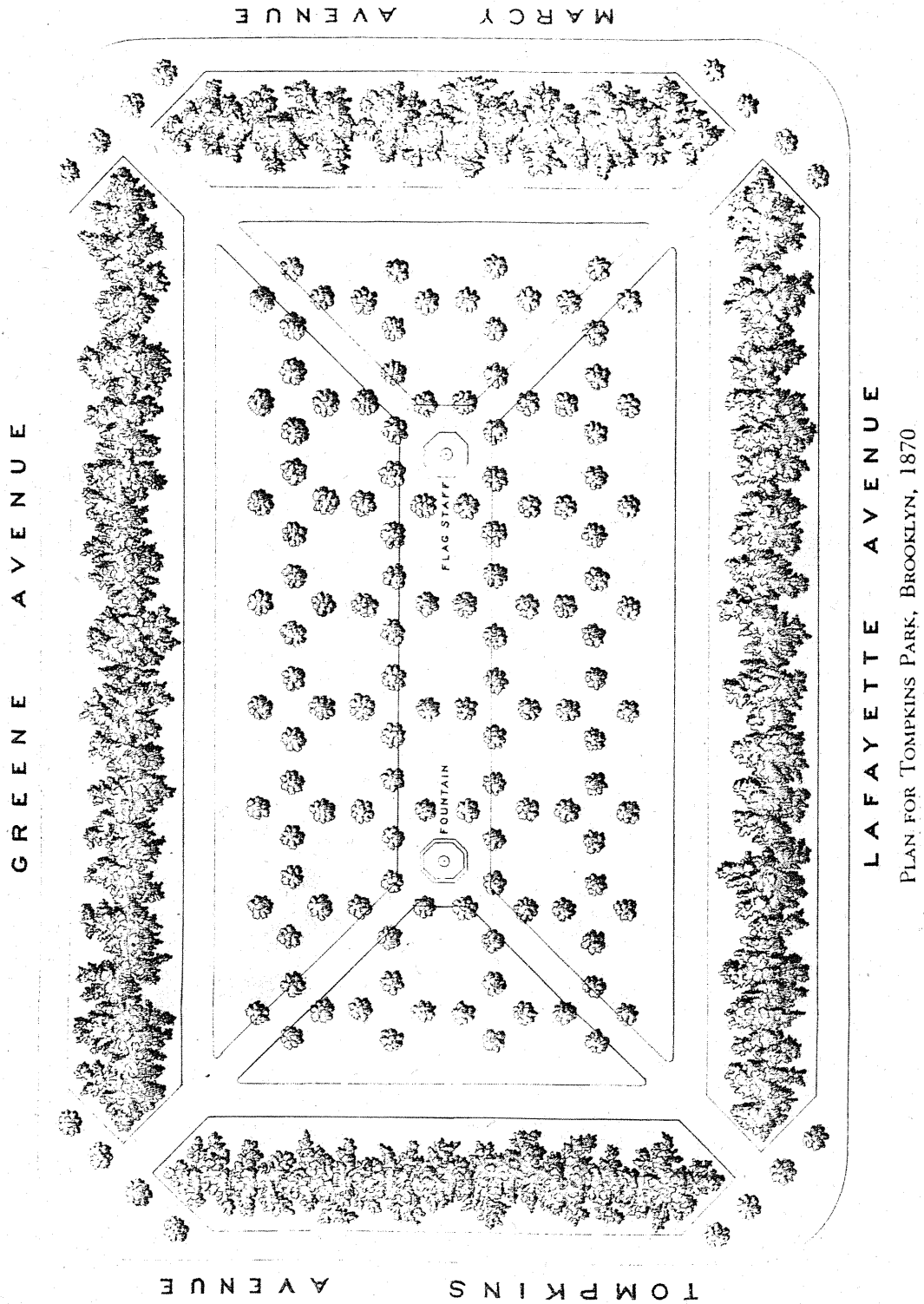


Figure I.1: Plan of Tompkins Square Park, Brooklyn, New York, 1870. Courtesy Beveridge collection.

Olmsted continued his work on small parks in the New York region by re-designing Union Square with Calvert Vaux in 1872 and make further alterations in 1874. In 1876 he produced a detailed plan for Tompkins Square in Manhattan. Although severely limited by the amount of space the city park commission wished to leave open as a military parade ground, he showed considerable ingenuity in providing interesting features for the corners of the park. For the special benefit of the women and children of the neighborhood, Olmsted created in one triangle a sheltered sitting area that would be warm and sunny in early Spring, while at another corner he prepared a secluded, shaded arbor that provided lush green foliage and a cool escape from the heat of Summer.

During the mid-1870s, Olmsted also made proposals for changes in the plans of Mount Morris Park, East River Park, and the Battery. When asked to propose projects for expenditure in 1874, he called for numerous improvements to the city's small parks. (To Henry G. Stebbins, May 19, 1874) In the Fall of 1876 he called again for considerable work in several small parks and squares. (To President of DPP, 4 Sept. 1876)

B. The Squares and Circles of Buffalo

The city of Buffalo, where Olmsted and Vaux designed a three-part park system with connecting parkways beginning in 1868, was also the site of at least eight small parks and squares for which Olmsted and his firm provided plans. (See Figures I.2 to I.7) In addition, they planned several large circles at the intersecting points of parkways. Several of the small parks were very simple settings for existing public open space, as, for instance, the 1887 plan for the Terrace Parks. (See Figure I.2) The others, as exemplified by plans for the Bennett Ground and for Masten Place, both of 1887. (See Figures I.3 & I.4) These block size, neighborhood parks have a simple pattern of paths, with some densely planted areas of shrubs, scattered trees elsewhere and an open central lawn. They exemplify the concept that Olmsted had set down a decade earlier for the small parks of Manhattan:

The best ideal which can be at all sustained in their management is that of a natural grove, through which walks have been carried with a certain degree of regard for convenient passage but with such indirectness as has been necessary to avoid the chance placed trees." (To President of DPP, 4 Sept 1876)

The significant experimentation in small public spaces that the Olmsted firm carried out in Buffalo was not the traditional city square, as in Rochester, but rather circles and squares that served as nodes of the extensive parkway system that the firm designed for that city. The most ambitious of these was Niagara Square: it was at the crossing point of three major streets, which left very little open ground for landscape treatment. (See Figure I.5) Most of the area of the half-dozen circles in the parkway system was likewise used for the passage of vehicles and consisted of little more than a central fountain and small planted circle with, as in North Street Circle, triangular wedges of grass, trees and shrubs between the entering streets. (See Figure I.6)

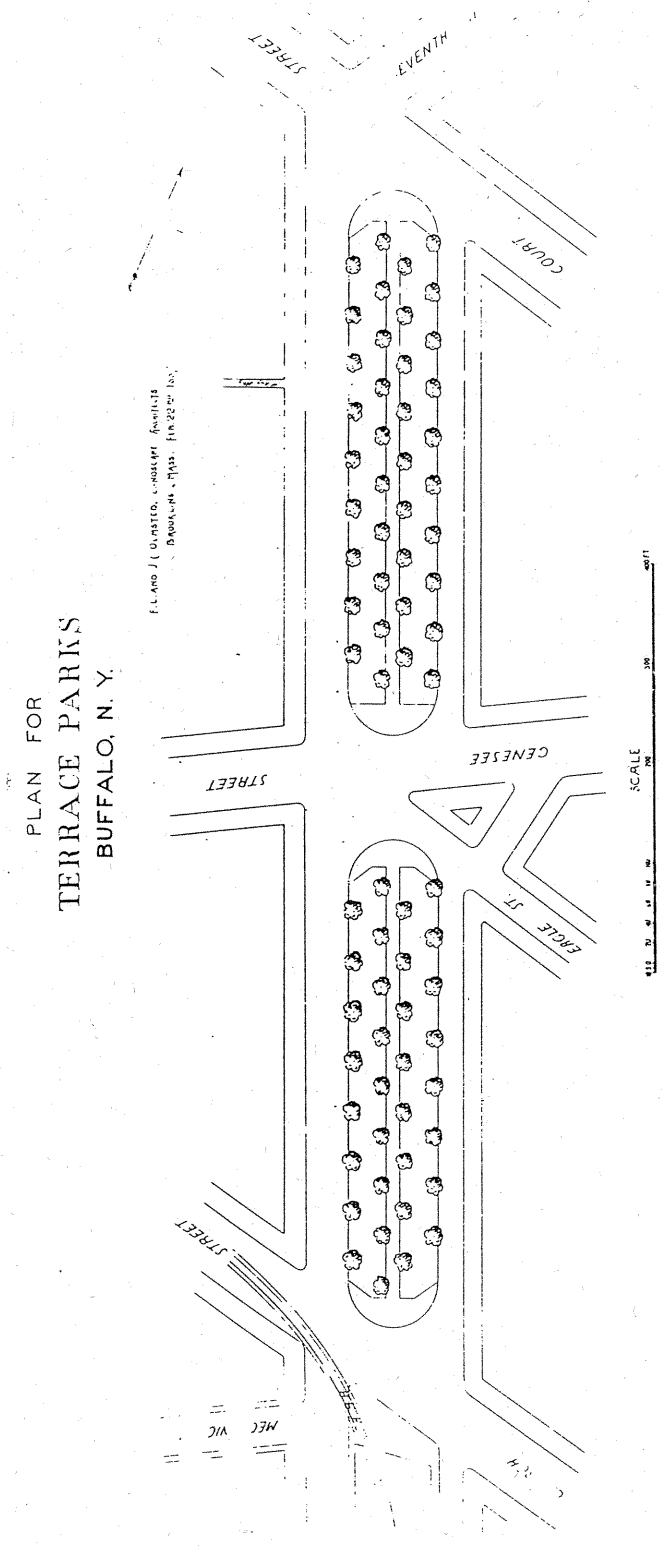


Figure I.2: Plan for Terrace Parks, Buffalo, New York, F.L. & J.C. Olmsted, Landscape Architects, Brookline, Mass, February 22, 1887. Courtesy Beveridge collection.

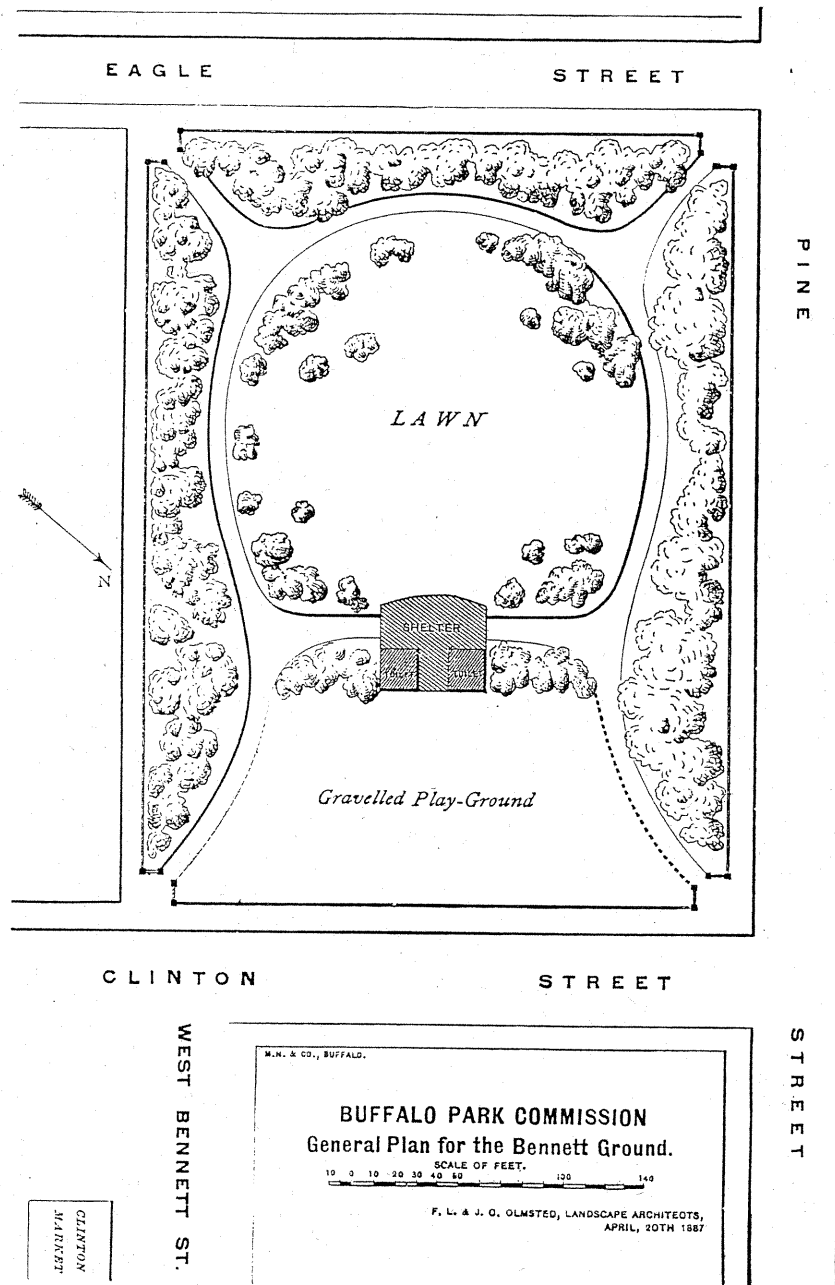


Figure I.3: General Plan for Bennett Ground, Buffalo Park Commission, F.L. & J.C. Olmsted, Landscape Architects, April 20th, 1887. Courtesy Beveridge collection.

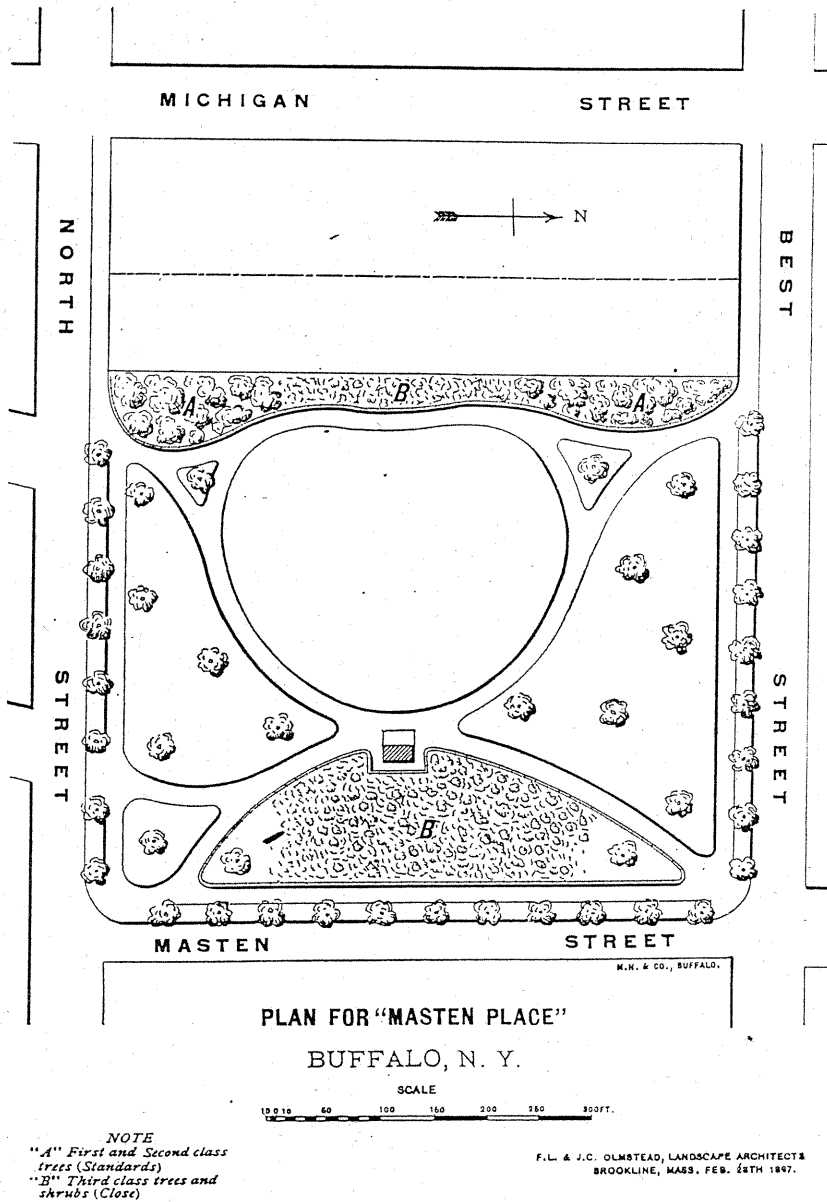


Figure I.4: Plan for Masten Place, Buffalo, N.Y., F.L. & J.C. Olmsted, Landscape Architects, Brookline, Mass. Feb. 28th, 1887. Courtesy Beveridge collection.

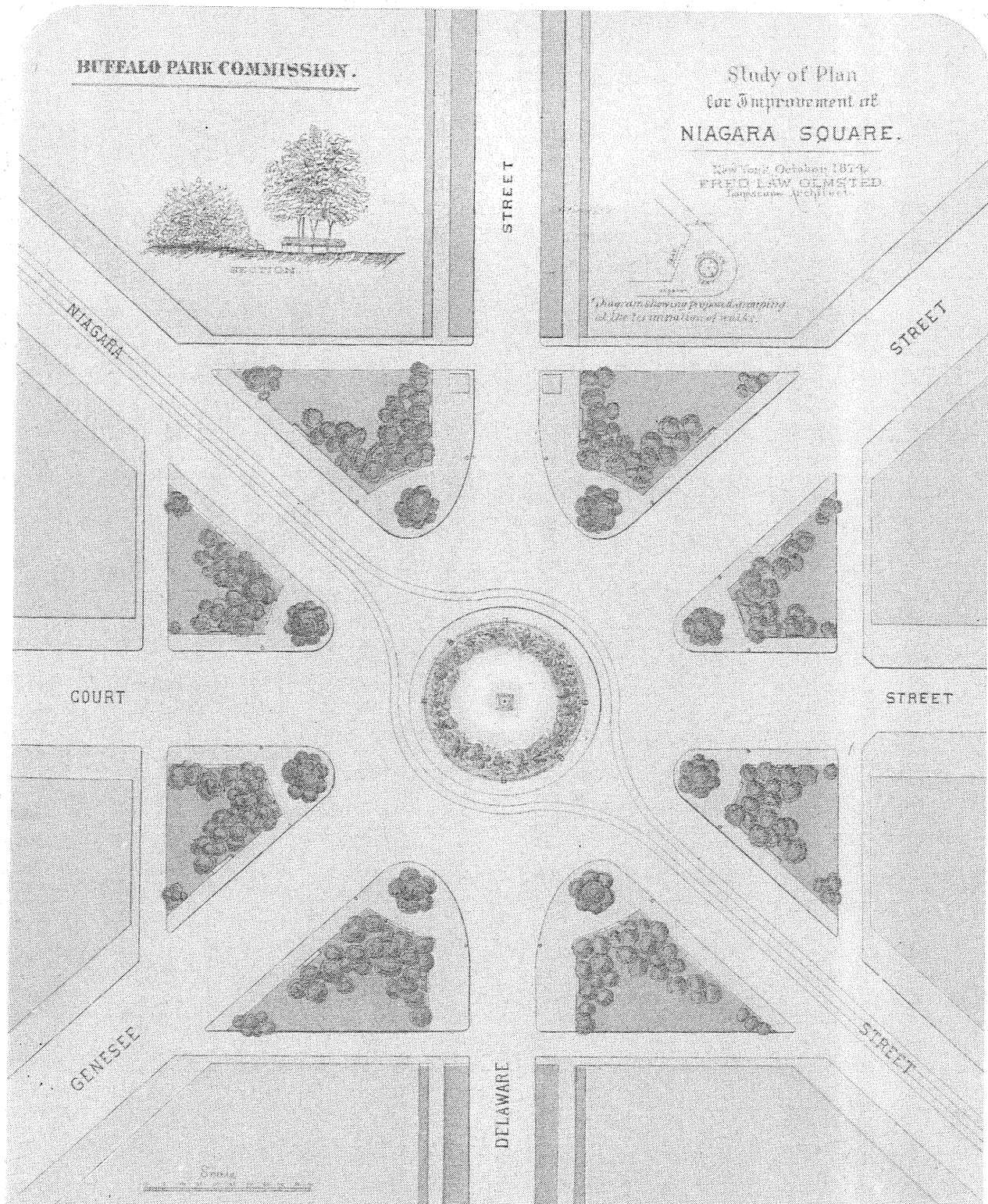


Figure I.5: Study of Plan for Improvement of Niagara Square, Buffalo Park Commission, October 1874, Fred. Law Olmsted, Landscape Architect. Courtesy Beveridge collection.

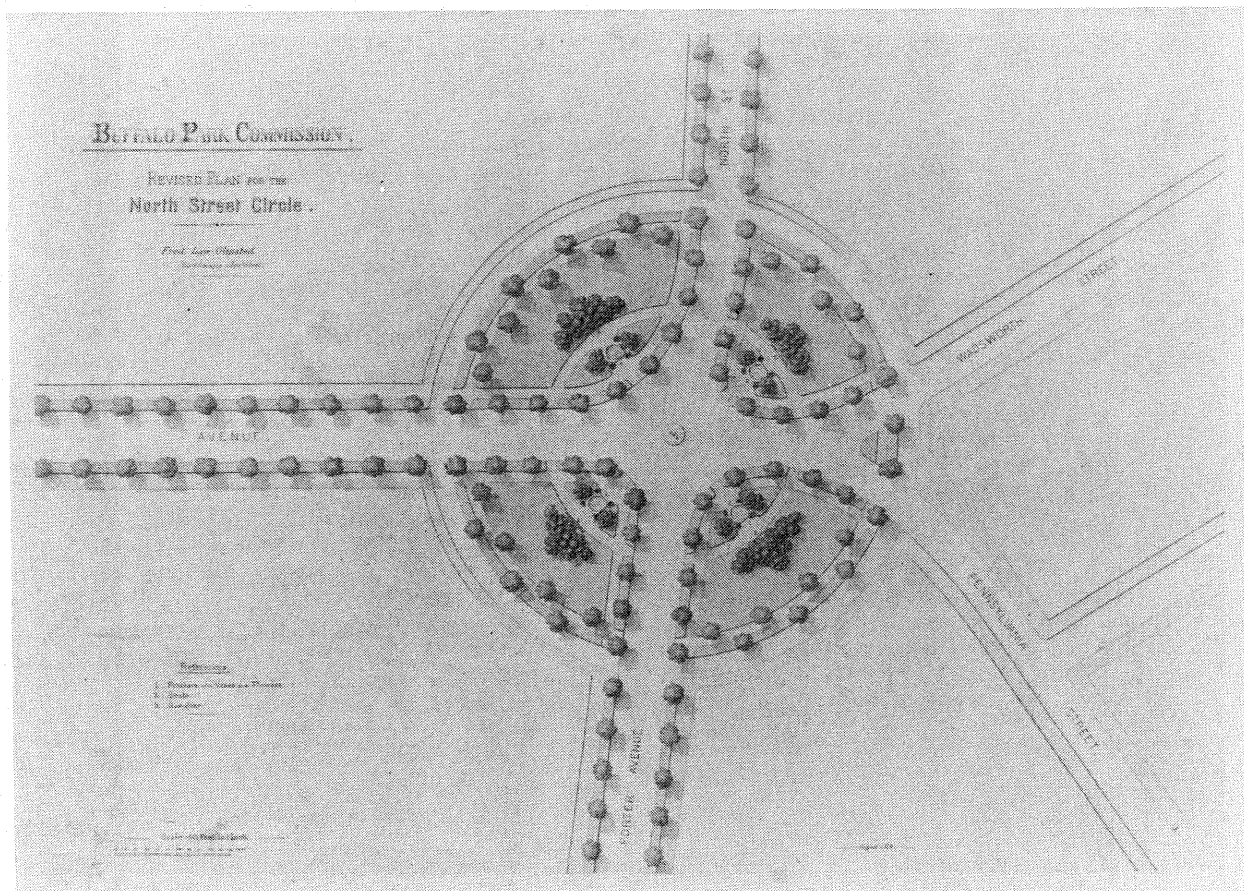


Figure I.6: Revised Plan for North Street Circle, Buffalo Park Commission, Fred. Law Olmsted, Landscape Architect. Courtesy Beveridge collection.

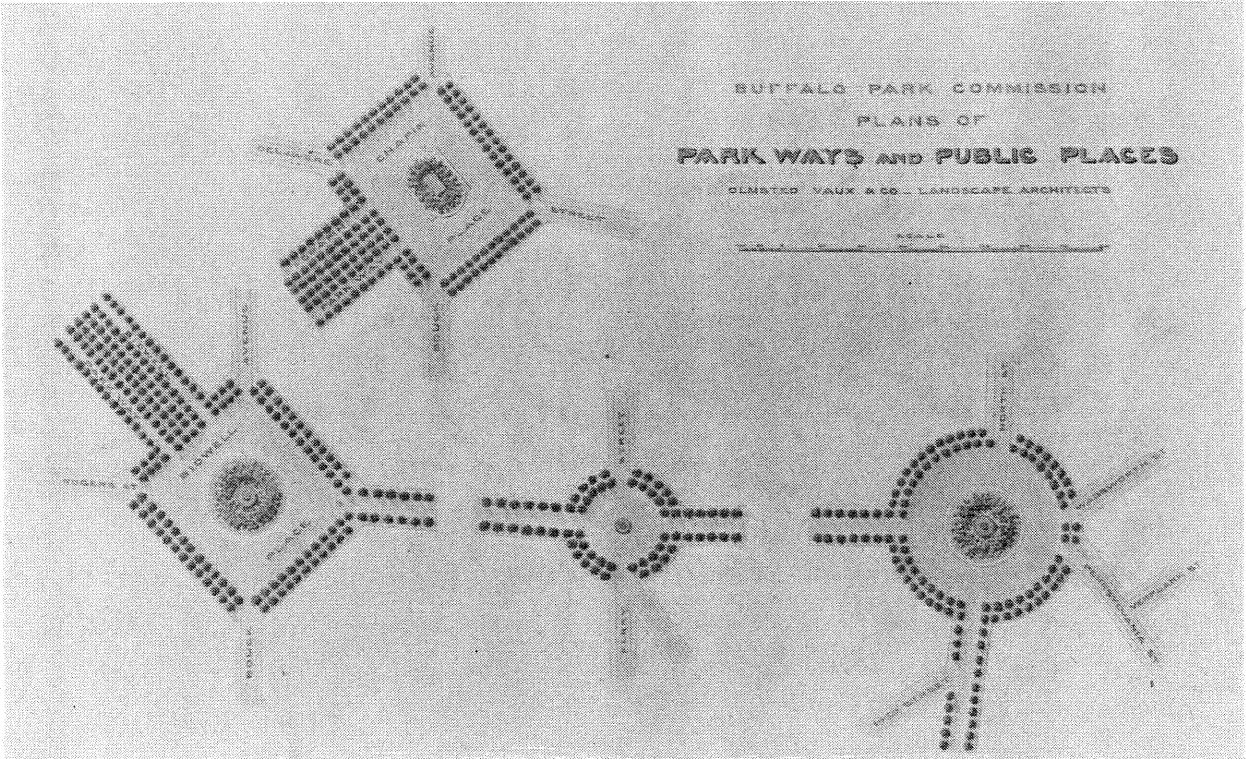


Figure I.7: Parkways and Public Places, Buffalo Park Commission, Olmsted Vaux & Company, Landscape Architects. Courtesy Beveridge collection.

C. Mount Vernon Place in Baltimore

As with all his other landscape design work, Olmsted was anxious with each new commission to create a unique, functional, and appropriate design. A good illustration of this is the way he planned the four rectangular spaces adjoining the Washington Monument at Mt. Vernon Place in Baltimore. The rectangles extended out from Mt. Vernon Square, two on fairly level ground and two, facing south and east, on a steep hillside. Olmsted warned against laying out the spaces in a "common, modest, inexpensive way, such as would be suitable if they were designed for the use of a respectable family, or even a score or two of respectable families:" (to J.M. Lanahan, December 23, 1876)

In the first place gardens of that character, in the midst of a public place and in direct association with dignified public structures, would seem puerile, paltry and fussy and, in the second place, they would be actually cramped and inconvenient; they would consequently be ill used and a shabby and forlorn aspect would become inevitable.

If, on the other hand, a broad simple arrangement should be attempted consisting of a spacious alley extending from end to end of each plot, bordered by symmetrical strips of turf and set in the midst of a formal avenue of trees, the grounds would assume a more intimate and important relation to the monument than they have at present, namely that of exterior halls or grand approaches.

But the walls, ramps, steps, and other architectural features for so formal a setting would be expensive, he warned, and the four approaches would be "very much the same and in each case would be monotonous, formal and stern rather than cheerful or entertaining." He therefore proposed instead to select "a general theme . . . to borrow a term from music." In this approach, "each of the four plots should present a distinct movement, each movement admitting a contrast in detail with all others." The theme he chose was the seasons. A wall at the monument end of each square would have a fountain with a sculpture in relief emblematic of one of the seasons. The garden beyond would echo the theme of the fountain and at the same time be arranged to be especially attractive during that season:

For example, I would have one fountain framed in Cyclopean masonry, to be run over by ivy and let the garden below it be adapted to and take its character largely from evergreen shrubbery. The frame of another should simulate a cool grotto and the garden below it be provided with shaded walks; a third should indicate harvest bounty, and the garden below it rural quietness with the bright hues of the foliage and flowers of the ripening year. In the fourth fountain, placed lower than the others on the south side, the waters from all the rest should unite and burst out again and again, and in coverts sheltered from the winds and open to the sun there should be the earliest bloom and verdure of the year.

Because of the narrowness of the four spaces, Olmsted doubted that there was sufficient room to design in the naturalistic style of his parks, and instead recommended that the intent should be "to secure something of the quaint character of the old fashioned flower garden, always maintaining, however, largeness of scale and convenience of passage and looking more to turf and shrubs for decoration than to florist's materials."

This project indicates Olmsted's willingness to depart from the naturalistic style of his parks when the space he was designing and its intended function would limit the success of that sort of landscape. It is also an excellent illustration of the ingenuity that Olmsted applied to the design of even small public spaces, and the extent to which he always had a particular, coherent character in mind for each space. However, we seldom have so explicit a description as he provided for the Mt. Vernon Place spaces, and must instead deduce the design intent from plans and planting lists.

The Olmsted firm's planning of such small public spaces, then, both during Olmsted's career and after, did not involve the production of repetitive, cookie-cutter designs. The small parks of Rochester are a particularly interesting demonstration of the variety of plans that the firm could produce in a single city.

D. The Small Parks and Squares of Rochester in the 1890s

The small-park design work of the Olmsted firm in Rochester fell into two major periods. The first came while the larger parks were being constructed, and concentrated in the period 1892-1895. In that period, the Olmsted firm drew up plans for Plymouth Park, Washington Square, Franklin Square, and Jones Square. (See Figures II.9, II.14, II.24 and II.36, in Chapter II.) All of these replaced the Rochester traditional path system of diagonal and rectangular forms, providing instead symmetrical plans with curvilinear patterns, and greater variety of planting.

The plan for Plymouth Park is particularly interesting for the organic flow of the walk and the size of the shrub masses behind the four seats. The firm kept the four entrances of the original diagonal paths and transformed the space from the extreme simplicity of two crossing paths to a remarkably organic and curvilinearly-defined space. Many trees were removed, and left only near the streets, so that the interior was open and sunny. The combination of openness and enclosure that the shrub masses provide for the four large seats is unique, so far as I know, in Olmsted's design career.

In the Jones Square of 1895 the Olmsted firm proposed to do away with the existing straight-line paths (as they did not in their plan of 1901) and followed the concept of the Plymouth Park plan with all walks following curving lines. The interior of the square was turf and scattered trees. The plan included a small pool for children's play and a large arbor. However, the plan was not carried out and the firm created a very different design in 1901.

The designs for Franklin and Washington squares are similar to each other in that they have symmetrical plans with walks that create panels with geometrical shapes, with curved edges on their interior sides and straight edges only on the outside. Both have seats that face toward the center of the square (and, in the case of Washington Square, toward the monument). In the case of Washington Square, the Olmsted firm retained the key pathway element, two crossing diagonals, but made them curvilinear. In the plan of August 26, 1892, they added a heavy boundary planting of shrubs on all sides, and behind each of the interior seats. They also removed several trees in order to open up the space, especially near the center. In this version, four of the six seats are on the panels of turf and trees that extend into the park from Court and Wood streets, and the seats face outward toward S. Clinton and South streets. In the later plan of February 1, 1893, the firm removed the heavy shrub plantings at the sidewalk edge along

South and S. Clinton streets, and added masses of shrubs at the interior points of the Wood and Court Street panels, where the earlier plan had placed drinking fountains. A further change in shrub massing occurred because of a change in the placing of seats: in the 1893 plan, all six seats were sited, facing toward the interior, on the South and S. Clinton street panels and each was backed by a large mass of shrubs of numerous species. This made the park more inward-oriented and opened up the Wood and Court street panels.

In the case of Franklin Square plan of 1894, the firm made a greater change in the path system. The existing system was two crossing diagonals with another straight line path running through the center along the long axis of the square. This created six triangular panels of trees and grass. The Olmsted firm created ten panels around the outside and a central oval panel. This design may have made optimum use of the existing trees: no planting plan has survived to indicate placement of trees and shrubs by the Olmsted firm.

One further park space that Olmsted designed in Rochester during this period was the short section of parkway on Paine Street running that appears on the published 1893 general plan of Seneca Park. It runs on Paine Street for a little more than two blocks, from the west side of the park to slightly beyond Lake Avenue. It is 150 feet wide between the two outside sidewalks with four rows of trees planted opposite each other in a line from one side to the other, two rows being planted on a central median strip and two rows between the vehicle drives and the sidewalks. It is thus less wide than the major parkways Olmsted created in Buffalo, with their width of 200 feet and six to eight rows of trees. But it has the same simplicity and formality and was designed for the same park-like effect, as described by Olmsted in a report to the Buffalo park commissioners: a pleasure ground "suitable for a short stroll, for a playground for children and an airing ground for invalids," providing "a scene of sylvan beauty, and with the sounds and sights of the ordinary town business, if not wholly shut out, removed to some distance and placed in obscurity." The parkway itself, he observed would be "more park-like than town-like." (Olmsted, Vaux & Co. to William Dorsheimer, October 1, 1868, in Buffalo, N.Y., Park Commission, Preliminary Report Respecting a Public Park in Buffalo (Buffalo, N.Y., 1869), pp. 25-26) The treatment of the parkway on the plan suggests that it was intended to extend several blocks west of Lake Avenue, but no description of it or other plans for it exist.

There is no evidence that the Olmsted firm prepared the 1895 plan for Wadsworth Square [although it was named for a distant relative of Olmsted's], but the waving "X" pattern of the walks, shown in period plat books, does resemble the Olmsted firm's plan of 1887 for Masten Place in Buffalo.

E. The Small Parks and Squares of Louisville

It is instructive to compare these spaces with the four small parks that Olmsted and his partners were designing in Louisville, Kentucky at the same time. This was the time, beginning in 1891, when the firm was designing that city's three-part park system and connecting parkways. These were: Boone Square, Logan Place, Kenton Place, and Baxter Square in 1892 and Court House Square in 1895.

Kenton Place and Logan Place, totalling one-half acre in size, were simply block-long median strips on Market Street, with strips of turf under formal rows of trees on the outer edges and a wide promenade down the center and a formal water feature and seats in the middle. (See Figure I.8) The vine-clad arbor that enclosed the water basin in Logan Place was particularly attractive. In four-acre Boone Square and (presumably) in two-acre Baxter Square, Olmsted had enough space to develop new forms of the local square/park/playground. Boone Square contained many of the usual elements: trees around much of the outside, masses of shrubs further in, and curving interior circuit walks encircling an open area of turf and scattered trees. (See Figure I.9) At one end, closer to the edge, were separate play areas for infants and little children, with covered seats for the adults in charge of them. At several points there were seats on the paths, facing inward with their backs to the street.

The second stage of the Olmsted firm's planning of small parks for Louisville coincided with the second stage of the firm's work in Rochester as well. During the period 1900-1909 the firm designed 4-acre Elliott Park and 7-acre William V. Stansbury Park (1900), 16-acre Central Park (1904), 13-acre Tyler Park (1906) and 16-acre Shelby Park (1907). These were Progressive-Era playground/parks with athletic facilities and field houses. Most of the area of Central Park consisted of greensward and a grove of trees with curving paths running through it. One quarter of Central Park was devoted to gymnastic facilities, tennis courts and an area for children's play. (See Figure I.10) Elliott Park and several others were devoted almost entirely as playground areas with athletic facilities. Elliott Park also had formally-arranged rows of trees and a small formal concert grove near the center. (See Figure I.11)

F. The Squares of Chicago

The city during the Progressive period where the Olmsted firm experimented most extensively with the design of playground/parks with field houses was Chicago. There, for the South Parks Commission for whom Olmsted and Vaux had designed Washington and Jackson parks and the connecting Midway Pleasance in 1871, and had re-designed Jackson Park after the World's Columbian Exposition was sited in it during 1893, the firm designed seven such parks beginning in 1903. These ranged from 18 to 57 acres in size and one, Marquette Park, in the southwestern corner of the city, was 312 acres. At the same time, the firm designed seven smaller parks, called squares, of from 4 to 10 acres (Hardin, Mark White, Armour, Fuller, Cornell, Russell, and Davis squares.) All of these, apparently, had field houses and playground/athletic facilities. Three of them were in the "congested, smoke- and stench-laden" stockyard district. (Henry G. Foreman, President, South Park Commission, "Chicago's New Park Service," *The Century Magazine*, Vol. LXIX (New Series, Vol. XLVII), November 1904 to April 1905, pp. 610-19)

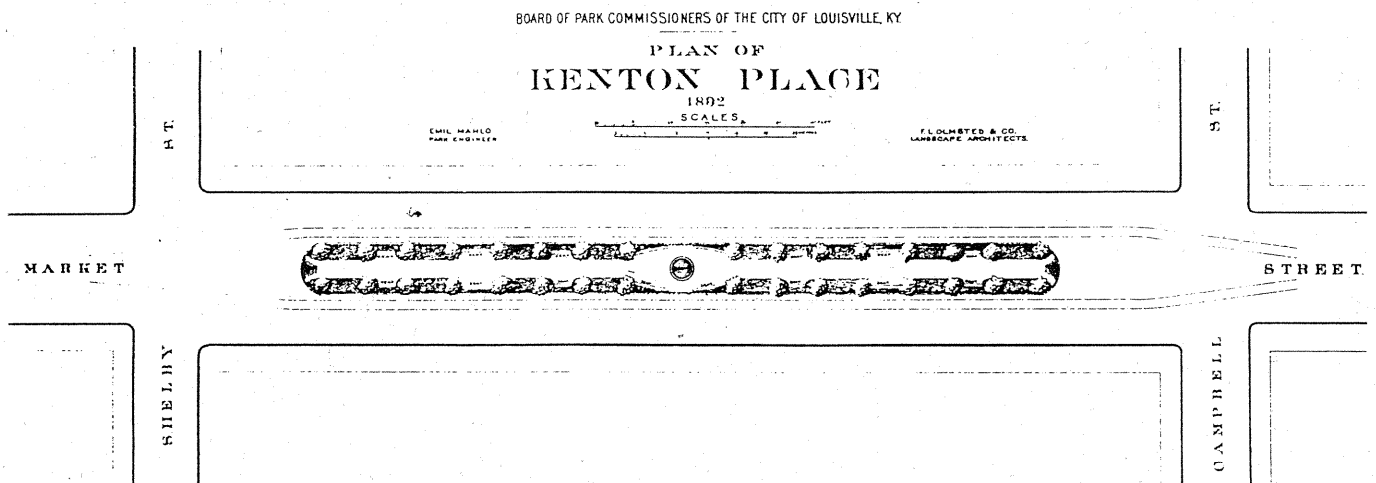
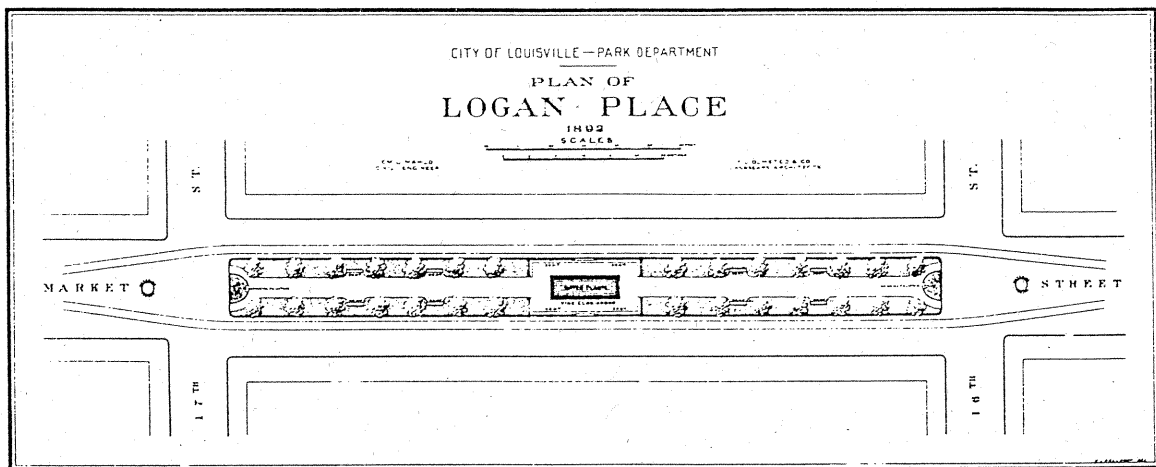


Figure I.8: Plans for Logan Place and Kenton Place, Louisville, KY, 1892, F.L. Olmsted & Company, Landscape Architects, Emil Mahlo, Park Engineer. Courtesy Beveridge collection.

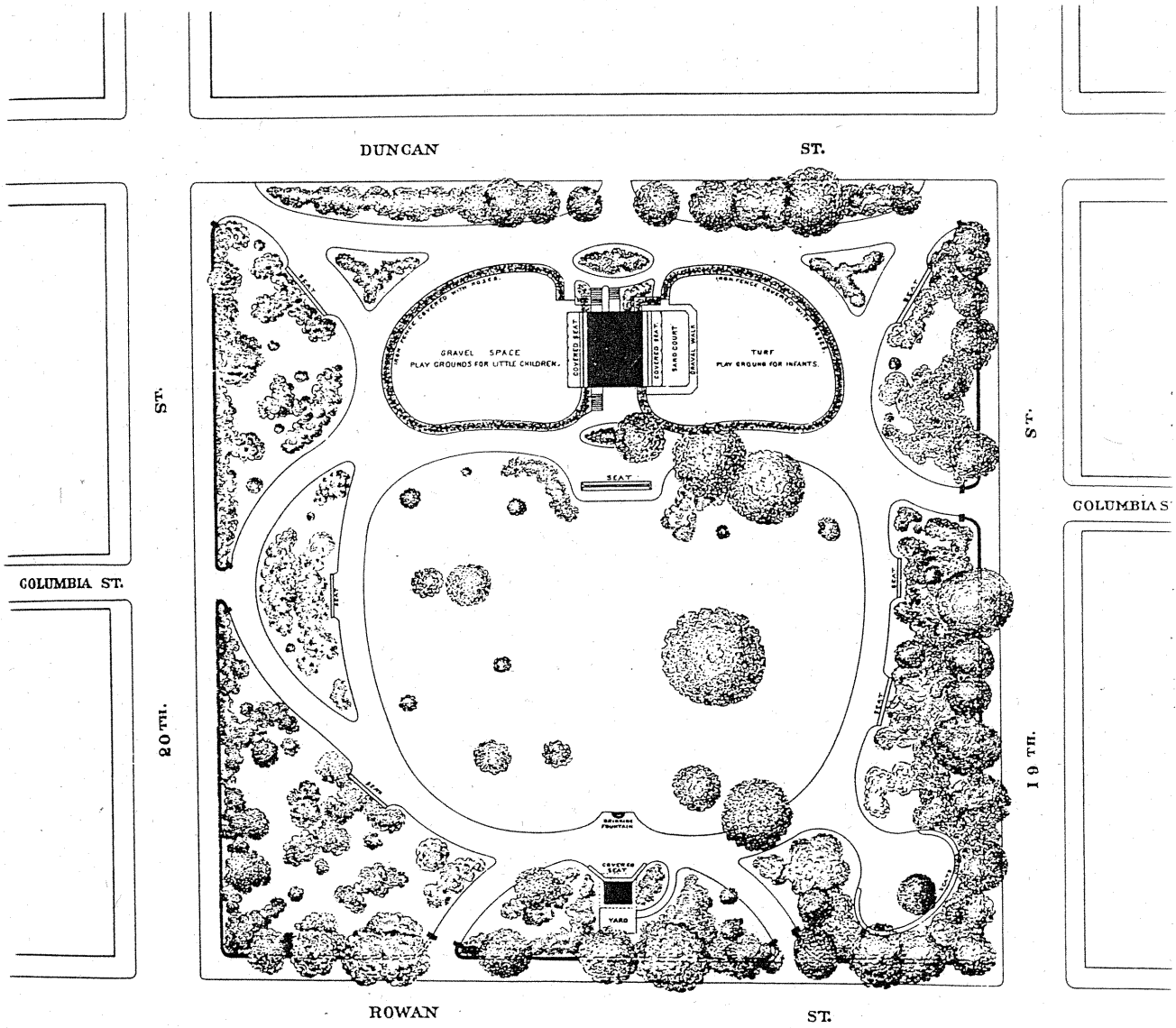


Figure I.9: Plan of Boone Square, Louisville, KY, undated. Courtesy Beveridge collection.

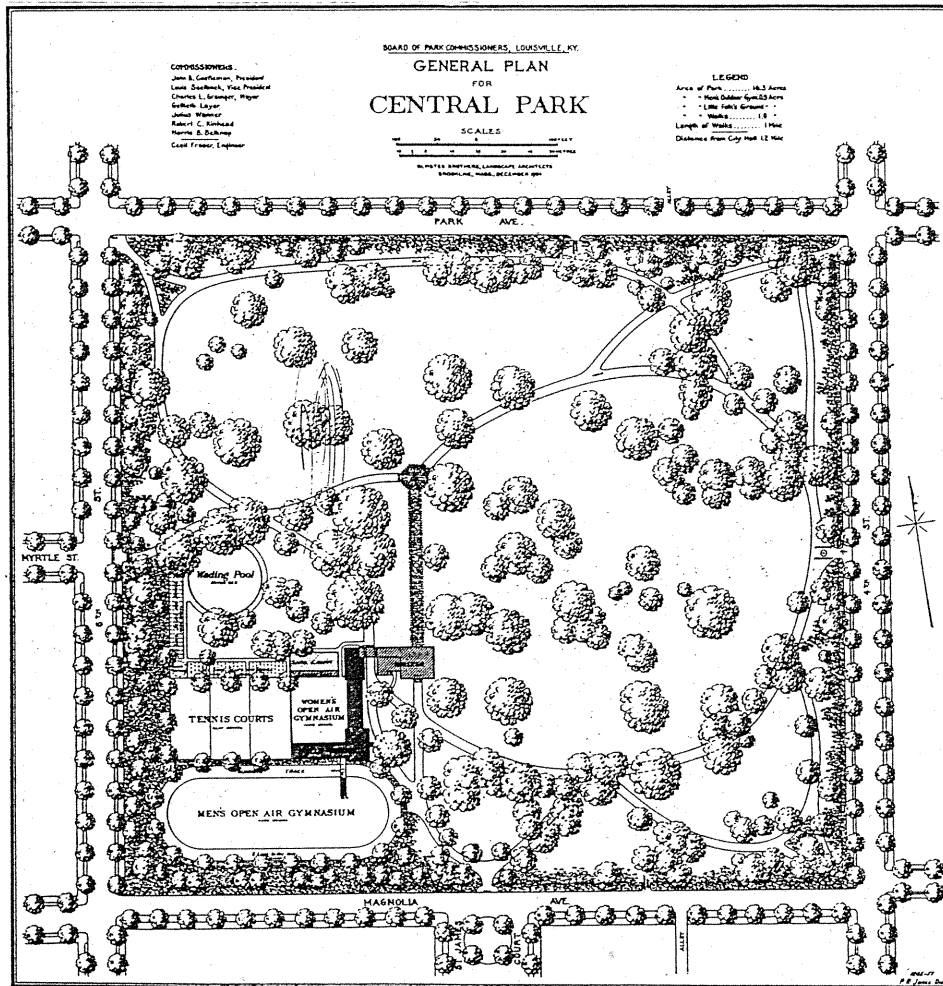


Figure I.10: General Plan for Central Park, Board of Park Commissioners, Louisville, KY, Olmsted Brothers, Landscape Architects, Brookline, Mass., December, 1904. Courtesy Beveridge collection.

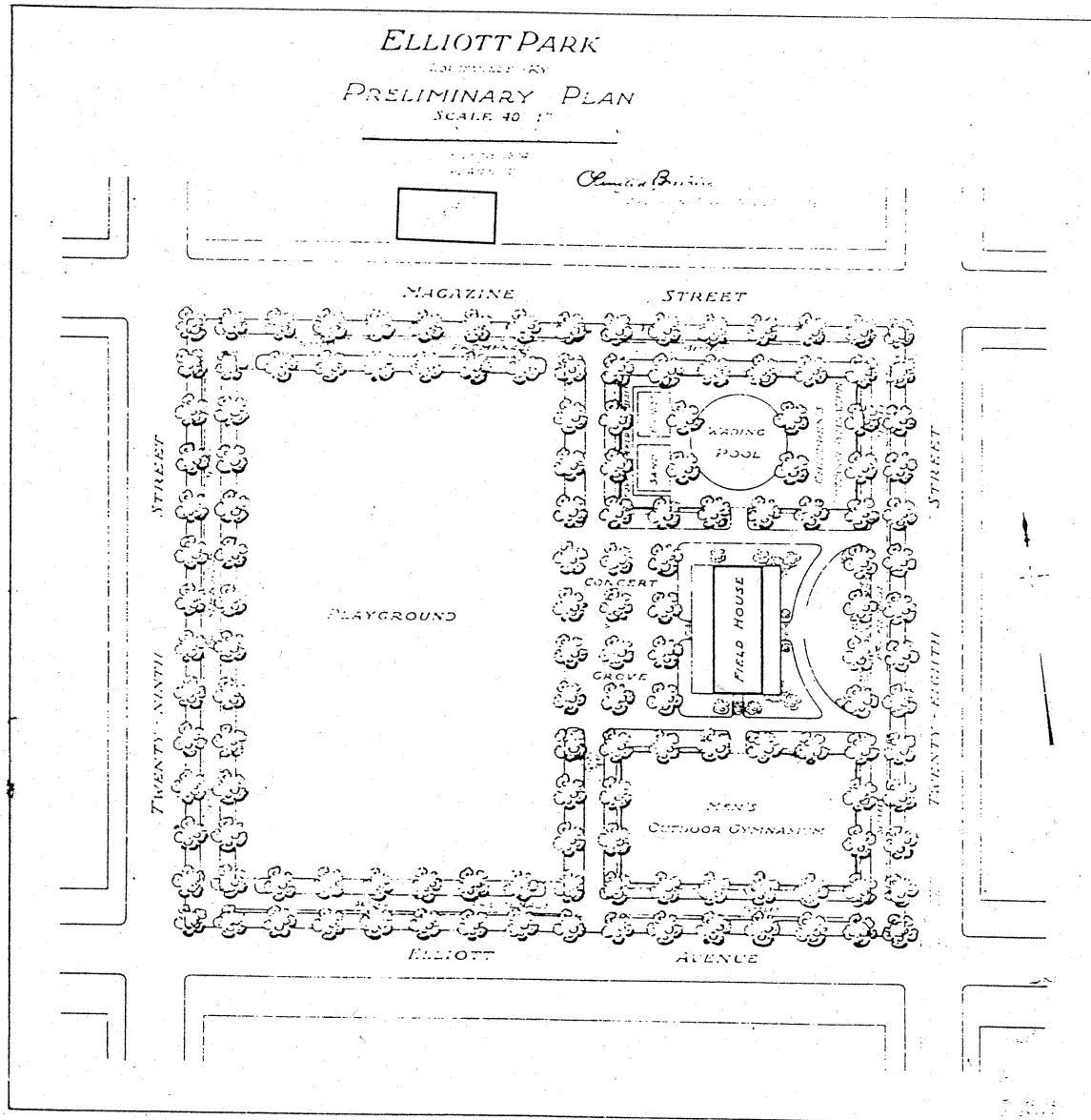


Figure I.11: Preliminary Plan Elliott Park, Louisville, KY, Olmsted Brothers. Courtesy Beveridge collection.

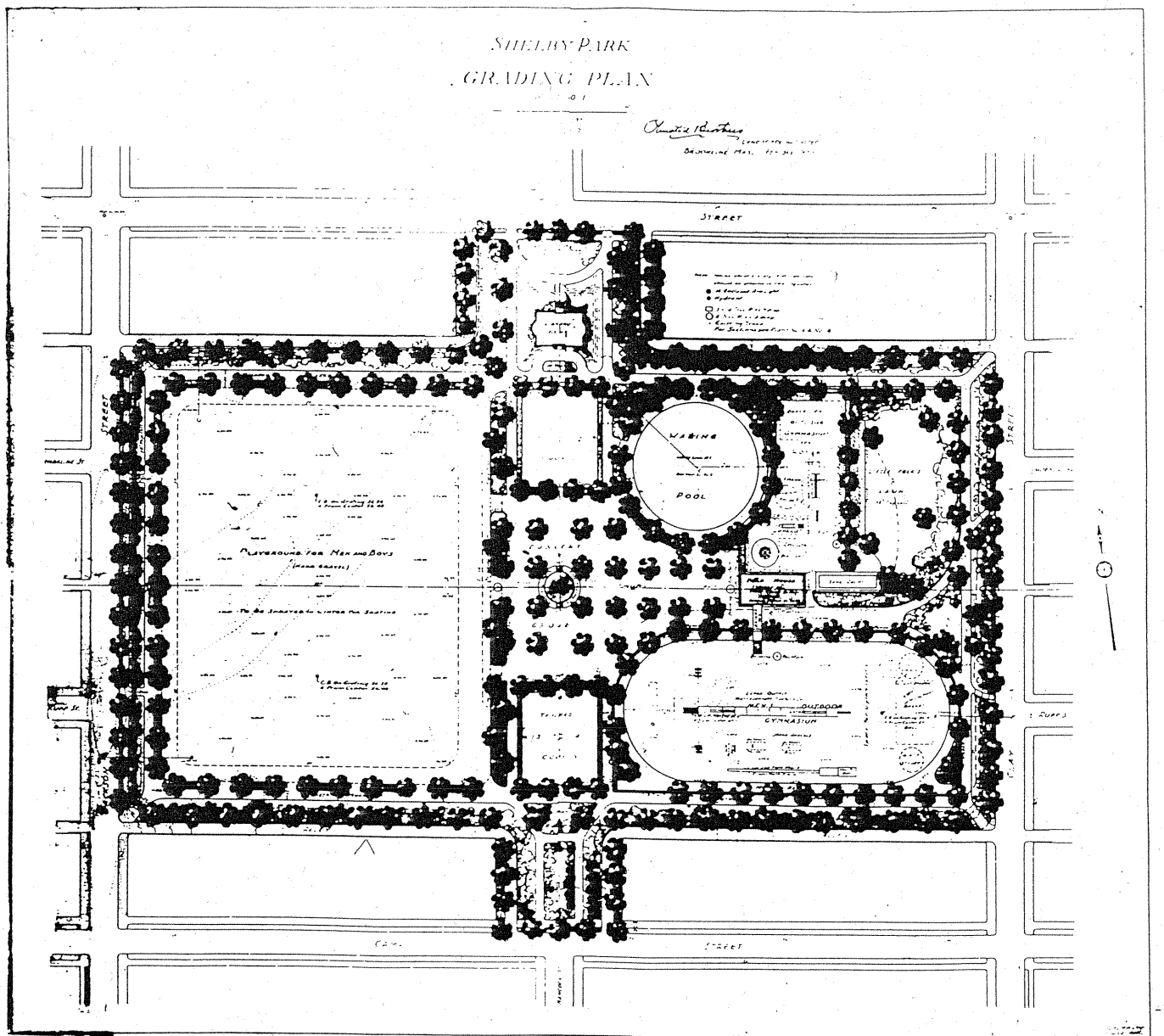


Figure I.12: Grading Plan Shelby Park, Louisville, KY, Olmsted Brothers, Brookline, Mass. Courtesy Beveridge collection.

CITY OF BROOKLYN - PARK DEPARTMENT -
BUSHWICK PARK
 Planting Plan.

Scale
 1" = 100'
 Proposed Building & Enclosure
 November, 1895, Jan. 22, 1895.

NOTE
 All the numbers in the original drawing are
 given in this plan. The numbers in the
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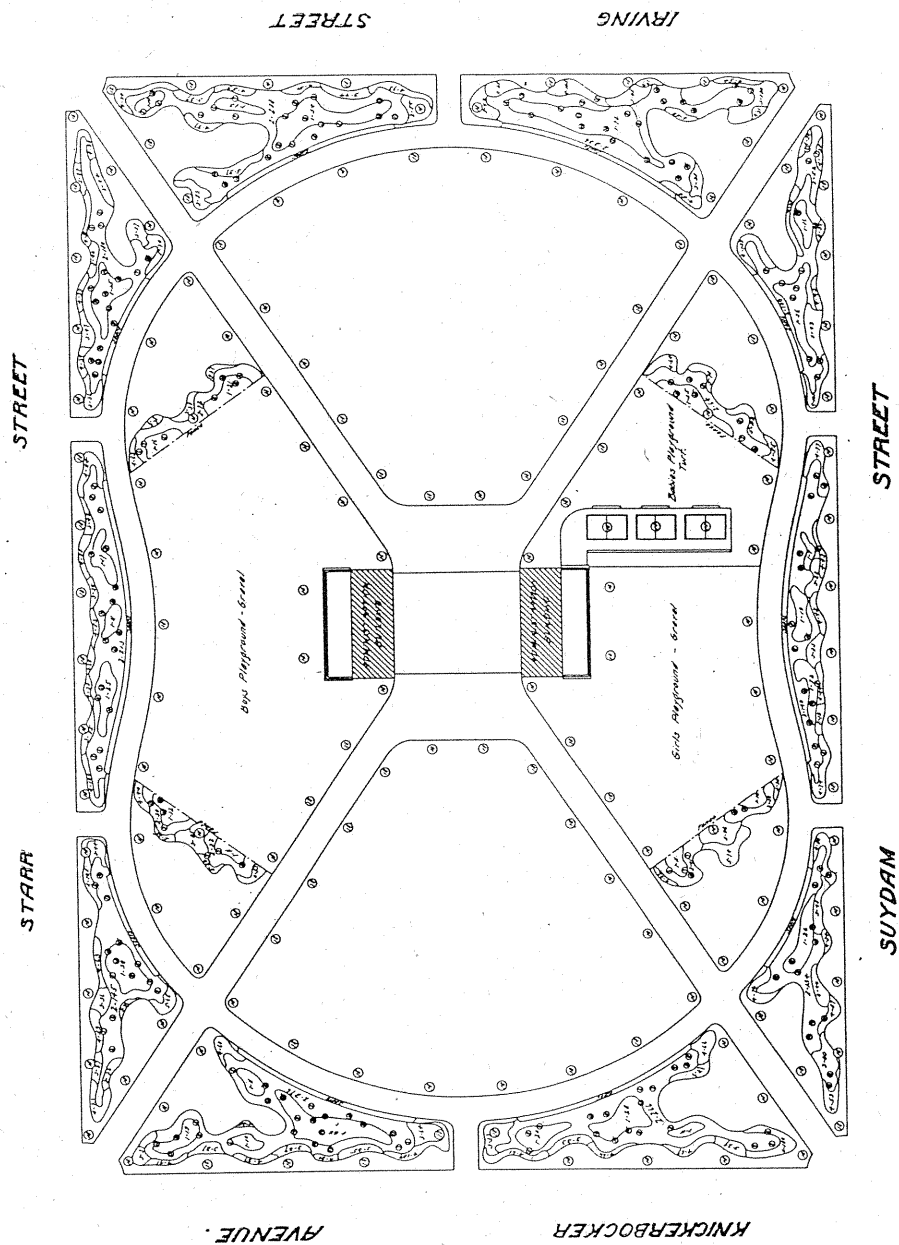


Figure I.13: Bushwick Park Planting Plan, City of Brooklyn, Park Department, Olmsted, Olmsted & Eliot, Landscape Architects, Brookline, Mass., Jan. 22, 1895. Courtesy Beveridge collection.

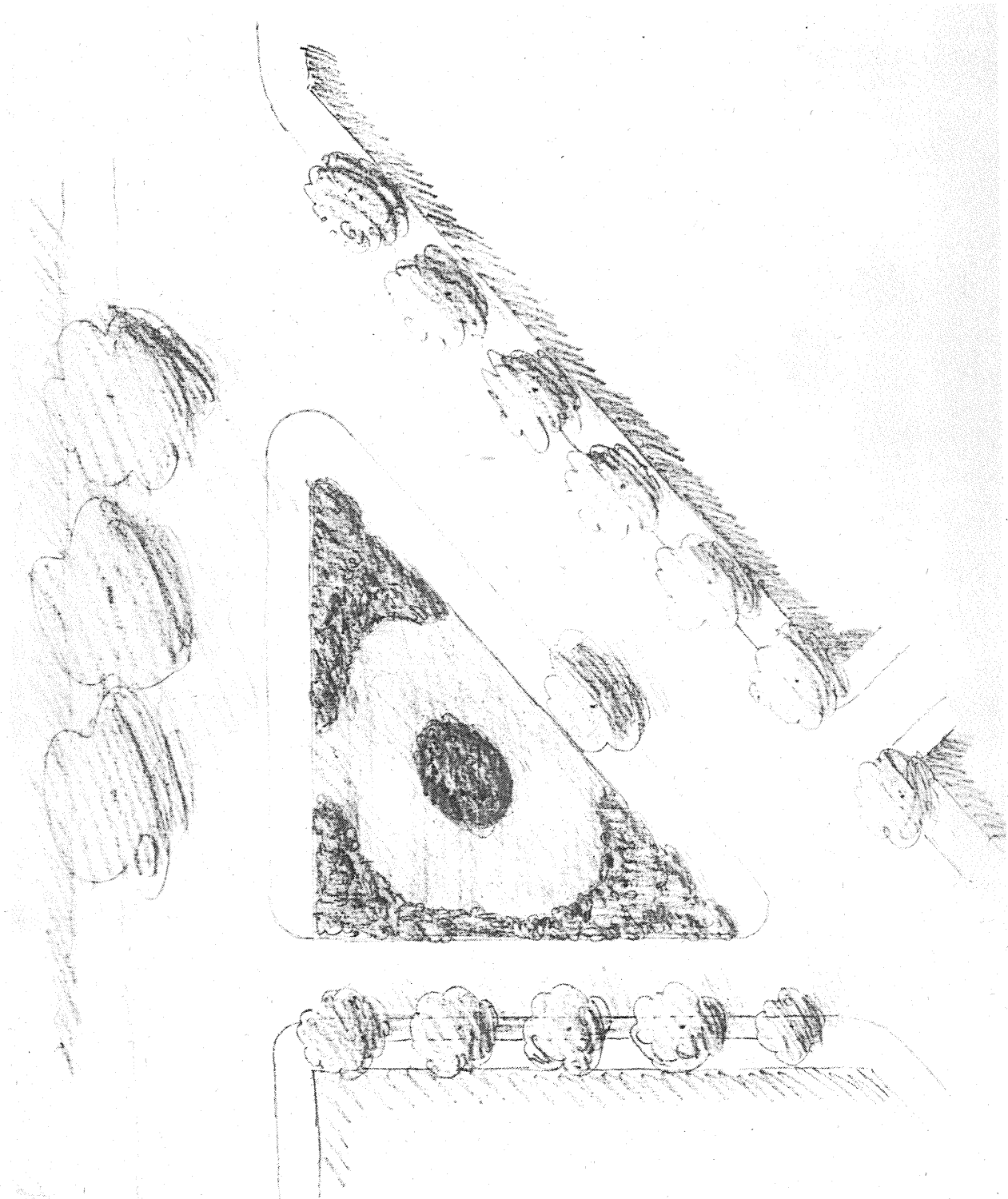


Figure I.14: Sketch of Convention Hall Triangle, Olmsted Brothers, Landscape Architects, Brookline, Mass., 1910. Courtesy of Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site.

G. The Small Parks and Squares of Rochester, 1901-1910

Although the Olmsted firm was deeply involved in designing playground/parks for Chicago's South Side, only one of the six small parks and squares designed for Rochester in the period 1901-10 (including Convention Hall Triangle of 1910) had a field house and athletic facilities. This was Brown Square; and the Olmsted plan was not carried out.

In the five other public spaces they designed, the Olmsted firm's staff simply extended the provision of areas for walking, sitting and informal games that they had begun in 1893 with Plymouth Park (Lunsford Square) and Washington Square. Thus, these already-existing small parks retained much of their original character and use. The Olmsted firm also preserved many of the existing trees, but thinned them out for more open space and sunlit areas of turf than usually was to be found in the existing parks. The Olmsted firm also tended to work with and retain part of the existing walkway system. This is clear in the 1901 plan for Jones Square, where the firm had proposed to eradicate the existing diagonal path system when it drew up plans in 1895. (See Figure II.9, in Chapter II) The 1901 plan retains the diagonal path system with its formal rows of silver maples, and an oval path near the outside is added. Curiously, the plan is very similar in this respect to the one drawn up by the firm for Bushwick Park [same dimensions as Jones Square] in Brooklyn in 1895, (See Figure 13), the year that it proposed to alter Jones Square so drastically. The rest of the treatment proposed in 1901 was unique, however--an attempt to satisfy the public desire for show and color without resorting to the time-consuming and expensive practice of bedding-out exotic plants and annual flowers.

The Olmsted firm's plan for Franklin Square (Susan B. Anthony) in 1904 retained the existing diagonal paths, but created a distinctive effect by having each section of the path divide so as to create a narrow oval panel that was to be planted with low evergreen shrubs, or mounded slightly and planted with evergreen ground cover. The Olmsted firm design also created a central circle, appropriate for a monument, and set seats in the circle and shaded them with four trees placed symmetrically between the inner ends of the ovals. The rest of the trees were arranged along the edge of the park, so that most of its center was unshaded turf. This required the removal of some two dozen existing trees in the interior of the square.

Riley Triangle, which the firm began to design in 1904, was to be open in the middle, with dense planting along the edges and slightly curving paths running near the edge on the two short sides, meeting at a pergola and shelter at the right-angle corner. In front of this structure, and extending a considerable distance into the lawn, was to be a large geometrically-shaped area for flowers. The design changed considerably in 1908, when the firm worked with the architectural firm of Carrere and Hastings to provide a richly detailed formal setting for the Schiller Monument. (See Figure II.2 in Chapter II)

Convention Hall Triangle of 1910 had even greater simplicity than the 1904 plan for Riley Triangle, but in this case the trees were to be on the roadside opposite the triangle, which was to have a dense edging of shrubs with flowers massed along its inside edge, and a small central flower bed set in a wide oval of turf that took up most of the triangle's limited area. (See Figure I.14)

Maple Grove Park, sited adjacent to the southwest corner of Seneca Park and next to the

Maplewood Rose Garden, had a similar simplicity. It contained a shelter like the one built by the city in Jones Square in c. 1903, and its homeliness caused the Olmsted firm much regret. The firm proposed to add a band stand and to run a few curving paths down from Lake Avenue above. The principal landscape feature was the remarkable grove of hardwoods on the site, and the enjoyment of them and their shade was the principal purpose of the design.

Conclusion

This analysis demonstrates that there was a simplicity of treatment combined with imagination and variety of effect in the small parks and squares planned by the Olmsted firm in Rochester. The result was an unusual series of examples of the small public square. The spaces designed are smaller than those in most other cities where the Olmsted firm was working at the same time, which may account for the simplicity and symmetry of the plans. Moreover, the twentieth-century small parks and squares designed by the firm in Louisville and Chicago were for the most part playground parks, and so represent a quite different segment of the work of the firm. And none of the small public spaces designed by the firm in Buffalo have the character and interest of the Rochester squares. The legacy of small square design still possessed by Rochester, despite the decimation of Franklin Square and Riley Triangle by the Inner Loop, is unique. Jones Square, Susan B. Anthony Square, Lunsford Circle, and Washington Square, with the Olmsted design considerably intact in all but Lunsford Circle, provide a rare opportunity for preservation and restoration of a significant form of Olmsted's public space design.

Chapter I Illustration Acknowledgements

The park images presented in this chapter have been gathered from historic park reports in several cities. They are all in the collection of Charles Beveridge, PhD, Olmsted scholar. He extends thanks to all those who have provided these images over the years.

CHAPTER II



CHAPTER II: INDIVIDUAL PARK HISTORY, OLMSTED INFLUENCES, CHRONOLOGY & REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

Each of the ten parks included in this project is addressed in this chapter. An intensive research phase led to this compilation of findings. The scope of the work is to address each of these parks with a comprehensive planning and management approach. An important basis for this planning is a thorough understanding of the history of these varied community parks. Each of these landscapes has been investigated from its history to the present. Using both written and graphic documents the following report summarizes the findings of the research.

The parks are arranged in alphabetical order using their current name. Several of the park names have changed over time and earlier names are noted after the current name. The first date of City ownership is also noted. The chapter presents several pages of data on each park in the following order:

- A. Anderson Park, Riley Triangle, 1904
- B. Brown Square, 1822
- C. Jones Square, 1837
- D. Lakeview Park, 1850
- E. Lunsford Circle, Plymouth Park, Caledonia Square, 1824
- F. Maplewood Rose Garden, part of Seneca Park, 1895
- G. Schiller Park, Franklin Park, 1826
- H. Seneca Parkway, part of Seneca Park, 1892
- I. Susan B. Anthony Park, Madison Square, 1837
- J. Wadsworth Square, 1835
- K. Washington Square, 1818

While Washington Square (1818) and Brown Square (1822) were the first small parks to appear in the City, five more parks were added to the public open spaces by 1837. All but two of these parks, Brown Square and Wadsworth Square, were considerably influenced by Olmsted office planning the late nineteenth or early twentieth century. The text for each park is organized under a series of headings: 1. Origins/Early History, 2. Olmsted Influences, 3. Early Twentieth Century, 4. Recent History, 5. Reference Documents.

A. ANDERSON PARK, RILEY TRIANGLE

1. Origins/Early History

Anderson Park was originally called Riley Triangle. It was acquired by the City in 1904 by purchase. (Raitt, 1929) The Park Commission purchased the land and beautified it upon the urging of downtown businessmen. (McKelvey, 1988) Common Council meeting minutes from 1906 indicate that a large quantity of tulips were planted at the park in the fall of 1905. At that time the park was used in the winter as a skating ring for the neighborhood.

During the same period the Olmsted firm was contacted. Problems arose with the mature trees in the park. Many trees were removed because of poor health. "Anderson Park was used as a skating rink as long as the ice lasted, and in the spring all the crowding and dying trees were cut down. The ground was graded and a bed made according to the plans of the landscape architect." (Annual Report, 1906) Changes proposed by the Olmsted firm included addition of decorative flower beds. In 1907, Common Council minutes indicate that "the ground was graded and a bed made according to the plans of the landscape architect. Manure could not be obtained so commercial fertilizers were used and blue grass, red top, and white clover seed sowed. Bedding plants were put into the flower bed for the summer and in the fall 1,000 tulip bulbs were planted."

The annual report from February 1907 indicates the desire of some German citizens to place a statue of Schiller in Anderson Park, formerly Riley Triangle. January 10, 1908 the park board authorized erection of Schiller monument in the west apex of Anderson Park, under the direction of Olmsted Brothers.

2. Olmsted Influences

Initial contact was made with the Olmsted firm in 1904 to provide alternative designs for the improvement of the triangle. A report of the visit by JC Olmsted in June 2, 1904 states "I showed them [Lamberton & Laney] our plan [Preliminary plan 112-3 of May 23, 1904] but they immediately said they did not think the members of the board who were especially interested in this Triangle would agree to it as they had intended a central decoration of flower beds and such like so that there will be a feature to be seen from each and all sides."

Plans from the Olmsted firm include a preliminary plan and a topographical survey with plants. The preliminary plan of May 23, 1904 shows the triangle with mature trees along all three edges. (See Figure II.1) Sidewalks follow the three edges and two curving paths connect to the shelter and pergola at the corner of University Avenue and Union Street. Lawn covers most of the central space of the park and three ornamental flower beds are found opposite the shelter. Stairs lead up to the back of the shelter from one corner of the park. The trees vary in size and some seem to be mature. Shrubs are found along the University Avenue and Union Street edges between the sidewalks and the curving interior paths.

Another plan shows spot elevations throughout the triangle and the location and names of the existing trees. This plan is dated May 17, 1904 and may show the existing conditions. Trees indicated on the park include Sugar Maple, American Elm, Silver Maple, Basswood, and Horsechestnut. All the trees are located along the street or beside the sidewalks, planted in formal lines. The largest trees shown are all Elms.

The Olmsted firm provided alternative designs for the improvement of the triangle. Three alternative plans were developed and sent to the Park Commissioners for review [plans 1112-8A, 8B, 8C]. "We have made some fifteen or twenty studies for ornamental gardening work in this triangle, but concluded that the three which we send will offer a sufficient choice." (To CC Laney, 6/28/1904) One study showed that the "middle portion of the triangle would be depressed to such depth as might prove economical, say two and one-half feet, forming turfed terrace slope parallel with the sidewalk. The depressed area is to be flat and smooth turf with the flower beds as indicated cut out of it." The flower beds would be approximately 10 feet wide and planted

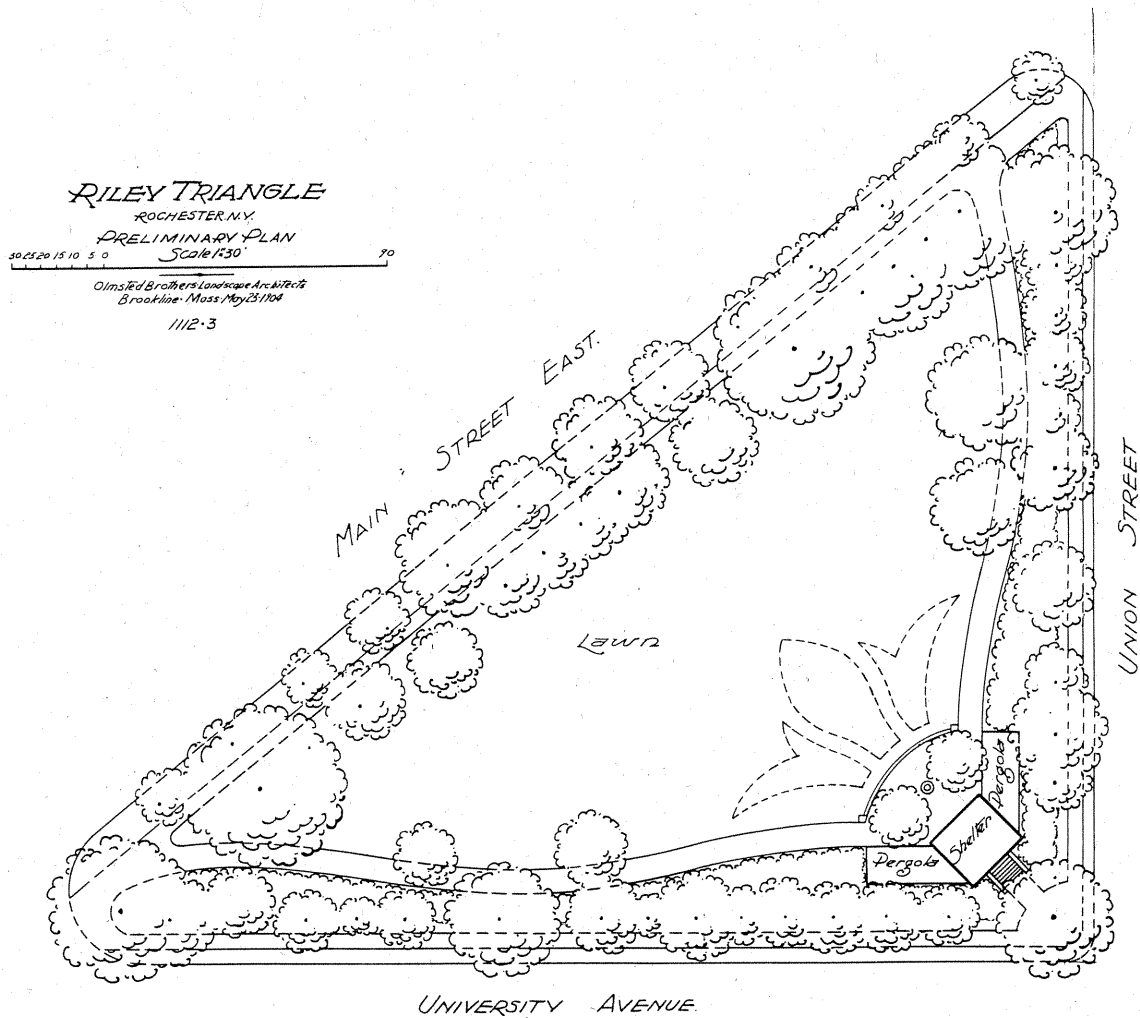


Figure II.1: Preliminary Plan Riley Triangle, Rochester, New York by Olmsted Brothers, Landscape Architects, Brookline, Mass. May 23, 1904. Courtesy collection of the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site.

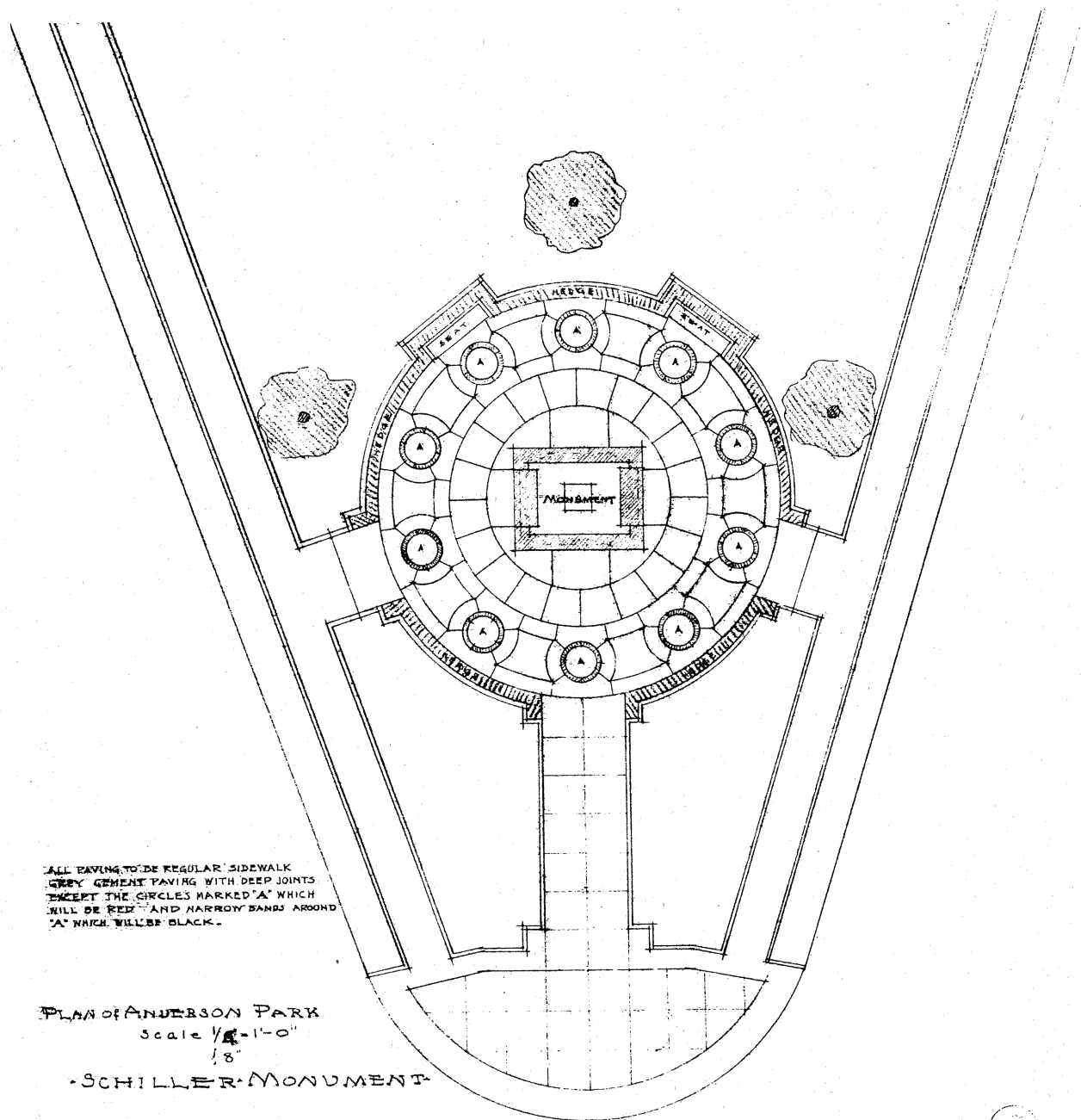


Figure II.2: Plan of Anderson Park, Schiller Monument, Rochester, New York by Carrere & Hastings, 1908. Courtesy collection of the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site.

with a center line of evergreens. Another plan proposed a turfed terrace that was level with the sidewalks. Flower beds would be limited to one circular bed. The third study, which was similar to the first, included three circular beds planted with "Retinospora" (now known as Cypress or Chamaecyparis) in different shapes. Some would be globes and the other would be pyramids. Radiating out from the circles would be beds of annuals. "The sprawling pattern could be planted with a row of dwarf evergreens in the center mound, and bordered with low annuals, which could be planted in succession or arranged alternately, so that there would be bloom or foliage effect of different sorts from time to time during the season. For the low evergreen effects probably the Tom Thumb arbor vitae would be suitable." (Laney, 6/28/1904) The park commissioners were to choose a scheme so that a planting plan could be developed. The City would then proceed with initial site work, "grading and preparation of the soil, seeding and sodding" and not have to receive any further instructions from the firm.

Discussions with the Olmsted firm started in February 1907 regarding the placement of the Schiller monument in the park, at that time called Riley Triangle. A letter to CC Laney of February 18, 1907 indicates that "if the Schiller statue is large, then it should be in the center of the triangle, which probably would mean not having a big circle of flowers as well. If it is only a bust, it would be better put instead in the more formal part of Seneca Park." The arrangements for the plinth and placement of the monument were being overseen by the architectural firm of Carrere & Hastings. A letter from W Drescher to CC Laney says "the committee favored a model of 16 to 18 feet high, with foundation & pedestal of proper size and proportions. Location was toward the corner of Main Street East and University Avenue (c. 100ft. into park from that corner of park). The park bounds for 410 feet on Main Street East (hypotenuse), 260 feet on North Union Street, and 315 feet on University Avenue." Another letter to CC Laney of March 15, 1907 indicates that the Schiller statue should be in one of the larger public parks (further from the center of the city and amid more park-like surroundings). Anderson Park will be and become very urban." Anderson Park was of such a size that any monument in it should occupy its center and should be large enough and high enough to adequately dominate the locality. A letter of January 20th was given a response on January 22, 1908 and indicated that they would prepare a sketch of suggestions, once they received survey and further information from Drescher.

In 1908, Olmsted firm notes indicate that the Schiller monument placement was field checked and moved slightly to accommodate a 3' diameter Elm. A letter from FL Olmsted Jr. to Carrere & Hastings of September 1, 1908 mentions that the location of the monument was staked out on the ground according to the C & H blueprint. The change in location of the monument "in order that the monument might get the proper architectural support of the trees and form an agreeable composition with them." It involved the reduction in size of the proposed paved circle around the monument. The Carrere & Hastings blueprint, "Plan of Anderson Park" from FLONHS shows the paving from the corner leading directly to the circular paved area with the monument in the center. (See Figure II.2) Two seats are along the edge, surrounded by hedges. Two other entrances are shown leading into the circular area. All the paving was to be "regular sidewalk grey cement paving with deep joints except the circles marked A which will be red and narrow bands around A which will be black". Three trees form the backdrop to the monument. They were located behind the hedges in lawn. A letter from FL Olmsted Jr. to Carrere & Hastings of September 4, 1908 mentions that they now learned that the Schiller Monument Committee would have money for building paths, and so would plan for paving around the monument revised to adapt to location dictated by the trees. "You will note from the print sent you with my letter from



Figure II.3: Monument to Schiller, Poet of Freedom and Justice, Anderson Park, Rochester, N.Y. Postcard courtesy private collection of Ellen B. Schnurr.



Figure II.4: Aerial view of Anderson Park, 1926. Courtesy of City of Rochester, Department of Engineering Records.

Rochester that the sidewalks with which any paving about the monument must connect are not of cement but of stone. They are definitely fixed as to alignment and grade, are of good quality and correspond in character with all the rest of the street improvements and must therefore be regarded as permanent. There is no curb between these walks and the surface of the park and they are flush with the park turf. These facts seem to suggest that if a curbing is to be used around the new pavement it should be smaller in scale than is suggested on your plan, and that it might be desirable to make the pavement of the circle and the paths approaching it in part of stone, possibly of stone relieved by a pattern of colored cement."

3. Early 20th Century

Historic postcards show that the park as developed was a large grassy triangle, surrounded by deciduous trees. The Schiller monument was located at one corner facing the street intersection. Benches lined the edge of the concrete sidewalks that surrounded the park. The area around the park was mostly residential. (See Figure II.3) A 1915 photograph shows a small portion of the park. The trolley tracks ran in the road along the edge of the park. Several mature trees, probably maples, are visible within the grassy area. A woman is walking along the sidewalk at the edge of the park.

The 1918 Hopkins plat survey shows the triangle, Anderson Park, with the Schiller statue at the corner of University Avenue and Main Street East. This survey shows that the park is 314.84 Ft. by 259.5 Ft. by 409.24 Ft. An aerial photograph also from 1918 shows that the park is mostly open grass. Around the edge are a few mature deciduous trees, about sixteen, planted along the streets. Some type of circular form is seen almost in the center. Sidewalks are found along all three sides and connect to the statue. A 1926 plat survey by Hopkins shows a slight change in the size of the park. It is now 292.46 Ft. by 259.5 Ft. by 386.86 Ft. The corner near the Schiller statue was partially removed, making a more rounded end for the triangle. An aerial photograph from 1926 shows the park as open grass surrounded by mature deciduous trees. (See Figure II.4) At this date there looks to be only fourteen mature trees and three new trees. The circular form is still seen in the center and the statue remains in the corner.

Descriptions of the park from 1929 indicate that the square was "improved with grass and trees...It is a small park located at a very busy street intersection. With shade and benches it offers a resting place for adults and frequently is used for free play by children". (Raitt, 1929)

4. Recent History

The Schiller monument was removed from the park in 1964 and placed in Franklin Park. In 1962 the decision was made by the city administration in conjunction with the Federation of German-American Societies. The park was reduced in size after the development of the Inner Loop in the late 1950s and then further road widening. The park was approximately .94 acres in size in 1955. Today the park is about half of its original size. Although no exact record has been located, we believe that the name changed when the monument was moved to Franklin Square and the park was partially lost to the Inner Loop. The surrounds of the park have gradually changed from a mostly residential area to a commercial district.

5. Reference Documents

Olmsted Job #1112: Riley Triangle (Anderson Park)

Letters: 1 Report of Visit, JC Olmsted, June 2, 1904

5 Office to CC Laney, 1904/1907

2 Office to Carrere & Hastings, 1908

Plans: 1894 Survey Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site (FLONHS)

Riley Triangle Preliminary Planting Plan, Olmsted, May 16, 1894

Carrere & Hastings plan for siting of Schiller Statue, Aug. 13, 1908)

Riley Triangle Preliminary Plan, Olmsted, May 23, 1904 (2 copies)

Planimetric Map of Area, City of Rochester, 1975

Existing Site Plan, Clark Patterson Mossien, January 29, 1993

Plats: 1918 Hopkins, 1926 Hopkins

Aerial: 1918 and 1926 Historic Aerial Photographs

Photographic views: 4 circa 1930, 1 1915, 1 c. 1950s

Postcards: 3 c. 1920s

Park Commissioners Report: 1906

Common Council Meetings:

Newspaper Articles:

Other: A Survey of Recreational Facilities in Rochester, NY. Raitt, Charles. June, 1929.

A Growing Legacy. McKelvey, Dr. Blake. 1988.

B. BROWN SQUARE

1. Origins/Early History

Brown Square was the first square to appear on maps, as early as 1822. It was deeded to the City by the Brown brothers with the restriction that it was to remain forever a public square or it would revert back to the granters family (1975, Freckleton). In May of 1856 several newspaper articles mentioned that Brown Square was used by the military and the controversy over the removal of many of the shade trees. Trees were removed from the center of the square to allow for military parades. Citizens had complained about the removal and so the military proceeded to fell the trees in the middle of the night. (RDU, May 16, 1856) A November 19, 1856 newspaper article indicates that a "portion of it [Brown Square] was sold to the Railroad Company, and the proceeds are to be appropriated to the improvement of the remainder." (RDU, 1856) The square was originally a park and became a military parade ground in 1857.

A November 1865 Union & Advertiser article mentions that damage has occurred to the trees and the grass in the park and the local authorities were called in. "The northeast corner of that beautiful park is daily used for ball play and for a considerable space the fine sod has been trod to hard earth and destroyed for grass." (U&A, Nov. 16, 1865) The trees showed damage from knives and hatchets. Almost twenty trees, over ten inches in diameter were girdled and there was fear that they would be lost in the winter. In 1865 the military was again granted permission to remove trees by the Common Council, "so as to allow parades". Over the years problems continued between the local residents and the military. In the following decades, the park showed signs of problems with vandalism (newspaper accounts, 1975, Freckleton). Eventually the park was used

for religious gatherings. These were held on Sundays in the late 1880s. These gatherings also greatly disturbed the local residents.

A 1888 plat survey by Robinson shows Brown Square with three major paths crossing the park. Two diagonal paths connect each of the four corners and the third path crosses through the middle, connecting from Jay Street to Brown Street. The park is 594 feet long by 330 feet wide. The New York Central & Hudson River Railroad by-passes one side of the park.

After the control of the park passed to the Park Commissioners in March 1894, a Children's Playground League was formed to supervise childrens play in 1902. The fence on the east side of the park was repaired in 1900 according to the Park Commissioners Report of January 1, 1901.

2. Olmsted Influences

1893 Common Council meeting minutes state that Olmsted, Olmsted & Eliot were hired to design improvements for the square. The Olmsted firm was hired to propose changes to the park so that it might be developed as a playground.

A topographical map of Brown Square from May 17, 1904 shows the original path configuration. The park is mostly open grass with scattered deciduous trees. Some street trees are present along the three road sides. The railroad runs along the fourth side of the square. Diagonal cement walks connect the four corners to a small central circle. Another path connect from Jones Avenue to the center also. Sidewalks run along the three street edges of the park. Most of the trees are not labeled but the ones that are indicate that there are American Elms and Sugar Maples. The trees varied greatly in size.

A Preliminary Plan was developed by the Olmsted Brothers on May 24, 1904 for renovations to Brown Square. The plan shows a new configuration of walkways, new tree plantings, shrub borders, the addition of wading pools, a new field house and a variety of exercise areas. Separate men's and women's activity areas were proposed for either side of the field house. There was to be for the men an apparatus yard, tennis court, giant stride, and swings. For the women there was to be an apparatus yard, tennis court, giant stride and swings. For the younger children an activity area was located adjacent to the field house, designed to include sand boxes, swings and shelters. The majority of the park is shown to be open lawn. The sidewalks around the three street edges remain. The new curving walks originate in the four corners and intersect in front of the field house. Fences enclose the field house and activity areas.

Designs were sent to the park commission in the summer of 1904. A letter of the site visit by JC Olmsted of June 2, 1904 indicated that he showed Mr. Lamberton and Mr. Laney the preliminary plan which the Olmsted Firm had made for this square. They seemed to like it very well but said they doubted if they could afford to carry it out. They principally objected to the brick or stone wall which was planned along the railroad boundary. He was told that the building for this square had already been planned and contracted for and that it was not the same size and shape as the firm had indicated on the plan. A letter from July 13, 1904 from C.C. Laney, parks superintendent, describes the details of the Olmsted plans for the playground. The pools were proposed to be used all year round. "Although these pools are not large, they could be used in winter for skating." It was recommended that the square be enclosed in a fence, "to be inconspicuous wire fences with steel posts and set sufficiently back from the edge of the sidewalks

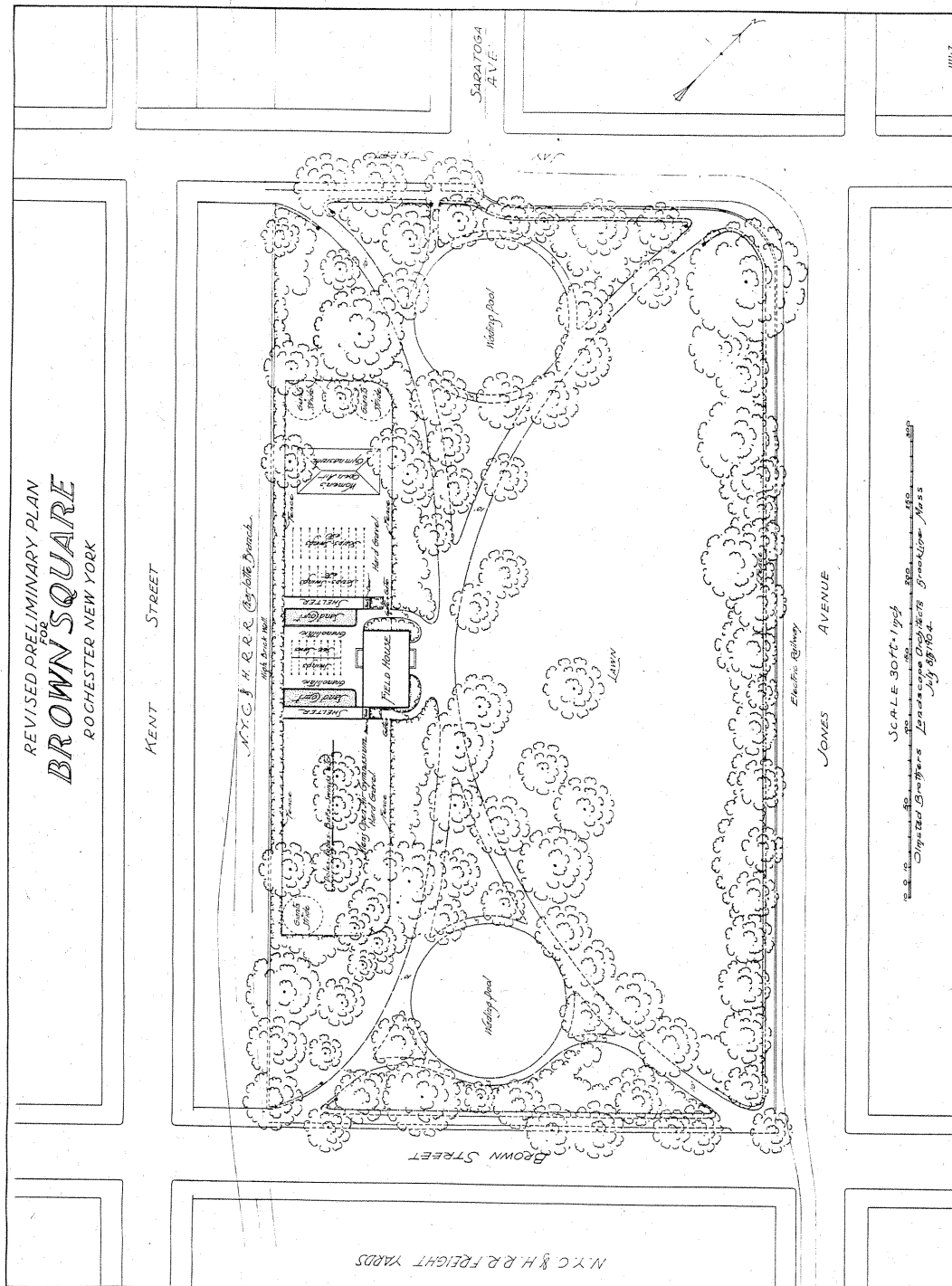


Figure II.5: Revised Preliminary Plan for Brown Square, Rochester, New York by Olmsted Brothers, Landscape Architects, Brookline, Mass. July 8, 1904. Courtesy collection of the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site.

to allow for vines to conceal the fences". At that time there were concerns over the configuration of the paths and problems with short-cutting by residents. The fence enclosure was proposed to protect the lawn areas from this type of abuse.

The Preliminary plan was revised and an alternative activity layout was proposed. This is the plan at the City offices which shows two wading pools at either end, with a building almost in the center. The plan is called Revised Preliminary Plan, dated July 8, 1904 by the Olmsted Brothers. (See Figure II.5) Curving paths connect the four corners and intersect in front of the building. This plan has a similar layout to the initial plan proposed by Olmsted. This plan has two diagonal curving paths intersecting in front of a central field house. Wading pools are located one at the east end and the other at the west end. Trees are placed along the perimeter with underplantings of shrubs. A fence is proposed for three sides of the park along the edge of the sidewalks. The open lawn area is interspersed with a few trees. Activity areas around the field house still include separate areas from men and women. The men have an open air gymnasium, giant stride, poles and other equipment. The women have an open air gymnasium giant stride, and swings. For smaller children sand boxes and swings are located next to the field house. The whole activity area is enclosed in a fence. A letter of a site visit by JC Olmsted on September 28, 1904 mentions that "Practically nothing has been done here except to erect the building as per architect's plans. The building not being symmetrical would better have been located end on or else off in a corner. It looks bad. A few trees have been cut out, but not nearly enough to conform to our plan. No new walks. Money gave out."

A June 15, 1909 Olmsted letter to Alexander Lamberton, the president of the park board, discusses the placement of a new building and the care of heavily worn areas with resurfacing of sand. The firm preferred to build a new building back of the present one, despite homely appearance of latter, since to place a new building in front would "further subdivide and encroach on the open space of the square." "It would be possible and desirable to cover the walls of the present building with creepers by preparing good deep beds of rich soil next to the walls and protecting the creepers planted in them against injury by the children by means of strong heavy iron railways or gratings." There was a need to improve the administration and maintenance at the park.

3. Early 20th Century

The square was opened as a public playground in 1903. This was the time when the Park Board ordered changes to the Brown Square so that it could be changed from a park into a playground. A brick shelter, toilets and wading pool were added. A 1903 Park Commissioners report mentions that trees were removed from the square and that the "border along the railroad was plowed, manured and shrubs planted."

The Park Commissions Annual Report of 1904 mentions that a 30 by 50 foot shelter was built in the square and was used primarily by children cared for by the Childrens' Playground League. Two sand houses were built, also swings, teeters, and basketball apparatus. By 1905 more improvements were made to the park. The Annual Report of 1905 mentions that a 100-foot diameter wading pool with surrounding 5-foot-wide walk was installed. At the northwest corner, a triangular piece of land was graded for use as a skating rink. An outdoor gymnasium was put in the west side of the park and included 2 horizontal bars, 2 climbing ropes, 2 climbing poles, 1 climbing rope ladder, 1 horizontal ladder, 1 giant stride, 1 Swedish boom, 1 set of parallel bars,

and 1 springboard. A 40-foot square was put in the east of the building and a 6-foot walk from the square to Jay street opposite Saratoga Avenue was built and 6-foot walk from the corner of Jones and Jay connected to the center of the square. A 6-foot walk was laid the whole length of the square along Brown Street, and a 6-foot walk along Jay Street from a point opposite Saratoga Avenue to the NY Central Railroad tracks. A 10-foot walk was built from the shelter to the square at the center of the park. Also built was a 10-foot walk from the walk along Brown Street to the walk around the swimming pool, and another 10-foot walk from the swimming pool northerly to the walk running from the southwest corner of the square to the center of the square. Twenty-six poor-condition trees were removed in the process of all these improvements. 1905 Common Council minutes state "fifteen hundred semperflorens begonia were planted in the border at the fountain of the building in Brown Park. There was some curiosity whether the children would molest the flowers or not. They seemed to take a little pride in flowering plants, however, and did not injure them. This border was filled with tulips in the fall." In the fall of 1905 2,000 tulip bulbs were planted by the city.

Over the years Brown Square was considered a model playground. In the summer of 1906 over 61,287 children attended the playground activities. There was a variety of indoor and outdoor activities at the square. (Annual Report, 1906) The Library in Brown Park was well patronized by children of the neighborhood and a toboggan slide was built of lumber in the park "to the delight of the children there." (Annual Report, 1907) A variety of features on the site allowed various activities during all weather conditions. The wading pool "which is an inestimable boon to the little folks who delight in paddling in the clear water. This is especially enjoyable and beneficial to the children during the heated term... In wet weather indoor exercises are enjoyed in the shelter where the children are taught basket making, singing, etc. while those who wish can take shower baths." (1908 Rochester Park System) "A brief resume of the athletic and other diversions for children at Brown's Square playground will be of interest. Shower baths are taken daily in summer by an average of one hundred children per day. Children are organized to keep the grounds tidy. A series of athletic events, both field and gymnastic in their nature, are organized, including basket ball and relay leagues divided into three classes according to ages... A foot ball squad has been organized. A yachting enthusiasm sprang up around the pool and races encouraged by the instructor." (1908, Roch Park System) Singing groups occur under the shelter on rainy days for both boys and girls. The north edge of the park was flooded in the winter for skating. Track and relay running occurred around the outside of the tennis and croquet courts.

The Park Commissioners report from 1909 states that "Brown Square Playground is the place where more children congregate than at any other under the supervision of the Park Board. It is too small for the great number who assemble on the grounds in the summer or in the house in the winter. In the house in the winter, the girls sew, work at basketry and raffia and play quiet games, but the boys are so noisy in the house that it would be better to separate them from the girls and a new house is greatly needed for this purpose. The daily attendance in winter is about three hundred children, and in summer about six hundred. A hundred and sixty-one new books were bought for the library."

One historic postcard, from the early 20th century shows boys wading in a wading pool. (See Figure II.6) Surrounding the pool is grass, interspersed with mature deciduous trees. Some of the trees look like Elms. A concrete walk surrounds the edge of the pool and connects to the building. A basketball backboard is seen with a set of poles(?) Other historic photographs show

groups of children playing in the grass or eating picnics. These views do not show the curving paths and arrangements intended in the Olmsted plan. A 1918 plat survey by Hopkins shows the park with a building, wading pool and paths. Portions of the paths look to have remained from the 1888 circulation pattern. A 1918 aerial photograph of the park shows the building, adjacent athletic equipment, and the pool. (See Figure II.7) The park is mostly open grass, dissected with paths and scattered with mature deciduous trees, about fifty-six. A few street trees line the edges of three sides of the park. The boundary along the railroad lines is planted with a dense border of vegetation (shrubs?). Worn areas are visible in the grass. The 1926 Hopkins plat shows the exact same configuration as in the 1918 map. A 1926 aerial shows the park with the same circulation system and athletic equipment. The tree cover has changed drastically, now there are many fewer trees, only about thirty-nine. The street trees seem to have remained.

A commentary in the Common Good from July 1912 mentions the importance of the parks in Rochester and how important they are in the development of the city's better life. "Go to Brown Park any Sunday afternoon, and watch the people and the children. That same scene of outdoor delight and activity and sanity is duplicated wherever a square of green defeats the pavement and opens its arms to the laughing children." (Common Good)

A 1917 Park Commissioners report stated that 125,757 children were at the playground for the year. This was the third highest attendance rate for the seventeen playgrounds run by the Bureau of Playgrounds and Recreation. In 1927 the playground was operational for 306 days with an average attendance of 695. Facilities at that time included one brick shelter house, with toilets, one wading pool with a dirt floor, a drinking fountain, one field, two softball diamonds, one basketball court, six horse shoe courts and an assortment of play equipment. (Raitt, 1929) Recommendations were made to improve the playground. These included an enclosure fence to prevent children running into the adjacent streets, regrading for proper drainage, rearrangement of play equipment and playfields, encouraging and increasing use by school children from the new school, and an indoor swimming pool with shower and dressing rooms.

By 1929 the area around Brown's Square Playground was changing. It was considered to be located "in congested neighborhood with railroad yards, some commercial and industrial establishments-mainly Italian population." (Raitt, 1929)

A 1934 survey of Brown Square Playground shows a wading pool at the southeastern end with two straight diagonal paths, intersecting in front of the building starting from the four corners. Most of the trees are labeled as Elms, with only a few Maples shown. The Elms are listed as .3 D (4" diam), probably indicating that these were all relatively new. The Maples shown are 1.5 D to 2. D (1 1/2 - 2 feet diameter), indicating that these were historic trees. The street edges were also lined with Elms of larger sizes. This organization reflects the form of the square shown on the 1903 survey with the addition of one wading pool placed where the Olmsted firm intended. Other changes are the loss of many early twentieth century trees. This survey clarifies that the Olmsted plans for the park were never carried out completely.

4. Recent History

A photograph c. 1960 shows the park before any major restorations. (See Figure II.8) The park is mostly open grass with a baseball backstop at one end. Two large mature deciduous trees are located adjacent to the building. Parking for cars occurs on the paving surrounding the building.

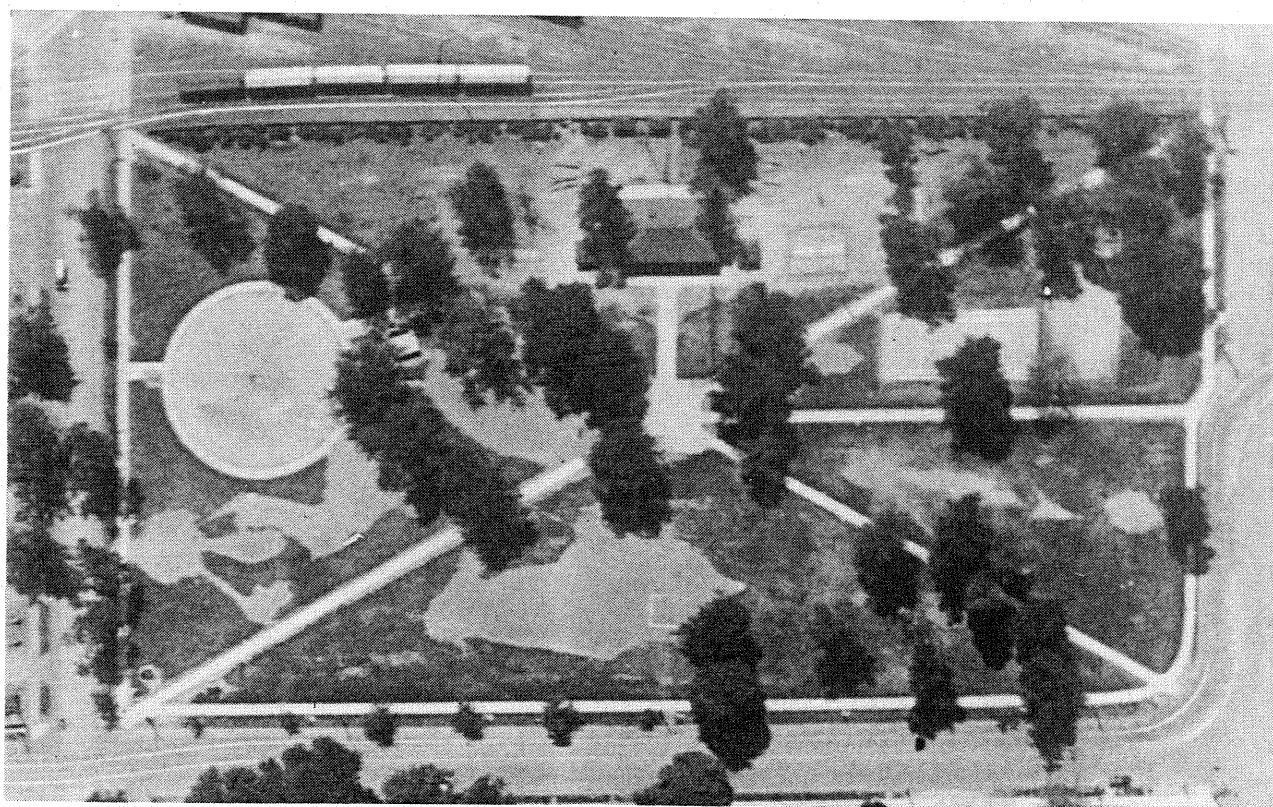


Figure II.6: Brown Square and Wading Pool, Rochester, N.Y. Postcard courtesy private collection of Ellen B. Schnurr.

Figure II.7: Aerial view of Brown Square, 1918. Courtesy of City of Rochester, Department of Engineering Records.



Figure II.8: Brown Square Recreation Area, 251 Verona Street. Courtesy of City of Rochester, Department of Engineering Records.

Basketball courts are located just above the baseball diamond. Chain link fencing encloses the playground.

In 1963 major renovations were made to Brown Square Playground. Plans by James Glavin and Associates of Syracuse, NY show new plantings, additions of new play equipment, and new grading. The walk around the pool was removed and a new path blended to meet the top edge of the pool. The existing diagonal paths were totally removed and replaced with sinuous bituminous pavement, mostly at the southeast end. Lawn made up the majority of the site, and only one of the seventeen existing trees was to be removed. New trees were added, Amur Corktree and Red Maple, mostly at the southeastern end along the walkways. A 6' chain link fence was added to the perimeter of the park. New grading formed major mounds around the existing plant materials.

Renovations funded by Kodak and the City were done again in 1977. It was designed by Jae Y. Ko, a Rochester architect, following a feasibility study by Gruen Associates (Article, BSBP). Newspaper copy of the plan shows a sledding hill, open meadow, clumps of trees, picnic areas, fountain and a new path system. A landscape plan from 9/24/77 shows the addition of various deciduous trees, evergreen shrubs and groundcover. Thirty-two Norway Maple, thirty-seven Honey Locust, thirteen London Plane and eleven Eastern Redbud were specified. Only six trees were to remain and were interplanted with the new trees. Brown's Yews were to be planted at the corner of Brown and Verona Streets.

A Feb. 17, 1981 plan, Puerto Rican Festival at Brown Square Park shows seating on the edge of the sledding hill facing a portable stage. Food booths were placed along the path to the east of the building. The fountain area was used for seating. Picnic areas were noted for the eastern corner. Boccie courts were located next to the building. No vegetation was indicated. The existing path system was shown with the two bridges.

5. Reference Documents

Olmsted Job # 1111: Brown Square

Letters: 2 Reports of Visits, JC Olmsted, 1904

1 To CC Laney, 1904

1 To Alexander B. Lamberton, 1909

Plans: Planting Plan, Olmsted?, May 16, 1904

Preliminary Plan, Olmsted, May 24, 1904

Revised Preliminary Plan, Olmsted, July 8, 1904

Occupation Survey, City of Rochester, September 10, 1934

Occupation Survey, City of Rochester, September 10, 1934 "with notes"

Grading Plan, City of Rochester, June 5, 1963

Location and Planting Plan, City of Rochester, June 5, 1963

Planimetric Map of Area, City of Rochester, 1975

Landscape Plan, Joe Y. Ko, September 24, 1977

Puerto Rican Festival Layout, February 17, 1981

Plats: 1888 Robinson, 1918 Hopkins, 1926 Hopkins

Aerial: 1918 and 1926 Historic Aerial Photographs

Photographic views: 2 c. 1930, 1 c. 1960

Postcards: 1 c. 1930

Park Commissioners Reports: 1888-1904, 1905, 1906, 1907, 1909, 1917

Common Council Meetings: 1893

Newspaper Articles: Union & Advertiser, November 16, 1865

Rochester Democrat Union, November 19, 1856, May 16, 1856, May 20, 1856

1 Common Good, July 1912; 1 Times Union, June 4, 1976

1 1976; 1 Times Union, September 13, 1977

Other: The Origin & Development of Rochester's Park System. Veteran Reporter. 1908.

"Brown Square". Freckleton, Gail A. November 19, 1975.

A Survey of Recreational Facilities in Rochester, NY. Raitt, Charles. June, 1929.

C. JONES SQUARE

1. Origins/Early History

The square was established in 1837 by dedication of subdivision (Raitt, 1929)(8/4/86 article) An August 7, 1872 newspaper article reports that "three sides of Jones Square had been improved at the expense of the whole city, and it would be well to finish the job now. All he blamed Alderman Kelly for was in excluding the ball players from the square. Still he could not see the use of flag walks around the square so long as the public is prevented from using the grounds. It is kept for a hay field." (U&A, 1872) Another Union and Advertiser article from May 25, 1859 mentions that Jones Square was fenced in for "military purposes, and if graded by the 54th Regiment, to be assigned to their use as a parade ground". (U&A, 1859) The park in 1875 was crossed with two diagonal paths. It was surrounded by residences on all four sides, as seen in the 1875 Hopkins plat.

In the 1880s the Edgerton residents petitioned the Common Council to add lights ("Shunned by all Timid Persons"), "the gas lamps in said square are insufficient in numbers and are but seldom lighted, and are constantly being destroyed by boys stoning them and are turned out by parties for their own convenience." The square was "used as a place of assignation by parties from all parts of the city and shunned by all timid persons of both sexes as being a dangerous locality". Electric lights were added to the park at that time.

A 1888 plat survey by Robinson shows the square with two diagonal paths leading from the four corners, the same as the 1875 plat.

Common Council meeting notes from June 13, 1893 indicate that Olmsted, Olmsted & Eliot were hired to prepare plans for the improvement of Jones Square for a fee of \$300. Park commissioners reports from 1896, indicate that many trees were cut down in the square since they were crowding other trees. It is reported that the "plans were never implemented because the local politicians thought they could design better gardens themselves. Later, Olmsted was asked to modify and improve the local leaders' design." (McKelvey, 1988)

2. Olmsted Influences

A letter to CC Laney on June 8, 1895 from the Olmsted firm was inquiring as to the general surroundings of the square, the class of houses in the neighborhood, and the class of people who would frequent it. They also wanted further information on the purposes for which it could be

used to the greatest advantage. A preliminary sketch was sent to CC Laney from JC Olmsted and comments were requested in a September 18, 1895 letter. Once comments were received a letter to CC Laney of October 2, 1895 states "We will make a revision of the plan, embodying the suggested changes. The chief objection to these additional entrances is that they will, in all probability, result in an increased number of short-cut paths, or, if these are prevented by efficient policing (as, of course, they ought to be) it involves additional expenses for police. The walk entering at the middle of the pergola is the one which we think would be most likely to cause trouble in this way. With this warning, and unless we hear from you to the contrary, we will revise the plan so as to include the additional walks." The park board responded on October 8th and the firm did not attempt to revision of the plan promised in the letter of October 2nd: at least, not before they heard from them again on the subject.

A print of the revised sketch no. 6 for the walks in Jones Square was sent with a letter to CC Laney on February 7, 1896. Later the same month a letter to CC Laney discusses an artificial pond for raising water lilies. The Olmsted firm showed such a pond on the next plant and stated that it could be omitted if concluded advisable. The General Plan for Jones Square by Olmsted, Olmsted & Eliot, March 1896 shows an off center basin with curving paths. Major clumps of trees or shrubs are found along the intersection of all the paths. Double lines of trees are shown along the whole edge of the park. This plan is available on a slide but is not in the Olmsted Archives. The Olmsted plan from May 23, 1895 of Jones Square shows linear paths, four paths intersecting in the middle. The paths start in the four corners and at the midpoints of the sides. The location of the trees are indicated as are the common names. Silver Maples and Sugar Maples line the two main diagonal paths in formal rows. In the rest of the park, trees were scattered about in the grass. These include Silver Maples, Norway Maple, American Elm, Horse Chestnut, Scotch Elm, Mountain Ash, and White Ash. The paths are shown to be gravel and the sidewalks encircling the park are of flagstones. Street trees were all labelled as Silver Maples. These formed double rows along the edges. Two of the largest trees are American Elm.

A letter to EM Moore on April 1, 1901 states that the firm received instructions to prepare plans for the further improvement of Jones Square. A letter to CC Laney on April 1, 1901 continued describing the problems with the mature trees at the park. "It is very evident that nothing creditable can be done with this square without extensive revisions to the existing tree growths. The scattering trees in the triangular grass plots ought for the most part to be moved out. The trees in the rows are of sort-wooded sorts which will not give permanent satisfaction and they are planted altogether too thickly. Unquestionably every second one in every row ought to be cut and in the case of the double row around the outside of the square probably a larger proportion should be. If public opinion is going to be so strong against cutting trees that these changes cannot be made we might as well drop the matter at once as we should not care to be professionally responsible for any sort of improvement if the present trees must all be retained."

A Construction and Planting Plan by Olmsted dated April 22, 1901 shows a new design for the paths, the additions of seating areas, shrub beds and annual beds. (See Figure II.9) The paths are now from the four corners and only one side. They intersect in the middle at a large circle. The path perpendicular from Jones Avenue to Lorimer Street has been widened and edged with flower beds interspersed with Rose of Sharon. Magnolias are placed half way down the path on both sides within the flower beds, the beds are backed by a planting of Golden Alder. A new oval path encircles the park which is now edged with shrubs, mainly Purple Hazel, on both sides. Shrubs also were planted in beds at the corners of the park in beds on both sides of the main

diagonal paths. New trees were added in a balanced planting, with two Fern leaved Beeches at either end, east and west ends, and two Golden Oaks at the north and south ends. Around the central circle are three concentric circles planted with shrubs, perennials and trees. The inside bed is planted with Sugar Maples underplanted with Golden Moneywort. The next bed is planted with Winged Euonymus and the last bed is planted with Golden Elder. This planting configuration, but not the specified plants, can be seen in the 1909-1910 postcards. The list of plants included:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>Corylus avellana purpurea</i> | Purple Hazel |
| <i>Cornus elegantissima</i> | Variegated Cornel |
| <i>Philadelphus coronarius aurea</i> | Golden Mock Orange |
| <i>Sambucus nigra aurea</i> | Golden Elder |
| <i>Euonymus alatus</i> | Winged Strawberry Bush |
| <i>Lysimachia nummularia aurea</i> | Golden Money Wort |
| <i>Vinca minor</i> | Periwinkle |
| <i>Magnolia fuscata</i> | Sweet Scented Magnolia |
| <i>Hibiscus rosa sinensis</i> | Rose of Sharon |
| <i>Tulipa gesneriana</i> | Botanical Tulips |
| <i>Gladioli colvillii</i> | Gladiolus |
| <i>Polianthus tuberosa</i> | Tuberose |
| <i>Laburnum vulgare</i> | Golden Chain |
| <i>Fagus sylvatica splenifolia</i> | Fern leaved Beech |
| <i>Quercus robur concordia</i> | Golden Oak |
| <i>Acer saccharinum</i> | Sugar Maple |

A letter to CC Laney on April 23, 1901 describes the changes to the "sun print of our planting plan for Jones Square". 1901 Olmsted files indicate that a second plan was developed with axial paths with an oval circumference path. Shrubs lined the edge of the square (Variegated cornel) in a wild hedge. Ornamental plantings were introduced in formal beds along the straight walk. The estimated cost of the plants was \$844.00. They suggested that the cement paths be widened, that the double outer row of pollarded trees was too crowded and needed to be cut, the irregular trees should be cut down, and that a playground and wading pool should be added. The correspondence from John Charles Olmsted indicates that colorful plantings were intended to provide interest. These large shrubs, in hedgerows along the park boundary, were intended to grow to a natural form and height. The main cross-axial walk was edged with several types of decorative plantings in linear arrangements along the walks and in concentric circles around the middle. Only part of these plantings were actually installed. The large number of shade trees, predominantly Silver maple, remained in the park, although the Olmsted firm directed more removals. The trees created too much shade and competition for nutrients for these decorative shrub plantings to thrive.

3. Early 20th Century

A Park Commissioners report from 1902 mentions that the plan for Jones Square was received from Olmsted. It required the removal of 175 trees, addition of 42 loads of soil, and 126 loads of manure to enrich the soil. One quarter of the area was plowed (1901-02, PAR 1888-1904). In 1903 the improvements to the square were finished with the exception of planting of a few shrubs and trees always planted in the spring. The improvements consisted of "taking down 205

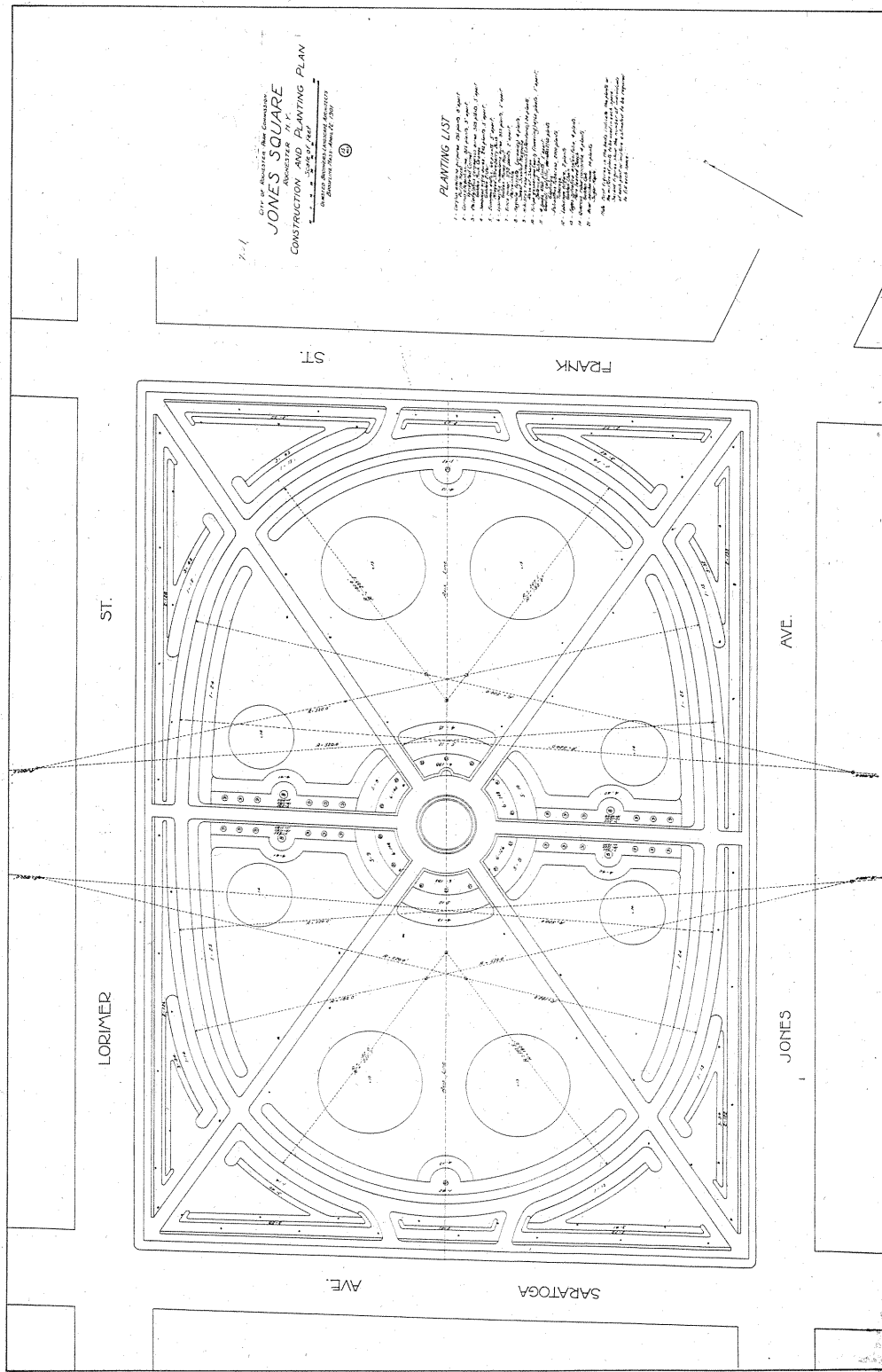


Figure II.9: Jones Square, Rochester, N.Y. Construction and Planting Plan by Olmsted Brothers, April 22, 1901. Courtesy collection of the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site.

trees, drawing on 1922 loads of soil, grading, subsoil plowing, manuring, fertilizing, sowing grass seed, rolling and planting trees and shrubs and bulbs, and putting down 22,154 square feet of cement sidewalk. The total cost of this improvement of Jones's Square was \$4,628.89." (1902-03, PAR 1888-1904) About 5,800 flowering plants were planted in the flower border. Limbs of several trees were broken during a severe wind storm on May 29, 1903. Tulip bulbs were planted that year also. Local nurserymen had provided floral displays for the park during the year 1903. (McKelvey, 1988)

1905 Common Council meeting minutes mention that "ten thousand tulips in the beds around the water basin made a brilliant display. The late flowering tulip, Gesnerlater, was mainly used. About the finest of June ten thousand summer flowering and foliage plants were planted in the beds and in the long borders across the park, from north to south, making a fine floral display from July to the first of October. About the same number of tulips were planted again last fall. Ten movable seats were put into the park."

Historic postcard views shows benches and drinking fountains around the edge of the central garden feature. Beds along the edges of the walkways are planted in a highly decorative manner with shrubs, annuals and bulbs. The central feature is a fountain surrounded by water or aquatic plants. (See Figures II.10 & II.11) Tulips can be seen planted in the beds surrounding the central seating area and are interplanted with deciduous flowering shrubs. Behind this rectangular bed is a strip of other shrubs. These totally encircle the central space. (See Figure II.12) The trees were all deciduous, with American elm and Silver maple predominating. Paths are of concrete. Other early 20th century photos show the planting of bulbs and cultivation around the shrubs. The shrubs seemed to back the flowering borders along the main axis path. An undated photograph in A Growing Legacy shows the central "beehive fountain" in the center with water surrounding it. It was reported that "by 1900 Jones Square became the showplace garden of Rochester." (McKelvey, 1988)

A 1918 plat survey shows the square with six radial paths from the central fountain. A path follows the circumference of the park with an oval form, which matches the organization of the 1901 Olmsted plan. The 1926 plat by Hopkins shows the same circulation system as the 1918 plat. The park is shown to be 650.31 feet long by 450.3 feet wide. A 1926 aerial of the square shows that it is mostly open grass with mature deciduous trees. (See Figure II.13) The trees line the three major paths and all four of the street edges. Most of the trees are very substantial.

In 1929 the park is noted to contain grass, shrubs, large trees and .4 miles of improved walks. It had no structures or facilities except for a central fountain. Suggestions by Raitt included "Jones Park, one of the early squares, with its many fine large trees and spacious shaded lawns, is located in a community where it affords opportunity for many mothers, and small children to be out in the open. This area is of great benefit, particularly on hot summer days. The park at present is frequently used for free play and games by the smaller children. Although it is rather close to Edgerton Playground, it would be advisable for the playground department to place a play leader on duty, especially during the summer months, to encourage and supervise the play activities." (Raitt, 1929)

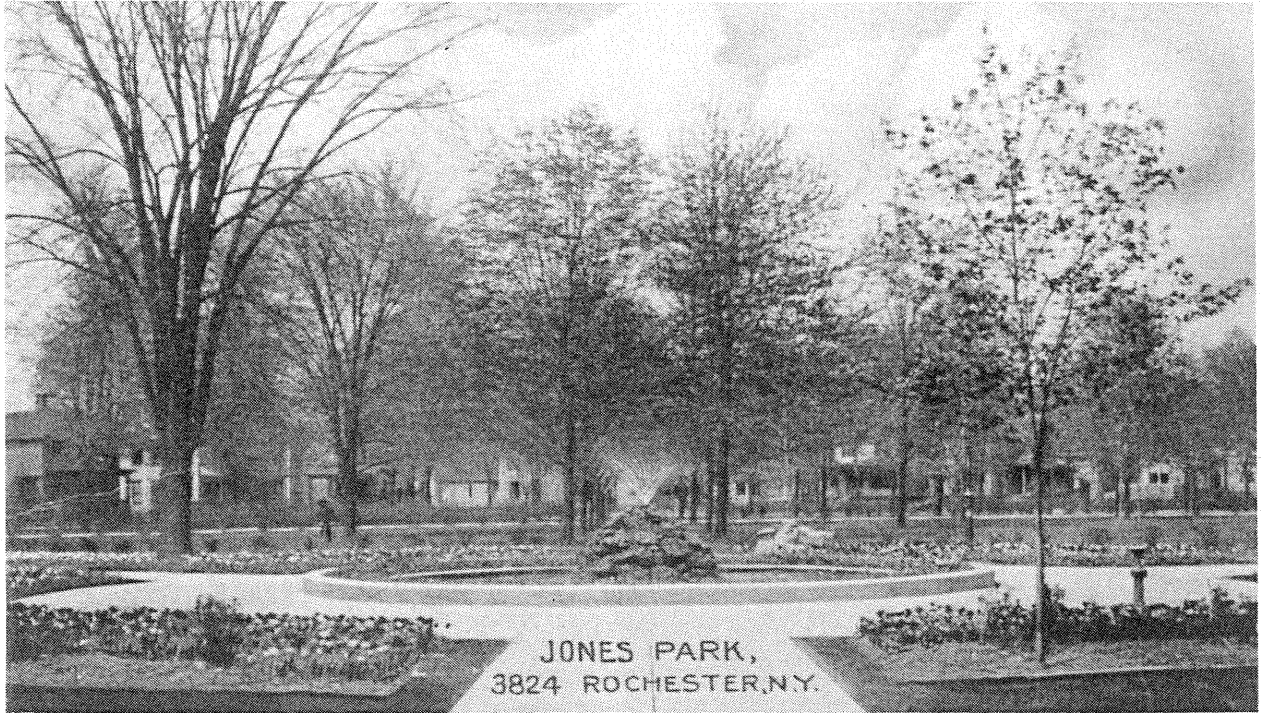


Figure II.10: Jones Park with central water feature in operation.

Figure II.11: A beautiful spot in North Western part of Rochester, N.Y. Jones Square. Postcards courtesy private collection of Ellen B. Schnurr.



Figure II.12: Tulips in Jones Square, Rochester, N.Y. Postcard courtesy private collection of Ellen B. Schnurr.

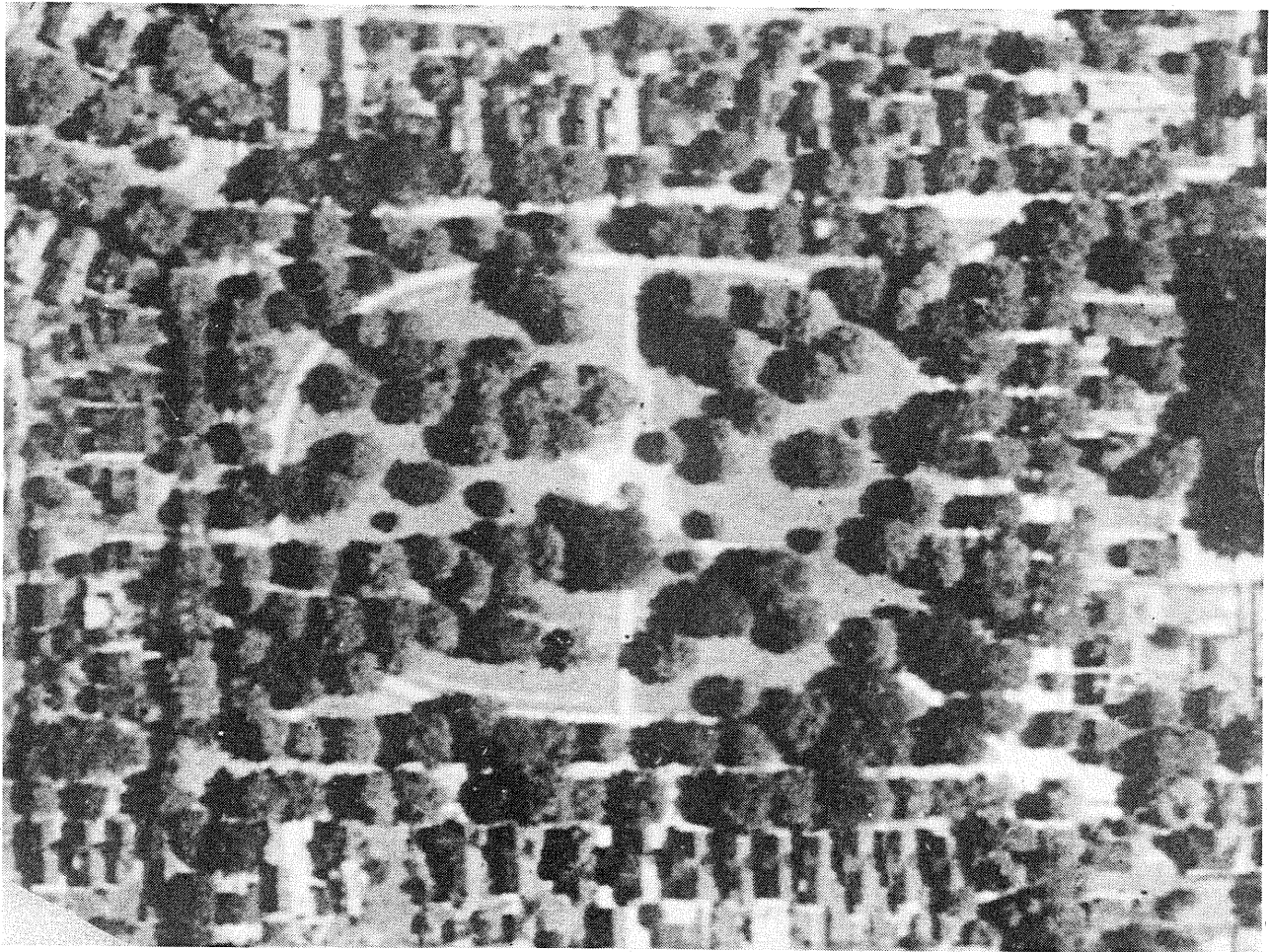


Figure II. 13: Aerial photograph of Jones Square, 1926. Courtesy of City of Rochester, Department of Engineering Records.

4. Recent History

A survey was completed by Sear, Brown & Associates in April, 1967 for the square. This shows the location of the paths, trees, light poles, benches and roads. The paths system remains from the 1901 Olmsted design. Most mature deciduous trees that are scattered about the park are Maples. The Maples range in size from 10" to 30". Other trees include Beech, Elm, Oak and Cherry. Some trees were not labeled. Generally these are some of the smallest in the park, mostly 1-2" in diameter.

A 1967 planting plan of Jones Square by James Glavin and Anthony Kotz shows that the existing path system was to remain with the addition of brick pads around the central feature. The fountain was filled with 12" of topsoil and the existing flag pole was to be removed. Many new plants were added to the park, mostly small deciduous or flowering trees (Amur Maple, Hawthorn, Crabapple, Russian Olive, and Shadblow). These were clumped, mostly by threes, along the edge of the walkways, weaving in and out of the existing trees. New benches were added, as were new tubular steel fences around the juniper beds that surrounded the central feature. All light poles were to remain.

In August 1977 the firm of Passero-Scardetta Associates developed improvements to the square. The proposed changes mostly involved adding seating areas along the existing paths. Only one tree was removed to make way for the seating around the central circle. Flagstones were removed in areas and replaced with concrete. New lights were added and some existing poles modified. Trash receptacles were placed alongside the benches.

A 1986 article mentions that the City Parks Department planted Red Oaks, Sugar Maples, Flowering Crabapples and Lilacs. There were 12 benches on the site and 4 trash cans. The Edgerton residents wanted to reestablish the flower bed promenade, add lights, add a sculptural rock garden, install drinking fountains, install a sprinkler system, and replace the benches. In 1986 the park was very barren, and flowers had disappeared. It had been well cared for up through World War II, then allowed to deteriorate.

5. Reference Documents

Olmsted Job #1105: Jones Square

Letters: 6 To CC Laney, 1895/1896

1 To EM Moore 1901

2 To CC Laney 1901

1 Report of Visit, JC Olmsted, 1904

Plans: General Plan for Jones Square, Olmsted, March 1896

Jones Square, Olmsted, May 23, 1895

Construction and Planting Plan, Olmsted, April 22, 1901

Planting Plan (partial), Olmsted, 1901?

Planting Plan, Olmsted, 1901?

Planting Plan, Sear-Brown, April 13, 1967

Planting Plan and Details, City of Rochester, June 1, 1967

Planimetric Map of Area, City of Rochester, 1975

Final Site Plan, Passero-Scardelta, August 2, 1977

Construction Details, Passero-Scardelta, August 1977

Plats: 1875 Hopkins, 1888 Robinson, 1918 Hopkins, 1926 Hopkins

Aerial: 1918 and 1926 Historic Aerial Photographs

Photographic views: 1 1915, 4 1916-1917, 1 c. 1890, 1 c. 1920s

Postcards: 9 1909-1923

Park Commissioners Reports: 1888-1904,

Common Council Meetings: 1893, 1903, 1905

Newspaper Articles: 1 City ?, July 10, 1882; Union & Advertiser, May 25, 1859

1 Times Union, August 4, 1886; Union & Advertiser, August 7, 1872

Other: A Survey of Recreational Facilities in Rochester, NY. Raitt, Charles. June, 1929.

"Shunned by All Timid Persons". Carper, Steve. RMSC Focus. 6:2, Summer 1989.

A Growing Legacy. McKelvey, Dr. Blake. 1988.

D. LAKEVIEW PARK

1. Origins/Early History

Lakeview Park had its origins as a private subdivision. The original tract was sold for \$20,000 on October 13, 1850 by Freeman Clarke to six gentlemen. It comprised six-sevenths of sixty acres of land, what was then known as the Selyes subdivision. The covenants on this subdivision provided that the land should be subdivided into lots and that a park be laid out for the accommodations of the owners. It was required that the park, street and alleys should forever be kept open for the benefit of the lot owners. The deed also provided for a committee to maintain the park street and had powers to appoint successors. A Union and Advertiser newspaper article, dated June 29, 1872, announced the availability of a "grand choice in homesteads" in "Lake View Park". At that time each of the fifty lots in the fifteen acre subdivision were to be sold for \$1,500. This advertisement was for a portion of the Lake View subdivision, formerly called the Pottle Homestead and more recently called the Selyes tract.

An early 1884 survey, "Map of an allotment of part of Lake View Park, The Estate of Lewis Selye", by J.C. Ryan surveyor, shows the subdivision of the area called Lake View Park. This plan was overdrawn later and used to denote the subdivision for Lake View Park for the Selye Park Building Lot Subdivision in April 1891, E.H. Crafts, surveyor. The central median park is shown as a continuous area, planted with scattered trees, between Lake Avenue and Pierpont Avenue (See Figure II.14). House lots line both sides of the park and double access drives. These are shown as regular, small lots on the southern edge, while on the northern edge the lots range in size with those at the east end larger. The actual right-of-ways for the drives around Lake View Park were 40 feet wide while the other access roads ranged from 50 to 66 feet wide.

The park was described as being one of the highest spots in the Selye tract. "It is also one of the most beautiful residence sections of the city, the lofty location commanding a view of nearly all Rochester, as well as much of the charming scenery of Greece and Irondequoit, while the blue waters of Ontario are easily visible on clear days." The park contained about ten acres with two flanking drives and two rows of residences beyond.

The property owners annually raised money to care for the park. According to a May 11, 1893 Union and Advertiser article, Calvin C. Laney, Park Superintendent, was consulted to "inspect the trees and mark any that in his judgement should be removed in order that the others might grow

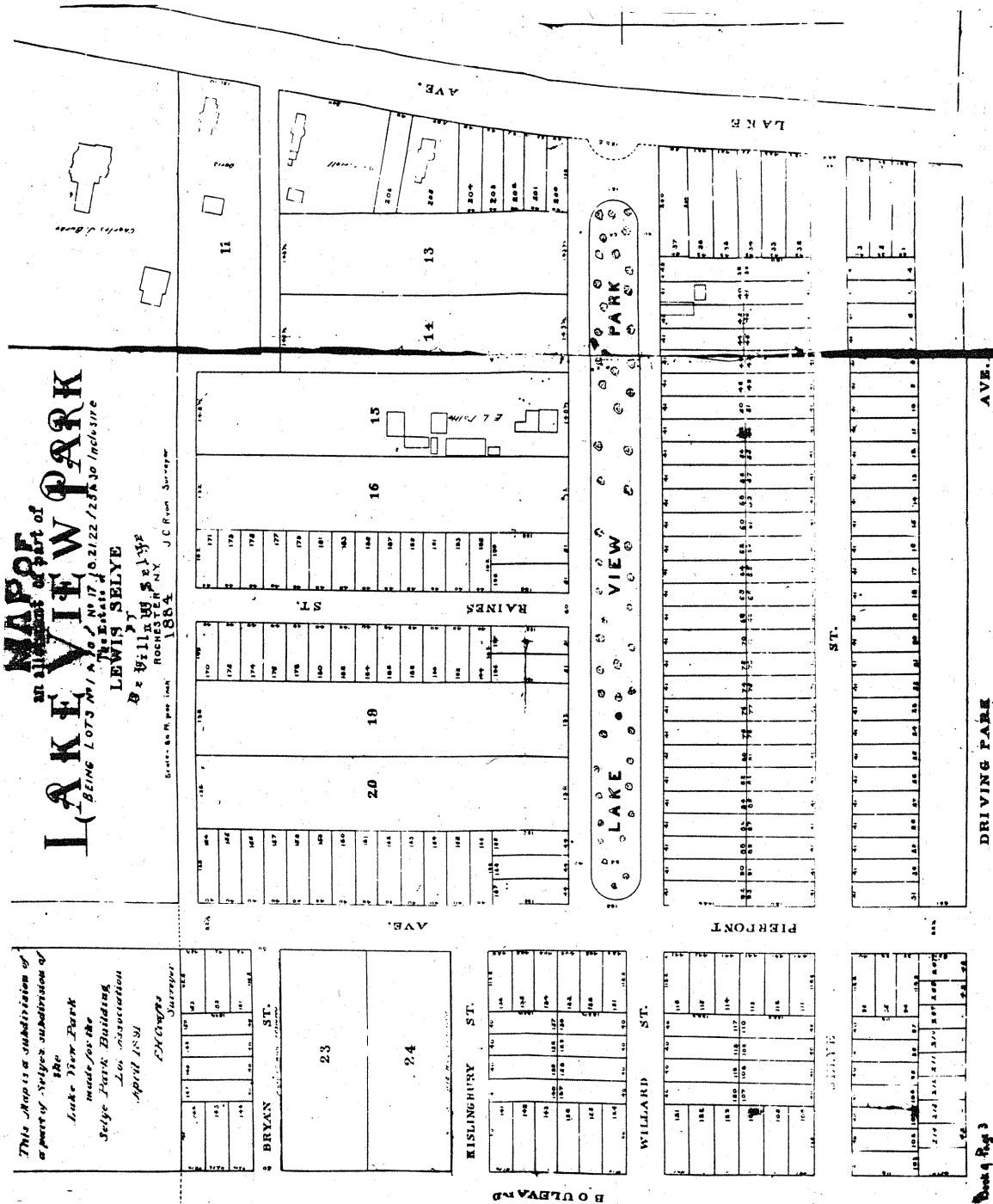


Figure II.14: Map of Lakeview Park showing original 1884 survey overlaid by the Selye Park Building Lot Association in 1891. Courtesy of City of Rochester, Department of Engineering Records.

the better. Many varieties of trees native to this section, grew there, including maple, oak, birch, catalpa, horse chestnut, beech and various kinds of evergreens. Mr. Laney marked a large number to be cut down. . . Objections took a vigorous turn and some of the property owners forbade the men to cut trees in front of their houses."

Other issues were also raised as to whether the street was private and the residents could therefore restrict access. "There is a sign at the Lake Avenue entrance announcing that the park is private property and no loaded wagons are allowed to pass through it. . . The park was laid out many years ago together with an alley thirty-three feet wide on the northern and southern boundaries of the property. These alleys have never been used and there is now and has been for a long time a dispute as to their ownership."(UA, 1893) The committee called for in the earlier subdivision was not active as of the writing of the 1893 article.

A Union and Advertiser article of the December 8, 1896 announced the opening of Lake View Park as a public street. An ordinance was introduced by the Common Council which "provides for condemnation proceedings under which the city may take the street after which it is proposed to improve it". Just before the article was written, the property owners had signed an agreement where they were "to be assessed 50 cents a foot frontage every year for five years, the money to be used in improving the park". The Council voted to approved the ordinance making Lake View Park a public thoroughfare.

A March 6, 1897 newspaper article from the Union Advertiser reports on the opening of Lake View Park giving some historical background. "Lake View Park was laid out at least a score of years ago, but it has always been a private park. It is a part of the tract known as the Flower City park tract, which was originally owned by Freeman Clark and his wife. In 1851 this entire tract was transferred to Andrew Brackett, Josiah Bissell, Darius Perria, Christopher Amsden, George R. Clark and George W. Pratt, and it is a condition of this transfer which causes a question regarding ownership at the present time." It was agreed that the owners of the park and adjacent streets should benefit by keeping them open. The contention was that this would in fact give the "owners of lots on the original tract...an easement which entitles them to have Flower City park kept open and it is contended that this affects the ownership."(UA, 1897)

An 1875 plat of Rochester shows Lake View Park with the roadway providing access to a complete surround of private lots with the single median forming the central green space. A later plat from 1888 shows the addition of two side streets, Raines Park and the Highlands, and a connecting road, Willard Park, from Pierpont Avenue to the Boulevard (Dewey Avenue) along the side of the Rochester Driving Park. The central median is still one single open space. At this time only a few houses were indicated in the subdivision, four along the southern edge and the others between the Highlands and Lake Avenue on the northern edge.

2. Olmsted Influences

A letter from C.C. Laney, superintendent of parks to Olmsted, Olmsted & Eliot dated March 11, 1897 states "Gentlemen: - I shall send under separate cover a plan of Lake View Park. One of the aldermen is anxious to have you visit Rochester and prepare a plan for the improvement of the park, and has asked me to write to you to inquire what you will charge to visit Rochester and prepare a plan for the improvement of the park." In August of that same year C.C. Laney contacted the firm again authorizing his visit to Lake View Park and mentioned that the property

owners were willing to abide by his decisions. Six plans were prepared by the firm between August 19, 1897 and October 8, 1897. A shrub planting list prepared for a September 1897 plan by the firm for Lake View Park included a variety of deciduous, flowering shrubs, trees and bulbs:

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Berberis thunbergii</i> | Japanese Barberry |
| <i>Spiraea thunbergii</i> | |
| <i>Kerria japonica</i> | |
| <i>Rhodotypos kerrioides</i> | White Kerria |
| <i>Cydonia japonica</i> | Japanese Quince |
| <i>Stephanandra flexuosa</i> | |
| <i>Rosa setigera</i> | Prairie Rose |
| <i>Rosa blanda</i> | Wild Rose |
| <i>Symphoricarpos racemosus</i> | Snow-berry |
| <i>Rosa rugosa</i> | Rhamnas Rose |
| <i>Hypericum kalmianum</i> | St. John's-wort |
| <i>Hypericum moserianum</i> | |
| <i>Deutzia gracilis</i> | |
| <i>Clethra alnifolia</i> | Sweet Pepper-bush |
| <i>Forsythia suspensa</i> | Golden Bell |
| <i>Forsythia intermedia</i> | |
| <i>Althea</i> in var. | |
| <i>Cornus sanguinea</i> | Cornel |
| <i>Spiraea van houttei</i> | |
| <i>Paeonies</i> | |

Trees:

| | |
|---|--------------|
| <i>Betula alba</i> | White Birch |
| <i>Betula nigra</i> | Black Birch |
| <i>Cladrastis tinctoria</i> | |
| <i>Cerasus japonica rosea</i> | |
| <i>Fagus sylvatica</i> | |
| <i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i> | Tulip |
| <i>Cytisus laburnum</i> | Golden Chain |
| <i>Pyrus baccata</i> var. <i>carnea</i> plano | |

Bulbs:

Lilium aura
Crocuses

This same plant list is used for the existing planting plan, Lake View Park, Preliminary Planting Plan, October 8, 1897 by F.L. and J.C. Olmsted (see Figure II.15). The plan shows curvilinear and informally organized shrub beds scattered within the central park area. Shrub beds are placed at the corners of the three intersection streets along the north side. Existing tree locations are shown and labeled. These include Elm, Silver Maple, Horsechestnut, White Ash, Yellow Birch, Sugar Maple, Cherry, Locust, Catalpa, Red Oak, and White Birch. Elms line the verge closest to the residences on both sides of the park. Silver Maples and Elms dominate the verge between the sidewalk and road edge also on both sides of the park. New trees are spaced throughout the

park filling in gaps in the lines of trees. No existing trees are shown at the entrance from Lake Avenue. This area is dominated with the shrub beds and only two proposed trees. A proposed fountain is indicated for the intersection at Fairview Heights and Lakeview Park. Three beds of Japanese Barberry are shown around the fountain. The central grass area is subdivided into three separate islands with crossings at the intersection of Raines Park and Fairview Heights.

Common council minutes of December 31, 1897 indicate that "the improvements in Lake View park are completed, except the manuring, grass seeding and shrub and bed planting designed by the landscape architect." The Park Commissioners Report from January 1, 1897 to January 1, 1898 indicated also that the improvements in Lake View Park were not completed. By January 1st, 1898 it was reported that Lake View Park was included as one of the parks and boulevards under the care of the park board. (PCR, 1899)

Executive Board proceedings of the Street, Water Works and Fire Departments of December 1898 indicates that a fee of \$ 192.88 was paid to F.L. & J. C. Olmsted for services as landscape architects of Lake View Park.

The Park Commissioners Report from 1888 to 1898 indicated that Lake View Park was 4.41 acres in size. An 1897 report by E.M. Moore, President of the Park Commission stated that a May 5th, 1891 act created parkways for Rochester. These were "intended especially for residence and consist of lawn and rows of trees in front of the property which is built on, one or two roadways are constructed, dependent upon the width of the parkway". (PCR, 1888-1898) This law gave the power to create parkways to the Park Commission but did not also give them the power to assess the abutting property owners. Another special act was then created to fund the improvements and maintenance, "not more than ten cents a running foot" would be assessed annually to the abutting owners for maintenance. "Under this act a parkway extending one mile has been constructed, extending westward from Lake Avenue through lands formerly known as the Lake View Association". (PCR, 1888-1898)

A report of a visit to the site by John C. Olmsted, November 11, 1901, mentions that the park was completed "but only three beds of shrubs at east end were put in. The trees were thinned elsewhere, and the surface seeded to grass."

A 1904 plan of Maple Grove Park shows the relationship of Lake View Park to the grove. The path from the shelter aligns with the northern sidewalk of Lake View Park. Lake View Park is not shown in any detail, with only the layout of the streets, walks and curb cuts indicated.

3. Early 20th Century

By 1900 the plat plan shows more houses built in the subdivision. The park remains as a single central space.

A January 1903 survey of Lake View Park by J. S. Judson shows a plan and elevation of the streets and park with the layout of the sidewalks, streets, driveways, road cuts, park entrance stairs, light posts, property owners and property lines. This is a more detailed drawing of the same configuration seen on the 1888 and 1900 plats. The park includes an area from Lake Avenue to Pierpont Avenue separated into three, broad medians. Two side streets intersect the park and bisect the middle grassy area. The right-of-ways around the central median are identical on both

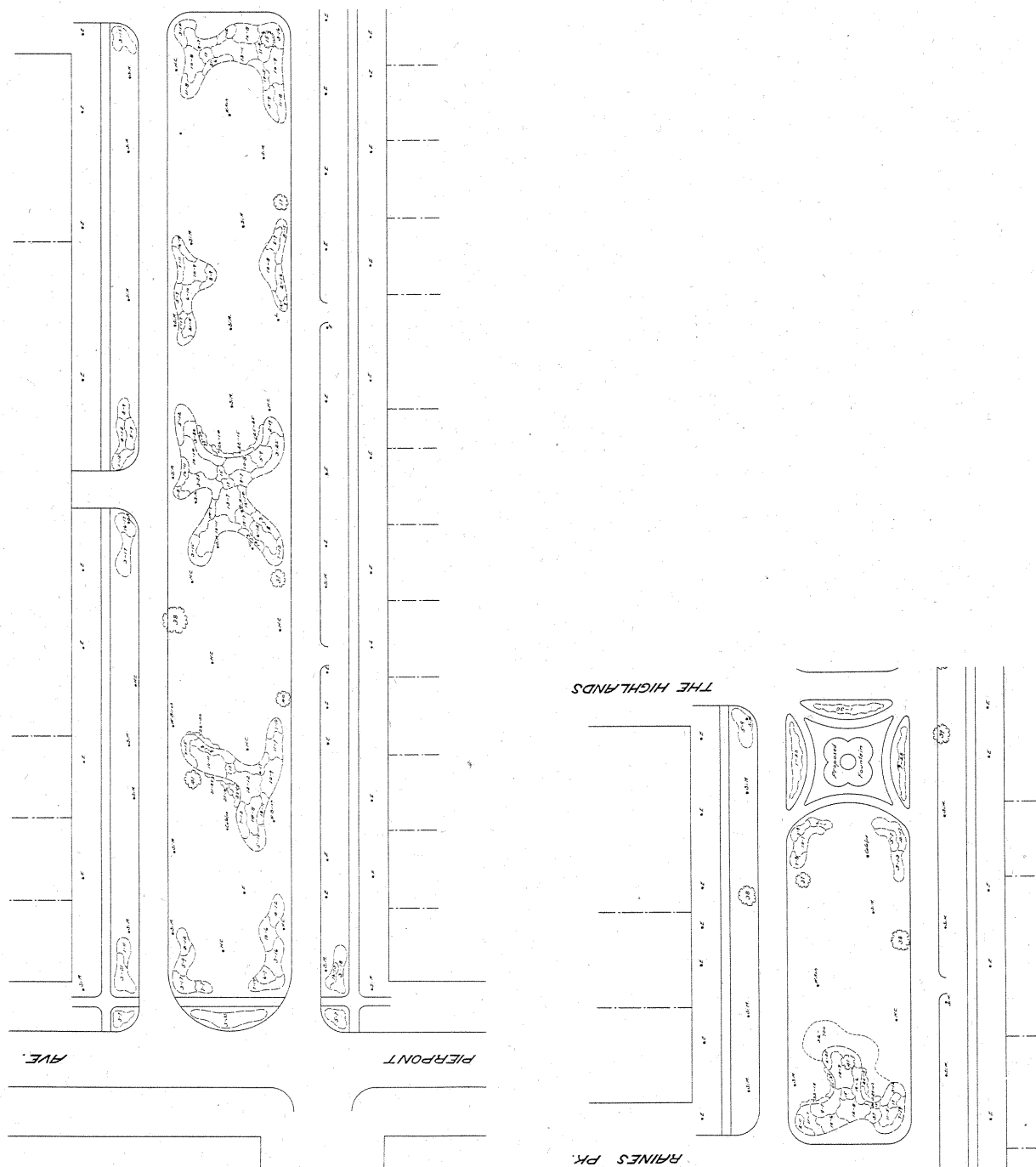


Figure II.15A: Western Portion of Preliminary Planting Plan for Lake View Park, F.L. & J.C. Olmsted, Landscapes Architects, October 8, 1897. Courtesy Archives, Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site.

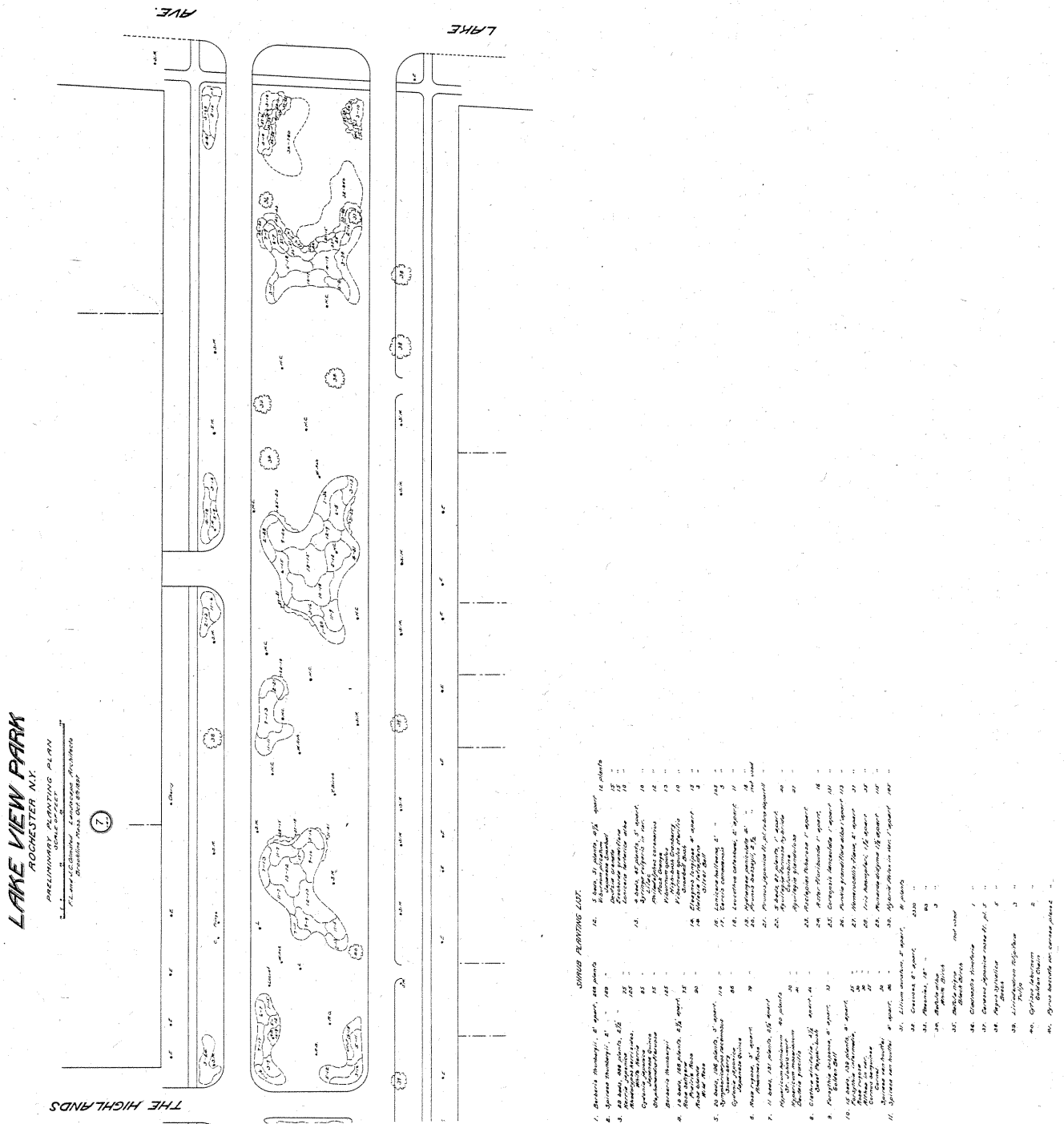


Figure II.15B: Eastern Portion of Preliminary Planting Plan for Lake View Park, F.L. & J.C. Olmsted, Landscapes Architects, October 8, 1897. Courtesy Archives, Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site.

sides of the park. Each had a fifteen foot road paralleled by: a fifteen foot grassy area, a five foot wide cement sidewalk and another fifteen feet of grass before the edge of the private lots. The Pottle family evidently still owned a portion of the subdivision during this period. An Edward L. Pottle owned two of the largest lots on the northern side of Lake View Avenue. At this time there were twenty-three different private owners, three banks and one publishing firm that owned lots in the subdivision. Lot frontages ranged from a low of forty-one feet to a high of two hundred and ninety feet owned by E. Pottle. Several of the lots along the south side of the park varied from the original subdivision layout. Each was to be forty-one feet wide, as indicated on the 1884 plan. In fact, several of these lots acquired portions of adjacent lots. There were now nineteen lots forty-one feet wide, two lots sixty-one feet, one lot eighty-five feet, one lot two hundred feet and four lots between fifteen and twenty-three feet wide. The configuration of the northern lots changed dramatically from the original subdivision plan. Several of the larger lots were further subdivided and a new road was placed along the edge of the former E.L. Pottle lot, #15, now owned by the Lawyer's Cooperative Publishing Co.

The Park Commissioners report from 1903 indicates that trees were trimmed along Lake View Park during the year and tulip bulbs were planted. In the 1904 Park Commissioners Report Lake View Park was listed as one of the small city parks and was the second largest of these at 5.17 acres.

The 1910 plat again shows further development of the house lots with more houses built along the park. Another side street was added on the northern edge making three side streets accessing the park, Lakeview Terrace, Raines Park and Fairview Heights. The three parks areas are shown with rounded ends.

A park commissioners report from 1911 stated that additional trees were planted in Lake View Park. They included American Elms, Norway Maples, European Lindens, Canoe Birches, and Oriental Planes. The work was done by the park employees with reimbursement from the Local Improvement Fund of the Common Council (PCR, 1911)

A postcard dated 1913 shows a view along Lake View Park (see Figure II.16). A line of large American Elm trees is seen between the houses and the sidewalk. In the tree lawn area from the sidewalk and the street a wide grassy strip contains another a line of trees. In the broad median between the streets mature deciduous trees, smaller trees and clusters of shrubs are found. This area is shaded by the large tree canopies. Red sandstone curbs line both sides of the brick street.

Two 1918 aerial photographs of the area shows the Lake View Park with a relatively heavy tree canopy (see Figure II.17). The central grassy area includes deciduous trees and a line of trees visible along both sides of the sidewalks flanking the park. The trees within the park were of various sizes. Most of the mature trees are located in the two park areas to the west of Lake Avenue while the one closest to Maplewood Park shows smaller trees. Mature trees are visible on both sides of the side streets, Fairview Heights and Raines Park. Lakeview Terrace, on the other hand, shows newly planted street trees on both sides of the road. Pierpont Street shows a combination of mature trees and newly planted street trees. Only the west side of Lake Avenue is planted with street trees while the east side at Maplewood Park shows informal tree groves. Some flower or shrub beds are noticeable at the entrance to the park at Lake Avenue and at the intersection of Fairview Heights.



Figure II.16: Postcard view of Lake View Park, 1913. Courtesy private collection of Ellen B. Schnurr.

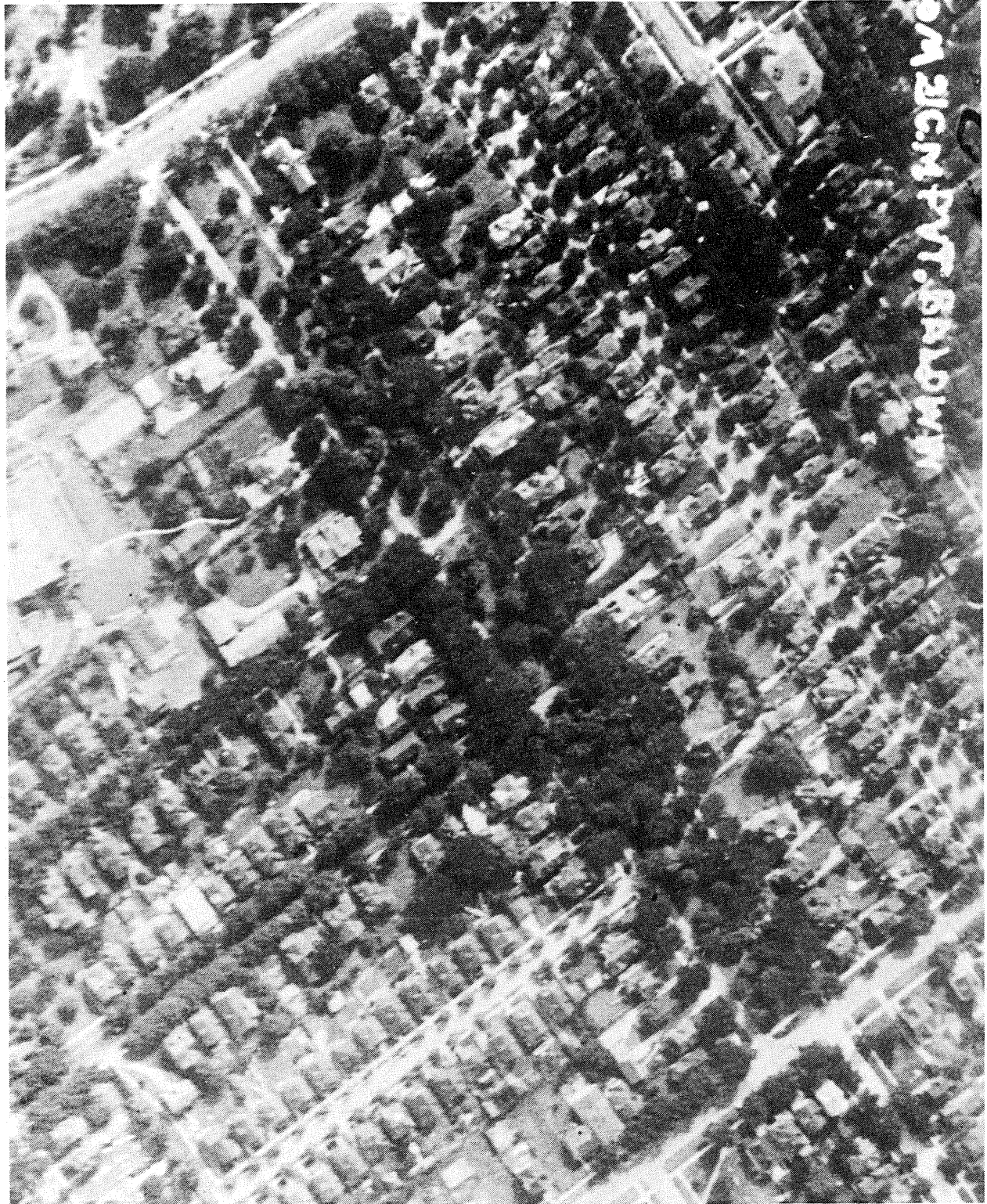


Figure II.17: Aerial view of Lake View Park, 1918. Courtesy of City of Rochester, Department of Engineering Records.

A 1926 aerial of the park shows that the mature trees were retained in the park. The two sections furthest from Maplewood Park are still heavily treed. Little can be seen of the ground plane in this portion of the park. In the section closest to Maplewood Park the trees still are less dense with smaller trees scattered amongst the large deciduous trees. Flower or shrub beds are shown at the Lake Avenue end of the park and less clearly at the opposite end at Pierpont Street.

A 1926 Plat confirms the configuration of Lake View Park as three separate median areas between Lake Avenue and Pierpont Street. At Raines Park and Fairview Heights, the streets cross the park connecting to the south portion of the boulevard. Generally uniform house lots line both sides of the boulevard. Only at the corner of Lake Avenue and Lake View Park is there a difference, with most of the land owned by the Nazareth Academy in one large lot.

The 1935 plat shows the park in detail. Lot dimensions are noted and the location of the sidewalks and roadways outlined. The park is shown as four separate central islands with three street crossings at the intersections of Lake View Terrace, Raines Park, and Fairview Heights. The surrounding residential lots are fully developed.

In the early twentieth century Lake View Park, spanning several blocks from Lake Avenue and Pierpont and encompassing 5.18 acres, was described as one of the "very fine boulevard parkways such as Flower City Park, Lake View and Genesee Park Boulevard". (Raitt, 1929)

An undated photograph shows a decorative light post and base at the entrance to the parkway at the corner of Lake Avenue and Lake View Park. This cast iron post has designs of plant stems, leaves and flowers and a pleasing luminaire. Half way up the post is a street sign. The red Medina sandstone base is carefully finished with raised lettering for "Lakeview Park". This winter view shows several of the mature deciduous trees along the roads and within Maple Grove Park.

4. Recent History

Some changes were made to the drives along Lake View Park in the early 1960s. A series of photographs of the park from before August 6, 1963 show the streets as brick with stone curbs (see Figures II.18, II.19 & II.20). Some of the private driveways look to be constructed of the same type of brick. The brick was textured and laid in a running bond pattern. Elm trees are found along portions of the streets and in many of the yards. The sidewalk entrance at Lake Avenue is accessed by five stone stairs at the southern end and three steps at the northern entrance walk. The street lights look to be metal construction with a graceful arch. The sidewalks look to be concrete and run parallel to the street at both extremes of the park, along the property frontages. Each house had a front walk that connected directly to the curb, running perpendicular from the house.

These 1963 photos show that within the park itself the open grass lawn remained and was interspersed with flowering shrubs and deciduous trees. Mature deciduous trees are scattered throughout the whole park. Shrubs are found only in a few spots, in the grassy park area at the end nearest Lake Avenue, near the intersection of Raines Park, and across from the Nazareth School. Newly planted trees line one edge of the entrance section and are scattered about the park in between the mature deciduous trees.

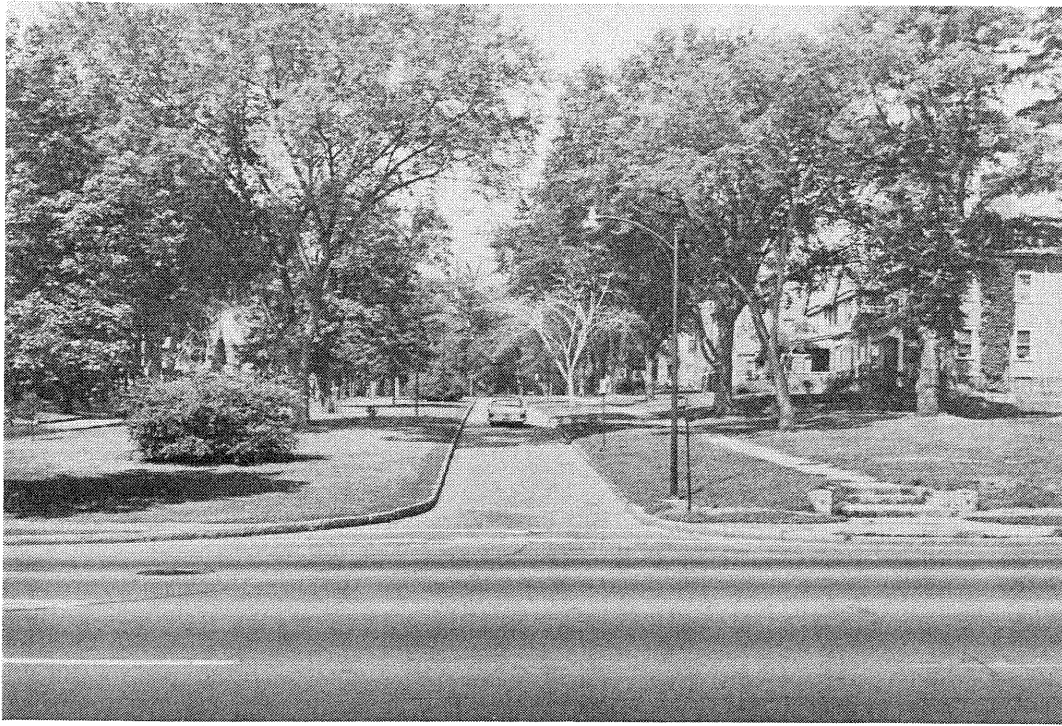


Figure II.18: View west at north side of entrance to park.
Figure II.19: View west at south side of entrance to Lake View Park. Both photographs, pre-August 6, 1963. Courtesy of City of Rochester, Department of Engineering Records.



Figure II.20: View west of Lake View Park at intersection of Fairview Heights. Pre-August 6, 1963.
Figure II.21: View west of park at intersection of Fairview Heights. November 14, 1963. Courtesy of City of Rochester, Department of Engineering Records.



Figure II.22: Historic view of the more southerly entrance from Lake Avenue to Lake View Park. Notice the ornate luminaire on a massive sandstone base at the edge of the sidewalk. Courtesy Rochester Public Library, Local History Department.



Figure II.23: Current view of the more southerly entrance from Lake Avenue to Lake View Park and the remnant light base. LANDSCAPES 1993.

Between August and November, 1963 Lake View Avenue was widened and repaved. Photos taken of the park after November 14, 1963 show that the brick street was paved over with asphalt (see Figure II.21). The street was widened by the taking of a portion of the central green space. Changes to the curbs may have also occurred during construction of the new drives but were not visible in these photographs. These winter views show many mature Elms along the park and house frontages.

Currently the light posts at the entrance along Lake Avenue, seen in the early undated photographs, are missing. These were removed from their sandstone bases some time during the late twentieth century. The sandstone pillars look to be still in their original location (see Figures II.22 & II.23).

In the past few years, 1992-1993, several mature trees were removed by the City from the park. This was accompanied by a great public outcry from the local residents. Many of these trees were determined to be in poor health and many had great amounts of rot in their main trunks. Several of the trees removed were Red Maples, ranging in size from twenty-one to thirty-two inches in diameter. Other trees that were removed included London Plane, Crabapple, Purpleleaf Plum, and Hedge Maple. Most of these trees were much smaller in size (six to twelve inches in diameter) than the Red Maples. The park is now much more open in character than in previous years or as intended by the Olmsted firm in their designs for the park. Small flowering trees flank the ends of the park, providing a bold color in the spring. Only a few remaining flowering shrubs are found along the edge of the drives in the park.

5. Reference Documents

Olmsted Job # 1106: Lake View Park

Letters: C.C. Laney to OO&E, March 11, 1897; Laney to FL & JC Olmsted, August 13, 1897; Report JCO, November 11, 1901; Planting List September 1897

Plans: 1894 Survey Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site (FLONHS)

Lakeview Park Preliminary Planting Plan, Olmsted, October 8, 1897

Maple Grove, 1904

Planimetric Map of Area, City of Rochester, 1975

Existing Site Plan, Clark Patterson Mossien, January 29, 1993

Plats: 1875 Hopkins, 1888 Hopkins, 1900 Hopkins, 1910 Hopkins, 1910 Hopkins, 1918 Hopkins, 1926 Hopkins, 1935 Hopkins

Aerial: 1918 and 1926 Historic Aerial Photographs

Photographic views: 2 early twentieth century, 10 pre-August 1963, 2 November 1963

Postcards: 1 1913

Park Commissioners Report: 1888-1898, 1904, 1911

Common Council Meetings: 1897

Newspaper Articles: Union & Advertiser 1897, U&A 1896, U&A 1872, U&A 1893

Other: A Survey of Recreational Facilities in Rochester, NY. Raitt, Charles. June, 1929.

Proceedings of the Executive Board of the City of Rochester, N.Y. in charge of the Street Water Works and Fire Departments and of Public Improvements for the year ending December 31, 1898.

A Growing Legacy. McKelvey, Dr. Blake. 1988

E. LUNSFORD CIRCLE, PLYMOUTH PARK, CALEDONIA SQUARE

1. Origins/Early History

This park was laid out in 1824 by Elisha Johnson, part of the Caledonia Tract. It was originally called Caledonia Square and was considered common land. Another source mentions that the park was dedicated about 1837 by subdivision. (Raitt, 1929)

From 1834 through 1859 the park was called Caledonia Square. After that time the square changed shape and formed an oval, Plymouth Avenue became a dedicated street and the park began to be known as Plymouth Park. An 1875 plat survey by Hopkins shows Plymouth Park as an oval with one path crossing in line with Plymouth Avenue. Portions of the surrounding street look to have been removed to form right angled blocks, rather than curving blocks following the circle. A plat by Robinson done in 1888 shows the park with the same configuration as in 1875.

Common Council Proceedings indicate that the city surveyor was asked to ascertain the expense of improving Plymouth Square in 1893. It was determined to be \$2,500. "The improvements of Plymouth Square or park including the position of Plymouth Avenue enclosed in said Plymouth Square or park, in accordance with the plan prepared by Olmsted, Olmsted & Eliot, landscape architects. The improvement to consist of grading said square, seeding down the grass plots, removing existing flag stone walks, setting out shrubbery, furnishing seats and making Portland cement walks with dwarf curbs on each side thereof, substantially as shown on said plan." (CCP Monday, May 29, 1893-4) The amount of the estimate was approved and \$2049.62 was paid for the improvements as reported by the City Surveyor's office October 24, 1893. \$201 was also paid out that same year to the Olmsted firm for the planting plan. (CCM, 1893-94)

Park Commissioners report from 1894 indicate that the employees of the Park Board, with City money, appropriated by the Common Council, planted Plymouth Square. The cement walks in the park were repaired in the year 1900 according to the Park Commissioners report from January 1, 1901.

2. Olmsted Influences

The Olmsted firm was sent a plan and photographs of the park as per a letter from JY McClintock, the City surveyor, on March 30, 1893. The existing conditions survey of the park was made by the Olmsted firm before work began. The park was an oval with two straight paths that intersected slightly off center. All of the trees, mostly maples and horsechestnuts were located. The park was redesigned by the Olmsted Firm in 1893 with a study dated May 1893. This shows a new configuration of paths, seating areas, trees and flower beds. Another letter from JY McClintock, indicates that work had begun on Washington Square according to their designs and "...we want to do the same by Plymouth Park..."

In June, 1893, a letter from JY McClintock relays that "a first ordinance for laying cement walks in straight lines diagonally through Jones Square at an estimated expense of \$1,800." This was "the largest of our squares being 450 ft. by 650 ft." A contract was let later in June for improvements to the park according to the Olmsted designs. (from JYM 6/30/1893)

Another historic plan, #47, Plan Showing Original Survey of Park and Plan Showing New Walks As Laid Out, Olmsted plan shows mostly maples around the outside (Olmsted spelled Olmstead, this may be a lithograph copy). The original planting plan by the Olmsted firm from September 29, 1893 shows the same new configuration of paths and beds as the lithograph. The paths start at the same points along the edge of the circle but curve in and meet a central oval path. (See Figure II.24) These paths form a new interior space of grass with a low curbed edge. A small central circle is within this oval and encircled by a path. Seating areas are located along the central oval walk in four locations. These are backed by dense plantings of shrubs. Shrub beds are placed at each of the entrances to the park. Twenty six types of shrubs are specified for these new beds. They are all deciduous flowering shrubs of varying sizes. The largest was the White Fringe at twelve to twenty feet, the smallest Yellow Root at two to three feet. The list of plants is as follows:

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Cornus alternifolia</i> | Alternate-leaved Cornel |
| <i>Lindera benzoin</i> | Spice Bush |
| <i>Chionanthus virginicus</i> | White Fringe |
| <i>Ligustrum ibota</i> | |
| <i>Ligustrum vulgare</i> | Common Privet |
| <i>Ligustrum ovalifolium</i> | California Privet |
| <i>Viburnum dentatum</i> | Arrowwood |
| <i>Aralia pentaphylla</i> | |
| <i>Cornus sericea</i> | Silky Cornel |
| <i>Rhodotypos kerrioides</i> | |
| <i>Clethera alnifolia</i> | Pepperbush |
| <i>Calycanthus floridus</i> | Sweet Scented Shrub |
| <i>Berberis vulgaris</i> | Common Barberry |
| <i>Rosa multiflora</i> | |
| <i>Cornus sanguinea</i> | Red Osier |
| <i>Stephanandra flexuosa</i> | |
| <i>Zantharhiza apiifolia</i> | Yellow Root |
| <i>Symphoricarpos vulgaris</i> | Indian Currant |
| <i>Symphoricarpos racemosus</i> | Snowberry |
| <i>Spiraea Van Houtteii</i> | |
| <i>Spiraea thunbergii</i> | |
| <i>Kerria japonica</i> | Globe Flower |
| <i>Berberis thunbergii</i> | Thunberg's Barberry |
| <i>Forsythia suspensa</i> | Golden Bell |
| <i>Daphne mezereum</i> | Daphne |
| <i>Rubus deliciosus</i> | Boulder Raspberry |

A report by John Charles Olmsted in January, 1896 indicates that the shrubberies looked unmolested, a few trees needed to be cut down, and that the wire fence was controlling the pedestrian traffic. (from JCO 1/15/1896)

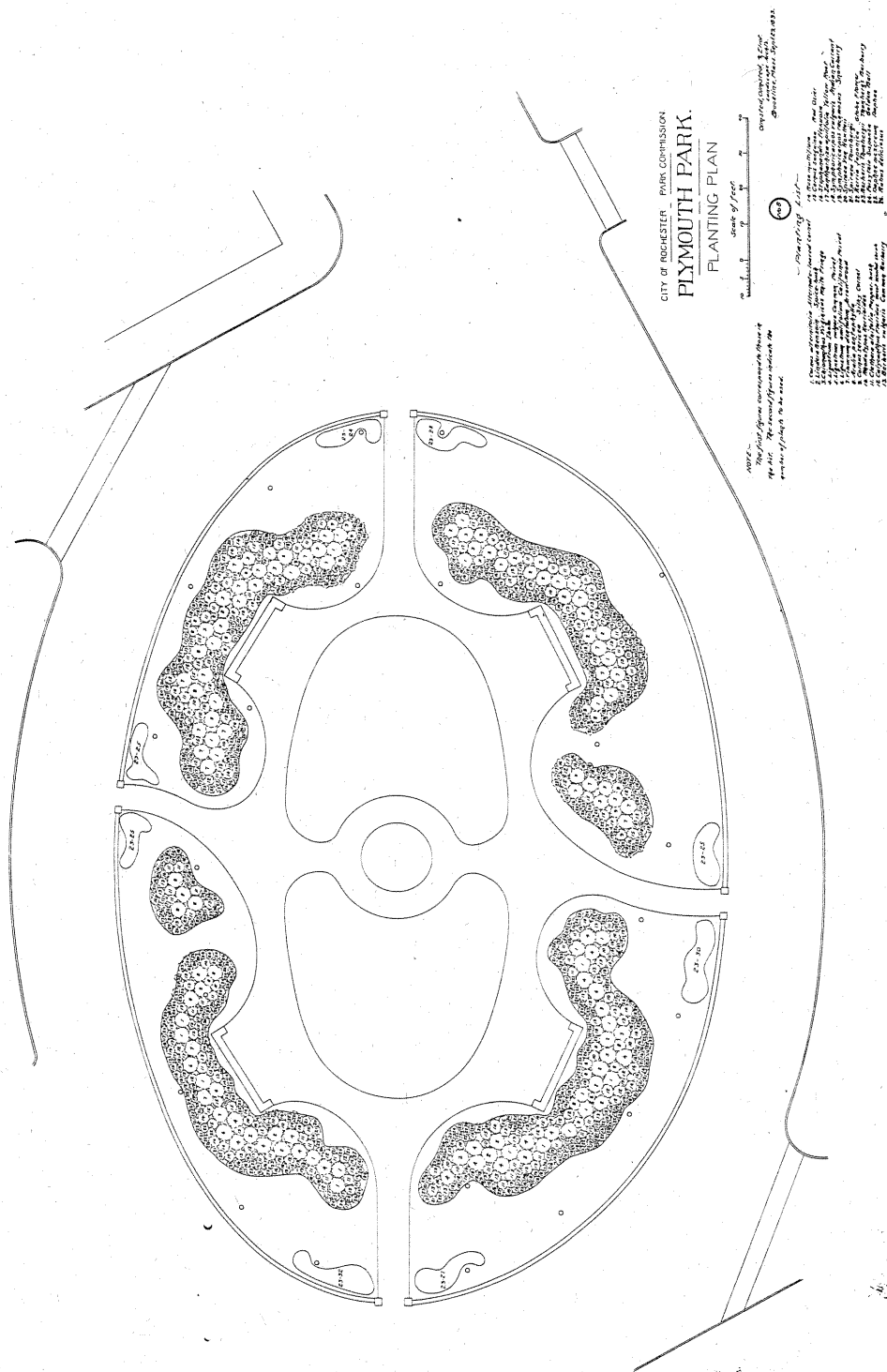


Figure II.24: Plymouth Park Planting Plan, City of Rochester, Park Commission by Olmsted, Olmsted & Eliot, Landscape Architects, Brookline, Mass. September 29, 1893. Courtesy collection of the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site.

3. Early 20th Century

"Two flower beds of cannas and coleus were planted in" the park during 1903 (PCR 1888-1904). The floral displays for that year were reported to have been provided by local nurserymen. (McKelvey, 1988) 1905 Common Council meeting minutes mention "the shrubs masses in Plymouth Park were reduced in extent, and views into the center of the park opened up. Eight large flower beds were made in the center. Six of them elliptical in outline and two rectangular. These beds were filled with six thousand foliage and flowering plants, and the park presented a very bright and beautiful appearance throughout. Eight thousand mixed tulips were planted in all the beds in the fall."

1909 Annual Report of the Park Commission indicated that "an ornamental fountain was put into Plymouth Park and the high shrubs cut down and low ones planted."

1910 Hopkins Atlas shows that the paths and bed outlines were implemented in accordance with the Olmsted plan. A 1918 Hopkins plat shows the park with the new path and bed outlines as designed by Olmsted. Two large kidney shaped beds surround the central circle. An oval path is formed around the central beds which connects to the street with four entrance paths. Four bench alcoves are placed along the edge of the oval path facing the central feature. A 1918 aerial shows the same circulation system as the plat map. (See Figure II.25) Several mature deciduous trees are scattered about the park, about seventeen. The central lawn areas are scattered with circular beds, probably planted with annuals. This same circulation system is again seen on the 1926 plat by Hopkins. The 1926 aerial is very similar to the early aerial done in 1918, but it is not as clear. The park seems to have not changed.

Early 20th century historic postcard views show mature deciduous trees with small clumps of dense, deciduous shrubs along the sidewalk edges. Formal beds of annuals and bulbs are located mainly in the central oval of lawn, surrounding the central fountain. The edge of the park is encircled with a high Medina sandstone curbing, while the entrances are flanked with matching sandstone pillars. The park seemed to be a popular spot for residents of the neighborhood. (See Figures II.26, II.27 & II.28) Another view of the park focuses on the street surrounding the park. At the park edge is the sandstone curb curving towards one of the entrances. Mature elms can be seen in that portion of the park.

In 1929 the square contained grass, shrubs, trees and .1 mile of improved walks. It was similar to Franklin Square in that it was "merely a street plot embellished." (Raitt, 1929)

Council proceedings from the 1930s indicated that WPA workers maintained the park. In 1938, the City relocated the intersection of Plymouth Avenue South to lessen traffic around the park.

4. Recent History

By the 1960s and 70s, the area around the park had deteriorated. It became part of the Third Ward Urban Renewal Project and part of the Madison Code Enforcement Project, NYE-3. Since that time, the area has become a model neighborhood.

In 1967, the park was re-landscaped and a gazebo placed as the central focal point. The gazebo came from St. Josephs Church on Franklin Street. A June 1968 Planting Plan Layout by the City

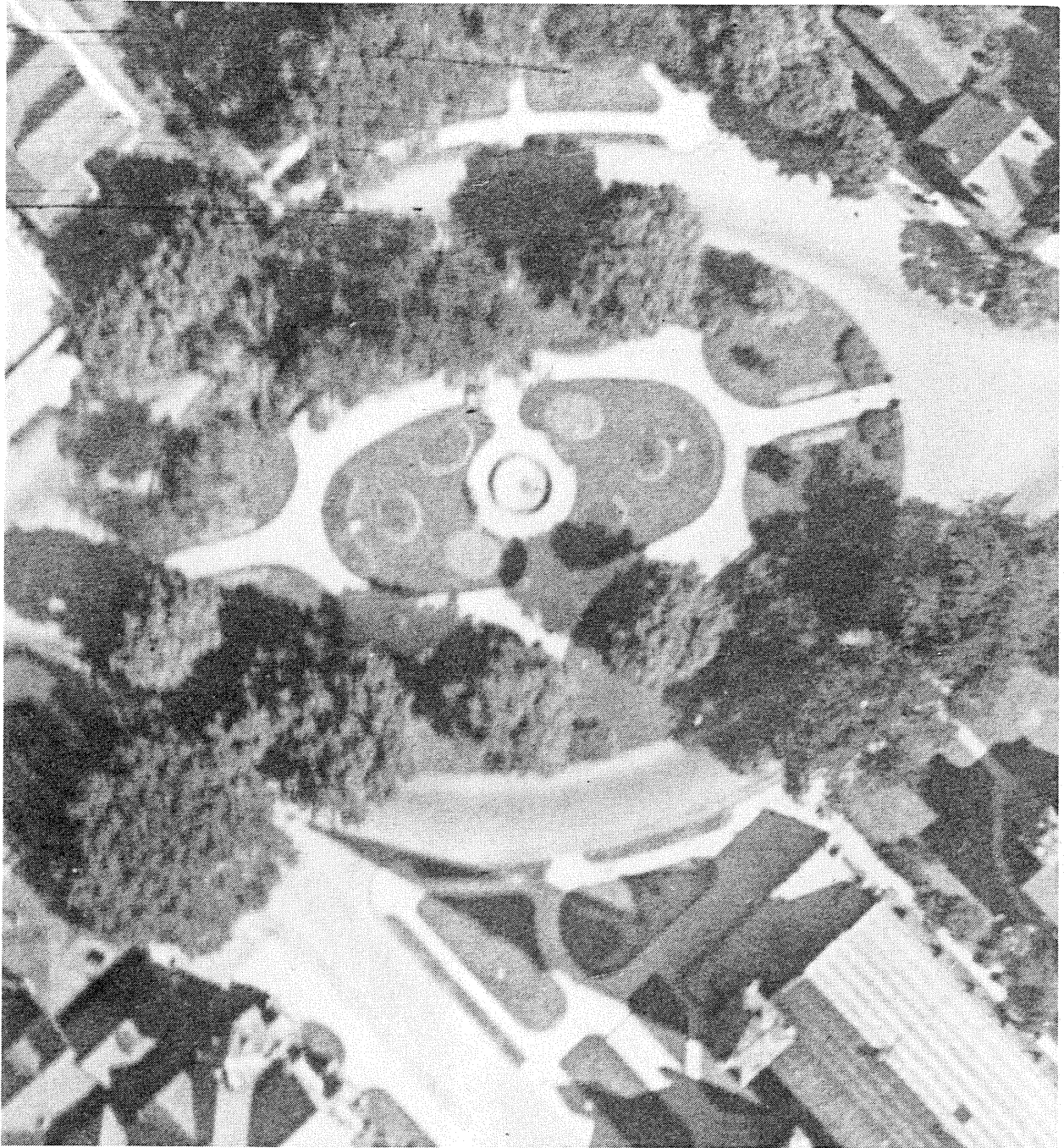


Figure II.25: Aerial photograph of Plymouth Park, 1918. Courtesy of City of Rochester, Department of Engineering Records.



Figure II.26: Plymouth Park, Rochester, N.Y., c. 1907. Postcard courtesy private collection of Ellen B. Schnurr.



Figure II.27: Plymouth Park, Rochester, N.Y. showing central fountain and annual beds.
Figure II.28: Plymouth Park, Rochester, N.Y. showing shrub beds under mature deciduous trees.
Postcards courtesy private collection of Ellen B. Schnurr.

shows four existing trees to be removed, two of these elms, and only two existing trees to remain. New deciduous trees were added, as were Flowering Crabs, Amur Maple, Baltic Ivy and daffodils.

In 1977 plans and details were drawn by Carol Johnson and Associates. These include benches, paving of brick, concrete sidewalks, ramp details, and the gazebo platform. The proposed site plan developed in January 1977 shows an off center gazebo and a new system of paths. Three straight diagonal paths intersect in a central square. An outer oval walk encircles the park. Concrete is used for all the walks. New trees, including evergreens, are planted in groups of two or three informally around the circle. The existing deciduous trees remain. Benches are located along the edge of the paths in grass. Lilacs are specified for one grouping.

5. Reference Documents

Olmsted Job # 1107: Plymouth Square (Lunsford Circle)
Letters: 4 JY McClintock to OO&E, 1893

Plans: Plymouth Park Planting Plan, Olmsted, September 29, 1893
Study for Rearrangement of Plymouth Park-No 2, Olmsted
Plymouth Circle Planting Plan, City of Rochester, June 6, 1968
Planimetric Map of Area, City of Rochester, 1975
Plymouth Ave Circle Proposed Planting Plan, Carol R. Johnson, January 12, 1977
Plymouth Circle/Plymouth Mall Site Details, Carol R. Johnson, November 19, 1977
(Sheets No. A-4 & A-5)
Existing Site Plan, Clark Patterson Mossien, January 29, 1993
Plats: 1875 Hopkins, 1888 Robinson, 1910 Hopkins, 1918 Hopkins, 1926 Hopkins
Aerial: 1918 and 1926 Historic Aerial Photographs
Photographic views: 1 c. 1890s, 6 1915-1926
Postcards: 10 c. 1910, 3 c. 1950s
Park Commissioners Reports: 1888-1904, 1909
Common Council Meetings: 1893-1894, 1905, 1938
Newspaper Articles:
Other: A Survey of Recreational Facilities in Rochester, NY. Raitt, Charles. June, 1929.
A Growing Legacy. McKelvey, Dr. Blake. 1988.

E. MAPLEWOOD ROSE GARDEN, part of SENECA PARK WEST

1. Origins/Early History

Purchased by Ellwanger and Barry in the early 1860s. An 1888 plat shows that the area later known as Maplewood Park was a subdivision along Maplewood Avenue. Houses were shown in the block along Driving Park between Lake Avenue and Buell Avenue.

Part of the Maplewood Park was called Maple Grove. This is where Chauncey B. Woodworth and James Whitney "fenced it in and maintained it as recreation grounds." A pavilion was built of cedar and was used for picnics. Annual outings of labor organizations occurred and military

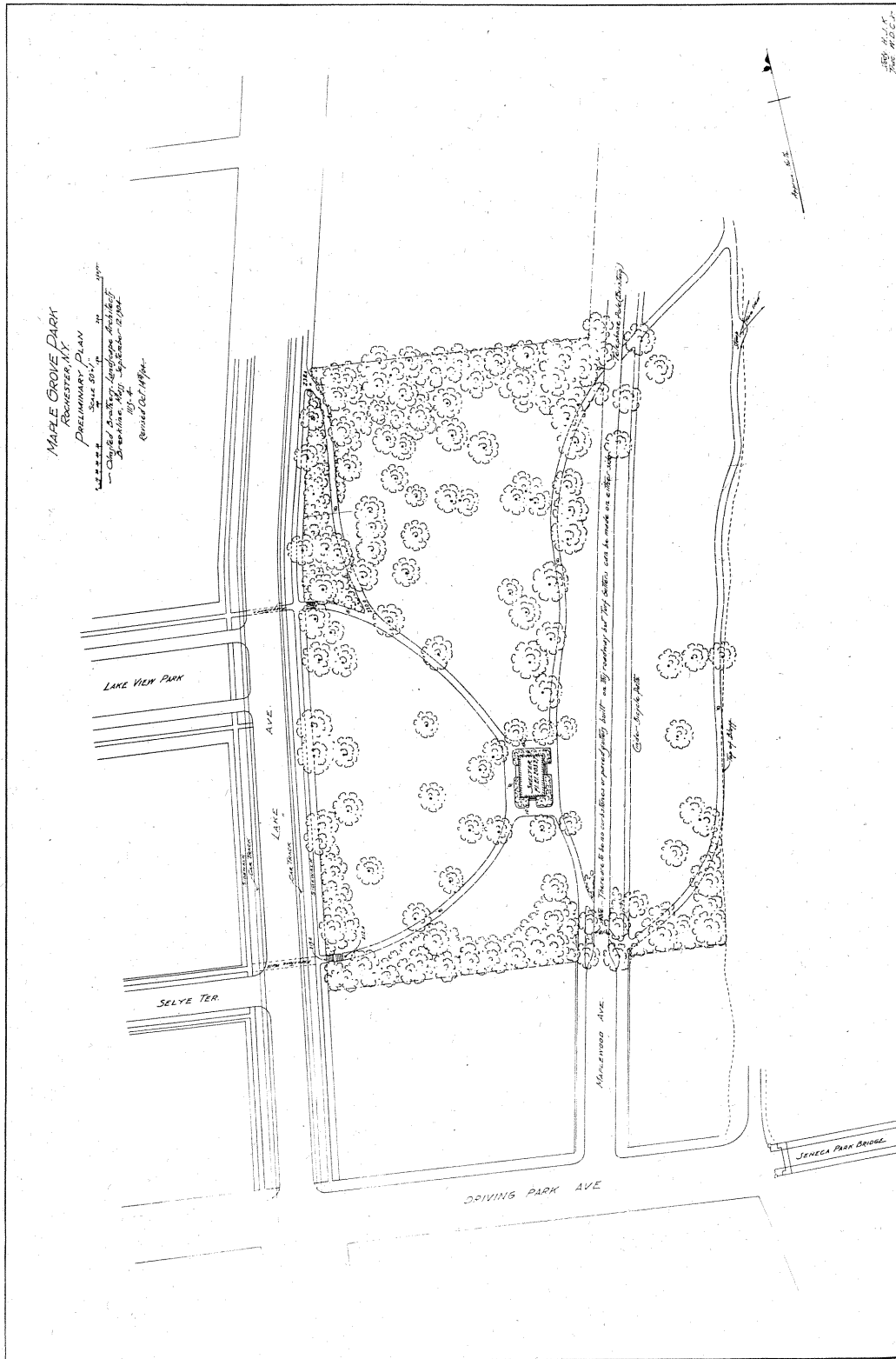


Figure II.29: Preliminary Plan of Maple Grove Park, Rochester, N.Y. by Olmsted Brothers, Landscape Architects, revised October 14, 1904. Courtesy collection of the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site.

companies used it for summer drills. A German beer garden was formed in the grove in the late 1860s with Sunday bands. These were very rowdy affairs and soon ended.

In 1895 George Eastman and Walter B. Duffy presented the land to the city between Maple Grove and Driving Park Avenue. The Chamber of Commerce endorsed the purchase of the Maple Grove tract and so it was acquired by the City in 1903. (McKelvey, 1988) A report from the superintendent and engineer in the Park Commissioners Report dated December 31, 1903 indicates that "George Ellwanger and others, brought an action against the City of Rochester for damages for trespass and a nuisance created by the construction of the east side sewer, and in settlement of above action the city authorities deemed it advisable to buy land and turn it over to the Park Commissioners for park purposes."

The purchase price was \$50,000 with yearly installment payments of \$5,000. (PCR, 1903) Subsequently the name of the park was then changed from Seneca Park West to Maplewood Park. "Up to January 28, 1904 there was Seneca Park East and Seneca Park West. At that date, however, the Park Commissioners changed the name of the west side grounds to Maplewood Park." (1908, Rochester Park System).

2. Olmsted Influences

An 1893 plan, #1108-100, by the Olmsted firm was used to develop the final 1893 engraving of the General Plan for Seneca Park. This plan shows a portion of Maplewood Park, the area along the edge of the river up to the entrance road along the edge of the Maple Grove Park. Several paths begin at Driving Park Avenue by the bridge. One follows the top of the bluff, eventually connecting to a path along the river's edge. Another path continues along the top of the bluff, paralleling in portions the park drives. An inclined railway is located next to the bridge, this connects to one of the lower paths, along the edge of the river. This path lead past the Glen House and the Boat House. Stairs lead from the upper paths down to the Glen House. Park drives parallel the top of the bluff and connect to other park drives in Seneca Park and to Seneca Parkway. The General Plan for Seneca Park, 1893, shows in more detail all of the features on the previous plan.

Olmsted notes indicate work was in progress in 1904 on Maple Grove Park. A letter of a visit by John Charles Olmsted in June, indicates that the property of Ellwanger and Barry was purchased "thus nearly completing our plan on that side of the river". (from JCO 6/2/1904) Olmsted mentioned further details of improvements needed to make the park more attractive. A June 1904 plan by the Olmsted firm shows the existing conditions of the Maple Grove before the rose garden was added to the park. At the corner of the park, at Lake Avenue and Driving Park Avenue, the plan shows sixteen house lots. The adjacent grove contains a variety of deciduous trees, including Sugar Maples, Silver Maples, Black Oaks, Red Oaks, and Hickory. This plan details the topography of the grove area and along the top of the bluff. The roads and paths along the river's edge are indicated as are the location of structures.

A discussion had begun with the firm and the park commission on the topic of the path along the bluff. Preliminary plans were sent in October, 1904 for the whole of Maplewood Park including the bluff area. The Preliminary Plan for Maple Grove Park, Rochester, N.Y., revised October 14, 1904 shows just the Maple Grove and riverside areas. (See Figure II.29) The rose garden area is not shown on this plan. The grove consists of dense clumps of trees along the

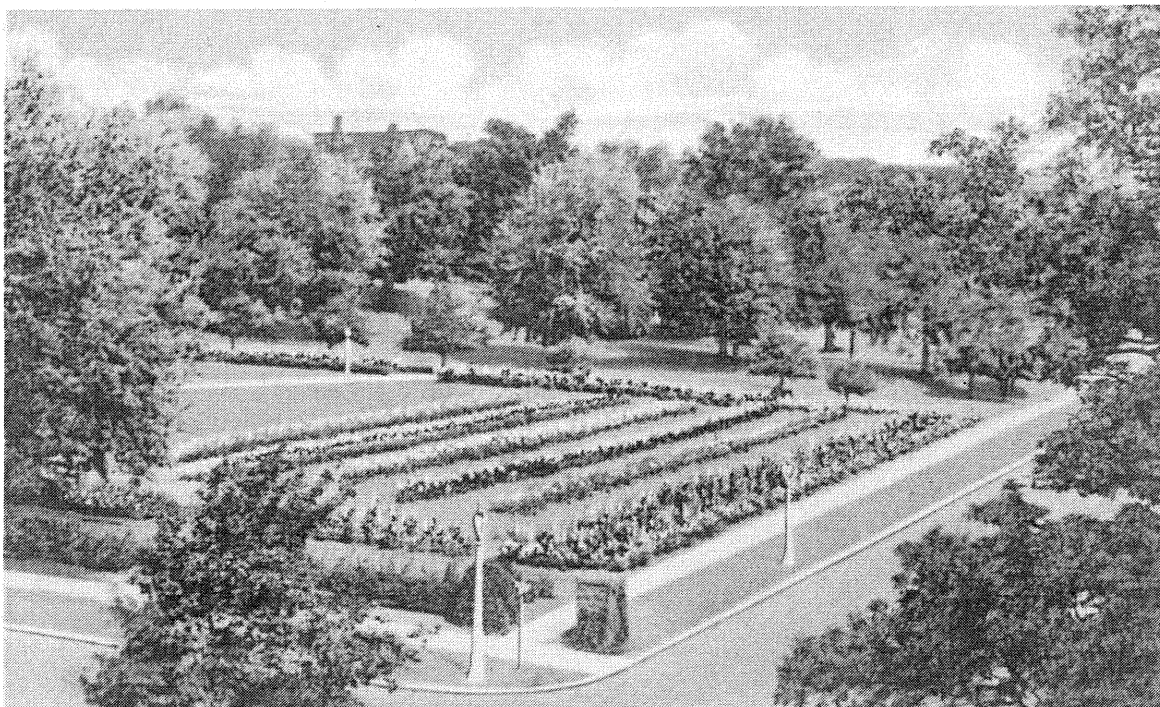


Figure II.30: A Section of Rose Gardens, Maplewood Park, Rochester, N.Y.

Figure II.31: Maple Grove in Maplewood Park, Rochester, N.Y. Postcards courtesy private collection of Ellen B. Schnurr.

north and south edges. A few trees are scattered in the lawn. A shelter is located at the eastern edge of the park along Maplewood Avenue. Curving paths enter the park from above in three places along Lake Avenue and a lower path comes off of Maplewood Avenue in two places. A cinder bicycle path was laid along Maplewood Avenue in the riverside section of the park. Another path goes towards the river and follows the top of the bluff.

A letter from JC Olmsted on October 8, 1904 indicates that the portion of Maplewood Street was straight only because it is too short to curve. The road was to be 18 feet wide and the paths along the bluff 8 feet wide. A letter to CC Laney on October 15, 1904 indicates that the firm was sending the Preliminary Plan No. 1113-4 and "the walks about the shelter building have been moved a little further from the building than shown on our first plan to provide for room for more shrubs to be planted especially in front of the toilet room windows."

3. Early 20th Century

The area now called Maplewood Rose garden was added to the park later. After this area was given to the City, the buildings and other small houses on the land were torn down and the site converted to rose gardens. The Park Commissions Annual Report of 1906 mentions that "at Maplewood Park the houses on Driving Park Avenue and Maplewood Avenue that were on the lots that were given to the Park Commission were sold and moved away." In 1903, after Maple Grove was added to the park, a bandstand was built replacing the old pavilion (Article, Old Cedar). The grove also had a playground equipped with sandboxes, swings and slides.

A 1900 plat still shows house lots at the corner of Driving Park and Lake Avenue. Not until the 1910 plat does Maplewood Park appear at this corner. Maplewood Avenue is shown as terminating by the edge of the grove. Paths and access drives are outlined through this portion of the park, connecting to the rest of the park along the edge of the river.

Historic postcard views show rectangular formal rose beds, running parallel to Lake Avenue through open lawn. (See Figure II.30) Several beds also run parallel to the path along Driving Park Avenue. Deciduous street trees line the edge of the drives and the edge of the park is enclosed with an iron fence. One view shows that six parallel beds lay along the lower end of the park, along the access drive off Driving Park Avenue. Beds also line a portion of the perimeter of the gardens. This same view shows Maple Grove with a dense tree cover. Small flowering trees look to be planted between the Rose Gardens and the grove. The rose beds remain in all of the images. An image of the grove area shows mature deciduous trees scattered in open lawn. Benches are placed in the lawn and surrounding the bandstand. (See Figure II.31) Another postcard view of the grove shows an assortment of playground equipment, mostly swing sets, surrounding the bandstand. Photos from the 1920s show trolley tracks down Driving Park Avenue which is lined with mature street trees, probably Horsechestnuts. Iron fencing surrounds the park at the edge. Peonies line the main axial path in photos from 1918. The dovecote is seen in several photographs. 1915 photographs show that the Maple Grove is mostly open, with mature deciduous trees. Some play equipment and benches are visible. Postcards and photographs from the 1940-50s show that the rose beds remain but that the pattern of beds in lawn have changed.

1910 Park commissioners meeting minutes mentioned that more roses were added to the Rose Garden, mostly hardy hybrid teas. "The roses were planted in masses of about one hundred of each variety of several of the best varieties, and they were labeled so that anyone admiring them

could take notes of their favorites. They excited favorable comment." "A collection of the best varieties of peonies was planted in Maplewood Park." In the early 20th century an Indian Day festival was held at Maplewood Park. This "revived an earlier Maple Grove custom and attracted thousands of curious citizens to watch the ceremonies of the Seneca tribesmen who camped there annually for the occasion." (Roch. Hist, 1949) A 1917 Department of Parks report indicated that the rose garden was located at the intersection of Driving Park and Lake Avenues and "below that the picnic grove known as Maple Grove. A fine dove cot is across the road from the grove." (DPR, 1917) There was also a shelter and band stand where concerts were held. "An average of from 10,000 to 15,000 people attend each concert." (DPR, 1917)

A 1918 plat survey shows the path circulation and placement of buildings. A major diagonal path crosses the Rose Garden moving towards the Pavilion in the Maple Grove. An aerial photograph from the same year shows the Rose Garden and a portion of the grove and gorge edge: street trees line the edge of Driving Park Avenue, two long rectangular beds flank the diagonal path through the Rose Garden, the edge of the Rose Garden is formed by large beds, scattered trees are seen in the portion of the grove next to the shelter, and open lawn with a few small trees surrounds the Dovecote.

A 1926 plat survey by Hopkins shows the configuration of a portion of Maplewood Park that includes the rose garden, Maple Grove and the river edge. This shows the same circulation system as the 1918 plat. Aerial photos from the same year show the street trees along Driving Park Avenue, rectangular beds along the diagonal path through the Rose Garden, new, long, parallel, rectangular beds at the edge of the Rose Garden, sporadic tree cover through the grove, the shelter in the grove, open lawn with a few scattered trees surrounds the Dovecote, and the dense tree cover along the gorge. (See Figure II.32) Postcards confirm the location of these new parallel rose beds, adjacent to the access drive off of Driving Park Avenue.

The whole of Maplewood Park in 1929 was 144.6 acres, with 114 of that land and 30.5 water. Only 6 acres were used for active recreation. 1.5 miles of roads ran throughout the park as did .7 miles of improved walkways. River bank trails at that time were 1.5 miles long. The park contained a variety of facilities: 2 children's playgrounds, picnic area, skating pond, winter coasting area, bandstand, 2 refectories, baseball diamond, football field and 7 tennis courts. The park was said to be very similar to Seneca Park "in general physical make up and scenic attractions." (Raitt, 1929) Suggestions for changes to the park included "to encourage bowling-on-the-green,...the baseball diamond should be properly graded and made more attractive to players....several acres of vacant land which should be annexed to the park." "The recreational possibilities of this park are unknown to many of the residents of Rochester. Particularly is this true of the section along the river, where within a few minutes ride of the center of the city, one may hike over winding trails through wooded areas, along the shore of the river and never be in sight of human habitation. For one who is a lover of the out-of-doors the river gorge, with its seasonal changes, presents an ever varying picture which only nature can offer." (Raitt, 1929)

The same path system as seen in the 1918 and 1926 plat surveys is shown on the 1937 WPA survey, and the rose beds remain in the same location from earlier photos and postcards. (See Figure II.33) The rose beds are parallel to Lake Avenue Drive. This plan also shows the remains of the street trees and the placement of light poles. A bandstand is located in the Maple Grove area in open lawn. Many mature trees are scattered about the grove. The paving within the park is bottle shaped as seen today.

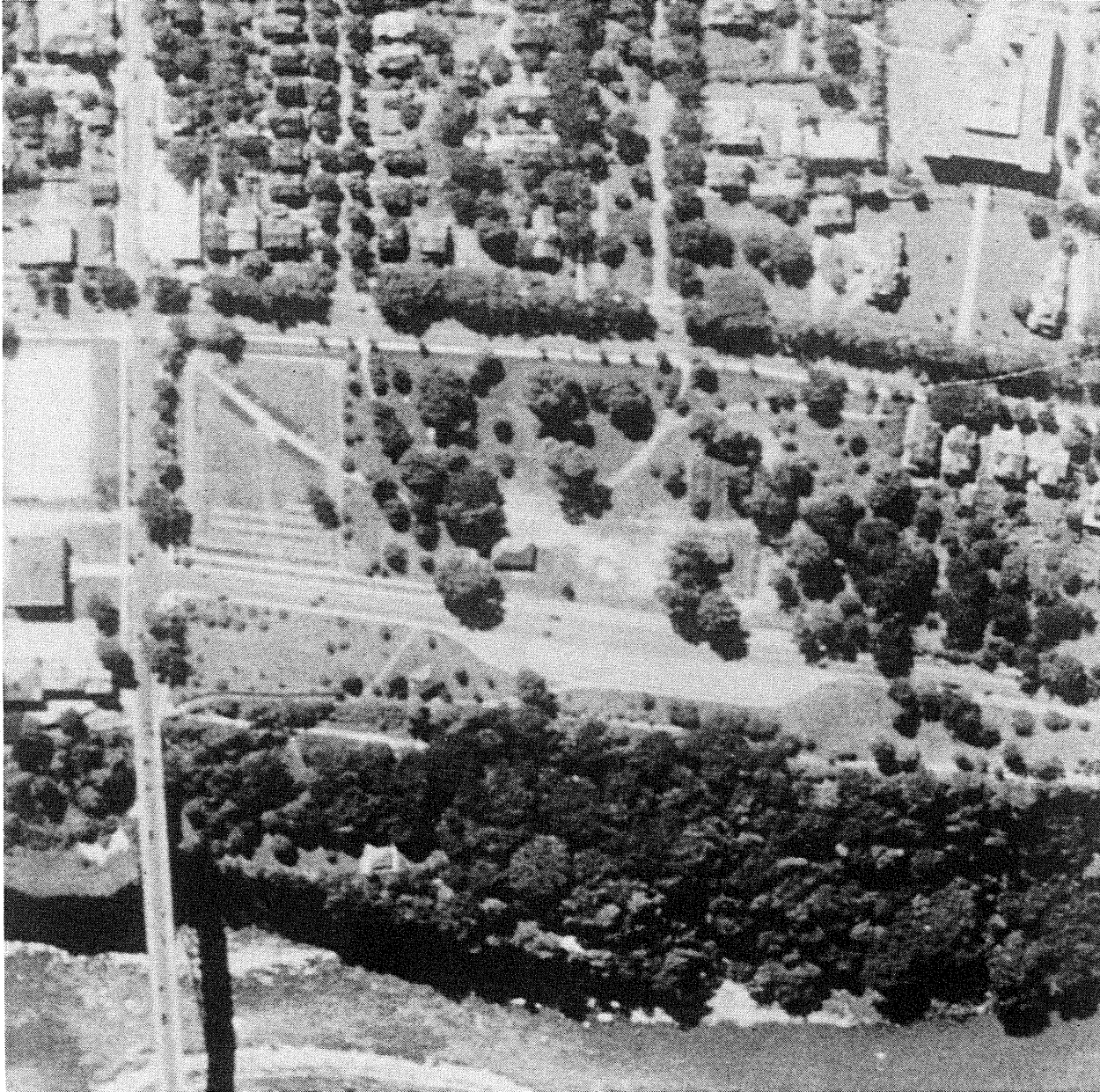


Figure II.32: Aerial photograph of Maplewood Park showing Rose Garden and Maple Grove, 1926. Courtesy of City of Rochester, Department of Engineering Records.



Figure II. 33: W.P.A. Survey of Maplewood Park, 1937. Courtesy of City of Rochester, Department of Engineering Records.

The Stecher Memorial Fountain was presented to the City by Mrs. George Schlegel in memory of her father. It was made of Etowah pink Georgia marble, and was placed in the Rose Garden in the 1920s. It is currently in poor condition with some parts missing.

4. Recent History

A photograph from A Growing Legacy shows "Alvin Grant, superintendent of the city's Parks Department with William Brody, garden director, planting the first roses in the municipal garden at Maplewood park in 1955. Jackson Perkins Co. of Newark donated 550 roses." (McKelvey, 1988) The rose garden was laid out in the 1920s and attracted crowds annually. (McKelvey, 1988) The first official Rose Day was held June 22, 1952 at the Maplewood Park Rose Garden. "The origin of the new garden goes back to 1945 when the Rochester Rose Society,...suggested to the director of parks that the old garden did not do justice to the Queen of Flowers, or to other fine parks in the city." (Rose Soc.) Over four thousand new plants were purchased and the gardens were opened to the public in 1951. At that time the Park Department had "removed the old roses for rebudding and prepared the area for the new garden. The ground was leveled, top soil added, a retaining wall was built, and an observation terrace was constructed so that visitors might see the garden in panorama before entering. A new underground watering system and a tile surface supplementary system were installed." (Rose Soc.) The new roses were donated by many U.S. nurseries.

Water service was added to the rose gardens in 1968. A site plan and details produced by Pederson, Hueber, Hares & Glavin of Syracuse show details of the meter pits, the bed locations, existing services, and existing trees. Two sets of stone steps lead down to the rose garden from Lake Avenue. The beds are shown to be mostly rectangular or L-shaped and run from north to south. A large central lawn panel runs east to west and frames the fish pond at the eastern end. Stone columns are located at the entrances along Driving Park Avenue and Lake Avenue.

In 1986 a set of seven plans with details shows changes to end of Maplewood Avenue. The project developed an earthen berm, plantings and path to separate the adjacent neighborhood from the park. The roadway is shown to have been blocked and trees planted on the new hill. A combination of evergreen and deciduous trees are planted on the berm to screen views and prevent access to the park.

A current plan of the Rose Garden shows the bed numbers and the colors of the roses in each bed. To date there are 60 beds contained within the garden confines. Annuals and tulips are planted at the entrance, at the corner of Driving Park Avenue and Lake Avenue.

5. Reference Documents

Olmsted Job # 1113:

Letters: 1 Report of visit, JC Olmsted, 1904; 1 to HJ Kellaway, 1904; 1 to CC Laney, 1904

Plans: Seneca Park 1108-100, 1893, FLONHS

General Plan for Seneca Park, Olmsted, 1893

Maple Grove Park Preliminary Plan, Olmsted, September 12, 1904

Water Service to Rose Gardens-Site Plan and Detail. Urban Beautification Program, May 15, 1968

- Planimetric Map of Area, City of Rochester, 1975
Maplewood Avenue Park Improvements, City of Rochester, April 7, 1986 (Sheets 1/7, 2/7, 3/7, 4/7, 5/7, 6/7, 7/7)
Maple Grove Grading Plan
Oversize Site Plans (2)
Plats: 1888 Hopkins, 1900 Hopkins, 1910 Hopkins, 1918 Hopkins, 1926 Hopkins
Aerial: 1918 and 1926 Historic Aerial Photographs
Photographic views: 7 1915-1922, 1 c. 1930s
Postcards: 8 1930-1950
Park Commissioners Reports: 1888-1904, 1906, 1910
Common Council Meetings:
Newspaper Articles: ? 1903
 Times Union, December 17, 1955
 Times Union June 3, 1972
 Rochester Democrat & Chronicle, April 9, 1986
Other: A Survey of Recreational Facilities in Rochester, NY. Raitt, Charles. June, 1929.
The Origin & Development of Rochester's Park System. Veteran Reporter. 1908.
A Growing Legacy. McKelvey, Dr. Blake. 1988.
Rochester Department of Parks Report. 1917.
"An Historical View of Rochester's Parks and Playgrounds". Rochester History. McKelvey, Blake. January, 1949. Vol. XI, No. 1.
"New Municipal Rose Garden at Maplewood Park". Field, Harold. Rose Society. N.D.

F. SCHILLER PARK, FRANKLIN PARK

1. Origins/Early History

This park was originally called Franklin Park. It was acquired by the City in about 1826 by subdivision dedication (Raitt, 1929). A November 19, 1856 newspaper article reports that "Franklin Square in the Sixth Ward once had a fence, but it might as well have never had one, as that miserable apology with two rails, broken down. This square contains some beautiful trees, which if protected might soon afford excellent shade, and, in a few years, they would protect themselves." (RDU, 1856) A plat by Hopkins from 1875 shows the square with four paths. Two paths connect the four corners and two paths cross to connect the midpoints of each side. In the center is an oval where all the paths intersect. The square is again shown on a 1888 plat with the same circulation as seen in the 1875 plat.

Franklin Square was once the site of political rallies. "By the mid-1850s Franklin Square was a level stretch of green turf with no trees and buildings, perfect for ball games. In 1858 three amateur clubs -- Flour City, Live Oak, and University -- formed to play there." (RSMC Focus) Franklin Square "became a favorite mecca on warm afternoons and evenings that summer as these and other teams vied for its use." (Roch. His., 1946) The matches drew large crowds and the games continued from 1859 to 1860 when there were eight ball clubs in the city.

Another early account of the park was a story written on July 4, 1876 about the German-American Societies dedicated a tree at Franklin Square. The tree is marked with a plaque and as of 1962 remained. (DC, Aug. 12, 1962)

Common Council meeting minutes of 1893-94 says that the firm of Olmsted, Olmsted & Eliot was hired to design the improvements and furnish planting plans for the park. The commissioners accepted the proposal of the Olmsted firm to deliver four sets of designs for Brown, Franklin, Jones and Madison squares for a total of \$1000 and traveling expenses and to furnish planting plans in addition, at an expense not to exceed \$150 for each square (CCM 1893-94). In 1895 plantings were done at the request of the Executive Board and the city engineer. In 1899 Franklin Square received a portion of the "thirty thousand annuals, biennials and perennials...raised in hot-beds and cold frames" planted in Highland Park, Franklin Square, Seneca Park and Genesee Valley Park, as well as some of the "thirty-seven thousand bulbs of narcissus, iris, glory of the snow, crocuses, tulips, hyacinths, and snow drops" planted in Highland Park, Washington Square and Franklin Square. (PCR, 1900) In 1899 the park came under the care of the park board.

2. Olmsted Influences

An early drawing by Olmsted firm, copied on lithograph, shows curving paths with a central open lawn area. Trees are scattered about the lawn in more or less formal rows.

An August 7, 1894 drawing of Franklin Square by the City of Rochester, C.C. Laney, for the Olmsted firm shows the diagonal pattern of the streets with the placement of the trees. (See Figure II.34) A wide variety of deciduous trees are scattered about the square including Elms, Ash, Sugar Maple, Plane, Silver Maple, Norway Maple, and Basswood. They are in various sizes, ranging from the most mature Elms to very young maples planted along the street edges. These trees probably predated the designs by the firm.

A plan by the firm of Olmsted, Olmsted & Eliot dated September 10, 1894 shows the plan for the walks. (See Figure II.35) A new walk configuration indicates curving paths forming a central ellipse. This is the pattern seen in later photographs. A letter of a visit by Warren Manning, September 5, 1894 mentions that "Mister Laney stated they had decided that the outside walks were not necessary and that they could not build the wall shown on account of the cost." Therefor another study for the park was sent. "We send you a print of a new study of Franklin Square leaving out the outside walks and changing the paths so as to bring the trees that are to be saved outside of them with one exception--a Maple which we think can be allowed to stand in the path." (to CC Laney 9/12/1894)

Visits by JC Olmsted in July 1895 and January 1896 indicate that work was progressing on the park, walks had been laid and shrubs planted. He proposed that vines should be allowed to grow up the trees and that they needed to be thinned.

3. Early 20th Century

An early 1890s photograph shows the park was mostly grass with many mature deciduous trees. A path ran on a diagonal across the square. A later photograph shows a 1906 view of the park from Andrews and Cumberland Streets. (See Figure II.36) At that time the paths are curving and there are wide concrete sidewalks along the street edge. Groups of shrubs are now planted in beds under the mature trees. A 1949 oblique aerial photograph of the park shows an elliptical shaped park surrounded by pavement. Wide concrete paths dissect the site. Mature trees are found only on one end with the other end mostly open grass. New street trees line the edges. Benches are found in several spots. Small islands of ground cover or low shrubs are found at the four

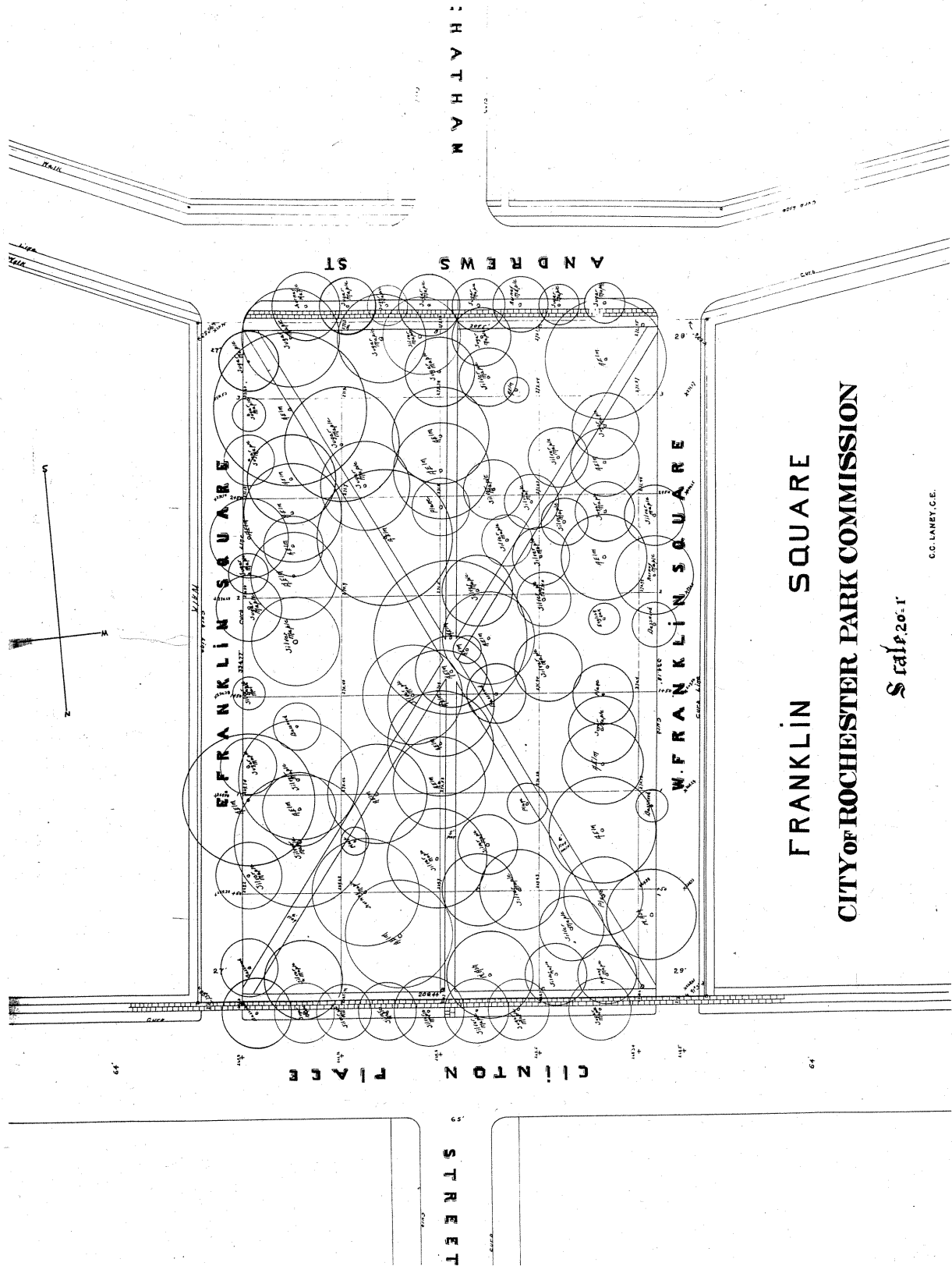


Figure II.34: Plan of Franklin Square by C.C. Laney, City of Rochester. Courtesy of City of Rochester, Department of Engineering Records.

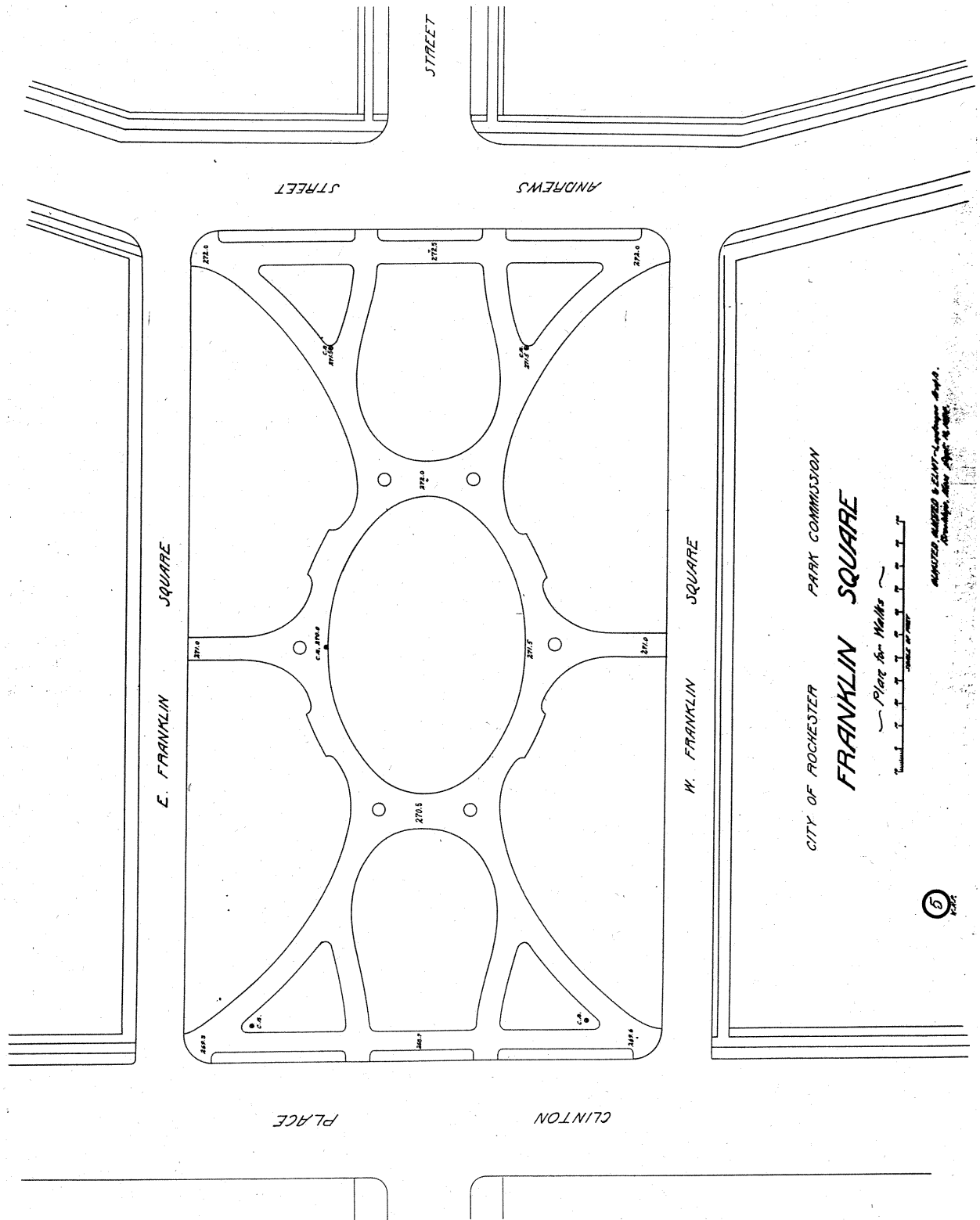


Figure II.35: Plan for Walks, Franklin Square by Olmsted, Olmsted & Eliot, Landscape Architects, Brookline, Massachusetts, September 10, 1894. Courtesy collection of the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site.

corner beds now in the middle of the street. This pattern is not similar to the Olmsted plans and lithographs.

In the fall of 1901 tulip bulbs were planted in the formal flower beds. Tulip bulbs were also planted in the fall of 1903. That same year the park was estimated to be 1.61 acres in size. In 1904 the park commissioners report mentioned that formal beds of plants were put into the park. The walk on the west side of the park was removed "at the request of the property owners on the west side." (PCR 1888-1904) By 1905 tulips were planted in three beds but many were stolen out of the front bed. "This is about the only instance in the park system where any serious vandalism was committed. The three beds were filled with three thousand bedding plants in the summer time, and the tulips in the fall" (CCP 1905). 3000 tulip bulbs were planted in the fall of 1905. The 1909 park commissioner report mentions that a sanitary drinking fountain was put into the park.

A 1918 plat survey by Hopkins shows the square with a new circulation system and a new shape of the park itself. Now the park incorporates a central oval and curving paths. The paths connect the ends of the park which is now also an oval. The park is much smaller than was seen in the earlier plat surveys. A 1918 aerial photograph of the park shows the oval outline of the park and the wide expanse of road now surrounding the park. The park is mostly open with grassy beds between the paved walkways. Only about eight deciduous trees are scattered about the park. The 1926 plats by Hopkins shows the same circulation system and outlines as the 1918 plat. A 1926 aerial photograph shows the park from a more distant view. (See Figure II.37) The park retains the oval outline and the path system as seen in 1918 aerial. The same eight trees are still evident, scattered about the park.

In 1929 the park was mostly grass with some shrubs and trees. About .16 miles of improved walks were in the park. It was a "small open area and is more of a street embellishment than a park. It also affords a shady place of rest for pedestrians." (Raitt, 1929)

A public works project in April 1940 shows the new configuration of the park. Changes to the adjacent streets dissected the park. Traffic islands were created at the four corners to provide for new traffic patterns. This is clearly seen in an aerial view of the park from the 1950s. At that time only three mature trees are found at one end of the park. The park was approximately 1 acre in 1955.

4. Recent History

Schiller Park was renamed after the Schiller monument was moved from Anderson Park to Franklin Park. In May, 1964 a newspaper article mentions that the Johann Christoph Schiller statue was moved from Main Street East and University Avenue to Franklin Square. This was done to accommodate the Inner Loop. In 1962 the city administration and the Federation of German-American Societies decided on the move out of Anderson Park. The monument is a bust of the German playwright and poet, mounted on a five-foot pedestal. This is set upon a stone platform with two benches at either end and stairs leading up on the sides. It was erected in November of 1908 and presented to the city and the then Mayor Edgerton. (D & C, Aug. 12, 1962)

Most of Schiller Park was destroyed by the Inner Loop. What remains today is a portion of the historic path configuration and only a few trees.



Figure II.36: Franklin Park-Andrews and Cumberland Streets, c. 1906. Courtesy Rochester Public Library, Local History Department.



Figure II.37: Aerial photograph of Franklin Square, c.1926. Courtesy of City of Rochester, Department of Engineering Records.

5. Reference Documents

Olmsted Job # 1101: Franklin Square

Letters: 1 Report of Visit, Manning, 1894

1 To CC Laney, 1894

2 Report of Visit, JC Olmsted, 1895/1896

Plans: Plan for Walks, Olmsted, September 10, 1894

Planimetric Map of Area, City of Rochester, 1975

Existing Site Plan, Clark Patterson Mossien, January 29, 1993

Planting Plan, City of Rochester

Plats: 1875 Hopkins, 1888 Robinson, 1918 Hopkins, 1926 Hopkins

Aerial: 1918 and 1926 Historic Aerial Photographs

Photographic views: 1 c. 1890, 1 1906, 1 1936, 1 1949, 1 1950

Postcards: 1 1906

Park Commissioners Reports: 1888-1904

Common Council Meetings: 1893-1894, 1905

Newspaper Articles: Rochester Democrat Union, November 19, 1856

Rochester Democrat & Chronicle, August 12, 1962

Times Union May 7, 1964

Democrat & Chronicle, December 21, 1968

Other: A Survey of Recreational Facilities in Rochester, NY. Raitt, Charles. June, 1929.

"Shunned by All Timid Persons". Carper, Steve. RMSC Focus.

"Rochester Learns to Play: 1850-1900". Rochester History. McKelvey, Blake. July, 1946. Vol. VIII. No. 3.

G. SENECA PARKWAY, part of SENECA PARK

1. Origins/Early History

Seneca Parkway was developed shortly after the Park Commission passed a law "enlarging its power to condemn land for parkways. Land was promptly acquired under this act for Seneca Parkway on the north-western outskirts of the city." (Roch. Hist, 1949) On July 26, 1892 a resolution was presented to the Common Council by Secretary Arthur R. Selden in regards to "the proposed boulevard from Lake Avenue to the Charlotte branch of the New York Central railroad, and on August 13, the committee on Opening and Alteration of Streets, reported favorably on the communication." (PCR, 1892) This was probably the beginnings of Seneca Parkway. The parkway was a "double driveway, lined by rows of young trees". (Roch. Hist, 1949) No other parkways were developed by the commission, except for Genesee Park Boulevard in 1899, since soon after Seneca Parkway was developed the law was repealed.

In October 1892, the contract for sewers and grading of the Parkway began. The Common Council adopted a resolution permitting the park Board in 1894 to construct a 5 foot cement sidewalk on the north side of the Parkway from Lake Avenue to the east. Estimated costs were \$1,530, 75% of this assessed to adjacent land owners.

The small city parks and Seneca Parkway were taken over by the Park Commission, after a resolution of the Common Council. This took effect in March 1, 1894. An 1898 Park Commissioners report mentioned that the elm trees were all growing. Several new houses were also built along the Parkway.

2. Olmsted Influences

No original plans have been found as yet for the parkway. Several early Olmsted Firm working plans for Seneca Park leave out any details for the area around Seneca Parkway. It was not until the final plans were drafted in 1893 that the parkway was actually hard lined in. The General Plan for Seneca Park, 1893, by the Olmsted Firm shows a portion of the parkway leading off of the park. (See Figure II.38) It portrays four formal rows of trees along the street, with two at each side of the central median and two on the grass verge in front of the neighboring residences. There is a plan developed by the Olmsted Firm for Lake View Park, which is a parkway a few blocks to the south of Seneca Parkway. This plan retains the existing American elm trees along the grass verges on both sides, and a number of other trees of various types within the median. The proposed plantings are masses of shrubs organized in large groupings with sinuous outlines. This treatment is very different from the formal organization shown for Seneca Parkway. Formal Olmsted parkways developed for other locations can be referenced in trying to understand Seneca Parkway. Parkways for Buffalo, NY were formal, monoculture groups, with four to six rows of American Elm, Tulip tree (lost to cold weather) and Sugar Maple. For Louisville, Kentucky, parkways were laid out with six tree rows of three types in pairs. Sycamore trees were used continuously along the edges, while the second pair of rows and third pair altered at the ends of blocks or places where the parkway changed direction. A formal approach, similar to Buffalo and Louisville, was clearly intended for Seneca Parkway.

3. Early 20th Century

An early photograph from 1913, shows a pond along the west side of the Parkway. This was eventually filled so that houses could be built. The same photograph shows two lines of trees, along the sidewalk and one edge of the median.

1918 plat surveys by Hopkins shows Seneca Parkway with notations for depth and size of pipes. 1918 aerial photographs of a portion of the parkway show that there are four rows of trees along the street, all deciduous. (See Figure II.39) The trees seem to vary in size. Some look mature with a large canopy and others look newly planted. 1926 plat surveys by Hopkins show Seneca Parkway starting from the edge of Maplewood Park and running to the Charlotte Branch of the railroad. Both sides of the boulevard are lined with houses. A 1926 aerial photograph of the portion of Seneca Parkway starting from Maplewood Park shows the same four row planting of trees. Many of the trees have continued to grow and develop full canopies.

In 1929 the parkway was ninety feet wide, with center and side parking. It extended 5,500 feet west from Maplewood Park. It was considered "a fine example of boulevard parkway. There are several other very fine boulevard parkways such as Flower City Park, Lake View and Genesee Park Boulevard." (Raitt, 1929) One of the only photographs found showing the parkway is from 1929. (See Figure II.40) It shows the same four lines of street trees seen on the Olmsted General Plan for Seneca Park. The trees are mature deciduous trees planted evenly along the edges of the drives. The trees shown, appear to possibly be Elms or Maples.

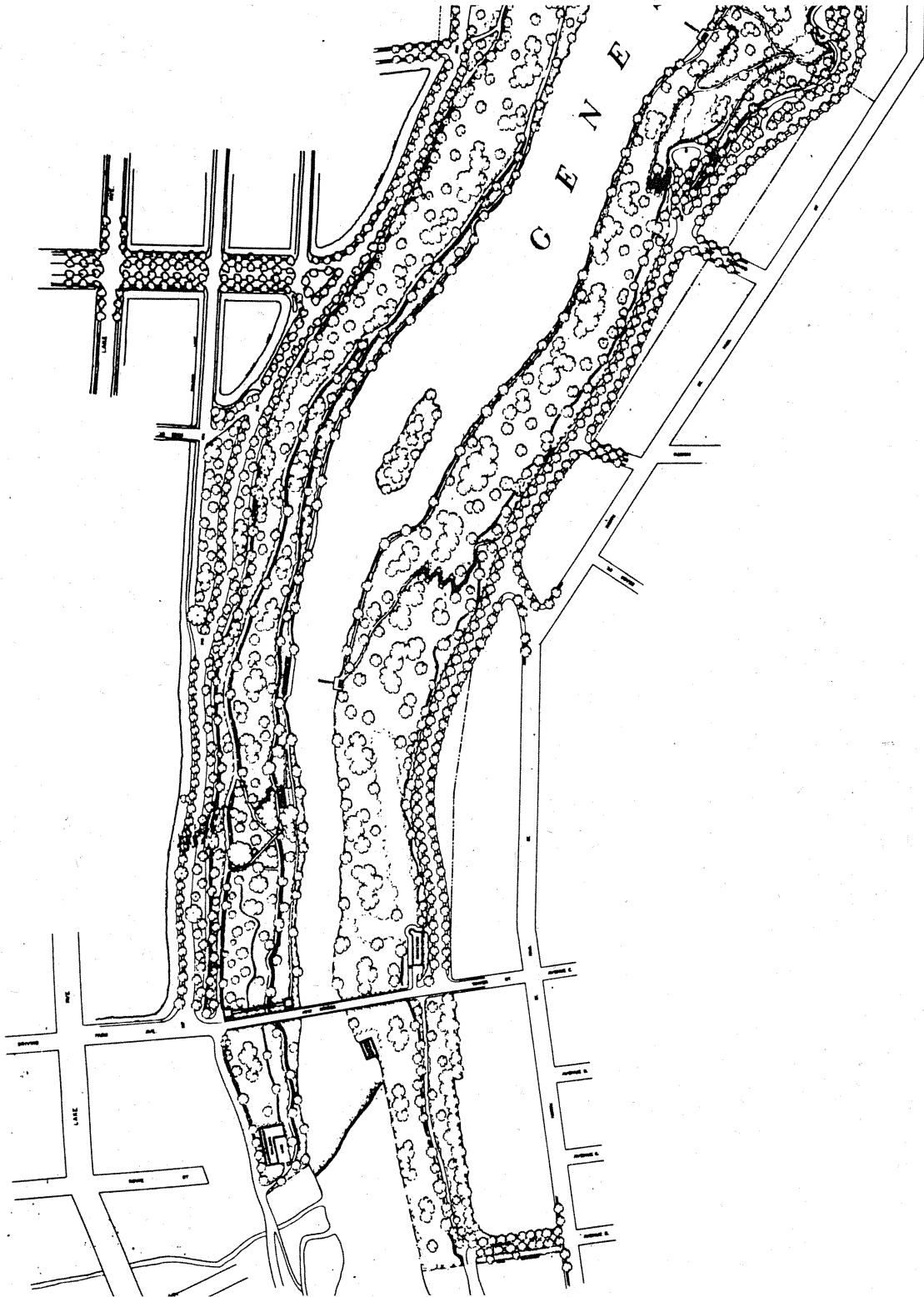


Figure II.38: Portion of General Plan for Seneca Park showing section of Seneca Parkway, F.L. Olmsted & Co., Landscape Architects, Brookline, Massachusetts, 1893. Courtesy collection of the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site.



Figure II.39: Aerial photograph of a portion of Seneca Parkway nearest the Genesee River, c. 1918. Courtesy of City of Rochester, Department of Engineering Records.



Figure II.40: Seneca Parkway--A Fine Example of "Street Forest", c. 1929 from A Survey of Recreational Facilities in Rochester. Courtesy Rochester Public Library, Local History Department.

4. Recent History

New plantings were proposed by James E. Glavin and Anthony W. Kotz for Seneca Parkway in May of 1967. At that time the area west of Raines Park was planted with clumps of new trees. A few of the older trees remained that were originally planted in rows of four. Most of the trees added were small flowering trees like Eastern Redbud, Japanese Dogwood, Hopa Crabapple, Sargent's Crabapple, Katherine Crabapple and Japanese Snowbell. Only London Planetree was planted for canopy trees, and only ten in all were added to the parkway. New trees were planted in varying groups of three to twelve. New clumps were planted in the median, in between the existing canopy trees.

5. Reference Documents

Job #: nonexistent

Letters:

Plans: General Plan of Seneca Park, Olmsted, 1893

Planting Plan, City of Rochester, May 5, 1967 (Sheets 1 & 2)

Planimetric Maps of Area, City of Rochester, 1975 (Sheets 9D & 9E)

Plats: 1918 Hopkins, 1926 Hopkins

Aerial: 1918 and 1926 Historic Aerial Photographs

Photographic views: 1 1913, 1 1929 (see Raitt)

Postcards:

Park Commissioners Reports: 1888-1904

Common Council Meetings: 1893-1894

Newspaper Articles:

Other: A Survey of Recreational Facilities in Rochester, NY. Raitt, Charles. June, 1929.

"An Historical View of Rochester's Parks and Playgrounds". Rochester History. McKelvey, Blake. January, 1949. Vol. XI, No. 1.

H. SUSAN B. ANTHONY PARK, MADISON SQUARE

1. Origins/Early History

Susan B. Anthony was originally called Madison Square. It was created by subdivision dedication in 1837. (Raitt, 1929)

A 1875 plat survey by Hopkins shows Madison Park as a large rectangle with two diagonal paths. A 1888 plat by Robinson shows the same configuration as in 1875.

1893 Common Council meeting minutes indicate that Olmsted, Olmsted & Eliot were hired to do designs for improvements at the park.

An historic photo from 1880/1890s shows the park before the redesign by the Olmsted Firm. (See Figure II.41) Axial paths cross the park, scattered trees are placed within the grassy areas. Very mature deciduous trees also surround the park. Several of the trees look like Elms, and the paths look like concrete. Trampled areas are seen along the edge of the path. Park users are lying under the trees, on the grass.

2. Olmsted Influences

A plan of Madison Square from May 16, 1904 shows the location of the trees (Circles) and the paths. A lithographic copy may have been at the city. The original Olmsted drawing from May 1904 shows two paths forming an x. The trees are large circles, mostly deciduous. They are all Silver Maples, with two Elms and one Basswood. The largest trees are the Elms. Trees are labeled, with some shown as Sugar Maples.

An Olmsted preliminary plan from May 24, 1904 shows the configuration of the paths and the location of the trees. The paths are shown as four radiating paths from a central circle. These paths separate into two paths to form four ellipses next to the central circle. Two curving edge paths follow South and North Madison Streets. Along King and Madison Streets are sidewalks running parallel to the streets. Two seating areas are placed along the paths running along South and North Madison Streets. Shrub borders are inside the four elliptical beds between the paths. Shrubs are also found around the perimeter under the existing trees.

A letter from JC Olmsted on June 2, 1904 indicates that he was surprised at how small the park was. He wanted to simplify their design and remove the border shrubs shown on the earlier plan. "The general effect is that of trees and turf and I feared a continuous border of shrubbery would detract from the apparent area of the Square..." He indicated that a monument should be placed as the central focal point.

An alternative plan by the Olmsted firm, dated July 1904, shows a different configuration of paths and slight alterations to planting design and seating areas. (See Figure II.432) This plan shows only one seating area along a path that parallels South Madison Street. The paths still have the four paths radiating from the central circle to the four corners, but only one edge path. These paths still separate into two, forming four elliptical beds adjacent to the central circle. Sidewalks are placed along King and Madison Streets. Shrubs are proposed only for the four elliptical shaped beds. A letter from CC Laney from July 13, 1904 describes the Madison Square design. Benches were proposed to surround the circle "between the radial walks...in that case a little shrubbery, especially of sorts that will not grow very high, should be planted behind these benches. The Japan barberry is one of the best shrubs for this purpose...The four radial beds are intended to be planted partly with low evergreens that will not obstruct the view of the center, so that the center may be eventually occupied by a monument, and partly by low perennials or summer bedding plants...It is intended to have no sidewalks on the narrow cross streets on the side toward the Square." A fence was proposed for the square if there was a problem with short-cutting by the neighbors. In order to economize the city provided all the preliminary site work for park development.

3. Early 20th Century

In 1905 Common Council minutes mention that at Madison Park, "a large bed twenty feet in diameter in the center of the park was excavated in the fall of last year, and filled with two thousand tulips. In the summer time the bed was filled with fifteen hundred summer flowering plants and last fall two thousand tulip bulbs were planted." In 1905 more bulbs planted, and they "made a fine display" in the spring. These were then taken out and replaced with annuals for the summer, then the 2,000 bulbs were replanted.



Figure II.41: Familiar City Parks--Madison Square. Union and Advertiser newspaper, photograph c. 1880-1890. Courtesy Rochester Public Library, Local History Department.

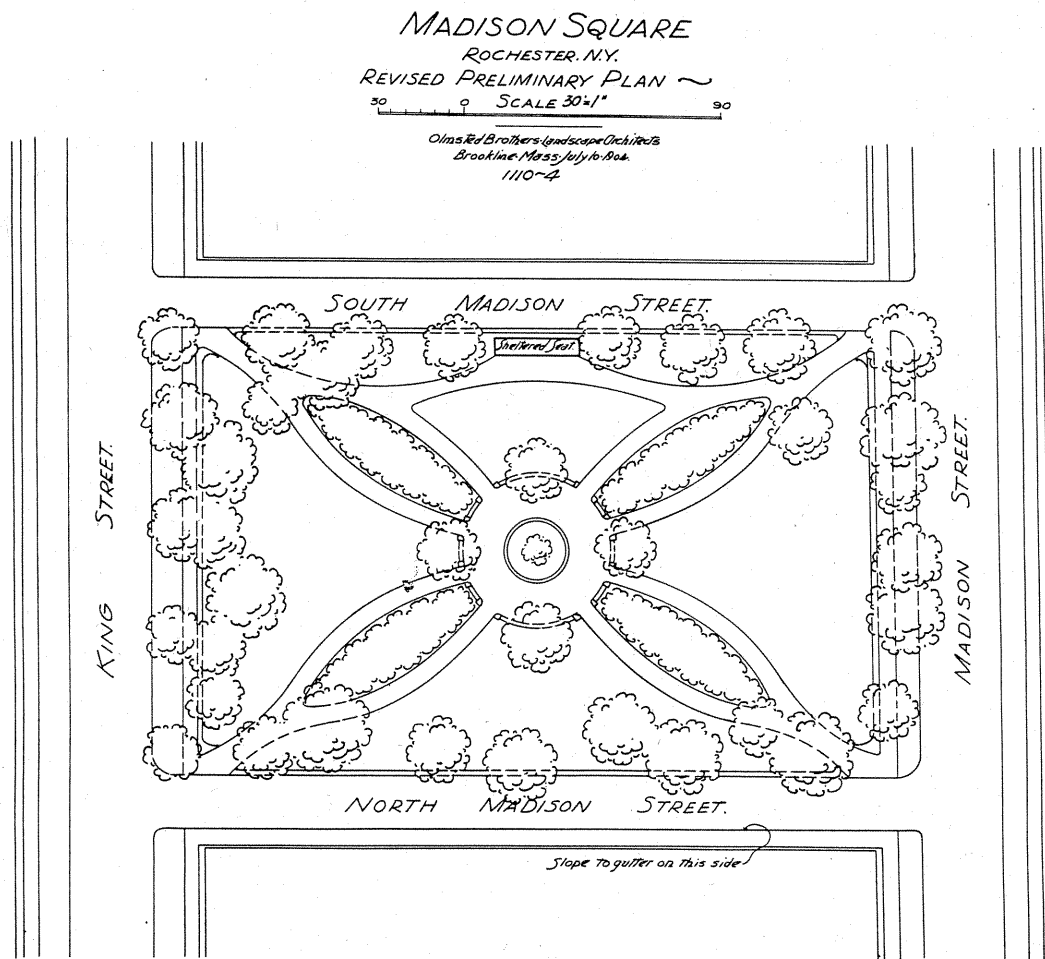


Figure II.42: Madison Square Revised Preliminary Plan by Olmsted Brothers, Landscape Architects, Brookline, Massachusetts, July 10, 1904. Courtesy collection of the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site.



Figure II.43: Aerial photograph of Madison Square, c. 1918. Courtesy of City of Rochester, Department of Engineering Records.

A 1918 plat by Hopkins shows a new configuration of paths. The diagonal paths are replaced with four paths that form an ellipse around a bed with a central circular bed at the intersection of the paths. A 1918 aerial photograph of the park shows the new path configuration, many mature deciduous trees (about nineteen) and open grass areas. (See Figure II.43) The central feature, a circle of grass, is surrounded by a circular path. A 1926 plat by Hopkins shows the same configuration found in the 1918 plats. The park is shown to be 234.4 feet long by 157 feet wide. A 1926 aerial photograph of the park shows about twenty-two mature deciduous trees scattered about the open lawn areas. The paths have remained the same, except the central circle is now devoid of grass, and looks to be all pavement.

In 1929 the park was still called Madison Square. It was mostly grass with a few fine trees, providing open space for the neighborhood (Raitt, 1929).

4. Recent History

Renovations to the park occurred in 1967. A set of plans, 3 drawings called the Madison Square Development Plan show the addition of trees, ground covers and shrubs. Trees added were all crabapples. Roses were added to the split rail fence lines at both the east and west edges. Rochester ivy was planted around the base of the four containerized trees in the central space (*Malus Hopa*). Shrub roses were planted as the central feature. At that time there were fifteen existing trees to remain. Bluestone paving was added underneath the benches in nine locations. Modern benches were specified. The basic circulation layout stayed the same.

A plan of Susan B. Anthony Square dated 3/19/81 shows a similar layout to the 1967 plans. At that time there were a total of 27 trees on the site. Fourteen of these are possibly older trees that remained from earlier plantings. The plan indicates that eight benches were scattered about the park and signs at all four entrances. Shrubs are planted in the central bed around a light pole. The two fence lines along the east and west edges still remain. A grading plan/ Design Development from May 7, 1981 shows the addition of many features at the park. New stone bollards demarcate the four corners. New sod lawn was placed at the eastern end. New concrete pavements replaced the Olmsted configuration with some modifications to the length of the ellipses and the entry portions of each path. Seating areas were formed by adding concrete along the edge of the paths. New brick was placed on the concrete pavement in the center and around the rock at the southwest corner. New storm lines ran through the park and connected to adjacent sewer lines. Accessible curbing was included in the design and located at each of the four corners. The park was renamed in the 1970s.

5. Reference Documents

Olmsted Job # 1110: Madison Square

Letters: 1 Report of Visit, JC Olmsted, 1904

1 to CC Laney, 1904

Plans: Madison Square Planting Plan, Olmsted, May 16, 1894

Madison Square Preliminary Plan, Olmsted, May 24, 1904

Madison Square Revised Preliminary Plan, Olmsted, July 10, 1904 (2 copies)

Madison Square Development Plan Urban Beautification Program, June 5, 1967 (Sheets 1/3, 2/3, 3/3)

Planimetric Map of Area, City of Rochester, 1974
Design Development Plan, Katz and Schneider, May 7, 1981
Existing Site Plan, Clark Patterson Mossien, February 1, 1993
Plan, N.D.

Plats: 1875 Hopkins, 1888 Robinson, 1918 Hopkins, 1926 Hopkins

Aerial: 1918 and 1926 Historic Aerial Photographs

Photographic views: 1 c. 1890

Park Commissioners Reports:

Common Council Meetings: 1893-1894, 1905

Other: A Survey of Recreational Facilities in Rochester, NY. Raitt, Charles. June, 1929.

I. WADSWORTH SQUARE

1. Origins/Early History

Wadsworth Square was named for General James Wadsworth, a Geneseo native who laid out the square in 1835, as the center of his Rochester tract. The family donated the park to the city and it became Wadsworth Square in 1857.

A survey drawn in 1839 by the City Surveyor, Silas Cornell, shows the square and the surrounding Wadsworth tract. The original dimensions of the square were 200 feet on each side (Wadsworth Square History, 1977) No monies were appropriated by the city for the "maintenance of the public squares until about 1860". "Wadsworth was cited for being particularly neglected. In the same era the author of a letter-to-the-editor called neighboring Washington Square a cow pasture." Lands were purchased in the 1850s for the construction of a school, School #12 built in 1857. By 1875 the first City Atlas shows the square with a "system of intersecting walkways. An apparent street or alleyway separated the square from the school and adjacent houses." (Wad. Sq. Hist, 1977) The 1875 Hopkins plat shows the square with four paths intersecting in the middle. Two diagonal paths connect the four corners and two paths connect the middle of the sides.

A 1888 plat by Robinson shows the square to have only two remaining paths. Two diagonal paths connect the four corners of the park. The school is still shown as being across a major street from the park.

An 1890 photo of the park shows a open grassy area surrounded by mature deciduous trees. (See Figure II.44) Diagonal paths dissect the park as shown on the early plans. Bollards surround the edge along the sidewalks.

The park commissioners report from 1895 mentions that planting was done at Wadsworth square at the request of the Executive Board and the City Engineer. In 1899 the park was taken under the control of the park board. In 1904 the park commissioners report mentions that a "very large silver poplar on Howell Street, opposite Wadsworth square, was cut down." (PCR 1888-1904)

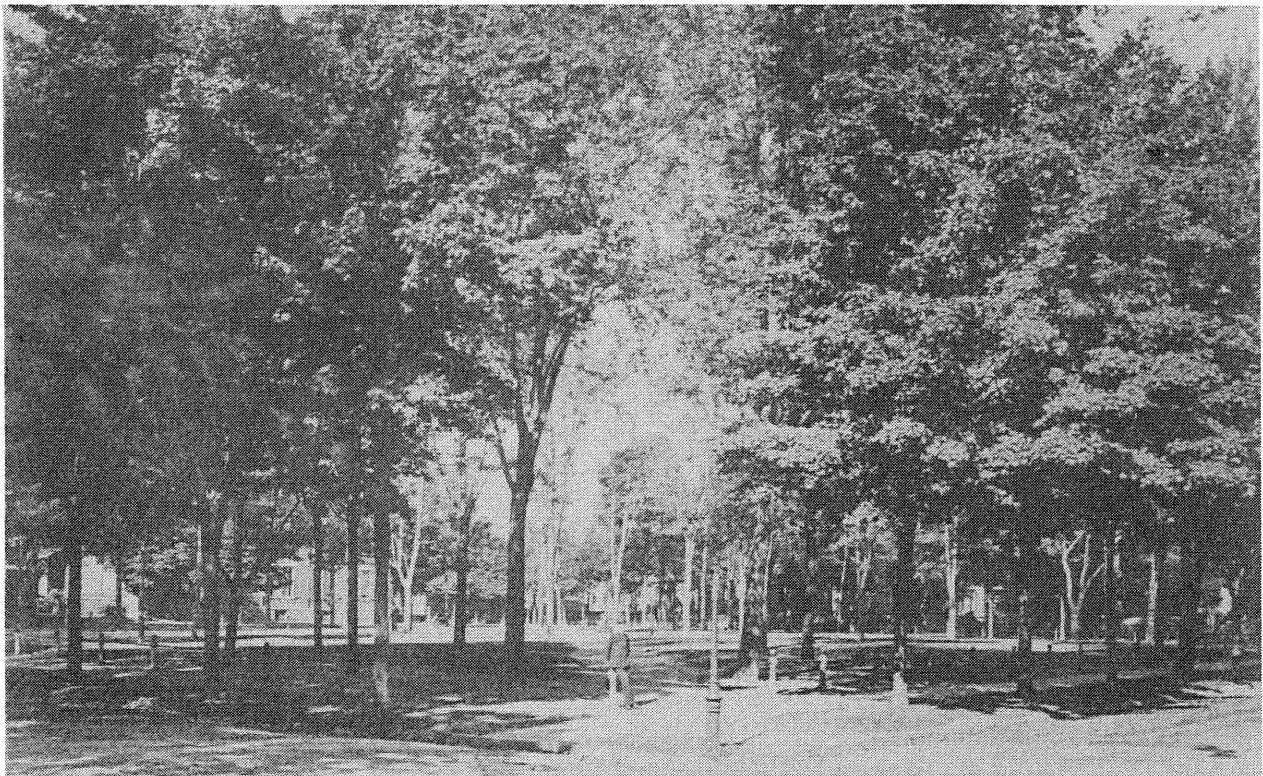


Figure II.44: Wadsworth Square c. 1890. Courtesy the photographic collection of the Rochester Historical Society.

2. Olmsted Influences

A lithographic copy of an early design shows diagonal curving paths from the four corners. It also depicts the location of the trees, although they are not labelled. It is not clear what the original of the plan was, although it was attributed to the Olmsted Firm. The appearance of the park was changed in the early 20th century. The Olmsted Firm was asked to provide a design for the park. No plans or correspondence are located in the Olmsted archives.

3. Early 20th Century

A city atlas from 1900 shows a new configuration. More land was purchased forming a rectangle of 200 by 324 feet, including the school. In 1903 local nurserymen provided floral displays for the park. (McKelvey, 1988) In 1909 the park was "regraded, seeded and planted with lower growing shrubs than those that formerly grew there. The women of the city are timid about walking through a park in the city in which tall shrubs are growing, and there is a demand to cut down tall growing shrubs and substitute low growing ones." (CCP, 1909)

A 1915 aerial of the park in winter shows the circulation system and some of the trees. The paths are in the new curving pattern, seen in the 1900 atlas. (See Figure II.45) Street trees line three sides of the park and other trees are scattered about the park. All the trees are deciduous. On the 1918 plat by Hopkins, the park is now called Wadsworth Park, not Square. The park is now contiguous with the school grounds, Wadsworth School No. 12. Paths through the park have changed, becoming more curvilinear. Two curving paths connect the three of the four sides to the center. Another path runs straight between the park and the school, parallel with Broadway. The park is shown to be 184.06 feet wide by 200.06 feet long. On the 1926 plat by Hopkins the park is now called Wadsworth Playground and retains the previous circulation system. A 1926 aerial photograph shows the park with a very dense tree cover. The path system and the park are not visible through the foliage of the deciduous trees.

Wadsworth Square was gradually changed into a school playground. With the building of the adjacent school the park was enveloped by the school. "Wadsworth Square has a unique place in parks history: it's the only Square that's actually square. Although other pieces, including the old school #12 came to be struck to it, the old square is still visible at Marshall Street and Broadway." (RMSC Focus)

The school #12 was closed in 1932 and it was finally demolished in 1968. Neglect of the square was evident also during the Great Depression. When the Inner Loop was constructed during the 1950s the residential neighborhood was partially demolished. " By 1956, 172 buildings had been demolished to make way for that part of the loop that arced from South Avenue to Union Street." (City Newspaper, April 17, 1980) The "Loop compromised Wadsworth Square by its proximity. In the course of the construction of the Clinton Street bridge as part of Inner Loop redesign, 1969-1970, Wadsworth Square became officially the site of Municipal parking lot #21."(Wads. Sq Hist, 1977)

The 1934 plan of park and the adjacent school grounds shows almost the same configuration of paths as in the early lithograph, and a building at the western edge. (See Figure II.46) At this time the park was called Wadsworth Park and School No. 12 playground. It was under the

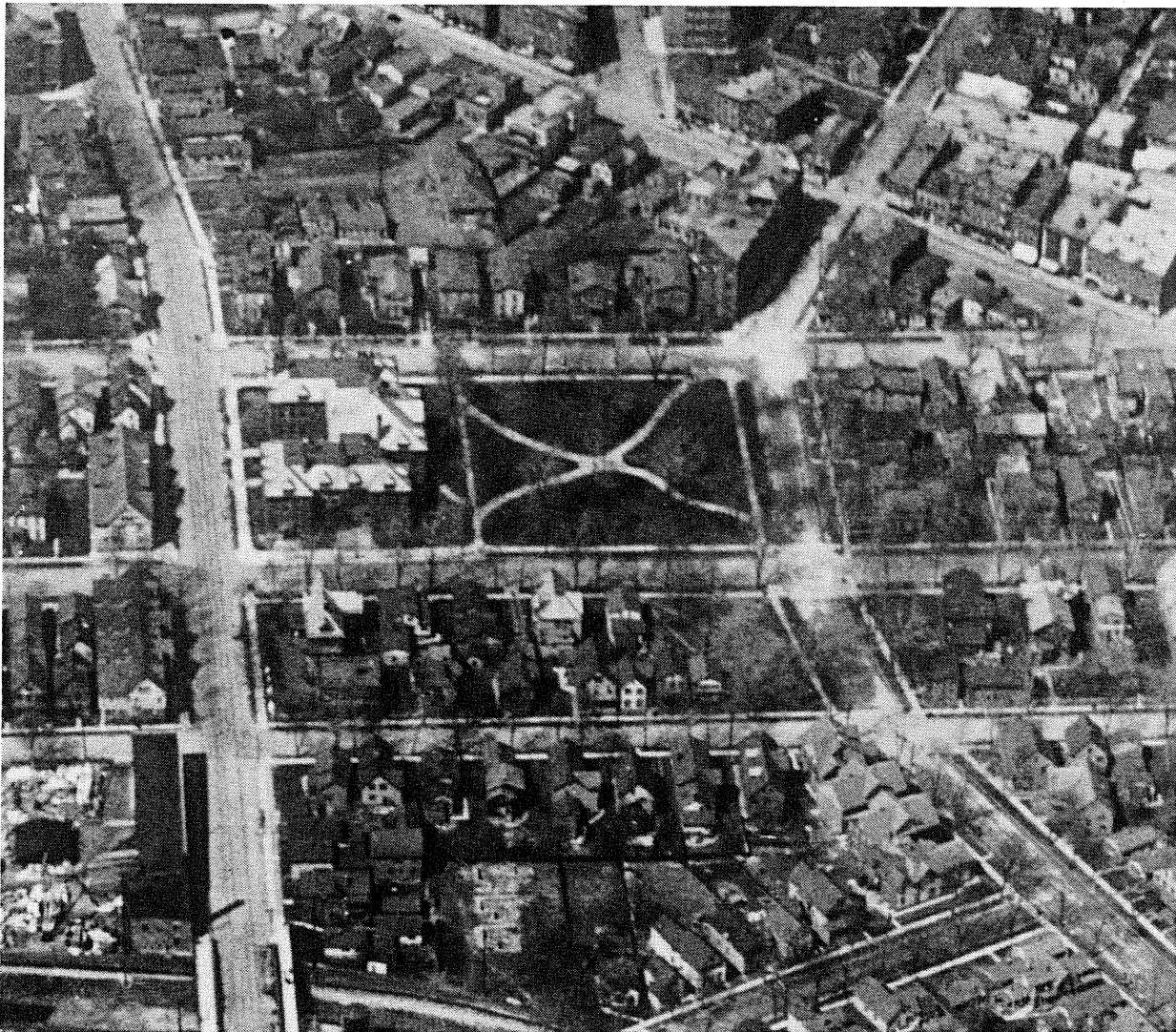


Figure II.45: Aerial photograph of Wadsworth Park and adjacent school c. 1915. Courtesy of City of Rochester, Department of Engineering Records.

ROCHESTER CITY SURVEY
C.W.A. PROJECT NO. 26A-192

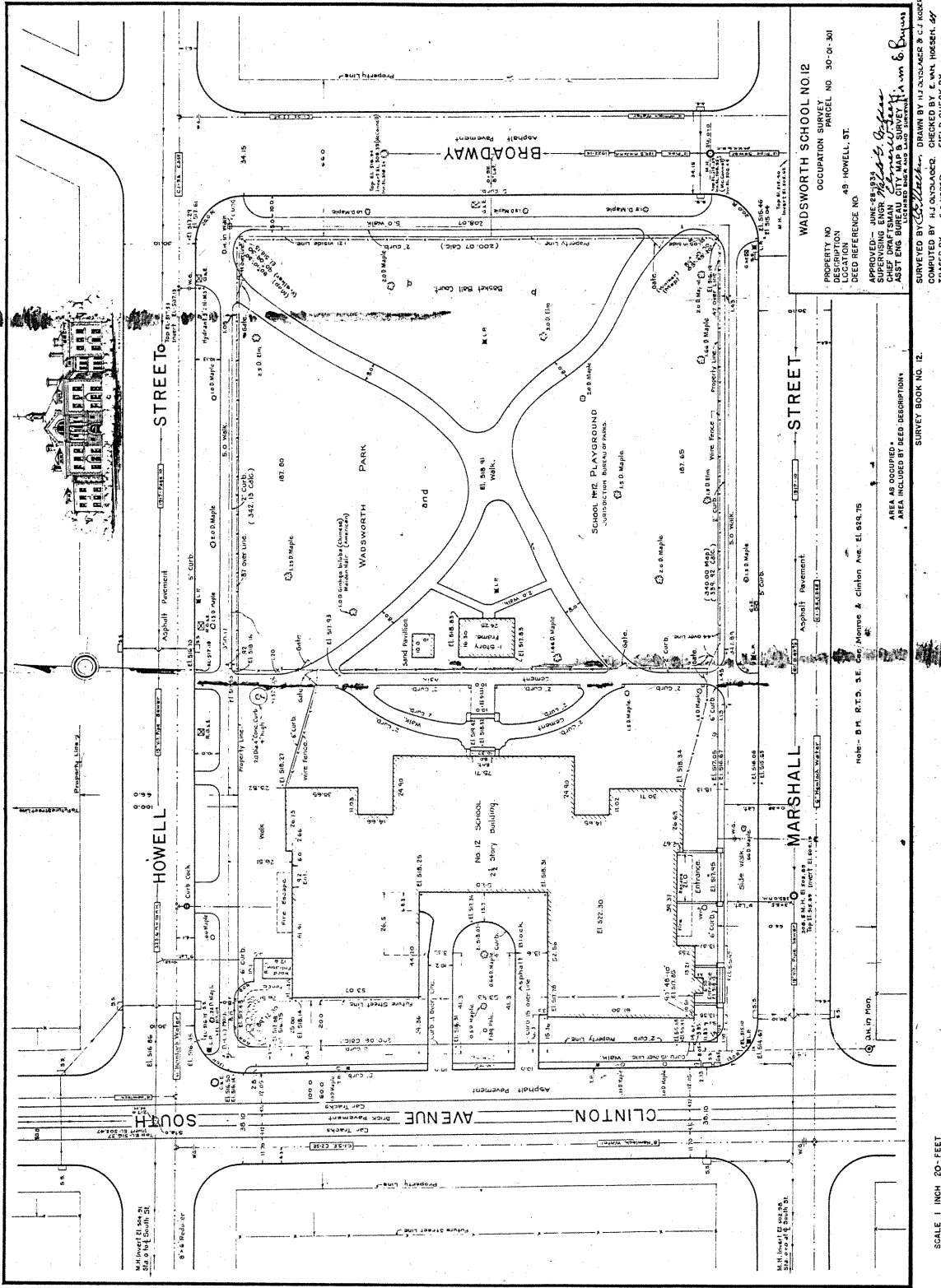


Figure II.46: Wadsworth School No. 12, Rochester City Survey, C.W.A. Project, June 28, 1934. Courtesy of City of Rochester, Department of Engineering Records.

jurisdiction of the Bureau of Parks. The location of individual trees and their diameter are noted on the plan. Most of the plants are Maples and Elms, ranging in size from 1.5 to 2.0". One Ginkgo is located at the northwest quadrant along the path. A wire fence encloses all sides of the park and access is gained only through four gates along the diagonal paths. Asphalt walks surround three sides, along the edge of the roads. The fourth side is edged with a cement walk passing by the back of the school. A small one story frame building and a sand pavilion are located directly across from the school. A basketball court is located in the eastern quadrant next to a light pole.

4. Recent History

In 1983 plans were developed for Wadsworth Park. The plans called for changes to the Wadsworth parking lot and the landscaped open space. At that time the chain link fence surrounding the park was removed. The whole open area was excavated a total of 6". The area where the school was located was now an open asphalt lot. Additions included a range of trees, shrubs, fencing and walks. The area was now open lawn with trees scattered about. Walks were located at the edges, surrounding the grass on all four sides, but did not dissect the park. A shrub border of Arrowwood Viburnum was located along the whole western edge. This was backed by a vinyl clad chain link fence. Timber planters were placed at the northeast and southeast corners. These were filled with Amelanchier (Shadblow) and underplanted with Taxus. Other trees added to the park were Quercus rubra, Platanus acerifolia "Bloodgood", Acer rubrum "Cardinal Sentinel", Malus "Snowdrift", Malus "Radiant", Pyrus c. "Bradford", and Tilia cordata "Greenspire". These plans were developed by the Department of Environmental Services, Engineering Services, City of Rochester.

5. Reference Documents

- Plans: Occupation Survey, City of Rochester, June 28, 1934
Wadsworth Parking Lot and Landscaped Open Space, City of Rochester, April, 1983 (Sheets 1/6, 2/6, 3/6, 4/6, 4A/6, 4B/6)
Existing Site Plan, Clark Patterson Mossien, January 27, 1993
- Plats: 1875 Hopkins, 1888 Robinson, 1900, 1918 Hopkins, 1926 Hopkins
- Aerial: 1918 and 1926 Historic Aerial Photographs
- Photographic views: 1 c. 1890
- Postcards:
- Park Commissioners Reports: 1888-1904
- Common Council Meetings: 1909
- Newspaper Articles: ?, May 18, 1955
City Newspaper, April 17, 1980
- Other: A Survey of Recreational Facilities in Rochester, NY. Raitt, Charles. June, 1929.
"Wadsworth Square", Barnes, Joseph W. May, 1977
"Shunned by All Timid Persons". Carper, Steve. RMSC Focus.
A Growing Legacy. McKelvey, Dr. Blake. 1988

J. WASHINGTON SQUARE

1. Origins/Early History

Washington Square is seen on a 1818 map and is shown as a public square. The square was donated to Rochester by Elisha Johnson "about 1837 by subdivision dedication." (Raitt, 1929)

A 1875 plat by Hopkins shows Washington Square as a rectangle with two diagonal paths connecting the four corners. A 1888 plat survey also shows the square with two diagonal paths. A map of Washington Square by CC Laney, C.E. from June 1891 shows the park as a rectangle with two straight diagonal paths connecting to a central square (see Figure II.47). Many trees are scattered about the park and street trees line most of the perimeter of the park. Trees that are indicated include:

| | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| Sugar Maple | Silver Maple |
| Butternut | Plane |
| Black Oak | Mountain Ash |
| Basswood | Elm |
| Stephen A. Douglas Elm | Mayor Parson Elm |

This plan also indicates the location of the triangle between Monroe Avenue and Monroe Place for which the Olmsted firm also provided a design. (See Convention Hall Triangle, Figure I.14)

An early 1890s photo shows the square before the redesign by the Olmsted firm (see Figure II.48). The park is mostly open lawn areas with scattered mature deciduous trees. A central statue is not visible. The tree canopies are very dense and several types of trees are seen including Sycamore, Elm and Maple. Paths and sidewalks look to be concrete.

Washington Square renovation plans were contracted to the Olmsted firm in 1892 along with several other of the parks. Common Council minutes from September 27, 1892 indicate that improvements were approved for the square according to the "plan by Olmsted & Co., landscape architects. The improvement to consist of grading said square and seeding down the grass plots, making Portland cement walks 8 feet wide on the four sides and Portland cement walks 10 feet wide in said square, with a space 60 by 80 (?) feet about the Soldiers Monument constructed in the same manner as the walks; edge stones two inches thick and projecting three inches above the surface to be set along the edge of the walks." The estimated sum was \$3,500. Common Council meeting minutes from September 6th, 1893 mention that "whereas Washington Square is the most centrally located and is one of the most beautiful of our small parks; and Whereas the location in it of the magnificent monument to the memory of the dead soldiers of Rochester makes it necessary to rebuild the walks and regrade a large portion of the square, and Whereas, there is no sidewalk upon two sides of said square; and Whereas, it is the universal opinion that the square should be improved in a suitable manner." The plan by Olmsted was authorized.

A 1900 Park Commissioners Report mentions that bulbs were planted in the square. "Thirty-seven thousand bulbs of narcissus, iris, glory of the snow, crocuses, tulips, hyacinths, and snow drop were planted in Highland and Washington Square and Franklin Square."

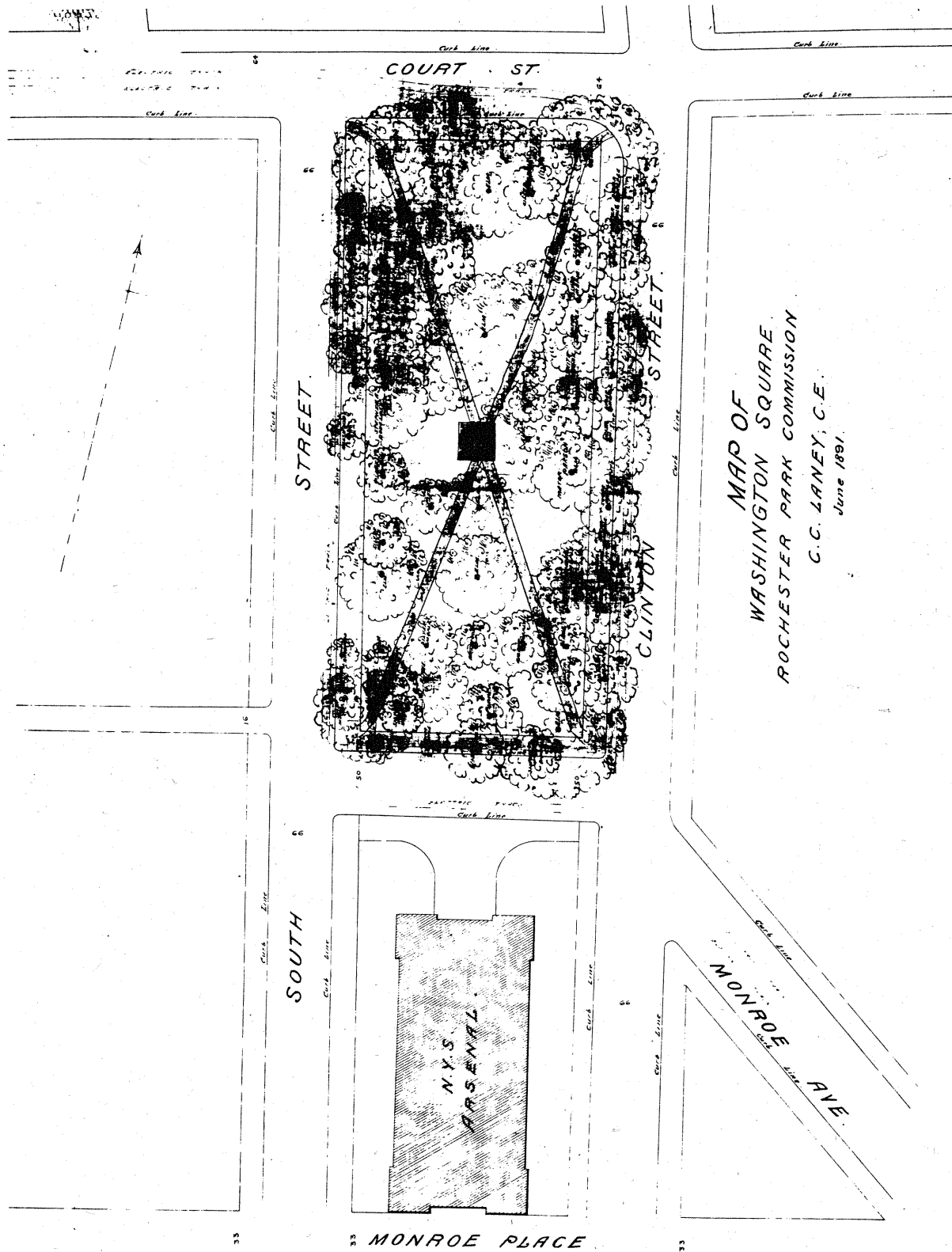


Figure II.47: Map of Washington Square c. 1891 by C.C. Laney. Courtesy collection of the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site.

2. Olmsted Influences

A Preliminary Plan of Washington Square by F.L. Olmsted & Co., from August 26, 1892 shows two diagonal walks intersecting in the center of the park to form a large paved area around the central Soldiers and Sailors monument (see Figure II.49). Two drinking fountains flank this large central space. Six seating areas are incorporated into the edge of the walks and face the interior of the park. Outlines of street trees, park trees and shrub masses are indicated. Large shrub masses flank the sidewalks on all four sides of the park, along Wood, South, S. Clinton and Court Streets. Other smaller masses are placed behind the seating areas. Trolley tracks encircle the park and on two sides the tracks ran along the edge of the park, along S. Clinton and South Streets.

A February 1, 1893 Planting Plan of Washington Square attributed to the Olmsted Firm shows the addition of clumps of shrubs along the two diagonal curving paths (see Figure II.50). Most of the shrubs are flowering and deciduous, planted in large masses. Thirty-two different varieties of shrubs and ground covers are recommended. These include:

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <i>Ligustrum ovalifolium</i> | <i>Ligustrum vulgare</i> |
| <i>Symphoricarpos racemosus</i> | <i>Symphoricarpos vulgaris</i> |
| <i>Cercis canadensis</i> | <i>Calycanthus floridus</i> |
| <i>Viburnum opulus</i> | <i>Cydonia japonica</i> |
| <i>Deutzia gracilis</i> | <i>Yucca filamentosa</i> |
| <i>Viburnum lantana</i> | <i>Cornus alternifolia</i> |
| <i>Berberis thunbergii</i> | <i>Berberis canadensis</i> |
| <i>Rosa multiflora</i> | <i>Aralia pentaphylla</i> |
| <i>Kerria japonica</i> | <i>Rhodotypos kerriodes</i> |
| <i>Spiraea Van Houten</i> | <i>Rosa rugosa alba</i> |
| <i>Rosa rugosa</i> | <i>Spiraea sempervirens</i> |
| <i>Ligustrum ibota</i> | <i>Spiraea thumbergii</i> |
| <i>Forsythia suspensa</i> | <i>Mahonia auqifolia</i> |
| <i>Viburnum nudum</i> | <i>Cornus paniculata</i> |
| <i>Chionanthus virginicus</i> | <i>Deutzia crenata</i> |
| <i>Cornus florida</i> | <i>Vinca minor</i> |

The shrubs are shown to be planted in large masses along the edge of the sidewalks paralleling Court and Wood Streets. Existing trees are incorporated into the groupings. Other shrub masses are placed along the interior park walks connecting the four corners of the park to the central monument. There are three masses in the lawn along South Street but there are four masses along South Clinton Street. Two other shrub masses are placed along the edge of the walks to the either side of the monument. Benches are incorporated into the edge of the walkways, facing the interior of the park and the central monument.

An lithographic copy of an Olmsted plan shows the placement of the statue in the center of the square with four diagonal paths connecting the corners of the square to the central space. Paths have been widened and curved slightly. No date was indicated on the lithograph and Olmsted was misspelled Olmstead. The plan labels all the trees, which includes Plane, Elm, Sugar Maple, Silver Maple, Basswood, and White Oak. Seating areas are integrated into the edge of the portland cement walks.



Figure II.48: Washington Square c. 1890. Courtesy the photographic collection of the Rochester Historical Society.

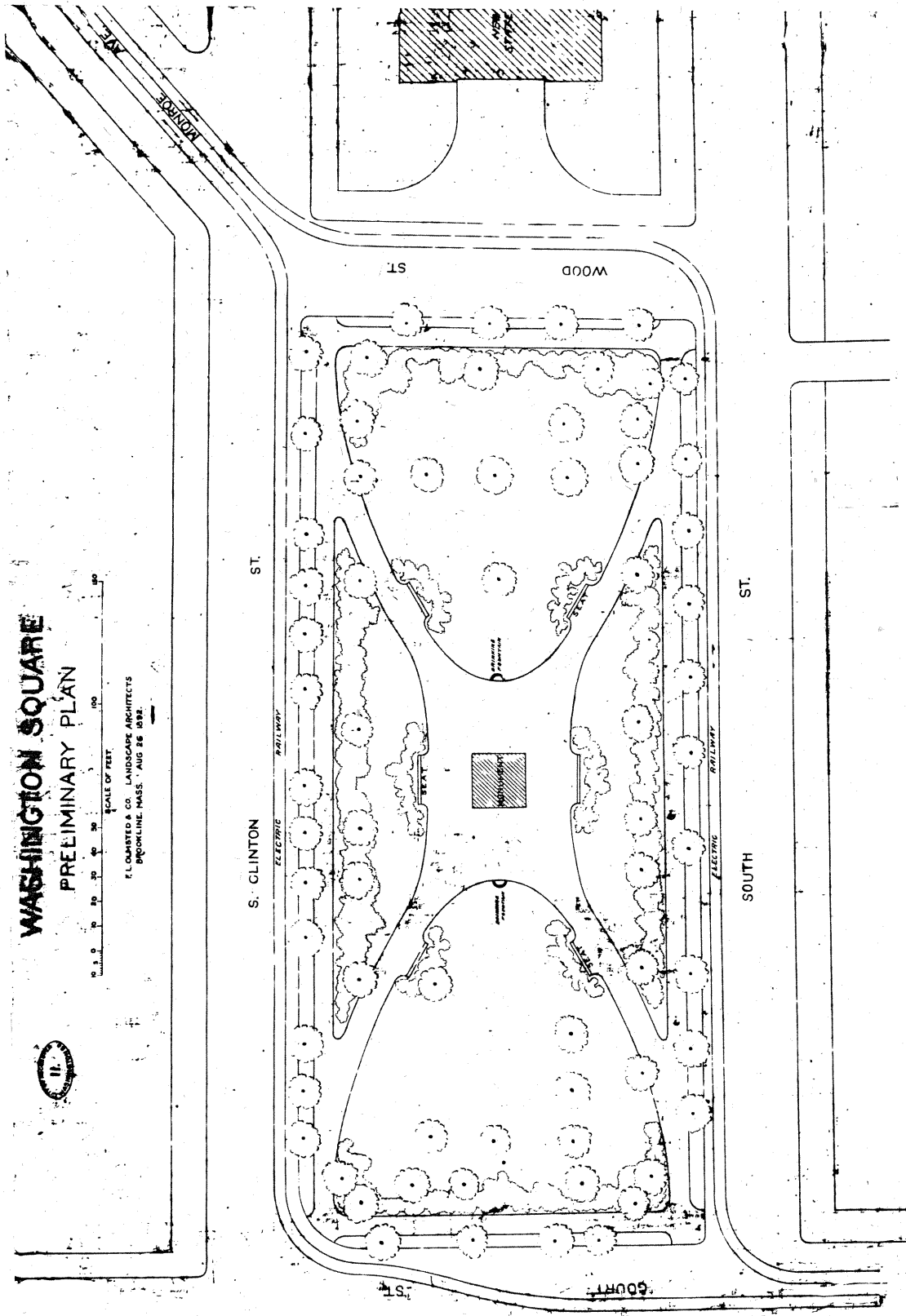


Figure II.49: Preliminary Plan of Washington Square, F.L. Olmsted & Co. Landscape Architects, August 26, 1892. Courtesy collection of the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site.

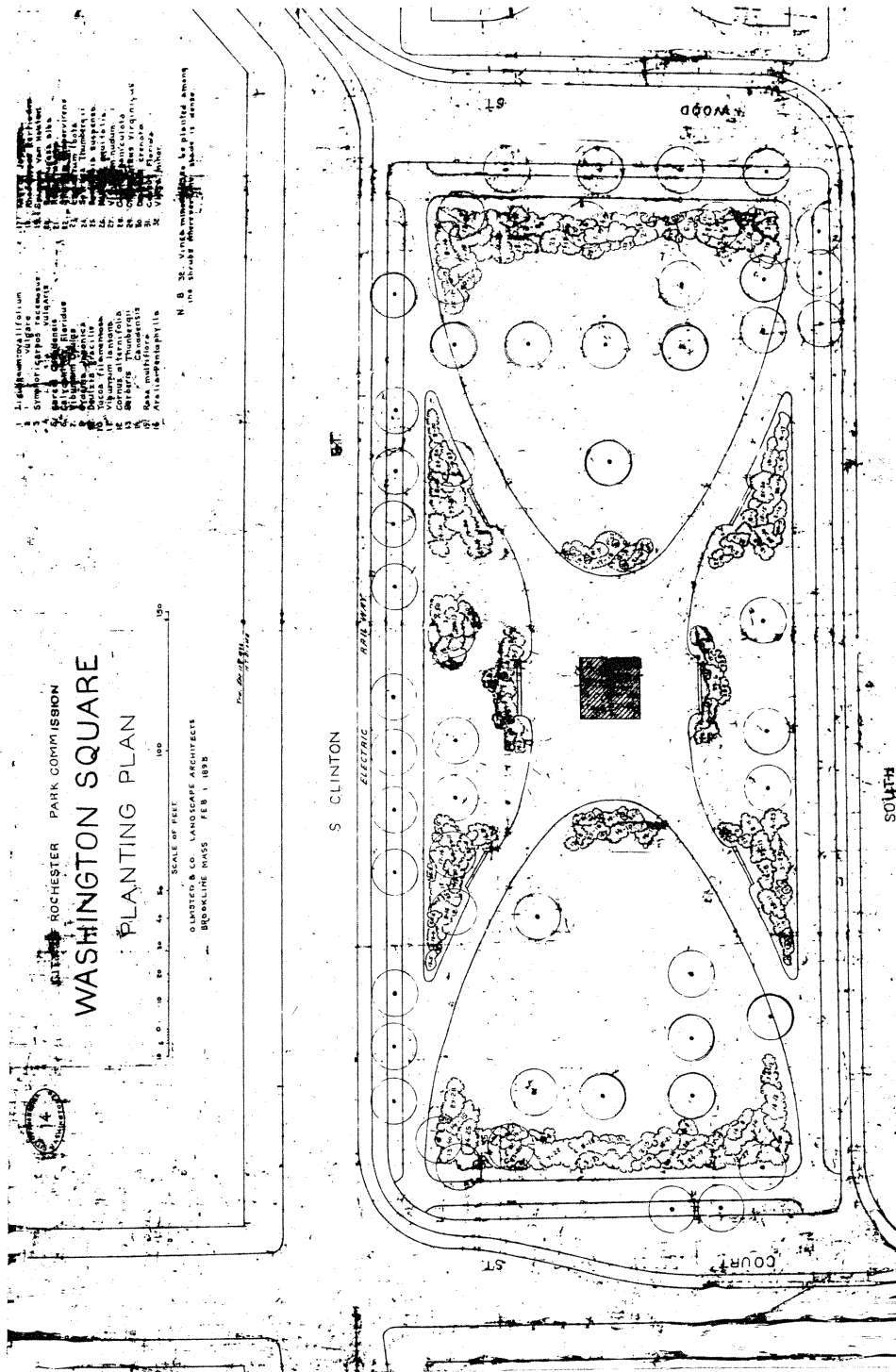


Figure II.50: Washington Square Planting Plan, Olmsted & Co., February 1, 1893. Courtesy collection of the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site.

A letter of a visit by Warren Manning, September 5, 1894 mentions "at Washington Square the grass and planting were looking very well. Mr. Laney suggested a planting at the ends of the middle grass plots opposite the entrance walk, but I thought that such a plantation would not look well and advised against it."

3. Early 20th Century

A 1928 newspaper article mentions the dedication of the statue "occurred on May 30, 1892, with addresses made by President Harrison, Governor Flower, Frederick Douglas, John A. Reynolds, Senator Parsons and Mayor Cirran." (Sept. 24, 1928) A parade was held for the occasion. The monument was reported to be twenty-one feet square. The base had five steps and at the corners were bronze military figures. Atop the central granite shaft was a statue of Abraham Lincoln. An early photograph c. 1900 shows the park after the redesign by the Olmsteds. The central feature of the park was now the Soldiers and Sailors Monument. (See Figure II.51) Curving concrete paths connect from the four corners to the central area. Shrub beds can be seen between the sidewalks and the diagonal paths and surrounding the base of the statue. Several of the trees look to be Elms. Benches are placed along the edge of the paths. Historic postcard views from the early 20th century show that the park is edged with mature deciduous trees, most likely Elms. (See Figure II.52) The paths connect from the four corners and lead to the central statue. The Soldiers and Sailors statue is located in the center. Shrub beds are found at the intersection of paths. Benches are found in the central space along the edge of the walkways. Street trees line both sides of the surrounding roads. 1920s photos shows the Memorial cannon placed at one end of the park along the street edge.

The 1910 plat survey shows a new configuration of paths as seen in the Olmsted plans. A 1918 plat by Hopkins shows the same configuration of paths as in 1910. The Soldiers and Sailors monument in the central feature. A 1918 aerial photograph shows the park as mostly tree covered with open grassy areas. The trees were all deciduous and were scattered about the park and along the streets. A 1926 plat by Hopkins shows the same circulation system as in the 1910 plat. The park was 131.36 feet wide by 350.53 feet long. The monument was still the central feature. A 1926 aerial photograph shows the park with fewer trees than in 1918. The park was still dominated by mature deciduous trees. The paths remained winding through the open grassy areas.

A plan and elevation by Gordon & Kaelber Architects shows the "Suggested Setting for the Austrian Cannon In Washington Square". The cannon was located on a concrete platform three or four steps higher than the adjacent sidewalk, along Court Street. The cannon was directly centered on the war memorial. It was placed in the park in the 1920s (it was not evident in the 1918 aerial photograph).

In 1929 the park was mostly grass with several mature trees. There were some improved walks, about .15 miles. The Soldier and Sailors monument was located in the center. "Washington park is on the outskirts of the main business section of the city and is used mainly as a place of rest. Some may say it is a loafing place, but even the poor man needs his rest and enjoys green grass and shade." Suggestions were made to include an underground comfort station. (Raitt, 1929)

In 1939 the little white house, placed there in 1932, was moved off of the square. It was placed there "originally as an exhibit to acquaint homeowners with the possibility of converting an old

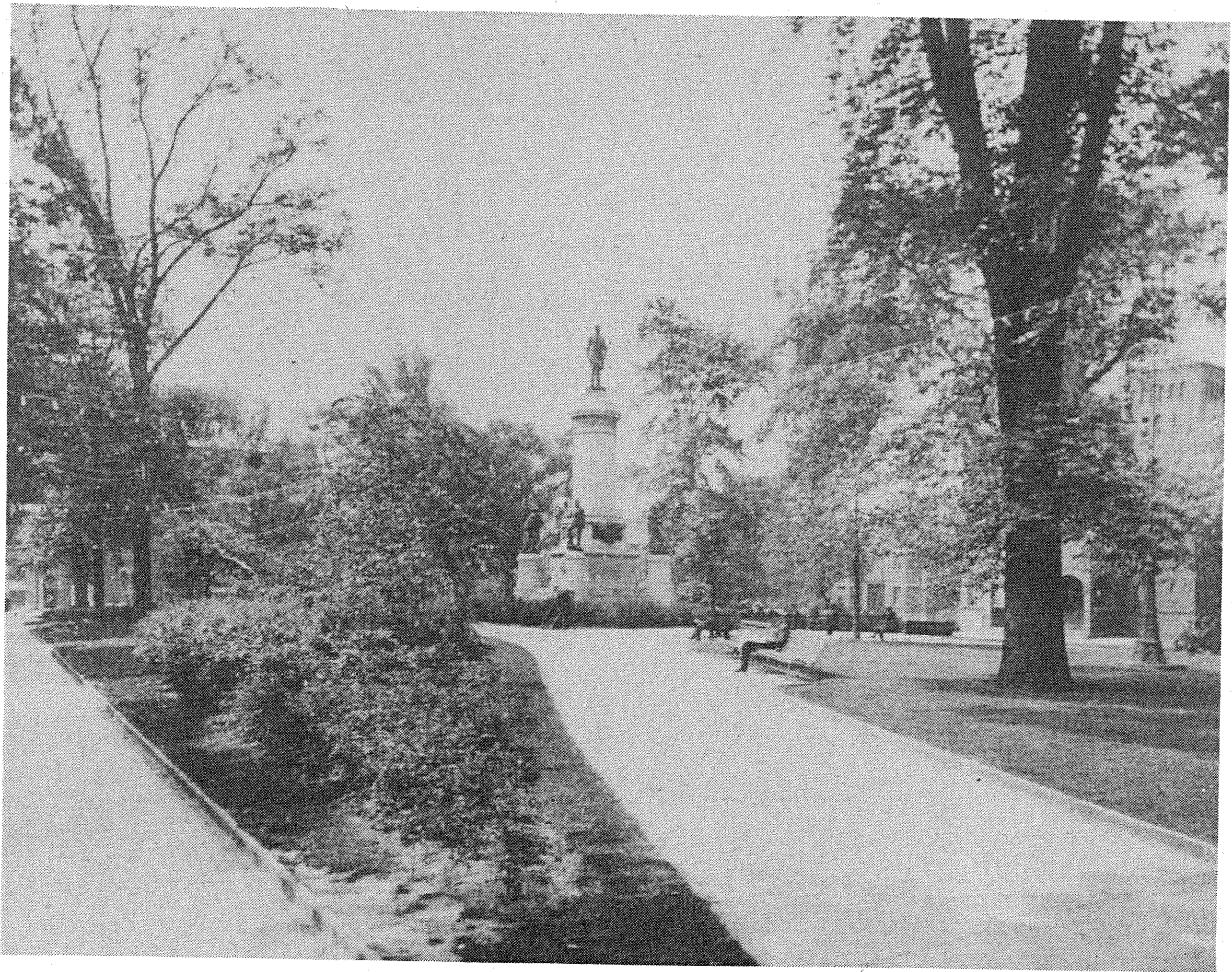


Figure II.51: Washington Square c. 1900. Courtesy the photographic collection of the Rochester Historical Society.



Figure II.52: Clinton Avenue South at Washington Park, showing Soldiers and Sailors Monument. Postcard view of Washington Square c. 1907. Postcard courtesy private collection of Ellen B. Schnurr.

house into a modern dwelling." (4/24/39 TU) In 1943 the park was 100 by 200 feet with about 25 benches. (6/30/43 DC)

4. Recent History

In 1967 a survey of the park shows spot elevations, tree types and locations, paths, water lines, and lights. This plan shows several clumps of shrubs are located along Clinton Avenue. The paths are a combination of concrete and asphalt. Lawn areas were interspersed with mature deciduous trees. The trees are Maples, Elms, Locusts, Norway Maples, Oaks, and Sycamores.

Several aerial photographs from the 1930s, 1960s and 1970s show the park as the surrounding area was developed. Many of the stately elms trees shown in the 1930s were eventually lost, and not visible in the 1970s views of the erection of the Xerox building.

A 1969 article mentions that 119 trees were planted in Washington Square in April. "Included in the plantings are flowering crab apples and little leaf lindens. As part of the park's beautification, the city has replaced sidewalks, installed new benches and will soon sandblast monuments." (4/25/69 TU)

A 1988 newspaper article mentions the addition of four high pressure sodium lights on Victorian type poles. The park was refurbished during the City parks centennial. New trees were planted and "only one of Olmsted trees remained, a London Plane tree" (July 12, 1988 TU) In March of 1988 an article spoke of the removal of many trees from around the cannon in the square. Approximately thirty trees were removed that year. This park historically was a site for many Arbor Day celebrations which included tree plantings.

5. Reference Documents

Olmsted Job # 1109: Washington Square

Letters: 1 Report of Visit, W Manning, 1894 (No correspondence file)

Plans: Area Map, Rochester Park Commission, June 1891

Improvement Plan (Preliminary), Olmsted, August 26, 1892

Planting Plan, Olmsted, February 1, 1893 (2 Copies)

Improvement Plan, Olmsted, 1893 (2 Copies)

Cannon Setting - Plan and Elevation, Gordon and Kaelber

Survey Map, DPW, October 25, 1967

Rehabilitation of Washington Square Park, Urban Beautification Program, February 21, 1968 (Sheets Title, 1/4, 2/4, 3/4, 4/4)

Planimetric Map of Area, City of Rochester Planning Commission, 1975
"Parade Grounds" (triangular park)

Plats: 1875 Hopkins, 1888 Robinson, 1910, 1918 Hopkins, 1926 Hopkins

Aerial: 1918 and 1926 Historic Aerial Photographs

Photographic views: 3 c. 1890, 1 c. 1893, 1 1919, 4 c. 1920s, 1 1958, 2 1960s, 2 1970s, 1 1971

Postcards: 7 1905-1911

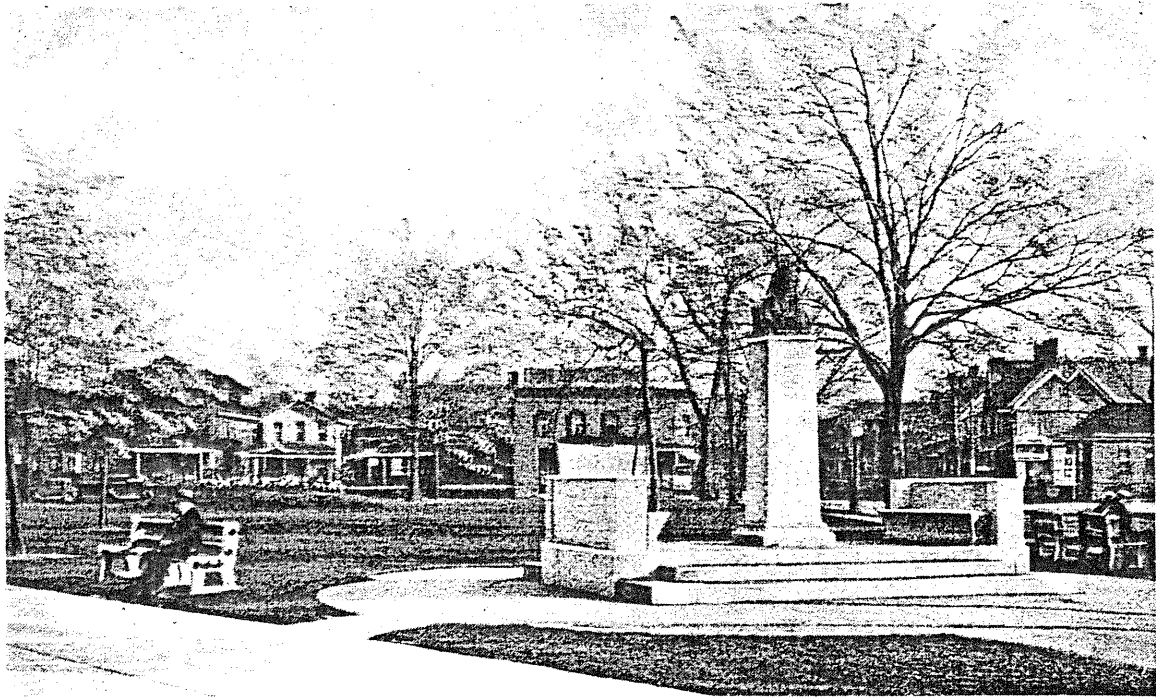
Park Commissioners Reports:

Common Council Meetings: 1892

Newspaper Articles: Times Union April 24, 1939; Democrat & Chronicle, June 30, 1943

Democrat & Chronicle, September 5, 1948; Democrat & Chronicle, March 11, 1954
Times Union, April 25, 1969; Democrat & Chronicle, March 17, 1988
Times Union, July 12, 1988; ?, September 24, 1928
Other: A Survey of Recreational Facilities in Rochester, NY. Raitt, Charles. June, 1929.

CHAPTER III



CHAPTER III: MONUMENT ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TREATMENT

INTRODUCTION

Rochester, like other cities with a large park system, has a significant number of works of art or memorials placed within the public parks. As the future of these monuments is considered their preservation, restoration if needed, and maintenance need to be acknowledged. George Segan Wheeler, stone and metal conservator from the Metropolitan Museum of New York, reviewed the following elements in the Rochester City parks system which included monuments, memorials and other stone features (curbing, walls, steps). Wheeler's field review of the conditions included a visual inspection, photography of elements and recorded notes. Each monument is named and includes a brief description, assessment of condition, treatment recommendations and estimate of treatment costs. The assessment of the existing monuments in the parks and parkways of Rochester is organized alphabetically by park.

Many of these monuments or memorials were incorporated into the original designs of the park, like the Soldiers and Sailors Monument in Washington Park. The historic design and setting of many of the monuments have been compromised, like the loss of the central ornamental fountain in Jones Park. Other monuments have been added in recent years and often infringe on the original design intent, like the Susan B. Anthony plaque that changes the entry relationships at this Olmsted park. These monuments should be respected and maintained. The historic condition and intent of the surroundings for these monuments should be also respected. Simplicity and suitability are the key concepts to considering settings, using the historic documentation as a guide. As the future unfolds for these parks and appropriate preservation and rehabilitation of the park and parkways occur, changes to the monuments and plaques need to be suitable. Major alterations to existing monuments should be avoided. Insertion of additional monuments is also likely to be unsuitable in historic landscapes. Appropriate public places should be found to place new public works of art.

A. ANDERSON PARK

No monuments or stone elements in park.

B. BROWN SQUARE

Rededication Monument

Conditions - the granite monument is in good condition. This monument has been added to the park since the park was redeveloped and rededicated in 1977. (See Figure III.1)

Recommendations - none

C. JONES SQUARE

Brownstone Park Curbing

Conditions - many losses are noted in the historic brownstone curbing which surrounds the whole outside edge of the park. This curbing is now very low, and, in some areas, almost flush with the pavement due to numerous repavings.



Figure III.1: Brown Square Rededication Memorial, an example of a contemporary monument in good condition. This park was altered dramatically in 1997 and little remains from the original Olmsted design. Courtesy of George Wheeler, 1993.



Figure III.2: Base of one of the historic Lakeview Park light standards. Notice the encroachment of earth and trees at the back and the missing light fixture. Courtesy of George Wheeler, 1993.

Recommendations - replace badly deteriorated curbing with in kind brownstone.
Estimated Cost - \$15,000

Fountain

Conditions - historic views showed a small stone fountain in the center of the park which was designed by the Olmsted firm in 1901. In 1967 the fountain was filled with dirt, rocks and vegetation. A new concrete curb surrounds the fountain, nothing historic is evident.

A new bronze interpretive plaque that details the history of the park and its relationship to the other Olmsted parks in Rochester should be placed in the park. This will aid in the interpretation of the rehabilitation and reconstruction of elements of the park. The plaque should be mounted on two stone piers.

D. LAKEVIEW PARK

Lakeview Avenue - Piers and Stairways

Conditions - the piers and stairways on Lakeview Avenue are generally in good condition. There are two sets of stairs at the entrance to the park along Lake Avenue. Also adjacent to these stairs are the base of historic light standards. There is some encroachment of earth and trees and minor missing elements. Light fixtures are now missing. (See Figure III.2)

Recommendations - replace losses with dutchmen using East Longmeadow sandstone. Regrade some of earth. Design and replace light fixtures.

Estimated Cost without light fixture - \$2500

E. LUNSFORD CIRCLE

Lunsford Circle Curbing

Conditions - the outside edge of the park is enclosed with a historic stone curb. (See Figure III.3) Concrete replacements for the historic curb are noted in sections. Pointing is lost between the curb members. Road tar is found on some of the curb stones. Some curbs are pressed close together. Severe cracking is noted in several areas parallel to the line of the curb. These cracks have led to some spalling losses. The central gazebo has complete pointing loss and some stones out of alignment.

Recommendations - cracks in the curb should be glued with AKEMI polyester resin and filled with a composite patch to match the color and texture of the stone. Larger areas of spalling loss should be treated in the same manner. Pointing can be executed with a 1:1:6 lime: portland cement: sand mixture which can also be used as the pointing for the resetting of the gazebo stones. Concrete replacements should be removed and further replaced with either cast brownstone or recarved brownstone. Curb stones should be reset to reduce the compression stress. Tar can be removed with Sure-Klean's Asphalt and Tar remover and medium pressure water.

Estimated Cost - \$28,000

A new bronze interpretive plaque that details the history of the park and its relationship to the other Olmsted parks in Rochester should be placed in the park. It will aid in interpreting the rehabilitation and reconstruction of elements of the park. The plaque should be mounted on two stone piers.

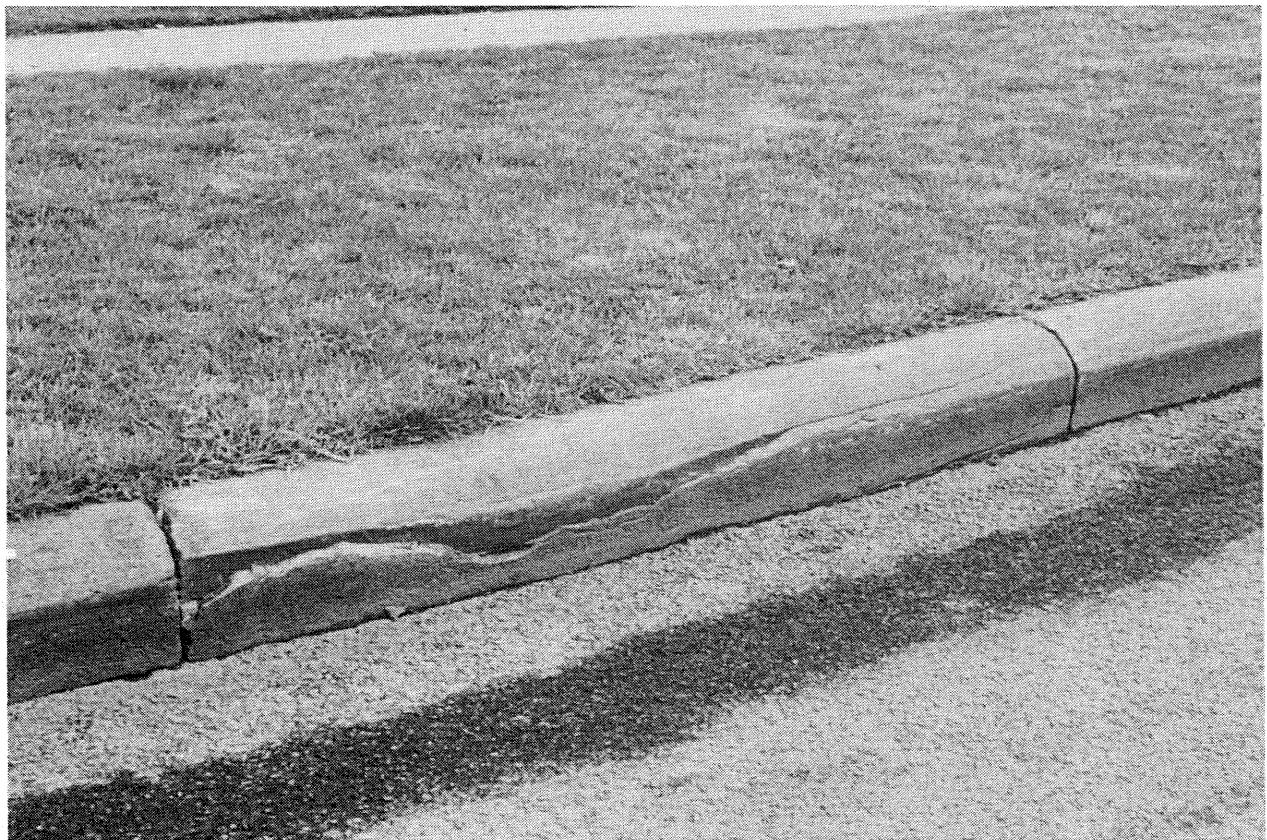


Figure III.3: A portion of the stone curb surround Lunsford Circle. Notice the severe cracking parallel to the line of the curb. Courtesy of George Wheeler, 1993.

F. MAPLEWOOD PARK

Stecher Memorial Fountain

Conditions - the fountain is constructed from a large grained, pink, so-called Georgia marble. The central fountain and nearby benches have extensive losses and graffiti. The concrete base and stucco coating for the central fountain exhibit cracking and losses. (See Figure III.4)

Recommendations - Graffiti can be removed with methylene chloride-based paint strippers such as Zip-Strip. Barring a complete reconstruction of the fountain all mortar joints should be repointed with a 1:1:6 mix of hydrated lime: Type II portland cement: pointing sand. The stone which currently surmounts the column is now so badly damaged as to render it aesthetically useless. This stone can be used for dutchmen repairs to the rim of the larger fountain bowl which shows many areas of loss. The areas for dutchmen must first be cut out to squared edges. The dutchmen are then set in place with AKEMI polyester resin or Permagine epoxy resin leaving excess stone to be shaped and resurfaced to the surrounding configuration and texture of stone. The losses in the concrete base can be selectively repaired but the stucco must be removed and completely replaced. To execute the stucco replacement will require the removal of the marble plaques. A complete reconstruction of the fountain will require all of the above items and the recarving of missing elements.

Estimated Cost without recarving missing elements - \$3,000

Estimated Cost with recarving - \$25,000 (based on using sculptor Shi-Jia Chen, New York, New York)

Rose Garden - Piers

Conditions - the thirteen piers exhibit spalling and some granular disintegration of the dominantly-bedded brownstone. (See Figure III.5) Bitumen-like materials are found on at least one pier. Capstones are often shifted. Tooled corners of the piers show little evidence of original tool marks due to weathering. Holes are found in some piers where metal fences had been attached. Pointing losses are extensive on some piers. Some graffiti is noted on the piers. Pointing range from complete loss to fully repointed and in good condition.

Recommendations - Beginning at the east end of the park on Driving Park - Piers 1 and 2 - cut out existing pointing and repoint with 1:1:6 hydrated lime: Type II portland cement: sand. Bitumen should be removed with Sure-Klean Asphalt and Tar remover followed by medium pressure water (approximately 400 psi). Inject backside of spalls with AKEMI polyester resin. The capstone should be removed and reset on Pier 1 with a bed of pointing mortar. Moving west on Driving Park at main traffic entrance to the park - Pier 3 and 4 - remove graffiti with methylene chloride-based paint remover and reset capstone on Pier 3; Pier 4 requires consolidation with Conservare OH. Cut and repoint as per Piers 1 and 2. Piers 5 and 6 which are further west on Driving Park and which form the left side of the entrance road to the park require composite patching to fill the holes where the old iron fence attached to the piers. The material should consist of 1:1:6 mixture of lime:white portland cement:sand with mineral pigment to match the color of the stone. Cut and repoint. Pier 7 which is part of the entrance walk at the southwest corner of the park should be demolished (including the stone comprising the border of the walk; these stones can be salvaged for repairs in other locations such as the Rose Garden.) Moving north on Lake Avenue - Piers 8,9,10,11,12,13 - require complete repointing; removal of stubs of iron from old fence followed by composite patching.

Estimated Cost - \$15,000

Rose Garden Wall

Conditions - major losses of mortar are noted in all areas of the wall. Some stones are out of line either by the pressure of earth or plants. "Whitewash" is found on the back side of the wall in some areas. Losses of stone are noted in the steps. (See Figures III.6 & III.7)

Recommendations - The entire wall must have its pointing removed and replaced as per the pointing mix described for the piers. Stone must be reset on the left side of the small stairway (as you face the stairway going up). The risers must be reset and one riser must be repaired in stone. The new section should be cut to a length of approximately two feet and set into the squared off ends of the old riser. Drains must be opened and/or replaced to provide for adequate movement of water through the wall to the lower level. Graffiti can be removed with methylene chloride-based paint strippers while old white wash can be removed with medium pressure water (approximately 400 psi). At the far north end of the rose garden wall the yews have pushed some of the stones out of alignment. These stone must be reset.

Estimated Cost - \$18,000

Stone Replacement at Maplewood Rose Garden including Lakeview Avenue

Conditions - the stone for the piers is a dominantly bedded red sandstone (i.e. brownstone) consisting of quartz, feldspar, some clay and mica. The cement for the rock is dolomite, an acid soluble carbonate mineral. For the rose garden itself the stone (so-called Medina), also a red sandstone, is not dominantly bedded and consists of quartz and feldspars. The cement is siliceous. For stone replacement the rose garden can be replaced in-kind with materials still present at the site. The larger piece required for the step may require the Proctor, CT stone mentioned below. The piers (including Lakeview Avenue) should not be replaced in-kind for reasons of both mineralogy and structure. Both of these factors contribute to the rapid deterioration of the stone. For replacement, Proctor, CT, East Longmeadow, MA or a similar brownstone of good durability from Germany can be supplied by Petrillo Stoneworks, Mount Vernon, New York.

G. SCHILLER PARK

Schiller Statue

Conditions - the statue is a bronze bust set upon a stone base with two flanking benches. The limestone base is generally in good condition. Some granular disintegration is noted. The bench on the right as you face the bronze bust shows a large loss at the corner. Run-off from the bronze bust of Schiller has stained the limestone. Graffiti also appears on the limestone. There are minor losses on the vertical edges of the pedestal for the bronze bust. Caulking is found where pointing should be. (See Figure III.8)

Recommendations - the bronze should be cleaned and lacquered. Copper stains should be removed from the limestone with an AB57-based poultice. The corner of the bench should be repaired with a large dutchman using limestone, stainless steel pins and AKEMI. Graffiti can be reduced with



Figure III.4: Stecher Memorial Fountain in the Maplewood Rose Garden. The fountain is non-operational. Extensive cracks are noticeable on the fountain. Graffiti covers the marble fountain and the adjacent bench. Courtesy of George Wheeler, 1993.

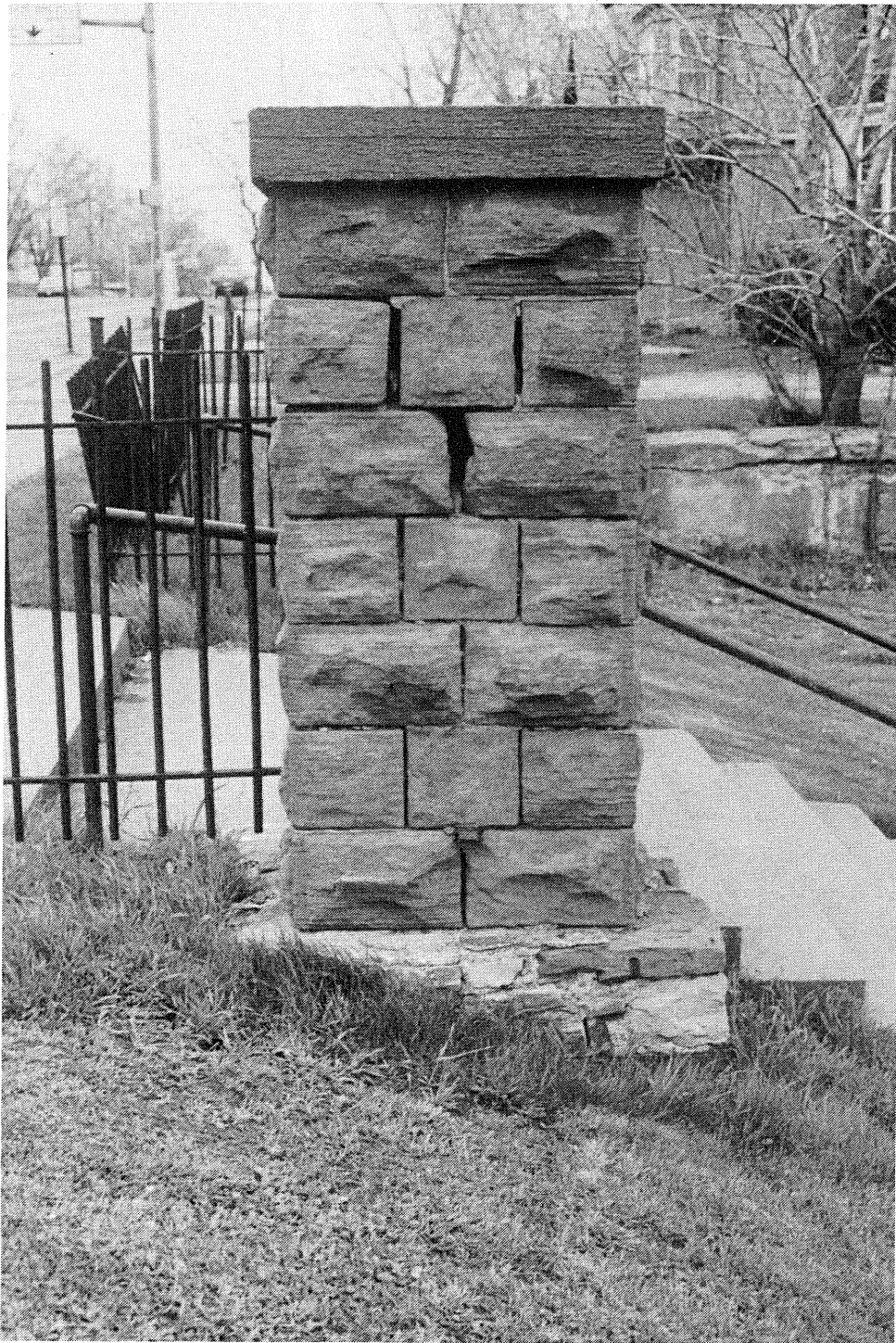


Figure III.5: One of the thirteen Maplewood Park piers which exhibits spalling and some granular disintegration of the dominantly-bedded brownstone. The iron fence is also in need of repair. Courtesy of George Wheeler, 1993.

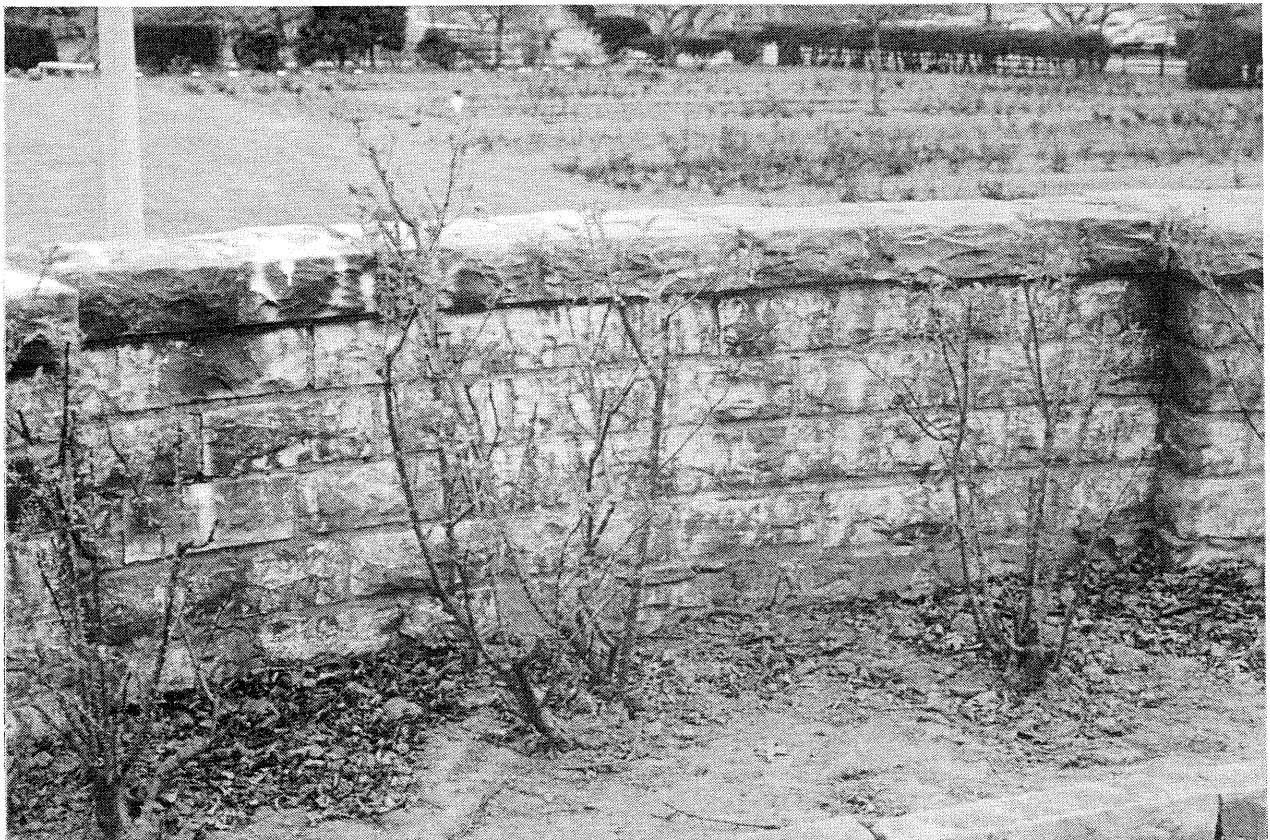


Figure III.6: A portion of the Maplewood Rose Garden wall showing major losses of mortar and "whitewash" on the face of the stones. Courtesy of George Wheeler, 1993.



Figure III.7: Maplewood Rose Garden portion of the wall and stairs. Notice the major losses of mortar in the wall and the disintegration of the stair. Courtesy of George Wheeler, 1993.

methylene chloride-based paint stripper. Pointing should replace the caulking in a 1:1:6 mixture of lime: white portland cement: fine pointing sand.

Estimated Cost - \$8,000

H. SENECA PARKWAY

No monuments along the parkway.

I. SUSAN B. ANTHONY PARK

Susan B. Anthony Plaque

Conditions - natural boulder bears the Susan B. Anthony plaque with an old repair at the lower right corner. (See Figure III.9)

Recommendations - if this boulder and plaque were to be repaired the operations would include cutting out old fill and replacing with carved natural stone of a

Estimated Cost - \$2500

The construction documents for Susan B. Anthony Park show a different approach to this plaque and boulder. The boulder should be removed. The plaque should be reset on two stone piers and placed with a new interpretive plaque that details the history of the park and its relationship to the other Olmsted parks in Rochester.

J. WADSWORTH SQUARE

No monuments in the park.

K. WASHINGTON SQUARE

Soldiers and Sailors Monument

Conditions - in general the monument is in good condition. Pigeon droppings and general soiling are noted for the granite and bronze. Rusting of unprotected pins can be found on some of the seated figures. A large spall can be seen at the bottom of the Monitor and Merrimac bronze relief. Freezing-spall damage of the granite is found in a few areas. (See Figure III.10)

Recommendations - the monument should be cleaned with detergent and bristle brushes. The iron pins should be cloaked in a bronze cover. The granite spall must be removed and replaced with a granite dutchman which should be secured with stainless steel pins and AKEMI polyester resin. In areas of freeze damage the granite should be resurfaced by removing exfoliations and retooling.

Estimated Cost - \$7,000



Figure III.8: Schiller Monument in Schiller Park. Notice the run-off from the bronze bust which has stained the limestone. Courtesy of George Wheeler, 1993.



Figure III.9: Susan B. Anthony plaque at the corner of Susan B. Anthony Square. Damage is evident at the lower right corner of the natural boulder which bears the bronze plaque. Courtesy of George Wheeler, 1993.

Roosevelt Memorial

Conditions - new granite monument is in good condition.

Recommendations - clean with detergent and bristle brushes.

Estimated Cost - \$800

Austrian Cannon

Conditions - stucco over terrazzo forms the base for the cannon. The stucco is cracked and stained by the rusting of iron elements above. Wood is in poor condition in the cannon. Some of the metal of the cannon is rusted through. A marble inscriptions plaque is somewhat stained and a bronze plaque is corroded. (See Figure III.11)

Recommendations - the stucco should be patched in areas of loss and repainted. The bronze plaque should be cleaned and lacquered. Stains on the marble plaque can be reduced (not necessarily eliminated) with PROSOCO'S Iron Poultrice. Several wood elements of the cannon should be replaced with treated wooden members. Some metal elements should be repaired and these areas painted.

Estimated Cost - \$5,000

A new bronze interpretive plaque that details the history of the park and its relationship to the other Olmsted parks in Rochester should be placed in the park. It should be mounted on two stone piers.

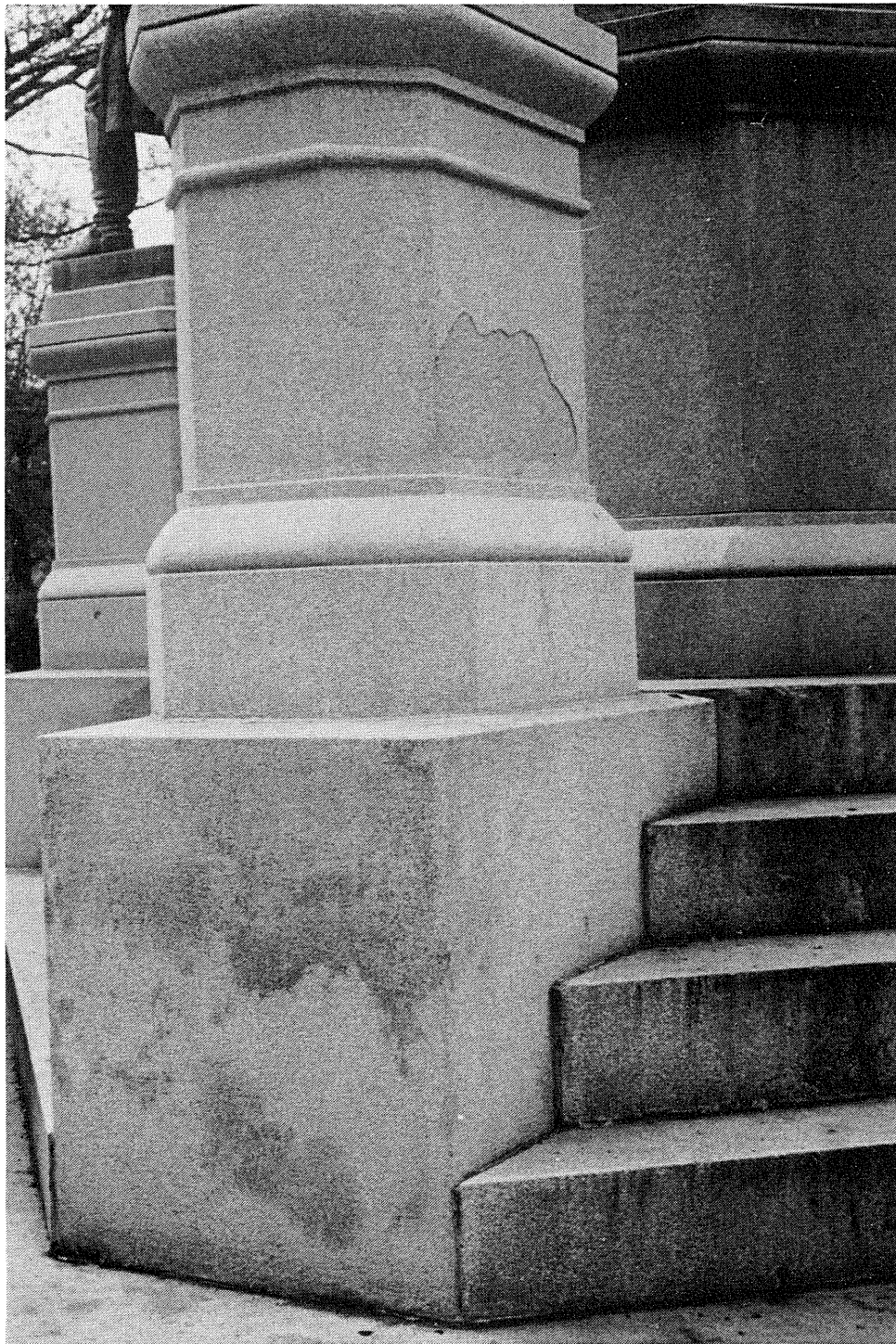


Figure III.10: Detail of base of Soldiers and Sailors Monument in Washington Square. A large spall is noticeable at the bottom of the Monitor and Merrimac bronze relief. Freezing-spall damage of the granite is found in a few other areas. Courtesy of George Wheeler, 1993.

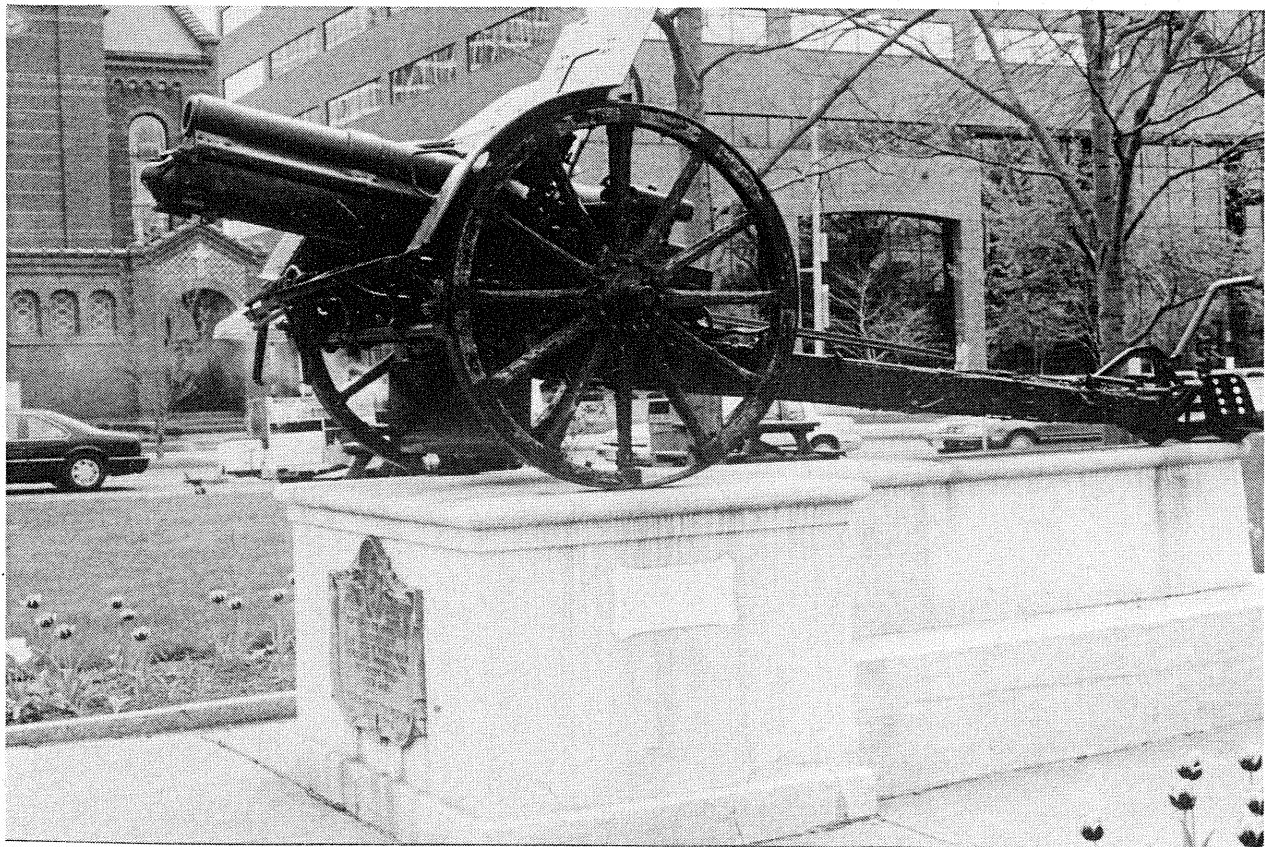
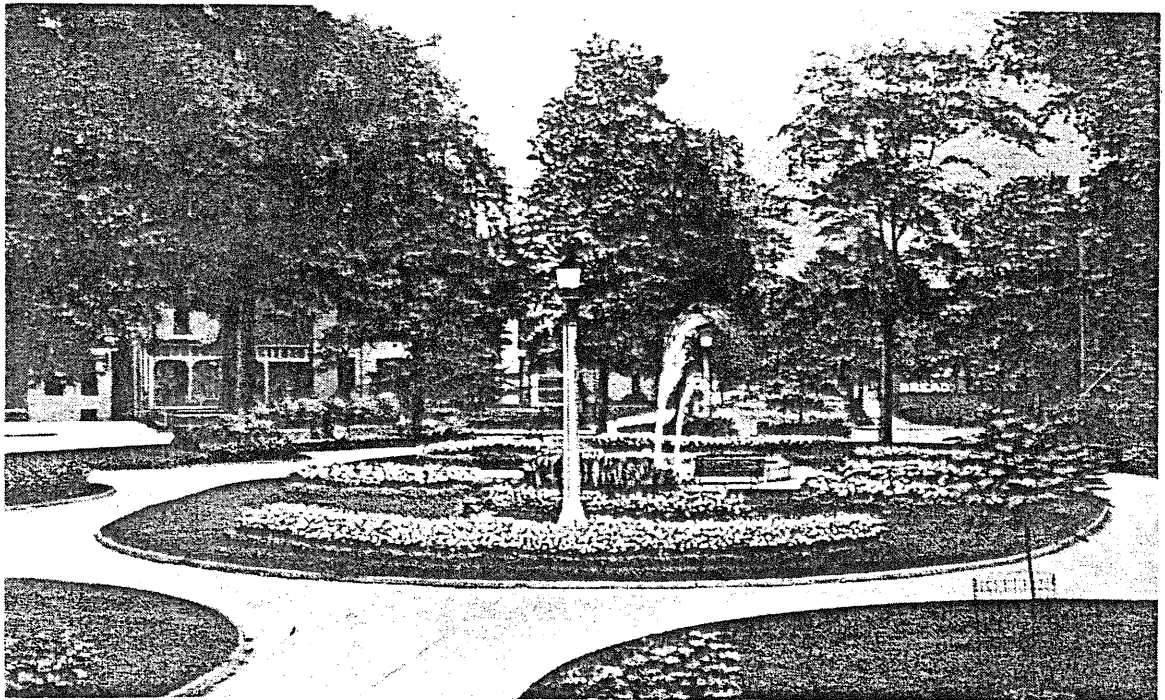


Figure III.11: Austrian Cannon in Washington Square showing the severe staining of the base by the iron elements of the cannon. The marble inscriptions plaque is also somewhat stained and the bronze plaque is corroded. Courtesy of George Wheeler, 1993.

CHAPTER IV



CHAPTER IV: PRESERVATION TREATMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

A. THE LANDSCAPE PRESERVATION PLANNING PROCESS

When addressing historic landscapes there are a series of steps that lead to a determination of what intervention to undertake. Landscape preservation treatment is that intervention carried out to achieve preservation goals. The steps in the preservation planning process, that have been followed in the Rochester parks project, are:

1. Historic research for the site and the historic context provided by comparable parks;
2. Inventory of the existing conditions, current issues, future program and community input;
3. Analysis of the landscape integrity using the character-defining features of the landscape over time;
4. Exploration of treatment alternatives, selection and implementation;
5. Landscape management; and
6. Interpretation of the landscape to the public.

The context for these small landscapes needs to be established to understand their important as cultural resources. The first chapter, by Charles E. Beveridge, PhD, Olmsted historian, places Rochester's legacy of historic parks within a context of other small parks in America's cities that were developed by the Olmsted firm. This chapter concludes that the Rochester legacy of small parks is unique and valuable. The number of parks and their designs as primarily passive neighborhood amenities, makes them stand out among all the small parks developed for several cities by the Olmsted firm. They are a legacy to be cherished.

An important component of this planning process is determining the period of significance for the landscape. This period of significance may vary from a specific date, to a series of years, or to an extended period reaching up to the present. The criteria for significance in American culture for historic landscapes is the same as those applied to other cultural resources in the National Register process. The Rochester parks are significant as early public open spaces. Five of these parks were given to the city from 1818 to 1837 as the city neighborhoods were laid out and developed. This period has significance primarily for the act of setting aside public square. Each was functionally designed with cross walk system and planted with common trees. The Olmsted firm involvement, from 1892 to 1910, produced plans for 10 of these public spaces, not including Wadsworth Square. Frederick Law Olmsted Sr., John Charles Olmsted, Charles Eliot, and Frederick Law Olmsted Jr. are all recognized masters of landscape architecture. The design of these parks under the Olmsted firm, is therefore the major reason for their significance in American culture.

An understanding of these parks as a continuum through history to the present is important in focusing on their cultural value. Chapter two lays out all the findings of a detailed, park by park, historic research process. The chapter is arranged by park and for each landscape the following topics are addressed:

1. Origins and early history;
2. Olmsted influences;
3. Early 20th century;
4. Recent history;
5. Reference documents.

The research findings addressed the entire chronology of the landscape from its initial setting aside as a public ground to late twentieth century changes. In each case a source listing of documents is detailed.

The level to which the historic landscape retains the character and features of its historic period or periods--its integrity--is also a consideration in determining a treatment. The character defining features of a landscape include the topography, vegetation, circulation systems, spatial organization, furnishings, objects such as monuments, and setting. Both significance and integrity issues influence treatment decisions. In addition the selected treatment needs to match the planning objectives for these parks in the future to include park user needs and concerns, recreation intent, department financial resources, maintenance capabilities, intended interpretation and other relevant factors. All these aspects must all be considered.

1. Categories of Preservation Treatment

Treatment alternatives for cultural landscapes with historic value use the framework established by the Secretary of the Interior Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, revised 1993 and the Guidelines for the Treatment of Historic Landscapes, 1992, both published by the National Park Service, which define four potential treatments:

1. **Preservation-** undertaken to retain and maintain historic features or materials, including repair and replacement in-kind, and removal of negative, contemporary elements such as invasive plant materials, includes protection or stabilization which secures the historic resources, prevents further damage or slows deterioration;
2. **Restoration-** undertaken to represent the historic landscape of a targeted period rather than the property as evolved, repair and other modest treatments may be used in combination with the addition of lost historic features or removal of later additions to recapture the targeted period, this treatment must be based on a high level of documentation so that conjecture can be avoided;
3. **Reconstruction-** new construction undertaken to replicate the exact form, features and details of a landscape or individual elements of a landscape on an original site, again documentation must be sufficient to replicate without speculation, a compelling for recreating the historic appearance of a landscape using new construction is often interpretive goals and visitor experience.
4. **Rehabilitation-** undertaken to retain historic character and features while adjusting to suit contemporary use in a manner that is compatible with and distinguishable from culturally valuable resources;

Selection of a treatment is a sequential process that leads to a decision. Treatments range from modest to ambitious, and inexpensive to costly. The ease of describing historic landscape treatment under the four headings contrasts with the difficulty in determining and implementing such treatment. For example, the existing conditions and preservation objectives often demand that more than one treatment be applied to different elements of the same landscape. Preservation is a conceptually conservative approach, while rehabilitation, which addresses contemporary use issues, may range from conservative to radical. Both restoration and reconstruction seek to

recapture partially or wholly lost elements of the historic landscape from detailed historic records and are intensive approaches. These two approaches are achievable only when historic documentation is extremely detailed, financial resources are sufficient to the task and there are compelling reasons for removing fabric of more contemporary times and replacing it with new materials created to match those of the period of significance.

Two approaches to treatment applied to Rochester's small historic parks. For four Olmsted designed landscapes, Washington Square, Jones Park, Susan B. Anthony Square and Lunsford Circle, historic documentation was detailed and this project presented an opportunity to reinstate lost elements of the historic designs. In these four cases preservation of remaining historic features and vegetation was combined with reconstruction to bring back the Olmsted designs. Olmsted plans, historic views and correspondence provided considerable information on the topography, vegetation, circulation systems, spatial organization, furnishings and monuments for these four parks. Information of Olmsted era plantings included planting lists and plans for all but Susan B. Anthony Park where correspondence gave some details of the intended planting. In each of these parks furnishings and lighting were contemporary issues. Benches were placed in accordance with the historic plans but were of a current design. Some additional benches were added to accommodate increased use. The master plans for these parks seek to reinstate lost elements of the Olmsted design while accommodating contemporary use.

For some of the other Olmsted parks opportunities for recapture were more limited by severe changes, such as the loss of half of the park lands to the construction of the Inner Loop at Anderson Park and Schiller Park or the complete redesign of the park in recent years, such as Brown Square. At Lakeview Park and Seneca Parkway the loss of original plantings over the years and changes to street widths were factors. At Maplewood Park the expansion of the Rose Garden and the losses of trees in the original Maple Grove were important factors. The treatment approach to each of these landscape was to identify remaining historic features and protect these into the future and to rehabilitate them to meet current needs within the framework of the historic designs. Current projects include care of park trees and new tree plantings while master plans develop a more complete vision for their future.

Wadsworth Park, also severed in half by the Inner Loop construction, has no direct connection to the Olmsted firm but surveys from the early twentieth century show a curvilinear "X" walk pattern and tree plantings. This early documentation was used to develop a simple master plan for this small open space. The following chapters address these long term plans and present them in detail.

B. COMMON ISSUES & THEIR RESOLUTION

1. Vegetation

Floral Display Beds

Several parks had various sizes of elaborate seasonal plantings. These were labor intensive and therefore expensive. The master plans consider available maintenance and include only a few floral beds in areas where appropriate. Flowering shrubs and ground cover areas with spring bulbs, as indicated in the historic designs, are proposed in several master plans, instead of floral display beds.

Rose Garden

The Maplewood Park Rose Garden is an important park feature itself. With origins in the early 20th century this area of the park was developed with display gardens for roses from its early days. The master plan seeks to build on recent efforts by Parks staff to reinvigorate the garden. It develops a more pleasing entry experience, provides accessible paths, defines spaces for garden expansion, adds durable arched frames for climbing roses and addresses the need for better water availability.

Shrubs

Some of the Olmsted designs called for mixed shrub and groundcover plantings. Shrub beds are included in the proposed master plans for the parks with the size, texture and visibility through the mass considered to address contemporary concerns for personal safety and maintenance limitations. Ornamental shrubs in the parks are desirable to provide flowers, fruits, berries and fall color, thereby providing seasonal interest. Shrubs also provide a substitute for more intensive annual bedding, as the Olmsted firm proposed in Jones Square.

The historic planting plans and lists were reviewed. From this research proposed planting lists for shrubs were developed. These were refined into planting plans for Lunsford Circle, Susan B. Anthony, Washington Square and Jones Square. Fewer shrubs of larger sizes were used that historically called for and a few types were substituted for lower growing choices from the same species.

Trees

The historic surveys for the parks indicated wide use of American Elm, Silver Maple, Sugar Maple and Horsechestnut. Replacement of historically documented trees should be done according to historic plantings. There are two situations; trees previously removed and trees needing to be removed now. It is suggested that these be replaced with the same tree species in the historic location.

Historically the parks were not monocultural but the parkways were more so. For Seneca Parkway, documentation is limited but from historic plans and photographs, it is know that four rows of formal trees were used down the length of the parkway. Photographs documenting this planting appear to be American Elms. In order to avoid a monoculture solution the approach taken on the Louisville Olmsted Parkways was applied to the master plan for Seneca Parkway. On these parkways tree types were changed at several intervals along its length. For Seneca Park the same trees for each block are recommended to avoid a strict monocultural plantings but retain the intended formality.

Contemporary trees in non-historically correct locations or of non-historic species should be reviewed on an individual tree by tree basis. It will then be determined whether the trees should be removed either now or as they demise. Removals are more appropriate in parks where historic designs are reconstructed but not where the majority of current park plantings are retained and minor changes are proposed. The desire is to return to the historic tree plantings to the extent that these are known, replacing lost trees in-kind with the original genus and species. In the case of American Elm, disease resistant cultivars are recommended.

2. Pavements

In some cases the historic circulation within the parks remains. Elsewhere minor changes have been made, and in still other cases significant changes are evident. Reinstatement of the historic circulation pattern is a goal in several of the master plans. Path materials were often coursed gravel in the past. This material is generally replaced with asphalt. Each plan is reviewed individually to address not only historic issues but disabled access.

3. Access

There are a number of access issues within these parks. The barriers to access can generally be removed with the provision of dropped curbs. In some cases accessible paths do not exist and in other historic paths have been lost over time. These paths are planned for eventual construction in the park master plans. All master plans fully consider disabled access, and where applicable, handicapped parking.

4. Built Elements

An assessment was conducted as a portion of this project on many of the walls and other stone elements within the parks. A few small buildings, such as the Dovecote in Maplewood Park, were not included in this conditions review.

5. Furnishings & Lighting

A number of contemporary furnishings are found in the parks. These functional items are intended to be replaced with more historically compatible ones over time. An iron and steel bench that related to the historic ones but is more durable was selected for use in the parks.

Park lighting was varied in the past and included both functional and decorative fixtures. Throughout Rochester a "Harp" light was used in the early twentieth century. This light can be adapted for use with current light sources and covered with a clear, protective shield to reduce vandalism damage. In its modified form, placed on a simple polygon pole that is close to the appearance of the former concrete poles, it is recommended for use in these small parks.

6. Monuments and Objects

As a component of this project an assessment was conducted for all of the monuments within these small parks. This condition review indicated a number of treatments that are required to stabilize and preserve these elements. The recommended treatments range from cleaning, to modest repair, to substantial repair or replication of missing elements. Funds should be made available to undertake these treatments. Priority should be given to early monuments integrated with original designs and to those in the worst condition today.

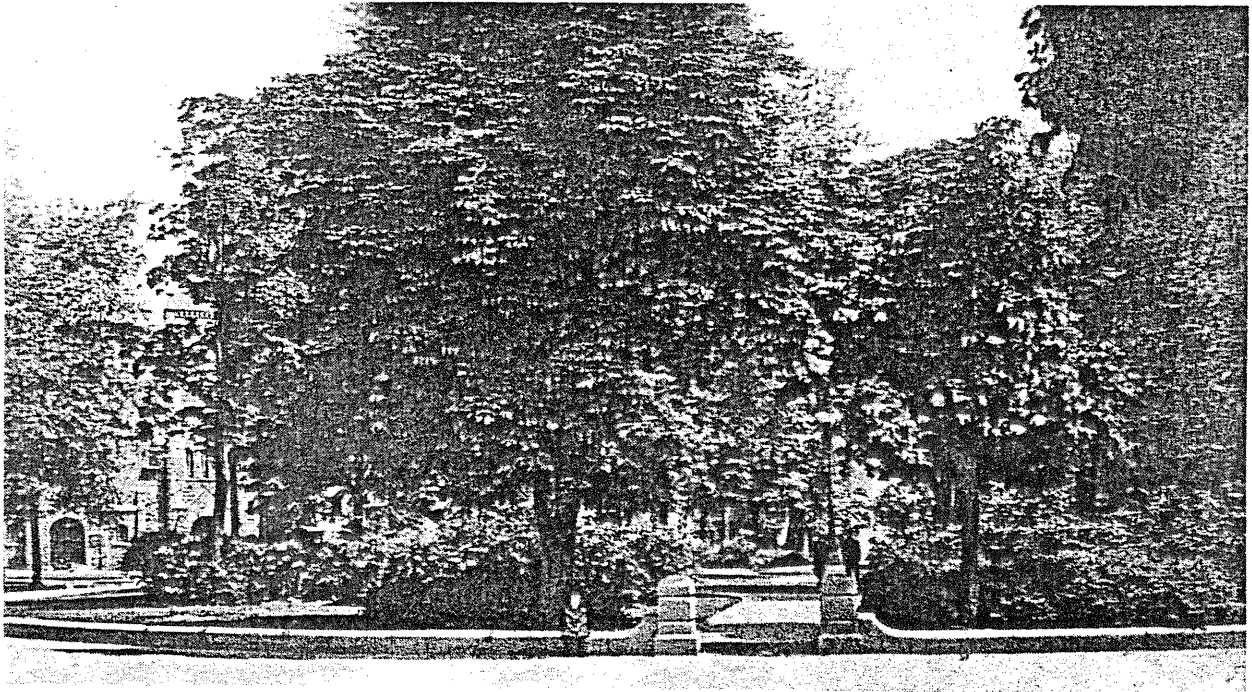
7. Lost Historic Designs

There are some parks which are either significantly reduced in size or have few remaining historic features. Opportunities to recapture these lost designs are limited. These parks could be better understood if an attempt to give information about the history is made within the park landscape. An approach to historic interpretation using panels with text and images would be appropriate for these parks. The concept of free standing signage is user friendly.

8. Interpretive Elements

It is desirable to include signage to assist the public to understand the value of the parks and their historic development. More park history information can be communicate to the general public and out-of-town visitors. Information gathered on park history presented in this report is sufficient to use for interpretive text and images. Permanent signage and text can be placed within the parks and/or an Olmsted parks brochure or set of brochures can be developed.

CHAPTER V



CHAPTER V: INDIVIDUAL PARK CURRENT AND PROPOSED USE, AND PRESERVATION TREATMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

INTRODUCTION

A. ANDERSON PARK

1. Existing Condition

This park is located on the near east side of the city adjacent to the Inner Loop. It is formed by the intersection of three streets. They are Main Street, University Avenue and Union Street.

The road-side curbing around the park is generally in good condition. Handicapped access points are in place and are also in good condition. The park is ringed by concrete walk pavement. The walks are located adjacent to the granite curbing along all three perimeter roads. This pavement varies in width from six feet along Union to a maximum of eighteen feet along part of Main Street. There is also a bus-stop shelter and two benches located along Main Street. There are two tree cut-outs with tree grates in this pavement. Both trees are struggling to survive. There are four tree cut-outs along University Ave. Two have tree grates and two have brick inlays. Three of these trees are struggling and one has been removed and not replaced. There are also two benches located along University about mid-block. There is also a circular planting bed located at the corner of Main and University with rocks, a few shrubs and annual plants.

The interior area of the park is grass with several trees. The shade trees are primarily Norway Maples and the ornamental trees are Crabapples. There is at least one shade tree which should be removed as well as one ornamental tree.

2. Current Uses

The small grassy triangle is currently used as a roadside embellishment. The open grass area is seldom used for seating or gathering. A bus stop and shelter is located along one edge. Pedestrians can walk around the park on the perimeter sidewalks, but this is limited by the high volume of traffic. Some annual plants are placed in beds within the park.

3. Proposed Uses

Return the use of the park to a passive park with the dominant feature being the monument currently located in Schiller Park (originally it was located in Anderson Park).

B. BROWN SQUARE

1. Existing Condition

This park is located on the near west side about a block west of State Street and is bounded on three sides by city streets. The only side which is not bounded by a street is the western edge which is private property used for truck warehousing. The north edge of the park is Jay Street, Verona Street forms the

east edge and Brown Street is the south edge. The surrounding area of the park is mixed-use including commercial, office, warehousing, residential and school.

There is a treelawn along Jay Street which varies from 3'-6" to 11' and is bounded on the south side by a 6' wide concrete walk (in good condition). There are several small trees located in the treelawn (most of them are ornamentals). The curbing along Jay Street is granite (in good condition). There is also a handicap access ramp at the corner of Jay and Verona Streets.

A treelawn also exists along Verona Street which is 8' wide and is bounded on the west by a 5' concrete walk in generally good condition (about 5% should be replaced). There are no trees in the treelawn. The curbing along Verona Street is brownstone (generally in good condition). A handicap access ramp in good condition is located at the corner of Verona and Brown Streets.

An 8' wide treelawn and 6' wide concrete walk (in good condition) are also present along Brown Street. Several young shade trees are located in the treelawn. The curbing along Brown Street is granite (also in good condition).

The western edge of the park is formed by a chain link fence which has a light-weight, vertical-slat wood system attached to it on the park side of the fence. There are also several major shade trees existing along this edge, especially on the southern half of the park. A one story brick building approximately 30' by 50' is also located along the west property line about mid-block.

The remainder of the park is a grassy open area with a picnicking and sitting area on the south side and walkways with some benches on the north. Also a winter-use sliding hill approximately 12-15' high is located in the northwest corner of the site. The walks within the Park are generally in good condition. There are however two "humps" in the walks (one on the north end and one on the south) which do not meet the current ADA requirements. There is also a circular-concrete planter located in the south portion of the park. The concrete is cracking and will need to be replaced in the near future. Two curvilinear concrete walls flank the planter. These walls are in good condition although the bench system which was attached to the walls is nearly gone and the metal supports should be removed.

The site furniture includes picnic tables, benches, and trash receptacles. The picnic tables which are installed on concrete pads are in good condition. Most of the park benches need repair or replacement. About five benches in the northern portion of the park have been removed and not replaced. The trash receptacles are concrete and most are not plumb and some are cracked or broken. All of these should be removed and replaced.

2. Current Uses

In 1955 the playground was 4.513 acres in size. Today the park is used for walking, jogging and sledding by local residents. Special events are often held in the park. The primary activities include picnicking and informal play. Some annual planting beds are maintained by the park department.

3. Proposed Uses

Since the original neighborhood has completely changed, it is proposed that only repair work be done in this park. When a program for use of the park is prepared, the development of the park should be carefully designed in relation to the Olmsted Plan.

C. JONES SQUARE

1. Existing Condition

This park is located on the near north side of the city about two blocks west of Lake Avenue in an older residential neighborhood. It is formed by four city streets (Lorimer Street on the north, Plymouth Avenue on the east, Jones Street on the south and Saratoga Street on the west).

The curb along Lorimer is brownstone and needs resetting in some locations. Also there is no handicap access ramp at the major park walk which intersects with Lorimer Street at about mid-block. The lights along the street are "davit" type on metal poles.

The curb along Plymouth Avenue is granite (in good condition). There are also handicap ramps located at the corners of Lorimer and Plymouth as well as Jones and Plymouth. A 5' concrete walk (in good condition) is also located adjacent to the curb along Plymouth Avenue. The street lights are "davit" type on metal poles.

The curb along Jones Street is brownstone and should be reset in some locations. Also there is no handicap ramp at the major park walk which intersects with Jones Street at mid-block or at the corner of Jones and Saratoga Streets. The lights along the street are post-top on metal poles which have been designated by the city to be generally historically appropriate.

The curb along Saratoga Street is brownstone with some stones needing resetting. Adjacent to the curb is a 6' wide treelawn and a 4' wide slate walk which is beginning to deteriorate in several locations. There is no handicap ramp at the intersection of Saratoga and Lorimer Streets. The street lights are "davit" type on wood poles.

The interior of the park consists of lawn area with major shade trees, many of which need significant pruning and some are seriously diseased and damaged and should be removed. A concrete walk system crosses the park from corner to corner and bisects the park (east and west). There is a circular-concrete planter at the intersection of these walks. Lastly there is a curvilinear walk around the perimeter of the park. A large percentage of all the walks need to be repaired and/or replaced. The planter on the other hand is structurally sound.

The site furniture consists of wood benches which need to be replaced and 55 gallon drums used for trash receptacles. Light poles are located in the park but are the "davit" type on metal poles which are very tall for pedestrian use in a park.

2. Current Uses

In 1929 the park contained 6.7 acres but by 1955 the park was recorded as containing 7 acres. Today the park is used by local residents for picnicking and as a play area for children. Some lunch time visitors from local businesses sit in the park. Problems with illicit activities in the park at night cause concern among local residents. Most of the area around the park is residential with a majority of rental properties. Annuals are planted and maintained by local school groups, neighbors and the Boy Scouts.

3. Proposed Uses

It is proposed that the use of the park remain passive and be returned to the types of uses shown on the Olmsted Plan. These include walking, sitting, informal play for neighborhood children and the display of plant materials.

D. LUNSFORD CIRCLE

1. Existing Condition

This park is located on the near south side in a residential neighborhood known as Cornhill. The site is an ellipse approximately 240' by 160' formed at the intersection of four city streets (Frederick Douglas, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Greig).

The perimeter curb is brownstone of unusual size (12" width and 12"-24" height) and shape (top rounded). A few of the stones are cracked and others have been shifted causing tension at the joints. Also some of the stones were removed and replaced with poured-in-place concrete.

There are three concrete walks that cross the park and a gazebo is located at the intersection of these walks. The walks are 6' wide and have a brick curb on both sides. Additionally there is a 3' wide perimeter walk located about 8' inside the curb. All the walks are in good condition however the brick curb needs significant repair. The gazebo is wood and is in excellent condition. However it is located on an elevated platform made of brownstone. The platform is accessed by 3 brownstone risers which causes the gazebo to be inaccessible to disabled individuals. Also the walks only have handicap ramps on the east and west side (none on the north and south).

Benches on the site are wood and in generally good condition. The trash receptacles are a decorative steel with metal trash container inserts. The steel is in good condition while some of the inserts need to be replaced. There are also 3 water hydrants for watering plant materials and general care. Lastly there are 4 post-top lights located around the gazebo area.

2. Current Uses

The park is approximately .757 acres in size, as of 1955. The park is currently used for informal picnics. Special events are held in park on an annual basis ie. the Corn Hill Festival. It is considered a destination for walkers and joggers from the neighborhood. Some weddings and wedding photographs are held at the park.

3. Proposed Uses

It is proposed that the uses of the park remain passive and be returned to the uses shown on the original Olmsted Plan. These include walking, sitting, display of plant materials and special events.

E. MAPLEWOOD ROSE GARDEN, PART OF SENECA PARK, 1895

1. Existing Condition

This park is a combination of a horticultural rose garden and an open park area which is vegetated by a mature stand of shade trees. The park is bounded on the north by residential property and an extension of the park land along the Genesee River gorge. The eastern boarder is the river gorge itself. The other two sides of the park are formed by Driving Park Avenue on the south and Lake Avenue on the west.

The main entrance to the park is from Driving Park Avenue by way of a wide asphalt drive. Two brownstone piers on each side of the entrance drive are in good condition. Past the rose garden, the drive widens out into a very large parking lot. The pavement of the drive and parking lot area are in fair condition showing some signs of need for resurfacing or replacement. There is also a concrete walk located along the west side of the entrance drive from Driving Park Avenue to a point just beyond the rose garden. Approximately 50% of this walk is badly cracked and in need of replacement. The side walk along Driving Park Avenue has handicap ramps at the entrance to the park as well as at the corner of Driving Park Avenue and Lake Avenue. A black metal picket fence is located along the entire length of the park on the south side. This same fence is also located from the south west corner of the park to the first stairway on the Lake Avenue side of the park. The entire length of fence is in good condition.

The site slopes generally from Lake Avenue to the river gorge rim. There is a significant slope adjacent to the side walk along Lake Avenue where three concrete stairways provide access to the park from the street. The concrete on each stairway needs repair work. Also there are two brownstone piers located at each stairway (one on each side). All of these piers need work varying from repointing to resetting some stones.

There is a relatively new concrete walk connecting the northeast corner of the parking lot with the asphalt walk system along the gorge rim to the north. There is another walk (asphalt) that connects the southeast corner of the parking lot to the lower falls trail. Also a chain link fence, in need of significant repair, is located along the top of the gorge rim. Three buildings are located between the parking lot and the gorge rim. From north to south, they are: a maintenance building approximately 25' by 25'; a small storage building about 12' by 12' and the dove-cove building. The two maintenance buildings need repair work or replacement and the dove-cove is in good condition.

The trees in the park are mature and many need pruning or removal. There are also several picnic tables located throughout the park. Most of them are in good condition. A few benches, most of which need to be replaced, are located in the rose garden area. The existing trash receptacles are 55 gallon drums painted black. A large gazebo, in good condition, is located just north of the rose garden. Lastly there are several light poles throughout the park. They are all very high street light type poles and fixtures.

The rose garden is located along the southern part of the park and is actively maintained. However several structures need repair. They are a monument and reflecting pool, retaining wall and several wooden structures on which climbing roses are trained (refer to section III Monument Assessment and Recommendations for Treatment).

2. Current Uses

The Maplewood Rose Garden is part of Maplewood Park. In 1955 this park contained 113.3 acres. The Rose Garden area is used for seating, walking, picnics, and for special events. It is often a destination for

wedding photos during the summer months, and the rose societies hold many workshops in the gardens. The lower gorge area is overgrown and access is blocked by a chain link fence. The grove area remains as open lawn scattered with mature deciduous trees. It is used for picnics, walking, and children's play.

3. Proposed Uses

It is proposed that this park be restored to the uses shown on the Olmsted Plan. In addition to these passive uses of walking, picnicking, informal play for the neighborhood children, and a place for special events, it is proposed that the current winter sliding use be maintained, that a portion of the proposed lawn area (to be located where the parking now exists) be maintained for special event over-flow parking, that the park be used in conjunction with the Rose Garden events and that appropriate connectors be made to the walk system along the river gorge.

F. SCHILLER PARK, FRANKLIN PARK, 1826

1. Existing Condition

This park is located on Andrews Street at the intersection of Franklin Street. Andrews Street forms the southern boarded of the park with the inner loop defining the northern side. The east and west are formed by access drives to local businesses.

There is granite curb in good condition along the east, west and south sides. Along the north side is a chain link fence. There is a walk way system along Andrews Avenue which consists of concrete pavement and brick pavers. Both of these pavements are in good condition. There are handicap ramps at the street corners along Andrews. There is also a concrete planter at both of these corners. The planters are approximately 30" high and in fair condition.

The park is bisected by a concrete walk on which is located a monument on a raised platform. Again the concrete walk is in good condition. Also refer to the section on Monument Assessment and Recommendations for the condition of the monument itself. At the north end of the park the concrete walk intersects another concrete walk. This walk is in need of some repair and there are no handicap ramps at the points of intersection of these walks with the drive curbs.

The plant materials in the park consist of primarily Norway Maples along the east and west sides. The only exception to this is an Oak tree along the curb in the northwest corner of the park. There are ornamental plantings in the planters, in plant beds on either side of the monument and along the north edge of the park. A couple of picnic tables (in good condition) are located in the northern portion of the park.

Three street lights are located along the curb on the east, west and south sides (one light on each side). These are not oriented toward the park but probably provide some peripheral lighting.

2. Current Uses

The park is currently used as a destination for historical tours of the city. Occasional use by residents for sitting. Plantings beds of perennials are maintained and planted by a community garden club. The surrounding area of the park is now mostly commercial. A vacant bus station is located close by and is an attraction for the local transient population.

3. Proposed Uses

Since the original park was reduced in size to approximately half and since this portion of the city is under consideration for significant changes, it is proposed that the current use as a green space be enhanced.

G. SENECA PARKWAY, PART OF SENECA PARK, 1892

1. Existing Condition

Seneca Parkway extends from the Genesee River gorge on the east to a railroad track on the west end. The parkway is currently made up of two 20' wide one-way roads with a 58' grass median. Additionally there is a 20' treelawn between the road and the side walk on the north and south sides of the parkway. The roads are curbed with brownstone except at the cross streets of Lake Avenue and Dewey Avenue where granite curbing has been installed. Handicap ramps are located at the appropriate intersections. There are also post-top street lights located along the entire length of the parkway.

There are many mature trees located in the median and in the treelawns on the north and the south. Several of the trees have basal wounds seemingly the result of mowing and weed-whacking.

2. Current Uses

Seneca Parkway is city boulevard with private houses lining both sides of the drive. The center is an open grass area with random plantings of deciduous and flowering trees. It is considered a "Care and Embellishment Mall" and the adjacent home owners pay for maintenance to the boulevard. Annual beds are planted and maintained by the city. Many residents use the boulevard as a dog walking area.

3. Proposed Uses

It is proposed that the use of this boulevard be as a visual green space. Informal play of neighborhood children would also be an acceptable use.

H. SUSAN B. ANTHONY PARK, MADISON SQUARE, 1837

1. Existing Condition

This park is located on the near west side of the city one block north of Main Street. It is a small green space in an older residential neighborhood. The layout of the park is a criss-crossed walkway with a central sitting area. The perimeter of the park is curbed with granite curb in good condition except on the west side which is curbed with concrete. There are post-top street lights along the north and south side of the park and at four locations in the park along the diagonal walks. The walks are primarily concrete except for brick in the central area and at the southwest corner of the park. Both of these pavements are in fair condition. There are also handicap ramps at appropriate locations at all four corners of the park.

The park furniture is wood benches and metal trash receptacles. These are also in fair condition. A cut-granite pier is located at each corner of the park. Also a plaque commemorating Susan B. Anthony is located on a large boulder located at the south west corner of the park.

The trees are mature with a few younger trees having been planted recently. Two of the mature trees should be removed due to disease and ice-storm damage. Also most of the younger trees have basal damage.

2. Current Uses

The park is .844 acres in size. It is a square block lying between Madison and King Street two blocks north of West Main Street. The park is used by neighbors as passive seating area, picnic area, informal play area and for walking.

3. Proposed Uses

It is proposed that the current uses of the park be maintained with the potential addition of special event uses. The park could also be used as a destination for tours of historical Olmsted Parks in the Rochester area.

I. WADSWORTH SQUARE, 1835

1. Existing Condition

Wadsworth Square is located on the south side of the city adjacent to the inner loop. The larger portion of the park is located between Howell Street on the north and Marshall Street on the south and Broadway Street on the east and a municipal parking lot on the west. There is however a small portion of the park located along Broadway and south of Marshall Street. Generally the park is an open grassy area with a few trees throughout and planters at the corner of Howell and Broadway and at the corner of Marshall and Broadway on both sides of Marshall. These planters are constructed of railroad ties and are in need of repair or replacement. The plant materials in the planters are low shrubs and an ornamental tree. Also there is brick pavement between the concrete sidewalk and the planters. The sidewalks are generally in good condition. However there is a handicap ramp needed at the corner of Howell and Broadway.

The park furniture consists of wood benches in fair condition and metal-drum trash receptacles. There are post-top street lights located on Broadway and Marshall Streets. The trees are generally young and in fair condition although there were several basal wounds noted. A few more mature trees were located in the tree lawn along Broadway and Marshall Streets.

2. Current Uses

By 1955 the park was .84 acres and was called a playground. Today the park is only a portion of the original square. It is used for informal picnics and as a play area for neighborhood children. The area around the park is mostly residential. The expressway is adjacent to the park to the north. Residents use this to view annual Fourth of July fireworks displays.

3. Proposed Uses

It is proposed that the current uses of the park should be maintained until a more specific park program can be developed.

J. WASHINGTON SQUARE, 1818

1. Existing Condition

Washington Square is located in the downtown area on Clinton Avenue approximately two blocks south of Main Street. The square is formed by four streets with granite curb along the park. Handicap ramps exist at all four corners. There is concrete sidewalk located adjacent to the curb on three sides of the square. Only on the west side is there a treelawn between the curb and walk. Also on the south side there are street trees planted in a brick paving strip. All the walks around the square are in good condition with only an occasional panel needing repair or replacement. The criss-cross pattern of walks in the park are concrete with some areas needing repair. There are granite curbs on both sides of the interior walks. These curbs are in good condition.

The sitting areas in the center of the park consist of wood benches (in fair condition) on brick paved areas. There are several wood trash receptacles located throughout the square. Most of these receptacles need to be replaced. There are also two wood picnic tables (in good condition) located in the northeast corner of the park. Four post-top lights are located in the center area and are in good condition.

There are three monuments in the park with the Sailors and Soldiers Monument being by far the most prominent. There is need for some work on this monument and a greater amount of work needed on the canon located on the north side. Please refer to Chapter III for a more detailed analysis of the condition of the monuments. In addition to these monuments there is a kiosk and a pease pole located on the southeast corner of the square.

There are several mature trees in the square as well as several younger trees. Most of the trees need pruning and some should be removed due to disease or ice storm damage.

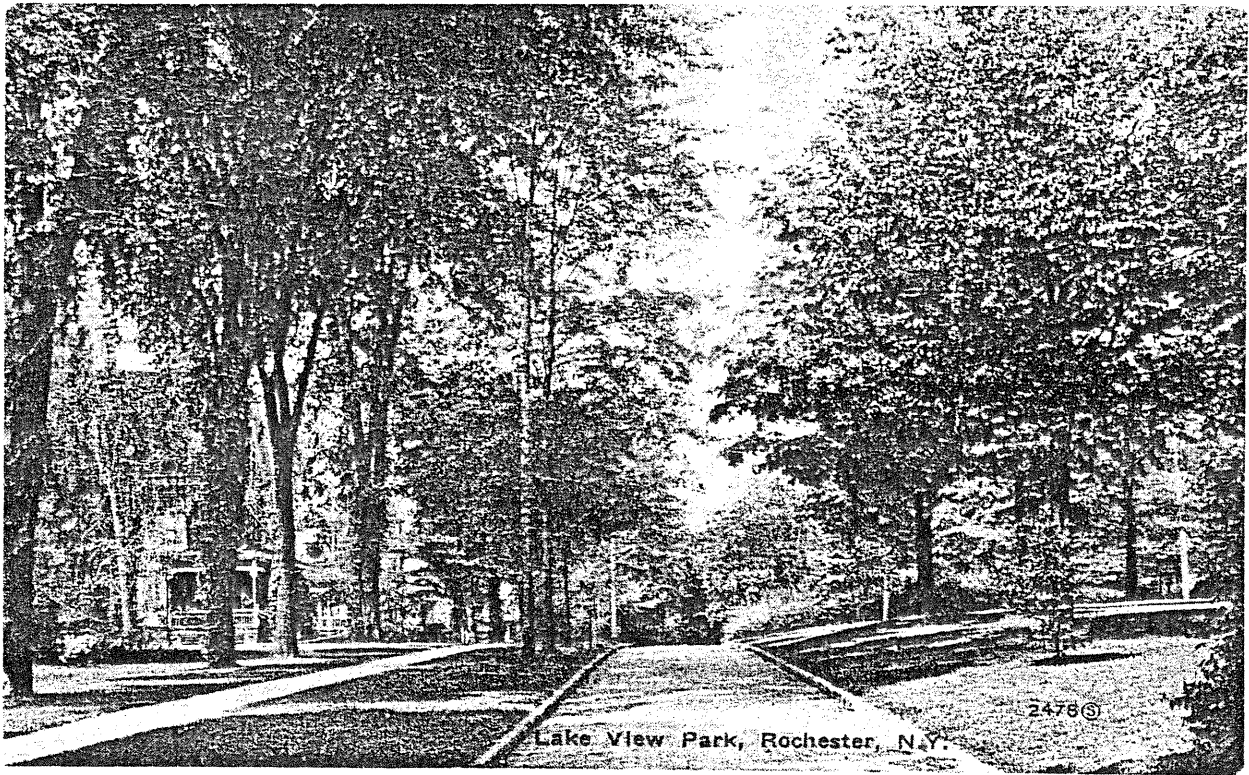
2. Current Uses

In 1955 the park was 1.08 acres in size. It occupies one small block, bounded by Court Street, South Avenue, Monroe and South Clinton Avenues (1929, Raitt). The park is currently used for sitting and picnics. Some annual concerts and special events are held at the park. Planting beds are filled with shrubs and annuals, these are maintained by several local groups.

3. Proposed Uses

It is proposed that the current uses of the park be maintained and enhanced. Additionally this park should be considered a destination for tours of Olmsted Parks in the Rochester area.

CHAPTER VI



Lake View Park, Rochester, N.Y.

2478 ©

CHAPTER VI: CURRENT PROJECT SCOPES OF WORK & COST ESTIMATES

A. LUNSFORD CIRCLE

The scope of work at Lunsford Circle is to recreate the Olmsted Plan for this park. This involves the removal of: all the existing walks; curbs along the walks; all the existing benches; all the existing trash receptacles; all the existing light poles; and several trees. The existing gazebo is proposed to be made handicap accessible. The Olmsted Plan includes the new walk alignments, brownstone access piers, open lawn areas in the central portion of the park, curbing around these lawns and the bench bays, and major tree plantings. The park will also be graded as proposed by the Olmsted Plan and the large brownstone curbs around the park will be repaired where necessary. The large planting beds of shrubs and small flowering trees are proposed to be included in a future phase. Additionally, light poles are proposed to be installed which are historic to the Rochester area. The necessary electrical wiring for the light poles will be installed underground.

The walk pavements will be concrete and the open lawn areas will be planted on a special soil mix which will allow unusual traffic since this park is currently heavily used and is the location of an annual neighborhood festival. In addition to the benches new trash receptacles are proposed. Lastly, interpretive signage is also recommended to help users understand the historic significance of the park.

The estimated cost for this construction is \$250,000 to \$350,000.

B. SUSAN B. ANTHONY

The scope of work at this park includes replacement of portions of the concrete walk pavement, all the benches, all the trash receptacles, the light poles within the park and several trees. All these items will be of appropriate material and in the historically correct locations. Additionally the existing park marker is proposed to be relocated on brownstone piers rather than the existing rock. A new interpretive sign is also recommended which would indicate the historic significance of the park.

The historic ellipse of shrub planting is proposed to be planted according to the Olmsted Plan. Lastly the intersection of the walks at the center of the park will have a circular cut-out for planting and a future focal element.

The estimated cost for this construction is \$125,000 to \$150,000.

C. WASHINGTON SQUARE

The scope of work in this park is again to restore it to the Olmsted Plan. Much of the historic fabric remains. However, along with plant material adjustments and additions, there is a need to reposition the benches and center area curbing.

Therefore it is proposed that several inappropriate tree species and storm damaged and diseased trees be removed. Also all the existing benches should be removed and all the brick paving on the south end and in the central area of the park is proposed to be removed. Additionally, a minor amount of cracked concrete paving is scheduled for removal and replacement. The final item recommended for removal is

a three to four foot strip of concrete paving along Clinton Avenue and Court Street. This would be replaced with suitable soil to provide a grass strip in which street trees can be planted.

In addition to new trees and shrubs to be planted in historically appropriate locations, new benches are proposed for installation along the four entrance walks to the center of the park. Also additional benches are recommended on the north and south ends of the park to help meet the anticipated increased usage in the park. New trash receptacles are also recommended.

New concrete curbing is also proposed on the north and south ends of the park to complete the curbing now existing along the entrance walks. Lastly it is recommended that the existing monuments (3) be cleaned and repaired.

The estimated cost of this construction is \$150,000 to \$200,000.

D. ANDERSON TRIANGLE

The scope of work proposed for this park is to recapture the original park character by moving the monument from Schiller Park back to this location (it was originally located in Anderson Triangle). Since the park was reduced in size for the construction of the inner loop, the monument can not be placed in its original location. However the original design for its setting is proposed to be recreated.

It is also proposed that the plant materials be pruned and a few should be removed. Lastly it is recommended that the existing plant materials be enhanced with a few more tree species from the Olmsted Plan.

The estimated cost of this construction is \$85,000 to \$100,000.

E. SCHILLER PARK

The scope of work proposed for this park is minimal since the park was significantly reduced by the inner loop construction and because it is not clear at this time how the surrounding downtown area will be developed. Therefore it is proposed that the monument be moved to Anderson Triangle and the trees be pruned. The area where the monument is currently located will be regraded and new concrete pavement will be installed. Additionally a connecting walk is proposed from the east side of the park to the west. This would then provide a circuit walk.

New benches and trash receptacles are proposed for the south end of the park. Lastly it is recommended that a shrub bed be installed along the inner loop to provide a buffer.

The estimated cost of construction for this park is \$50,000 to \$75,000.

F. JONES SQUARE

The scope of work at this park involves primarily repair and additions to re-establish the Olmsted Plan. Along with a large amount of tree pruning and removal due to ice storm damage and the age of the mature trees, a significant amount of deteriorated concrete walk pavement is proposed for removal and

replacement. The need for a disabled person's accessible entrance to the park from the north side is also noted and recommended for inclusion in the master plan. The replacement of the current light poles with a more historically appropriate light pole and fixture is also recommended.

The original focal point of the park was a pool in the center at the intersection of the walks. It is recommended that the current planter be repaired and that the existing plant materials be replaced with annuals and/or perennials. Also new benches and trash receptacles should be installed around the planter. Outside of the benches there is proposed a ground cover bed with perennial bulbs. The north and south access walks to the center area are proposed to be flanked with plant beds as shown on the Olmsted Plan. Lastly an interpretive sign is proposed for the center area of the park.

The estimated construction cost is \$200,000 to \$250,000.

G. MAPLEWOOD PARK

The scope of work in this park is oriented around reconstructing the Olmsted Plan. Since the rose garden located on the south end of the park has migrated over time to the north into the original Olmsted planned Maplewood park, it is proposed that this portion of the rose garden be relocated to the west side of the Driving Park entrance drive to the park. It is also proposed that the large parking area along the entrance drive be reduced and contained between the Driving Park entrance gates and the proposed pavilion. Additional event-oriented parking would be allowed on the proposed lawn area between the pavilion and the river gorge. It is anticipated that this additional parking would only be needed two or three times a year.

A large number of the original trees remain in the park and are therefore old and in need of pruning and in many cases removal. Several of these trees are recommended for removal and replacement. It is also proposed that the large parking area be significantly reduced and replaced with open lawn. The existing stairways from the Lake Avenue sidewalk to the park should be repaired and new connector walks installed to the location of a proposed pavilion. Other walks are proposed to connect the pavilion area with the gorge walkway system and the new parking area.

The majority of the planting proposed is for the replacement of the trees which need to be removed. However there is also a minor amount of additional planting proposed and a planting bed recommended around the proposed pavilion. Several recommendations have been suggested to enhance the rose garden including provision for storage and maintenance. This would also allow for the removal of the existing garage and storage structures located along the river gorge. In conjunction with these revisions, the dove-cove building could have interior revisions to allow it to be more efficiently used for storage and maintenance.

The estimated cost of construction for this work including extensive work in the rose garden area such as providing an irrigation system, lighting revisions and relocation of approximately 30% of the rose garden is \$750,000 to \$825,000.

H. LAKEVIEW PARK

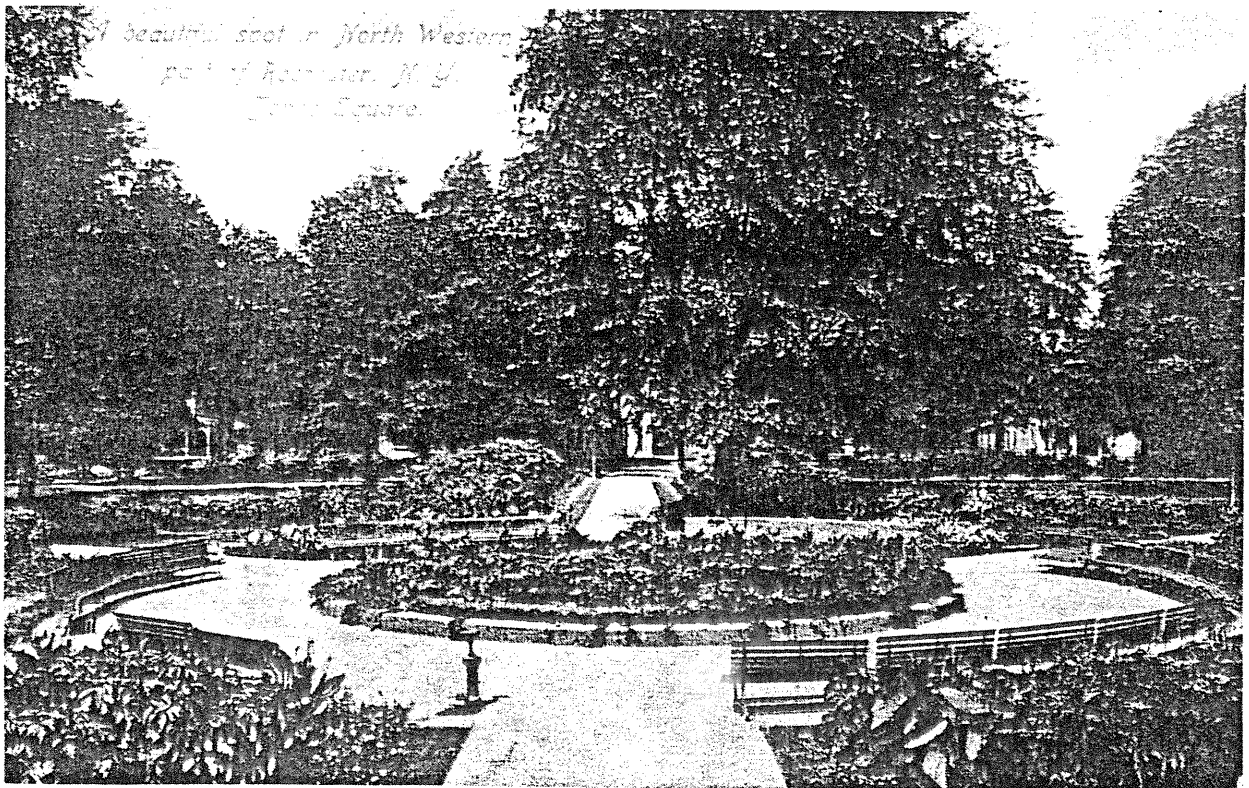
The scope of work on this boulevard is to over time replant it to the original Olmsted Plan. It is proposed to accomplish this by replacing trees as they die with trees appropriate to the Olmsted Plan and in the historically correct locations. Additionally, any street tree planting to be done on this boulevard will also be according to the Olmsted Plan.

The estimated cost of planting is \$35,000 to \$50,000.

I. BROWN SQUARE, SENECA PARKWAY AND WADSWORTH SQUARE

Since there is no significant work proposed at these parks or the work proposed has not been accepted by the community, no current scopes of work or estimates were developed.

CHAPTER VII



CHAPTER VII: MAINTENANCE RECOMMENDATIONS

INTRODUCTION

Certainly the City is maintaining the all the parks included in this study. Therefore many of the recommendations included herein could be part of an existing maintenance plan. However in an effort to avoid deletions we will address a complete maintenance plan with the assumption that the City will implement the portions which are appropriate.

The plan will be in a task-by-task format rather than a park-by-park format. Therefore some of the tasks will not apply to all the parks. Also this chapter will not cover maintenance recommendations for the various monuments surveyed. Please refer to chapter III for information on the monuments.

REGULAR MAINTENANCE

LAWN CARE: Lawns should be mowed at regular intervals; however, weather conditions and the season will cause the need to adjust the frequency. Generally grass should not be cut too short (the amount of leaf growth cut should not exceed 1/3 to 1/2 the total leaf length). Ideally mowing should be done frequently, cutting less of the leaf rather than less often and cutting more of the leaf length.

Where possible cutting should be done with mowers as opposed to "weed-eaters". The amount of growth cut is very difficult to control with "weed-eaters" and they can damage adjacent materials such as ground covers, tree trunks, wood posts and supports, etc. "Weed-eaters" should be used only on non-lawn areas where occasional control of growth is desired or necessary.

The best type of mower to use is very much dependent on the conditions, safety of the operator and the park users, and the efficiency of the mower. There are many types and styles of mowers available today. It is our belief that mowers which cut the grass leaf cleanly are the best for the plant. Generally a sharp reel-type mower cuts the best. However availability, maneuverability, and servicing of this type of equipment also needs to be carefully considered.

SHRUB BED CARE: While shrub beds do not need care as often as the lawns need to be mowed, they should be weeded and cultivated regularly. The frequency again is dependent upon weather conditions. Generally a regular schedule of monthly weeding and cultivation is recommended. This will control weed growth and avoid the over-whelming task of weeding shrub beds once a year when the weeds are out of control. Also regular cultivation assists the plant growth and can be most efficiently done when weeding. Lastly, the bed edges should be re-cut every time they are cultivated.

DEBRIS REMOVAL: Care should be taken when removing debris from trash receptacles to avoid driving on the grass and plant beds with vehicles. If it is necessary to collect this debris using a vehicle, perhaps a golf cart-type vehicle could be used to reduce the potential damage to lawns, plant beds and pavements. Also a general policing of the park, for debris, should be done as the lawns are mowed and the plant beds are weeded.

LIGHTING MAINTENANCE: The light bulbs should be checked regularly and replaced as necessary.

SEASONAL MAINTENANCE

LAWN CARE: Lawns should be fertilized at least twice per year. A granular commercial fertilizer (50% slow release) with an analysis of 10-6-4 can be used for both applications. This analysis can and should be adjusted if conditions or soil tests so indicate. The first application should be made in the spring and the second in the early fall. The rate of application for both the spring and fall should be 0.25 to 0.3 pounds of actual nitrogen per 1000 square feet of lawn area. Fertilizers should not be applied during very dry conditions unless these lawns can be regularly watered.

This recommendation for fertilization is made without having specific soils information or knowledge of areas which are regularly watered. The type of fertilizer, rate of application and frequency of application will vary dependent upon these and other conditions. A soils test should be taken at each site and sent to Cornell for analysis.

Weed control is also a problem in most parks. However with the concerns today over herbicides its recommended that control of weeds be done by creating a healthy lawn through regular fertilization and mowing. Care should be taken to avoid allowing the annual weeds to "go to seed". Should it become necessary to treat a weed conditions it should be done on an individual basis. This is done by identifying the weed problem and developing a specific treatment for that condition.

Likewise disease and pest control should be treated very carefully. "General" spraying of chemicals is not recommended.

SHRUB BED CARE: The shrub beds designed for these parks include plants that require minimum maintenance. However all the woody plants should be trimmed once per year. This trimming should be done to remove dead branches and maintain the natural character of the plant. None of the plants should be trimmed in unnatural forms such as "balls" and rectilinear shapes. Ground covers should be trimmed to maintain them within their beds and to thin the plants to promote healthy growth. Thinning must be done carefully to avoid providing opportunity for weed competition.

During the early spring, the shrub beds should be cleaned. This includes the removal of debris and leaves that have accumulated over the winter months. Also in woody plant beds, the mulch can be augmented and re-established at this time.

SITE FURNITURE: During the late fall, a thorough inventory of all the site furniture should be done to determine repairs that need to be completed over the winter season. This inventory most often includes pieces needing repainting, repair of broken parts and those which need to be removed and replaced. Removals maybe able to be done during the fall and winter with ordering of replacement elements during the winter. Installation of replacement elements and repaired or repainted elements could then be done in the spring.

PAVEMENTS: Parking pavements should be repainted in the early spring.

DRAINAGE STRUCTURES: Drainage structures should be cleaned at least once each year to avoid having debris lodged in the pipes and the silts deposited in the River or Lake.

PERIODIC MAINTENANCE

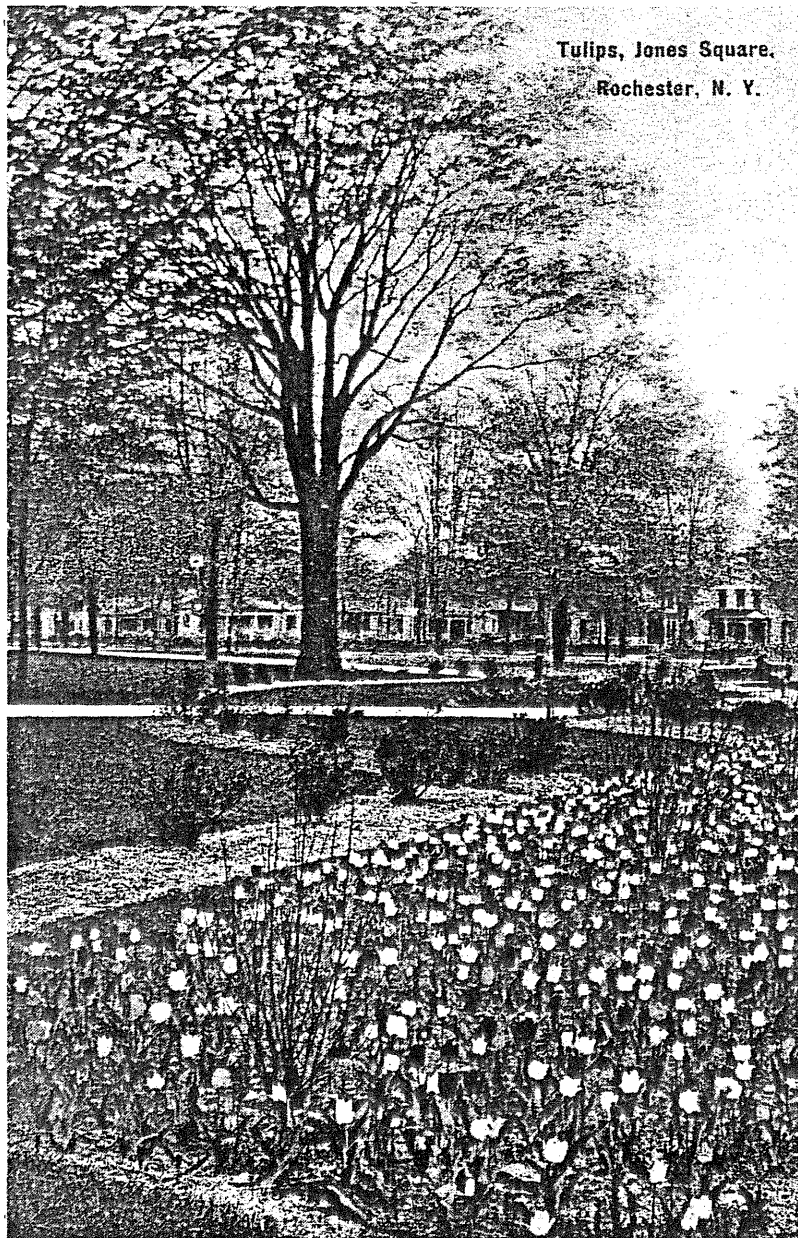
LAWN CARE: It is recommended that soil tests be taken in each park every 3 to 5 years. These tests are not expensive and are easily done. A small amount of soil is collected and sent to Cornell Cooperative Extension. An analysis will be done and returned with soil amendment recommendations when applicable. In larger parks or where there appears to be a specific problem, more than one sample maybe necessary.

SHRUB BED CARE: Shrub beds with ground covers and perennials should be analyzed periodically for replacement of plants and for the need for the addition of soil amendments.

TREE CARE: Periodically the trees within each park should be analyzed for disease and pest treatment as well as decisions for removal and replacement of mature trees. When it is decided to remove a tree, the Olmsted plans must be reviewed to determine the genus and species of an appropriate replacement tree. Also the placement of that plant must be according to the Olmsted plans.

PAVEMENTS: Periodically the pavements should be analyzed for repair and replacement. Also it is desirable to seal asphalt parking pavements every 3 to 5 years to obtain extended use of the pavement.

APPENDIX A



APPENDIX A:

**OLMSTED OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE EXCERPTS,
ROCHESTER SMALL PARKS & SQUARES**

OLMSTED ASSOCIATES B-FILE MICROFILM OF ROCHESTER PARK CORRESPONDENCE

| <u>File</u> | <u>Frames</u> | <u>Plans FLONHS</u> |
|---|---------------|---------------------|
| 1100 Rochester Parks | R56: 366-543 | |
| 1101 Franklin Square: no B-file | | 3 |
| 1102 Genesee Valley Park | R56: 544-end; | 116 |
| 1103 Genesee Valley Pkwy | R57: 1-30 | 9 |
| 1104 Highland Park | R57: 31-45 | 110 |
| 1105 Jones Square | R57: 46-54 | 6 |
| 1106 Lake View Park | R57: 56-57 | 2 |
| 1107 Plymouth Park | R57: 58-64 | 4 |
| 1108 Seneca Park | R57: 65-70 | 21 |
| 1109 Washington Square: No B-file | | |
| 1110 Madison Square: No B-file | | 3 |
| 1111 Brown Square (Convention Hall Triangle) | R57: 71-79 | 3 |
| 1112 Riley Triangle/Anderson Park | R57: 80-95 | 4 |
| 1113 Maple Grove Park | R57: 96-100 | |
| 1114 Maplewood Park: No B-file | | |
| 1115 Durand Eastman Park | R57: 101-103 | |
| 1116 Cobbs Hill Reservoir | R57: 104-131 | 2 |
| 1117 Warner Tract | R57: 132-138 | 1 |
| 1118 Rochester Civic Comm. | R57: 139-316 | 13 |
| 1119 Parade Grounds (N.Y. State Armory) | R57: 317-322 | 1 |

JONES SQUARE (Job No. 1105):

to CC Laney, June 8, 1895; A40: 383

Will you kindly inform us as to the general surrounding of Jones Square, the class of houses in the neighborhood, and the class of people who would frequent it. Also the particular purposes for which it could be used to the greatest advantage?

to CC Laney, Sept 18, 1895; A42: 193

Ask him to comment on preliminary sketch that John C. Olmsted left with him, for Jones Square.

To CC Laney, Oct 2, 1895; A42: 318

Have received his comments. We will make a revision of the plan, embodying the suggested changes. The chief objection to these additional entrances is that they will, in all probability, result in an increased number of short-cut paths, or, if these are prevented by efficient policing (as, of course, they ought to be) it involves additional expenses for police. The walk entering at the middle of the pergola is the one which we think would be most likely to cause trouble in this way. With this warning, and unless we hear from you to the contrary, we will revise the plan so as to include the additional walks.

To CC Laney, Oct. 11, 1895; A42: 429

We beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated October 8th, and we understand it to mean that we need not attempt the revision of the plan promised in our letter dated October 2nd; at least, not before we hear from you again on the subject.

To CC Laney, Feb. 7, 1896; A45: 480

Send print of revised sketch no. 6 for walks in Jones Square.

To CC Laney, Feb. 21, 1896; A45: 603

There is no objection to an artificial pond for raising water lilies except the expense of construction and the subsequent expense for maintenance. We will show such a pond on our plan and it can be omitted if concluded advisable.

To EM Moore, April 1, 1901

We have received through your superintendent of Park, Mr. CC Laney, instructions to prepare plans for the further improvement of Jones Square. . .

We understand that the cement walks already constructed cannot be materially changed.

The plan thus fixed upon the ground is a simple and very convenient one as it provides for the large amount of short-cutting which is inevitable in a Square so surrounded by residences. The existing arrangements are, however, open to criticism as lacking in dignity and beauty. The existing walks are too narrow for dignity. The double outer rows of trees have been pollarded and are so extremely crowded that they have lost much of their natural beauty. They will undoubtedly suffer from snow, ice and storms and we are confident that they will, in general, deteriorate instead of improving, as park trees should. The rows of trees along the diagonal and other interior walks have not been pollarded but the rows are composed of trees of different ages and have numerous gaps in them and the rows are not only much too close together for dignity but the trees in the rows are much too crooked.

The general plan of the Square which has been carried out is so extremely simple and formal that the irregular, scattered trees occupying the triangular grass plots are quite out of harmony with the scheme. These trees should therefore be cut or moved out.

Before completing our plans it seems proper that the question of cutting more than half of the trees now existing on the ground should be voted upon by your Board with the full understanding that if they vote for it there is likely to be a strong public clamor against the action which they will have to have the strength of mind to withstand.

We believe it would be a valuable addition to the usefulness of the Square and of the neighborhood to introduce into it a little children's playground. This would require the fencing in of a portion of the Square by means of a wire netting and gas pipe fence to be ornamented by vines. The object of this fence would be to provide an enclosure in which little children could be allowed to run about while their mothers or guardians sat in the shade on the veranda of a little shelter house where they could keep watch of their children without fear of their strolling off into the surrounding streets or be interfered with by larger and perhaps rougher children. In addition to a grass plot, with shade trees the little children's playground would be provided with one or more sand boxes with awnings for shade. There might also, if desired, be scups and swings, see-saws, giant strides and other simple apparatus. A wading pool is also found to afford much enjoyment to little children and will also give an opportunity for sailing toy boats. It is customary for Park Commissioners to bear the larger portion of the maintenance expenses and for a society of charitably minded people to take charge of the maintenance of the little children's playground and shelter, bearing a portion of the expense of attendants needed to instruct and guide the children in their play. The adoption of this suggestion for a little children's playground would involve the doing away with one of the narrow straight walks on the axis of the Square, from the centre [to?] the boundary. We should like your Board to pass upon this feature so that if it is not desired we may leave it off the plan which in other respects will probably be the same.

Olmsted Brothers to CC Laney, April 1, 1901 (R57: 53-54)

It is very evident that nothing creditable can be done with this Square without extensive revisions to the existing tree growths. The scattered trees in the triangular grass plots ought for the most part to be moved out. The trees in the rows are of soft-wooded sorts which will not give permanent satisfaction and they are planted altogether too thickly. Unquestionably every second

one in every row ought to be cut and in the case of the double row around the outside of the Square probably a larger proportion should be. If public opinion is going to be so strong against cutting trees that these changes cannot be made we might as well drop the matter at once as we should not care to be professionally responsible for any sort of improvement if the present trees must all be retained.

(They enclose a letter to Moore on the subject to show to board.)

To CC Laney, April 23, 1901; OA R57: 51

We are sending you under separate cover by mail a sunprint of our planting plan for Jones Square. In order to get even a reasonably good effect, it seems to be necessary to eliminate the long, narrow, straight walk running lengthwise through the center of the square. The omission of this walk, however, though important to our plan, is not absolutely essential.

We propose, for the sake of unifying the square and giving the expression of a pleasure ground to be walked about in, to add a circuit walk in a form approximating to an oval. This walk would be little used in winter, and may therefore be surfaced with hard gravel or macadam instead of cement concrete, if desired.

The present circular walk about the fountain is altogether too narrow. It is absolutely essential to any good effect, to cut the trees that stand in the way of widening this walk. We think it should be as wide as indicated on our plan.

The principal features of our plan after cutting out or removing the trees now existing but which are not shown on the plan, is to surround the square with a loose, wild hedge of variegated cornel. This will grow fairly well in the shade of the trees and will give a framing-in, or border plantation effect which the square is very lacking in at present.

The next feature is a natural growing hedge of purple hazel, following the oval walk. From all points in the interior of the square this will form a very effective feature, and which, as shrubs go, will last for many years, and we believe will be novel and therefore pleasing to many of the neighbors. By way of contrast with the hedge of purple hazel, we propose some masses of golden shrubbery, as indicated on the plan. Along the diagonal walks we propose the retention of some of the shade trees and expect that during the summer benches will be set out under these trees. It seems best, therefore, to treat these walks very simply and no planting is proposed here. In the short, straight walk running crosswise of the square, however, there is no need of any shade trees, and we therefore take advantage of this openness to introduce some ornamental planting in formal beds along each side of these walks. The character of this plantation will be, perhaps, sufficiently obvious by an examination of the planting list accompanying the plan.

We estimate the cost of required plants at about \$844.00, which includes packing, freight, local delivery, and possible re-orders in case some of the orders at first sent out cannot be filled at the low prices assumed.

Annual Report, 1901-02, p. 60: Plan received and 175 trees cut down.

Annual Report, 1902-03, p. 70: The improvements of Jones's Square were finished with the exception of planting a few shrubs and trees that are always planted in the spring. The improvement consisted in taking down 205 trees, drawing on 1922 loads of soil, grading, subsoil plowing, manuring, fertilizing, sowing greass seed, rolling and planting trees and shrubs and bulbs, and putting down 22,154 square feet of cement sidewalk, The total cost of this improvement of Jones's Square was \$4,628.89.

Report of Visit, JC Olmsted, Sept. 28, 1904:

Laney said (and Mr. Lamberton assented) that it was by all considered to be the show city park of Rochester. It has some show garden effects, but the showy border planting and shrub planting we designed is comparatively poor, owing to shade and roots of thirsty tall silver maples which our plan required should be cut, I suppose. Laney acknowledged that they had not dared to cut all the trees we had marked off on our plan and agreed they ought to be cut. Our plan cannot succeed until they are cut. I suppose Dunbar has a good time with ornamentals here.

PLYMOUTH PARK (Job No. 1107):
4 plans at FLO&CO (1893)

JY McClintock to FLO&CO, March 30, 1893 (R57: 59)

Laney mailed drawing of Plymouth Park before map was marked to show what points the photographs were taken from--sends set of blueprints to make this clear.

JY McClintock (City Surveyor) to Olmsted, Olmsted, & Eliot, May 3, 1893 (R57: 59)

Wants help with Plymouth Park, especially to help with public dislike of having trees cut.

Says that they are now improving Washington Square in accordance with Olmsted firm design: in that case "we took the precaution to have the ordinance specify that the whole work should be done in accordance with your plan--and we want to do the same by Plymouth Park so as to avoid changes that are apt to be urged after the work is begun.

JY McClintock to OO&E, June 6, 1893 (R57: 60)

The Common Council have passed a first ordinance for laying cement wks in straight lines diagonally through Jones Square at an estimated expense of \$1,800. I deprecate this as it will be a wicked waste of possibilities and postpone for years a proper treatment of the Square--and the Alderman of the Ward agrees with me that the better way will be to get you to make a study and plan and if we do not feel able to carry it out in full this year will make what we do conform to your design. It is the largest of our squares being 450 ft. by 650 ft.

JY McClintock to OO&E, June 30, 1893 (R57: 64)

A contract has been let for improving Plymouth Square in accordance with OO&E design. Common Council has also passed resolution to ask OO&E to submit plans for improvement of other small squares & parks:

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Brown Square | 596 by 380 feet |
| Franklin Square | 401 by 211 feet |
| Madison Park | 225 by 157 feet |
| Jones Square | 650 by 450 feet |

Report of Visit, JC Olmsted, January 15, 1896; E5, vol. 4: 15:

This is looking well. A wire fence is used at each end of oval and in narrow strip at each end to control traffic and appears to attain this object. The unplanted strip around outer edge is much trampled by children, but the shrubberies are nearly free from molestation, and, though small, are pleasing. Shrubs are generally growing more densely than would be expected in the shade of large trees. A few more trees should be cut out within a few years.

Annual Report, 1909, p. 512: An ornamental fountain was put into Plymouth Park and the high shrubs cut down and low ones planted.

BROWN SQUARE (Job No. 1111) 3 plans at FLONHS (1904)

Report of Visit, JC Olmsted, June 2, 1904:

I showed Mr. Lamberton and Mr. Laney the preliminary plan which we had made for this Square and they seemed to like it very well but said they doubted if they could afford to carry it out. They principally objected to the brick or stone wall which we planned along the railroad boundary. I was told that the building for this Square had already been planned and contracted for and that it was not the same size and shape as we had indicated on our plan.

To CC Laney, July 13, 1904:

11-page letter dealing with needed play and gymnastic facilities and wading pools provided for in Olmsted firm plan, also treatment of trees and shrubbery, provision for lawn games.

Report of Visit, JC Olmsted, Sept. 28, 1904:

Practically nothing has been done here except to erect the building as per architect's plans. The building not being symmetrical would better have been located "end on" or else off in a corner. It looks bad. A few trees have been cut out, but not nearly enough to conform to our plan. No new walks. Money gave out. [The building:] Quickly built! Wasn't there at my last visit. Red brick, blue slate, commonplace and clumsy detail and proportions.

Annual Report, 1904, p. 644: 30x50 ft. shelter built in Brown Square, used primarily by children cared for by the Childrens' Playground League. Two sand houses built, also swings, teeters, and basketball apparatus.

Annual Report, 1905, p. 662: 100-foot diameter wading pool with surrounding 5-foot-wide walk installed. At NW corner, a triangular piece of land graded for use as skating rink. An outdoor gymnasium put in W side of park (2 horizontal bars, 2 climbing ropes, 2 climbing poles, 1 climbing rope ladder, 1 horizontal ladder, 1 giants stride, 1 Swedish boom, 1 set of parallel bars, 1 springboard). a 40-foot square put in East of the building, and a 6-foot walk from the square to Jay street opposite Saratoga avenue. Also a 6-foot walk from the corner of Jones and Jay to the center of the square. And a 6-foot walk laid the whole length of the square in Brown street, and a 6-foot walk in Jay street from a point opposite Saratoga avenue to the NY Central RR tracks. A 10-foot walk built from the shelter to the square at the center of the park. Also a 10-foot walk from the walk in Brown street to the walk around the swimming pool, and another 10-foot walk built from the swimming pool northerly to the walk running from the SW corner of the square to the center square. 26 poor-condition trees removed in the process.

Annual Report, 1906, p. 705: Description of variety of indoor and outdoor activities at Brown Square. One piano donated and soon worn out, another desired.

Annual Report, 1907, p. 672: Library in Browns Park well patronized by children of the neighborhood. . . A toboggan slide of lumber was built at Browns Park greatly to the delight of the children there.

1909--present field house is too small.

O firm to Alexander B. Lamberton, President of park board, June 15, 1909: OA R57: 74-75

Firm prefers to build new building back of present one, despite homely appearance of latter, since to place new building in front would further subdivide and encroach on the open space of the square. It would be possible and desirable to cover the walls of the present building with creepers by preparing good deep beds of rich soil next the walls and protecting the creepers planted in them against injury by the children by means of strong heavy iron railways or gratings.

Need for improved administration and maintenance. As for improvements--would nearly all be in the direction of making it more easily and economically possible to keep the Square looking well-cared for and orderly under the usage to which it is subjected. The principal factor in keeping a square of this sort in an orderly and attractive condition under such use as it is subjected to is the distinct recognition and separation of the areas which are to be freely subjected to wear and tear and the spaces, perhaps very limited in extent, which are to be protected against wear and tear and maintained in an attractive verdurous condition. The former need such surfacing as can stand the wear and tear and yet be kept neat looking at moderate

expense. Bare earth well drained, resurfaced from time to time with a sprinkling of sharp, clean sand or fine gravel, rolled when necessary, and regularly swept, answers very well in most cases. The latter must be given adequate protection by strong and substantial fencing or otherwise and by watchful care on the part of those in charge of the square so that they shall always look well and command the respect of the public.

RILEY TRIANGLE/ANDERSON PARK (Job No. 1112)

4 plans at FLONHS: 1894 topo, 1 plan of 1904, 2 plans of 1908 (including Carrere & Hastings plan for siting of Schiller Statue, Aug. 13, 1908)

Report of Visit, JC Olmsted, June 2, 1904:

I showed them [Lamberton & Laney] our plan [Preliminary plan 1112-3 of May 23, 1904] but they immediately said they did not think the members of the board who were especially interested in this Triangle would agree to it as they had intended a central decoration of flower beds and such like so that there will be a feature to be seen from each and all sides. They explained that University Avenue which we had intended to block out by a border plantation was one of the most pleasant residence streets in the city and people walking on it or passing on the electric cars would insist on having a good view of the decoration of the park. . . . The interior has been graded down at some previous time and the earth thrown up as an embankment around the boundary line so as to form a skating rink to which admission was charged and there is also one or two large dumps of earth and the land has been used as a pasture and is very rough and weedy.

To CC Laney, June 28, 1904:

Send three alternative sketches for improvement of Riley Triangle by means of formal floral decoration. [plans 1112-8A, 8B & 8C] We have made some fifteen or twenty studies for ornamental gardening work in this triangle, but concluded that the three which we send will offer a sufficient choice.

To CC Laney, Dec. 2, 1904: Relating to grading the sunken panel in Riley Triangle.

Annual Report, 1906, p. 702 Anderson Park was used as a skating rink as long as the ice lasted, and in the spring all the crowding and dying trees were cut down. The ground was graded and a bed made according to the plans of the landscape architect.

February 1907--desire of some German citizens to place a statue of Schiller in Anderson Park, formerly Riley Triangle.

To CC Laney Feb. 18, 1907:

If the Schiller statue is large, should be in center of triangle, which probably would mean not having a big circle of flowers as well. If it is only a bust, it would be better put it instead in the more formal part of Seneca Park.

Letter of W Drescher to CC Laney

Says the committee favored a model of 16 to 18 feet high, with foundation & pedestal of proper size and proportions. Location is toward corner of Main St. East and University Ave (c. 100 ft into park from that corner of park). The park bounds for 410 ft. on Main St. East (hypotenuse), 260 ft on N. Union St., and 315 ft. on University Ave.

O. firm (JCO?) to CC Laney, March 15, 1907 (OA R 57: 85).

Thinks a Schiller statue should be in one of the larger public parks (further from the center of the city and amid more parklike surroundings). Anderson Park will be and become very urban.

Anderson Park is of such a size that any monument in it should occupy its center and should be large enough and high enough to adequately dominate the locality. I have hastily made a little model to scale and I do not think that a statue on a pedestal, the whole 16 or 18 feet high, would be nearly large enough in proportion to the size of the triangle to adequately dominate it and not be dwarfed by it.

If notwithstanding, the Park Commission should deem it expedient to grant this site for the Schiller monument, I should recommend that an effort be made to raise the monument by means of some form of stone terrace, with steps leading down from it in three directions, in order to give the state greater elevation and its setting more imposing proportions than would result from having the pedestal rise from a nearly level surface.

Respond positively to suggestion by Drescher that Carrere of Carrere & Hastings be consulted about siting of statue (or rather, apparently, bust) also. (they apparently are planning the monument itself) At least, they write OB on Jan 22, 1908, in response to letter of Jan. 20, that they will prepare a sketch of suggestions, once they receive survey and further information from Drescher.

FLO, Jr. to Carrere & Hastings, Sept. 1, 1908

Just arrived in Rochester--went and staked out location as shown on latest C&H blueprint, as ground is about to be broken. Found there were two trees, one a fine old elm three feet in diameter of trunk, in position that suggested slight change in location of monument in order that the monument might get the proper architectural support of the trees and form an agreeable composition with them. Involves, especially, considerable reduction in size of proposed paved circle around the monument. I understand that the monument alone with the rectangular

platform from which it rises and the two seats standing on that platform will be constructed at the present time.

Jan. 10--park board authorized erection of Schiller monument in west apex of Anderson Park, under direction of Olmsted Brothers.

FLO Jr. to Carrere & Hastings, Sept. 4, 1908:

Now has learned that Schiller Monument Committee will have money for building paths, and so want plan for paving around the monument revised to adapt to location dictated by the trees. You will note from the print sent you with my letter from Rochester that the sidewalks with which any paving about the monument must connect are not of cement but of stone. They are definitely fixed as to alignment and grade, are of good quality and correspond in character with all the rest of the street improvements and must therefore be regarded as permanent. There is no curb between these walks and the surface of the park and they are flush with the park turf. These facts seem to suggest that if a curbing is to be used around the new pavement it should be smaller in scale than is suggested on your plan, and that it might be desirable to make the pavement of the circle and the paths approaching it in part of stone, possibly of stone relieved by a pattern of colored cement.

MAPLE GROVE PARK (Job No. 1113)

Report of Visit, JC Olmsted, June 2, 1904:

They have acquired the whole of Ellwanger and Barry's holding on the left bank, thus nearly completing our plan on that side of the river, but this tract includes the land west of Maple Grove Avenue to Lake Avenue which is in addition to the boundaries called for by our plan. WE had not included this part W. of Maple Grove Avenue because we assumed that it would cost too much but being unable to come to an agreement with Ellwanger & Barry for the part our plan called for they took their whole holding in that vicinity the City paying \$50,000 for it which was regarded as a reasonable price. There remains a small tract consisting of about half a dozen lots 50 ft. wide to be acquired on the E. side of Maple Grove Avenue, some of which have houses on them, to complete our plan. . . .

The gently sloping land formerly belonging to Ellwanger & Barry has been known as Maple Grove Park and formerly been used as an amusement resort before the beach at Charlotte was made accessible by electric cars. As the Commission has taken more land than was needed for rounding out Seneca Park, they have continued calling this place Maple Grove Park. It is rendered unusually attractive by an existing grove of original forest trees mainly oaks, maple and beech. As the houses on the opposite side of Lake Avenue are occupied by influential citizens the Commission does not want to put a dense border plantation along Lake Avenue but I advised that while the middle of the frontage opposite Lake View Park can be kept open, shrubbery with a few trees be planted as a border plantation along the rest of the frontage north and south of this place. The bank along the Avenue is abrupt and should be filled and sloped off more gradually especially where the existing trees of value do not prevent. A border of

shrubbery has already been planted along the south boundary but this will need some alterations and some additions. The northern boundary will need some shrubbery to conceal the fence.

A good deal of the ground here is very densely shaded by the large trees and it will be difficult to keep a good turf in it. It didn't appear to me that it would be necessary to have turf there for the accommodation of the public as there would be ample area elsewhere better adapted to growing turf. I recommended that this portion of the grounds be left in a rough condition allowing the more attractive of the wild flowers to remain and adding to them ferns, violets and other sorts that will stand shade. I suggested to Mr. Laney that some portions of the ground would need subsurface drainage. . . .

The steep bluff is densely broken with wild trees so that there is no view from the upland into the gorge. I thought that at least one or two good sized views should be opened up by cutting trees and replacing them with shrubbery. . . . The existing roads and walks on Maple Avenue may be left for a time but it seemed to me there should be a walk laid out at once along the brink. If this is done it would probably be practicable to grass over the east sidewalk of Maple Avenue. It would be necessary in that case to have probably two walks leading to the new shelter now being erected. Provision should be made for children's amusements such as sand pits, scups, see-saws, and the like and these in general should be placed in the shade of the large trees, irregularly. There will also probably be need of one or possibly two walks entering from Lake Avenue probably one at the Southwest corner and another at the Northwest corner with perhaps a flight of steps down the bank opposite Lake View Park. It may be necessary also to grade some turf tennis courts and level areas for croquet, basket ball, and so forth. Aside from the shrubbery about the new building I thought there should be little if any shrubbery except along the boundaries.

O Firm to CC Laney, Sept. 13, 1904

JCO to H.J. Kellaway, Oct. 8, 1904 (R57: 98-99)

Has finally found time to write about Maple Grove Park. Small part of Maplewood Street that comes into the park is too short to make it advisable to swerve it from a straight line, until the Commission has acquired the 15 lots lying north (?) of the park, and between Maple Street and the bluff. Therefore, will have to show the straight roadway, but can reduce it in width to 18 feet. should be no curbstones or paved gutters; there can be a turf gutter on each side of the roadway. Show bluff walk 8 feet wide. Steps at Lake St. to be square with the Avenue and to fit the flag crossing which is square across roadway.

to CC Laney, Oct 15, 1904:

sending Preliminary plan no. 1113-4.

The walks about the shelter building have been moved a little further from the building than shown on our first plan to provide for room for more shrubs to be planted especially in front of the toilet room windows.

Annual Report, 1906, p. 702: At Maplewood Park the houses on Driving Park Avenue and Maplewood Avenue that were on the lots that were given to the Park Commission were sold and moved away.

WASHINGTON SQUARE (Job. No. 1109) (No correspondence file)
3 plans at City of Rochester: 1 is Olmsted firm Planting plan.

Report of Visit, Warren Manning, Sept. 5, 1894:

At Washington Square the grass and planting were looking very well. Mr. Laney suggested a planting at the ends of the middle grass plots opposite the entrance walk, but I thought that such a plantation would not look well and advised against it.

FRANKLIN SQUARE (Job No. 1101)

Plans: 7 at Rochester City Records Center Vault, 3 at FLONHS
(1894)

Report of Visit, Warren Manning, September 5, 1894:

Mister Laney stated they had decided that the outside walks were not necessary and that they could not build the wall shown on account of the cost.

To CC Laney, Sept. 12, 1894; A36: 103

We send you a print of a new study of Franklin Square leaving out the outside walks and changing the paths so as to bring the trees that are to be saved outside of them with one exception--a Maple which we think can be allowed to stand in the path.

Report of Visit, JC Olmsted, July 18, 1895:

Walks all graded down, ground graded, and will be ready for planting this Fall. The central plot needs protection by fence and bushes to conceal fence. Bushes needed behind seats and in corners and to hid walk paving in certain views. The amount of bush planting should be kept down and also its height. Prickly shrubs would be desirable whre a fence to stop short cuts is needed.

Report of Visit, JC Olmsted, January 15, 1896: E5, vol 4: 15:

Trees should be thinned out and shrubbery added. The trunks of trees are monotonous and need vines upon some and low-growing, shade-loving trees among others.

MADISON SQUARE (Job No. 1110) (No correspondence file)
3 plans at FLONHS (1904)

Report of Visit, JC Olmsted, June 2, 1904:

It surprised me a little to find how small this Square was and I rather concluded from the general aspect of it and its general surroundings that it would be simpler and much more satisfactory not to have the border shrubbery which we showed on our plan. The general effect is that of trees and turf and I feared a continuous border of shrubbery would detract from the apparent area of the Square which at present counts practically from the houses on the opposite sides of the streets as the sidewalks are wide and lined with rows of trees and have a large proportion of their area in turf. . . .

I explained that in a Square so small as this it would be proper to look forward to the erection of a monument in the center as the principal feature and if that were the case a system of diagonal walks would be more suitable than a plan leaving the center of the Square as an unbroken lawn, as in that case diagonal short-cut walks would be worn in the turf.

Mr. Laney said they had only \$1000 appropriated for the improvement of this Square and asked if our plan could be carried out for that sum. I said that it could not but that he might cut out the walks and construct them temporarily with gravel and plant the four radial beds leaving more elaborate improvements to be done at some future time.

to CC Laney, July 13, 1904, folder #1100, microfilm reel 56, frame 458--59

With regard to Madison Square, we present the same design as before, having merely eliminated the border shrubbery. This, we think, will afford sufficient areas of unobstructed turf for children of the adjoining school and the neighborhood to play upon. The fences shown on our plan were placed on it when we had the shrubbery and may prove to be unnecessary. We think you had better try the Square at first without these fences, as the design seems to provide sufficiently well for all ordinary short-cutting. If you find, however, that some of the neighbors are in the habit of crossing the Square at other points and insist upon wearing short-cuts through the turf, it will be well to add fences on one or more sides as the case may require. These fences can then be covered with vines and a little shrubbery could be added adjoining them to afford variety. The sheltered seat can be omitted if you find funds are insufficient for the purpose. In that case, of course, the walks both ways from the shelter could also be omitted.

The stone coping shown around the outer edge of the centre circle may be beyond your means; if so, it can be omitted. If it should be desirable to surround this circle by a series of benches (between the radial walks,) such an arrangement would not cost much. In that case a little shrubbery, especially of sorts that will not grow very high, should be planted behind these benches. The Japan barberry is one of the best shrubs for this purpose. The little posts shown

in connection with the coping around the circle are not intended to be of the peculiar shapes indicated. They should be square. The bed in the centre of the Square is intended to be occupied in the middle by some permanent small evergreen, such as a Retinospora, and this could be surrounded by low perennial flowers or summer bedding plants, or what we think would be preferable, by a bed of periwinkle interspersed by a few bulbs and a few slim perennial flowers that will grow up through and above the periwinkle.

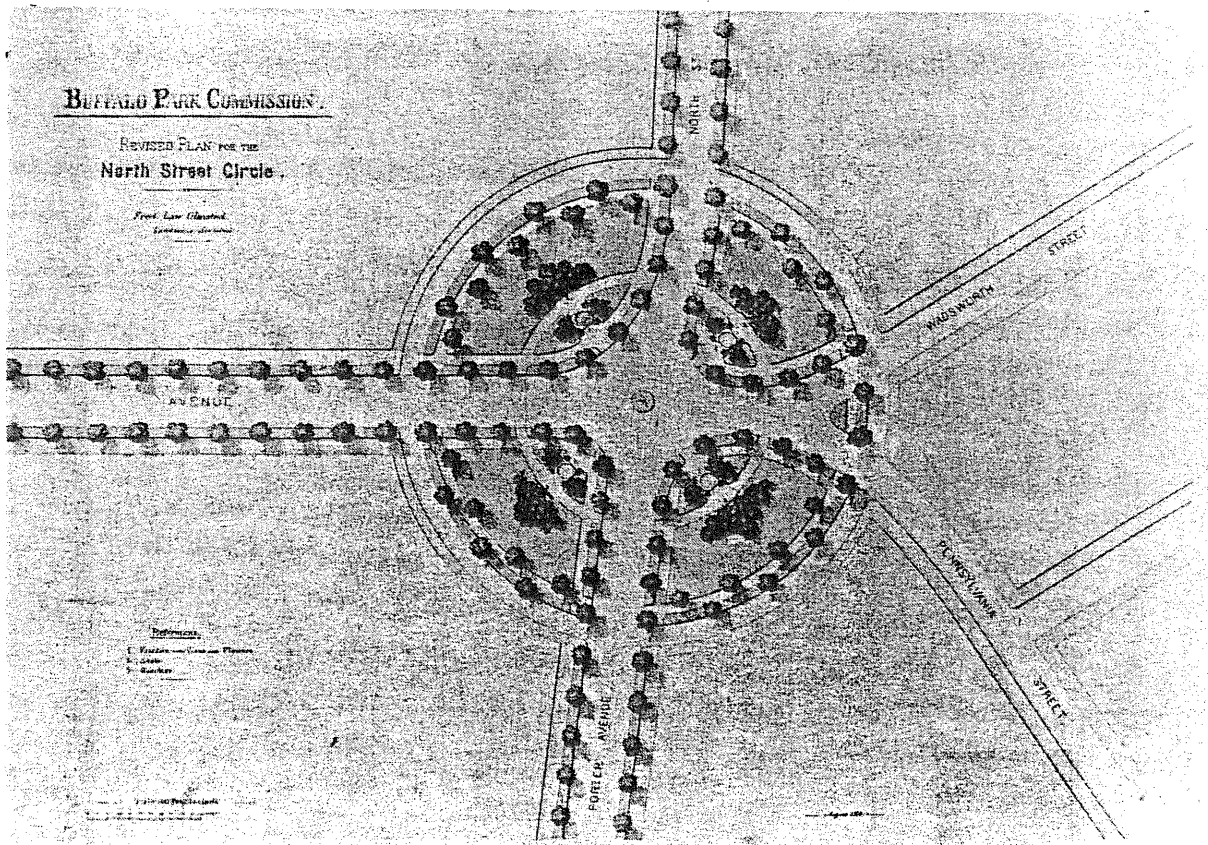
The four radial beds are intended to be planted partly with low evergreens that will not obstruct the view of the centre, so that the centre may be eventually occupied by a monument, and partly by low perennials or summer bedding plants. The assistant superintendent could grow a lot of *Pachysandra terminalis* (which would take several years). It would perhaps be one of the best plants to fill the middle parts of these beds with. Otherwise he could use Tom Thumb Arbor Vitae and other similar dwarf evergreens, or perhaps the centre of the bed could be mounded up and covered with periwinkle, leaving amply wide low margins to be filled with low-growing perennial flowers.

It is intended to have no sidewalks on the narrow cross streets on the side toward the Square. We presume there will be no serious objection raised to this omission.

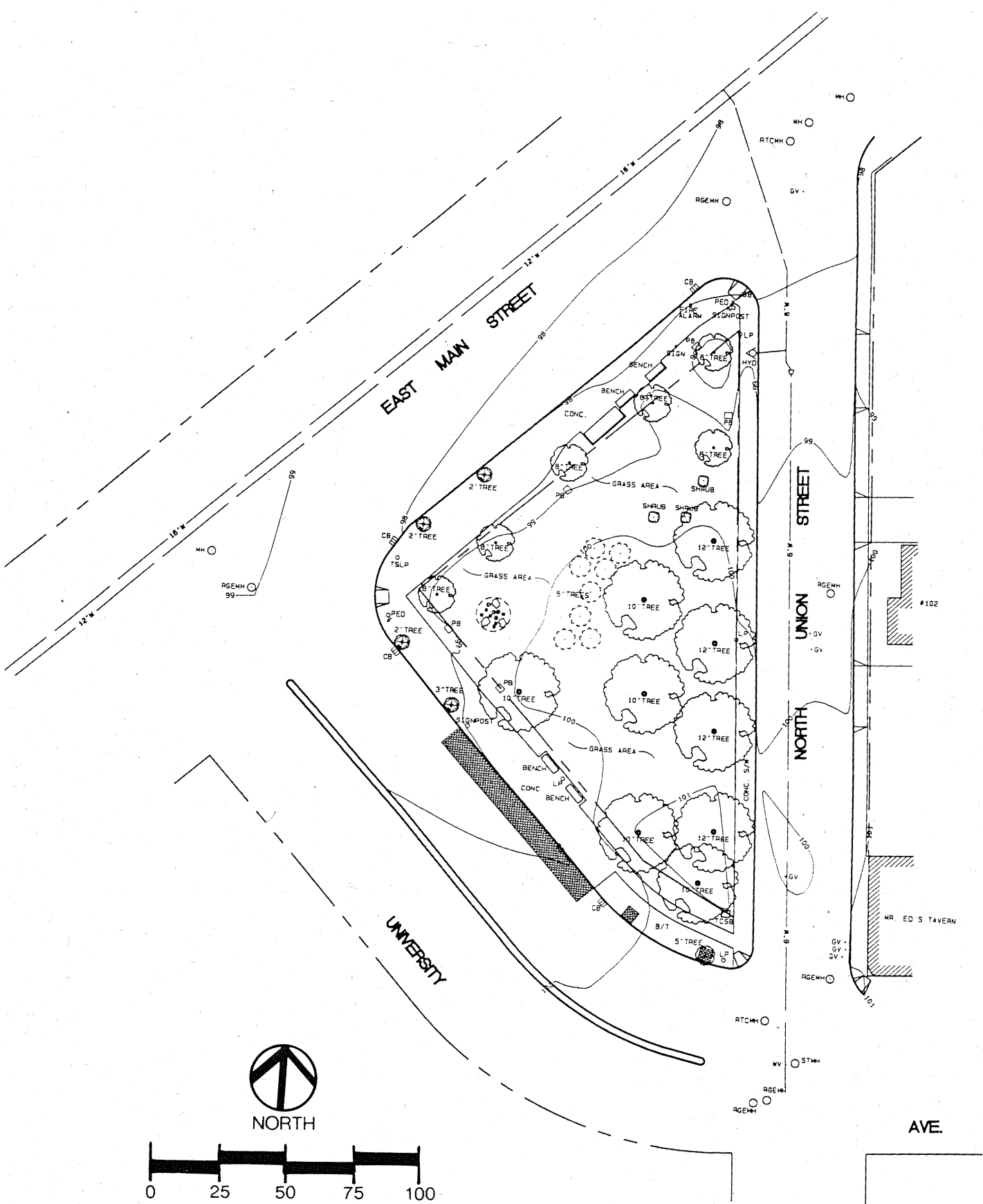
We assume that you will prepare all necessary grading, construction and drainage plans for these squares, as you can do so more cheaply than we can, and that if any points arise of which you are doubtful in this connection, you will communicate with us, and also send us copies of working drawings in order that we may offer any comments that may occur to us. Afterwards if you like, we will prepare planting plans and advise as to where particular shrubs or plants can be best obtained, in case your assistant superintendent does not happen to have them on hand or cannot obtain them at reasonable prices.

Mr. John C. Olmsted will probably be passing through Rochester several times a year and could usually arrange to stop off there for a few hours to confer with you whenever you desire.

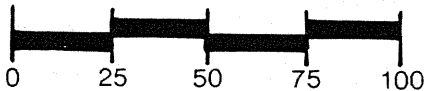
APPENDIX B



APPENDIX B:
INDIVIDUAL PARK EXISTING CONDITIONS PLANS



NORTH



SCALE: 1"=50'

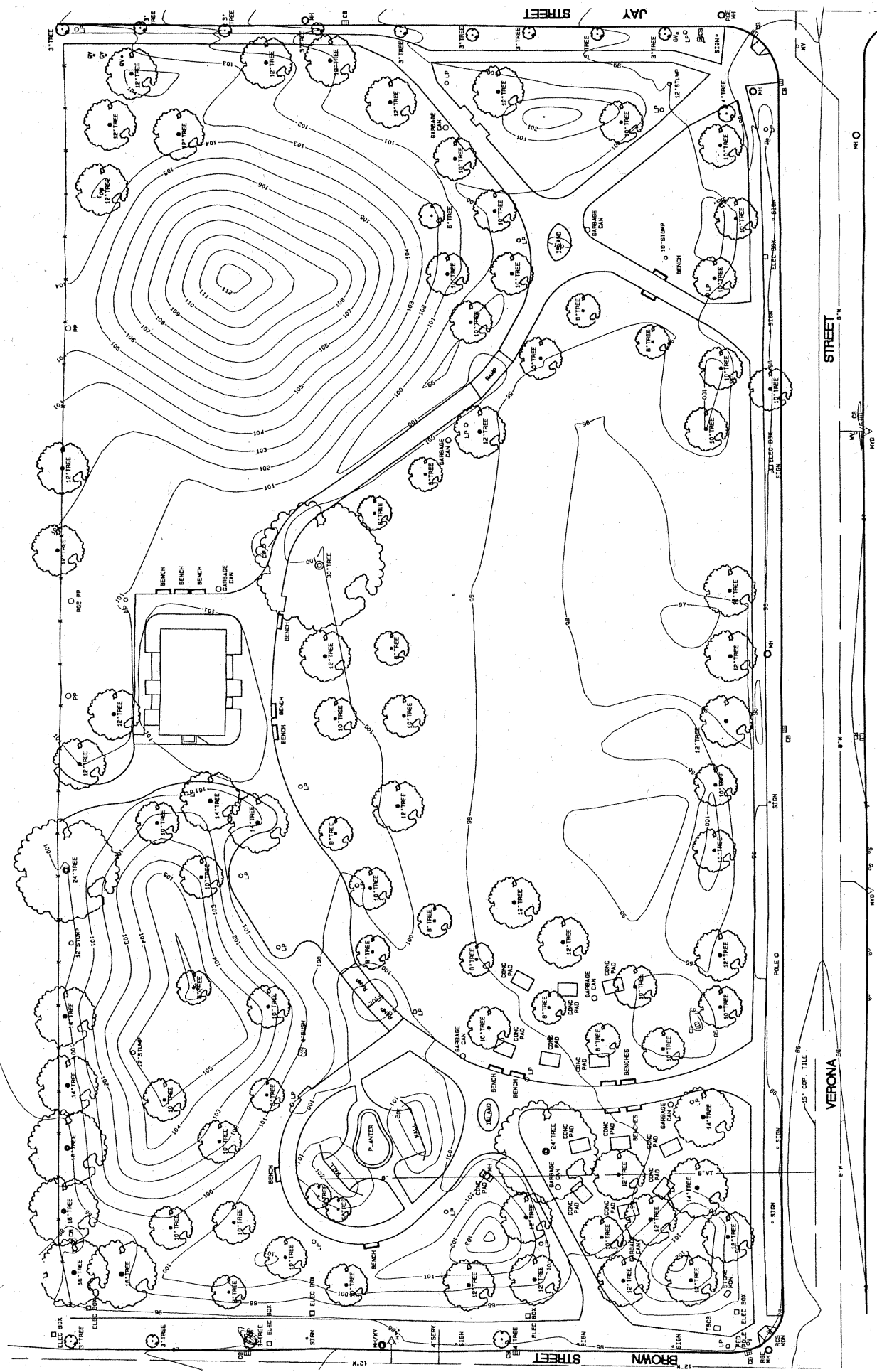
EXISTING CONDITIONS PLAN

ANDERSON TRIANGLE

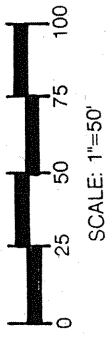
prepared for: CITY OF ROCHESTER - BUREAU OF PARKS

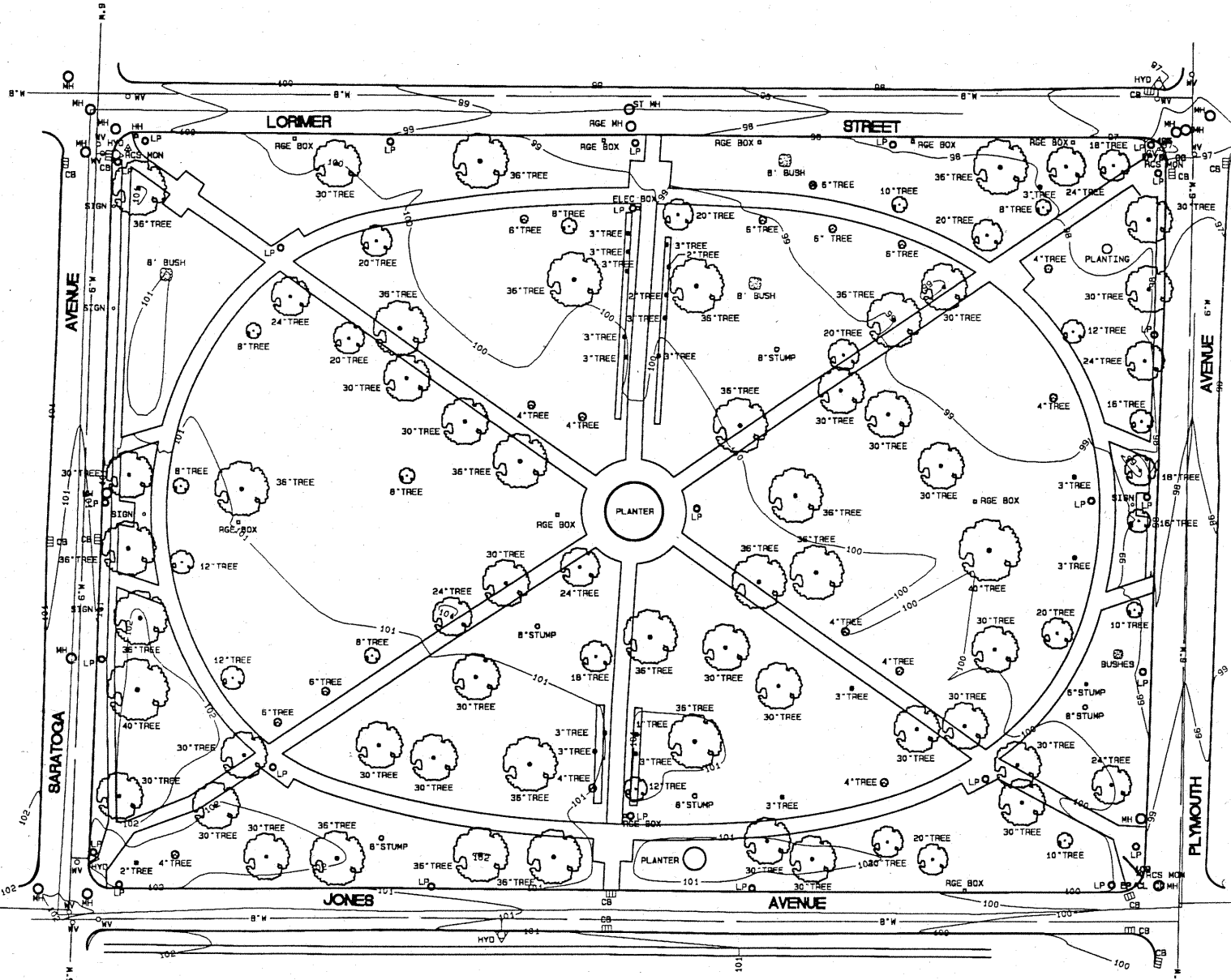
DECEMBER, 1994

prepared by: CLARK PATTERSON ASSOCIATES - ROCHESTER, N.Y.
 LANDSCAPES - WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT

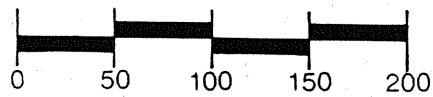


EXISTING CONDITIONS PLAN ● **BROWN SQUARE**
 prepared for: CITY OF ROCHESTER - BUREAU OF PARKS DECEMBER, 1994
 prepared by: CLARK PATTERSON ASSOCIATES - ROCHESTER, N.Y.
 LANDSCAPES - WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT





NORTH



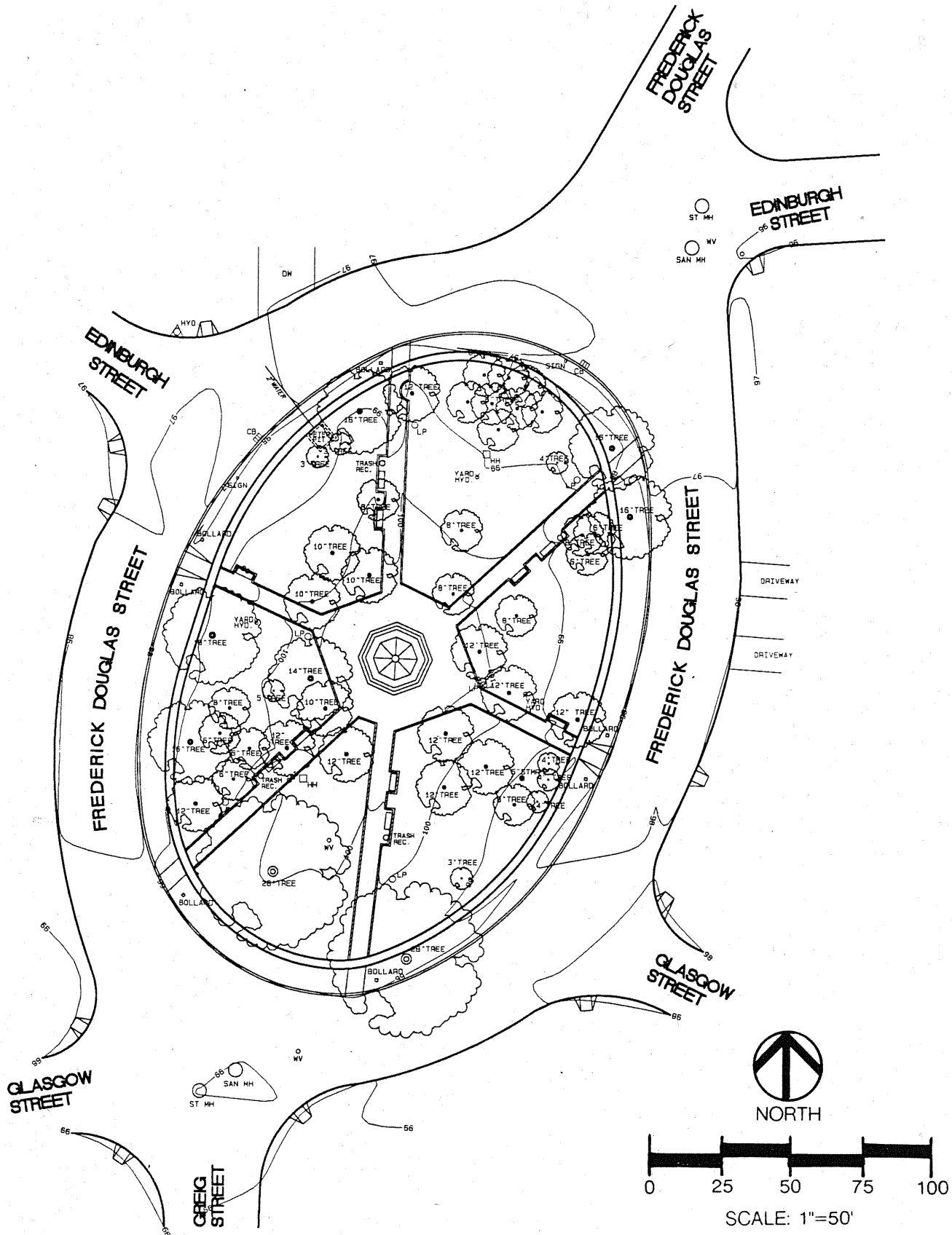
SCALE: 1"=100'

EXISTING CONDITIONS PLAN

prepared for: CITY OF ROCHESTER - BUREAU OF PARKS
 prepared by: CLARK PATTERSON ASSOCIATES - ROCHESTER, N.Y.
 LANDSCAPES - WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT

JONES PARK

DECEMBER, 1994



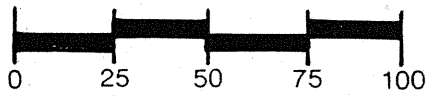
EXISTING CONDITIONS PLAN

prepared for: CITY OF ROCHESTER - BUREAU OF PARKS

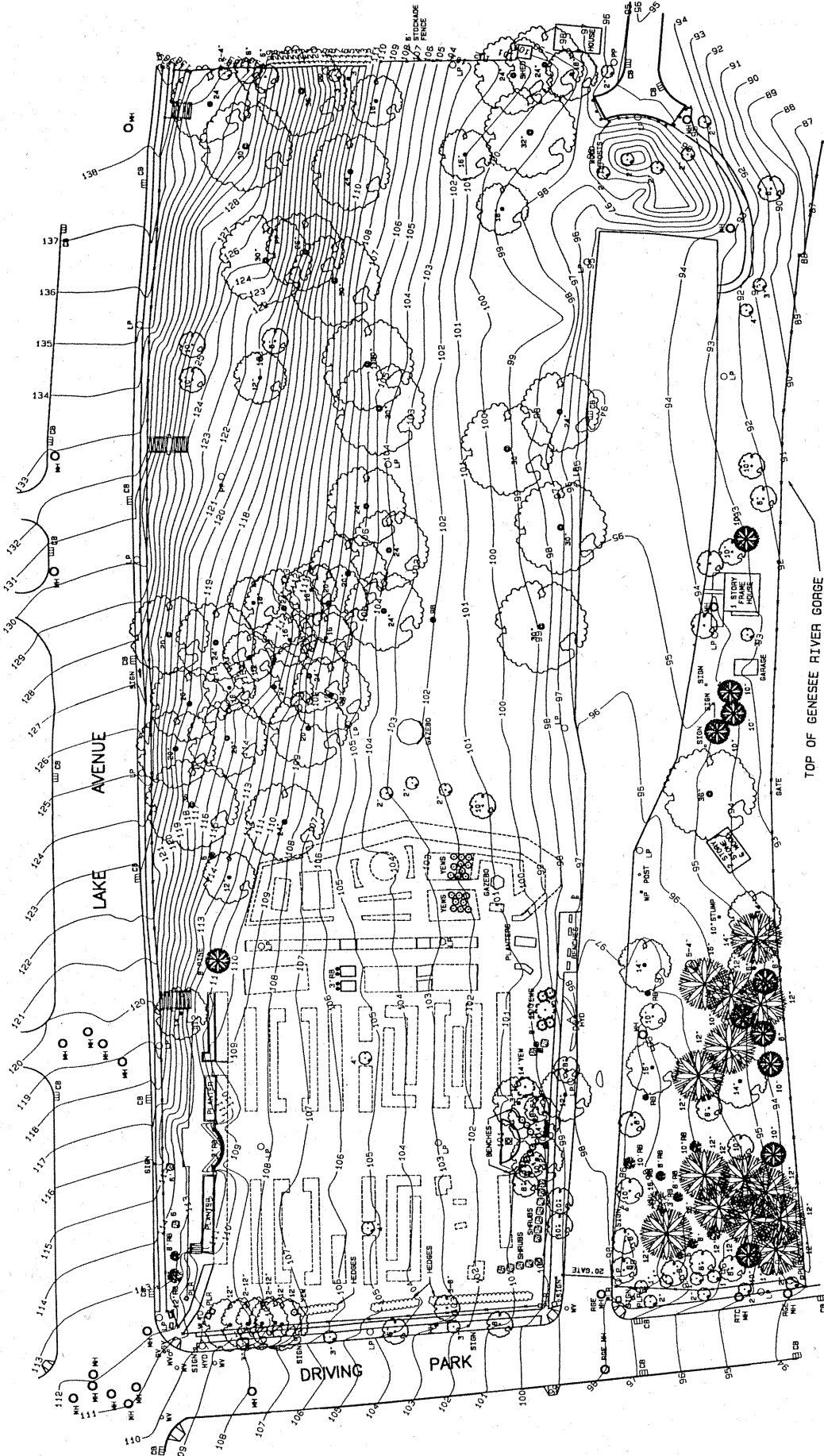
prepared by: CLARK PATTERSON ASSOCIATES - ROCHESTER, N.Y.
 LANDSCAPES - WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT

LUNSFORD CIRCLE

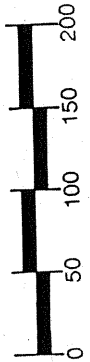
DECEMBER, 1994



SCALE: 1"=50'



NORTH

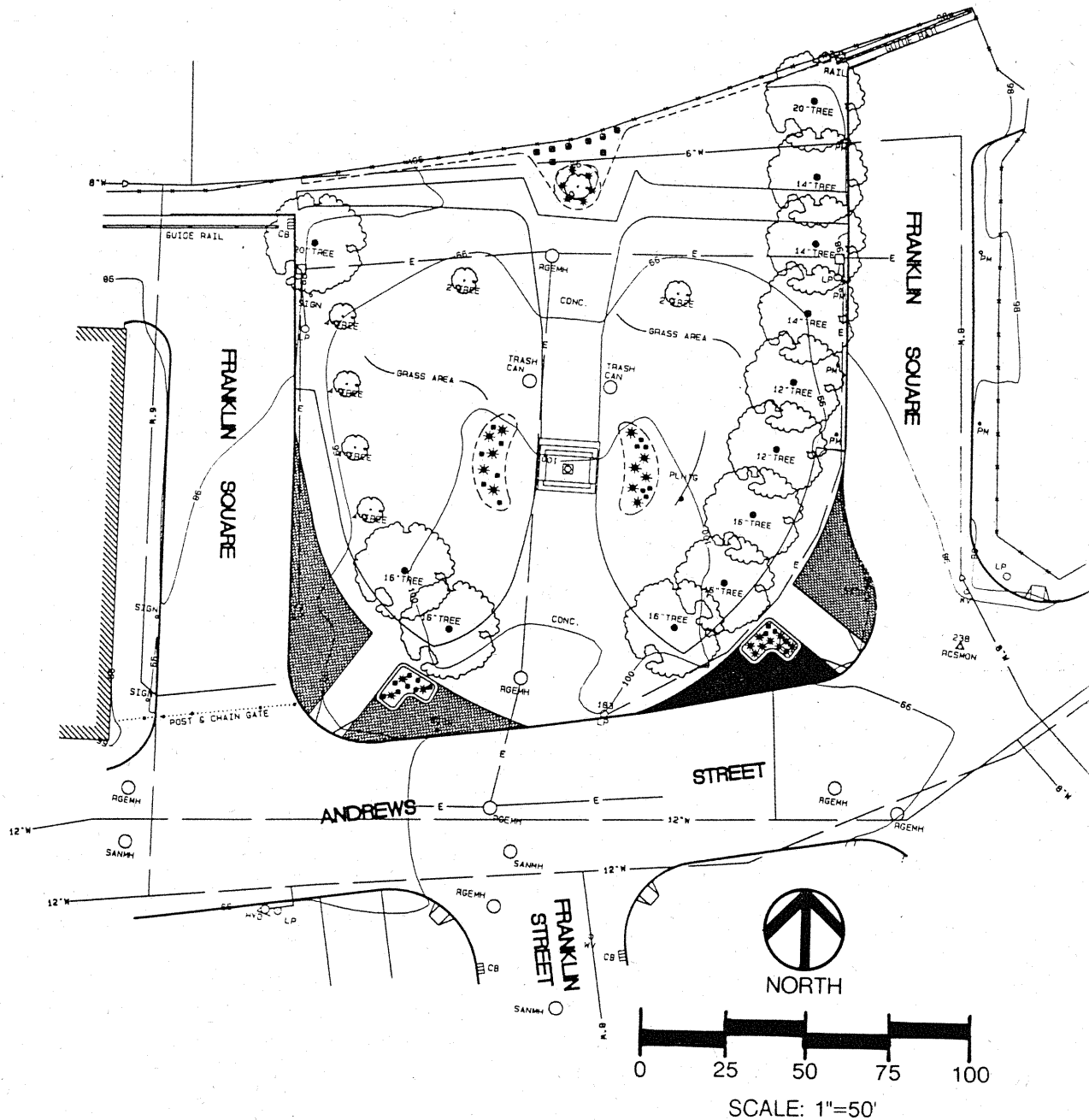


SCALE: 1"=100'

EXISTING CONDITIONS PLAN • MAPLEWOOD PARK AND ROSE GARDEN

DECEMBER, 1994

prepared for: CITY OF ROCHESTER - BUREAU OF PARKS
 prepared by: CLARK PATTERSON ASSOCIATES - ROCHESTER, N.Y.
 LANDSCAPES - WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT



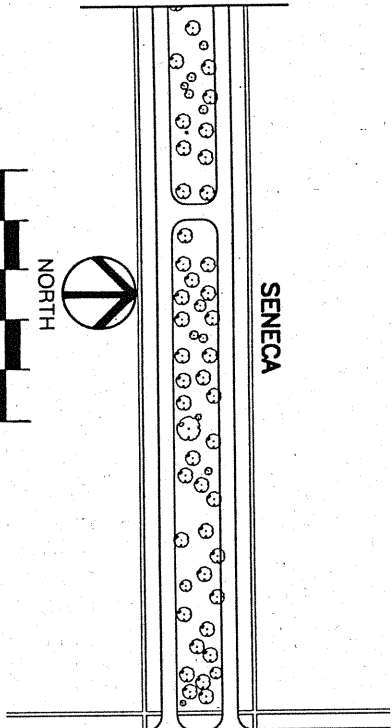
EXISTING CONDITIONS PLAN

prepared for: CITY OF ROCHESTER - BUREAU OF PARKS
 prepared by: CLARK PATTERSON ASSOCIATES - ROCHESTER, N.Y.
 LANDSCAPES - WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT

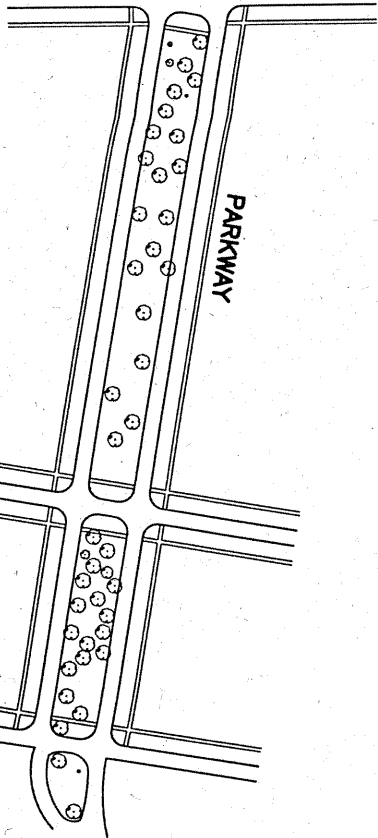
SCHILLER PARK

DECEMBER, 1994

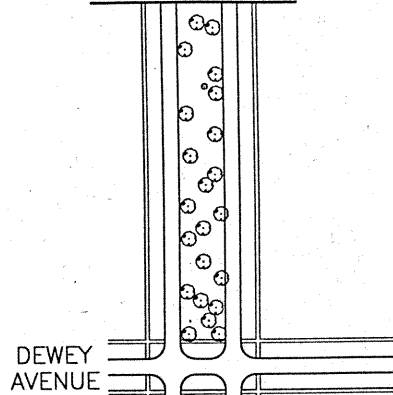
MATCH TO ABOVE RIGHT



LAKE AVENUE



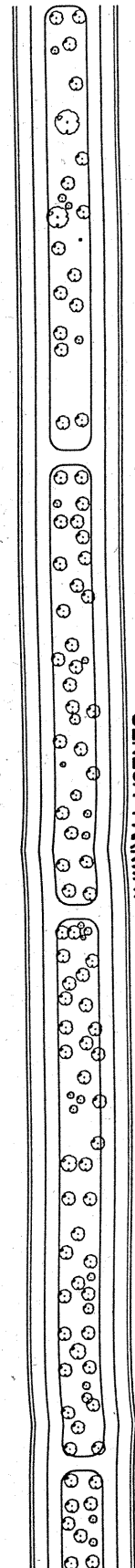
MATCH TO ABOVE RIGHT



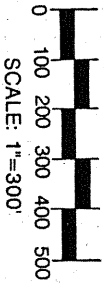
DEWEY AVENUE

RAINES PARK

MATCH TO BELOW LEFT



MATCH TO BELOW LEFT



EXISTING CONDITIONS PLAN

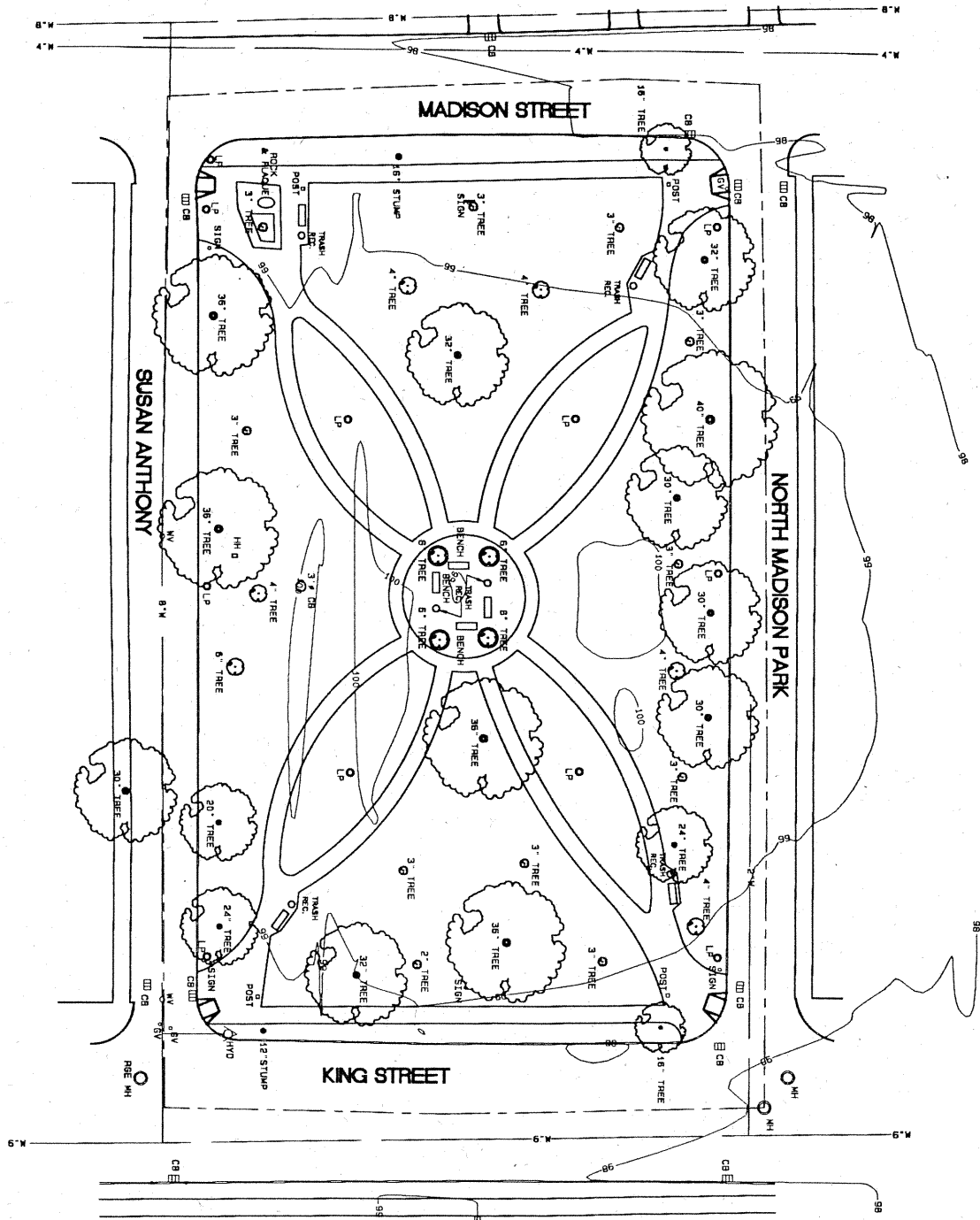
prepared for: CITY OF ROCHESTER - BUREAU OF PARKS
 prepared by: CLARK PATTERSON ASSOCIATES - ROCHESTER, N.Y.
 1 ANNCADEE WEGTDOBT KONNECTIUT

SENeca PARKWAY

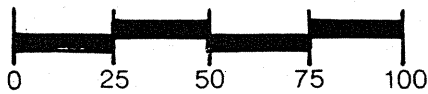
D BER, 1994

MAPLEWOOD AVENUE

PARK VIEW



NORTH



SCALE: 1"=50'

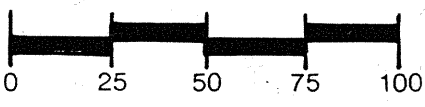
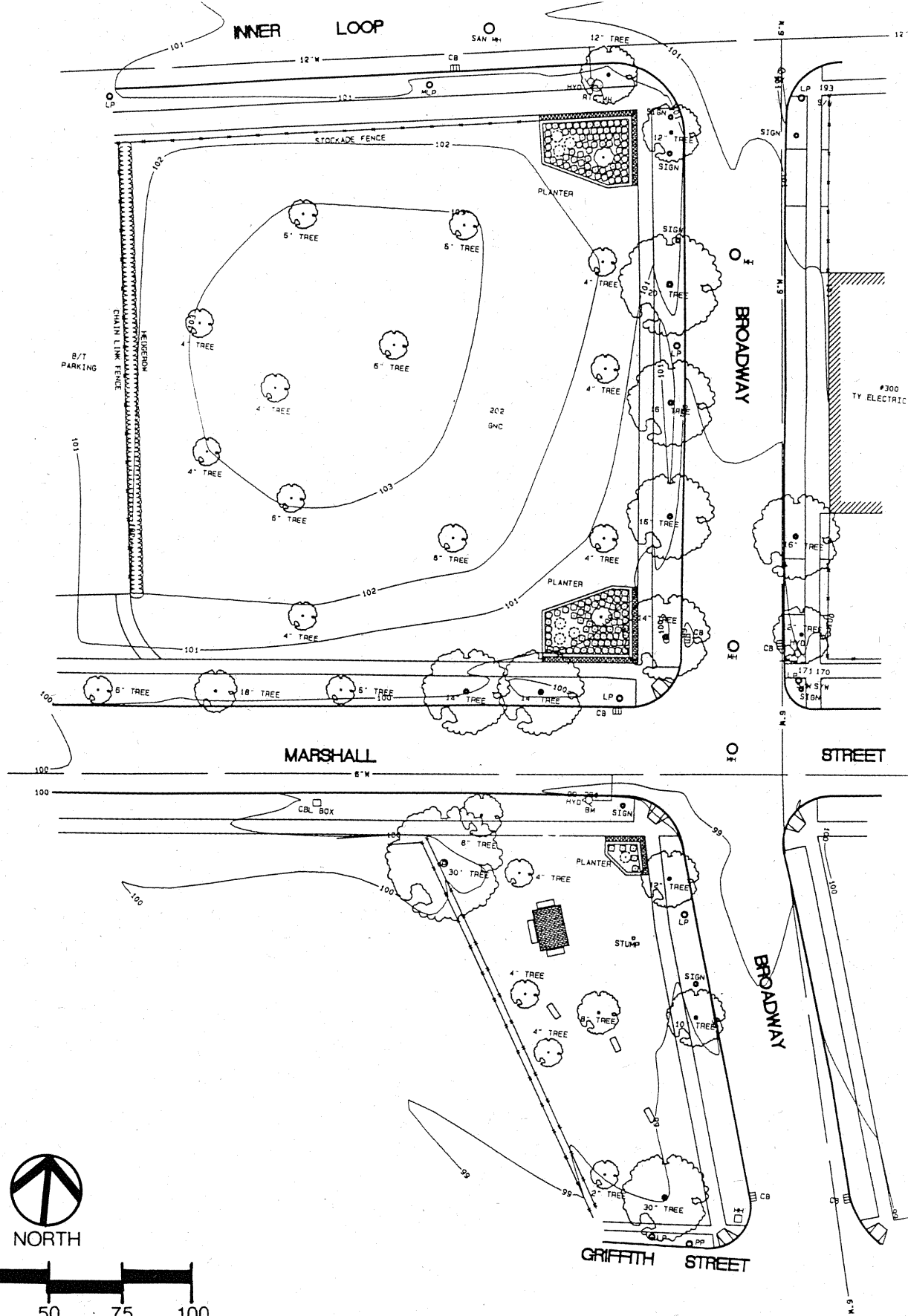
EXISTING CONDITIONS PLAN

SUSAN B. ANTHONY PARK

prepared for: CITY OF ROCHESTER - BUREAU OF PARKS

DECEMBER, 1994

prepared by: CLARK PATTERSON ASSOCIATES - ROCHESTER, N.Y.
 LANDSCAPES - WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT



SCALE: 1"=50'

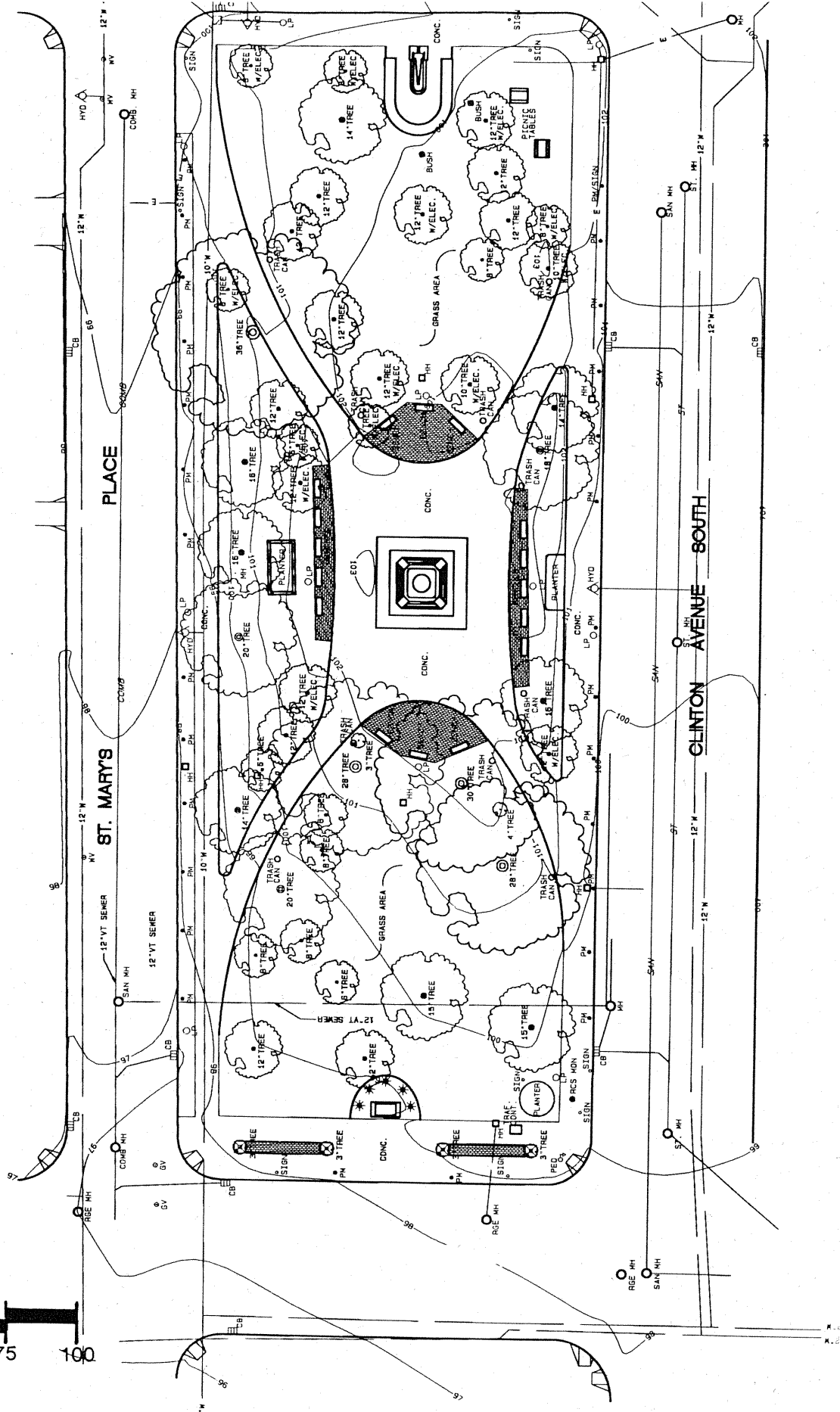
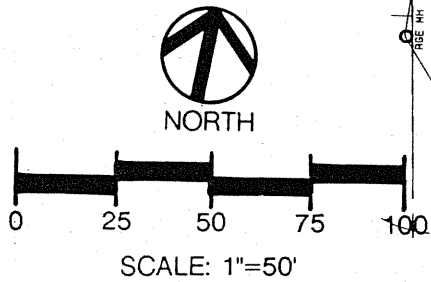
EXISTING CONDITIONS PLAN

WADSWORTH SQUARE

prepared for: CITY OF ROCHESTER - BUREAU OF PARKS

DECEMBER, 1994

prepared by: CLARK PATTERSON ASSOCIATES - ROCHESTER, N.Y.
 LANDSCAPES - WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT



EXISTING CONDITIONS PLAN

WASHINGTON SQUARE

prepared for: CITY OF ROCHESTER - BUREAU OF PARKS

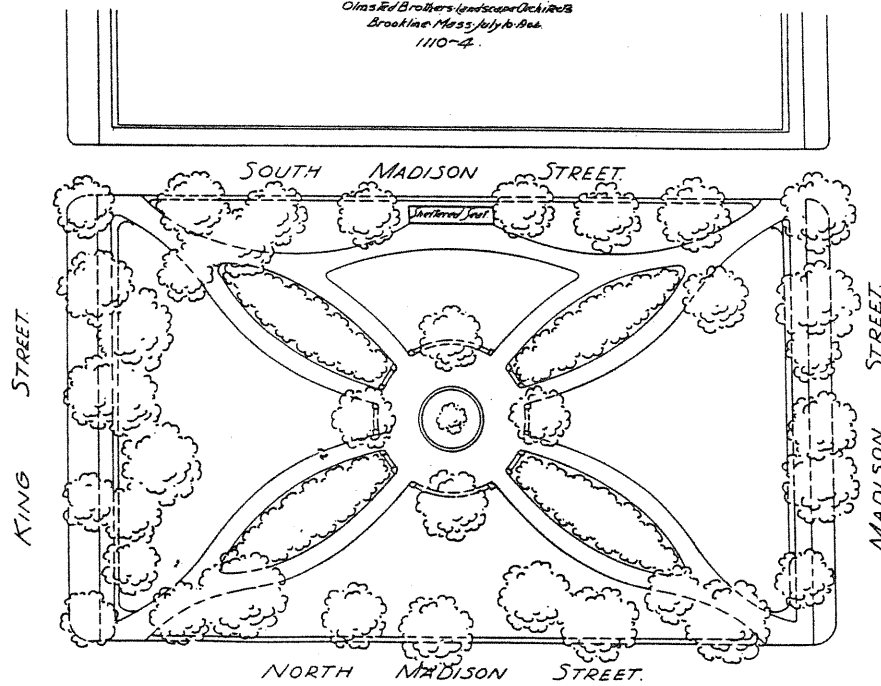
DECEMBER, 1994

prepared by: CLARK PATTERSON ASSOCIATES - ROCHESTER, N.Y.
 LANDSCAPES - WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT

APPENDIX C

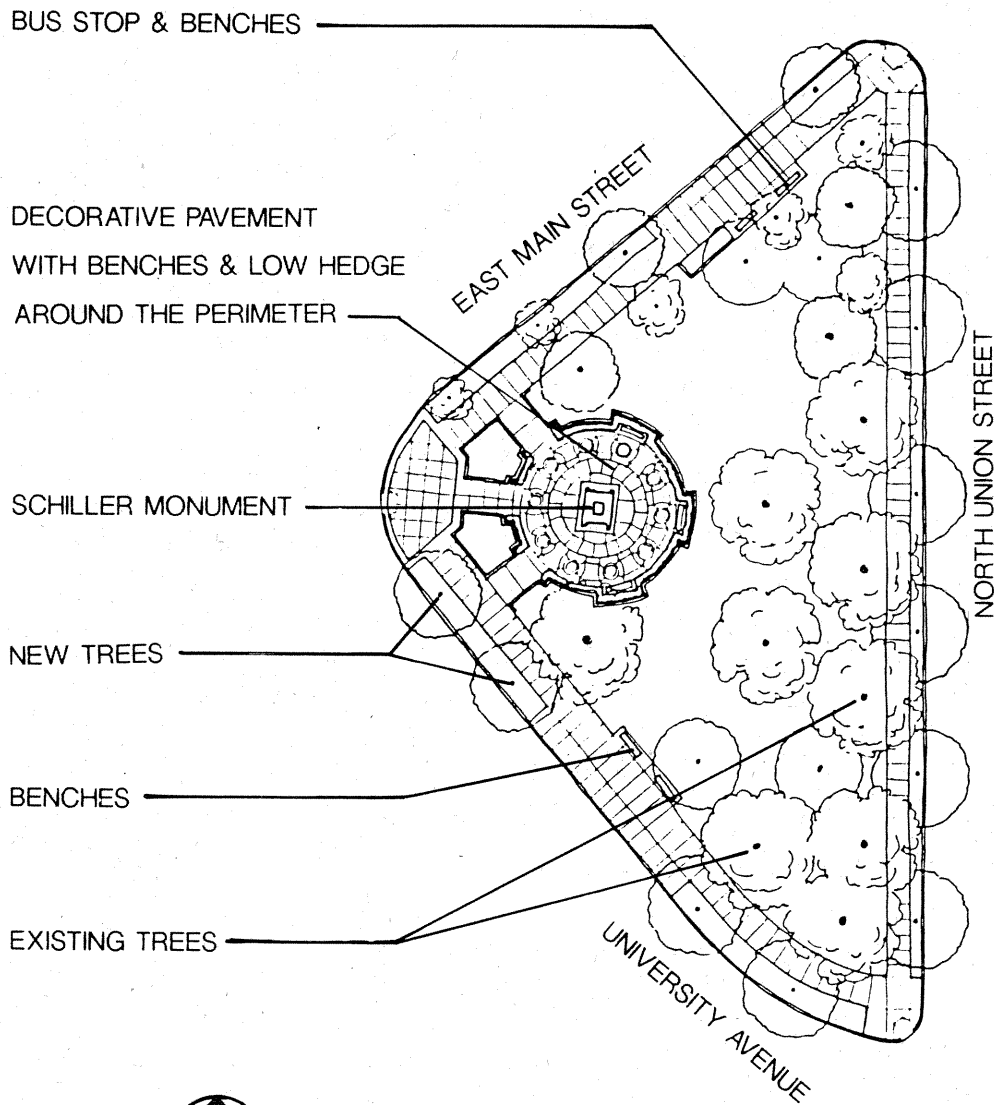
MADISON SQUARE
ROCHESTER, N.Y.
REVISED PRELIMINARY PLAN ~
SCALE 30'-1"

Olmsted Brothers Landscape Architects
Brookline, Mass. July 16, 1905
1110-4



Slope to gutter on this side

APPENDIX C:
INDIVIDUAL PARK PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT PLANS



BUS STOP & BENCHES

DECORATIVE PAVEMENT
WITH BENCHES & LOW HEDGE
AROUND THE PERIMETER

SCHILLER MONUMENT

NEW TREES

BENCHES

EXISTING TREES

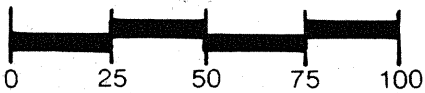
EAST MAIN STREET

NORTH UNION STREET

UNIVERSITY AVENUE



NORTH



SCALE: 1"=50'

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT PLAN

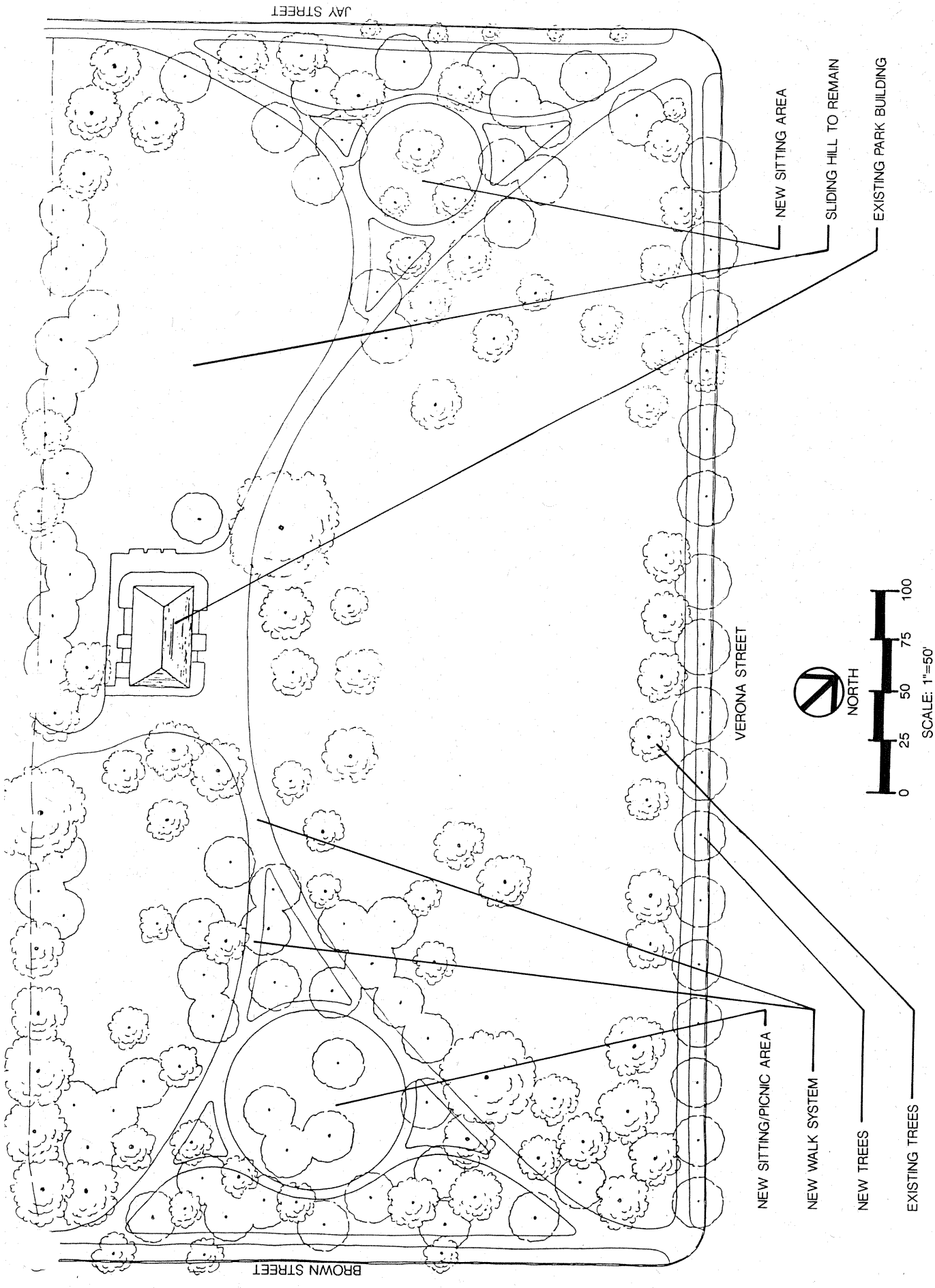


ANDERSON TRIANGLE

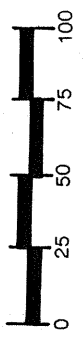
prepared for: CITY OF ROCHESTER - BUREAU OF PARKS

DECEMBER, 1994

prepared by: CLARK PATTERSON ASSOCIATES - ROCHESTER, N.Y.
LANDSCAPES - WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT



NORTH



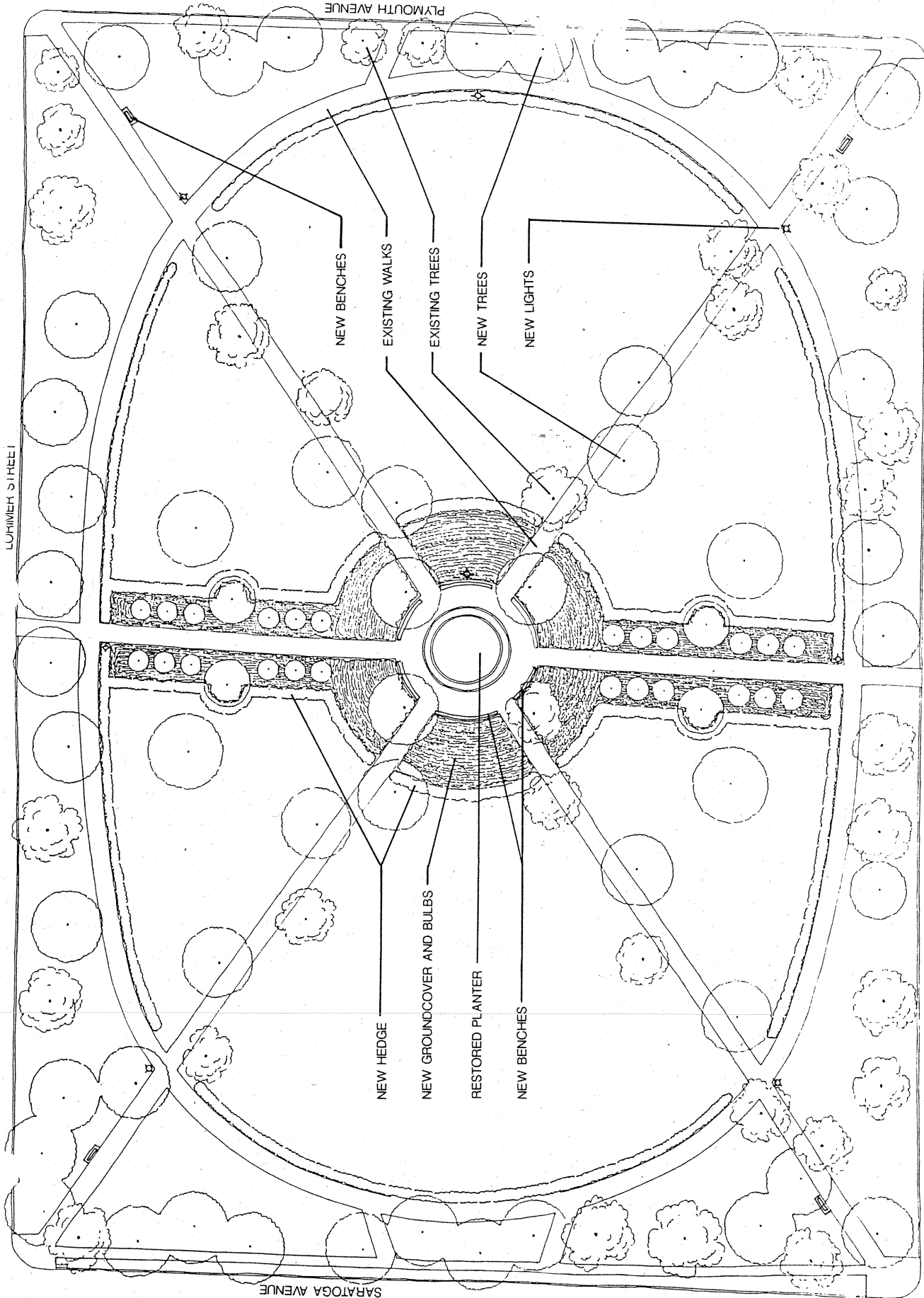
SCALE: 1"=50'

- NEW SITTING AREA
- SLIDING HILL TO REMAIN
- EXISTING PARK BUILDING
- NEW SITTING/PICNIC AREA
- NEW WALK SYSTEM
- NEW TREES
- EXISTING TREES

BROWN SQUARE
 DECEMBER, 1994

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT PLAN

● prepared for: CITY OF ROCHESTER - BUREAU OF PARKS
 prepared by: CLARK PATTERSON ASSOCIATES - ROCHESTER, N.Y.
 LANDSCAPES - WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT

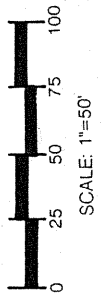


LUMBER SHEET

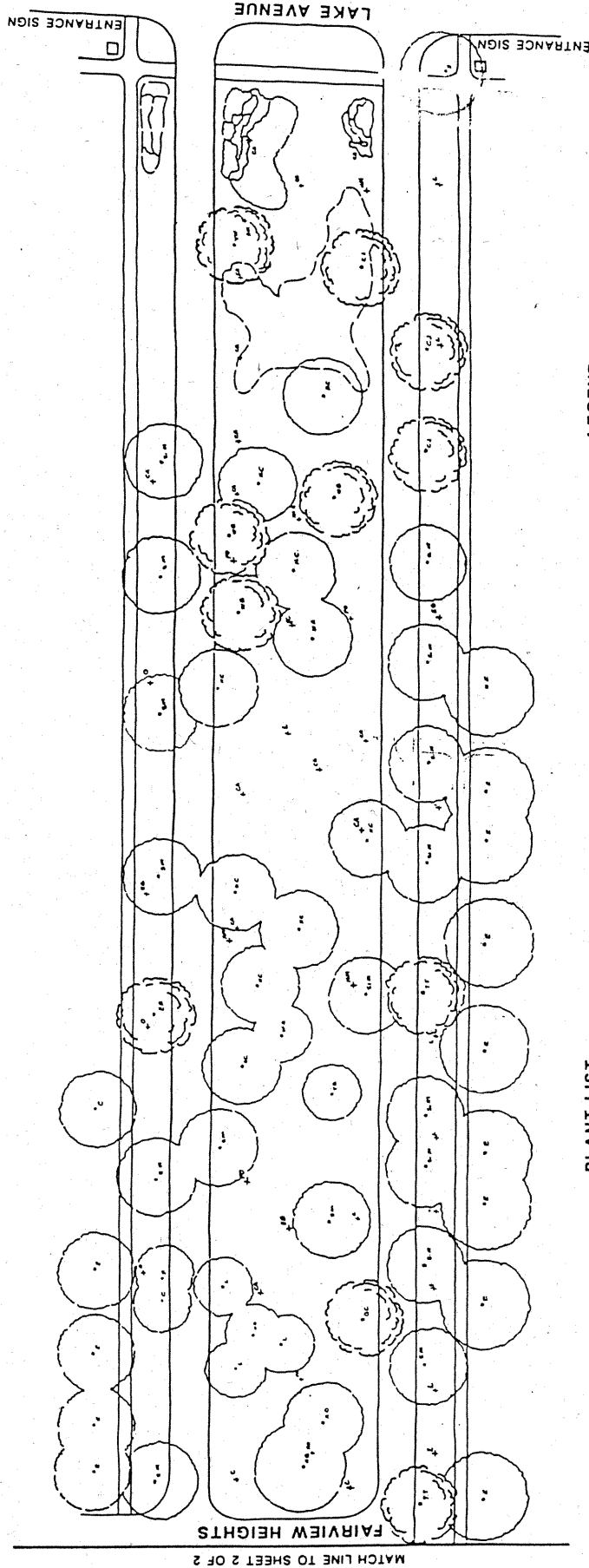
JONES PARK
DECEMBER, 1994

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT PLAN

prepared for: CITY OF ROCHESTER - BUREAU OF PARKS
prepared by: CLARK PATTERSON ASSOCIATES - ROCHESTER, N.Y.
LANDSCAPES - WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT



JONES AVENUE



MATCH LINE TO SHEET 2 OF 2

PLANT LIST

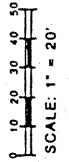
| Existing trees prior to Olmsted Plan | Olmsted Plan Additions | Post Olmsted Plan | Legend |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--|
| AB - American Beech | CJ - Chinese Cherry | A - Ash | Existing trees prior to the Olmsted Plan |
| C - Catalpa | EB - European Beech | App - Apple | Trees proposed by the Olmsted Plan |
| E - Elm | F - Fringetree | C - Cherry | Trees planted after the Olmsted Plan |
| HC - Horsechestnut | GC - Golden Chain | CA - Crabapple | Some shrub beds proposed by the Olmsted Plan |
| RO - Red Oak | P - Pear | G - Ginkgo | |
| SM - Sugar Maple | RB - Red Bud | HM - Hedge Maple | |
| SIM - Silver Maple | SB - Silver Bell | LP - London Planetree | |
| WA - White Ash | TT - Tuliptree | M - Maple | |
| WB - White Birch | | MIA - Mountain Ash | |
| YW - Yellowwood | | NM - Norway Maple | |
| F - Fringe Tree | | O - Oak | |
| YB - Yellow Birch | | PO - Pin Oak | |
| | | RM - Red Maple | |
| | | SG - Sweet Gum | |
| | | Z - Zelkova | |
| | | LL - Littleleaf Linden | |

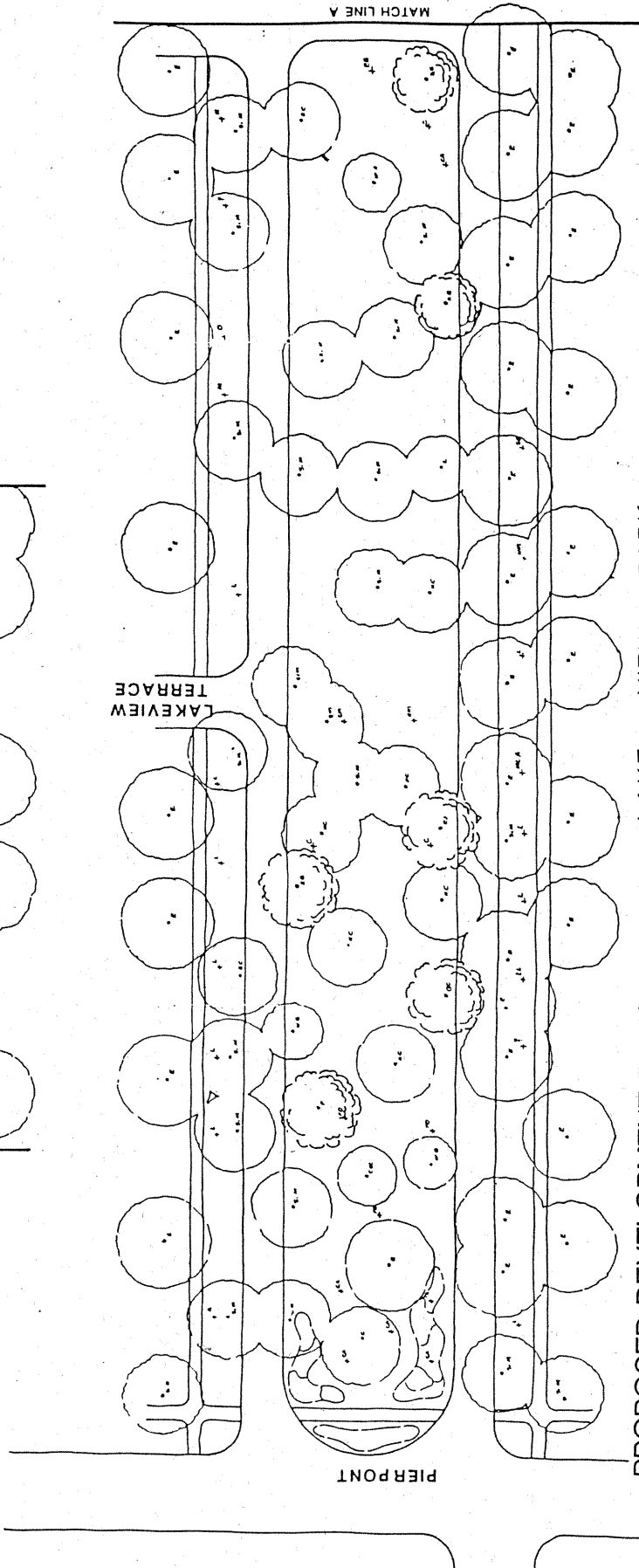
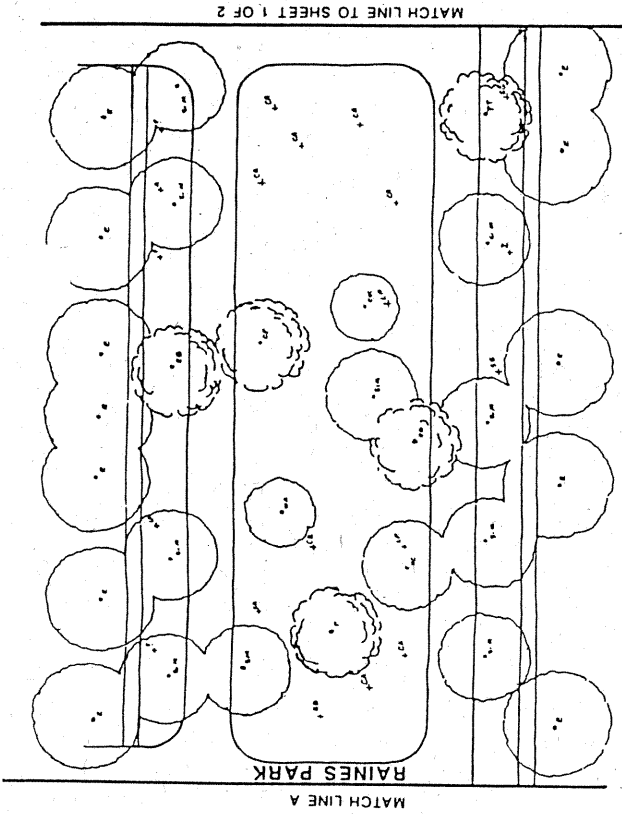
PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT PLAN

prepared for: CITY OF ROCHESTER - BUREAU OF PARKS
 prepared by: CLARK PATTERSON ASSOCIATES - ROCHESTER, N.Y.
 LANDSCAPES - WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT

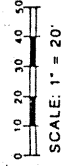
LAKE VIEW PARK

DECEMBER, 1994





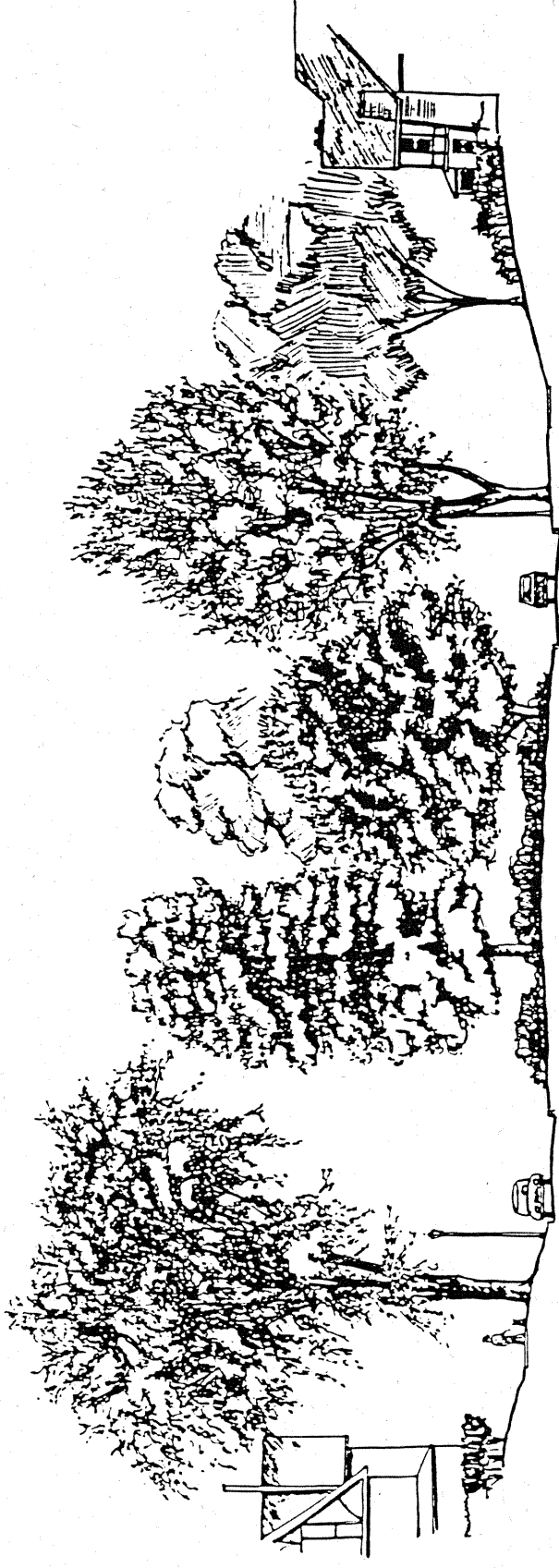
SHEET
2 OF 2



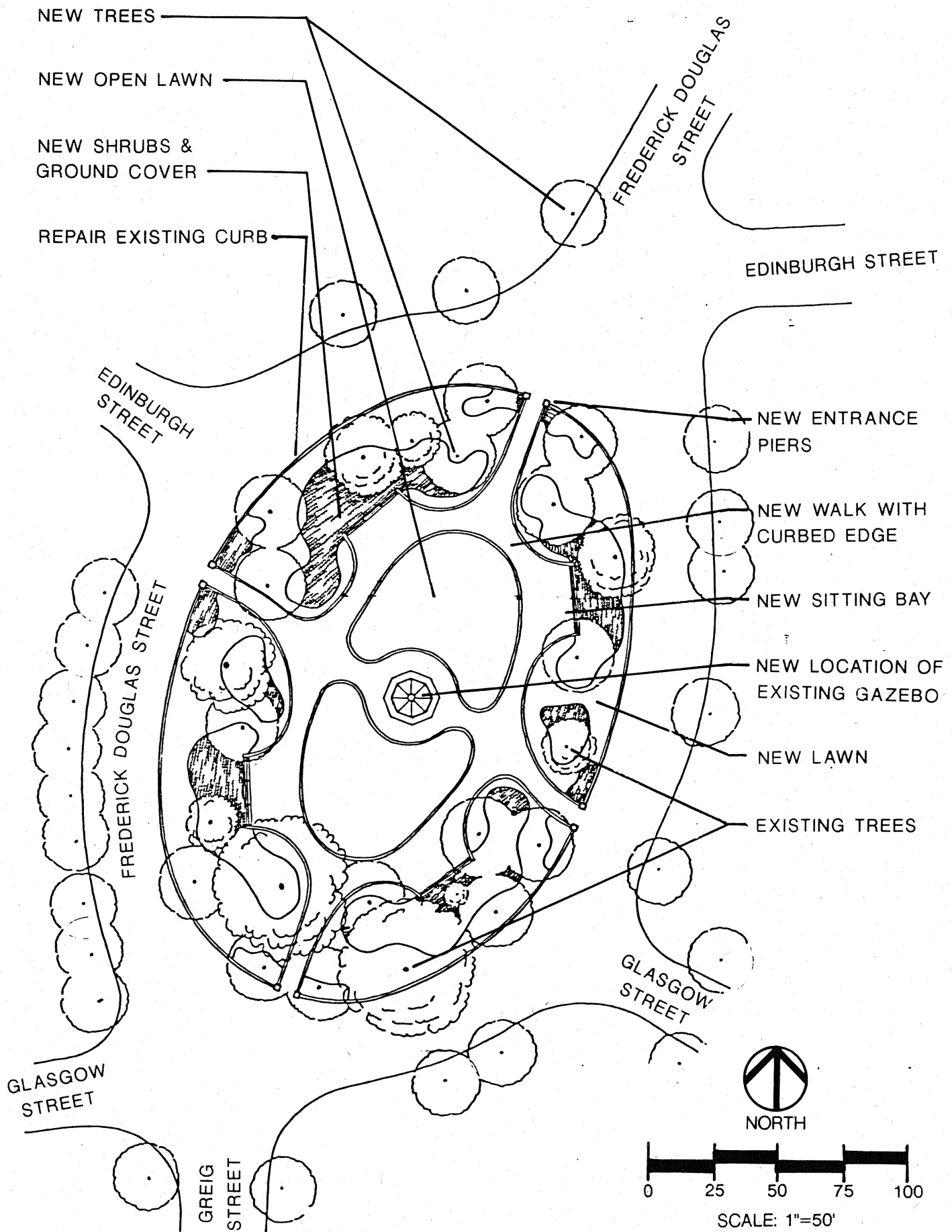
LAKE VIEW PARK
DECEMBER, 1994

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT PLAN

prepared for: CITY OF ROCHESTER - BUREAU OF PARKS
prepared by: CLARK PATTERSON ASSOCIATES - ROCHESTER, N.Y.
LANDSCAPES - WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT



LAKE VIEW PARK
ELEVATION LOOKING WEST FROM LAKE AVENUE



NEW TREES
 NEW OPEN LAWN
 NEW SHRUBS &
 GROUND COVER
 REPAIR EXISTING CURB

FREDERICK DOUGLAS
 STREET

EDINBURGH STREET

EDINBURGH
 STREET

NEW ENTRANCE
 PIERS

NEW WALK WITH
 CURBED EDGE

NEW SITTING BAY

NEW LOCATION OF
 EXISTING GAZEBO

NEW LAWN

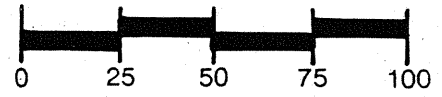
EXISTING TREES

FREDERICK DOUGLAS STREET

GLASGOW
 STREET

GLASGOW
 STREET

GREIG
 STREET



SCALE: 1"=50'

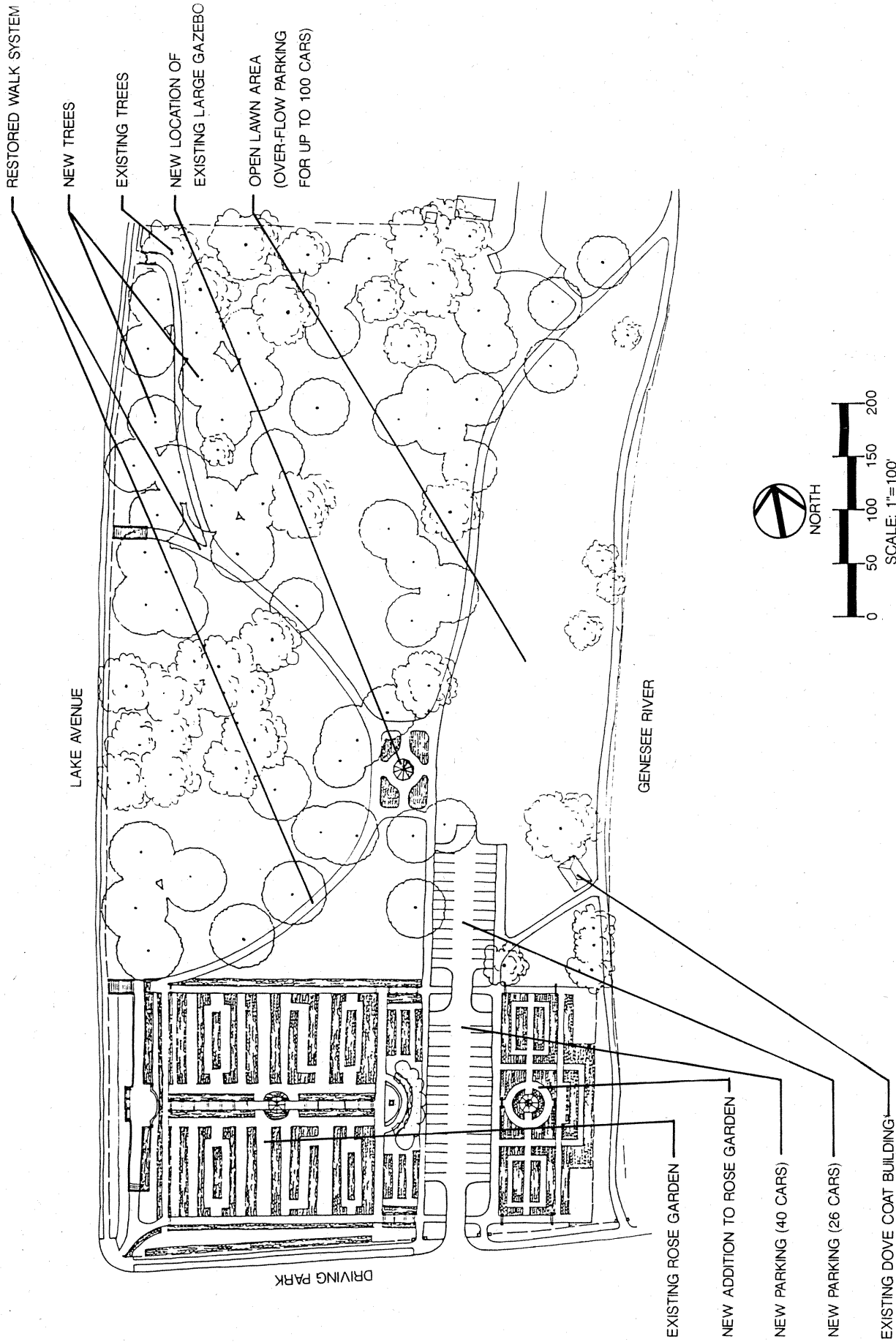
PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT PLAN

prepared for: CITY OF ROCHESTER - BUREAU OF PARKS

prepared by: CLARK PATTERSON ASSOCIATES - ROCHESTER, N.Y.
 LANDSCAPES - WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT

LUNSFORD CIRCLE

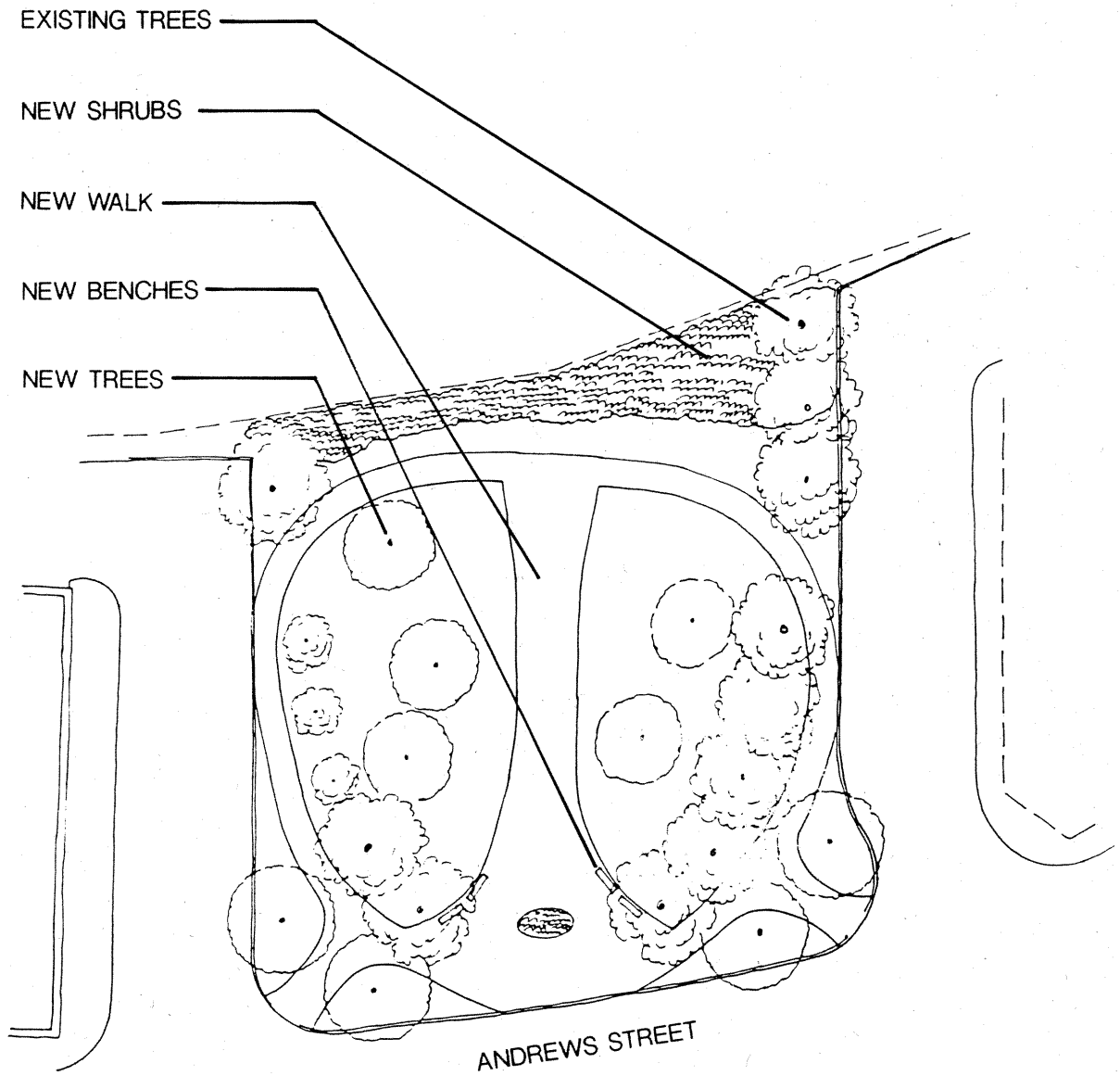
DECEMBER, 1994



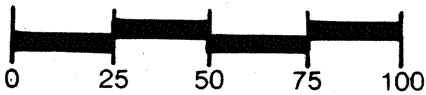
PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT PLAN • MAPLEWOOD PARK AND ROSE GARDEN

prepared for: CITY OF ROCHESTER - BUREAU OF PARKS
 DECEMBER, 1994

prepared by: CLARK PATTERSON ASSOCIATES - ROCHESTER, N.Y.
 LANDSCAPES - WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT



NORTH



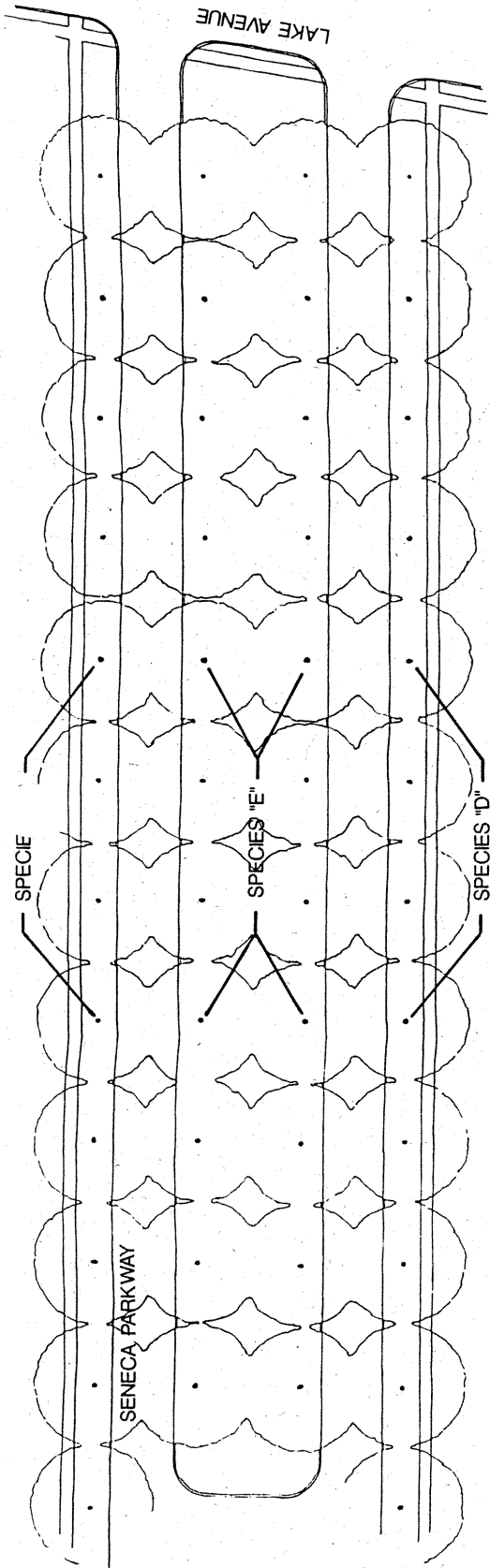
SCALE: 1"=50'

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT PLAN

prepared for: CITY OF ROCHESTER - BUREAU OF PARKS
 prepared by: CLARK PATTERSON ASSOCIATES - ROCHESTER, N.Y.
 LANDSCAPES - WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT

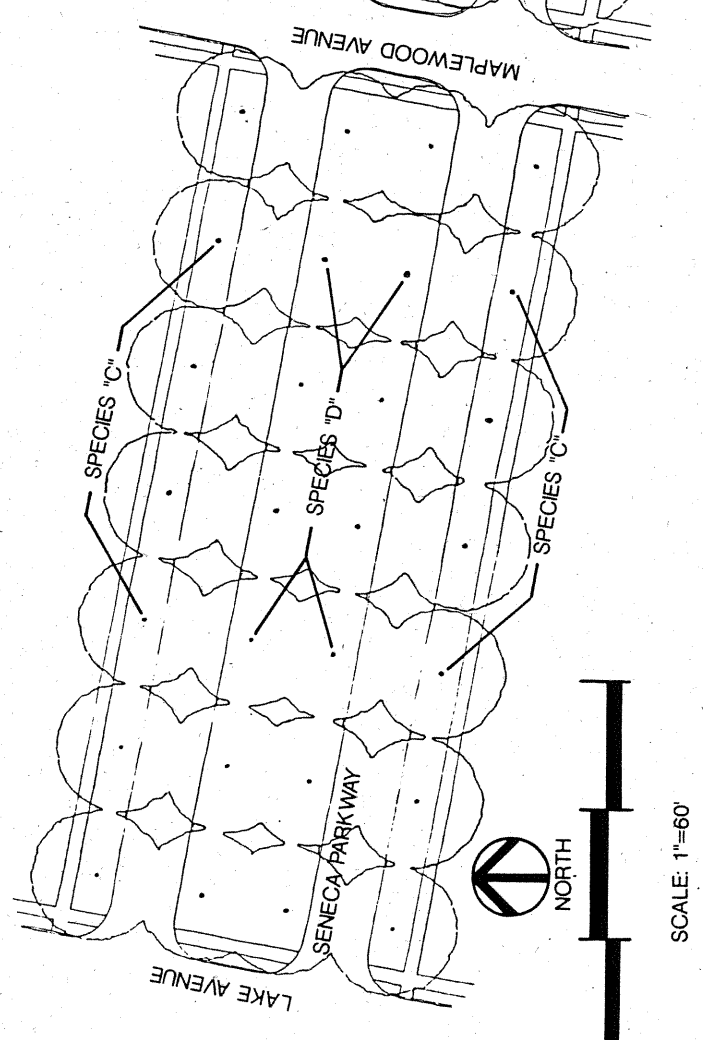
SCHILLER PARK

DECEMBER, 1994



EXISTING LAWN AREA

NEW TREES IN GRID PATTERN (4 TO 6 SPECIES)



EXISTING WALKS



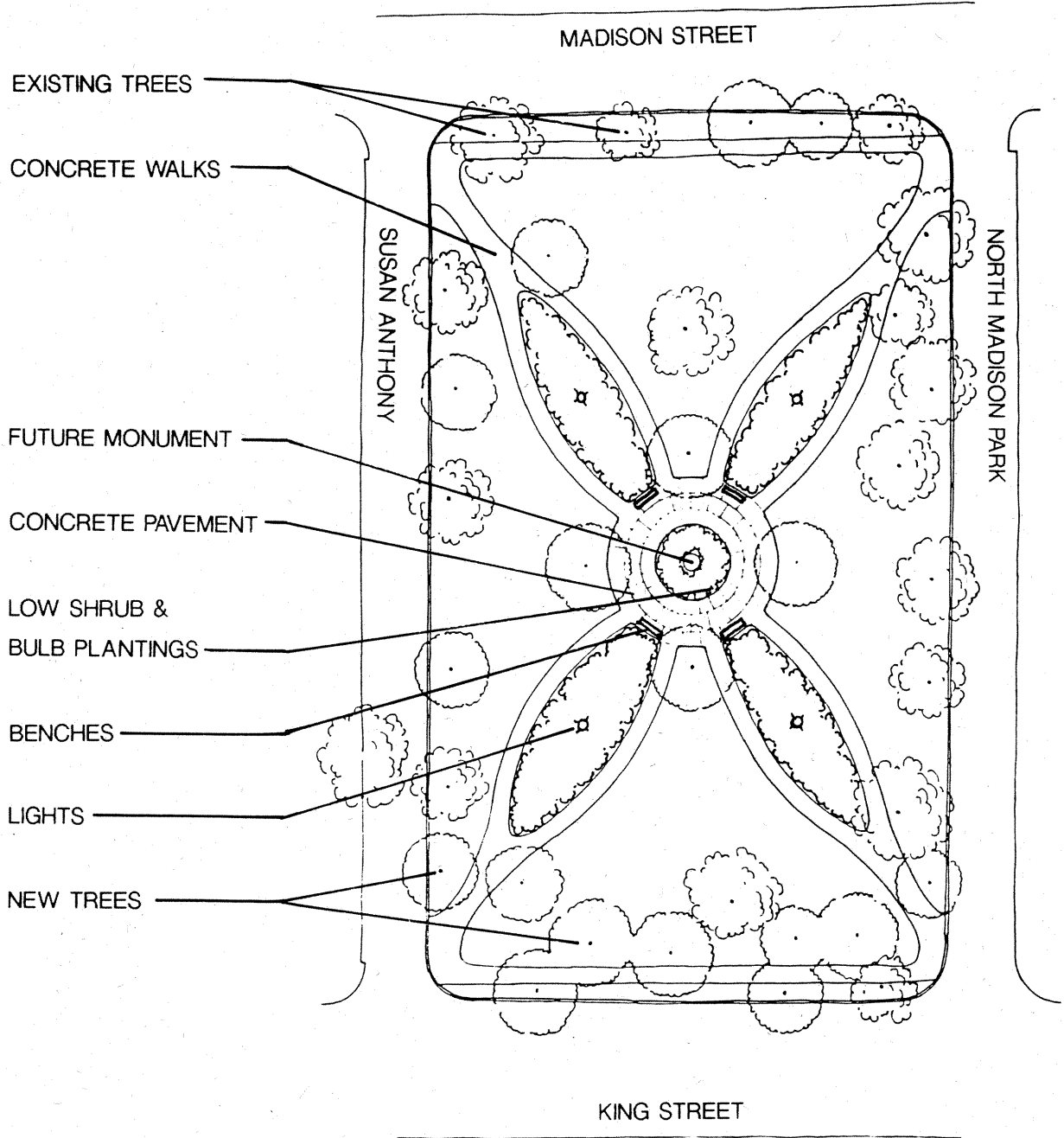
SCALE: 1"=60'

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT PLAN • TYPICAL LAYOUT AT SENECA PARKWAY

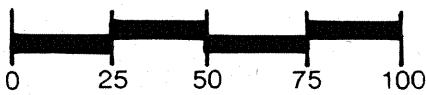
prepared for: CITY OF ROCHESTER - BUREAU OF PARKS

DECEMBER, 1994

prepared by: CLARK PATTERSON ASSOCIATES - ROCHESTER, N.Y.
LANDSCAPES - WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT



NORTH



SCALE: 1"=50'

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT PLAN

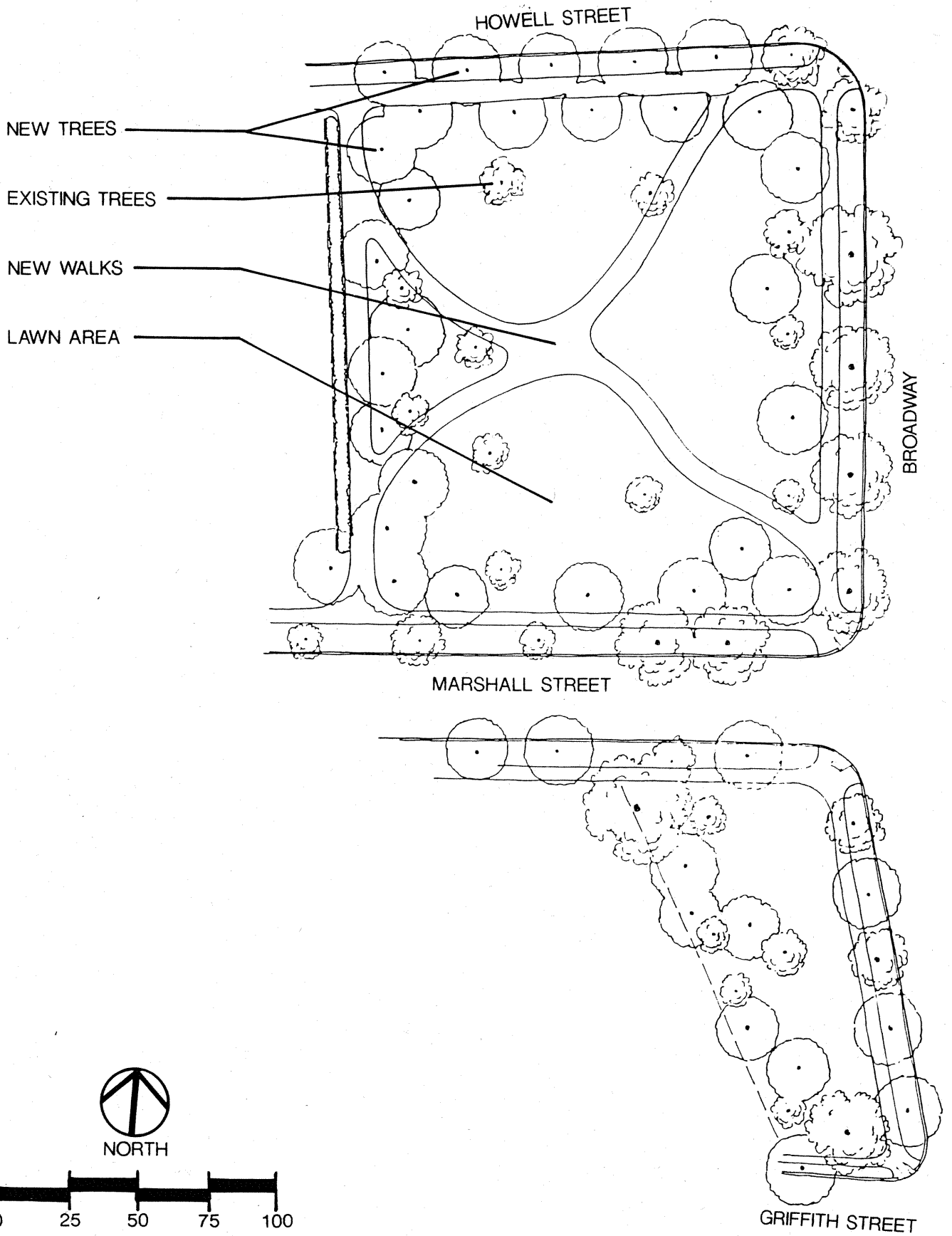


SUSAN B. ANTHONY PARK

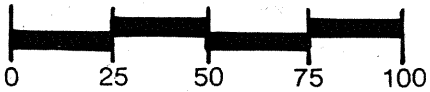
prepared for: CITY OF ROCHESTER - BUREAU OF PARKS

DECEMBER, 1994

prepared by: CLARK PATTERSON ASSOCIATES - ROCHESTER, N.Y.
 LANDSCAPES - WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT



NORTH



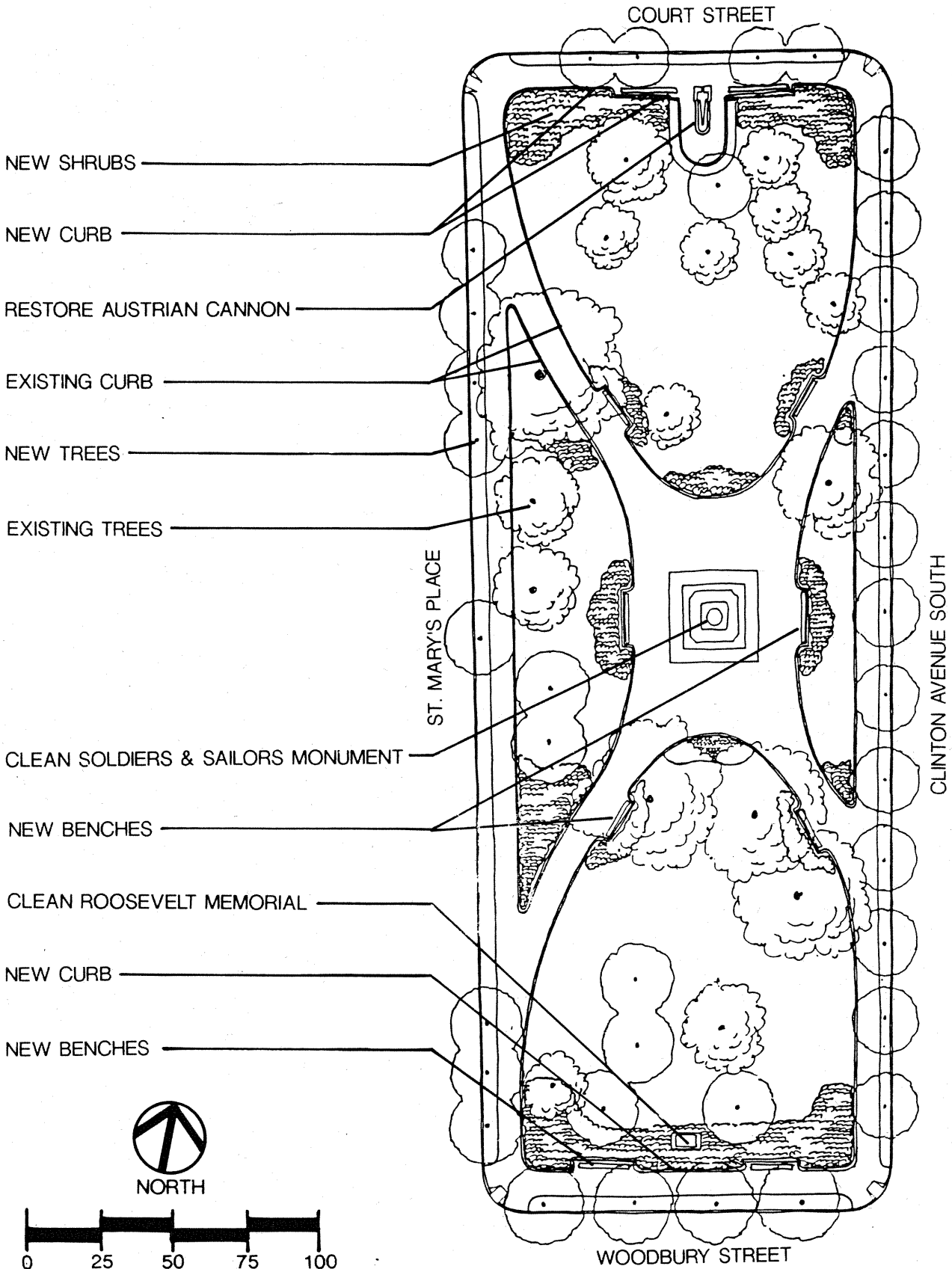
SCALE: 1"=50'

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT PLAN

prepared for: CITY OF ROCHESTER - BUREAU OF PARKS
 prepared by: CLARK PATTERSON ASSOCIATES - ROCHESTER, N.Y.
 LANDSCAPES - WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT

WADSWORTH SQUARE

DECEMBER, 1994



- NEW SHRUBS
- NEW CURB
- RESTORE AUSTRIAN CANNON
- EXISTING CURB
- NEW TREES
- EXISTING TREES
- CLEAN SOLDIERS & SAILORS MONUMENT
- NEW BENCHES
- CLEAN ROOSEVELT MEMORIAL
- NEW CURB
- NEW BENCHES

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT PLAN

WASHINGTON SQUARE

prepared for: CITY OF ROCHESTER - BUREAU OF PARKS

DECEMBER, 1994

prepared by: CLARK PATTERSON ASSOCIATES - ROCHESTER, N.Y.
 LANDSCAPES - WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT