

MEMORIAL PARK

Cultural Landscape Report

History, Existing Conditions, Analysis & Rehabilitation Plan



August 2002

Prepared for

City of Fort Wayne, Department of Parks & Recreation
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Prepared by

LANDSCAPES

Landscape Architecture • Planning • Historic Preservation
Charlotte, Vermont & Norwalk, Connecticut

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Inside Cover Photograph:: Memorial Dedication, November 11, 1928, 1928 Annual Report, p. 8,
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- PP AIR** 1949 Aerial Photograph
- PP LU** circa 1949 Landscape Units Plan

III. 2002 LANDSCAPE CHARACTER OF MEMORIAL PARK

- EC** 2002 Plan
- EC AIR** 1999 Aerial Photograph
- EC LU** 2002 Landscape Units Plan

VI. EXPLORATION, SELECTION & DESCRIPTION OF MEMORIAL PARK LANDSCAPE REHABILITATION TREATMENT PLAN

- RC** Rehabilitation Concepts Plan

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- RP** Rehabilitation Phasing Plan

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

There is a groundswell of interest in and enthusiasm for the parks of Fort Wayne in the community. This surge of attention has built on several recent initiatives for new and improved city parks and an infusion of new Fort Wayne Parks and Recreation leadership. The touch point for the efforts to address Fort Wayne's historic parks is the Friends of the Parks of Allen County. This city-wide advocacy group was instrumental in bringing Charles Birnbaum, FASLA, director of the National Park Service Historic Landscape Initiative, to Fort Wayne to speak to community leaders and interested citizens about the cultural and community value of Fort Wayne's historic park system. Pursuing the need for a greater understanding of the historic park and parkway legacy, a preservation grant was sought, received and matched with private funds through the Fort Wayne Park Foundation. These combined sources provided funds for this initial study of three historic parks, Lakeside, Memorial and Swinney Parks. This project has been funded in part by a United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service Historic Preservation Fund Grant administered by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology. The Fort Wayne Park Board appointed the Cultural Landscape Committee to engage with LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP in this project. Don Orban, Historic Preservation Planner, Planning Department, City of Fort Wayne served as the project director. The Cultural Landscape Committee, a diverse group of individuals, dedicated considerable time and effort to meetings, progress review and input. These dedicated individuals include:

Will Clark, Cultural Landscape Committee Chair and Member, Fort Wayne Park Foundation
Tom Cain, Senior Urban Designer, Division of Community & Economic Development, Fort Wayne
Kathy Callen, Member, Fort Wayne Board of Park Commissioners
Richard Cline, President, Swinney Park Restoration Group
Julie Donnell, President, Friends of the Parks of Allen County
Daniel Ernst, Vice President, Land Plan Group, Earth-Source, Inc.
Al Hofer, Swinney Park Neighbor
Dianne Hoover, CPRP, Director, Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation
Don Orban, Historic Preservation Planner, Planning Department, City of Fort Wayne
Angie Quinn, Director, ARCH
Rob Robinson, Memorial Park Neighbor
Pamela Schmidt, Lakeside Park Neighbor
Jody Hemphill Smith, Swinney Park Neighbor
Larry Walter, Manager of Landscape & Horticulture, Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation
Lorraine Weier, Lakeside Park Neighbor

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INTRODUCTION

The Memorial Park Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) is one of three reports addressing selected Fort Wayne historic parks for the City of Fort Wayne, the others being Lakeside Park and Swinney Park. LANDSCAPES Landscape Architecture•Planning•Historic Preservation was elected in a competitive process to serve as the project consultants working with the Fort Wayne community to understand the legacy of these three parks and, respecting that legacy, envision a vibrant future for these community resources. Fort Wayne has a rich inheritance of parks, often donated by local philanthropists that provide structure and beauty to the city. This Memorial Park CLR is faithful to the legacy and sets forth a vision for the thorough rehabilitation of this neighborhood park in the coming years.

The objective of this CLR is to enhance use and stewardship of this important property by following the specified steps to document the rich history and current conditions, analyze landscape change and continuity, and to determine and provide detail about the preferred approach to preservation treatment. The Memorial Park CLR addresses the required aspects of a cultural landscape report in accordance with federal guidance for cultural landscape preservation, with primary reference to the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Historic Preservation with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes*.

A Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) serves a valuable purpose in providing a comprehensive study of a historically significant property and creating a sound basis for a treatment that addresses contemporary needs while preserving cultural heritage. Part 1 of a CLR focuses on researching property history and evolution, documenting existing character of the property and analyzing the integrity of the landscape today. Part 2 of a CLR explores the application of the four preservation treatments to the subject property, selects the most appropriate treatment and provides guidance for the implementation of that treatment. CLR Part 3 records the treatment undertaken. The Memorial Park Cultural Landscape Report encompasses Parts 1 and 2.

This program has received federal financial assistance for the identification, protection, and/or rehabilitation of historic properties and cultural resources in the State of Indiana. Under title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Section 105 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, or disability in its federally assisted programs. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program activity, or facility as described above, or if you desire further information, please write to: Office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, N.W., Washington D.C. 20240.

This Cultural Landscape Report has been financed in part with federal funds from the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service. However, the contents and opinions contained in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Department of the Interior, nor does the mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendation by the United States Department of the Interior.

CHAPTER I: MEMORIAL PARK HISTORY

A. HISTORIC RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The history element of the Memorial Park CLR includes research and documentation to develop an understanding of the evolution of the landscape design, character and details over time, the important periods in the evolution of the landscape, and the period conditions and landscape character as an as-built record of the landscape. This thorough research effort involved the review of records held by regional repositories, including: State Boulevard and Lawton Park offices, City of Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation Department; City/County Building, Fort Wayne; Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne; Allen County-Fort Wayne Historical Society; Indiana State Archives, Indianapolis; and individual oral history contacts of several persons associated with the property. A wide variety of materials including published and unpublished text, annual park reports, historic photographs, historic aerial photographs, plans and surveys were gathered to provide evidence of property character and physical conditions.

B. INCEPTION: 1918

In 1918 the City of Fort Wayne purchased the former “golf grounds” from the White estate for \$40,000, providing the “long desired” park for the city’s eighth ward.¹ The 35-acre grounds were given the name Memorial Park “in recognition of the soldiers, sailors and nurses of Fort Wayne and Allen County, in the great world war in which we have been engaged”.² That year a topographic survey was conducted and Adolph Jaenicke, Park Superintendent and City Forester, drafted a plan for the park, which was included in the 1918 Annual Report. Jaenicke’s initial design, shown in Figure I.1, featured a “memorial grove” of long-lived trees that were to be planted to commemorate those who died during the war in the service of their country, among whom was Jaenicke’s son.³ It was anticipated that this grove would number 125, and each tree was to be fitted with a plaque containing the name of the individual for whom it was planted.⁴ The grove was to be located within an elliptical drive that encircled the highest ground of the park, at the center of which Jaenicke planned the placement of an obelisk. The inspiration for the memorial was embodied in the following verse by Bliss Carman:

In that new world which we shall make
For Freedom and for Justice’s sake,
When all the hell of war is passed
And we have established peace at last.
When gladness shall go hand in hand
With victory across the land.
There will be honor, love and tears
For those who fought among their peers
And fell, before the heathen guns,
To save their country for their sons.

What of the men who cannot see
Their flags that wave for victory,
Who cannot follow when the drums
Proclaim the conquering hero comes –
The broken men who, after war,
Can walk in their old ways no more,
Who stood to save the mighty day
And flung their youthful best away?
How shall their dear gift be repaid
When this old world has been re-made?

They shall not lose their modest pride
Nor high ambition cast aside,
But serving ever they shall stand,
Among the great determined band
Who dared, and still must dare, to save
The free republic of the brave.
Such souls shall never know despair,
Nor be less valiant than they were,
But front the future unafraid
In the fair world they will have made.⁵

The new park was not to be devoted entirely to commemoration, however, as elements of active and passive recreation were shown dispersed throughout the park on Jaenicke's plan. Two baseball diamonds are shown, as well as six tennis courts, a wading pool and a children's playground. The flowing park drives and walks were to include landscaped triangular intersections, and significant gardens are shown at the park's two west entrances; a sunken garden in the southwest corner at the Maumee Avenue and Glasgow Avenue intersection, and a flower parterre in the northwest corner at the park drive extension of Washington Boulevard. An informally planted vegetative buffer shown around the park's periphery was planned to define the park boundaries and create a degree of separation from the surrounding city.

C. PARK CREATION: 1919-1949

Construction began in Memorial Park in 1919 with the renovation of an extant two-story brick house for use as a refectory and included an apartment for the park caretaker's family. The structure is identified on the Jaenicke plan as "Rest House". The commemorative landscape began to take form with the initial planting of the memorial grove. Other work accomplished that year included the removal of two or more extant barns and the addition of two tennis courts, a ball diamond and a drinking fountain.⁶ The playground was completed the following year, and a cannon taken during the war was placed in the park (its location was not identified).⁷

In 1921 an extensive planting effort was undertaken, when 1,500 trees were planted in the park in an attempt to provide shade "as soon as possible for the otherwise bare grounds".⁸ Construction on park drives was underway in 1923, when the playground was enlarged and put

under supervision. By 1923 Memorial Park had established itself as a popular picnicking location.⁹

In 1923 four acres of “beautifully wooded” land, also of the former White estate, were purchased by area residents and then added to the park.¹⁰ Park drive construction continued in 1924, and work on the Grotto was begun.¹¹ By 1925 this “reproduction in miniature of the Blue Grotto of Capri” was completed.¹² It was located in the southwest corner of the park with the “sunken garden” identified on the Jaenicke plan. The Grotto was a man-made cave, or series of three cave-like rooms, that were recessed into a tall bank and lit at night with blue lights. A view of the interior of the Grotto, shown in Figure I.2, shows a shallow pool with a naturalized rock edge, mortared rock walls and concrete stalagmites and stalactites. A 40’ diameter basin containing a fountain that sprayed 30’ into the air was located above and east of the Grotto. The fountain fed a waterfall and pools in the Grotto. The sunken garden contained flowerbeds and large lily ponds that were situated in front of the Grotto. Large evergreen trees were planted around the Grotto and at its entrance.¹³

Over the next two years construction efforts focused on the completion of the park drives, which were opened for general use in 1928. Steep topography had required severe road cuts, particularly on the park’s western edge. These cuts were aesthetically managed with the positioning of large rock massings along the banks, “giving them the effect of canyons”.¹⁴ When the park drives were opened they received a large amount of automobile traffic from commuters passing through the park en route to the Harvester Company factory.¹⁵ In 1930, a two hour traffic survey, conducted during the afternoon commute, recorded 1,200 automobiles passing through the park.¹⁶ Efforts were continued to enhance the drive-through experience by landscaping the triangular medians at drive intersections with planted “borders, evergreens and rock plants...approaching as near as possible the Flora of the Western States”.¹⁷

Between 1928 and 1930 three sculpted memorials were added to the park. On August 13, 1928 a column was dedicated in remembrance of Arthur Smith, Fort Wayne’s first aviator, or “bird boy”. His early test flights had been made from the “golf grounds” during the 1910s. Smith’s life was tragically ended in an accident while flying a night mail run for the U.S. Mail Service, February 13, 1926.¹⁸ The modified-Tuscan column, adorned with a life-size winged male figure, is shown draped with a flag on its dedication day in Figure I.3. The Italian-American sculptor James Novelli created the monument.¹⁹ It was placed on the highest ground in the park – the location of the proposed obelisk on the Jaenicke plan. The thoughtful positioning of the column, centered within the elliptical grove of memorial trees, bestowed a sense of order to this central landscape unit. Later that year, on Armistice Day, November 11, 1928 (now Veterans Day), the World War triumphal arch was dedicated (Figure I.4). On it were the names of 106 men and women from Allen County who had lost their lives during the war while in the service of their country.²⁰ The arch was placed on the west side of the park and oriented toward Glasgow Avenue. Unlike the centrally located Smith Memorial, this street-side orientation, established the arch as a significant cultural feature along the park’s peripheral landscape. The third memorial, dedicated on November 11, 1930, was raised to Olen J. Pond and veterans of the World War by Mrs. Olen J. Pond. The memorial was designed by the sculptor Frederick C. Hibbard and consisted of a “Memory”, a life-sized marble female figure, shown in Figure I.5. The sculpture was flanked by two drinking fountains and was placed east of the Grotto, oriented

south towards Maumee Avenue.²¹ Like the triumphal arch, the Pond Memorial became a visible feature along the park's peripheral edges, making full use of the opportunity to present the park's commemorative program to passing viewers.

The early 1930s saw continued expansion in the park. In 1930 and 1931 improvements were made to the Grotto and lily pools, seen in Figure I.6.²² The Grotto was a gateway attraction for tourists arriving in Fort Wayne by way of the "Lincoln Highway".²³ The supervised playground was also very popular and ranked as one of the most attended playgrounds in the city.²⁴ Further establishing the park's recreational scope, horseshoe courts were added in 1931 north of the refectory.²⁵

Documentary evidence of Memorial Park history through the remainder of the 1930s is very limited, as the Annual Reports were discontinued after 1933 because of the Great Depression and the World War II. However, a planimetric aerial photograph from 1938, shown in Figure I.7, provides an overview of park conditions. On the north side of the park the principal ball diamond can be seen, oriented to the southeast. A faint outline of a football field can also be seen overlapping the baseball outfield. What appears to be two smaller ball diamonds are located near the refectory; one next to the playground and the second north of the horseshoe pits. A path is visible leading south from the refectory, past the World War arch, to the Grotto. The clay surfaced tennis courts are visible in the south center of the park. The ellipse is fairly densely planted with the memorial grove, and vegetation can be seen massed around many of the park drives.

A significant addition to the park occurred in 1941, with the construction of a large stone pavilion on high ground west of the memorial grove. Architect Leroy Bradley designed the pavilion, and the Works Progress Administration (WPA) provided the labor and materials. The stone was salvaged from old foundations, sidewalks and bridge abutments, and hand-hewn oak beams supported the roof. The west wing of the pavilion was designed to house a park caretaker, and the east wing contained restrooms.²⁶

1944 saw a boost in the development of active recreation amenities in the park. An extensive redesign of Memorial Park was proposed in the citywide Long Range Recreation Plan. The plan, conducted for the city by the National Recreation Association, was studied in order to allow the park to more fully serve the needs of the local community. Proposed changes to Memorial Park were recorded in text and represented on the plan seen in Figure I.8. The plan called for the removal or realignment of many of the park's drives. Only the western edge of the ellipse was to remain intact, and a drive was to cut through the northern end of the memorial grove. Several parking pullouts were located along the proposed drive and a double-bay parking lot at the refectory entrance. The refectory building itself was to be removed and replaced with a bowling green, and the playground with a "clock golf-putting green". The playground function was to be relocated to the northeast corner of the park, in a new children's complex that included two small softball fields, a wading pool, a horseshoe court and a variety of hard-surfaced courts for basketball, handball, volleyball, paddletennis, badminton, deck tennis, shuffleboard, dancing, roller skating and ice skating. The planning process may have begun prior to the construction of stone pavilion, as the "park building" shown on the plan is shown north of the pavilion's actual location (or the NRA was proposing to move the building). A softball diamond was proposed on

the site of the pavilion, and the baseball diamond on the north side of the park was to be reoriented to the northeast. An archery ranged was proposed east of the baseball diamond. Extant park monuments and the Grotto were to be left in place, as were the tennis courts.²⁷

It is not known how the Memorial Park components of the NRA plan were received by the city or the general public. By 1949 the only physical change that appears to have been implemented according to the NRA plan was the reorientation of the ball diamond to the northeast. Improvements were made to the field in 1947, when the professional women's baseball team, the Fort Wayne Daisies, donated funds for fencing the ball diamond and installing bleachers and a press box, in exchange for the opportunity to play home games in the park.²⁸ The Fort Wayne Daisies, shown in Figure I.9, belonged to the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League from 1945, two years after the league's inception, until the end of the 1954 season, when the league folded.²⁹

Several other changes that were not shown on the 1944 NRA plan, including the widening of the drive from the northwest corner that angled southeast behind the new bleachers, toward the Art Smith monument. This was likely done to accommodate parking for ballgames. Another major addition was the swimming pool and bathhouse, seen in Figure I.10. The pool was completed in 1949 and was landscaped, dedicated and opened for use in 1950.³⁰

There does appear to be one significant removal prior to 1950. Though written documentation has not been found, it appears evident through a comparison of 1938, 1949 and 1956 aerial photographs that the Grotto and its pools and sunken gardens had been removed. The Grotto gardens are visible on the 1938 aerial and are included in the 1944 NRA report, but they appear to be only partially complete or in a state of removal in the 1949 aerial. By 1956 the only remnants of the Grotto visible in the aerial photograph were two sets of steps, some partial paths and trees on the bank.

D. CHANGE: 1950-1970s

While the 1940s represented the culmination of Memorial Park design, the 1950s marked the beginning of a substantial change in landscape character. Modifications to the park prior to 1950 were generally additive, as new elements were introduced without significant alteration or removal of other elements. Modifications that occurred in the decades that followed, however, often included the removal of extant features and the subsequent change of landscape character.

During the 1950s there were several significant deletions and modifications to Memorial Park. As seen in the 1956 aerial photograph, Figure I.11, a section of the northern park drive was converted into the multilane Washington Boulevard extension, which now converged with Maumee Avenue east of the park. As a result of the new road, the drive that had extended north from the memorial grove was realigned to intersect at a perpendicular angle with Washington Boulevard, and a triangular parking lot created from the old drive alignment. The refectory had been removed, as had the drive that had entered the park just north of it. In 1954 the Fort Wayne Daisies' Clubhouse had also been removed, and by 1956 some of the bleachers had as well.³¹

The deciduous and evergreen trees, however, appear to have remained largely intact in most areas of the park.

This was to change in the 1960s. In 1962 twenty-nine diseased elms were removed.³² By 1973 much of the memorial grove was bare, as were the formerly tree-lined drives, as seen in 1973 aerial photograph, Figure I.12. Also in 1962 the wooden bleachers on the south side of the ball diamond were removed and the concession building was relocated.³³

Additions during this decade included a service entrance from Washington Boulevard to the pool built in 1960 and a storage building to house supplies for the swimming pool, built in 1963.³⁴

CHAPTER I ENDNOTES

- ¹ Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette, December 31, 1922, section 4, page 3-4.
- ² 1918 Annual Report, p. 9. See also 1926 Annual Report, p. 15.
- ³ Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette, July 6, 1919, section 4, page 3.
- ⁴ Ibid. See also 1918 Annual Report, p. 11.
- ⁵ Ibid.
- ⁶ 1919 Annual Report, p. 24.
- ⁷ 1920 Annual Report, p. 28.
- ⁸ 1921 Annual Report, p. 28.
- ⁹ 1923 Annual Report, p. 18.
- ¹⁰ 1924 Annual Report, p. 11.
- ¹¹ 1925 Annual Report, p. 19.
- ¹² Ibid., p. 11, 19-21.
- ¹³ Ibid.
- ¹⁴ 1926 Annual Report, p. 15.
- ¹⁵ 1928 Annual Report, p. 19.
- ¹⁶ 1930 Annual Report, p. 21.
- ¹⁷ Ibid.
- ¹⁸ Plaque on a memorial in the Fort Wayne International Airport, Fort Wayne, Indiana.
- ¹⁹ Murphy, Josephine. "Reduced to Rubble: James Novelli's Victory". http://dsc.gc.cuny.edu/part/part6/articles/jmurph_print.html. 2000.
- ²⁰ 1928 Annual Report, p. 19.
- ²¹ 1930 Annual Report, p. 11-13.
- ²² 1930 Annual Report, p. 11-13 and 1931 Annual Report, p. 19.
- ²³ 1929 Annual Report, p. 27.
- ²⁴ 1930 Annual Report, p. 21.
- ²⁵ 1931 Annual Report, p. 13.
- ²⁶ Newspaper articles from the Parks and Recreation Department scrapbook dated August 1941, vol. 1944.
- ²⁷ Long Range Recreation Plan, 1944, p. 47-49.
- ²⁸ 1947 Annual Report, p. 3.
- ²⁹ www.aagpbl.org/records/leag_lt.html
- ³⁰ 1949 Annual Report, p. b and 1950 Annual Report, p. 6, 18.
- ³¹ 1954 Annual Report, p. 25.
- ³² 1962 Annual Report, p. 14f, 24b
- ³³ 1962 Annual Report, p. 14f, 24b
- ³⁴ 1960 Annual Report, p. 14 and 1963 Annual Report, p. 41.



Figure I.1 Adolph Jaenicke's initial "Plan for Laying Out Memorial Park", included in the 1918 Annual Report, p. 8. Courtesy of Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation.



Figure I.2 Interior view of a pool inside the Grotto showing the constructed stalactites and stalagmites. 1925 Annual Report, p. 12. Courtesy of Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation.



Figure 1.3 Dedication of the Arthur Smith memorial column, August 15, 1928. Courtesy of Allen County/Fort Wayne History Center.



Figure 1.4 Large crowd at the dedication ceremony of the World War memorial arch on Armistice Day, November 11, 1928. 1928 Annual Report, p. 8. Courtesy of Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation.



Figure 1.5 Detail of “Memory”, the centerpiece of the memorial erected to Olen J. Pond and World War veterans on November 11, 1930. Courtesy of Allen County Public Library, 00002944.

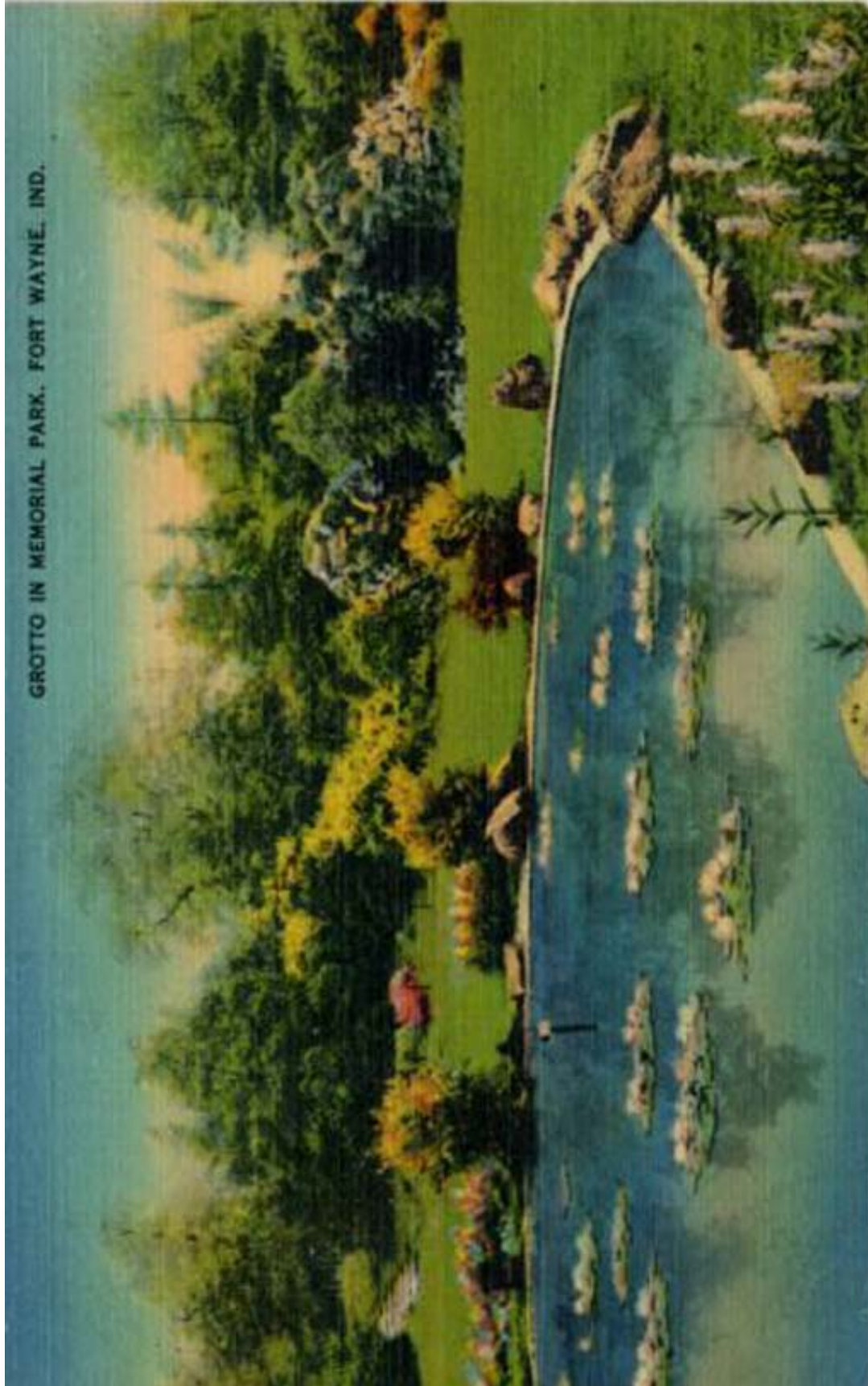


Figure 1.6 Circa 1930 postcard of the sunken garden and lily pool in Memorial Park, with the Grotto visible left of center. Courtesy of Allen County/Fort Wayne History Center.

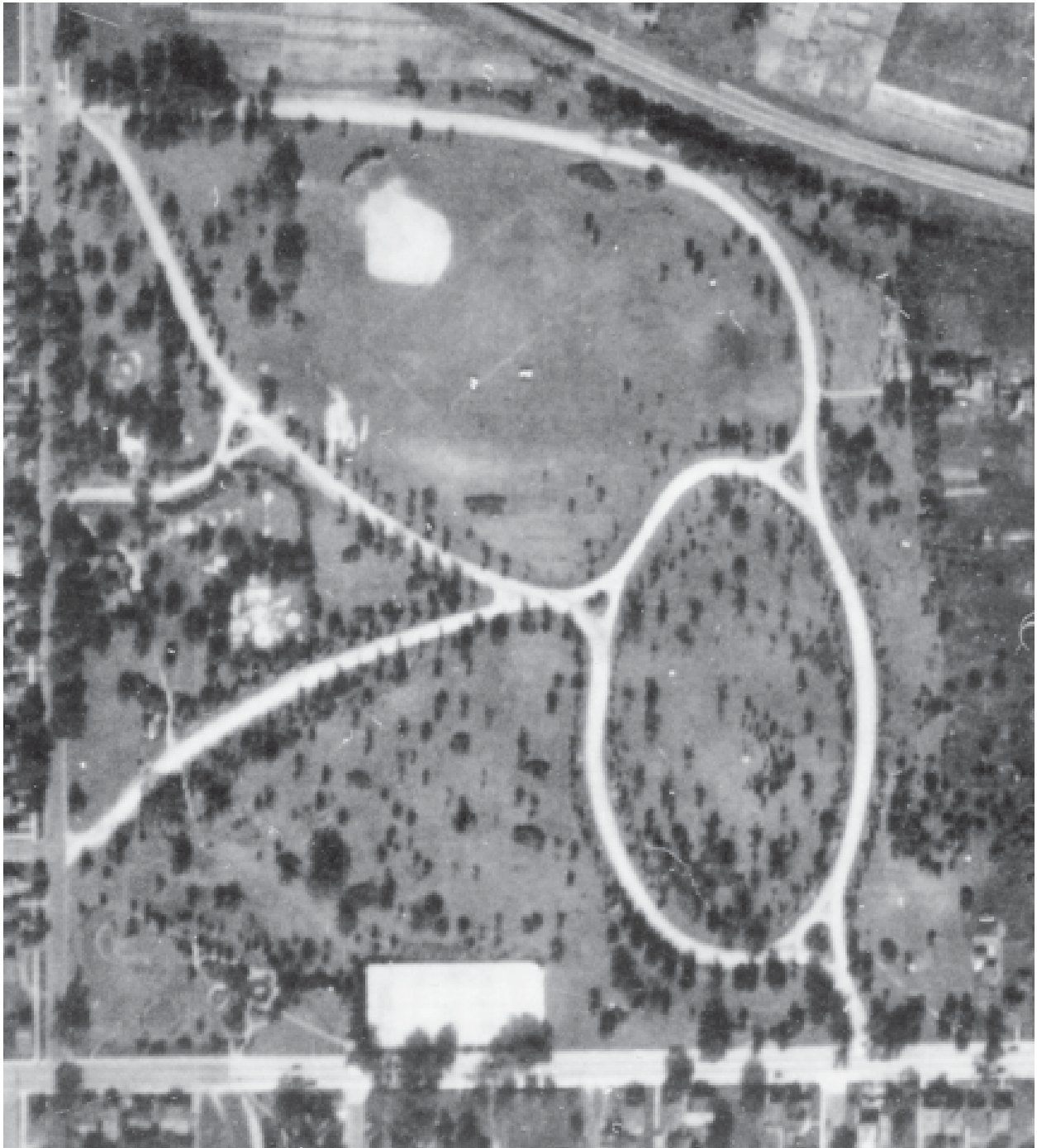


Figure 1.7 1938 planimetric aerial photograph of Memorial Park. Courtesy of Indiana State Archives.



Figure I.9 The 1952 Fort Wayne Daisies team that played home games in Memorial Park in the late 1940s and early 1950s. <http://www.aagpb1.org/photos/phtp52fw.html>.

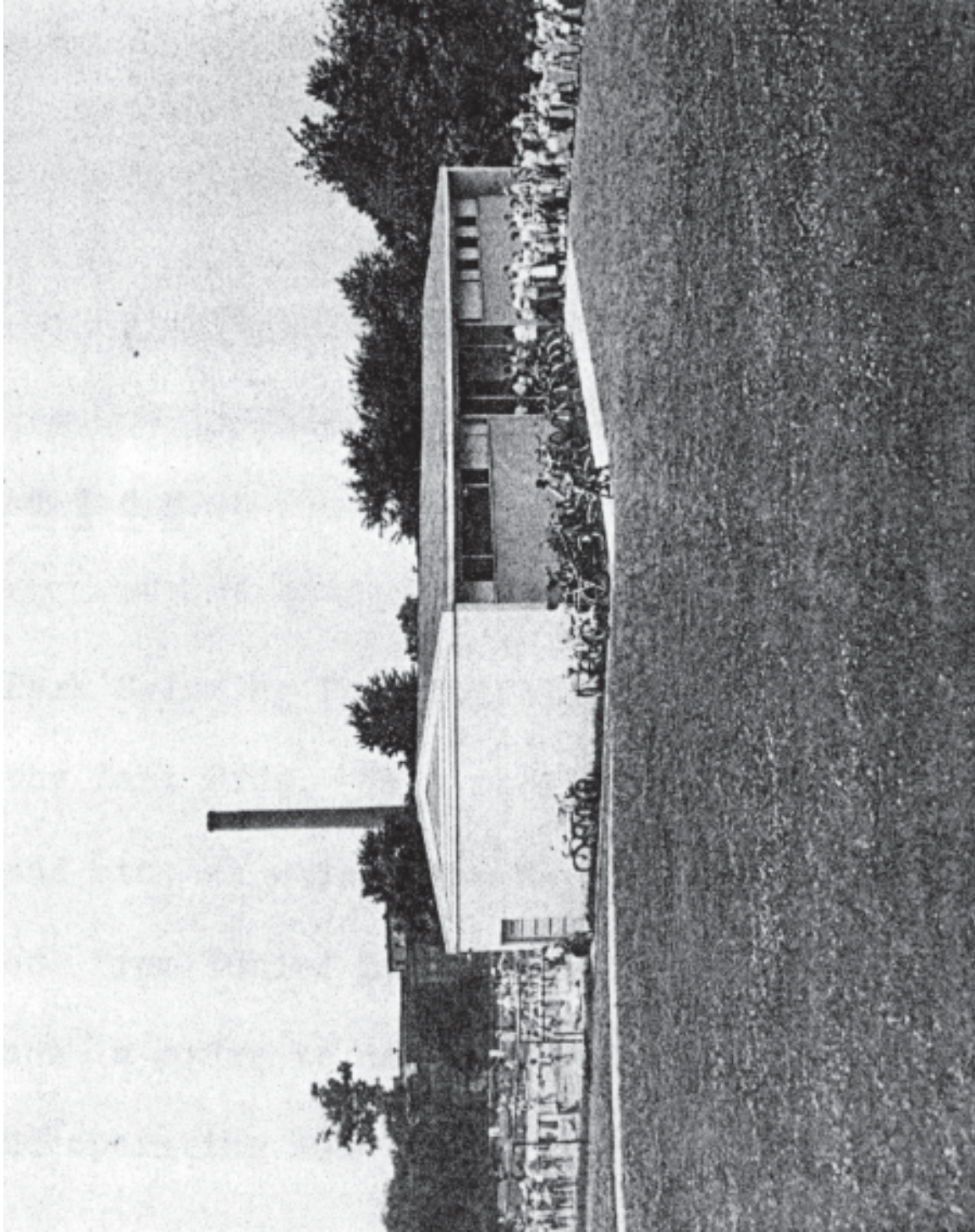


Figure I.10 The Memorial Park pool and bathhouse during its inaugural season, summer of 1950. 1950 Annual Report, p. 17. Courtesy of Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation.



Figure I.11 1956 planimetric aerial photograph of Memorial Park. Courtesy of City of Fort Wayne.

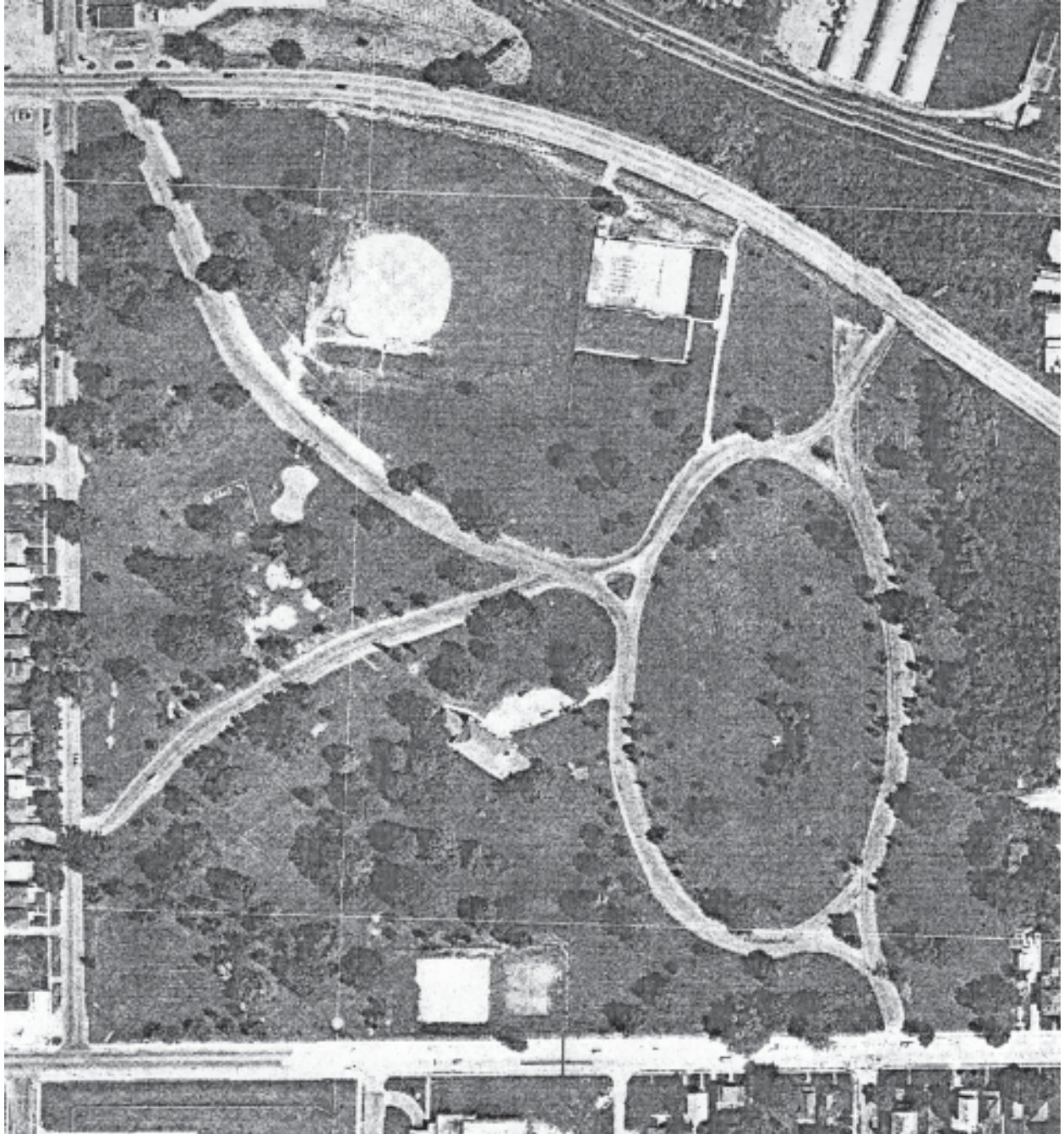


Figure I.12 1973 planimetric aerial photograph of Memorial Park. Courtesy of City of Fort Wayne.

CHAPTER II: 1949 LANDSCAPE CHARACTER OF MEMORIAL PARK

A. INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides a detailed description of the Memorial Park landscape circa 1949. The year 1949 was selected to represent the historic character of the park after an in-depth study of the park's history. The late 1940s represent the culmination of Memorial Park's "period of significance". The period of significance is determined by the history and the character and details of the park over time. An important aspect of considering the duration of the period of significance is the determination of the timing of the final set of changes to the property that contribute to its historical importance and the point at which changes to the property begin to alter initial park features and character. In Memorial Park, the addition of the swimming pool and the reorientation of the baseball field mark the final alterations to the park prior to a long series of changes that greatly affected the historic park character, including the extension of Washington Boulevard in the 1950s and the removal of the Memorial Grove in the 1960s. Another consideration in determining the year of capture is the availability of archival materials. By the late 1940s the Annual Reports filed by the Parks & Recreation Department had resumed, and a high-quality planimetric aerial photograph shot in 1949 provides a detailed view of the park's overall character.

LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP has prepared three plans to accompany the text and images in this chapter. The *circa 1949 Plan*, Plan PP, shows the park's principal drives, structures and vegetation. To develop a period plan that captures the historic character, the existing conditions plan served as a base. The period plan, dating to 1949, records the as-built conditions at a significant point in park's history to a high level of detail. The methodology for these period plans was based on the acceptance of existing elements as also present during historic periods unless clear period documentation for other conditions was discovered. All available sources were consulted with a focus on documented conditions from the sequence of property surveys and aerial and ground photography. The 1' contours shown are included for context; they are from a contemporary survey and do not reflect historic topography in areas where drives have been removed or parking lots added. The Schedule of Landscape Elements included on the plan identifies key park features and the year they were added. The *1949 Aerial Photograph*, Plan PP AIR, is shown at the same scale and orientation as the Plan PP.

The third plan, *circa 1949 Landscape Units*, Plan PP LU, depicts the landscape units of Memorial Park in 1949. Organizing a landscape into definable spaces, or landscape units, aids in the understanding of the landscape and allows for a more complete description of landscape character. The boundaries of units may be loosely delineated or clearly defined by physical features, such as a river, road or fence. A unit may also be determined by a particular function or activity that occurs within it. Within these landscape units are a variety of features that give character to each unit and the Memorial Park landscape as a whole. Some of these features have remained constant, while others have been altered during the park's evolution. The landscape units for Memorial Park are as follows:

1. Memorial Grove: featuring the elliptical drive that encompasses the Memorial Grove and Arthur Smith monument, extending to Maumee Avenue to the south and the park boundary to the east.
2. Picnic Pavilion & Grounds: containing the hilltop with the picnic pavilion, the intersection of park drives to the north, and the wooded lawn to the south and west of the pavilion.
3. Tennis Courts & Bank: a small, defined unit of active recreation, comprised of the fenced tennis courts on Maumee Avenue and the landscaped bank on their north side.
4. Southwest Gateway: the highly visible southwest corner of the park, containing the Grotto, sunken gardens and lily pool (or at least a partial remnant thereof), the Olen J. Pond memorial to the east, the World War memorial arch to the north, and the landscaped road-cut of the park's southwest entrance drive.
5. Playground: the refectory, playground and landscaped drive that enters the park from the intersection of Glasgow Avenue and Humphrey Street.
6. Baseball Field & Pool: another area of active recreation containing the principal baseball field, swimming pool and north park drive.

The text for this chapter is also organized by character-defining features, as outlined in the *Secretary of the Interiors Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes*. They include:

- *Spatial Organization* - the three-dimensional organization and patterns of spaces in a landscape, created by the landscape's cultural and natural features. Views and visual relationships shaped within the landscape shaping its organization are often created or controlled by topography, open water, vegetation or small scale features such as fences;
- *Topography* - the shape of the ground plane and its height or depth; topography occurs naturally and as a result of human manipulation;
- *Vegetation* - may be individual plants, as in the case of a specimen tree or shrub, or a shrub mass, hedge, garden bed, informal grove, woodland, meadow, or aquatic planting;
- *Circulation* - includes drives, paths and parking areas which are often linked to form networks or systems; the elements of these circulation systems that constitute character include alignment, width, surface and edge treatment, materials and manner in which the circulation element is fit into the landscape;
- *Water Features & Drainage* - may be aesthetic as well as functional components of the landscape; features may be linked to the natural hydrologic system or fed artificially; associated plant and animal life as well as water quality may be an important component of a water feature; special consideration may be required due to seasonal changes in water, such as variations in water table, precipitation and freezing;
- *Structures, Site Furnishings & Objects* - Structures are non-habitable constructed features such as walls, terraces, arbors, pavilions, steps and bridges; Site furnishings are generally small scale elements in the landscape such as benches, lights, fences, sculptures or planters.

B. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER, 1949

In 1949 Memorial Park consisted of roughly 42 acres. Streets formed its southern and western boundaries of the park: Maumee Avenue on the south, a busy two-way thoroughfare; and Glasgow Avenue to the west. The western boundary was shared with residential and agricultural neighbors, while industrial buildings and the railroad were located to the north. Visual relationships to and from the park were influenced largely by topography and vegetation. The park incorporated a high ridge that created south, west and north facing slopes. The southern third of the park sloped south and west, and was thus highly visible from Maumee Avenue. The severity of the westward facing slope along portions of the Glasgow Avenue frontage served to restrict views, although along most of this edge views of the park were also obtainable. Dense plantings within the park would have limited visibility, but there was not a vegetative screen along the park's south and west periphery. The northern two thirds of the park sloped north and west, and were thus shielded from the traffic on Maumee Avenue. A woodland screen on the eastern boundary visually separated the park from its neighbors. Views from the ridge-top in 1949 would have been restricted to the park's interior because of the many large trees.

The general pattern of vegetation in the park consisted of large trees scattered in expanses of lawn, or parkland. Evergreens were informally clustered on steep banks, particularly at road cuts, and large trees also lined many of the park's drives.

Vehicular circulation was a significant part of Memorial Park in 1949. Drives formed the skeleton of the park's design and served as the principal means of definition between landscape units. While the drives did permit access to various park features, they were also incorporated in the visitor's experience. There were more than a mile of drives in Memorial Park, and many of these roadsides were landscaped. There were no designated parking lots – park users would either park on the neighboring streets or on the side of one of the park drives.

Pedestrian circulation had a much less-distinguished role, as there was no pedestrian-only path system in the park. Most paths provided access to a particular feature within a landscape unit, such as the paths to the bleachers at the ball field or the walks in the Grotto.

Water features in 1949 included the swimming pool, which was under construction, and the pools of the Grotto, which were likely in the process of removal. There had been as many as four pools associated with the Grotto, one of which included a large fountain.

There were three principal park buildings in 1949: the pavilion, the refectory and the bathhouse. Major built facilities also included the ball field with its press box and bleachers, the playground and the tennis courts. There were also three sculpted memorials in the park, in addition to the Memorial Grove, located on the crest of the ridge.

1. Memorial Grove

The Memorial Grove was located in the southeast section of the park. It was the park's principal icon and embodied the memorial function for which the park was named. The grove of large deciduous trees within the elliptical drive was the oldest memorial in the park, dedicated to the servicemen and women that lost their lives in the First World War. The elliptical drive was the

primary ordering element of this unit, while the Arthur Smith memorial column was the focal point. The column was placed at the visually prominent location on the crest of the ridge. It is likely, however, that the dense planting of deciduous and evergreen trees located along the elliptical drive obscured views of the column from outside the grove.

It is not known what tree species were used in the Memorial Grove, but it can be assumed that many were *Ulmus americana*/American elm. Most of the deciduous trees were removed from this unit in the 1960s during the height of Fort Wayne's campaign to control Dutch elm disease. As seen in Plan PP, vegetation was concentrated along both sides of the elliptical drive. Deciduous trees were also scattered informally inside the ellipse, forming the grove. The evergreens in this unit were primarily located along both sides of the drive in areas where the road had been cut into the grade. On the east side of the ellipse the evergreens were also used to screen the neighboring properties. Triangular islands in the unit's three main vehicular intersections also contained compositions of evergreens, shrubs and small boulders placed on mounded earth. Evergreens also had a prominent role at the Arthur Smith monument. A semicircular grouping, seen clearly in Plan PP, created a backdrop for the sculpture, which faced due west. Their effect can be seen clearly in a comparison of two historic photographs, Figures II.1 and II.2. Figure II.1 is undated, but judging from the limited vegetation it was taken during the early 1930s, shortly after the memorial was erected and before the evergreen screen had been planted. Figure II.2 shows the screen in place. This photograph was taken in 1969, twenty years after 1949. The backdrop would not have been as mature in 1949 as seen in Figure II.2, but it still would have served to frame the column.

As discussed previously, the elliptical drive was the most important element of Memorial Park's circulation system. Four park drives fed the ellipse; two at the west, one from the north, and a fourth from the south. Three of the park's four landscape triangular intersections were located along the ellipse. A short spur also accessed the picnic pavilion from the ellipse. There were no designated pedestrian paths in this landscape unit.

2. Picnic Pavilion & Grounds

The landscape unit comprising of the picnic pavilion and adjacent grounds was devoted to passive recreation. It was defined on the north and east by tree-lined drives, and on the south and east by steep banks that separated the grounds from the tennis courts and Grotto. Like the Memorial Grove, this unit also saddled the ridge. The pavilion was located on the crest and oriented to face the southwest. From the pavilion the ground sloped to the southwest gradually and then steeply, descending into a large natural swale that separated this unit from the Grotto.

Vegetation around the picnic pavilion consisted of a mix of large deciduous shade trees, as well as some evergreens, scattered in the lawn. The only regular arrangement was the row of large trees lining the drive to the north.

The pavilion was accessed by the short spur from the Memorial Grove ellipse. A large concrete pad was located on the northeast side of the pavilion, and concrete walks around the structure accessed the restrooms. No other elements are visible in the aerial photograph, PP AIR, but it is likely that there were picnic tables in the vicinity.

3. Tennis Courts & Bank

The smallest of the Memorial Park landscape units contained the tennis courts. It was differentiated from the three neighboring units by its active recreation function. The flat terrace containing the three courts was located along Maumee Avenue. The clay-surfaced courts were contained with a chain-link fence. The steep bank on the north side of the courts was heavily planted and possibly landscaped in a manner similar to the road cuts. The only visual evidence of the bank from this period is found in PP AIR. At the southwest corner of this unit there was a stone drinking fountain.

4. Southwest Gateway

The southwest corner of Memorial Park was highly visible from traffic on Maumee and Glasgow Avenues. The topography of this corner created a small stage, visible from the streets, which were elevated above a flat, sunken area. While the Grotto was intact, the flat area contained two lily pools and “sunken gardens” – shrubs and perennials grouped around the edges of the pools. A concave curved bank on the northeast side of the sunken area formed the backdrop, and it was into this bank that the Grotto was built. An overview of this can be seen in the Figure II.3, taken in 1928. By 1949 the vegetation would have matured significantly, although as discussed previously it is likely that by 1949 the removal of the Grotto had begun.

Steep banks also featured significantly along the sides of the entrance drive from Glasgow Avenue, where they were landscaped with evergreens, shrubs and large rocks. Figure II.4 shows one of Memorial Park’s landscaped road-cuts in the winter of 1932, shortly after construction. Evergreens were also used extensively along the banks of the Grotto.

In addition to the vehicular entrance drive there were several footpaths in this unit. One path came from the refectory to the north, passing west of the World War memorial arch to the entrance drive. In the 1949 aerial it appears to end at the drive, but in the 1938 aerial the path can be seen continuing south to the Grotto. The Grotto contained several paths, including the two flagstone paths visible in Figure II.3. The path to the right in this image descended a flight of stairs at Maumee Avenue, while the path on the left came from steps on Glasgow. The paths joined and curved around the south side of the main pool, then divided at the Grotto. There were at least three long sets of steps that climbed the Grotto’s bank, curving as they went. The paths then accessed the upper pool before rejoining and passing south of the Pond memorial to the drinking fountain at the southwest corner of the tennis courts. As with the Grotto, however, it appears that most of these paths were removed around 1949.

Like the Grotto, the two memorials in this unit were also oriented towards the street frontage. The World War memorial arch faced Glasgow Avenue, while the Pond memorial faced Maumee Avenue. Both monuments were backed with semicircular plantings of evergreens, similar to the treatment of the Arthur Smith memorial. A photograph of the entire Pond memorial composition can be seen in Figure II.5, again taken just after installation in 1930. Two small deciduous trees and two bubbling drinking fountains flank the sculpted figure “Memory”. The black fountains and pedestal contrast with the white marble figure. Behind the figure and fountains a curving row of at least seven evergreens had been planted. Also aiding to the composition of this view, whether intentional or not, was the large deciduous tree in the background, directly behind “Memory”.

5. Playground

The playground was located on several small flat terraces on the westward facing slopes along Glasgow Avenue. The area was contained on the southeast and northeast by park drives. The area was divided by a drive that entered from the intersection of Humphrey Street and Glasgow and curved slightly to the north, ending the larger park drive with a triangular intersection. The southern portion contained the refectory, playground equipment, and a small ball diamond, oriented to the west. The northern section contained more large deciduous trees and four horseshoe courts. A second small baseball diamond is visible in this area in the 1938 aerial photograph, but not in the 1949 aerial.

A footpath accessed the refectory from the intersection of Humphrey and Glasgow. From the refectory one path led northeast to the ball field and another led south past the World War memorial arch.

6. Baseball Field & Pool

The landscape unit containing the large baseball field and swimming pool was the most open area of the park. The northward facing slope contained few trees, most of which were located along the park drives on the unit's southern boundary. The active recreation function of this unit was invigorated in the late 1940s with the renovation and improvement of the baseball field and the construction of the swimming pool and bathhouse, which was under construction in 1949.

Parking for games at the ball diamond appears to have occurred primarily on the park drive that formed the unit's southwest boundary. A comparison between the 1938 and 1949 aerial photographs shows the gravel drive significantly wider in the latter. There were also paths that led from this drive to the press box and bleachers. There were also paths from the northern park drive as well. The bleachers extended along the south and west graded banks of the baseball field.



Figure II.1 The Arthur Smith memorial shortly after unveiling on August 13, 1928. Note the lack of screening evergreens in the background. Courtesy of Allen County Public Library, 00002965.



Figure II.2 The Arthur Smith memorial framed by a semi-circular evergreen screen, December 27, 1969. Courtesy of Allen County Public Library, 00008690.

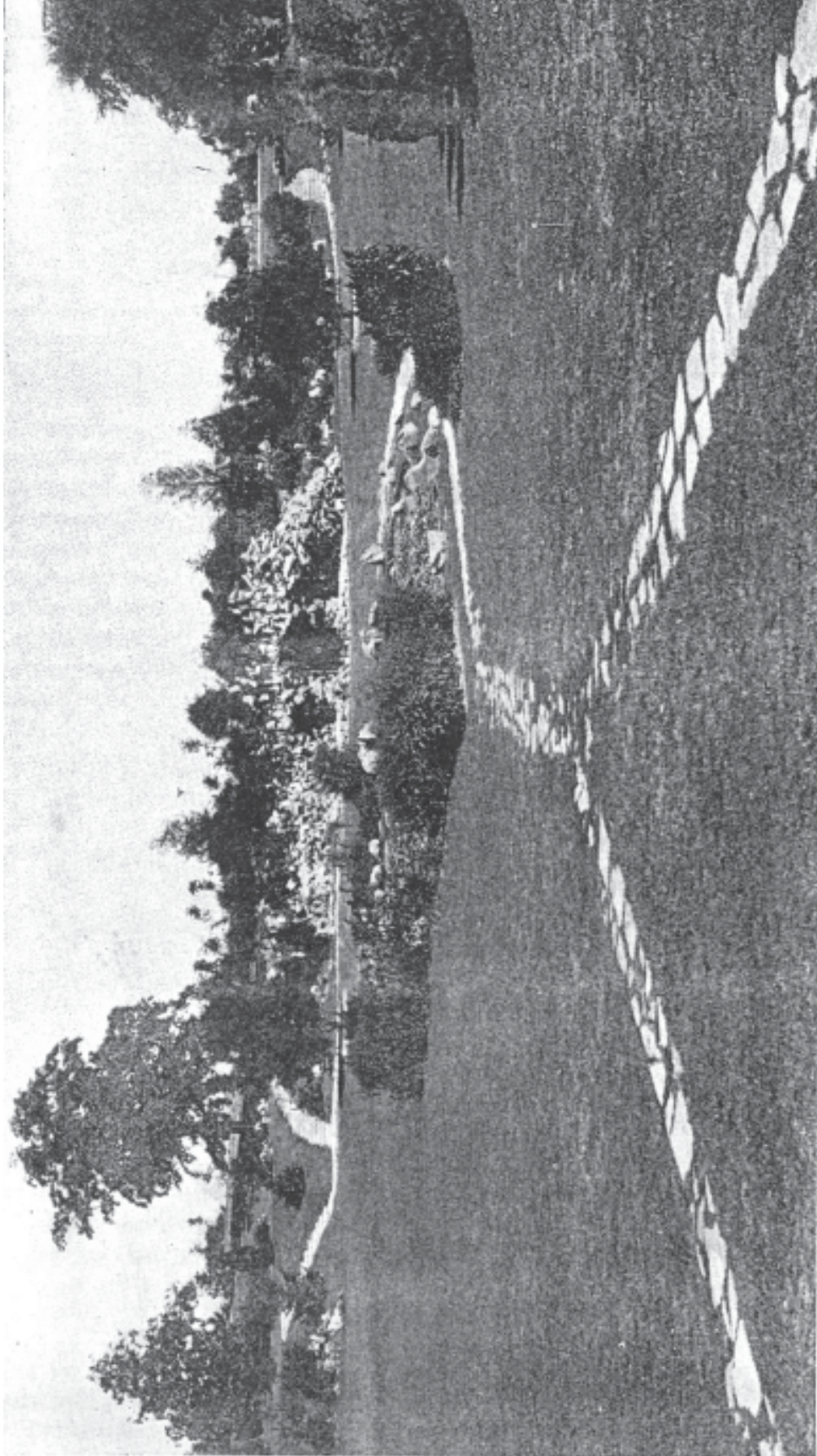


Figure II.3 View of the Grotto from the intersection of Maumee Avenue and Glasgow Avenue with a lily pool flanked by shrubs and perennials in the mid-ground. 1928 Annual Report, p. 24. Courtesy of Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation.



Figure II.4 Landscaped road-cut shortly after construction, planted with evergreens, shrubs and large rocks, winter of 1932. 1932 Annual Report. Courtesy of Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation.



Figure II.5 View of the entire Pond memorial, featuring “Memory” flanked by small trees and bubbling drinking fountains and backed by evergreen plantings. 1930 Annual Report, p. 12. Courtesy of Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation.



SYMBOL KEY

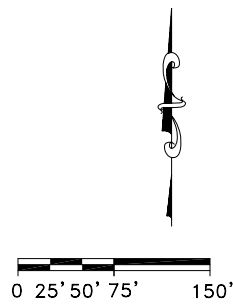
- DECIDUOUS SHADE TREE (SIZE VARIES)
- DECIDUOUS UNDERSTORY TREE (SIZE VARIES)
- EVERGREEN TREE
- TYPICAL DRIVE
- TYPICAL FOOT PATH

SOURCE LIST

- 1) 1949 planimetric aerial, City of Fort Wayne
- 2) Historic drawing collection, Fort Wayne Parks & Rec
- 3) Historic photograph collections, Allen County Public Library/Fort Wayne History Center/private collections
- 4) Annual Report collections, Fort Wayne Parks & Rec/Allen County Public Library

LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS

- 1 ARTHUR SMITH MONUMENT: 1928
- 2 MEMORIAL GROVE: c. 1920
- 3 PICNIC PAVILION: 1941
- 4 TENNIS COURTS: 1919
- 5 OLEN J. POND MEMORIAL: 1930
- 6 GROTTTO: c. 1925
- 7 WORLD WAR MEMORIAL ARCH: 1928
- 8 REFECTORY: REHABILITATED 1919
- 9 PLAYGROUND: c. 1920
- 10 SMALL BASEBALL FIELD
- 11 HORESESHOE COURTS
- 12 BASEBALL FIELD: REHABILITATED c. 1946
- 13 SWIMMING POOL & BATHHOUSE: c. 1950



August 2002

pp

circa 1949
Plan

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Department of Parks
& Recreation

Memorial Park
Cultural Landscape Report
Fort Wayne, Indiana





0 25' 50' 75' 150'

SOURCE LIST

- 1) 1949 planimetric aerial, City of Fort Wayne



*Memorial Park
Cultural Landscape Report
Fort Wayne, Indiana*

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Drawing Title:

1949

Aerial Photograph

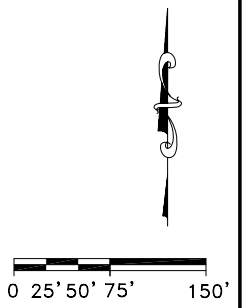
Plan Number:
PP AIR

Date:
August 2002



LANDSCAPE UNITS

- 1 MEMORIAL GROVE
- 2 PICNIC PAVILION & GROUNDS
- 3 TENNIS COURTS & BANK
- 4 SOUTHWEST GATEWAY
- 5 PLAYGROUND
- 6 BASEBALL FIELD & POOL



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 Plan Number: *PP LU*
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*Memorial Park
 Cultural Landscape Report
 Fort Wayne, Indiana*



CHAPTER III: 2002 LANDSCAPE CHARACTER OF MEMORIAL PARK

A. INTRODUCTION

This chapter follows the outline established in Chapter II, describing in detail the contemporary character of Memorial Park with text, images and plans. The *2002 Plan*, Plan EC, was compiled from several sources, principally relying on the recent survey base drawing, with individual drawings of areas of the park that were the subject of recent improvements, all of which were obtained as digital files from the Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation Department (FWPR). Other sources included field reconnaissance in the park conducted by LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP and the 1999 aerial photograph, also included as *1999 Aerial Photograph*, Plan EC AIR.

The chapter is organized by the landscape units to parallel the organization outlined in Chapter II describing the historic landscape units. These are shown as *2002 Landscape Units*, Plan EC LU. The following is a summary of the 2002 landscape units:

1. Memorial Grove: containing the remaining tree grove, Arthur Smith monument, Allen County Vietnam Memorial, and the elliptical drive that defines and surrounds these features.
2. Picnic Pavilion & Grounds: featuring the picnic pavilion and large parking lot, as well as the wooded lawn to the south and west of the pavilion.
3. Tennis Courts & Bank: comprising of the fenced basketball courts on Maumee Avenue.
4. Southwest Gateway: consisting of the site of the former Grotto, the Olen J. Pond memorial to the east, and the World War memorial arch to the north.
5. Playground: bordering on Glasgow Avenue and containing the playground, with a loosely defined border with Unit 6 to the northeast.
6. Baseball Field & Swimming Pool: the baseball field, swimming pool, linear parking lots, new spray park and memorial wall, bordered by Washington Boulevard.

While the landscape unit boundaries remain consistent on plans PP LU and EC LU, the relationship between the units in several instances has become less well defined. These areas that lack their historic definition are depicted with dashed boundaries, rather than a solid line. A discussion of these changes occurs in Chapter IV: Landscape Change from 1949 to 2002.

This chapter follows the organization established in Chapter II, describing the character defining features for the park and then specifically for each landscape unit. For reference, character-defining features include:

- Spatial Organization
- Topography
- Vegetation
- Circulation
- Water Features & Drainage
- Structures, Site Furnishings & Objects

B. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER, 2002

Memorial Park is located between two of Fort Wayne's major arterials: the westbound Maumee Avenue and the eastbound Washington Boulevard. Because of its prominent position Memorial Park is considered one of the gateways to the city.¹ These roads are highly visible from within the park, as much of the park contains north and south facing slopes that are oriented toward the roads and there is minimal vegetative screening. Glasgow Avenue, forming the park's west boundary, receives only a fraction of the traffic on Maumee and Washington. The northern two-thirds of the eastern boundary is screened by dense, volunteer vegetation of various opportunistic species, while southern third, which is shared with residential neighbors, is open. The general vegetation pattern within the parking is comprised of some important, old deciduous trees in open lawn, remnant clusters of evergreen trees along banks and roadsides and in triangles, younger deciduous shade trees of varying age and size and some curving rows of flowering crabapples at the park's periphery. The oldest trees, a grove of grand oaks that likely pre-date park development, are located to the south of the pavilion. Recent utility replacement trenching has impacted this area and has caused some root damage, and some decline in tree health and vigor may be seen in this grove over the next few years. Younger deciduous trees include Norway maple and ash. The remaining evergreen trees and shrubs frame memorials and provide evidence of the palette of drive and triangle plantings.

Vehicular circulation within the park consists of a two-lane, curbed asphalt drive that enters the park at the intersection of Glasgow Avenue and Randall Street. The 600-foot drive accesses approximately 1 1/3 acres of parking, or 154 spaces, at the park's geographic center. The parking lots are exited via the same drive. Pedestrian circulation consists of the 24-foot wide, paved elliptical path around the Arthur Smith monument, a walk from the 8-car parking lot near Glasgow Avenue to the basketball courts, and a sequence of elliptical walks associated with the sprayground and memorial wall, currently under construction.

Water features include the sprayground and swimming pool, and the bathhouse and picnic pavilion are the park's principal structures. There are five sculptural memorials within the park, including the memorial wall, four basketball courts, a playground and a ball field.

1. Memorial Grove

The Memorial Grove landscape unit occupies the highest ground of the park and is shaped and framed by a surrounding elliptical path. Evergreens grouped along sections of the path create some screening, but there are generally open views within the ellipse, as there are few trees. Figure III.1 shows a view across the open lawn within the ellipse to the Arthur Smith monument, which is backed with a tall evergreen screen.

The elliptical path is accessed by three paths leading from the central parking lots and a path from the sidewalk along Maumee Avenue, seen in Figure III.2. While this is technically a pedestrian path, there is a significant amount of vehicular traffic that is responsible for the deep ruts on both sides of the 10-foot wide path, particularly where it joins the elliptical path. When completed, a new, smaller elliptical path will intersect with the northern end of the ellipse, providing access to the sprayground, memorial wall and swimming pool.

As discussed previously, the principal clusters of evergreens occur along most of the east edge of the ellipse, in an arc east of the Arthur Smith monument, and in smaller groupings to the southeast, southwest and northwest of the ellipse. There are several large deciduous trees within the ellipse, mostly along the periphery, as well as along Maumee Avenue and the park's east border. There are three large clusters of crabapples; two flanking the path that enters from Maumee Avenue, and a third at the northern end of the ellipse.

In addition to the Arthur Smith monument, site furnishings include the Allen County Vietnam Memorial, seen in Figure III.3 and located within the elliptical path, southeast of the Smith monument, and three boulders at the Maumee Avenue path entrance.

2. Picnic Pavilion & Grounds

The picnic pavilion is located on the ridge-top due west of the Arthur Smith memorial. The stone structure's north façade looks out onto the parking lots, as seen in Figure III.4. The pavilion lot is set in a primarily turf landscape, with four trees along its eastern edge. To the southeast of the pavilion the hillside is densely shaded by large trees, which also serve to restrict visibility of the picnic grounds from Maumee Avenue.

The northern portion of this unit is devoted to vehicular access and parking. The lot closest to the pavilion contains 56 parking spaces. The lot is also lit with the large lighting standards seen in Figure III.4. Pedestrian circulation includes the access paths to the ellipse and concrete walks that access the pavilion and the restrooms at its west end. At the east and west ends of the pavilion is a square concrete pad with a fixed round picnic table and bench. The west picnic table and pavilion restrooms can be seen in Figure III.5.

3. Tennis Courts & Bank

Although the courts may have the ability to be converted for tennis play, their primary function is basketball. There are four full hard-surfaced courts, complete with backstops, striping, and lights for night play. A chain-link fence prevents balls from escaping onto Maumee Avenue, as seen in Figure III.6. There is also a fence separating the two eastern courts from the 2 western courts, as well as another fence on the north end of the west courts.

There is a concrete sidewalk adjacent to the Maumee Avenue curb. Between the sidewalk and the fence is an 8-foot strip of turf, in which a single tree is planted. On the turf bank north of the courts there are two evergreen trees and a small group of deciduous trees. There are also several trees at the west end of the courts. An asphalt path accesses the west end of the courts from the small parking lot at the entrance drive.

In addition to the basketball courts there is a stone drinking fountain at the southwest corner, also seen in Figure III.6. There is also a small set of moveable bleachers.

4. Southwest Gateway

The southwest corner of the park features a small, curving ridge that separates the slope of the picnic grounds from the low-lying site of the former Grotto and lily pools. This ridge creates a large swale, at the bottom of which is located the asphalt path that accesses the tennis courts. The swale and path can be seen in Plan EC. A view from the top of the ridge looking northwest

towards Glasgow Avenue can be seen in Figure III.7. The ridge and trees planted along, combined with the elevated Maumee and Glasgow Avenues, create a strongly defined space oriented toward the intersection. Other subspaces in this unit include the Pond memorial, the World War memorial and the entrance drive. The least defined of these spaces is the Pond memorial, Figure III.8. It is oriented to Maumee Avenue but lacks the strong evergreen backdrop found at the World War Memorial, Figure III.9. Evergreens along both sides of the entrance drive also create a strong sense of space; in this case a curving linear corridor. There is an eight-car parking lot on the south side of the drive before it enters the “canyon” of evergreens.

The site of the former Grotto contains remnant vegetation but no paths, water features or site furnishings. The Pond memorial is extant but in poor condition. As seen in Figure III.8, the head of “Memory” is missing. She is flanked by two small trees and two black fountains, also in poor condition. The World War memorial is intact, and there is a flagpole at the north end of the memorial.

5. Playground

The playground, seen in Figure III.10, is located on two shaded terraces west of the central parking lots. The boundaries of this triangular-shaped unit are defined on the southeast by the tree lined park drive and on the west by Glasgow Avenue. The northeast boundary is shared with the baseball field, although there is little delineation between the two units aside from a faint topographic trace of the former park drive.

Vegetation within this unit consists of deciduous trees clustered about the playground equipment and in the triangular extension of the unit to the north along Glasgow Avenue. There is no defined vehicular or pedestrian circulation. Site furnishings include the playground equipment. The upper level shown in Figure III.10 contains a merry-go-round, seesaws, swings, slide, monkey bars and a climbing bar. The equipment is quite old but appears to be in working condition. There is also a rectangular concrete pad to the south of the equipment. The lower level to the north contains a small asphalt paved court with a basketball hoop that is not in working order.

6. Baseball Field & Swimming Pool

This unit contains the northern section of the park and spans its width. The north boundary is formed by the multilane Washington Boulevard, to which this unit is visually exposed by north facing slopes and limited vegetation. The main features of this unit are the baseball field and swimming pool, making this area of the park the most heavily used, particularly over the summer season. When completed, the sprayground will also serve to draw active recreation to this part of the park. Parking for these functions is provided by the 98 spaces in the two linear bays of the central parking lots, one of which is shown in Figure III.11.

The sprayground and memorial wall addition will feature elliptical walks that will interlock with the wide elliptical path of the Memorial Grove, as seen in Plan EC. Figure III.12 is taken from the Memorial Grove path, looking south to the brightly colored poles of the sprayground and the blue and white painted bathhouse. The new walks will also connect the bathhouse to the sprayground and parking lots. There is a service drive off of Washington Boulevard that accesses the pool’s pump house. There is also sidewalk that leads to the bathhouse, although it

would only be used by people being dropped off or picked up by passing vehicles on Washington Boulevard, which is likely infrequent given the volume of traffic. There are no other vehicular or pedestrian means to enter the park from the north.

Vegetation in this unit consists of a broad expanse of lawn and three groups of trees. The largest group is located west of the ballfield and contains large deciduous trees and two curving rows of crabapples. There are also six crabapples between Washington Boulevard and the swimming pool, and a cluster of trees between the north and south parking bays.

There are site furnishings associated with the parking lots, baseball field, swimming pool and sprayground. The parking lot is paved, striped, curbed, and lit for night use. The baseball field is also lit, and contains a backstop and outfield fence, a dirt infield, benches for the teams and large banks that can be used for informal seating, as seen in Figure III.13. The swimming pool is also fenced. Within the fence there is a rectangular concrete pool deck on which large umbrellas are placed for shade. West of the sprayground a memorial wall is being constructed to honor local citizens who have served their community.

CHAPTER III ENDNOTES

¹ General consensus of the Cultural Landscape Committee and FWPR staff associated with this report.



Figure III.1 View across the open lawn, within the Memorial Grove elliptical pathway to the Arthur Smith monument. LANDSCAPES
LA•Planning•HP.



Figure III.2 Paved pedestrian pathway connecting the sidewalk along Maumee Avenue to the Memorial Grove elliptical pathway, with rutting caused by vehicular traffic. LANDSCAPES L.A•Planning•HP.



Figure III.3 Allen County Vietnam memorial located within the elliptical pathway, southwest of the Smith monument. LANDSCAPES
LA•Planning•HP.



Figure III.4 Northern stone façade of the picnic pavilion overlooking the large lighted parking lot. LANDSCAPES L.A•Planning•HP.



Figure III.5 View of the restrooms at the west end of the picnic pavilion and a concrete pad with a fixed round picnic table. LANDSCAPES
L.A•Planning•HP.



Figure III.6 The basketball courts along Maumee Avenue and stone drinking fountain. LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP.



Figure III.7 View northwest towards Glasgow Avenue from the curving ridge that separates the slope of the picnic grounds from the site of the former Grotto and Lily Pools. LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP.



Figure III.8 Detailed view of the damaged Pond memorial showing a headless “Memory”.
LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP.



Figure III.9 The World War memorial arch with its strong backdrop of evergreens and a flagpole at its northern end. LANDSCAPES
LA•Planning•HP.



Figure III.10 The upper level of the playground, containing older equipment including a merry-go-round, seesaws, swings, slides, monkey bars, and a climbing bar. LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP.



Figure III.11 The upper level of the 98 space, 2 bay, linear parking lot that provides parking for the baseball field and swimming pool.
LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP.



Figure III.12 View from Memorial Grove path south towards the new sprayground and the blue and white painted bathhouse. LANDSCAPES
LA•Planning•HP.



Figure III.13 The baseball with lights a backstop, outfield fence, dirt infield, benches for the teams, and sloped bank used as informal seating by the fans. LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP.



SYMBOL KEY

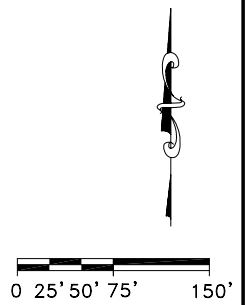
- DECIDUOUS SHADE TREE (SIZE VARIES)
- DECIDUOUS UNDERSTORY TREE (SIZE VARIES)
- EVERGREEN TREE
- TYPICAL DRIVE
- TYPICAL FOOT PATH

SOURCE LIST

- 1) Field Reconnaissance, LANDSCAPES LA.Planning.HP
- 2) Active AutoCAD files, Fort Wayne Parks & Rec
- 3) 1999 planimetric aerial, City of Fort Wayne
- 4) Historic drawing collection, Fort Wayne Parks & Rec

LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS

- 1 ARTHUR SMITH MONUMENT
- 2 ALLEN COUNTY VIETNAM MEMORIAL
- 3 PICNIC PAVILION
- 4 BASKETBALL COURTS
- 5 OLEN J. POND MEMORIAL
- 6 WORLD WAR MEMORIAL ARCH
- 7 PLAYGROUND
- 8 PARKING LOT
- 9 BASEBALL FIELD
- 10 SWIMMING POOL & BATHHOUSE
- 11 SPRAY PARK: c. 2002
- 12 MEMORIAL WALL: c. 2002



Plan Number:
EC

Date:
August 2002

2002 Plan

Drawing Title:

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Client:

City of Fort Wayne
Department of Parks
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705 East State Boulevard
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Memorial Park

Cultural Landscape Report

Fort Wayne, Indiana





0 25' 50' 75' 150'

SOURCE LIST

- 1) 1999 planimetric aerial, City of Fort Wayne



Memorial Park Cultural Landscape Report Fort Wayne, Indiana

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Drawing Title:

1999 Aerial
Photograph

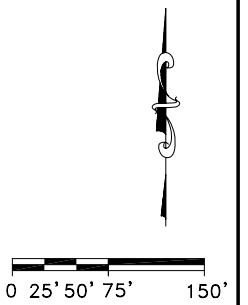
Plan Number:
EC AIR

Date:
August 2002



LANDSCAPE UNITS

- 1 MEMORIAL GROVE
- 2 PICNIC PAVILION & GROUNDS
- 3 TENNIS COURTS & BANK
- 4 SOUTHWEST GATEWAY
- 5 PLAYGROUND
- 6 BASEBALL FIELD & POOL



Memorial Park Cultural Landscape Report Fort Wayne, Indiana



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Drawing Title:

**2002 Landscape
Units Plan**

Plan Number:

EC 11

Date:

August 2002

CHAPTER IV: LANDSCAPE CHANGE FROM 1949 TO 2002

A. INTRODUCTION

Using the groundwork established by the history and assessment of landscape character in 1949 and 2002, it is possible to obtain an accurate picture of the changes in Memorial Park between the two periods. These changes occur in several ways, including the maturation and/or decline of extant features, the alteration of extant features, the removal of historic features and the addition of new features. Changes to the park's features often result in a change in the park's character, the level of which depends on the nature of the alterations.

Discussion of the park's changes is organized in the same manner as the preceding chapters; a description of character defining features of the park in general, followed by a detail breakdown of change by the following landscape units:

1. Memorial Grove
2. Picnic Pavilion & Grounds
3. Tennis Courts & Bank
4. Southwest Gateway
5. Playground
6. Baseball Field & Swimming Pool

B. LANDSCAPE CHANGE

There have been substantial changes to Memorial Park's vegetation and circulation system over the past 50 years, which have in turn impacted the spatial relationships within the park, as well as the way in which the park is used and experienced. Most have these changes have been the result of loss or removal of elements. An overview of the changes can readily be seen in comparisons of Plans PP and EC, as well as the 1949 aerial, Plan PP Air, and the 1999 aerial, Plan EC Air. There were an estimated 508 deciduous trees in the park in 1949, and only 255 in 2002, representing a loss of approximately 50%. The loss is even larger when the 43 crabapples planted within the last several years are not included in the equation. The loss of evergreens is at a similar magnitude, with approximately 367 in 1949 and 210 in 2002, or a 43% reduction. Circulation has been affected even more severely, with only 7.5% of the former parks drives available for vehicular use and 25% converted to pedestrian use. Significant, large-scale additions include the extension of Washington Boulevard, the 1 1/3 acres of paved parking lots and the sprayground/memorial wall complex.

It is also important to note the significant elements that remain, including the ellipse of the Memorial Grove, the three historic sculptural monuments, the pavilion, playground, tennis/basketball courts, baseball field and swimming pool. Remnant evergreens provide clues to the former planting patterns, and the topography of the ballfield, playground and southwest corner serve as reminders of the league baseball games, the refectory and historic Grotto.

1. Memorial Grove

The elliptical path, the evergreens and the Arthur Smith monument retain the basic organization of this unit, even though the memorial of live trees no longer remains. In addition to the lost historic significance of the grove there is also a significant change in spatial character, with the removal of the shade-forming overhead canopy and increased visibility. The relationship of this unit with neighboring units to the west and north has remained consistent, with the exception of the northern end of the ellipse, where the park drive that accessed the Memorial Grove has been replaced with the paths of the sprayground/memorial wall.

The maturation of the evergreens has resulted in a dramatic shift in scale relationships. Along the elliptical walk the size of the evergreens reinforces the canyon-like character, while at the Smith memorial the screen is now larger than the monument, as seen in Figure IV.1. The magnitude of this change can be observed in a comparison of Figures II.1 and II.2, shown previously. Only the west triangular path intersection remains, although it is just a grassy mound devoid of trees. The evergreens that were located in the southern triangle remain, as seen in Figure IV.2, although one of the legs of the triangle has been removed. None of the boulders that accompanied the evergreen plantings remain, although the large rock seen in the foreground was likely located historically in one of these groupings. Also visible in this image is a portion of the mulched crabapple grove. This planting is similar to one found here in 1949, although at that time they were a row of large deciduous trees located along the southern edge of the ellipse.

2. Picnic Pavilion & Grounds

The most significant changes to this unit have occurred in the area north of the pavilion, which in 1949 was a shaded lawn that separated the pavilion from the tree-lined drive. The drive is no longer lived with trees, on either north or south sides, and the shaded lawn has been replaced with the large asphalt parking lot. The result has been the improvement of pavilion's ability to host large events, as well as a decrease in the park experience by those using the facility. In contrast, the southern portion of this unit has retained its shaded picnic-grove quality.

3. Tennis Courts & Bank

While the game on the courts has changed, the character of this unit has remained fairly consistent. Historically more trees shaded the southern end of the courts and provided a degree of separation from Maumee Avenue, and the northern bank was much more heavily vegetated.

4. Southwest Gateway

The only remnants of the Grotto are the sunken terrace and evergreen trees on the bank, as seen in Figure IV.3. A photograph taken in 1932 from approximately the same location can be seen in Figure IV.4. The Pond memorial, shown in Figure IV.5, is damaged and in poor repair. The evergreen backdrop has been removed, causing the composition to blend into the background. Interestingly, the base of the statue is now white. In the 1930 photographs the base was black, as were the flanking fountains. The base appears to be of the same design, although it is not known if it was replaced at some time.

The entrance drive has been widened, paved, striped and curbed. It still follows the same alignment, although the small parking lot at the base of the hill is the first feature one sees when entering the park, as seen in Figure IV.6. As the drive climbs the grade into the park it still

passes between banks planted with evergreens, although the rocks are gone and the trees substantially larger than they would have been more than 50 years ago.

The World War memorial arch appears to have changed little over the years, with the exception of the flagpole, seen on the north side of the arch in Figure IV.7. The evergreens behind the memorial have matured but still fulfill their backdrop function. The path that crossed behind the memorial no longer remains.

5. Playground

Principal losses in the playground unit include the refectory building, pedestrian paths, the landscaped drive that accessed the park from Humphrey Street, the small baseball diamond, the horseshoe courts, and the long, tree-lined drive that formed the boundary between this unit and the large baseball field. There are remnant pieces of playground equipment and trees. Little has been added; with the exception of the small basketball court and several trees near the site of the refectory.

6. Baseball Field & Swimming Pool

In contrast to the playground area, this unit has seen more change through additions than through removals. Most of the additions have involved substantial alterations to circulation in the park, from the conversion of the north park drive into Washington Boulevard to the creation of large parking lots and the walks to access the sprayground and memorial wall. Washington Boulevard has increased the exposure of the northern half of the park, and the sprayground and memorial wall have added to the park's existing recreational function and memorial theme in a previously "vacant" location. The swimming pool and bathhouse remain much the way they were built, other than the new pump house and the blue and white paint on the bathhouse.

Other than the substantial loss of two park drives, the most significant removals have occurred at the baseball field, with the removal of the bleachers, press box, paths and other site furnishings associated with the field when it hosted professional play in 1949.



Figure IV.1 Contemporary view of the Smith memorial with a mature evergreen backdrop. The height of the evergreens causes the memorial to appear shorter than it really is. LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP.



Figure IV.2 View from Maumee Avenue of the pedestrian access to the Memorial Grove. In 1949 the drive was wider and also branched to the right, creating a triangular intersection around the clump of evergreens shown in the image. . LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP.



Figure IV.3 Evergreens on the bank and a sunken terrace, the only remnants left from the Grotto. This view was taken from approximately the same location as Figure IV.4. LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP.

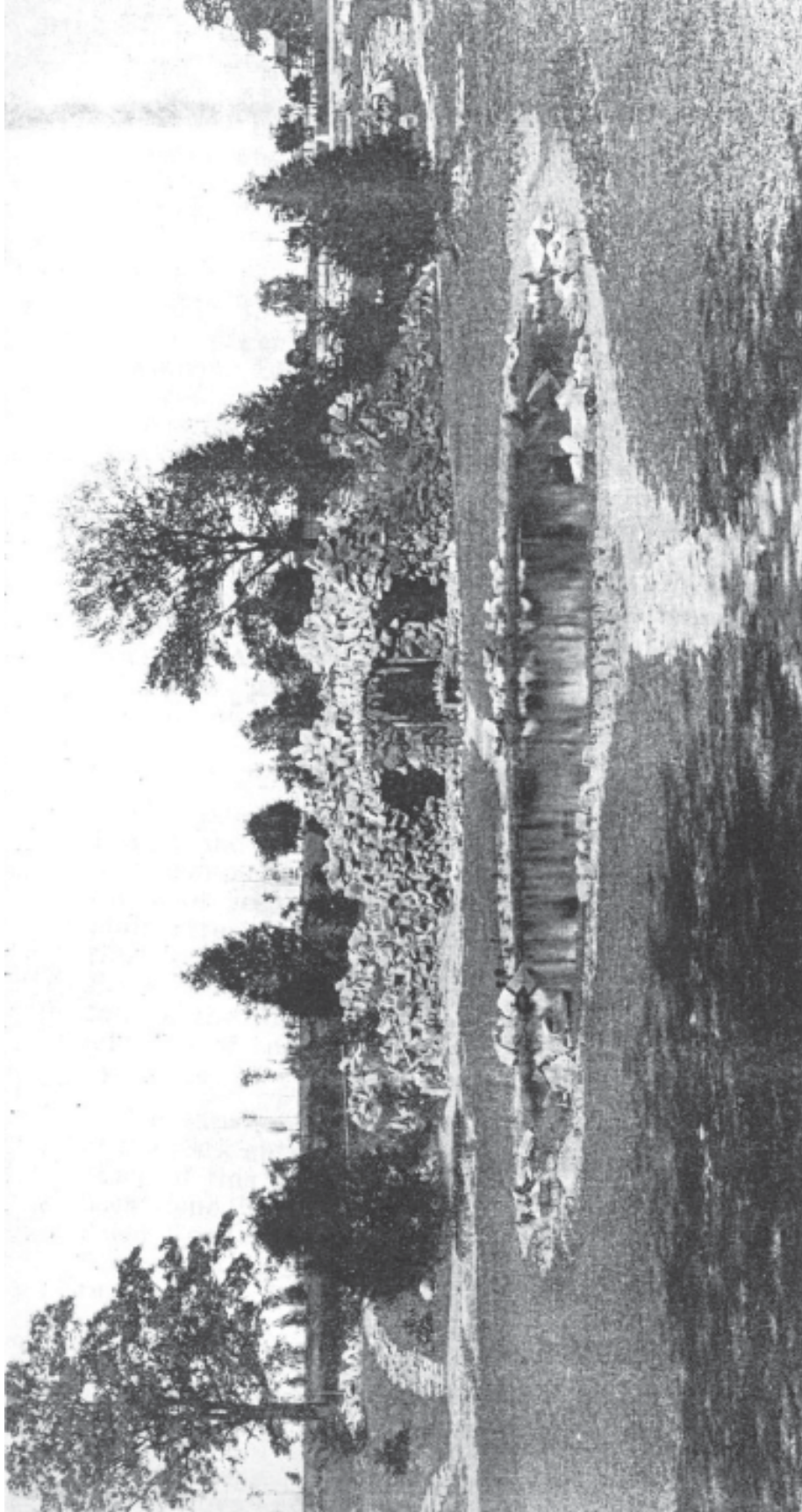


Figure IV.4 Historic view of the Grotto taken in 1932, shortly after construction. 1932 Annual Report, p. 12. Courtesy of Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation.



Figure IV.5 The Pond memorial in its current state, which without the evergreen backdrop blends into the background. LANDSCAPES
LA•Planning•HP.



Figure IV.6 The entrance drive has been widened, paved, striped, and curbed, but follows its original alignment. The small parking lot is the first feature you see upon entering the park. The evergreens are remnants of the original c.1928 plantings. LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP.



Figure IV.7 The World War memorial arch has changed little over the years with the exception of the addition of a flagpole on the arch's north side, the maturation of the evergreen backdrop and the removal of a path that crossed behind the memorial. LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP.

CHAPTER V: CURRENT USE, PROGRAMMING & MAINTENANCE

A. INTRODUCTION

This chapter examines the use, programming and maintenance of Memorial Park. It focuses on use and maintenance over the past several years, but where it is useful comparisons are also made with historic practices. Data was gathered through a park user survey [in progress], interviews with Fort Wayne Parks and Recreation (FWPR) personnel and a review of FWPR records. Observations within the park were also attempted, although they were generally unproductive given the winter season and the timing of the report.

The aim of this chapter is to provide a clear picture of the way in which Memorial Park is fulfilling the needs of its users, and where the park may be falling short. This information will serve as the basis for the use, programming and maintenance recommendations and will shape the development of the historic landscape preservation treatment strategy.

B. PARK USE & PROGRAMMING

Memorial Park offers a range of recreational activities. In order to understand to what extent these activities are being utilized, LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP conducted interviews with Perry Ehresman, Superintendent of Leisure Services and Rhonda Berg, Office Services, FWPR and reviewed printed materials provided by FWPR regarding the availability, use and cost of park recreation resources. Input from the public was also sought through public meetings and a user survey. Despite several attempts to obtain input from the public, not enough surveys were collected to provide an accurate statistical sampling. A copy of the survey form has been included in the report as Appendix 1.

The following discussion of park use and programming has been organized into six sections. The first four explain and address the four modes of recreation as accommodated by Memorial Park. Section five provides a summary of the recorded use of park facilities, while the sixth section describes recreational, educational and event programming.

1. Active or Exertive Recreation

Active or Exertive recreation is defined as aerobic exercise involving equipment, field or court based games, and paths for running or walking. Facilities for active recreation at Memorial Park include the baseball field, swimming pool, basketball courts, playground and sprayground. The paths in the park do not lend themselves to aerobic exercise, with the possible exception of the Memorial Grove loop.

2. Passive Recreation

Passive Recreation encompasses a wide range of casual and informal uses of parks and open spaces. The motive behind passive recreation is often to spend time in a green, scenic environment. Passive recreation activities include walking, sitting, reading, walking a dog,

picnicking, enjoying being outdoors and observing the scenery. Pedestrian paths, shady groves, views and gardens all enhance the passive recreation experience. Areas that lend themselves to passive recreation in Memorial Park include the Memorial Grove with its elliptical path and relative level of seclusion, and the shaded slope south of the picnic pavilion.

3. Social or Gregarious Recreation

Social recreation involves joining with friends, family or groups in the park for a celebration, picnic, reunion, performance, dance, fair or festival. It also includes viewing sports and enjoying the company of others who are also spectating. The large picnic pavilion and parking lots at Memorial Park can accommodate large social gatherings. The active recreation facilities also foster social recreation.

4. Educational or Interpretive Recreation

Educational or interpretive recreation includes casual or structured learning about local history, ecology, geology, horticulture, garden design, art, etc. Educational recreation in a park setting will often focus on elements found within the park landscape, or the park may merely provide an outdoor classroom. Ways in which educational recreation can be addressed in a park include guided or self-guided tours, informational signs, programs, lectures and exhibits. At Memorial Park there are programs hosted by several of the recreational facilities (see section 6. Park Programming). Local social history and art education are addressed by the four park memorials, with a fifth under construction. Other historic features that are available for interpretation include the WPA picnic pavilion and the site of the former Grotto.

5. Facility Use & Reservations

FWPR records allow for an analysis of the structured use of three of Memorial Park's recreational facilities: the baseball field, the swimming pool and the picnic pavilion.

The baseball field at Memorial Park contains a maintained infield, backstop, bleachers and banks for seating, and lights for night play. It is available for pick-up play and can be reserved for team practices and games. It is not known how extensively the field is used for pick-up play, but there are records of field reservations. In 2001 the field was reserved 50 times between April 30 and August 21. The peak months were June and July, with 18 and 23 reservations, respectively. By the end of March, 2002 the Memorial Park field had been reserved 62 times between May 7 and August 13. Almost all the reservations are scheduled for June, with 27, and July, with 29.

The Memorial Park swimming pool is open daily from June 8 through August 10. The pool is used for group Learn-to-Swim classes, open public swim, adult swim and private rentals. Over the 63-day season the pool averaged 55 users a day in 2001, 38 in 2000, and 50 in 1999. The fluctuations from year to year are influenced by many factors, with the weather being the chief variable. The Memorial Park pool is one of four outdoor pools operated by FWPR, including pools at Swinney, Northside and McMillen Parks. The Memorial Park pool is by far the least utilized of the four. In 2001 it accounted for only 4.86% of the annual attendance among the four pools. This was up from 3.79% in 2000 and 4.24% in 1999. The Northside and McMillen Pools do have 17 more days of operating time, which would account for at least some of the discrepancy. However, the leading pool, Northside, averaged 498 users a day in 2001 over an 80-day season. The Memorial Pool rental program is rarely taken advantage of. In 2001 there

was a single one-hour rental for 30 adults, and in 2000 there were none. Hourly rates are \$35 for less than 100 people and \$50 for 101-250 people.

The Memorial Park pavilion is open for use only during events or rentals from May through October. The facilities available within the structure include a fireplace, sink, hot plate, electrical outlets, tables, chairs and restrooms. Of Fort Wayne's 19 rentable park pavilions, Memorial Park's ranks 6th in seating capacity, which is listed as 160 persons. The average size of the group reservation for the pavilion in 2001 was 90, with a range of 25 to 200.¹ The pavilion was rented 37 times in 2001, ranking it 15th in frequency of use. The month of heaviest use was June, with 13 rentals. In 2000 it was rented 33 times and it ranked 17th. The pavilion is one of the least expensive to rent at resident rates of \$32 Monday through Friday and \$41 Saturday and Sunday in 2002, placing it in a four-way tie with the 13th through 16th ranked pavilions in terms of cost. When considering revenues generated, the Memorial Park pavilion ranked 17th in 2001 with \$1,020, and 18th in 2000 with \$961.

The Fort Wayne park pavilion rental program operates on a deficit. Operating costs exceeded revenues in 2001 by 15%. This figure was down however, from 21% in 2000 and 30.7% in 1999. Further sustainability will likely be achieved for 2002 with the modest increase in rental fees, on average of just over \$2 per rental. The increase was weighted towards the higher use pavilions. The Memorial Park pavilion rental fee increased \$1.

6. Park Programming

No annually scheduled, city sponsored events are held in Memorial Park. Educational and recreational programs at Memorial Park utilize the pavilion, basketball courts, playground, baseball field and the swimming pool. The pool is used for swimming lessons and the baseball field for Little League play. In 2001 Memorial Park hosted an extension of the Jennings Recreation Center summer program between June 10 and August 2. Activities for children were held in the park Tuesdays and Thursdays and between 9:00 and 11:00 and Fridays afternoons and included arts and crafts, swimming lessons, kickball, basketball, softball, table games and free swim. Three Jennings Center staff members ran the program, with the assistance of pool staff. The program proved successful, with an average of 42 children participating in the Tuesday and Thursday activities and 120 in the Friday free-swims. Funding is currently being sought to expand the program to full days on Tuesday and Thursday for the summer of 2002. If these funds are not attainable, last year's schedule will be readopted.

C. PARK MAINTENANCE

LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP conducted interviews with Jerry Byanski, Superintendent of Parks and Larry Walter, Manager of Landscape & Horticulture, and reviewed records provided by Byanski in order to understand the current maintenance efforts at Memorial Park. FWPR does track maintenance efforts by task for each park, although a detailed breakdown of Memorial Park person hours and cost is not available because this data is not used to create annual park-by-park summaries. It would be possible for FWPR to create such a summary if it were deemed necessary, but it would be difficult and time consumptive because the records would need to be compiled and sorted from eight sub-departments. This section will therefore outline the basic

structure of the FWPR maintenance department, and then general tasks associated with Memorial Park also be described.

Park maintenance falls under the responsibility of one of eight business groups of the Park Division, which include the following:

- Grounds Management/Heavy Equipment: turf maintenance, sports fields, waste management, heavy equipment
- Facilities Management: repair and construction and janitorial services
- Project Coordination: security and contract maintenance management
- Safety and Operations Support: safety programs, training, fleet operations and storeroom
- Project Administration: capital improvements, new project management, design, site/facility planning and field engineering
- Forestry: city street and park trees
- Landscape and Horticulture: planting and maintenance
- Greenhouse Operations: plant propagation

Maintenance is conducted by skill-based teams that rove through the city parks, as opposed to a dedicated system where crews are devoted to geographically defined areas. Selected tasks are also contracted out. The following is a summary list of in-house and contracted tasks based on the Byanski interview and a list included in a 1997 park maintenance report:²

- Park Trees: park tree maintenance on a seven-year pruning schedule by three crews under one arborist
- Mowing: large area mowing with 16' swath mowers, small area mowing contracted out
- Paving: asphalt roads, parking lots and paths, concrete walks and slabs, pavers and color coating athletic courts
- Masonry: tuck pointing, stone and block work, glass block repairs and installation, dry laid landscape stone walls, caulking
- Fencing: wood (plank, stockade and split-rail), ornamental metal, chain link, backstops and gates
- Play Equipment: installation of new structures, major repairs and renovations, demolition of aging sites
- Miscellaneous: roofing, gutters and downspouts, site drainage and signage
- Painting: buildings, structures, lot striping and play equipment
- Janitorial/Cleaning Services: including park pavilions and public restrooms, graffiti removal
- Site Utility Repairs: electrical – including lighting, pumps, signs, etc., plumbing – including fountains, pools, sewer systems, etc., and HVAC
- Specialized Vehicle and Equipment Repairs

Over the past 30 years there has been a trend of reducing personnel while increasing park acreage. A detailed report of this trend made in 1997 can be found in “Park Maintenance: Finance History – Past and Present”, filed by the Board of Park Commissioners. The report points out that in 1974 there were 197 full-time employees (FTE) devoted to park labor and management. In 1997, when the report was filed, there were 119 FTE. In 2002 there are 115

FTE, 64 of which are devoted to labor. Two explanations of this decrease include improved technology and equipment, such as the recent acquisition of large area mowers, and the increased use of subcontractors, which have proven cost effective and increased efficiency on selected tasks.³ Meanwhile, park acreage increased from 1,636 in 1970 to 2,270 in 1997, and 2,369 in 2002. This represents 45% growth over a 32-year period. It is not the purpose of this cultural landscape report to analyze or resolve department-wide issues, but these numbers indicate that the current level of staff hours devoted to Memorial Park is the minimum available to maintain the park in its current state. The additional maintenance of future capital projects would either require shifts in staff and fund devotion to Memorial Park, thus affecting other parks, or the creation of new positions.

CHAPTER V ENDNOTES

¹ The reservation number does not reflect actual attendance. Events where the anticipated attendance will exceed the pavilion's capacity are permitted.

² Board of Park Commissioners. "Park Maintenance: Finance History – Past and Present". City of Fort Wayne, IN, 1997, p. 8.

³ Byanski interview follow-up, May 13, 2002.

CHAPTER VI: EXPLORATION, SELECTION & DESCRIPTION OF MEMORIAL PARK LANDSCAPE REHABILITATION PLAN

A. INTRODUCTION

The purposes of a park landscape preservation treatment are to retain the remaining historic character and features, to mitigate negative changes and deterioration to the degree possible, to prevent future such changes from occurring, and to address the range of current and future use and maintenance issues affecting the property while achieving these purposes. These complex purposes are accomplished by selecting an intervention philosophy and specific treatment approach that is most appropriate for the property and its uses. Treatment looks at the property as a whole and then, based on the history, level of change, significance, proposed uses, level of documentation, financial resources and maintenance capabilities, and establishes a comprehensive framework within which work on individual features may be proposed and implemented. At Memorial Park the exploration of a preservation treatment must address all of these issues. Stated differently, the selected treatment acts as a preservation “philosophy” that guides decision-making about the scope of interventions and the continuing management of the historic property.

This chapter explores the range of possible landscape treatment alternatives and reviews their appropriateness in regards to the needs of Memorial Park. The recommended treatment is then described and discussed in detail, as well as illustrated graphically on the Memorial Park *Rehabilitation Concepts Plan*, Plan RC.

B. EXPLORATION OF LANDSCAPE TREATMENT ALTERNATIVES

The *Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Historic Landscapes (Guidelines)* recommends four possible preservation treatments for historic landscapes: Preservation, Restoration, Rehabilitation, and Reconstruction. In the *Guidelines* it is stated that a preservation treatment “cannot be considered in a vacuum”, and selection is affected by the practical and philosophical concerns of the present day and the future. Therefore, the choice and implementation of an overall treatment must consider such real world concerns as new or expanded uses, operational requirements such as access in compliance with the American with Disabilities Act, safety and security, parking, as well as anticipated capital improvements, staffing, and maintenance costs. Although the four treatments differ in the level of activity and change they propose for a property, they share an important commonality: all treatments avoid anachronistic conditions, in which features which never co-existed historically in a landscape are placed together today. All these issues are considered in the testing of appropriate preservation treatments for the historic landscape at Memorial Park.

1. Preservation

Preservation is a low-impact approach, in which stabilization, repair, and replacement in-kind of character-defining features is emphasized, with minimal change occurring on the property. Preservation is an appropriate choice when many elements are intact, interpretive goals can be met within the existing conditions, or when financial resources or staffing are limited. Preservation can also be viewed as an interim treatment, until such time as additional documentation provides a sound basis for restoration or additional resources are garnered to address more ambitious treatments. Therefore, Preservation, with its goals to retain and maintain the existing historic fabric, is in fact the treatment approach on which the other three, more intensive treatments, are based. Preservation alone, however, is not a sufficient treatment for Memorial Park, as a Preservation strategy would not address the present and future needs of the park users, nor would it restore the park's lost historic character.

2. Restoration

In contrast to Preservation, a Restoration treatment depends on considerable documentation so that the historic condition can be authentically recaptured. Appropriate resources to perform the more intensive intervention required in a Restoration are also needed. The application of sound Preservation actions underlies this treatment. Restoration treatment seeks to first preserve, through stabilization and repair, all historic features present during the period of significance that remain, and then to replace missing character-defining features in an authentic manner. Restoration may address a landscape unit or an entire landscape. Restoration treatment may also require the removal of subsequently added features, recapturing the overall spaces, form, character and details of the landscape to a high degree of accuracy. While a Restoration approach would recapture Memorial Park's lost historic character, it would not fully accommodate the contemporary needs of the park users. Restoration as a whole is therefore not recommended, although the restoration of certain elements of the park should be considered, such as the restoration of the park's sculptural and living memorials.

3. Rehabilitation

The third treatment, Rehabilitation, emphasizes the modification of the historic property to suit new, compatible uses, implemented in a manner sensitive to conditions during the period of significance. Preservation of existing historic features, character and details is required in Rehabilitation, while contemporary use is accommodated. Rehabilitation "is defined as the act or process of making possible a compatible use for a property through repair, alterations, and additions while preserving those portions or features which convey its historical, cultural, or (landscape) architectural values... When repair and replacement of deteriorated features are necessary; when alterations or additions to the property are planned for a new or continued use; and when its depiction at a particular period of time is not appropriate, Rehabilitation may be considered as a treatment". Rehabilitation is frequently most appropriate treatment for urban public parks, as it blends the needs for historic preservation and interpretation with the recreational needs of contemporary park users and contemporary maintenance levels. With the baseline of Preservation, Rehabilitation is the best overall treatment for Memorial Park.

4. Reconstruction

Reconstruction of a landscape is the most intensive of the four treatment approaches, involving a complete re-creation of a missing historic landscape or, perhaps more often, a landscape unit or

features within a landscape. It is implemented when a high level of detailed documentation is available to construct an exact replica, without reliance on speculation. Reconstruction is usually chosen to provide an interpretive potential and presentation to the visitor that is not possible at the property without this effort to reconstruct. One lost element in Memorial Park is the Grotto, which was removed completely from the southwest corner of the park in the 1940s. Reconstruction of the Grotto would prove difficult because of limited documentation, and, more importantly, a feature such as the Grotto would be a significant liability in the contemporary park, both in terms of user safety and maintenance, and is therefore not appropriate. A more suitable approach would be the rehabilitation of the site in a manner that allowed for interpretation of the historic Grotto.

C. RECOMMENDED REHABILITATION TREATMENT

A rehabilitation treatment is recommended for Memorial Park because it preserves and respects history while incorporating current and future needs. Under such a treatment the park is planned to be enhanced as a recreational destination drawing on its unique historic character for inspiration, and the remaining historic features will be preserved. The park history can also be used as an educational resource for interpretation. In addition it will better meet the needs of the park users. Under a rehabilitation strategy contemporary amenities, such as the spray ground and memorial wall, can be retained as a part of the park evolution, while they are more effectively incorporated into the character of the overall park. A rehabilitation treatment is also flexible in the philosophy of respecting history and historic character while incorporating new use and can accommodate a range of future needs.

Memorial Park's rehabilitation treatment is comprehensive; it addresses the diversity of active, passive, social and educational recreational needs and desires that are appropriate to this historic park. This is accomplished by improving the physical aspects of the park to include spatial organization and visual relationships, vegetation, circulation, water features, structures, site furnishings and by shaping these physical aspects to enhance the individual and group recreational uses of the park in a variety of ways. All the previous chapters, including the findings of Chapter V: Current Use, Programming & Maintenance, have guided the recommendations, with particular attention paid to recreational forms other than facility-based active recreation, which are well provided for by the existing park facilities. Abilities to engage in social, educational, and especially passive recreation were found lacking, but gauging from the survey results from Swinney and Lakeside Parks, passive uses are among the most desired activities.

Memorial Park needs to be more beautiful, graceful and tranquil. The majority of park uses, found in the local survey and user surveys from other cities, are walking and sitting in a green, spacious, scenic environment. To support these uses, uniformly cited by 50% or more of the park use populace, Memorial Park needs to be easier to move through along a system of paths that is graced by the shade of grand trees and boulder lined banks with evergreen plantings. The commemorative features of the park that embody its founding objective are degraded and are to be renewed. The Memorial Grove and four stone and bronze memorials are civic symbols of respect and memory that require a higher level of care and enhanced access as an important

element of reinforcing the unique character of Memorial Park. The following text organizes and describes the components of the rehabilitation treatment. The text is accompanied by the *Rehabilitation Concepts Plan*, which highlights the changes proposed to the existing park.

1. Establish Regional Connections & Enhance Street Frontages

An important component of the rehabilitation plan is to improve Memorial Park's connectivity to the adjacent neighborhood as well as to the City of Fort Wayne. This is done through providing regional pedestrian connections and by creating a park drive experience on the adjacent sections of Washington Boulevard and Maumee Avenue.

The only existing pedestrian linkage at the edges of Memorial Park is the sidewalk along Maumee Avenue and the only path that enters the park connects the sidewalk with the Memorial Grove loop in the southeast corner. It is important to retain this entrance as it connects to residential neighborhoods and other city parks to the south. Other connections are needed, however, particularly along the park's west border. Plan RC shows connections across Glasgow Avenue to the neighborhood to the west as well as paths that enter the park from the northwest and southwest corners, providing park access to the industrial/business district to the north and the school to the south. These paths are intended to link to Anthony Boulevard and to other parks to the south in a comprehensive trail system that is citywide. While Memorial Park has not, as yet, been incorporated in the city trail system, it is recommended that links to the west and south be fully explored.

Memorial Park's integration with the city can also be improved by enhancing the driving experience on the major streets that form the north and south borders. Washington Boulevard, which forms the northern park boundary, is a principal access route entering Fort Wayne which creates the opportunity for a positive, scenic city-gateway experience. When completed, the memorial wall will create a strong visual symbol that will be highly visible in the northeast corner of the park from Washington Boulevard. The visual impact of the memorial can be enhanced through the addition of ornamental flowering trees that frame the sides of the viewshed and focus on the monument. These edge plantings will also serve to restrict the visual and audio impact of the busy street from within the park. The viewshed area itself should remain an open, grassy slope perhaps with the seasonal effect of flowering plants seeded into the turf. Such plants as the yellow-flowering birdsfoot trefoil can be mown and maintained in a mixed species turf.

The remaining length of Washington Boulevard along the Memorial Park frontage should be lined on both sides with formally spaced, continuous rows of large deciduous trees, preferably a mixture of tall maturing shade trees that can withstand the conditions of the street frontage. The land north of Washington Boulevard does not belong to Memorial Park, but the proposed allée would fit within the city's right-of-way. The trees in the allée could include oaks, maples and disease resistant American elm/*Ulmus americana*. Street trees should be chosen with similarities in their growth rate and mature appearance in mind in order to create a homogeneous grand, double row as they mature. A monoculture is not recommended, as it creates the opportunity for disease to spread and affect all the trees. A limited selection of trees should be made to reinforce continuity. In a recent project in Philadelphia a monocultural red oak parkway planting was replaced with three trees – red oak, red maple and sweet gum, all of which have a similar medium texture, upright form and moderate growth rate. They were placed in a pattern of: A red

oak; B red maple; A red oak; C sweet gum; so that they would blend as they mature. This type of treatment would greatly enhance the gateway experience and signal to drivers that they are passing through a significant park. The visual impact of the road will also be reduced from within the park through this treatment. There is not a historic precedent of a tree-lined allée along this section of road even when it functioned as a park drive. However, a formal, double row pattern of tree plantings was used extensively on other drives in the park, and is therefore not out of character. The removal of the billboard located on private property to the north of Washington Boulevard should be seriously attempted. The tree planting would screen it and previous trees located in this view have been removed. This large billboard should be removed or relocated to another area so that the park land and street edges can be completed.

The Maumee and Glasgow Avenues experience of the park frontage is more varied than that of Washington Boulevard and the treatment shown responds to the variety of park edge landscape conditions and opportunities. Some areas are purposely opened to views from the street while others are framed and planted to strengthen the park edge. On Maumee Avenue to the south there are two highly visible areas to be enhanced – the site of the former Grotto and the Pond memorial. Conservation of the Pond memorial and the renewal of the former evergreen tree backdrop will greatly improve this monument’s visibility. The Grotto should not be reconstructed, as discussed previously, but the topography and remaining trees still provide the opportunity to create an enhanced park landscape in this amphitheater-like area. This is a green space that is visible from the street frontages. Proposed designs for this should area take advantage of the visibility from Maumee and Glasgow Avenues, provide for the interpretation of the historic Grotto, and fit within the maintenance staffing abilities of the FWPR. One valid approach would be to draw on the patterns and organization of the pond, grotto and paths to develop an interpretive landscape that recaptures elements of these lost features that can be interpreted, defines that space for park use and enhances viewing from the streets. A street planting of large trees should also supplement the lone remaining tree on Maumee Avenue at the southern edge of the basketball courts. These trees will eventually shade the courts and provide a degree of visual separation between the recreational activity and the street.

These park perimeter elements of the recommended plan serve to renew the park in two principal ways as this work is carried out. First, the park will become a stronger visual amenity from the street and second, the park will be more clearly defined and separated from the surrounding streets and private properties. Memorial Park will then enhance both the city and neighborhood and the direct park experience.

2. Recapture Historic Planting Patterns

In general, Memorial Park contains less than half of its historic tree populace today. The rehabilitation effort includes a substantial component addressing the renewal of plantings. As a rule of thumb, the shade tree canopy and evergreen trees in a park have about a 100-year life span. The flowering tree canopy is expected to live between 25 and 50 years although in several historic landscapes, apple and hawthorn trees remain that are know to be 100 years old or more. With this life span in mind, the renewal rate for an intact park tree collection would be at a 1% per year minimum replacement. Since Memorial Park has about half of its original tree density, a higher renewal rate would be in order. The count of trees in Memorial Park in the 1940s was approximately 508 deciduous trees and 367 evergreen trees for a total of 875 trees, with a third

grouping of flowering trees that includes some 45 trees today. A 4% replacement rate would indicate 37 tree plantings per year and a 5 % rate would be 46 annual plantings. The ideal renewal would be 4% to 5%, which, when accounting for additional losses during the time period, would bring Memorial Park to full canopy density in 20 years. During that period, additional historic trees within the park will be lost and should be replaced in-kind and in location to the degree possible. As this two-decade renewal process is completed, a 1% to 2% rate of renewal should proceed based on the actual park tree life spans.

The trees highlighted in color on Plan RC represent both historic tree locations and, in few areas, trees placed to enhance the park experience, scenic quality and cohesion of the park landscape, particularly around newer features and at the park perimeter. The two key areas of detailed historic tree restoration are the Memorial Grove and the recapture of tree-lined drives and walks as shown on Plan RC. The tree placements shown on the plan are based on the 1949 aerial photograph and are accurately placed, however, no early plan exists to show the historic species. Some photographic views provide partial coverage of these areas, and tree identification from these views can aid the Memorial Grove selection process.

Several tree replacements are also shown on the hill south of the picnic pavilion and in other specific areas around more recent park features. Trees have also been added according to established historic patterns to areas where shade and screening are needed, such as in the vicinity of the recent parking lots in the center of the park, along a section of Glasgow Avenue, and along the east park boundary. The east boundary screen planting is to consist of informal groupings of evergreens and large deciduous trees and will strengthen the existing visual barrier of the businesses to the northeast and create visual separation from the residential neighbors to the southeast.

Another important historic planting pattern that exists today only in remnant form is the “canyon” treatment of the graded road-cuts and triangular intersections. Areas highlighted in light green on Plan RC are recommended for a restoration of this effect through the addition of small evergreens and boulders, and, when necessary, the selected removal of the remnant large evergreens in order to achieve this effect. Restoring these areas will not only reinforce this unique park feature that historically provided a unique park scenery from the park drives, but it is also an effective bank stabilization planting as well as a visually pleasing treatment of the steep slopes.

All of these tree replacements are to be considered within the goal of reestablishing park canopy over time. The overall objective with tree canopy renewal is to replace the 50% of lost trees over time. The park canopy is not intended to be all of the same age. Since no early tree list was located, a Memorial Park tree replacement species list should be developed from specific information to include trees identified from historic photographs and the remaining, old trees within the park today.

Appendix B: Creating the Urban Forest: The Bare Root Method has been included as an example of a successful, cost effective method of tree canopy renewal employed by the Ithaca Department of Public Works, in conjunction with the Urban Horticulture Institute at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. This publication explains the cost and tree health benefits of transplanting

bare root trees that have been treated with a solution of hydrogel, as opposed to the traditional balled and burlapped method.

3. Create A Comprehensive Pedestrian Circulation System

When Memorial Park was initially created, the principal recreational attraction of the park was its extensive drives which provided a passive form of recreation that allowed visitors to enjoy and travel through the green landscape. Paths that linked key destinations provided for pedestrian movements through the park landscape. Today the ability to explore the park via either drive or path is limited, as a remnant, somewhat disconnected and incomplete network of paths and drives is found in Memorial Park today. There is a high demand for walking in the park among contemporary park users, based on surveys completed in two other Fort Wayne parks, which indicated that the most popular recreational activity in parks today was leisure walking, followed by “being outdoors and observing the scenery”. To accommodate this park use while recapturing elements of historic park character, a system of paths is proposed.

This system primarily follows the routes of the former drives and paths, and also contains new segments to link destinations and enable users to walk from feature to feature and to complete a circuit of the interior of the park. A subtle way of communicating path lengths for exercise walkers would be a practical addition. Posting a park map with paths, path lengths, park features, at park entrances is one way of providing path length data and other relevant information. Another method would be incremental path distance markings on the pavement. Primary paths are recommended at 8 feet to 10 feet in width to accommodate use in various forms of movement, including pedestrians, strollers, slow speed bicycle riders, roller-bladers, and maintenance vehicle access.

The expanded path system also provides an opportunity to place benches along paths in appropriate locations. As noted previously, benches are planned for placement near the monuments and at the edges of the Memorial Grove. LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP prefers a detail that extends pavement under the bench for about three feet beyond the path surface providing space for a bench (usually about two feet wide and six to eight feet long) and for the feet of the person sitting. To accommodate the handicapped, the paved space can extend for three to four feet beyond the bench at one end affording a place for a wheelchair.

The possibility of adding more vehicular traffic to the park was thoroughly explored. The extensive drive network was reduced to unseat illegal and anti-social behaviors in the park. After much consideration and discussion, LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP recommends that due to factors including park experience, user safety, small park size and maintenance issues, a well-developed, historically based pedestrian path system is better suited to meet the needs of all park users and no additional vehicular drives are to be added.

As the path system is expanded and linked, it provides an opportunity to upgrade the underground utility supply lines. LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP has found that path edge utility conduit placement during path construction is an efficient way to lay new supply lines in locations where they can be accessed in the future with limited disruption to the park landscape. Electric lines along paths can service pedestrian scale light poles and outdoor electric outlets can be installed where uses may warrant the need for electric supply. When choosing lighting,

LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP recommends the use of luminaries that spread light downward to light park paths and the surrounding areas as needed, rather than spilling it into the night sky. The location of park lighting should be considered in some detail. Lights draw people into the park at night and should relate to desired nighttime uses. If no night uses are intended, only perimeter lighting should be installed. As utility lines are installed, we recommend adding an empty conduit for future use. In addition to the placement of utilities, water supply lines can also be added along paths. These water lines should be equipped with frost-free, covered hose hydrants to distribute water to new plantings. Drinking fountains can also be placed along paths in a few logical locations.

4. Conserve Historic Monuments & Structures

The rich heritage of Memorial Park is embodied in the tradition of planting and placing memorial features in the park. Both the historic and contemporary memorials are a vital component of the park's function as a reflection of Fort Wayne's cultural heritage and history. The more recent additions of the Vietnam War memorial and the memorial wall to those who died in local service are commended as an extension of the historic intent of this civic park. The use of the park for placement of additional, appropriately designed memorials in the future is also recommended. More importantly, however, is the establishment of a maintenance regimen that ensures the proper care of existing memorials in the park. The first memorial, the 125-tree grove, is a fragment of its original intent today. Memorial Park's three historic monuments, the Art Smith memorial, the Pond memorial, and the World War arch, are all in need of conservation and restoration measures by trained experts, particularly the Pond memorial. These four early memorials, the grove, and three stone and bronze pieces, are elements that should elicit civic pride and respectful memory. They each require attention.

The landscape setting at each of the three monuments is also vital to the memorial composition. When the evergreen backdrop at the Art Smith memorial declines and must be removed, it should be replaced in kind. The backdrop at the Pond memorial no longer exists and should be replanted according to historic photographs. In addition, an interpretive program should be established, not only to provide information about the historic events for which the memorials were developed, but also about the commemorative purposes, designers and circumstances that led to their creation. This program could consist of appropriately designed, handicapped accessible, durable signs located near each of the monuments as well as on an informational brochure where other aspects of park history could also be communicated. In order to foster appreciation and reflection, seating is proposed in the vicinity of each memorial feature.

In addition to the designated memorials, the WPA picnic pavilion is an important historic structure and provides evidence of the Depression recovery period of influence on Fort Wayne's parks. This structure should be cared for accordingly, with measures taken to preserve this historic building and rehabilitate it in a sensitive manner. For example, when the original triple bays on each side of the building require replacement, the detailing of these doors should be reconsidered to provide a more spacious and transparent feeling for these large openings. This spacious effect may be aided by reducing the size of the moveable surface in these large openings and providing some fixed panels of wire glass, glass block or other durable transparent material around the moveable doorway element.

5. Rehabilitate Selected Recreational Facilities

Memorial Park's basketball courts, sprayground and swimming pool are in good working order and are well used by park visitors. The park's bathhouse, baseball field, and west playground, however, are in need of rehabilitation. The bathhouse interior is functional but the exterior is in need of cosmetic improvements, particularly because of its highly visible location. Continuation of FWPR efforts to raise funds to complete this facelift and make the structure more park-like in appearance is recommended.

The baseball field has a rich history and is well used today. A partnership currently being explored between the FWPR and Indiana Institute of Technology has the potential for the field to be renovated and used as the home field for the IIT women's softball team. This exciting opportunity would not only renew the field, but would also bring a lost historic dimension back into the park, as well as a broader group of users. The bleacher area in particular is in need of attention and rehabilitation efforts should focus on meeting the needs of contemporary teams and spectators as well as interpreting the past.

The historic west playground is in poor repair and has now been supplemented by the addition of play equipment at the sprayground to the east. LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP recommends, however, that the old playground site not be abandoned, but that instead the area is rehabilitated with new equipment installed as well as places to sit and to picnic. The play equipment should not be duplicative, but should include items such as swings and other large apparatus not found at the sprayground. This treatment will distribute use beyond the popular new sprayground area and will retain the play function in this well-suited site. The playground is ideal for family use without water play, and would also serve the needs of the successful summer play program.

6. Enhance Picnicking Facilities

Picnicking facilities at Memorial Park are an important part of passive and social forms of recreation. The historic pavilion in particular is a major draw for large groups, and has seen a dramatic increase in use over the past decade. To better serve the needs of these groups, several measures are recommended. The principal attraction of holding events in a park setting is the chance to recreate in a green, outdoor setting. When initially built, the pavilion was set back from the park drives and surrounded by both open and shaded parkland. Through this design users would have had the desired park experience, but parking for large events was not accommodated. The recent addition of the large paved parking lot to the north of the pavilion has met the parking need, but at the expense of the green setting around the pavilion and a less pleasing park experience. In the short term, LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP recommends that the presence of the lot be reduced through the addition of large trees as shown on Plan RC. The long-term goal would be to successfully address both needs of parking and green landscape. This would be achieved by the removal of the existing asphalt lot and replacing it with reinforced turf for overflow parking. Other measures to improve the near-term functionality of the pavilion include the extension of paths on the west end of the pavilion and the installation of a paved terrace on the south side of the building, overlooking the shaded hillside. This terrace will enhance pavilion use by adding an outdoor paved area shaded by large trees.

Several other areas are also recommended for further development of simple picnicking facilities. Family size groups at single, open air picnic tables are to be accommodated in the area indicated due east of the pavilion on Plan RC, while small clusters of tables for larger group sizes should be considered near the two playgrounds. These facilities might be as minimal as a picnic table and shade, but could include grills for outdoor cooking.

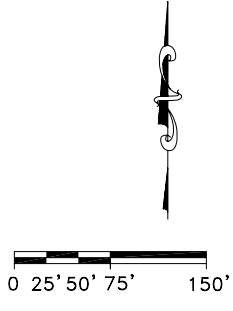
D. CONCLUSION

In summary, the recommended rehabilitation for Memorial Park will enrich the park experience. Trail links will connect neighborhoods and other parks to Memorial Park enhancing the use of this civic landscape. The new tree plantings will provide a more pleasing park landscape and will renew the important Memorial Grove. The enlarged and connected system of paths within the park will encourage strolling and exercise walking through the park. These paths will also connect to the park's conserved and interpreted monuments, affording a more engaging experience and an added appreciation for these memorials. Upgraded recreation facilities and picnicking areas will contribute to a richer, more diverse use of Memorial Park. The upgrading of utilities will add to the functionality and enjoyment of the park as well.



GENERAL REHABILITATION NOTES

1. Conserve monuments, provide path links & nearby seating for viewing
2. Conserve pavilion & rehabilitate bathhouse exterior
3. Reestablish historic planting patterns of tree lined drives/walks to minimize parking lots and enhance park aesthetic
4. Create pedestrian circulation system that links destinations and entrances, utilizing segments of the historic circulation system and existing walks
5. Recapture "canyon" effect at selected road-cuts and triangular intersections with use of small evergreens and boulders



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*Rehabilitation
Concepts Plan*

Plan Number:
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*Memorial Park
Cultural Landscape Report
Fort Wayne, Indiana*



CHAPTER VII: MEMORIAL PARK TREATMENT IMPLEMENTATION PHASING & STRATEGIES

A. INTRODUCTION

The comprehensive rehabilitation of Memorial Park is a long-term effort that is expected to span ten to twenty years. Within the context of this effort there are a number of tools, techniques and methods that serve as routes to progress. The first among these is a phasing strategy and LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP presents and enumerates the elements of a *Rehabilitation Phasing Plan* in the first section of this chapter. The second section sets forth the potential elements of an implementation strategy. The development of an effective collaboration of public and private partners for park renewal is at the core of successful efforts in several cities and aspects of this type of partnership are presented in the closing section.

B. MEMORIAL PARK REHABILITATION PRIORITIES & PHASING

Each project or renewal initiative needs to be considered within the whole and carried out in a logical sequence. LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP has put forward a logical phasing sequence that addresses areas of greatest need and most compelling renewal opportunity first. The rehabilitation treatment of Memorial Park is a flexible process and is easily phased according to need, interest and economic opportunities. A suggested phasing strategy, laid out in nine project phases, is shown on the *Rehabilitation Phasing Plan*, Plan RP.

In general, when an area of a park is the subject of a project, LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP recommends the renewal of all aspects of that area from underground utility and drainage infrastructure to paths, features, equipment, furnishings and plantings. This plan divides the treatment projects into nine geographically arranged project areas ordered by priority. The boundaries of project areas are logical. As the implementation progresses, the sequence and focus of projects can follow this plan or be adjusted to suit current resources and interests. LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP finds that the first one to three phases often follow the planned strategy and then, as park renewal gains momentum and uses increase and shift, the priorities also shift to accommodate needs, desires and funding opportunities. The following text lists the project areas and briefly summarizes the principal tasks.

1. Construct Northwest Path & Triangle

- Construct 8' to 10' wide pedestrian paths on the former park drives that entered the park from the intersection of Washington Boulevard and Glasgow Avenue and from Humphrey Street
- Create a new path north of the parking lots connecting to the sprayground
- Restore historic trees along the northwest path
- Plant a double row of trees north of parking lots
- Replant triangular intersection with evergreens and boulders

2. Conserve Historic Stone & Metal Monuments

- Clean and repair the metal and masonry elements of the Art Smith, World War and Pond memorials
- Repair the fountains at the Pond memorial
- Replant Pond memorial and others as necessary
- Install monument access paths with benches for seating to look at the monument without blocking the views of the monument from the park and street
- Add interpretive signage or develop an informational brochure about park history and memorials

3. Enhance Northeast Gateway & Washington Boulevard

- Plant flowering trees on the flanks of the memorial wall framing the viewshed
- Plant a double row of large deciduous trees on both sides of Washington Boulevard
- Rehabilitate exterior of bathhouse
- Remove the billboard on adjacent private property if possible

4. Enhance Southwest Gateway & Maumee Avenue

- Enhance southwest corner and interpret the historic Grotto and ponds
- Construct paths on Glasgow Avenue, through southwest corner, and along north edge of basketball courts
- Add row of large trees on the south side of the basketball courts
- Supplement evergreen planting on former Grotto bank with additional evergreens and boulders
- Add large deciduous trees to the northwest and northeast of the basketball courts

5. Replant Memorial Grove

- Replant the 125 tree Memorial Grove with historic trees in historic locations to the degree that these can be documented; plant over a period of time adjusting to the existing mature trees as needed
- Plant new evergreen plantings and boulders as seen in historic views to bolster remaining ones along selected areas of elliptical walk encircling the grove and in two triangular intersections
- Reconstruct east leg path at the southern triangular intersection
- Develop and implement Memorial Grove interpretive program of signs, brochures and guided tours
- Install seating facilities on west side of grove placed to enjoy the Memorial Grove and Art Smith monument without interfering with scenic character

6. Add Picnic Pavilion Terrace, Picnic Areas & Turf Parking

- Conserve picnic pavilion as needed; replace overhead doors appropriately
- Construct terrace on south side of pavilion for outdoor gathering adjacent to pavilion
- Add paths on east end of pavilion for ease of movement around the structure
- Supplement large tree planting on south hillside, add trees to edges of parking lots
- Enhance picnicking facilities south of sprayground, install minimal picnicking facilities on knoll west of pavilion

- Replace large asphalt parking lot with reinforced turf for overflow parking; use a simple gravel and soil fill detail or a more elaborate high density plastic grid support system

7. Plant East Tree Screen

- Remove invasive and non-desirable woody plant species along the eastern park boundary
- Plant an informal screen of large deciduous trees and evergreens along eastern park boundary to reinforce the park landscape and contain views from the neighboring residential and commercial land uses

8. Upgrade Baseball Facilities

- Rehabilitate bleacher area to accommodate games, spectators
- Commemorate field history, the Fort Wayne Daisies, with interpretation in the form of a sign or brochure
- Rehabilitate infield and outfield as needed for IIT women's team play and other users

9. Rehabilitate Playground & Entrance Drive

- Replace outdated play equipment with new equipment that makes this play area different from the sprayground facility
- Add benches for viewing play
- Add picnic tables for family use nearby
- Supplement remnant evergreens along entrance drive with additional evergreens and boulders; restore shade tree allée (double row) at northwest end of drive
- Supplement west tree visual screening and park enclosure with informal grouping of new, large deciduous tree planting
- Construct paths along western edge of playground to access the World War memorial

C. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

When plans are put forward to address the implementation of projects, the approach most often considered is to develop project documents, secure bids, choose a contractor and undertake the desired improvements. In historic park rehabilitation LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP has worked in three basic ways to make progress in implementing plans. The three strategies that can be adopted to economically assist in the implementation of the rehabilitation treatment include:

- Traditional capital projects carried out under municipal or private partner lead contract process
- Staff initiatives with Recreation & Parks and other City Departments carried out generally in new areas of work such as training for and implementing a forest management plan
- Volunteer initiatives that address rewarding hands-on work in the parks, undertaking rehabilitation tasks that are difficult to achieve today, including such tasks as suppression of invasive species, vista management, erosion control, tree planting and the like

These three approaches are each viable and make contributions to the overall park renewal effort. The application of these strategies varies in their ability to address project needs and are often used in combination to achieve the desired results. There are additional benefits as well; city staff can undertake new areas of work, add training, and enhance skills, morale and team spirit. In order to add new areas of work, selected other tasks will need to be reduced or overall capacity increased. Fort Wayne Recreation & Parks demonstrates in its record that efficiencies have been applied with care and the staff is working a full capacity. What is found in other city park systems is that mowing and trash removal are considerable staffing efforts absorbing a high percentage of field staff time. An approach that was implemented in our work in Rochester, New York's historic parks was to institute a carry in/carry out trash policy for park areas and wherever possible by removing trash containers and posting friendly, informative signs for park users. While the level of litter remained, overall staff time on trash collection and hauling was substantially reduced thereby allowing staff to engage in more productive activities. In Pittsburgh Bureau of Parks, Department of Public Works staff members are training in horticultural skills at Phipps Conservatory and are working hands on in woodland trail and drainage rehabilitation with LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP staff providing expertise and hands-on training.

The use of volunteers to carry out implementation tasks is often overlooked. This is in part due to challenges to organization, commitment, reliability, and defining appropriate tasks. Despite these challenges, the use of volunteers has several long-term benefits. Community volunteers are empowered; the efforts raise a sense of collective stewardship and pride in the parks is instilled. This in turn raises use levels in the park and lessens the likelihood of negative behaviors and vandalism thus enhancing the quality of the park environment.

Volunteer initiatives, such as seasonal park clean-up efforts, erosion control work, display garden preparation, planting and care, trail repair, plantings and plant and habitat inventories can engage interested park users in rewarding, hands-on park work. Volunteers learn skills, gain knowledge about the parks, and develop greater pride in their shared public green spaces. In several cities a "Weed Team" has been organized to work on invasive species suppression. The Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy has organized a number of hands-on park sessions for education and park improvements to include planting efforts, erosion control and trail repair. In particular, cost-saving strategies such as using grant dollars or technological construction breakthroughs should be sought. City of Pittsburgh Partners in Parks and the local Student Conservation Association, as well as corporate and business work groups, collaborate with the PPC in these volunteer park efforts.

Staff and volunteer initiatives can also have a positive benefit on project budgets with a notable level of savings over fully contracted services. The Buffalo, New York, Olmsted Parks Conservancy undertook a significant volunteer effort to plant trees, 1,000 trees on Arbor Day weekend, 2001. Using gel-coated bare-root trees as opposed to the conventional ball-and-burlap method of transplanting, crews of ten with one team leader planted three or four trees at a time after a start-up training session. Nina Bassuk, Ph.D. and her associates at Cornell University developed this technology and have implemented it in conjunction with Schichtel's Nursery in Springville, New York. The one-inch diameter trees weigh about twenty-five pounds, are easily shipped and carried, and can be planted in prepared soil quite readily.

D. PRIVATE-PUBLIC PARTNERSHIP STRATEGIES FOR PARK RENEWAL

In the past twenty-five years, several cities have undertaken significant partnership efforts to bring additional resources and skills to city parks from the private sector. Over time, parks and recreation budgets in municipalities throughout the United States have been reduced. Parks and recreation departments have traditionally been seen as amenity elements rather than basic services. In recent years, a hue and cry for improved parks, both physical and programming, has been heard, but city and county resources are inadequate to meet the level of demand. Both the level of field staffing for operations and maintenance and the level of funding and oversight for capital improvements are well below need. An important issue for parks is the opportunity to raise capital dollars more readily than to fund maintenance and repairs to keep facilities in good working order. Deferred maintenance cycles into the need for thorough rebuilding but takes a toll in the decline of facilities. The other issue is that capital dollar availability often requires a visible, compelling project that focuses on facilities and features rather than the broader park landscape. This focus on objects within the landscape, rather than the larger whole, often leads to project-specific thinking and well-intended projects that are implemented in parks in unfortunate ways. It is important to remember that the majority of people use parks as green oases, places of nature, beauty and tranquility. A comprehensive, holistic approach is needed to address these issues and this rehabilitation plan for Lakeside Park takes a comprehensive approach to strengthening the unique character and qualities of this civic park to support healthy enriching park use.

In several cities private non-profit partners have been formed to bring additional support to the parks and recreation arena. Private partners bring enthusiasm, skills, dedication, and often, substantial private dollars to add value beyond what America's cities can provide. In order to gain funding support for capital projects and endowments from private sources, it is important to begin with a comprehensive plan and to form appropriate agreements with responsibilities of the partners delineated. A well-respected private partner organization serves to assure potential donors that their contributions will be meaningful, durable and properly cared for in the long term. Partnership agreements take various forms. Areas of activity most often include aspects of operations, capital projects, programs, marketing and development and citizen advocacy. In each city LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP has studied, the specific areas of interest and activity vary to a degree. In all examples there is a level of mutual respect, trust and cooperation that is brought to the effort in every collaboration. In its most basic formula, the private partner is a conduit and partner that brings management and community support for the funding of projects, initiatives, programs and endowments.

The Louisville, Kentucky, Olmsted Parks Conservancy, established in 1994 to address 2,000 acres of historic Olmsted landscapes has partnered effectively with Louisville and Jefferson County Parks. Beginning with community-based master planning, the LOPC has implemented \$10 million in capital projects and an array of programs for staff and volunteer efforts to put some shine on their tarnished park and parkway system. The LOPC is overseen by a Board of Directors and includes divisions in fund development, public programs and volunteers, landscape architecture, market and community relations, administration and specialized contract

maintenance. They have also begun to build an endowment fund for the future by using a portion of capital project funding for endowment as projects are undertaken.

Riverfront Recapture in Hartford, Connecticut, began with a focus on the Connecticut River that advocated planning and public access. Over a period of fifteen years they sequentially reinvented themselves to bring planning to implementation, ongoing maintenance and programming that succeeded in recapturing the river to an amazing degree. Between 1981 and 1999, they focused \$44.5 million of public and private funds on capital projects along the Hartford and East Hartford riverfronts.

In Pittsburgh, the five-year-old Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy has over 1,200 citizen members and has partnered effectively with the City Planning Department to complete a master plan and a management study for the four regional parks with 1,400 acres of parkland. They have raised substantial private funds to support capital project, educational programs and volunteer initiatives. An example is the privately funded rehabilitation of the Homewood Entry Landscape and Gatehouse at Frick Park. This project addressed the rebuilding of an historic stone wall, replicating the deteriorated bluestone paving, replanting a grove of hawthorn trees, pines and maples, the reroofing, cleaning and lighting of the gatehouse, the design and installation of a wayfinding park map as well as an illustrated welcome sign communicating park history and user rules. In conjunction with the project, a seventh grade class from a neighborhood school engaged in a four-session program to learn about landscape architecture, design, and team work that used the project as a resource. Both the entry renewal and the school educational component have been widely praised.

Parks are not simply amenities. They communicate the health of our cities and the values we place on shared resources. In recent research, Richard Florida, Ph.D., has determined that the creative class of young, bright people value ready access to healthy, scenic parks as a primary indicator of their choice to live in a city and neighborhood. In the current climate and foreseeable future, it is not enough to demand greater service from the municipality. The added value that a private, non-profit partner can bring to parks and recreation is not optional. It is required and critically needed to provide graceful, beautiful, enriching parks for modern life.



Proposed Phasing

- 1 Construct northwest path & triangle
- 2 Conserve historic stone & metal monuments
- 3 Enhance northeast gateway & Washington Blvd.
- 4 Enhance southwest gateway & Maumee Ave.
- 5 Replant Memorial Grove
- 6 Add picnic pavilion terrace, picnic areas & turf parking
- 7 Plant east tree screen
- 8 Upgrade baseball facilities
- 9 Rehabilitate playground & entrance drive

0 25' 50' 75' 150'



Memorial Park Cultural Landscape Report Fort Wayne, Indiana



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Drawing Title:

Rehabilitation Phasing Plan

Plan Number:

RP

Date:

August 2002

APPENDIX A: USER SURVEY FORM

MEMORIAL PARK
User Survey

A Historic Landscape Report is in progress for Memorial Park. It will assess the historic and current conditions of the park and the needs of park users. This process includes the input of the local community and park users in order to understand park uses, attitudes and opinions about the park. This survey will assist in the process by providing information that will be incorporated into the rehabilitation plan for the park. Please use the back of this survey for additional comments. Your time is greatly appreciated. Please return the completed survey to:

Don Orban, Project Manager
Planning Department
City of Fort Wayne
One Main Street Room 800
Fort Wayne, IN 46802
Phone: 219-427-2160 Fax: 219-427-1132

I am a regular park user in (check all that apply):

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Summer | <input type="checkbox"/> Winter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fall | <input type="checkbox"/> Spring |

In summer, do you come to the park:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Daily | <input type="checkbox"/> A few times a year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> More than once a week | <input type="checkbox"/> Never |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A few times a month | |

How long do you usually stay in Memorial Park when visiting?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 hour or less | <input type="checkbox"/> more than 3 hours |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1-3 hours | |

How do you get to the park?

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Car | <input type="checkbox"/> Walk |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Bike |

How close do you live to the park?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Right next to the park | <input type="checkbox"/> 5-15 minute walk |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Less than a 5 minute walk | <input type="checkbox"/> Not within easy walking distance |

When you come to the park, do you come (check all that apply):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alone | <input type="checkbox"/> With a family member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> With a friend | <input type="checkbox"/> With a group |

What do you do when visiting the park?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jogging/Fitness | <input type="checkbox"/> Swimming |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leisure Walking | <input type="checkbox"/> Basketball |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dog Walking | <input type="checkbox"/> Baseball/Softball |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Picnicking | <input type="checkbox"/> Children's Playground |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Enjoying Nature | <input type="checkbox"/> Relaxation/Socialization |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunbathing | <input type="checkbox"/> Observing Park Memorials |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attending Organized Activities/Events | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Are there additional activities you would like to see in Memorial Park?

Are there activities you would like to see eliminated from Memorial Park?

Please rate the following areas of Memorial Park (please check one rating for each):

	Excellent	Good	Ave.	Fair	Poor
General Appearance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cleanliness/Litter Pick-up	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Safety/Security	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Condition of Trees	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Condition of Plants (Grass, Shrubs, etc)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Condition of Picnic Pavilion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Condition of Swimming Pool & Bathhouse	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Condition of Playground	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Condition of Basketball Courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Condition of Park Memorials	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Park Access	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Condition of Drive & Parking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Condition of Park Walks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adequacy of Park Signage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

What aspects or facilities of Memorial Park do you see as adequate?

What aspects or facilities of Memorial Park do you see as inadequate or unnecessary?

What ideas would you suggest to improve Memorial Park?

What is your age range?

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 10-16 | <input type="checkbox"/> 36-45 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 17-24 | <input type="checkbox"/> 46-64 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 25-35 | <input type="checkbox"/> 65+ |

What is your gender?

- Female
 Male

Do you have children aged 18 or under?

- Female: How Many? _____ Ages _____
 Male: How Many? _____ Ages _____

What is the highest level of education you have completed (optional)?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Primary/middle school | <input type="checkbox"/> College graduate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High school/ GED | <input type="checkbox"/> Post college/graduate school |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Some college | |

What is your ethnic background (optional)?

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black | <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> White | <input type="checkbox"/> Native American |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

Cultural Landscape Reports are also being conducted for two other local parks, Lakeside Park and Swinney Park. If you would like to complete a survey for these parks, please contact Don Orban at 219-427-2160.

How often do you visit Lakeside Park?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Daily | <input type="checkbox"/> A few times a year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> More than once a week | <input type="checkbox"/> Never |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A few times a month | |

How often do you visit Swinney Park?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Daily | <input type="checkbox"/> A few times a year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> More than once a week | <input type="checkbox"/> Never |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A few times a month | |

Thank you for your time and participation.

Memorial Park Survey Results

Apr-02

Total Surveys Collected 2

(Numbers represent amount of people who responded to the question and percentage of respondents)

1. I am a regular park user in:

- A. Summer 2
- B. Fall
- C. Winter
- D. Spring

2. In summer, do you come to the park?

- A. Daily
- B. More than once a week
- C. A few times a month 1
- D. A few times a year 1
- E. Never

3. How long do you usually stay in Memorial Park when visiting?

- A. 1 hour or less 1
- B. 1-3 hours 1
- C. More than 3 hours

4. How do you get to the park?

- A. Car 2
- B. Public Transportation
- C. Walk
- D. Bike

5. How close to the park do you live?

- A. Right next to the park
- B. Less than a 5 minute walk
- C. 5-15 minute walk 1
- D. Not within easy walking distance 1

6. When you come to the park, do you come:

- A. Alone 1
- B. With a friend
- C. With a family member 1
- D. With a group

7. What do you do when visiting the park?

- A. Jogging/Fitness
- B. Leisure Walking
- C. Dog Walking
- D. Picknicking
- E. Enjoying nature
- F. Sunbathing
- G. Attending Organized Activities 2
- H. Swimming
- I. Basketball
- J. Baseball/Softball
- K. Children's playground 1
- L. Relaxation/Socialization
- M. Observing Park Memorials
- N. Other 1

8. What additional activities would you like to see offered at Memorial Park?

- Social Events 1
- Sporting Activities
- Youth Programs

9. Please rate the following area of Memorial Park:

	Excellent	Good	Average	Fair	Poor
General Appearance		1	1		
Cleanliness/Litter Pick-up		1	1		
Safety/Security		2			
Condition of Trees			1	1	
Condition of Plants			1	1	
Condition of Picnic Pavillion		1		1	
Condition of Swimming Pool and Bathhouse				1	
Condition of Playground			1		1
Condition of Basketball Courts				1	1
Condition of Park Memorials			1	1	
Park Access				1	1
Condition of Drives and Parking		1			1
Condition of Park Walks					1
Adequacy of Park Signage				1	1

10. What aspects or facilities do you see as adequate?

- Baseball Diamor 1

11. What aspects or facilities of Memorial Park do you see as inadequate or unnecessary?

- One entrance to the park 1

12. What ideas would you suggest to improve Memorial park?

- Addition of walking and rollerblading/biki 1
- Opening alternative entries 1

13. What is your age range?

- A. 10-16
- B. 17-24
- C. 25-35
- D. 36-45
- E. 46-64 2
- F. 65+

14. What is your gender?

- A. Male 2
- B. Female

15. Do you have children aged 18 or under?

- A. No 1
- B. Yes 1

16. If so, are they?

- A. Male How many? 1 Ages: 5
- B. Female How many? Ages:

17. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

- A. Primary/Middle School
- B. High School/GED
- C. Some College
- D. College Graduate 1
- E. Post College/Graduate School 1

18. What is your ethnic background?

- A. Black 1
- B. White
- C. Asian
- D. Hispanic
- E. Native American
- F. Other

19. How often do you visit Lakeside Park?

- A. Daily
- B. More than once a week
- C. A few times a month
- D. A few times a year 2
- E. Never

20. How often do you visit Swinney Park?

- A. Daily
- B. More than once a week
- C. A few times a month
- D. A few times a year
- E. Never 2

APPENDIX B: CREATING THE URBAN FOREST: THE BARE ROOT METHOD

Creating the Urban Forest: *The Bare Root Method*



UHI

*Cornell University
Ithaca, New York*

The video “Creating an Urban Forest: *The Bare Root Tree Planting Method*” and this publication are joint projects of Cornell University’s Urban Horticulture Institute (UHI) and the Ithaca City Forestry Department. This method works for us but success depends on many factors and each situation will be unique. For more information contact:

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To order more copies of the bare root transplanting video, contact the Urban Horticulture Institute at the above address. This and all UHI publications are available on-line at the UHI web site:

<<http://www.hort.cornell.edu/department/faculty/bassuk/uhi>>.

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We thank Rose Marrabitt and Eric Woodward for their dedication to Ithaca’s urban forest.

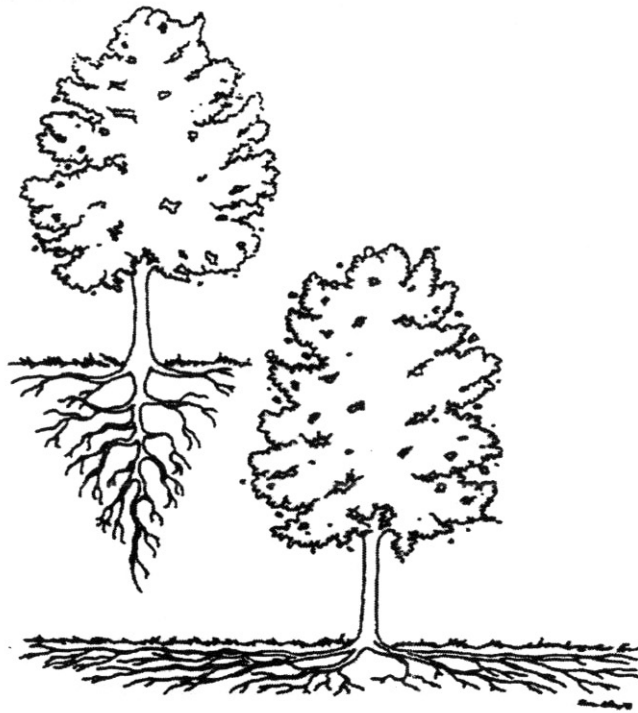
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Why Transplanting is Traumatic

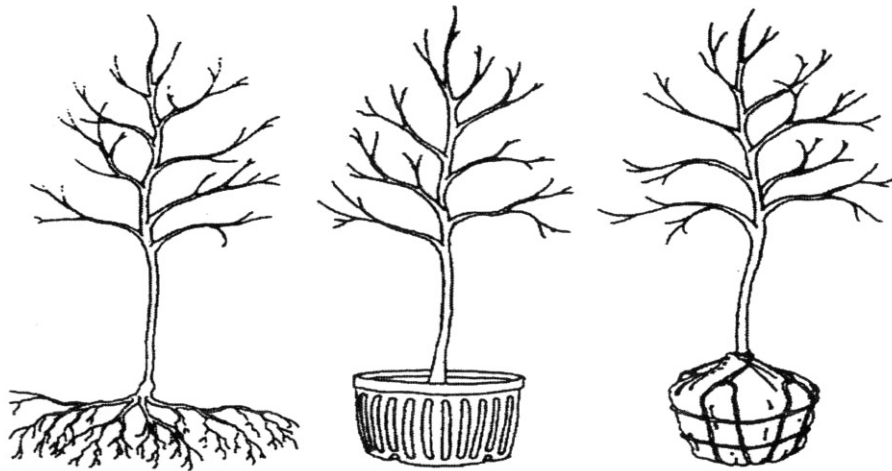
Whether from a nursery field to the city tree lawn or just from one place in your yard to another, it's the roots that suffer when trees are transplanted. Consider this: Shade tree roots are found primarily in the top 12 inches of soil. Tiny absorbing roots, responsible for most of the tree's intake of water and nutrients, are in the top several inches of soil. Roots not only grow horizontally beyond the dripline, there often is a higher percentage of them beyond the dripline than within it.

An unbelievable 90% of tree roots are routinely left behind in the nursery at the time of harvest. The fine absorbing roots that are harvested are easily broken off, damaged and desiccated. Water stress, resulting in part from the tremendous reduction in root mass, is the main reason transplanted trees fail.



Far left: The incorrect “mirror of the canopy” version of how tree roots grow.

Near left: The correct depiction: tree roots are close to the surface, laterally spreading, and spread significantly beyond the dripline of the tree.



The three principal nursery production methods, left to right: **Bare root**, **Container grown**, **Balled and burlapped (B&B)**.

Why Bare Root? --- ---

The three main nursery production methods are balled and burlapped (B&B), bare root, and container grown. Container nurseries are less common in the northern U.S. where low winter temperatures restrict their use to smaller sized plant material. Container grown trees are generally the most expensive of the three methods and are subject to circling roots that can reduce a tree's vigor. While the lightweight media used in containers is useful for free drainage out of pots, once in the ground the medium may lose its water too readily to the surrounding native soil.

Conventional wisdom says that B&B production is superior to bare root because a protective ball of soil surrounds the roots at harvest. However, we find that for many species the positive attributes of bare root planting outweigh the perceived B&B edge. The three best arguments for the bare root method:

1. **You can plant more trees more cheaply.** Bare root trees are one-third to one-half less expensive than B&B trees. Because they are so much lighter and many more can fit on the bed of a truck, they are cheaper to ship. Planting a bare root tree costs virtually nothing when done by volunteers with shovels. The cost of planting a B&B tree, by contrast, is markedly higher because the sheer weight of the ball requires machinery and machinery operators to load the tree, unload it, and to get it in the ground.
2. **You will take more roots along.** A simple study was done at Cornell to compare the amount of roots in a B&B ball with the root mass on a bare root harvested tree of the same size and species. The bare root trees had 200% more roots. The reason for this? The harvesting machinery for bare root trees digs a much larger root system than the tree spade used for B&B digging.
3. **You'll avoid the deadly planting-too-deep syndrome.** Frequently when a newly transplanted B&B tree dies, it is because it was planted too deep. When the fine absorbing roots are buried too far down, they can't access oxygen and the tree suffocates. Trees should be planted so that

their root flare begins just at the soil line. With B&B trees, the soil may be mounded on the trunk, making it difficult to see the buried root flare. On the other hand, the root flare of bare root trees is obvious and the proper planting depth easy to determine.

Need more persuasion? When you plant bare root you can spot girdling roots and remove them before you plant; with B&B trees girdled roots can be buried. With bare root trees you won't rob nurseries of their valuable field soil and there is no ball of nursery soil meeting the city soil with potential "interface" problems in terms of water movement.

For municipalities with limited tree budgets, the low cost of the bare root method is the most critical factor. With a budget of \$500, volunteers can plant ten trees a year.

So why hasn't everyone switched to bare root planting? With municipal tree planting there is an inevitable holding period between digging the trees and planting them. During this period, *root desiccation* is the most critical disadvantage to planting bare root trees. In the past, people put wet straw around the roots or coated them in a mud slurry. These methods did not prove satisfactory or practical; the straw did not protect fine roots adequately and the mud slurry tended to dry out and chip off.

We use a synthetic, non-toxic product called *hydrogel* to solve the desiccation problem for that critical time between digging and replanting. Hydrogels are polymers that look like table sugar when dry, but can hold several hundred times their weight in water. There are fine grades and coarse grades available; be sure to use the fine grades because they give much better coverage of the absorbing roots. We dip tree roots in a hydrogel slurry and immediately bag them in plastic to protect the roots from drying out until the tree is planted no more than a week later.

Getting Started

At Least Three Months Before Planting Day

- Contact your local *wholesale* nursery growers. Find out who does bare root digging and request that they let you set up a dipping operation the day the trees are dug. Some nurseries, such as Schichtel's in Buffalo, are equipped to do the dipping themselves. Our hope is that consumer-driven demand will prompt more nurseries to offer this service.
- Place an order for 1 ½ - 2 inch caliper trees that are good bare root prospects (see Appendix). Caliper size greater than 2 inch is not recommended for bare root transplanting. Even a 2 inch tree will be more difficult to transplant than a 1.5 or 1.75 inch tree, so the smaller the caliper, the better. The digging should be one during the dormant season for your area. In Ithaca, we fetch dormant bare root trees in late October or early November for fall planting, mid-April for spring planting. Trees should not be leafed out — in fall most dormant trees have lost their leaves; in spring dormant trees have not yet broken bud.
- Order and gather the supplies: fine-grade hydrogel, plastic bags, tree tags, shovels (manufacturers listed in Appendix). Consider investing in tree irrigator bags (illustrated on page 11). They hold 20 gallons of water and slowly release it to the roots, saving watering time and aiding in tree establishment. Tree irrigator bags also keep the mowers and string trimmers away from young trunks, where just one wound can cause serious damage.

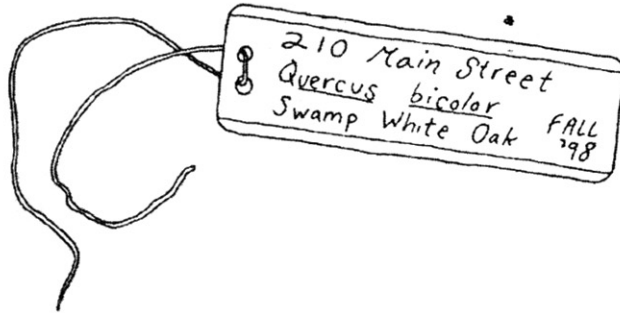
Urban Trees: Site Assessment, Selection for Stress Tolerance, Planting, edited by Nina L. Bassuk and published by the Urban Horticulture Institute (UHI) at Cornell, contains lists of tough urban trees, detailed instructions on how to conduct a site assessment, and transplanting guidelines. See the UHI web site at: <http://www.hort.cornell.edu/departments/faculty/bassuk/uhi>.

- Assess available planting sites. The more comprehensive your site assessment, the better your tree will be matched and will thrive in its location. If overhead wires are present, consider planting a small species, one that matures no taller than 30 feet. Make sure there is adequate soil volume for the mature tree size. Note drainage problems, soil texture and pH. Note how windy or hot the site is. Will snow removal mean deicing salts get deposited on tree roots? Match the conditions of the site with the strengths of the tree species.
- Cluster sites for ease of planting. Select 20% more sites than you need, since some sites will not work out. Write or speak to the property owners near the sites (including those near the alternate sites) and get their OK. Inform them of what's going to happen and invite their participation.
- Galvanize your volunteer crew and plan the dipping day and planting day.

The Week Before Planting Day

- Make a call to have underground utilities marked for the sites you plan to use. Call directory assistance and ask for your state's "underground locating service." In New York State it is the Underground Facilities Protective Organization (1-800-962-7962). In New York City and Long Island, the number is 1-800-272-4480. In New York you must call at least two but not more than ten working days ahead of the day you wish to plant. Ask them if they'd like you to mark your proposed planting site ahead of time (usually with a white spray paint circle) and about the legal distances you need to maintain once the underground utilities are located and painted for you. Be prepared to adjust your planting site to accommodate utilities.
- Prepare aluminum marking tags for your trees (see supplies). Label each tree with its intended address before it gets dipped and bagged so that when volunteers pick up the trees to plant, they can simply go to the address on the label. You may also want to label the tree's scientific name, its common name, and the date of planting.

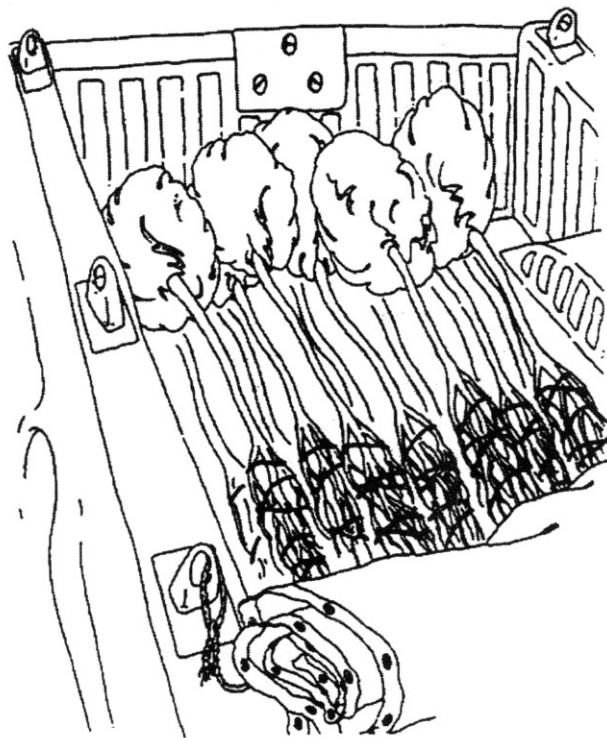
- Work with the nursery to have your trees dug within 24 hours of your arrival. If they absolutely must be dug earlier, they should be kept in a cool, dark place and watered frequently. Bare roots should never be allowed to dry out! Verify that the nursery will tie the branches with twine to prevent breakage in transit.



Dipping Day at the Nursery

- Take an enclosed truck or a truck that can be tarped to transport the trees after dipping. Bring hydrogel, buckets, metal tags, plastic bags. If the nursery can't supply a large (50-100 gallon) plastic vat for mixing the hydrogel and water, bring a vat and something to stir with. The vat should be much wider than tall to allow for the widespreading root system of bare root trees. We use durable plastic horse troughs.
- Follow manufacturer's recommendations for root dips; we use about 15 oz of hydrogel per 25 gallons of water. Allow 30 minutes to an hour for the hydrogel to become fully hydrated in the water; it should be the consistency of thick gravy when you start dipping. You can stir to hasten the hydration process; while you're waiting, attach pre-marked aluminum tags loosely to a lateral branch of each tree.
- Dip the root system in the slurry. Don't shake the hydrogel off the roots — you want to leave as much coating on the roots as possible. Immediately slip the roots into a large, pleated plastic bag. Pleated, or gusseted, bags are important — if you use non-pleated bags the roots will poke through the sides. Knot the bag around the trunk to hold in moisture.

Dipping and bagging at the nursery. Make sure all roots are covered in the hydrogel slurry.



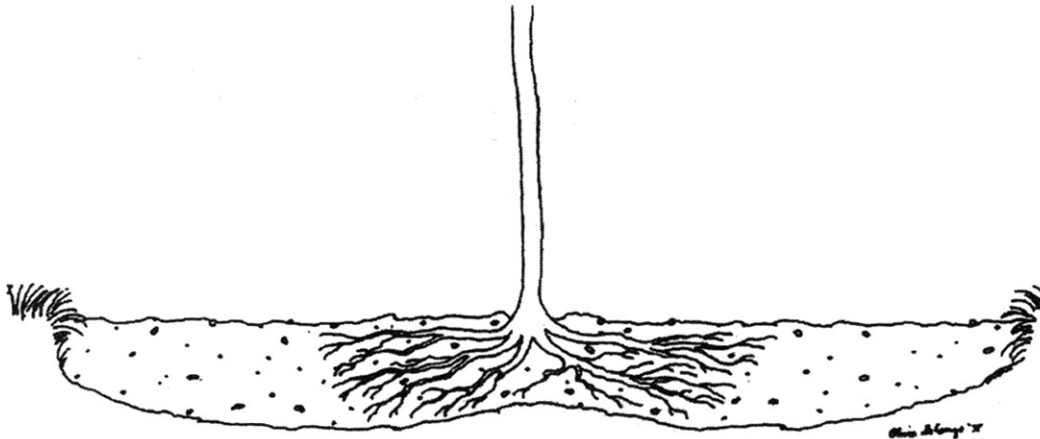
Dipped and bagged trees ready to be tarped and transported. A tarp is essential to keep the wind from desiccating tree tops and roots.

- After bagging, trees should be stored in a cool, shaded place until ready to be transported. Stack trees in the truck bed, being careful not to injure bark or break branches. Water down the bagged trees to create humidity in the truck bed. Close the truck bed or securely tarp it for your trip back to the city. Upon arrival trees should be stored in a cool, shaded building until ready to plant. The sooner you plant, the better — but wait no more than a week after dipping.

Planting Day

On the day of planting, bring trees out of storage and lay them down in a central, shady staging area. Keep them out of the sun. Remind volunteers about underground utility considerations, and instruct them on proper planting.

- Carry the tree, with roots still bagged, to the planting site. Lay the tree on its side and remove all string and nursery plastic flags. Leave only the aluminum marking tag and make sure it is attached loosely to prevent girdling.
- Prune only dead or broken branches. At this stage the tree needs all the potential leaves it can get.
- Dig the planting hole wide and shallow. Do not loosen the soil that will be underneath the root system; instead concentrate on creating loose soil horizontally for the spreading roots. The hole should be 2-3 times wider in all directions than the root spread. A hint for loosening soil: use the hole you are digging as a “bowl” to first break up the soil clods, then shovel the loosened soil out.
- Turf surrounding the tree should be completely removed so it doesn’t compete with the newly planted tree for water.
- Remove the tree from the plastic bag and stand it upright in the hole. Plant the tree so that the beginning of the root flare is visible at soil level. It is critical not to plant the tree too deep. Lay your shovel across the hole to see where the shovel meets the root flare and adjust the planting depth

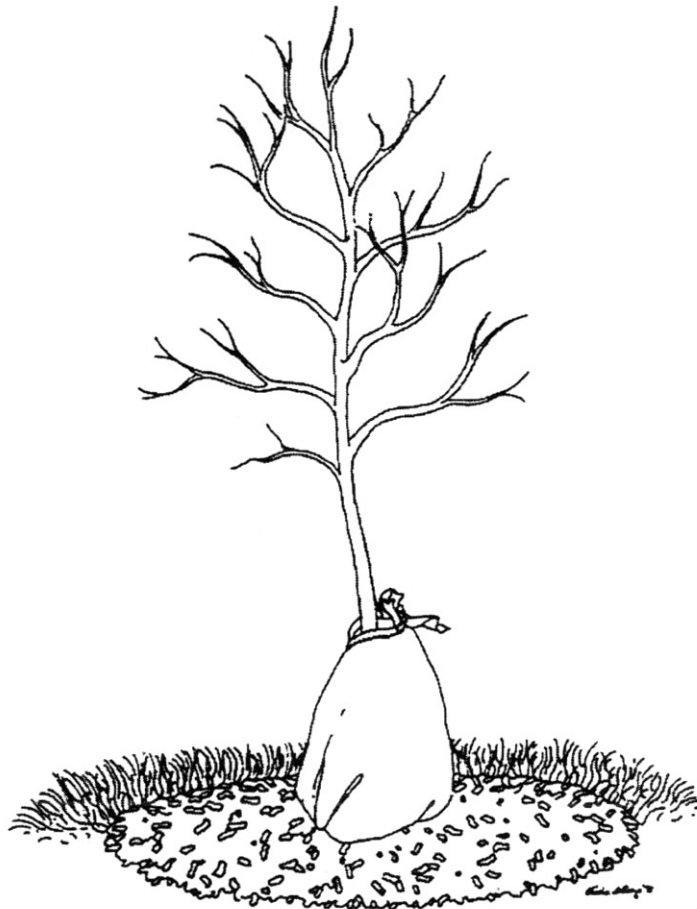


Dig the planting hole shallow and wide, at least three times the diameter of the tree roots. The beginning of the root flare should be at soil level.

accordingly. If you anticipate settling of the soil, plant a little high. *It is better to plant too high than too deep.*

- Check to see that the tree is plumb, then backfill with the native soil that you have removed. Do not use amendments in the planting hole. When you've replaced half of the backfill, water the hole to help collapse air pockets. Alternatively, use the opposite, wood end of your shovel to gently poke out air pockets. Finish backfilling, and gently firm soil. Make sure the soil is not mounded against the trunk and that the beginning of the root flare is showing above ground.
- Mulch over the entire rooting area with 2-4" of wood chips or shredded bark mulch. The farther out you mulch, the better. Don't let mulch mound against the trunk since this could create a favorable environment for fungi.
- Attach a tree irrigator bag, making sure the tape has been removed from all trickle holes. Fill bags at least once a week during dry spells. Fertilizer is *not* recommended for newly planted trees.

- Staking is not necessary and can even be detrimental for most young trees. The exceptions: an extremely windy site, a tree with an unusually small root system, an unusually large sail/canopy relative to a tree's root system, or a tree whose trunk is seriously bowed. A final reason to stake is to protect trees in high traffic areas where vandalism is feared. Young trees are less likely to be victimized when staked.
- Initial maintenance: Mulch should be maintained at a depth of 2-4". If you employ stakes or guy wires, remove these devices after 1-2 years to prevent girdling of the tree. Start training trees one full year after they are planted.



Appendix

These lists are based on the experiences of UHI and Ithaca's urban forestry program. Success may vary from city to city.

Trees Easy to Plant Bare Root

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Acer buergeranum</i>	Trident Maple
<i>Acer campestre</i>	Hedge Maple
<i>Acer x fremanii</i>	Freeman Maple
<i>Acer platanoides</i>	Norway Maple
<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore Maple
<i>Acer rubrum</i>	Red Maple
<i>Acer saccharum</i>	Sugar Maple
<i>Acer truncatum</i>	Shantung Maple
<i>Amelanchier</i> spp.	Serviceberry
<i>Catalpa speciosa</i>	Cigar Tree
<i>Cercidiphyllum japonicum</i>	Katsura Tree
<i>Cladrastis kentukea</i>	Yellowwood
<i>Cornus mas</i>	Cornelian Cherry Dogwood
<i>Cornus racemosa</i>	Gray Dogwood
<i>Fraxinus</i> spp.	Ash
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>	Honeylocust
<i>Gymnocladus dioicus</i>	Kentucky Coffee Tree
<i>Malus</i> spp.	Crabapple
<i>Parrotia persica</i>	Persian Parrotia
<i>Platanus x acerifolia</i>	London Plane Tree
<i>Prunus</i> 'Accolade'	Accolade Flowering Cherry
<i>Prunus virginiana</i> 'Canada Red'	Chokecherry
<i>Pyrus calleryana</i>	Callery Pear
<i>Pyrus ussuriensis</i>	Pear
<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	Swamp White Oak
<i>Quercus rubra</i>	Northern Red Oak
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i> cultivars: 'Purple Robe,' 'Pyramidalis,' 'Globosum,' 'Bessoniana,' 'Twisty Baby'	Black Locust

<i>Sorbus intermedia</i>	European Mountain Ash
<i>Syringa reticulata</i>	Japanese Tree Lilac
<i>Tilia cordata</i>	Littleleaf Linden
<i>Ulmus americana</i> and elm hybrids except 'Frontier'	Elm
<i>Zelkova serrata</i>	Japanese Zelkova

Trees Moderately Difficult to Transplant Bare Root

(Note: With the remaining species, we have better success transplanting in fall.)

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	European Alder
<i>Betula</i> spp.	Birch
<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	Hackberry
<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Redbud
<i>Corylus colurna</i>	Turkish Filbert
<i>Crataegus crus-galli inermis</i>	Thornless Cockspur Hawthorn
<i>Crataegus viridis</i> 'Winter King'	Winter King Hawthorn
<i>Prunus subhirtella</i> var. <i>autumnalis</i>	Flowering Cherry
<i>Quercus robur</i>	English Oak
<i>Quercus velutina</i>	Black Oak
<i>Tilia tomentosa</i>	Silver Linden

Trees Difficult to Transplant Bare Root

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Carpinus</i> spp.	Hornbeam
<i>Crataegus phaenopyrum</i>	Washington Hawthorn
<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	Ginkgo
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Tulip Tree
<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	American Hophornbeam
<i>Quercus coccinea</i>	Scarlet Oak
<i>Quercus imbricaria</i>	Shingle Oak
<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	Bur Oak
<i>Quercus prinus</i>	Chestnut Oak
<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	Baldcypress
<i>Ulmus</i> 'Frontier'	Frontier Elm

List of Manufacturers

This list is not meant as an endorsement of particular companies but rather is provided for the convenience of the reader. It is not a complete list of the manufacturers that supply products for bare root tree planting.

Hydrogel

Tips: Be sure to ask for the *fine* grade of hydrogel. Size may be given in microns; use particle size 1000 microns or less. Be sure you're buying the synthetic cross-linked polymer hydrogel, not starch-based hydrogel. The latter can break down too quickly.

Soil Moist
JRM Chemical Inc.
15663 Neo Parkway
Cleveland, OH 44128
1-800-962-4010

Viterra Root Dip
Amereq Inc.
19 Squadron Blvd
New City, NY 10956
1-800-832-8788

Terra-Sorb
Plant Health Care, Inc.
440 William Pitt Way
Pittsburgh, PA 15238
1-800-421-9051

Plastic Bags

Tip: Use *gusseted* bags; the ones we use are 42" x 30" x 70"

Consolidated Plastics Company, Inc.
8181 Darrow Road
Twinsburg, OH 44087
1-800-362-1000

National Bag Company, Inc.
2233 Old Mill Road
Hudson, OH 44236
1-800-247-6000

Aluminum Marking Tags

Ben Meadows Company
3589 Broad Street
Atlanta, GA 30341
1-800-241-6401

Gempler's
100 Countryside Drive
PO Box 270
Belleville, WI 53508
1-800-382-8473

Tree Irrigator Bags

American Arborist Supplies, Inc.
882 S. Matlack Unit A
Westchester, PA 19382
1-800-441-8381

Gempler's
100 Countryside Drive
PO Box 270
Belleville, WI 53508
1-800-382-8473

Northern Nurseries, Inc.
8633 US Route 11
PO Box 1480
Cicero, NY 13039
1-315-699-3999

LIST OF PRINCIPAL SOURCES

Allen County-Fort Wayne Historical Society

Annual Reports, 1911
Historic postcard & photograph collections

Allen County Public Library

Annual Reports, 1894-1900
City of Fort Wayne Park Master Plans: 1974, 1979, 1980
Historic maps, newspaper, postcard & photograph collections
Long Range Recreation Plan, City of Fort Wayne, prepared by National Recreation Association, 1944

Cairns, Malcolm. “Historic Designed Landscapes of Indiana Survey, Phase I”. Ball State University, June 1995.

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Planimetric aerials: 1949, 1956, 1966, 1973, 1999
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Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation, Lawton Park Office & State Boulevard Office

Annual Reports, 1901-1910, 1912-1933, 1946-1975
Current AutoCAD files
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Jerry Byanski, Director of Maintenance, Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation
Jeff Baxter, Manager of Project Administration, Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation
Perry Ehresman, Superintendent of Leisure Services, Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation

Indiana State Archives, Indianapolis

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Murphy, Josephine. “Reduced to Rubble: James Novelli’s *Victory*”.

http://dsc.gc.cuny.edu/part/part6/articles/jmurph_print.html

Orban, Don. Historic Preservation Planner, Planning Department, City of Fort Wayne

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Stith, Hannah. Director, African/African-American Museum, Fort Wayne

Oral history
Photograph collection

