

SWINNEY 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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Landscape Architecture • Planning • Historic Preservation
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Inside Cover Photograph: Swimming Pool patrons, summer 1927, 1927 Annual Report, Courtesy of Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation.

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PP W	circa 1949 Plan West
PP E AIR	1949 Aerial Photograph East
PP W AIR	1949 Aerial Photograph West
PP E LU	circa 1949 Landscape Units Plan East
PP W LU	circa 1949 Landscape Units Plan West

III. 2002 LANDSCAPE CHARACTER OF SWINNEY PARK

EC E	2002 Plan East
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EC E AIR	1999 Aerial Photograph East
EC W AIR	1999 Aerial Photograph West
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VI. EXPLORATION, SELECTION & DESCRIPTION OF SWINNEY PARK LANDSCAPE REHABILITATION TREATMENT PLAN

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RC W	Rehabilitation Concepts Plan West

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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 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 Swinney 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 Memorial Park and Lakeside 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 Swinney 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 Swinney 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 Swinney 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: SWINNEY PARK HISTORY

A. HISTORIC RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The history element of the Swinney 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. BACKGROUND & PRE PARK HISTORY: TO 1893

On December 17, 1874 Colonel Thomas W. Swinney willed 61 acres “to remain open and free to the public as pleasure grounds improved and beautified under the direction [of the City of Fort Wayne]” (Figure I.1).¹ The homestead and immediate grounds were to be kept for his daughters until they died. Colonel Swinney died January 20, 1875, and on July 28, 1875 the Common Council named the land in the bend of the St. Mary’s River “Swinney Park”.² It would not be until 1894 that park would come under direct supervision of the Parks Department, but during the 20 year interim the property did host regular recreational activities.

In the summer of 1874 the Allen County Fair Association rented Colonel Swinney’s land for use by the Allen County Fair. A half-mile horse racetrack was constructed and the area was enclosed, with gated entrances created at Washington and Jefferson Boulevards. The first annual fair was held in September of that year.³ The racetrack was a notable landscape feature and was included on maps and “birds-eye-view” renderings of the day. Figure I.2 contains a detail of a hand-drawn “Panoramic View of the City of Fort Wayne” dating to 1880. About half of the track can be seen in this view from the northeast. Also visible are several structures in the vicinity, including a three-story tower or pagoda-like building within the oval. The southern boundary of the fairgrounds was the railroad, the city was to the east, and the St. Mary’s River formed the north and west boundaries.

C. DEVELOPMENT OF EAST SWINNEY PARK: 1894 - 1933

In 1893 the City of Fort Wayne secured immediate possession of Swinney Park through a rental agreement with the Swinney sisters, where the City paid \$600 per year in fees and taxes.⁴ The following year Swinney Park was “first put into use for Park purposes”.⁵ J. H. Lindrooth of

Chicago, an “engineer and architect of standing and ability”, was hired to prepare plans for the improvement of the park, which was listed as 45.25 acres.⁶ The plan was adopted August 31, 1894, and the initial improvements were begun.⁷

The Annual Reports, which were begun in 1894, provide a detailed description of the development of the park through the 1890s. This is fortunate, as no early plans of the park, later known as “East” Swinney Park, are known to exist. Tree inventories included in the reports are particularly useful in understanding the vegetation composition. Unfortunately, while we are able to compile a fairly comprehensive list of what the parks contained, the locations of trees and many other elements and features are not known.

In 1895 Theodore Kuelling, Engineer of Park Improvements, supervised construction in the park. That year .84 miles of drives and .44 miles of walks graded, graveled and edges sodded.⁸ A “rockery wall” was constructed near the Washington Boulevard entrance. Tree plantings included 50 Carolina poplars, 25 flowering horse chestnuts, 142 catalpas, 200 soft maples and 208 shrubs.⁹

Two lawn tennis courts were added to the park in 1896, and a new floor was laid in the “pavillion picnic grounds” [sic].¹⁰ The construction of gravel walks and drives continued, as did planting. Trees planted included 25 sugar maples, 10 Norway maples, 5 silver maples, 10 Carolina poplars and 2 mountain ash. “Natural grown trees” are also listed in the 1896 Annual Report, including 109 sycamore, 38 walnut, 93 locust, 83 elm, 8 linden, 9 ash, 10 willow, 8 hackberry, 4 redhorse, 4 buckeye, 6 poplar, 1 oak and 16 other. A summary list of trees and shrubs planted in the park since 1894 were also given, with some discrepancies in totals. Species included on the list that were not mentioned previously are the cut leaf maple, larix, judas tree, cut leaf birch and creeping pine.¹¹

The Swinney Park photograph collage was first published in the 1897 Annual Report, seen in Figure I.3. This collage was included in the next nine reports. The dinking fountain covered by the iron pavilion, featured in one of the photographs of the collage, was added to the park in 1897. It was located near the Washington Boulevard entrance. It can also be seen in Figure I.4. Planting efforts in 1897 focused on the addition of shrubs, annuals and perennials.¹² The predominant tree species in the park at this time was “artificially grown” sugar maple, which outnumbered the second leading species, a native sycamore, three to one.

Improvements made in 1898 included the 180’ long, 8’ wide iron foot-bridge constructed by the King Bridge Company of Cleveland, Ohio for \$2,100 (Figure I.5). The bridged spanned the St. Mary’s River and linked Swinney Park with the “Nebraska” neighborhood.¹³ An 8” rock well was sunk 326’ in the park, providing city residents with “the healthiest and best drinking water to be had in the city”.¹⁴ A basin 20’ in diameter was excavated around the well, which also served to feed the artificial lake. A half-mile bicycle track was completed, built within the circular drive (which was formerly the racetrack on the fairgrounds) and encompassing the lake.¹⁵ The heavily wooded northern portion of the park, bordered on three sides by the St. Mary’s River and often referred to as the “North Grove”, remained a popular picnicking ground.¹⁶

The 1899 Annual Report recorded that Swinney Park was heavily used, being visited by more people than all other Fort Wayne parks combined.¹⁷ It was also considered the most incomplete of the parks.¹⁸

The pace of development in Swinney Park slowed considerably during the first decade of the new century. The Annual Reports from this period are brief and repetitive; there is almost no variation in the wording of the Swinney Park summary from 1901 to 1909. General improvements included addition of more benches, walks, planting beds and shade trees. In 1903 An “old building” that served as a store room and housed tools near the park entrance was torn down, and a new building serving the same purpose was built on the west side of the park (the exact position is not known).¹⁹

In 1904 high water caused considerable damage to walks, drives and plantings.²⁰ More flooding problems in 1906 led to the proposal of a dike to “be constructed outside the main driveway... [to] keep water from running over the park from the west side.”²¹ Flooding damage in the park continued in 1908, as did other water woes. A motor had to be installed at the pavilion to pump water from the artesian well, which had failed. The lake was connected with to the city water main in order to keep it filled.²²

In the 1910s development in Swinney Park regained its momentum. All areas of the park were improved. In the North Grove a new picnic pavilion – the “Japanese Pavilion” – was constructed in 1910 (Figure I.6). It was designed by architect Riedel and outfitted with tables and benches, and it could accommodate more than 100 people. That year swings and merry-go-rounds were also added to the North Grove.²³ The steel supports on the Japanese Pavilion were encased in concrete columns in 1911.²⁴ A comfort station was constructed in the park in 1911, and although its location was not given in the report, it is likely that it was the one that stood southwest of the Japanese Pavilion.²⁵ A photograph of large double “American Coaster Slide”, Figure I.7, was included in the 1913 Annual Report. It was likely located with other playground equipment in the North Grove.²⁶

In the vicinity of the lake there were several additions to enhance the capacity for active recreation. In 1910 a tower was erected on one of the islands in the lake. It was likely the scaffold tower seen in Figure I.8, and its function was to provide light at night in the park for evening ice-skating, ballgames, and other activities.²⁷ A football game is being played in the foreground of Figure I.8. The photograph was included in the 1920 Annual Report, so the field would have been added during the 1910s. It was located west of the lake, inside the loop drive. On the right side in Figure I.8 a high chain-link fence is visible. This was the backstop for a baseball diamond, which was first referred to in the 1911 Annual Report.²⁸ A new 8’ wide, 1,224’ long gravel walk that encircled the lake was completed in 1911.²⁹ The practice of snow removal from the ice for improved skating was also begun in 1911.³⁰

During 1917 the rock well continued to supply drinking water for city residents through the aid of a pump that connected it to the city water supply, although a small pump was also installed to access water from lower in the well to provide the “special drinking water”, presumably obtained by area residents in the park. A “very prettily designed small pump house” was planned to house the new pump.³¹ In 1918 the pump used to supply the lagoons at Lakeside Park was moved to

Swinney Park, in an attempt to keep its lake full.³² The well that had fed the lake was now entirely incorporated into the city water system.³³ A peony garden was installed in the southwestern portion of the park, which was intended to “serve as a nucleus for a more extension collection”. The garden was funded by a contribution from Colonel Foster, President of the Park Board.³⁴ By 1919 work was under way to plant almost 300 varieties of iris on the banks of the lake, as well as a collection of water lilies.³⁵

Three monuments were erected in the park in the vicinity of the Swinney homestead, all during 1916. A 9’ boulder with a bronze tablet commemorating Johnny Appleseed, seen in Figure I.9, was dedicated May 5.³⁶ In the fall of 1916 a monument honoring civil servant Perry Randall, sculpted by Frederick G. Hibbard, was erected west of the Swinney homestead (Figure I.10). It was dedicated the following spring.³⁷ The third monument was a British cannon captured by Commodore Perry in the battle of Put-in-Bay, Lake Erie, in the War of 1812.³⁸ It was placed east of the homestead.

South of the Swinney homestead construction resumed in 1911 with the addition of two tennis courts. A wading pool and ten more tennis courts were added in 1913.³⁹ An inventory in the 1917 Annual Report listed 14 tennis courts and the Fort Wayne Lawn Tennis Club Association clubhouse, which was completed that year.⁴⁰

By 1920 the focus of the Parks Department had turned to West Swinney Park. There were few entries made in the Annual Reports during the 1920s, but there were enough to indicate that “East” Swinney Park was still a popular destination. The 1921 Annual Report recorded that the tennis courts were heavily used, as was an athletic field, which was used nightly for athletics and football games.⁴¹ The local schools and Y.M.C.A also held races regularly there.⁴² In 1922 the Colonel David N. Foster monument, sculpted by Frederick G. Hibbard, was erected west of the Swinney Homestead.⁴³ In 1923 23,000 flowers were planted in the park and all roads were resurfaced.⁴⁴

With the death of the last of the three Swinney daughters in 1923, the city came in full possession of Swinney Park, including the Swinney homestead.⁴⁵ In 1925 the Swinney homestead became the home of the Allen County Historical Society.⁴⁶ The following year the walks at the Swinney homestead were built, and 12 of tennis courts were resurfaced with clay.⁴⁷ In 1927 the shore of the lake was planted with Japanese iris and evergreen shrubs or trees.⁴⁸ The last entry from the decade dates to 1928, when the Daughters of the American Revolution placed a Revolutionary War memorial in front of the Historical Museum. The memorial consisted of a plaque attached to a “meteor of immense size and so hard that no chisel could break any part of it”.⁴⁹

In the 1930s work in East Swinney Park slowed even more. The last addition recorded was in 1931, when horseshoe courts were added to the North Grove.⁵⁰ That year the East Swinney section of the parkway extending from the end of Washington Boulevard to the bridge over the St. Mary’s River was paved.⁵¹

While there were only minor additions in the 1930s, there was a significant alteration to the road alignments in the park. A 1931 proposal to extend Jefferson Boulevard to the bridge was

adamantly opposed by Jaenicke, who claimed it would “greatly damage our tennis courts and endanger the lives of children upon our playground. To say in the least, it would be barbarous to deface Swinney Park in such a manner”.⁵² It is not known if Jaenicke’s opposition changed the proposed layout, but by 1938 East Swinney Park was divided by two major roads, as seen in Figure I.11, a 1938 aerial photograph. The narrow, curving park drive that entered the park at the intersection of Thieme Drive and Washington Boulevard had been realigned, widened and elevated with the extension of Washington Boulevard. Repercussions of the realignment included the loss of the triangular intersection of park drives east of the lake, as well as the loss of the southeastern portion of the loop drive and walk and the southern tip of the lake. It is also possible that the Foster and Perry monuments had to be relocated in order to accommodate the new road. The tennis courts and Swinney homestead were also cut off from the rest of the park, with the only connection being a pedestrian underpass in the elevated highway. Jefferson Boulevard was also extended, merging with Washington Boulevard just east of the bridge over the St. Mary’s River. The full impact of the Jefferson Boulevard extension is not known, as no detailed plans or aerial photographs have been found that predate the project.⁵³ It appears as though the tennis court complex remained intact, although it is not known if the playground referred to by Jaenicke was retained. A 1933 inventory of East Swinney Park (prior to road alignment changes) included the “Historical Museum; the statues of Colonel David N. Foster, Perry A. Randall and Johnny Appleseed; large pavilion facilities; 12 tennis courts; 2 soft ball diamonds; 2 shuffle board courts; 3 horseshoe courts, which are used from morning until night; 1 supervised playground and 1 non-supervised playground”.⁵⁴ The quality of the 1938 aerial photograph is poor, but a close study of it reveals three ball diamonds, two west of the lake and a third west of the tennis courts. It is not possible to detect the location of the garden funded by Colonel Foster in the aerial.

D. DEVELOPMENT OF WEST SWINNEY PARK: 1918 – 1950

In 1918 the long-awaited Swinney Park expansion plan was realized with the addition of 45 to 50 acres on the west side of the St. Mary’s River.⁵⁵ Attempts to include this land with Swinney Park were made as early as 1898, and the topic’s regular recurrence in Annual Reports shows that it was a well-pursued goal. The proposed expansion had received endorsement from several noteworthy landscape architects that were involved in planning projects with the city, including Charles Mulford Robinson in 1910, George Kessler in 1911, and Arthur Shurtleff in 1917. Shurtleff’s revised “Plan for the Enlargement of Swinney Park with Street and Highway Connections” was included in the 1917 Annual Report (Figure I.12).⁵⁶

West Swinney Park was comprised of the 34-acre Cressler property, the 10-acre Randall property to its north, the 3.2-acre Kennon property in the northeast corner of the park along the St. Mary’s River, and possibly several other small parcels.⁵⁷ Railroad tracks formed the southern and western boundaries of the park, and early descriptions of the property describe it as heavily wooded.⁵⁸

The first detailed plan for the park was prepared by Jaenicke and included in the 1918 Annual Report, shown here as Figure I.13. Jaenicke proposed a different drive alignment than Shurtleff, although neither was closely followed. Also included on the Jaenicke plan were six lawn tennis

courts, a baseball diamond, toilets, a refectory and a pedestrian bridge that linked with East Swinney Park.

In 1919 an iron vehicular bridge was moved from State Boulevard to Swinney Park and installation was begun. A large number of hawthorns were cut down and 300 to 400 sheep were kept in the park to prevent stumps from suckering and keep the grass in check (in East Swinney and other city parks, new power lawnmowers did the job).⁵⁹

In 1920 West Swinney Park instantly became “the most popular among our parks” with the addition of Trier’s Amusement Center, which featured a dance pavilion and various rides and attractions (Figure I.14).⁶⁰ Many of these amusements, including The Cyclone roller coaster, were relocated by George F. Trier from Robinson Park.⁶¹ The installation of the bridge over the St. Mary’s river continued, with twenty railroad carloads of cinders used as fill to create the approach.⁶² Also in 1920 the “West Swinney Park Boulder”, a boulder with a bronze tablet containing names of city officials responsible for the creation of the park, was erected and dedicated.⁶³

The bridge was completed in 1921, and construction of park drives began. Roads were reconstructed to accommodate the completed bridge, and a new road was constructed between the new bridge and the bridge on Manufacturers Avenue, in the northwest corner of the park. A new bridge was also built on Greenwood Avenue, which created a third entrance to West Swinney Park.⁶⁴ In addition to roadwork, West Swinney Park also received 975 trees, primarily elms.⁶⁵

In 1922 a swimming pool and bathhouse was built adjacent to the roller coaster, seen in Figure I.15. This was the realization of a 1912 plan to place a swimming pool in the park, although the original intention was to place it on the north edge of the North Grove in East Swinney Park.⁶⁶ A new road that connected the Greenwood Avenue entrance with Manufacturers Avenue was also built.⁶⁷

With the completion of the roads and bridges and the success of Trier’s Amusement Center, the Parks Department focused on other parks until 1927, when additional sewerage facilities were completed in an attempt to clean up “Junk Ditch”. Junk Ditch was the open sewer and drainage channel for several factories that ran through the northern part Swinney Park.⁶⁸ The following year construction was begun on a 2-acre “Rock Garden” along Junk Ditch, which Jaenicke wrote would “form a nucleus for the Japanese Garden”.⁶⁹ In 1929 pools and waterfalls were completed and shrubs were planted (Figure I.16).⁷⁰ The Japanese Gardens were dedicated in 1930 at a large public ceremony, although they were not yet fully completed (Figure I.17).⁷¹

Unlike many projects in other parks, work continued in the Japanese Gardens through the early years of the Depression. In 1932 the gardens were expanded and their completion planned for “the near future”.⁷² C.W.A. workers were used in 1933 in the ongoing construction of the Japanese Gardens, which at this time consisted of almost ten acres. The two large waterfalls and electric fountains, however, were used sparingly due to limited funds.⁷³

After 1933 we have no written record of park development, but we do know that the highway construction was completed by 1938, as evidenced by the West Swinney Park section of the 1938 aerial photograph, Figure I.18. In 1941 Jaenicke led an October tour of the Japanese Gardens to view the chrysanthemum display, which he claimed was the most extensive in this part of the country.⁷⁴

On May 15, 1942 the Japanese Gardens were renamed Jaenicke Gardens, in honor of Adolph Jaenicke and in response to the war with Japan. In addition to the name change, garden visitors were to be “education to consider these oriental features as being Chinese rather than of Jap distinction”.⁷⁵ A 1942 inventory of the gardens includes the following: “250 varieties of perennial plants, more than 500 evergreens, many varieties of crabapple, cherry and prune trees, and on of the largest collections of chrysanthemums and peonies in this section of the country”.⁷⁶ When Jaenicke died on September 1, 1948, Jaenicke Gardens and the Rose Gardens at Lakeside Park were honored as “monuments to his planning skill”.⁷⁷

E. GRADUAL SIMPLIFICATION: 1950 – 1970s

The period from the 1950s through to the present can be described as a gradual simplification. There were new additions, but in both East and West Swinney Park these were outnumbered by removals. Particularly in the Jaenicke Gardens, the Annual Reports repeatedly expressed the need to scale back the required maintenance levels.

On June 22, 1953 a fire in Trier’s Amusement Center destroyed the dance hall, fun house and north portion of the roller coaster. Use of the park had apparently dwindled after World War II, due in part to the decline of the facilities.⁷⁸ Another large building had been removed or destroyed previously, as seen in a comparison of the 1938 and 1949 aerial photographs. As a result of occurrences, the lease of the amusement park was terminated and the structures ordered removed.⁷⁹ A “Kiddie Land” was constructed in McMillen Park, which was intended to fill the void of the West Swinney amusement park.⁸⁰

Maintenance efforts in Jaenicke Gardens included the replacement of the concrete bottom of the lily pool in 1951 and the pavement of 47’ of walks in concrete and 412’ in asphalt in 1954.⁸¹ Another 290’ of walks were paved with asphalt in 1956. In 1957 several older evergreen trees or shrubs were replaced in Jaenicke Gardens, and others were added. New beds containing iris, sweet williams and tulips were added, and a stone wall that separated an adjacent property was replaced with a hedge of Korean barberry. Plans were also made for a ground cover display in the bare west end of the garden.⁸²

In 1958 a topographic survey was prepared for use in the anticipated redesign of West Swinney Park.⁸³ The planting of 25 varieties of groundcovers in shady areas of Jaenicke Gardens was begun, and ragged evergreens were removed.⁸⁴ In 1959 only 144 visitors signed a Jaenicke Gardens guest log over a 6-week period between August and September, and it was concluded by Gilbert Whitsel, City Horticulturist, that the garden did not attract the same number of visitors as did other City gardens. He also indicated, however, that spring was the peak visitation time in the garden. Because of the high level of handwork required to maintain the garden and low

visitorship, he recommended a reduction in staff time and expenditures. He also recommended the west bridge at the falls, which evidently had been removed sometime earlier, be replaced. Whitsel praised the well-established beds of azaleas and recommended adding to the collection. He recorded the removal of some shrubs and flowerbeds, as well as other perennials and trees that were removed for the construction of a floodwall.⁸⁵

Meanwhile, in East Swinney Park, the skate house was remodeled in 1954 and a clubhouse with showers was constructed at the tennis courts in 1958.⁸⁶ Four tennis courts in East Swinney were hard surfaced in 1960, and the access to Historical Museum was rerouted from Garden Street to Jefferson Boulevard.⁸⁷

There was a significant amount of work undertaken in Jaenicke Gardens during the 1960s, all related to simplification. In 1960 small flowerbeds continued to be eliminated in order to leave “the area less cluttered, more interesting to the average visitor, and more easily maintained”.⁸⁸ In exchange, the azalea collection was expanded annually through 1965. The maintenance strategy in Jaenicke Gardens relied on the use of woody shrubs and trees, rather than the more labor intensive herbaceous flowering plants.⁸⁹

In 1962 a “swamp area” in Jaenicke Gardens near the Greenwood Avenue was filled and graded.⁹⁰ The following year two new “Japanese style” bridges were built over Junk Ditch. A hedge on the north side of the garden was replaced with a rustic wood fence, and new bed arrangements were made at the west end of the garden.⁹¹ In 1965 the east falls was in need of repair, and it was recommended that “unless a large increase in visitors to this area is expected, the use of this falls should be discontinued and the falls spillway should be filled and planted over”.⁹² It was “discontinued” the next year.⁹³

Elsewhere in the park more than 30,000 cubic yards of fill was used in the construction of a new drive and a 163’x45’ parking lot for the swimming pool in 1961.⁹⁴ The southern end of the lake in East Swinney was also filled.⁹⁵ In 1962 work continued on the drives and parking lot in West Swinney, where a boat ramp was also constructed on the St. Mary’s River. Grading work also continued on the lake in East Swinney, and the old restroom building was removed. That year 188 diseased elms were removed, while 23 trees were planted.⁹⁶ The following year the banks of the lake were graded to facilitate maintenance efforts, and a second boat landing on the St. Mary’s River was built, this time in East Swinney.⁹⁷ In 1964 the “Welcome” flowerbed was added to East Swinney Park along Jefferson Boulevard, and in 1965 it was replaced with a more permanent planting of golden privet.⁹⁸ The Japanese Pavilion was removed from the North Grove in East Swinney in 1966.⁹⁹

In 1969 a redevelopment plan was drafted for Jaenicke Gardens that includes efforts to beautify the area while decreasing the level of required maintenance.¹⁰⁰ The next year the redevelopment program proceeded with the removal of terrace walls and regrading of the banks. The area at the lookout by the west falls was re-landscaped, and three small flowerbeds were added.¹⁰¹ The removal of stones and hedges from the terraces continued in 1972.¹⁰²

CHAPTER I ENDNOTES

- ¹ Roberts, introduction.
- ² Ibid.
- ³ Hawfield, p. 95.
- ⁴ Ernest, p. 31, citing City of Fort Wayne, Indiana to Rhesa Swinney et al, May 23, 1893, Swinney Papers.
- ⁵ 1898 Annual Report, p. 176.
- ⁶ 1894 Annual Report p. 85.
- ⁷ 1895 Annual Report, p. 82.
- ⁸ Ibid., p. 83.
- ⁹ Ibid., p. 116. Note: the names included here and elsewhere in Chapter I are taken directly from their source. No attempt at deciphering common names has been made.
- ¹⁰ 1896 Annual Report, p. 149.
- ¹¹ Ibid., p. 149-150.
- ¹² 1897 Annual Report, p. 174.
- ¹³ 1898 Annual Report, p. 178.
- ¹⁴ Ibid., p.109.
- ¹⁵ Ibid., p. 178. See also Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette, December 31, 1922, section 4, page 3.
- ¹⁶ Ibid., p. 178.
- ¹⁷ 1899 Annual Report, p. 142.
- ¹⁸ Ibid., p. 76.
- ¹⁹ 1903 Annual Report, p. 71, 152.
- ²⁰ 1904 Annual Report, p. 165.
- ²¹ 1906 Annual Report, p. 167.
- ²² 1908 Annual Report, p. 193.
- ²³ 1910 Annual Report, p. 11.
- ²⁴ 1911 Annual Report, p. 29.
- ²⁵ 1911 Annual Report, p. 74.
- ²⁶ 1913 Annual Report, p. 14.
- ²⁷ 1910 Annual Report, p. 154.
- ²⁸ 1911 Annual Report, p. 29.
- ²⁹ Ibid., p. 74.
- ³⁰ 1911 Annual Report, p. 29.
- ³¹ 1917 Annual Report, p. 21.
- ³² 1918 Annual Report, p. 14.
- ³³ Ibid., p. 29.
- ³⁴ Ibid., p. 31. No photographs of this garden have been located, and it is not known exactly where the garden was placed.
- ³⁵ Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette, July 6, 1919, section 4, page 3.
- ³⁶ 1916 Annual Report, p. 18-21. *The location is not given, but it was thought to be located west of the homestead (verify).*
- ³⁷ Ibid.
- ³⁸ 1916 Annual Report, p. 18-21, and 1930 Annual Report, p. 28.

- ³⁹ 1914 Annual Report, p. 19.
- ⁴⁰ 1917 Annual Report, p. 21, 45-46.
- ⁴¹ 1921 Annual Report, p. 28.
- ⁴² *Ibid.*, p. 31.
- ⁴³ 1922 Annual Report, p. 15.
- ⁴⁴ 1923 Annual Report, p. 21.
- ⁴⁵ 1922 Annual Report, p. 15. The 1923 Annual Report records the last daughter died in the spring of 1923, p. 21.
- ⁴⁶ 1925 Annual Report, p. 21.
- ⁴⁷ 1926 Annual Report, p. 24.
- ⁴⁸ 1927 Annual Report, p. 23.
- ⁴⁹ 1928 Annual Report, p. 21. The 1929 Annual Report record the monument came from half of a large meteor placed in a Memorial Park “Rock Garden” that fell against a tree, causing it to split, p. 27.
- ⁵⁰ 1931 Annual Report, p. 13.
- ⁵¹ *Ibid.*, p. 23-24.
- ⁵² *Ibid.*, p. 23-24.
- ⁵³ The proposed Shurtleff plan and others show no detail, only drive placement and rough vegetation massing.
- ⁵⁴ 1933 Annual Report, p. 24-25.
- ⁵⁵ 1918 Annual Report, p. 8-9.
- ⁵⁶ It does not appear that Shurtleff’s plan was followed, although it may have influenced some decisions such as the extension of Greenwood Street into the park.
- ⁵⁷ 1914 Annual Report, p. 13.
- ⁵⁸ 1903 Annual Report, p. 156.
- ⁵⁹ 1919 Annual Report, p. 23-25.
- ⁶⁰ 1920 Annual Report, p. 21, 23, 28.
- ⁶¹ Hawfield, p. 97.
- ⁶² 1920 Annual Report, p. 28, 30.
- ⁶³ 1930 Annual Report, p. 28.
- ⁶⁴ 1921 Annual Report, p. 29.
- ⁶⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 29.
- ⁶⁶ 1912 Annual Report, p. 99.
- ⁶⁷ 1922 Annual Report, p. 21.
- ⁶⁸ 1927 Annual Report, p. 11.
- ⁶⁹ 1928 Annual Report, p. 21.
- ⁷⁰ 1929 Annual Report, p. 25-26.
- ⁷¹ 1930 Annual Report, p. 13.
- ⁷² 1932 Annual Report, p. 23.
- ⁷³ 1933 Annual Report, p. 24.
- ⁷⁴ Newspaper article from the Parks and Recreation Department scrapbook dated 21 October, 1941, vol. 1941.
- ⁷⁵ *Ibid.*
- ⁷⁶ *Ibid.*
- ⁷⁷ 1948 Annual Report, p. 3.

- ⁷⁸ Akenbruck, p. 473.
⁷⁹ 1953 Annual Report, p. 3.
⁸⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 10.
⁸¹ 1951 Annual Report, p. 13 and 1954 Annual Report, p. 22.
⁸² 1957 Annual Report, p. 19-20.
⁸³ 1958 Annual Report, p. 13.
⁸⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 20.
⁸⁵ 1959 Annual Report, p. 14.
⁸⁶ 1954 Annual Report, p. 16 and 1959 Annual Report, p. 3.
⁸⁷ 1960 Annual Report, p. 13.
⁸⁸ 1960 Annual Report, p. 24.
⁸⁹ 1961 Annual Report, p. 22.
⁹⁰ 1962 Annual Report, p. 11g, 13, 14e, 20-21, 24b.
⁹¹ 1963 Annual Report, p. 33, 39, 42.
⁹² 1965 Annual Report, p. 45.
⁹³ 1966 Annual Report, p. 29, 31. This may have meant that the falls was simply not operated,
or that it was removed completely.
⁹⁴ 1961 Annual Report, p. 8, 12.
⁹⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 12.
⁹⁶ 1962 Annual Report, p. 11g, 13, 14e, 20-21, 24b.
⁹⁷ 1963 Annual Report, p. 33, 39, 42.
⁹⁸ 1964 Annual Report, p. 36 and 1965 Annual Report, p. 46.
⁹⁹ 1966 Annual Report, p. 29, 31.
¹⁰⁰ 1969 Annual Report, p. 38.
¹⁰¹ 1970 Annual Report, p. 47.
¹⁰² 1971 Annual Report, p. 33.



Figure I.1 Colonel Thomas W. Swinney with his wife, Lucy Taber, undated. Courtesy of Allen County Public Library, 00001473.



Figure I.2 Detail of “Panoramic View of the City of Fort Wayne”, 1880, from the northeast. The racetrack of the Allen County Fairgrounds, later to become Swinney Park, can be seen on the right. Courtesy of Allen County Public Library.

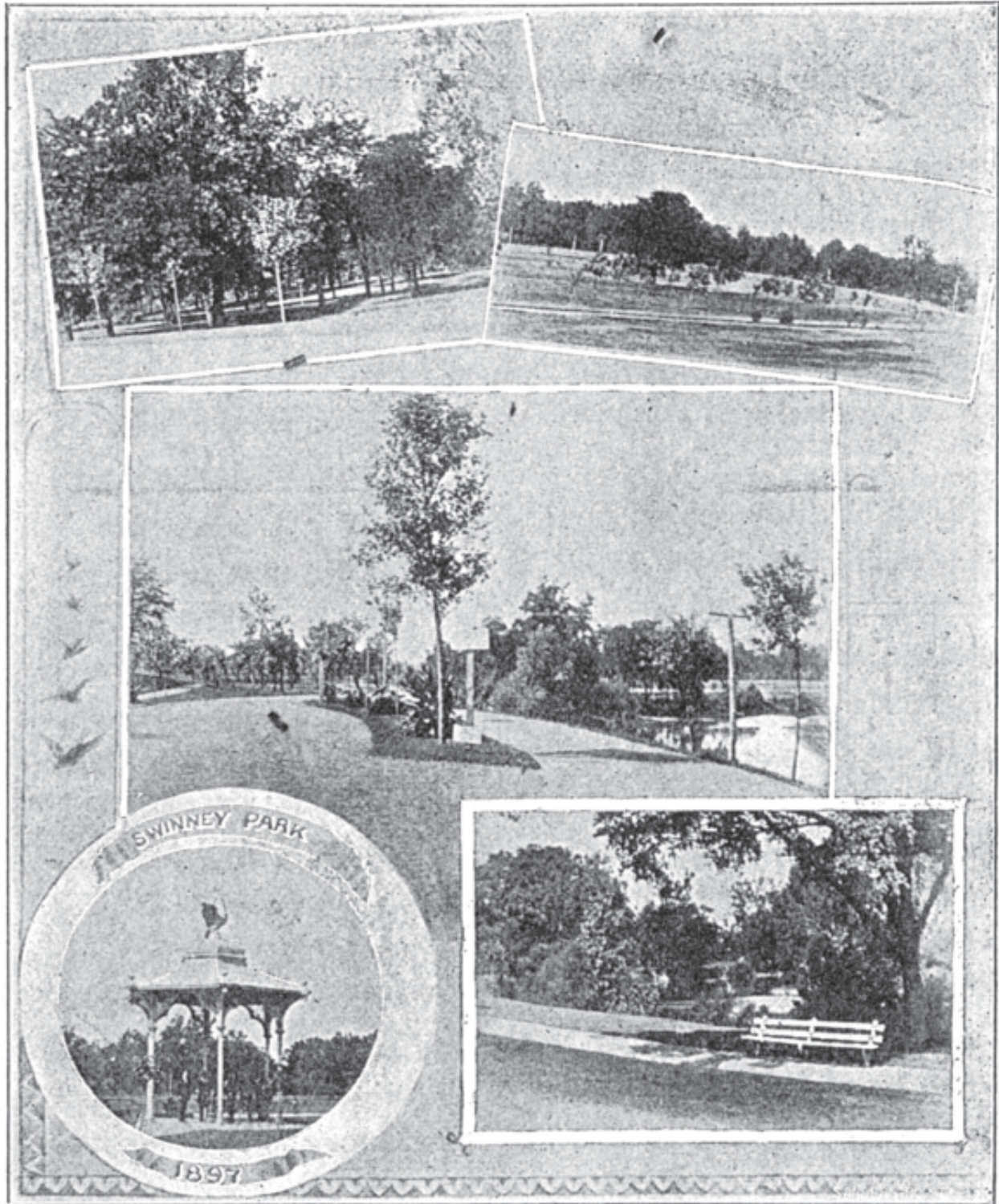


Figure 1.3 Photograph collage of Swinney Park that appeared in the Annual Reports from 1897 through 1906. Courtesy of Allen County Public Library and Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation.



Figure 1.4 Early postcard of the Swinney Park entrance, c. 1900. The pavilion on the left sheltered a drinking fountain. Courtesy of private collection.



Figure 1.5 View of the iron footbridge over the St. Mary's River, undated. Courtesy of Allen County Public Library, 00001492.

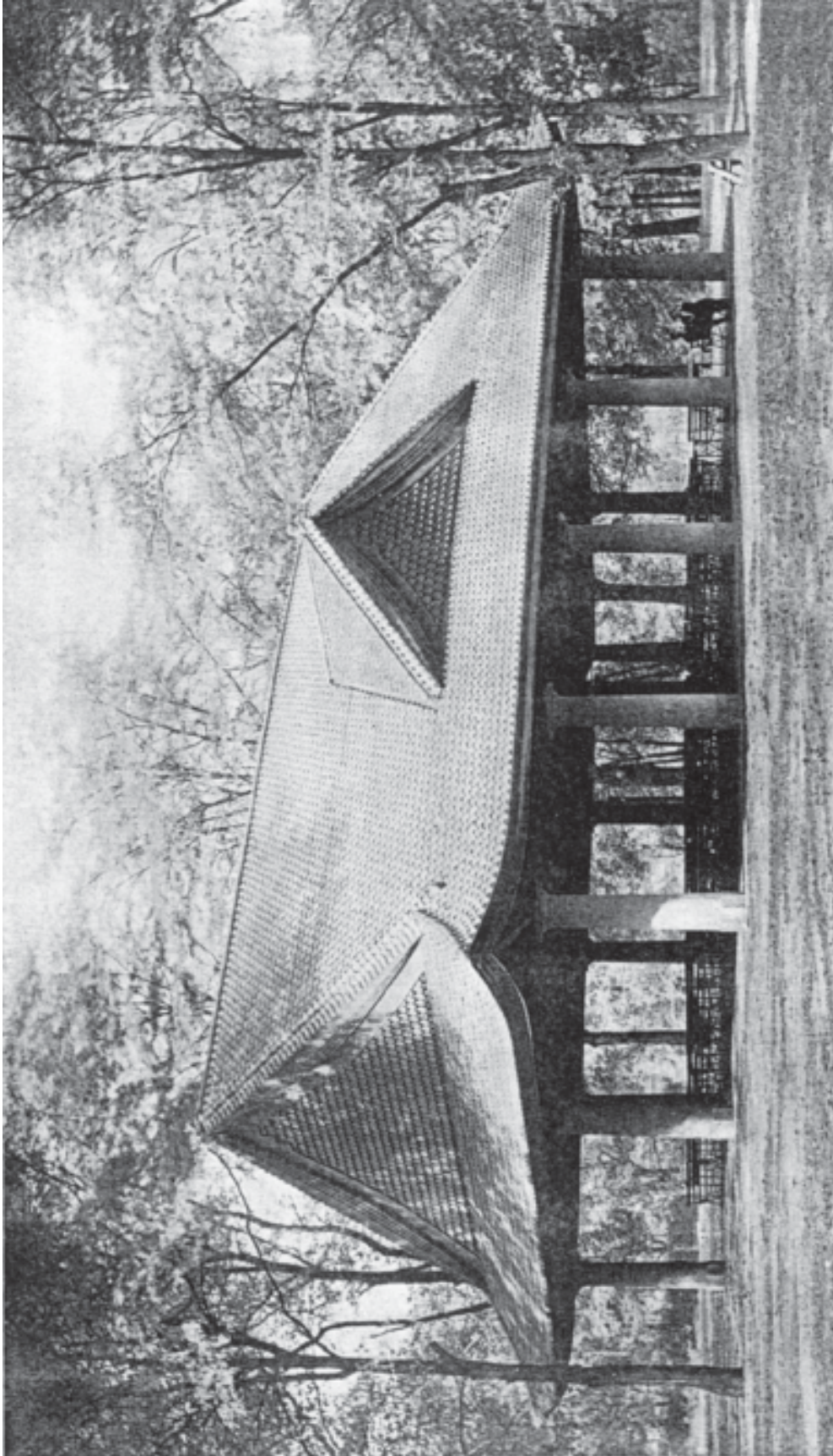


Figure 1.6 The Japanese Pavilion, located in the North Grove, 1911. 1911 Annual Report, p. 50. Courtesy of Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation.

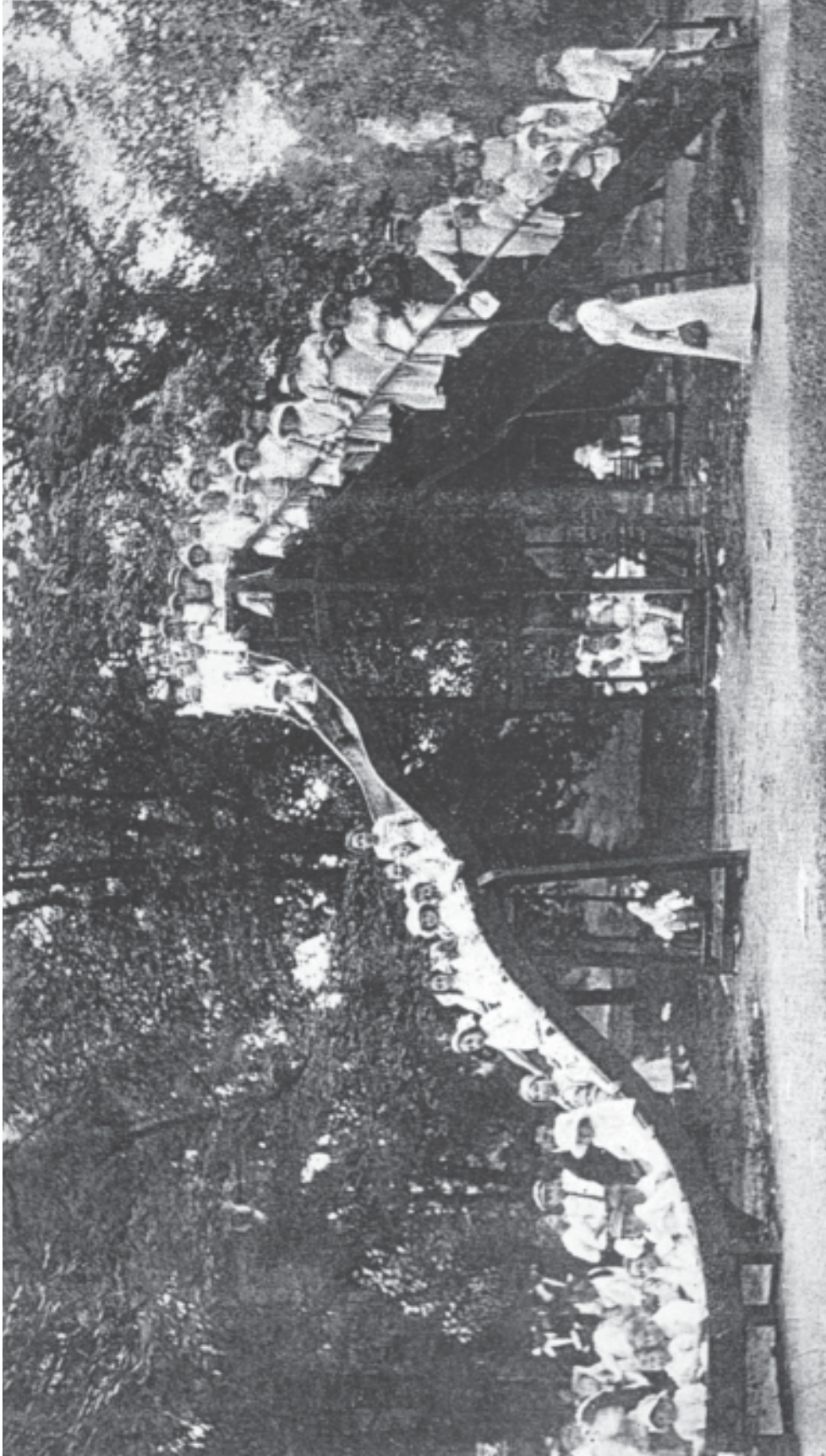


Figure 1.7 The well-used “American Coaster Slide”, probably located with other playground equipment in the North Grove. 1914 Annual Report, p. 14. Courtesy of Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation.

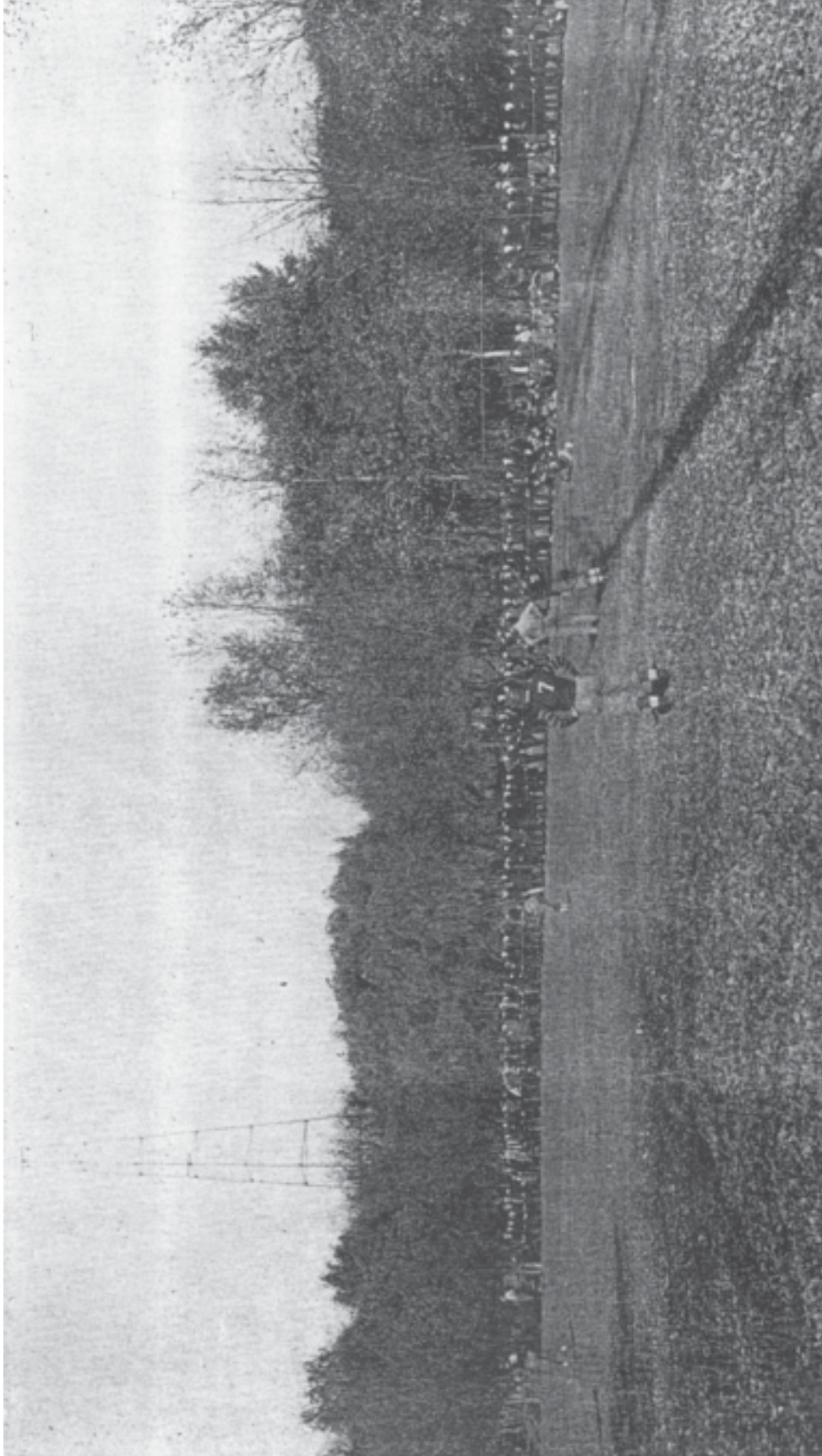


Figure I.8 A view of a football game in progress in the athletic field west of the lake. The scaffold tower to the left was probably the light tower located on one of the lake's islands. 1920 Annual Report, p. 9. Courtesy of Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation.



Figure I.9 Dedication ceremony of the Johnny Appleseed monument, May 5, 1916. Courtesy of Allen County Public Library, 00002925.

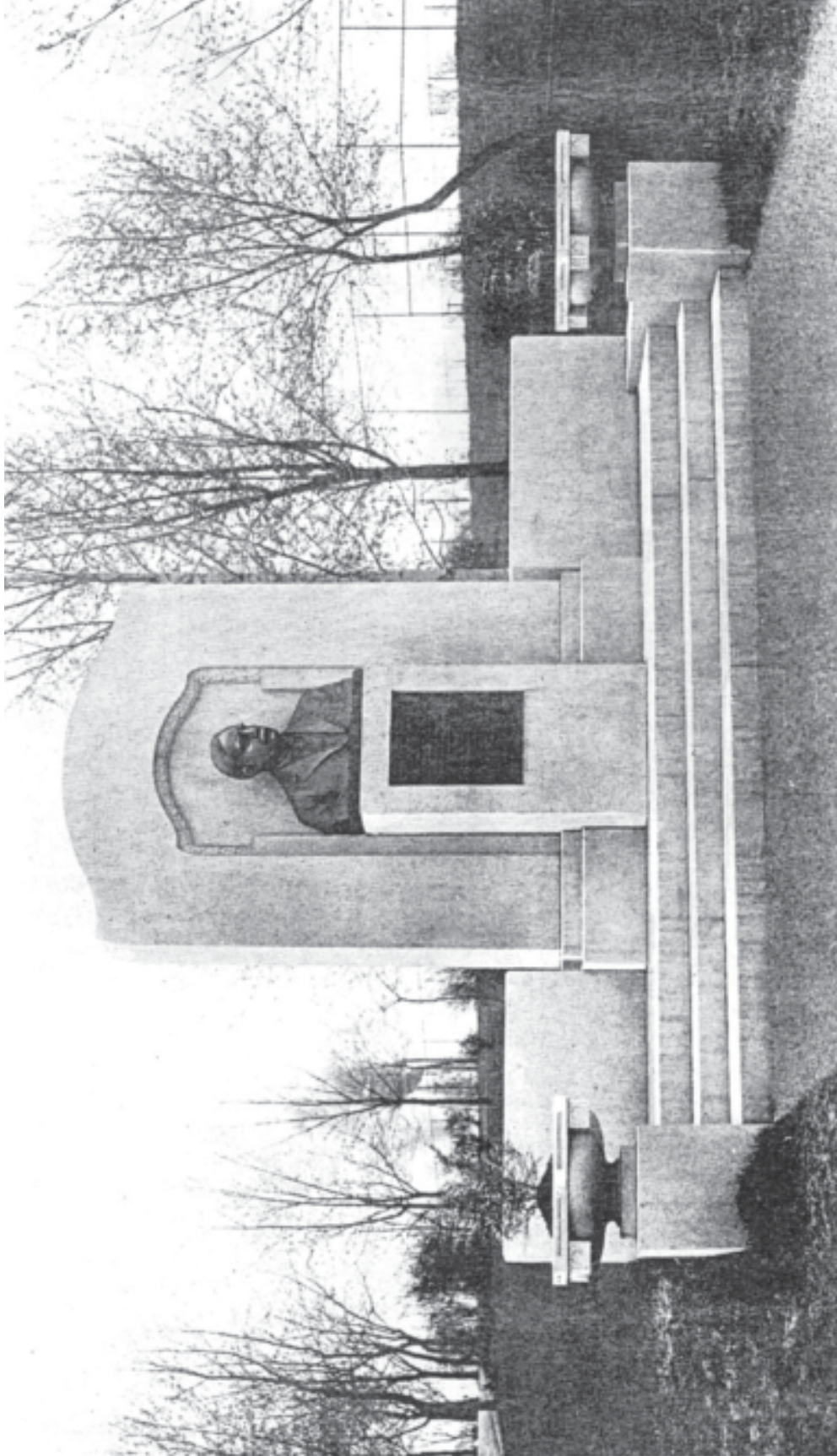


Figure I.10 View of the Perry Randall monument just after completion, 1916. Note the fence of the tennis court complex in the background. 1916 Annual Report, p. 20. Courtesy of Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation.



Figure I.11 Aerial photograph of East Swinney Park, 1938. The realignment of park drives to accommodate the extension of Washington and Jefferson Boulevards had recently been completed. Courtesy of Indiana State Archives.

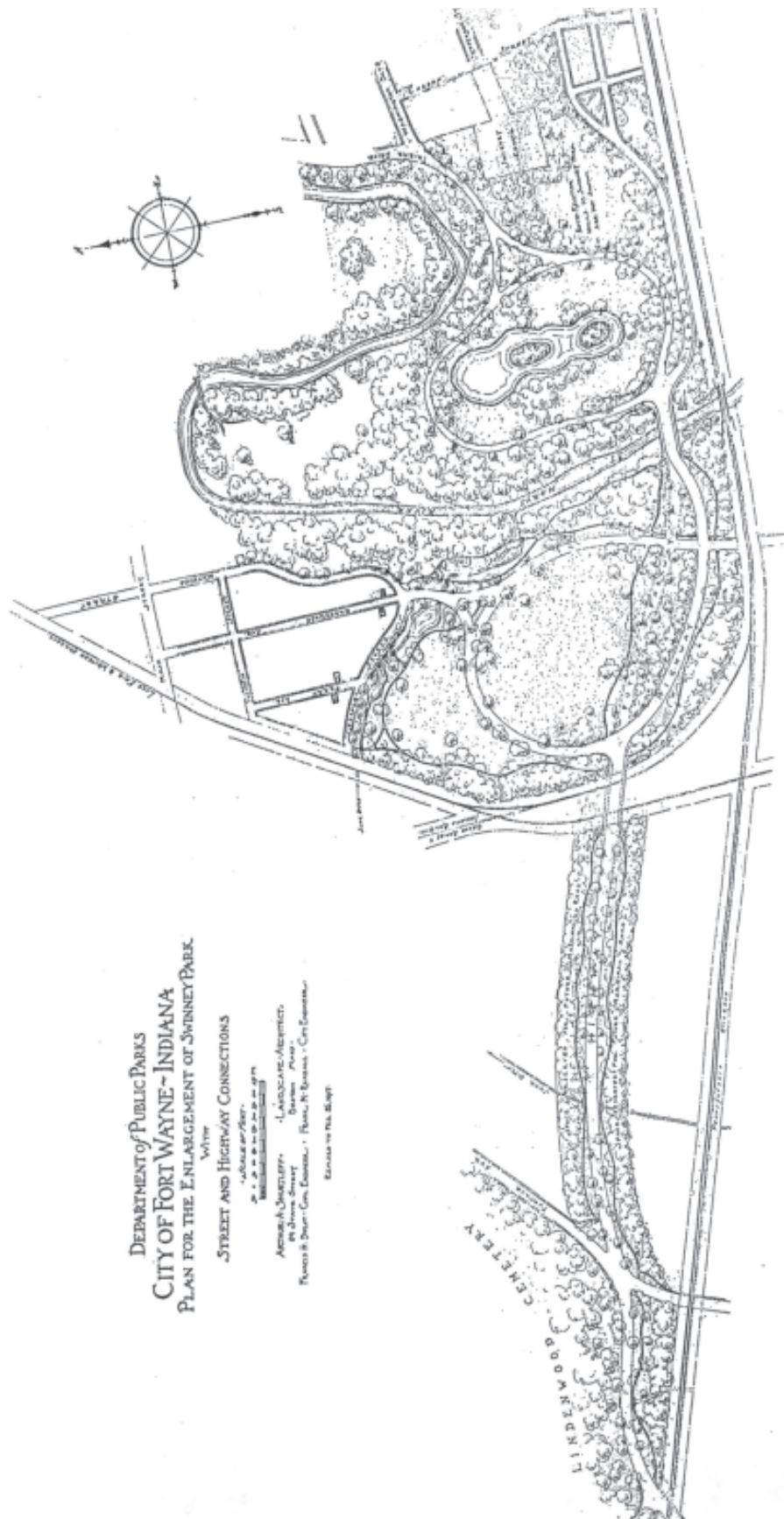


Figure I.12 “Plan for the Enlargement of Swinney Park with Street and Highway Connections” by landscape architect Arthur Shurtleff, revised 1917. Note that paths, buildings, gardens and other existing park features are not shown. 1917 Annual Report. Courtesy of Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation.



Figure I.13 “Swinney Park Extension” by Adolph Jaenicke, Superintendent of Parks and City Forester, 1918. 1918 Annual Report. Courtesy of Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation.



Figure I.14 One of the attractions in the popular Trier's Amusement Center, 1920. 1920 Annual Report p. 23. Courtesy of Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation.

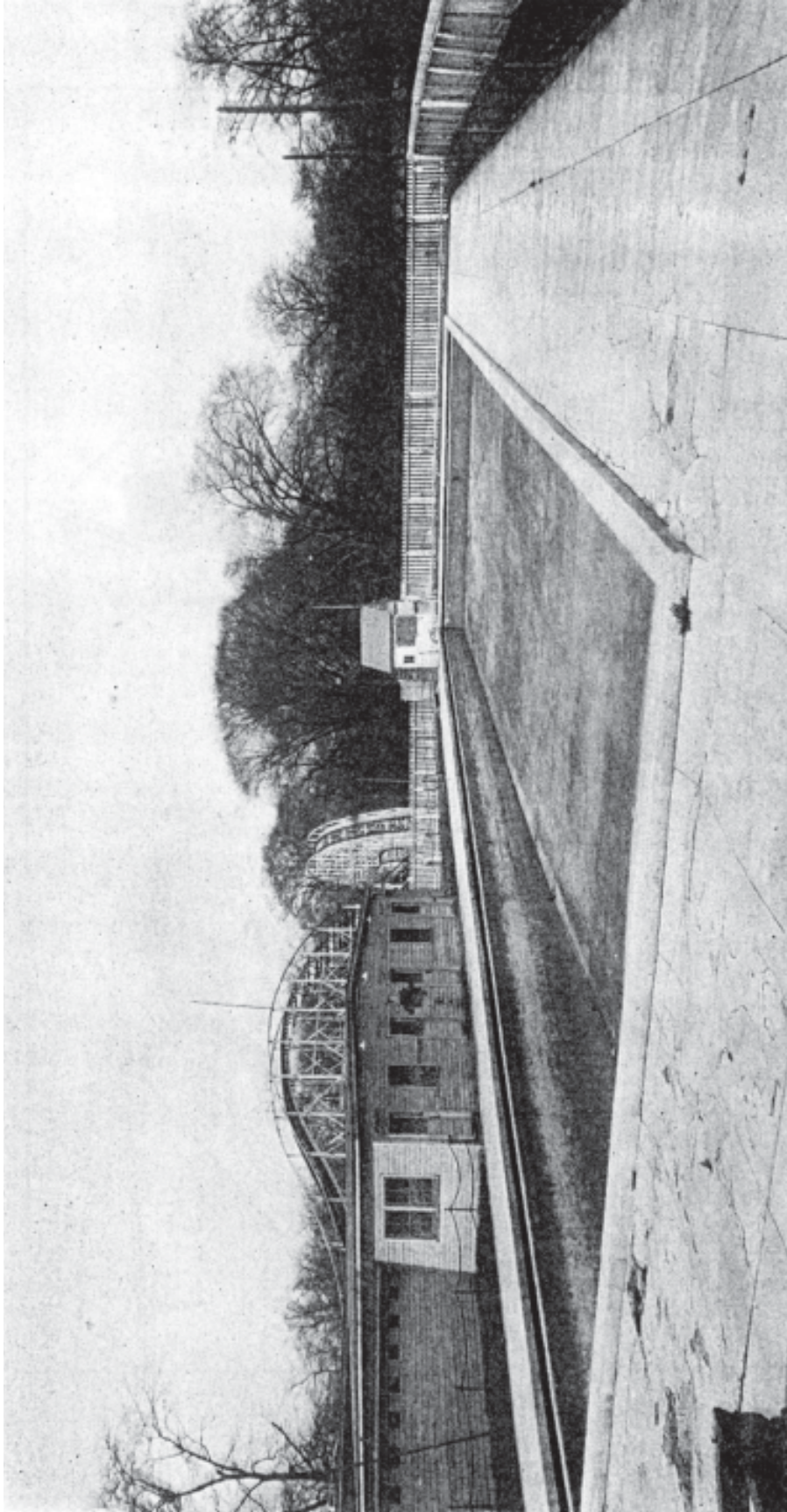


Figure I.15 The swimming pool and bathhouse, with The Cyclone roller coaster behind, 1926. 1926 Annual Report. Courtesy of Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation.

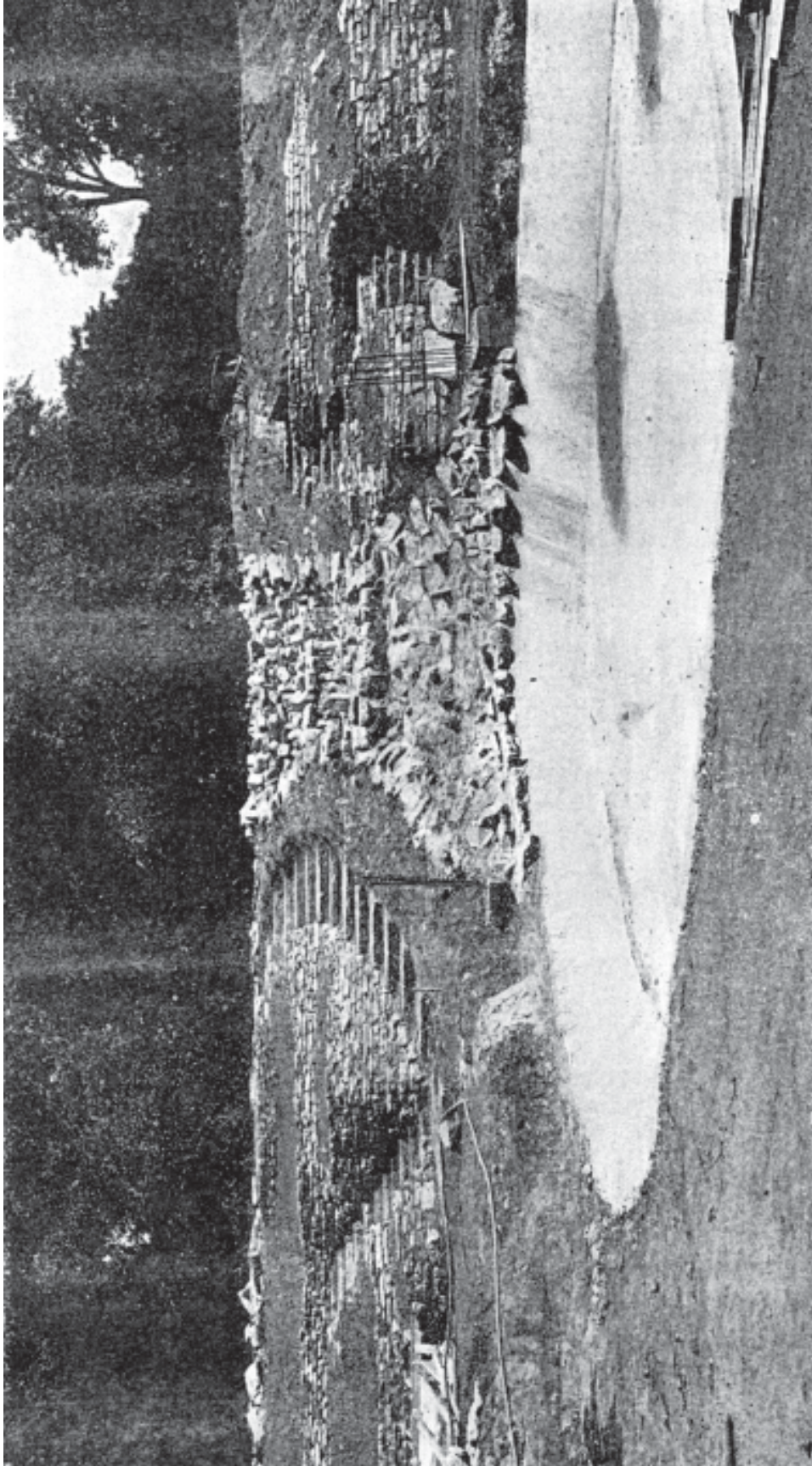


Figure I.16 Construction of the lower lily pool and stairs in the Japanese Gardens. 1928 Annual Report p. 26. Courtesy of Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation.

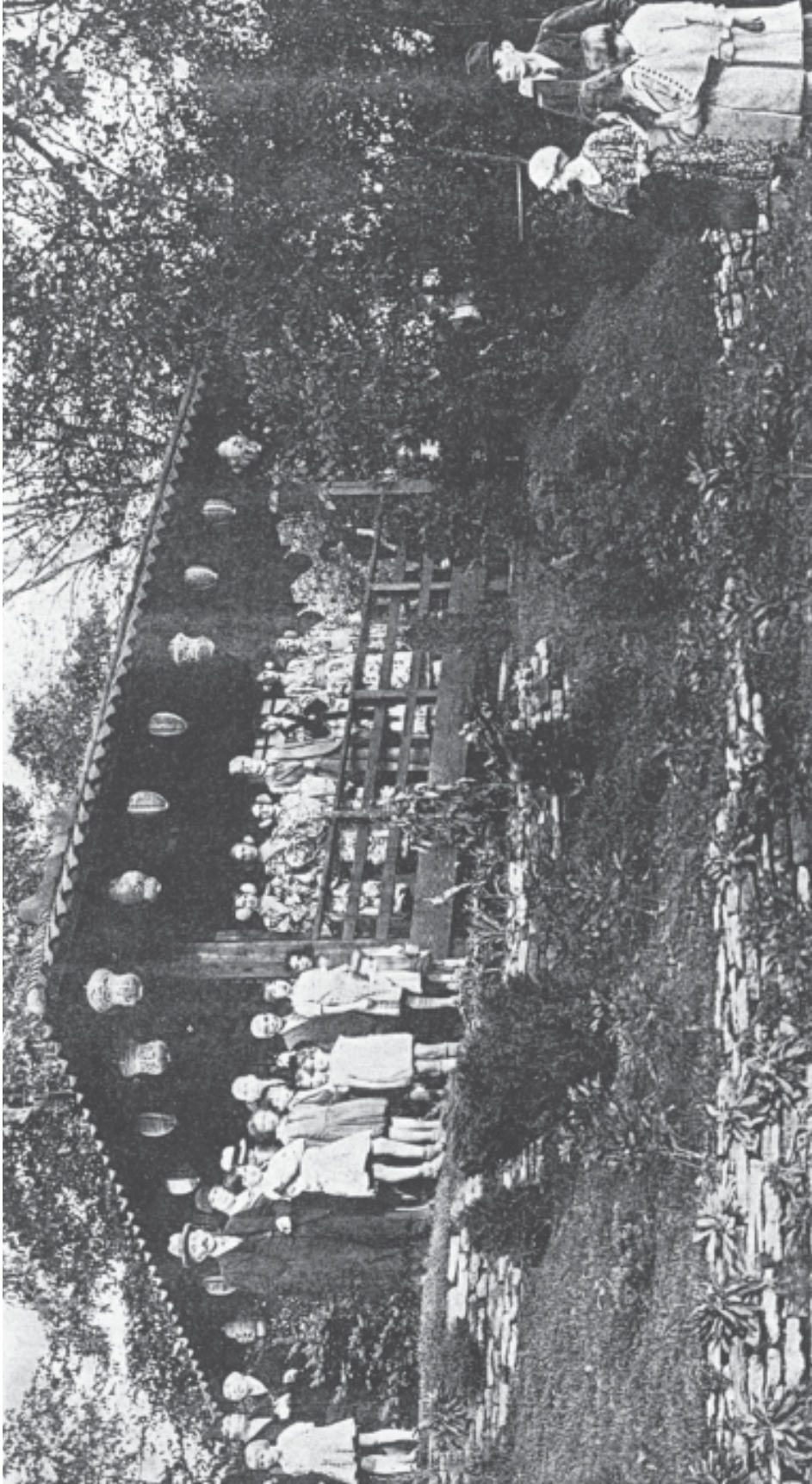


Figure I.17 View of the teahouse during the dedicatory ceremony held in the Japanese Gardens, 1930. 1930 Annual Report. Courtesy of Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation.



Figure I.18 Aerial photograph of West Swinney Park, showing the Trier's Amusement Center at its peak, 1938. Portions of the Japanese Gardens are visible under the tree canopy to the north. Courtesy of Indiana State Archives.

CHAPTER II: 1949 LANDSCAPE CHARACTER OF SWINNEY PARK

A. INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides a detailed description of the Swinney 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. East Swinney Park had reached its peak by the early 1920s and remained there into the early 1930s. There was a substantial character-altering change in the mid 1930s with the creation of the highways through the park. After this change, however, East Swinney remained intact through 1950. 1949 is the best year for capture of the park's historic character because of three factors: first, no detailed plans or aerials record the park's character in the 1920s; second, the majority of the landscape features other than the circulation are still intact in 1949; and third, 1949 is the best year for the capture of West Swinney Park. In West Swinney, 1949 represents the culmination of thirty years of development. Beginning with the early 1950s substantial changes include the removal of Trier's Amusement Center and the gradual reduction of Jaenicke Gardens.

LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP has prepared six plans to accompany the text and images in this chapter. Because of their large scale and the natural divide of the St. Mary's River, the plans show only the east or west half of Swinney Park. The *circa 1949 Plan East*, Plan PP E and *circa 1949 Plan West*, Plan PP W, show the park's principal drives, structures and vegetation in East Swinney and West Swinney, respectively. The Schedule of Landscape Elements included on the plan identifies key park features and the year they were added. The plans *1949 Aerial Photograph East*, Plan PP E AIR and *1949 Aerial Photograph West*, Plan PP W AIR are shown at the same scale and orientation.

The *circa 1949 Landscape Units East*, Plan PP E LU and *circa 1949 Landscape Units West*, Plan PP W LU depict the landscape units of East and West Swinney Parks in 1949. Units 1 through 4 are located in East Swinney, 5 through 8 are in West Swinney. 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 Swinney 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 Swinney Park are as follows:

1. North Grove: so named because of the large native trees growing in the bend of the St. Mary's River, containing the Japanese Pavilion, picnic ground, playground, horseshoe courts and iron pedestrian bridge.
2. Lake & Athletic Fields: the main body of the park, with a large lake and two islands, football field, baseball diamond and park entrance.
3. Swinney Homestead: consisting of the homestead and immediate grounds.
4. Tennis Complex: with 14 courts and clubhouse.

5. Riparian Zone: the wooded west edge of the St. Mary's River.
6. Pool & Amusement Center: containing the swimming pool, bathhouse and Trier's Amusement Center.
7. Baseball field: with the baseball diamond and parking.
8. Jaenicke Gardens: a loosely defined zone encompassing the full extent of the gardens, including the lagoon to the southeast.

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

Swinney Park was shaped by, divided by, and regularly inundated by the St. Mary's River. The river also separated the park from residential neighborhoods. In fact, only on two small boundaries did Swinney Park border neighborhoods; the east side of East Swinney, between Washington Boulevard and Jefferson Boulevard, and the north side of West Swinney, along Jaenicke Gardens. The St. Mary's River formed most of East Swinney's remaining boundaries and separated the two halves of the park. Jefferson Boulevard, railroad tracks and industrial areas were located south of the park, and tracks and industrial areas also formed the park's west boundary.

In 1949 Swinney Park was densely planted, particularly West Swinney, with large deciduous trees. Much of West Swinney contained deciduous forest that had been incorporated into the park. The north end of East Swinney also contained many native trees that had been retained for park use. Gardens had been located in East Swinney, but by 1949 it appears that there were only remnants of these plantings, which had been at their height in the 1910s. West Swinney included the extensive Jaenicke Gardens, with a wide variety of woody and herbaceous plant materials.

Circulation in Swinney Park featured a number of vehicular drives, in addition to Washington Boulevard and Jefferson Boulevard, which had been park drives but were realigned and enlarged in the 1930s to become city streets. Park drives in 1949 were not paved, and consisted of a partial loop in East Swinney that entered from Washington Boulevard and exited on Jefferson Boulevard, as well as an extension to the north to access a pavilion. West Swinney contained a drive that entered at Jefferson Boulevard on the west side of the park and curved along the west boundary and connected with Manufacturers Avenue in the north. This drive also branched to the east and then curved north, connecting with Greenwood Avenue. Pedestrian walks in East Swinney were fairly extensive and also appear to not have been paved. A pedestrian connection was provided via an underpass under Washington Boulevard, which had divided East Swinney Park. The connection between East and West Swinney was the Jefferson Boulevard vehicular bridge. West Swinney contained many paths that were associated with Trier's Amusement Center, including a railroad track for a miniature train. Jaenicke Gardens also contained an elaborate network of paths.

There were five principal water features in Swinney Park, as well as several secondary ones. Chief among them was the St. Mary's River, followed by the lake in East Swinney, which contained two islands. West Swinney contained the swimming pool, a lagoon, and Junk Ditch, which ran through Jaenicke Gardens to the St. Mary's River. There were also two large, constructed waterfalls and several pools associated with the gardens.

There were many structures in Swinney Park, including the Swinney Homestead, tennis clubhouse, ice-skating shelter, Japanese pavilion, and restrooms in East Swinney. West Swinney contained numerous buildings that were part of the amusement park, as well as several pavilions in Jaenicke Gardens. Recreational facilities included four baseball diamonds, a football field, eight tennis courts, eight horseshoe courts, a playground, and the amusement park.

1. North Grove

The North Grove landscape unit was defined on three sides by the St. Mary's River, and connected with the rest of the park on the south. The northernmost part of this unit was relatively open, at least in comparison to the North Grove, which contained the Japanese pavilion and playground. The northern end did contain large trees but was open enough to also include a baseball diamond. The ballfield does not look well used in the 1949 aerial photograph, Plan PP E AIR, but the backstop is present.

Circulation in this unit included a park drive that provided access to the pavilion and connected with the main park drive with a triangular intersection. A spur led west from this drive toward the river, although it is not known what it accessed. At the north end was the pedestrian

footbridge over the river, seen in the 1973 photograph in Figure II.1, and a path that led south to the pavilion.

Site structures and furnishings included the open-air Japanese Pavilion, restrooms, and eight horseshoe courts. There was also a variety of playground equipment, including two swing sets.

2. Lake & Athletic Fields

The main body of East Swinney Park contained a lake and athletic fields at its center. The river bounded this unit on the west and northeast, with the North Grove to the north and Washington Boulevard to the southeast. Because of the water surface and fields the interior of this space was fairly open, with a dense planting of deciduous trees around the periphery. The edge of this central area was marked by a tree-lined drive that, combined with Washington Boulevard, encompassed the lake. The interior was not devoid of vegetation, as seen in Plan PP E. There were many trees along the shore of the lake and on its two islands.

In 1949 the drive system also contained remnants of the earlier pattern that was changed in the 1930s. A partial triangular intersection east of the lake remained, as did an access drive to the ice-skating shelter. Within the perimeter drive, between the road and the lake, was a pedestrian path. It is not apparent in Plan PP E AIR if the path continued on the west side of the lake.

The lake was used for ice-skating in the winter, as seen in the 1952 photograph Figure II.2. One of the wooded islands can also be seen in this image. On the east bank of the lake stood an ice-skating shelter. In 1949 the shelter may have been the one seen in Figure II.3, a photograph from 1931, or the shelter seen in Figure II.4, from 1972, as it is not known when the structure was replaced. West of the lake was flat and open, and contained a striped football field overlaid with a baseball infield and backstop. At the east entrance to the park stood the Colonel Foster monument.

3. Swinney Homestead

This landscape unit was separated from the main part of the park by Washington Boulevard. Its eastern border was shared with a residential neighborhood, and its southern boundary was shared with the tennis courts. This boundary was marked by a curving row of small evergreen trees or shrubs, as seen in Plan PP E LU. It is likely that this row had marked the northern edge of a former park drive, as several plants are also located on what would have been the south side. There does not appear to have been a drive here in 1949, although it may have been removed in the 1930s.

The Swinney Homestead unit contained a variety of shade trees, evergreens, and small deciduous or ornamental trees. It was accessed from the east by a long driveway that looped at the house. A path led from the driveway loop southwest toward the tennis courts.

The house was used as a historical museum and was probably painted white, as seen in the undated image, Figure II.5. The house stood on the crest of a slope overlooking the park to the east. The Johnny Appleseed monument stood west of the house, and the Commodore Perry cannon monument was located east of it near the entrance. In the far west corner of this unit stood the Perry Randal monument.

4. Tennis Complex

The Tennis Complex was located near the convergence of Washington Boulevard and Jefferson Boulevard. As discussed previously, its northern boundary had likely been a park drive prior to the construction of the city streets, and remnant drive plantings remained in 1949. A structure was located on the north side of the plantings, which was likely the tennis complex clubhouse. The eight courts were located to the south of it.

Vegetation in this unit included groves of deciduous trees to the east and west of the tennis courts, near Washington Boulevard and Jefferson Boulevard. In Plan PP E AIR there is a concentration of trees to the west of the courts near the convergence of the two streets, which suggest a possible location of prior gardens.

Two paths are clearly visible in Plan PP E AIR; one leading from the Swinney Homestead, down the hill to the clubhouse, then down to the underpass that connected with the rest of East Swinney Park. The other path led southeast from the underpass along Jefferson Boulevard. This path fades out on the aerial, but likely crossed the street and accessed neighborhoods to the southeast.

There were other site furnishings in this unit in addition to the courts and clubhouse, including a small baseball diamond on the west side of the courts. Several structures are also visible near the east side of the tennis courts in the 1949 aerial. One appears to have been a small storage shed, while two rectangular objects may have been bleachers for spectators.

5. Riparian Edge

The St. Mary's River formed the east edge of West Swinney Park. This riparian edge was heavily wooded, unlike the banks of the river in East Swinney, which contained some large trees but were highly maintained up to the water's edge. The banks in West Swinney appear to have been left in a more natural state. The dense vegetation and topography of this unit created a visual buffer between the two halves of the park.

The interesting topography of this unit consisted of low-lying draws that were frequently inundated by floodwaters, as well as small ridges that were generally above the flood. The ridges, particularly in the south, contained evergreens, rather than deciduous trees. It is not known if this pattern was naturally occurring or planted intentionally.

The dense vegetation makes it difficult to detect paths that were located in this area, but we do know of several. One led from the bridge at the south end of the unit northwest to the Trier's Amusement Center. Two others led west and south from the boat landing, which was located at the mouth of Junk Ditch.

The known structures in this unit were the dam on Junk ditch and the boat landing. Details of this structure are not known, although it did contain large stone blocks along the river's edge.

6. Pool & Amusement Center

As seen in Plan PP W, Trier's Amusement Center was a busy place. Over its 30-plus year lifespan there were likely many attractions that came and went. Plan PP shows structures that existed in 1949, as well as the dashed footprints of buildings located on a circa 1930s plan of the park that were removed by the late 1940s. The amusement park had carved out areas of the wooded high ground of West Swinney, leaving the trees not directly affected by the development intact. This pattern can clearly be seen in the patchwork pattern of Figure II.6, a circa 1956 oblique aerial taken shortly after the amusement park was removed. The area was defined on the east by banks that descended to the riparian edge and Jaenicke Gardens. Jefferson Boulevard and a park drive formed the south and west boundaries, respectively, while the northern edge was shared with the baseball field.

There were numerous paths within the amusement park, as well as a small railroad track. The track can be seen in a 1947 photograph passing several structures (Figure II.7). The grass, or what remains of it, is very well worn. Paths in the amusement park were likely dirt or gravel, as appears to be the case in this image. Two paths also led north and converged at the bridge over Junk Ditch.

The swimming pool and bathhouse were located at the south end of The Cyclone, a large wooden roller coaster. Parking for the attractions was likely informal, along the turf sides of the west park drive. Plan PP W AIR shows this area well eroded. There was also parking in a lot south of the baseball field.

7. Baseball Field

The baseball field was located north of the amusement park, nestled in the corner of two park drives, as seen in Figure II.8. Parking was provided on the south side of the field. There appears to have been no vegetative buffer west of the field, between the park drive and the railroad tracks, although there was a fence. There were groves of trees to the northeast and southeast of the field, separating it visually from the amusement park and Jaenicke Gardens.

A footpath crossed the northeast corner of this unit, connecting the amusement park with the bridge on Manufacturer's Avenue. The baseball field contained a backstop, skin infield, lights, benches and a storage shed.

8. Jaenicke Gardens

It is difficult to capture the full extent and detail of the Jaenicke Gardens on plan, as no detailed historic plans are known to exist. Plan PP W represents an effort to map the garden elements through the aid of aerial photographs, postcards, other images, and miscellaneous plans. The extent of the gardens was clearly defined in the north as the area north and west of the park drive that entered at Greenwood Avenue. South and east of the drive the gardens were loosely restricted to the low sides of Junk Ditch and the tops of the immediate banks. The intensity of the garden lessened as it progressed south, although garden elements were located as far south as the lagoon, near the mouth of Junk Ditch.

The interesting topography in this unit was capitalized on in the garden design. Natural slopes were terraced with low stone retaining walls to create beds. There were many stairs throughout

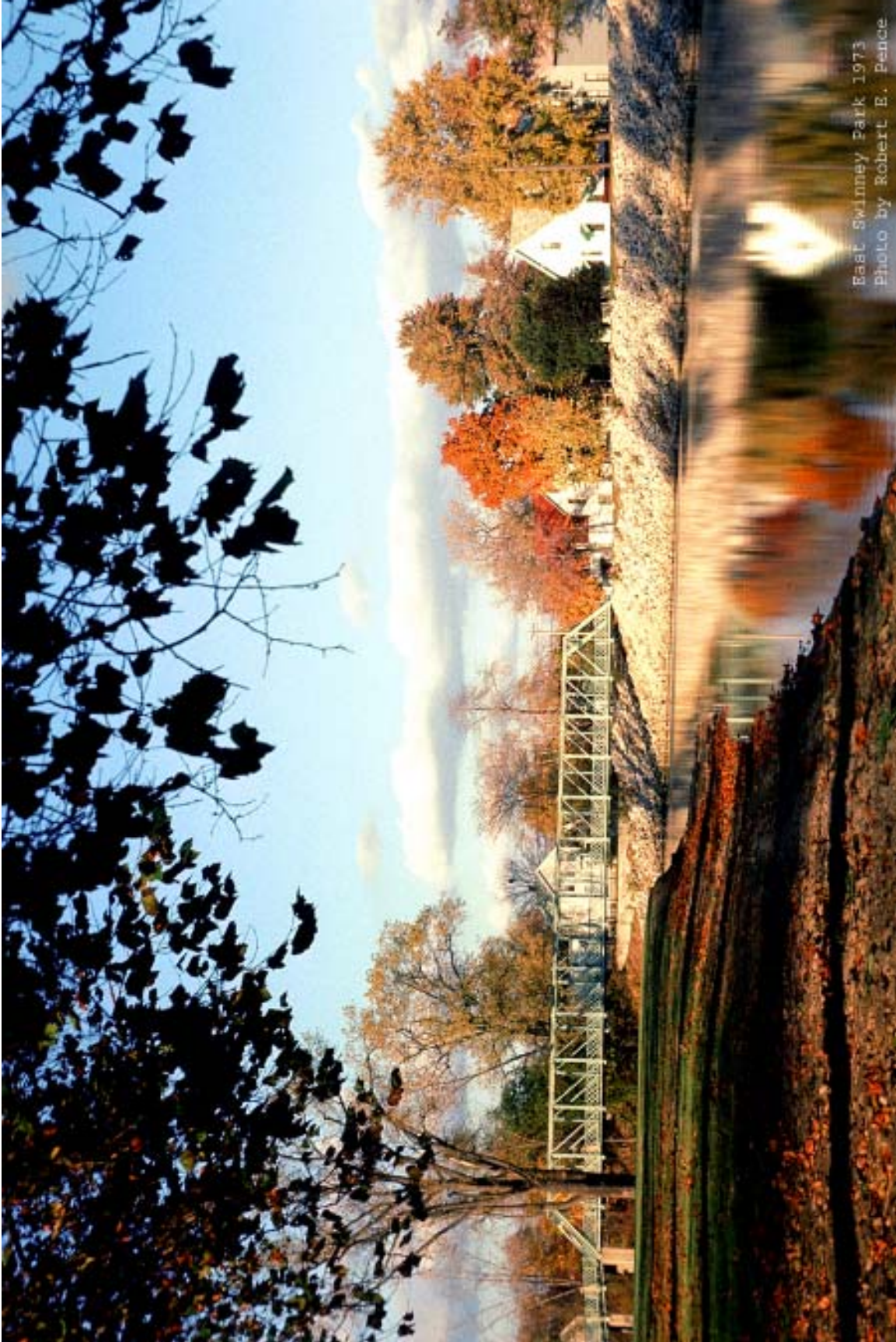
the garden, and two large waterfalls were constructed into the steep banks. The topography also served to create space within the garden, particularly within the lower areas along Junk Ditch, while views from the upper slopes were possible across the garden, as seen in Figure II.9. Clearly visible in this image is the mound of earth, or mount, that was inspired by a feature found frequently in Japanese garden design.

We do not know many specifics about the vegetation used within the garden, as no historic planting plans have been found. We do know from the annual park reports that there was a wide variety of plants and several extensive collections, but few specifics are given. With effort, however, it would be possible to piece together a reasonably detailed planting plan of the garden based on historic images, if it were deemed valuable to do so.

Plantings within the garden were for the most part informal. Beds of shrubs and perennials were located along the upper banks of Junk Ditch and throughout the tops of the banks on both sides. There may have been an exception to the informal arrangements, as seen in Figure II.10 and II.11. These undated images are reportedly of Jaenicke Gardens, although their locations within the park have not been identified.

Water also featured extensively in the garden. In the main part of the garden, east of the Greenwood Avenue drive extension and north of the Junk Ditch, there was an upper pool (Figure II.12), a waterfall, and a lower pool (Figure II.13). The upper pool also contained a water fountain. These pools were lined with concrete and contained water lilies when filled. The pumphouse for the falls was located under an octagonal viewing platform to the east. An even larger, more elaborate waterfall was built to the west of the drive, the lower portion of which can be seen in Figure II.14. This falls was at least two stories high and contained elaborate rockwork that incorporated planting beds and paths. A viewing platform with benches was also provided near this waterfall over a pumphouse, which also served as a storage shed. In the southern part of the gardens there was a lagoon that wrapped almost entirely around a large mound, as seen in Figure II.15. A pavilion had been located on the mound, although it may have been removed by 1949. The lagoon received its water from a channel to the north that connected with Junk Ditch.

There were many structures and site furnishings in the gardens, although their extent is not known. The main portion of the gardens contained a teahouse that overlooked the pools below. Three arbors were located west of the teahouse at the Greenwood Avenue entrance. A 1931 plan for these arbors can be seen in Figure II.16. Two of the arbors served as the entrance gates into the garden, with one leading east to the mound and teahouse, and the other leading south down a flight of steps to the lower pool. Both entrance arbors also contained benches inside them. The third arbor was located over the sidewalk that ran along the park drive. There were at least seven bridges in the garden. There were four over Junk Ditch: two pedestrian and two vehicular. There was a bridge over the lower end of the east falls (which may have been removed by 1949), a bridge across the upper lily pool, and another over the channel that fed the lagoon. There were many benches throughout the garden, as well as other structures that have not been fully identified. For example, Figure II.17 shows another entrance gate to the gardens, modeled after a Japanese torii, which was possibly located to the east near the boat dock.



East Swinney Park 1973
Photo by Robert E. Pence

Figure II.1 Footbridge over the St. Mary's River at the north end of the North Grove, 1973. Courtesy of Robert Pence.



Figure II.2 Ice-skating on the lake in East Swinney Park, 1952. One of the wooded islands is visible left of center. Courtesy of Allen County Public Library, 00001481.

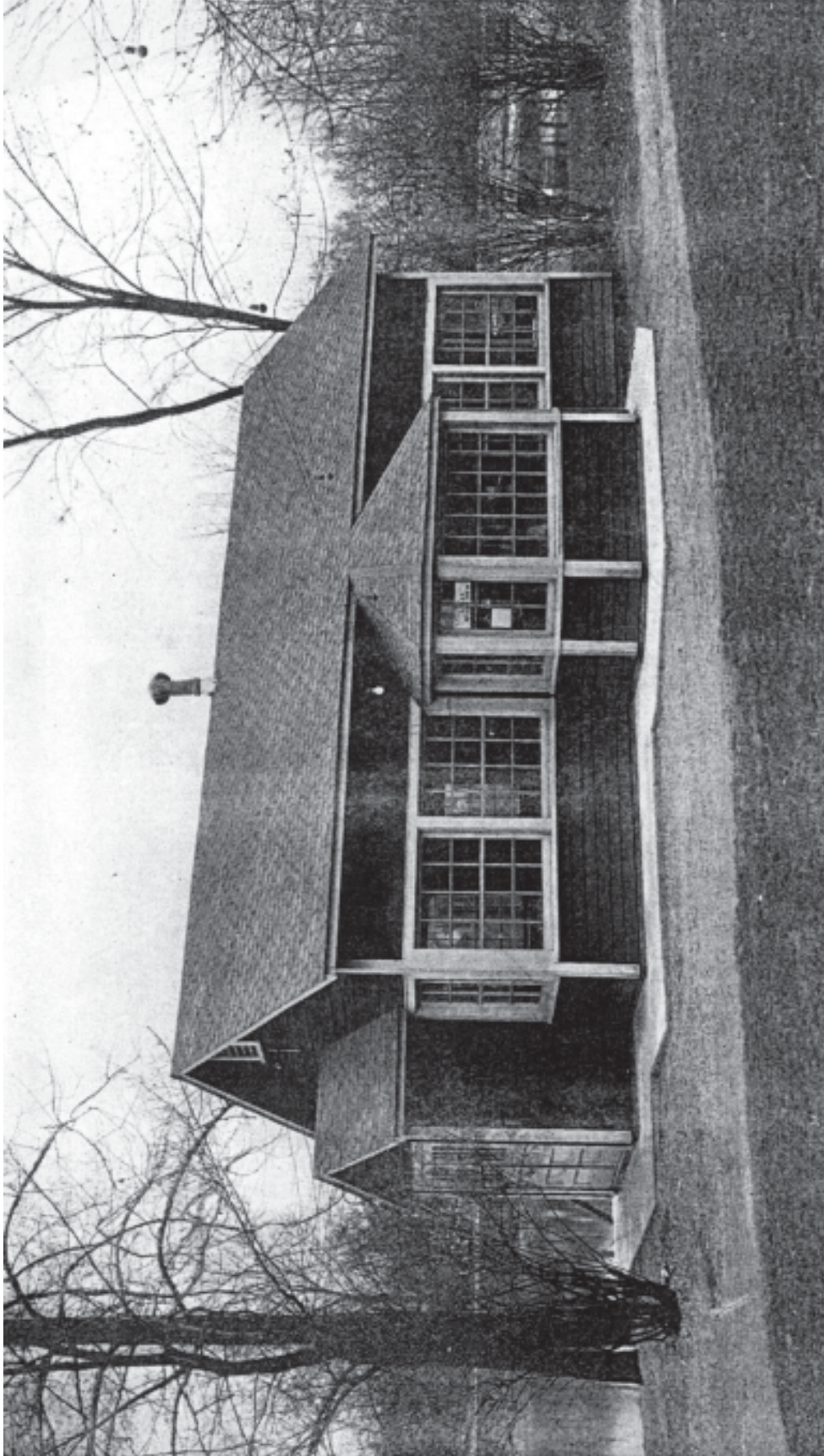


Figure II.3 The ice-skating shelter on the east side of the lake in 1931. The shelter in 1949 may have been this one or the one seen in the next figure, both built on the same location. 1931 Annual Report. Courtesy of Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation.



Figure II.4 The island and ice-skating shelter in 1972, with ice access ramp on the north (left) side of the building. Courtesy of Robert Pence.



Figure II.5 Undated photograph of the Swinney Homestead, painted white. Courtesy of Allen County Public Library, 00002659.



Figure II.6

Oblique aerial view of West Swinney Park, circa 1956, with clearings in the woods where structures of Trier's Amusement Center had been (the key to the numbers on the image was not included in the library caption). Courtesy of Allen County Public Library, 00001475.



Figure II.7 Train track and miniature train at the center of Trier's Amusement Center, 1947. Photograph by Virgil Marquat. Courtesy of Allen County/Fort Wayne History Center.



Figure II.8 Oblique aerial view of West Swinney Park from the northeast, circa 1956 (the key to the numbers on the image was not included in the library caption). Courtesy of Allen County Public Library, 00001490.



Figure II.9 View across Junk Ditch to the main part of Jaenicke Gardens, showing the east waterfall and the mount, no date. Courtesy of Allen County Public Library, 00001480.



Figure II.10 View of elaborate plantings possibly located in Jaenicke Gardens, although the exact location of these beds has not been identified. The library caption reads: “Swinney Park, Fort Wayne: showing Jaenicke Gardens including shrubs, walks, trees, with arbor in center. Opposite viewpoint from 1479.” No date. Courtesy of Allen County Public Library, 00001478.



Figure II.11 The companion image to the previous figure, although not dating to the same time. The photograph is taken from within an arbor or some other structure. No date. Courtesy of Allen County Public Library, 00001479.



Figure II.12 The bridge that crossed the upper lily pool, with dwarf pines located at either end, no date. Courtesy of Allen County Public Library, 00001471.



Figure II.13 Postcard of the lower lily pool and east waterfall, probably from the 1950s or 1960s. Courtesy of Allen County/Fort Wayne History Center.



Figure II.14 Lower end of the west waterfall, 1957. Photograph by Virgil Marquat. Courtesy of Allen County/Fort Wayne History Center.



Figure II.15 Stone-lined banks of the lagoon and “island”, which at one time contained a pavilion. No date. Courtesy of Allen County Public Library, 00001486.

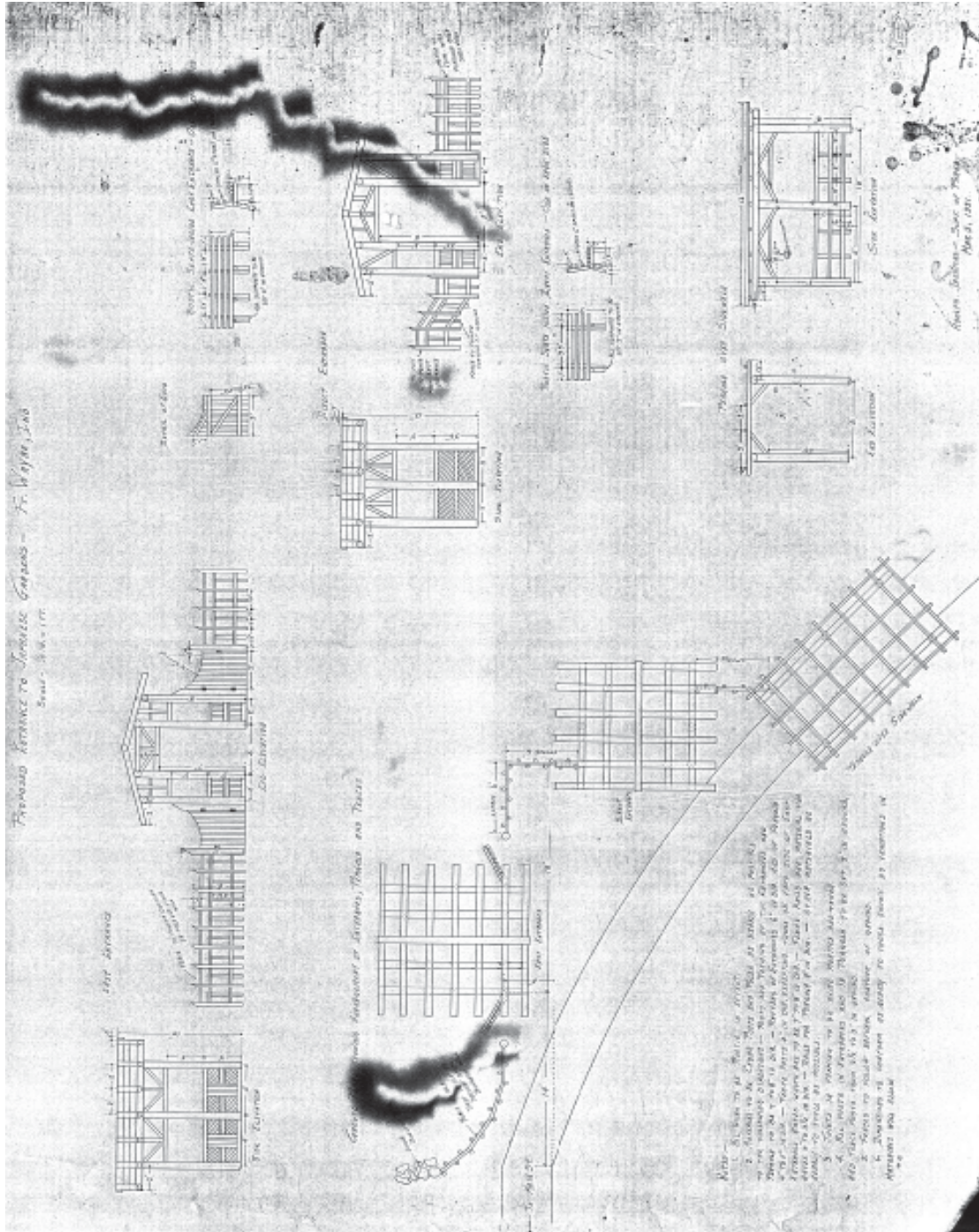
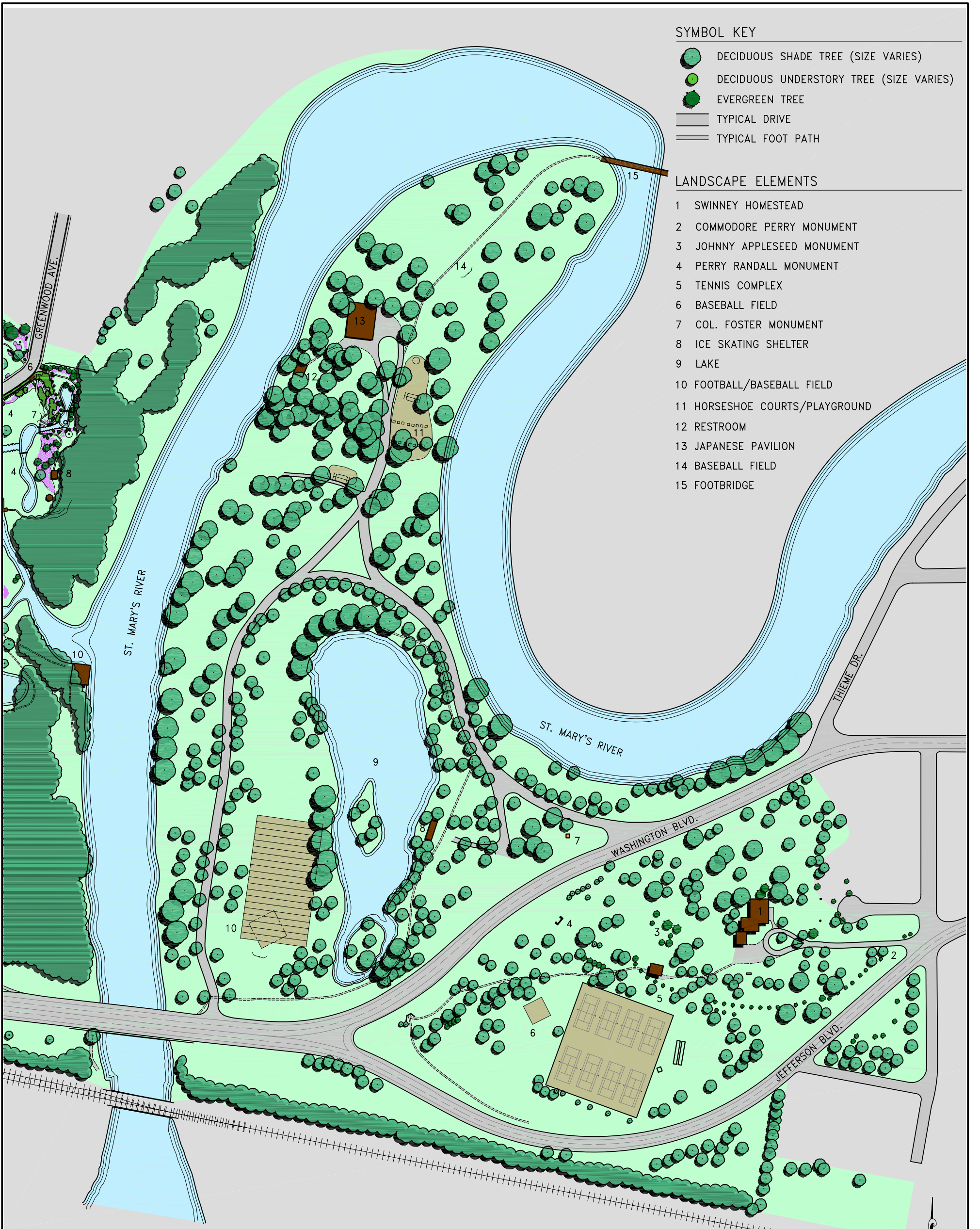


Figure II.16 “Proposed Entrance to Japanese Gardens” by Adolph Jaenicke, 1931. These three arbors were built along the sidewalk on the east side of the park drive that entered on Greenwood Avenue, and served as the principal entrance to the gardens. Courtesy of Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation.



Figure II.17 A tori-inspired rustic entrance to Jaenicke Gardens, no date. The location of this structure has not been verified, although it may have been placed near the boat dock on the St. Mary's River. Courtesy of Allen County Public Library, 00001485.



SYMBOL KEY

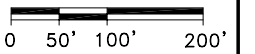
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- DECIDUOUS UNDERSTORY TREE (SIZE VARIES)
- EVERGREEN TREE
- TYPICAL DRIVE
- TYPICAL FOOT PATH

LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS

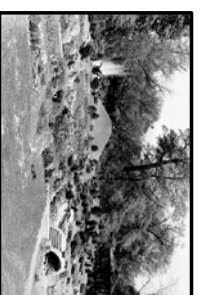
- 1 SWINNEY HOMESTEAD
- 2 COMMODORE PERRY MONUMENT
- 3 JOHNNY APPLESEED MONUMENT
- 4 PERRY RANDALL MONUMENT
- 5 TENNIS COMPLEX
- 6 BASEBALL FIELD
- 7 COL. FOSTER MONUMENT
- 8 ICE SKATING SHELTER
- 9 LAKE
- 10 FOOTBALL/BASEBALL FIELD
- 11 HORSESHOE COURTS/PLAYGROUND
- 12 RESTROOM
- 13 JAPANESE PAVILION
- 14 BASEBALL FIELD
- 15 FOOTBRIDGE

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



*Swinney Park
Cultural Landscape Report
Fort Wayne, Indiana*



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*1949 Plan
East*

*Plan Number:
PP E
Date:
August 2002*



SYMBOL KEY

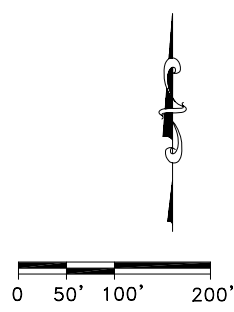
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- DECIDUOUS UNDERSTORY TREE (SIZE VARIES)
- EVERGREEN TREE
- TYPICAL DRIVE
- TYPICAL FOOT PATH

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- 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 SWIMMING POOL
- 2 TRIER'S AMUSEMENT CENTER
- 3 BASEBALL FIELD
- 4 JAENICKE GARDENS
- 5 WEST FALLS
- 6 ENTRANCE ARBORS
- 7 EAST FALLS
- 8 TEA-HOUSE
- 9 LAGOON
- 10 BOAT DOCK



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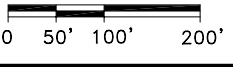
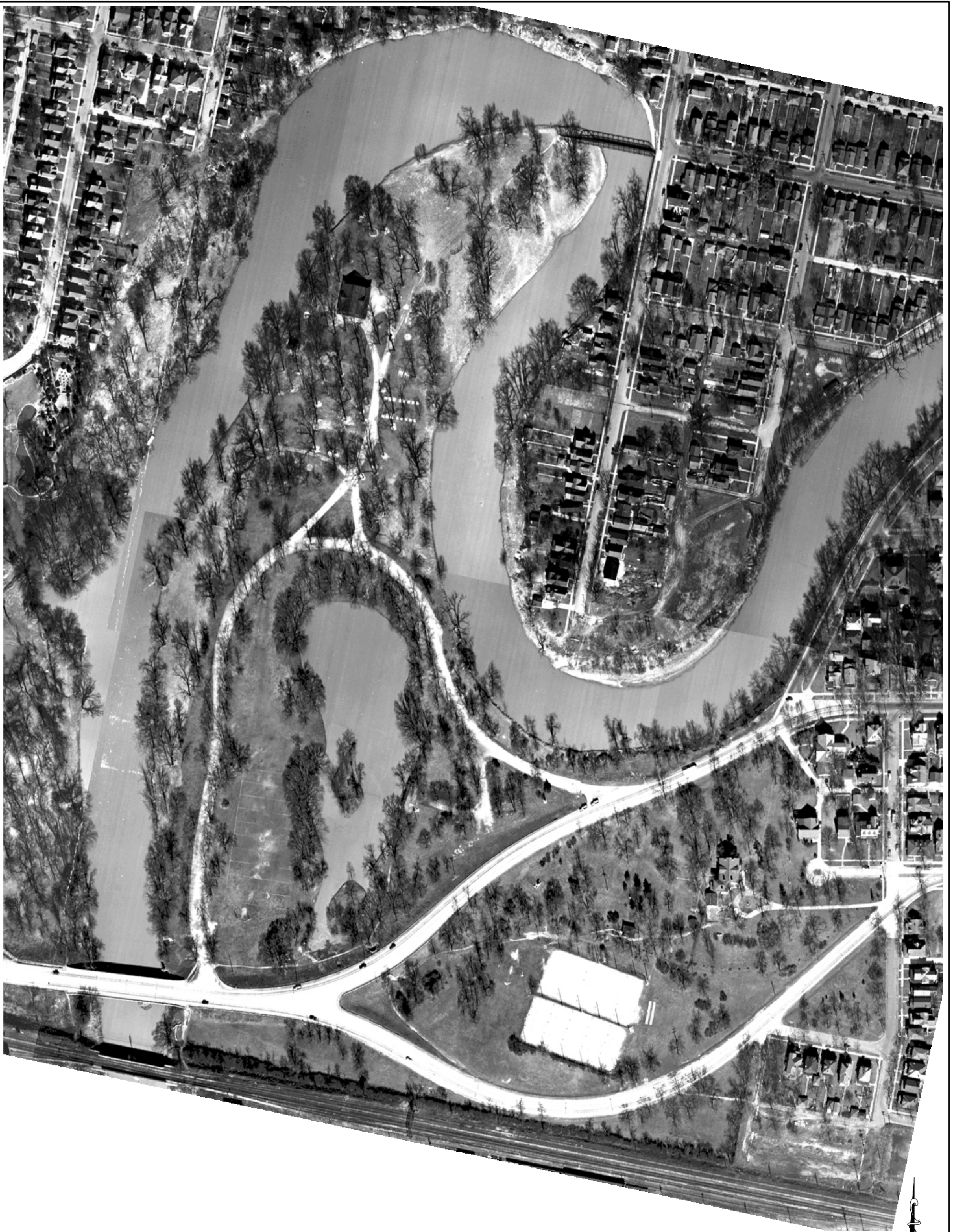
Drawing Title:
1949 Plan
 West

Plan Number:
 PP W

Date:
 August 2002

Swinney Park Cultural Landscape Report Fort Wayne, Indiana

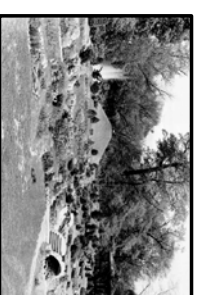




SOURCE LIST

- 1) 1949 planimetric aerial, City of Fort Wayne

Swinney Park Cultural Landscape Report Fort Wayne, Indiana



Client:
City of Fort Wayne
Department of Parks
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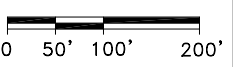
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Drawing Title:
**1949
Aerial Photograph
East**

Plan Number:
PP E AIR

Date:
August 2002



SOURCE LIST

- 1) 1949 planimetric aerial, City of Fort Wayne



Swinney Park Cultural Landscape Report Fort Wayne, Indiana

Client:
City of Fort Wayne
 Department of Parks
 & Recreation
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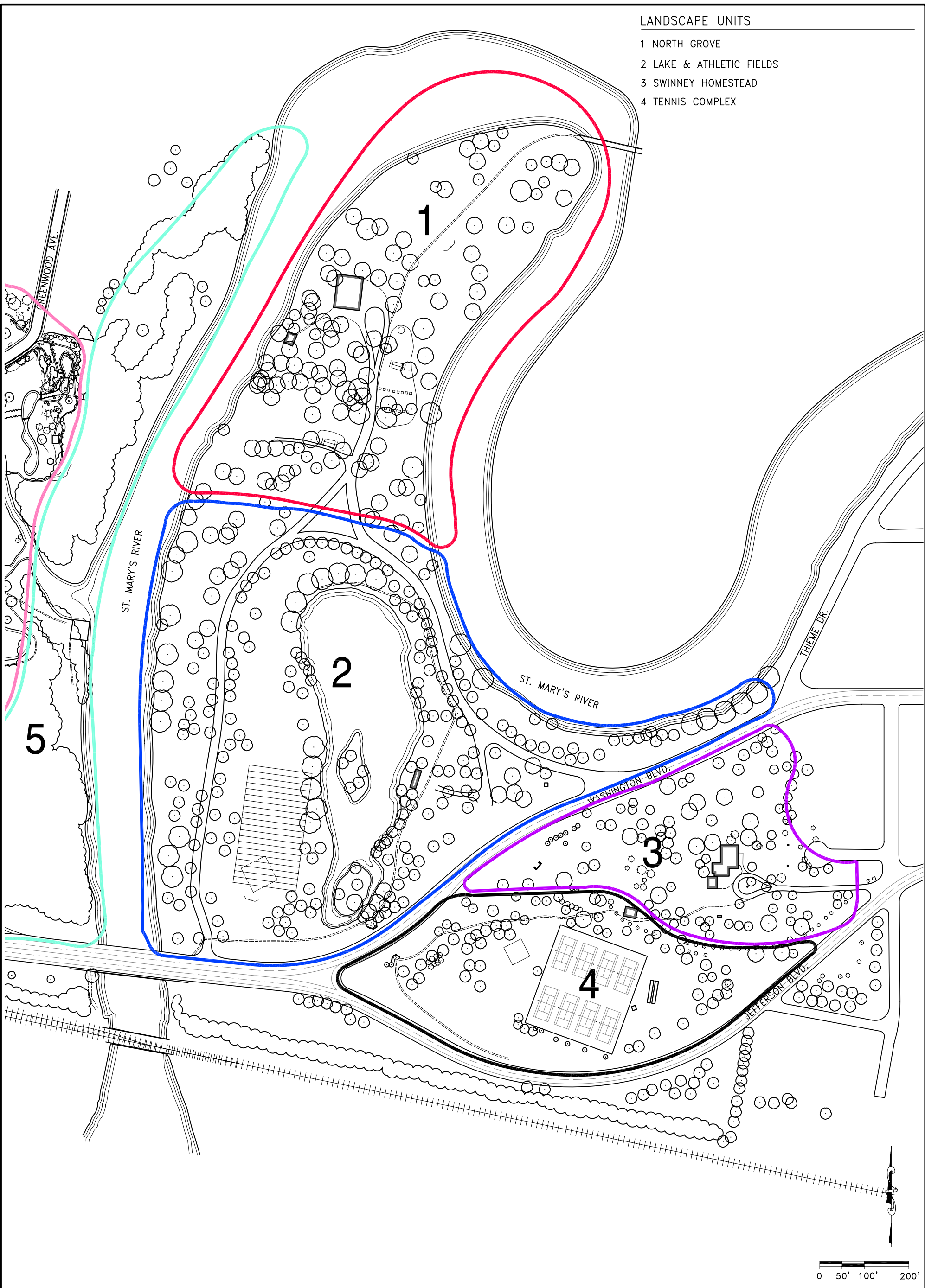
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Aerial Photograph
West

Plan Number:
PP W AIR

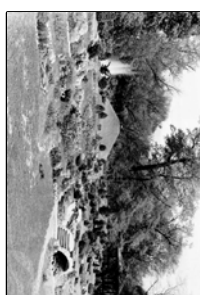
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LANDSCAPE UNITS

- 1 NORTH GROVE
- 2 LAKE & ATHLETIC FIELDS
- 3 SWINNEY HOMESTEAD
- 4 TENNIS COMPLEX



Swinney Park Cultural Landscape Report Fort Wayne, Indiana



Client:
City of Fort Wayne
Department of Parks
& Recreation

705 East State Boulevard
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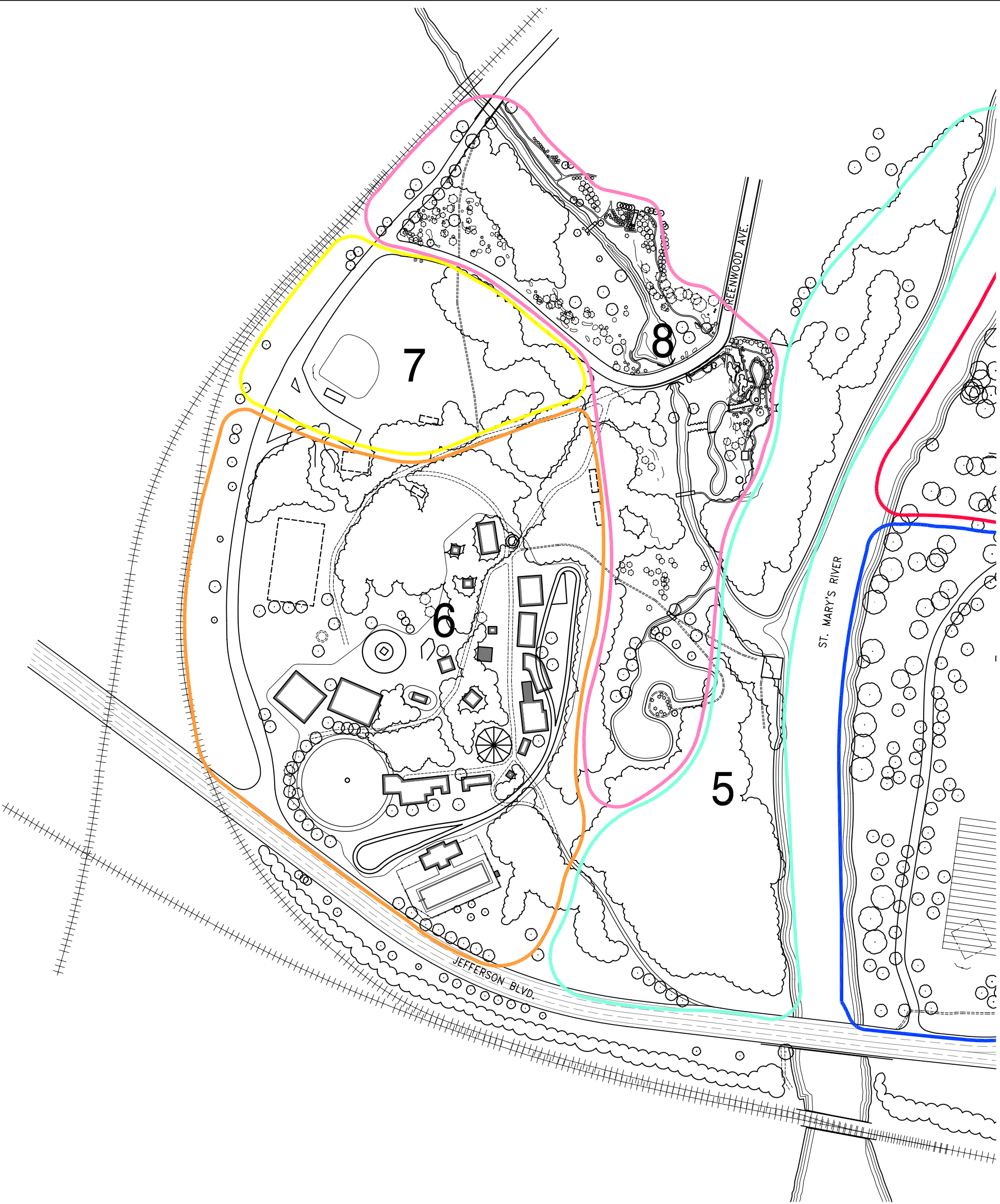
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Plan East

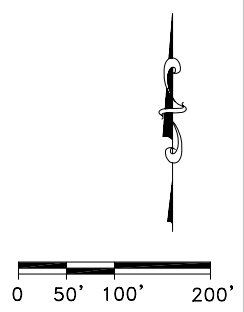
Plan Number:
PP E LU

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LANDSCAPE UNITS

- 5 RIPARIAN EDGE
- 6 POOL & AMUSEMENT CENTER
- 7 BASEBALL FIELD
- 8 JAENICKE GARDENS



Swinney Park Cultural Landscape Report Fort Wayne, Indiana



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Plan West

Plan Number:
PP W LU

Date:
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CHAPTER III: 2002 LANDSCAPE CHARACTER OF SWINNEY PARK

A. INTRODUCTION

This chapter follows the outline established in Chapter II, describing in detail the contemporary character of Swinney Park with text, images and plans. The plans that accompany the text are divided to show the east and west portions of the park. The plans *2002 Plan East*, Plan EC E and *2002 Plan West*, Plan EC W were created by combining the recent survey conducted of the park, obtained digitally from the Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation Department (FWPR), with digital files of the recent additions, also obtained from FWPR. Other principal sources included ground reconnaissance conducted by LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP and the 1999 aerial photograph, also included as *1999 Aerial Photograph East*, Plan EC E AIR and *1999 Aerial Photograph West*, Plan EC W AIR.

The chapter is organized by the landscape units outlined in Chapter II and are shown in *2002 Landscape Units East*, Plan EC E LU and *2002 Landscape Units West*, Plan EC W LU. The following is a summary of the 2002 landscape units:

1. North Grove: an open parkland with dense growth on the banks of the St. Mary's River.
2. Lake & Athletic Fields: containing the lake, open parkland, playground, drive and parking lots.
3. Swinney Homestead: consisting of the homestead and immediate grounds.
4. Tennis Complex: with 8 courts and clubhouse.
5. Riparian Zone: the wooded west edge of the St. Mary's River.
6. Pool & Amusement Center: containing the swimming pool, bathhouse, roller hockey rink and open parkland.
7. Ballfield: with the baseball diamond and parking.
8. Jaenicke Gardens: the floodplain and banks of Junk Ditch, including the lagoon.

While the unit boundaries remain consistent on plans PP LU and EC LU, the relationship between the units in several instances has changed. These areas 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

Swinney Park is divided into three sections. The St. Mary's River divides the park into East Swinney and West Swinney, while Washington Boulevard separates the Swinney Homestead and tennis courts from the rest of the park. Aside from the densely vegetated banks of the river, the park is very open in character. Long views into the park are possible from almost all points of Washington and Jefferson Boulevards, located on the park's southern boundary, as both streets are elevated on a substantial amount of fill. There are also relatively few trees in the park, which also increases visibility. Views are not attainable into the park from the north, however, because of the recently completed floodwall along the north side of Junk Ditch and the St. Mary's River.

Most of the park is open lawn with scattered trees and clumps of crabapples. Predominant species include honey locust, a variety of oaks, sycamore, silver maple and horse chestnut. The riparian edges are wooded and contain a large amount of understory growth. There is a garden west of the Swinney Homestead, a planting bed at the southwest corner of the tennis courts, and additional beds in the northwest corner of West Swinney Park. There are remnant evergreens in Jaenicke Gardens, as well as a new boundary planting along the floodwall.

In addition to the major streets that run through the park, vehicular circulation is limited to three dead-end drives that access parking lots. All of the drives enter from the south, and access lots in West Swinney, East Swinney, and the tennis complex/Swinney Homestead. There is no designated pedestrian circulation in this part of East Swinney, although an underpass does allow for movement across Washington Boulevard. East Swinney proper contains two paths; one that parallels Washington Boulevard, and a second that leads from the pedestrian bridge in the north to the end of the vehicular turn-around and then continues south to the Jefferson Boulevard bridge. The bridge, seen in Figure III.1, contains narrow sidewalks on either side of four lanes of high-speed traffic, and is the only way to cross into West Swinney Park. In West Swinney the path continues to the swimming pool, then leads north toward Jaenicke Gardens. The paved drive that has been closed between Greenwood Avenue and the vehicular turn-around remains open to pedestrian use, and there are a few remnant paths in the gardens.

Water features in the park include the St. Mary's river, the lake in East Swinney, the lagoon in West Swinney, the swimming pool, and Junk Ditch. Structures and site furnishings include a small playground in East Swinney, the Swinney Homestead and log cabin, tennis complex with clubhouse, swimming pool bathhouse, and baseball field and roller-hockey court, both in West Swinney. There is also a Frisbee-golf course that includes stations in both East and West Swinney.

1. North Grove

The North Grove is an open lawn located on a bend in the St. Mary's River. There are long views within the unit, as seen in Figure III.2, as it is flat and contains few trees. The densely vegetated banks of the river enclose the space, and do not afford views of the water. A sampling of species from the banks includes silver maple, ash, sycamore, box elder, and mulberry. The footbridge at the north end of this unit access the residential neighborhood to the east, and an

asphalt path from the bridge leads south to the lake. There are several stations of the Frisbee-golf course within this unit.

2. Lake & Athletic Fields

Like the North Grove, this unit is open on the interior, with a concentration of vegetation on the part of the perimeter. On the east and west is a tree-lined asphalt path and vegetated banks of the river, while the north and south boundary are for the most part open. There are several clumps of crabapples, primarily towards the southern end of the unit.

In addition to the path on the west there is a path along the bottom of the bank that elevates Washington Boulevard. The vehicular drive and two small parking lots, seen in Figure II.3, are located on the east side of the lake. Also visible in this image is the small playground and a picnic table. The Colonel Foster monument is located near the entrance of the drive on Washington Boulevard. The lake, seen in Figure II.4, has one island and is very shallow. It does not hold water throughout the year.

3. Swinney Homestead

The Swinney Homestead is located between Washington Boulevard and Jefferson Boulevard, and shares boundaries with residential neighbors and the tennis complex. It is located on the highest ground of the park, and thus has expansive views to the west.

Vegetation in this unit includes a mix of large deciduous and evergreen trees, as well as an herb garden west of the house that is contained by a split-rail fence, as seen in Figure II.5. There is a curving row of crabapples behind the Perry Randall monument, seen in Figure II.6.

There are no paths in this unit other than the sidewalk at the front of the house that accesses the parking lot. The large lot is located south of the house and is accessed from Jefferson Boulevard.

In addition to the house is a log cabin, located downhill to the northeast. There are three monuments in this unit, including the Commodore Perry cannon, the Johnny Appleseed monument, and the Perry Randall memorial.

4. Tennis Complex

The tennis complex is located also located on high ground, although it is downhill from the Swinney Homestead. West of the courts the ground slopes until it is well below the surface of Washington and Jefferson Boulevards. Topography, lack of vegetation and close proximity makes this unit very exposed to the streets. This exposure has been taken advantage of with the “Welcome to Fort Wayne” topiary bed located on the southwest bank of the tennis courts, seen in Figure II.7. Other vegetation in this unit includes some shade trees and 37 crabapples.

Designated walks in this unit are limited to the sidewalk that accesses the clubhouse from the parking lot. Although there is not a path to it, there is a pedestrian tunnel under Washington Boulevard, as seen in Figure II.8. There is a path from the tunnel on the west side of the street.

There are eight fenced tennis courts, which are also lighted for night play. The courts also contain benches and other furnishings to facilitate play.

5. Riparian Edge

The west edge of the St. Mary's River contains a narrow band of dense vegetation. This riparian zone is also defined on the west by banks that lead to higher ground. Most of this unit south of Junk Ditch is mown turf with a fair number of large deciduous trees. Large evergreens are also located on a ridge in this area. The area north of Junk Ditch is not mown, and consists of various stages of woody succession.

There are two paths that cross the southern end of this unit, crossing over and under the Jefferson Boulevard bridge and providing access to the swimming pool. There are also several Frisbee-golf stations. On the south side of the narrow mouth of Junk ditch are the remnants of a stone boat dock, most of which is buried under earth, as seen in Figure II.9. There are also remnants of a dam upstream from the mouth on Junk Ditch.

6. Pool & Amusement Center

This unit is located on high, flat ground west of the riparian zone and south of Junk Ditch. Most of this large area is lawn, with a few large trees deciduous and evergreen trees scattered through it. The swimming pool is located along Jefferson Boulevard and is partially screened by large evergreens. A row of newly planted evergreens to the south will further shelter the pool from Jefferson Boulevard when they mature.

The paved park drive enters West Swinney Park in the southwest corner and proceeds north along the western boundary. The drive also branches east to access a large parking lot north of the swimming pool. A pedestrian path links the parking lot to the roller-hockey court to the north, seen in Figure II.10. There is also an asphalt path that bypasses the fenced court. North of the court is a wide paved path, a former park drive, that connects with the Greenwood Avenue extension. A set of bleachers is located on the east side of the court.

During the creation of this report a playground was installed in the northwest corner of this unit, near the baseball field. A recently constructed basketball court is also located in this vicinity.

7. Baseball Field

The baseball field can be seen in Figure II.11, looking southeast from the northwest parking lot. This area is open, other than a few large trees to the south and a grove of trees on the northern boundary. The west side of the northwest parking lot contains a screen of volunteer vegetation.

There are two parking lots for the baseball field, one south of it, and the other to the northwest. The northwest lot is newly constructed, as is the turnaround seen in Figure II.12. The lot is also quite wide, containing a 30-foot wide aisle lined with two 21-foot bays.

Site furnishings include the ballfield, with its benches, backstop and lights, and restrooms located to the southeast.

8. Jaenicke Gardens

This landscape unit occupies the Junk Ditch drainage channel and the high ground on either side. It also includes the lagoon located in the lowlands near the mouth of the stream. The upper

banks contain a variety of deciduous and evergreen trees (or overgrown shrubs), while the floodplain of Junk Ditch is generally open. The banks of the floodplain are steep and fluctuate in their distance from Junk Ditch, which creates several distinct areas, or “rooms”, along the channel. This effect can be seen in Figure II.13, looking west from the Greenwood Avenue. Small sections of terraces and stone walls can be found on some of the banks.

As also seen in Figure II.13, Jaenicke Gardens is primarily mown turf. Areas too steep to mow, such as the one seen in Figure II.14, are probably maintained periodically with weed trimmers. There are a few maintained beds in the northwest corner of this unit, near the baseball field, as seen in Figure II.15. On the north side of this unit is a large floodwall that was completed last year by the Army Corps of Engineers. On the south side of the wall large evergreen and deciduous trees have been planted. Notable tree species include weeping willow, honey locust, black pine, sycamore, ash, hawthorn, bald cypress, yew, juniper, white pine, and arborvitae.

Circulation within this unit includes the Greenwood Avenue extension, which makes a grand entrance through the floodwall, as seen in Figure II.16. Footpaths lead east and west from this gate. The path to the north access the west falls, which remains but is not in working order, and descends steps to a footbridge over the ditch. The steps are overgrown and in poor condition. The path to the east passes remnants of the old entrance arbors, seen in Figure II.17, as well as the site of the teahouse, and then ends before descending the ridge. By climbing down the bank and crossing the lawn one can access a second footbridge over the stream.

Junk Ditch is shallow and filled with sediment, and its banks are eroded in many locations. The lagoon to the southeast is also filled in, as the channel that feeds it is silted in as well. The banks surrounding the lagoon are also overgrown, as is the mound that extends on a peninsula into the pond.

The only functional site furnishings in Jaenicke Gardens include the two pedestrian bridges, the vehicular bridge, the entrance gate and stations for the Frisbee-golf course. Remnant features of structures, paths, and steps can be found scattered throughout this unit.



Figure III.1 Jefferson Boulevard bridge, with the narrow sidewalk being the only pedestrian connection between East Swinney Park and West Swinney Park. LANDSCAPES L.A. • Planning • HP.



Figure III.2 View north into the North Grove, which consists today of open lawn, a path, and several large trees. LANDSCAPES
LA•Planning•HP.



Figure III.3 The parking lots, playground, and east edge of the lake in East Swinney. LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP.



Figure III.4 View of east side of the shallow lake towards the Jefferson Boulevard bridge, from the vehicular turn-around. LANDSCAPES
LA•Planning•HP.



Figure III.5 The west façade of the Swinney Homestead, which overlooks the park. There is a fenced garden in the foreground. LANDSCAPES
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Figure III.6 The Perry Randal monument with a arced row of crabapples behind. LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP.



Figure III.7 View of the "Welcome to Fort Wayne" topiary and the lighted tennis courts along Jefferson Boulevard. LANDSCAPES
LA•Planning•HP.



Figure III.8 The pedestrian tunnel under Washington Boulevard, from the east. There is an asphalt path that exits on the west. LANDSCAPES
LA•Planning•HP.



Figure III.9 The partially buried remnants of the boat dock at the junction of Junk Ditch and the St. Mary's River. LANDSCAPES
LA•Planning•HP.



Figure III.10 The fenced roller-hockey court from the south, with bleachers to the east and wide path beyond. LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP.



Figure III.11 View southeast from the northwest parking lot of the baseball field and restrooms. LANDSCAPES L.A. Planning•HP.



Figure III.12 The north end and vehicular turn-around of the northwest parking lot. LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP.



Figure III.13 View west from the Greenwood Avenue extension bridge of Junk Ditch. Portions of the curving banks of the floodplain can be seen on the left, creating semi-isolated spaces along the stream. The west bridge can also be seen in the distance. LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP.



Figure III.14 Overgrown, abandoned steps on the east side of the west waterfall. LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP.



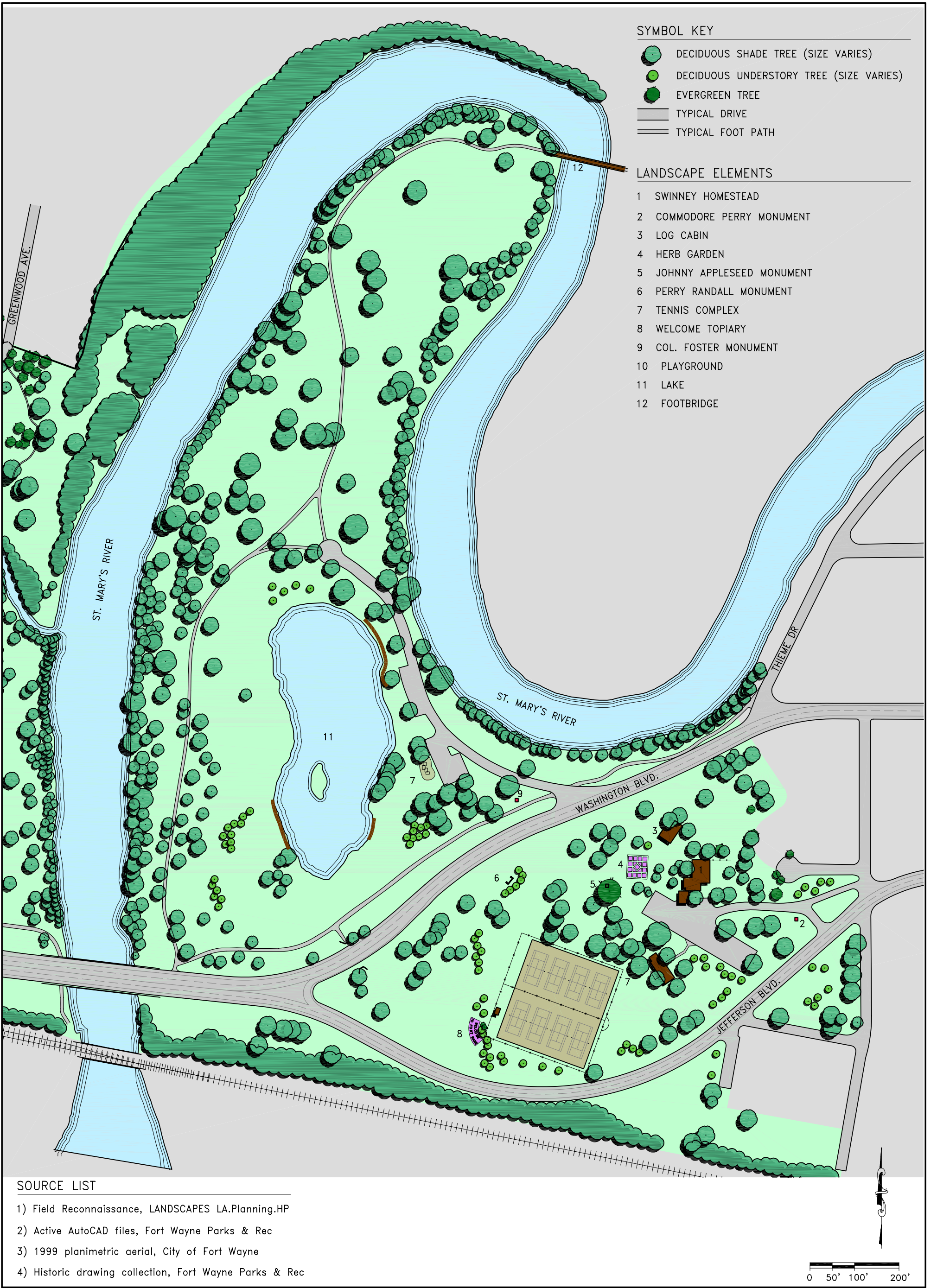
Figure III.15 Maintained annual beds in the northwest corner of Jaenicke Gardens, south of Junk Ditch. LANDSCAPES L.A. • Planning • HP.



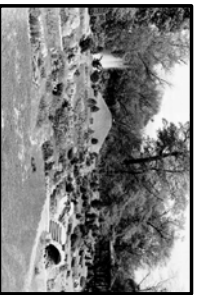
Figure III.16 The recently completed floodwall and grand pedestrian entrance into Swinney Park from Greenwood Avenue. LANDSCAPES
LA•Planning•HP.



Figure III.17 Remnant foundation of one of the pedestrian entrance arbors near the Greenwood Avenue entrance. LANDSCAPES
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Swinney Park Cultural Landscape Report Fort Wayne, Indiana



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East**

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EGE

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SYMBOL KEY

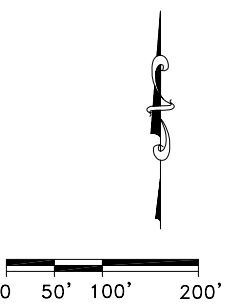
- DECIDUOUS SHADE TREE (SIZE VARIES)
- DECIDUOUS UNDERSTORY TREE (SIZE VARIES)
- EVERGREEN TREE
- TYPICAL DRIVE
- TYPICAL FOOT PATH

LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS

- 1 POOL COMPLEX
- 2 ROLLER-HOCKEY COURT
- 3 BASKETBALL COURT
- 4 PLAYGROUND
- 5 RESTROOMS
- 6 BASEBALL FIELD
- 7 JAENICKE GARDENS
- 8 WEST WATERFALL
- 9 LAGOON

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



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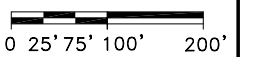
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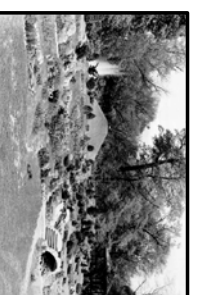


SOURCE LIST

- 1) 1999 planimetric aerial, City of Fort Wayne



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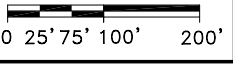
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Aerial Photograph
East**

Plan Number:

EC E AIR

Date:

August 2002



SOURCE LIST

- 1) 1999 planimetric aerial, City of Fort Wayne



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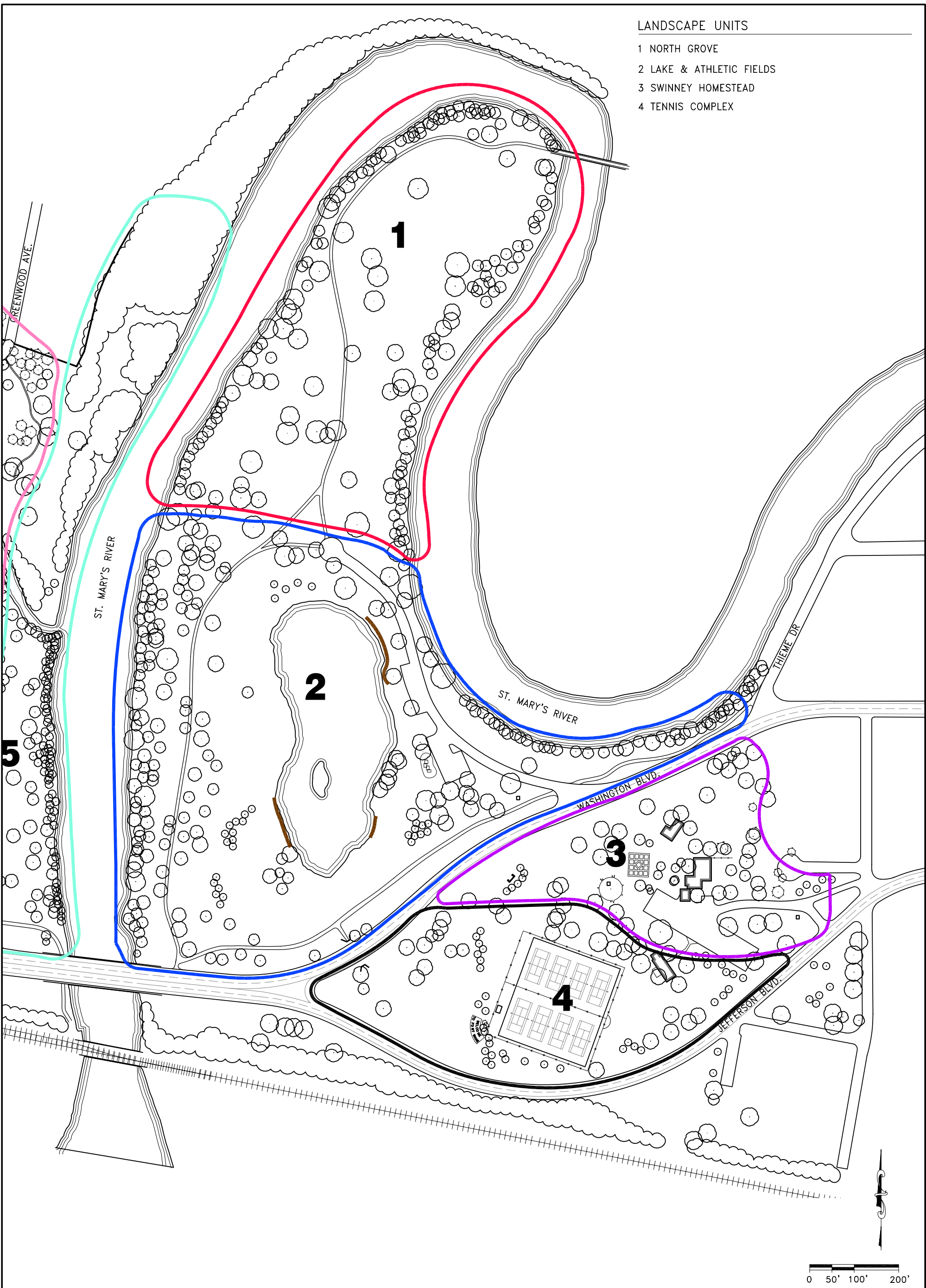
Drawing Title:
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Aerial Photograph
West

Plan Number:
EG W AIR

Date:
August 2002

LANDSCAPE UNITS

- 1 NORTH GROVE
- 2 LAKE & ATHLETIC FIELDS
- 3 SWINNEY HOMESTEAD
- 4 TENNIS COMPLEX



0 50' 100' 200'

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2002

Landscape Units
Plan East

Plan Number:

EC EIU

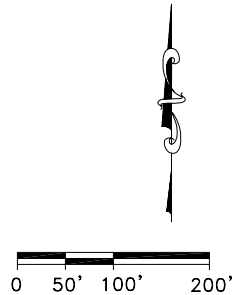
Date:

August 2002



LANDSCAPE UNITS

- 5 RIPARIAN EDGE
- 6 POOL & AMUSEMENT CENTER
- 7 BASEBALL FIELD
- 8 JAENICKE GARDENS



Swinney Park Cultural Landscape Report Fort Wayne, Indiana

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Plan West

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Date:
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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 Swinney 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. North Grove
2. Lake & Athletic Fields
3. Swinney Homestead
4. Tennis Complex
5. Riparian Zone
6. Pool & Amusement Center
7. Baseball Field
8. Jaenicke Gardens

B. LANDSCAPE CHANGE

Of the three Fort Wayne parks for which cultural landscape reports are being conducted (including Lakeside Park and Memorial Park), Swinney Park has changed the most since 1949. The bulk of the changes have been removals, so much so that little remains of the park's historic elements. There have been severe changes in all categories of character-defining features.

Changes to spatial organization have been closely linked with changes in vegetation. Both East and West Swinney are much more open on the interior due to loss of trees, while East Swinney is now visually isolated from the river due to dense volunteer vegetation on its banks. Spatially, East Swinney has been inverted. In 1949 much of the park interior was shaded with large trees, and the banks of the St. Mary's River were maintained to allow views of the river. Today, the interior of the park is largely open in character, while the banks are heavily vegetated. In 2002 there are an estimated 57% fewer large deciduous trees in the interior of East Swinney north of Washington Boulevard than there was in 1949. In West Swinney the vegetation reduction has been even more pronounced. In 1949 much of West Swinney contained woods that was dense enough not to allow an accurate count of individual trees from the 1949 aerial photograph, as has been the method for determining percentages elsewhere. Today there are few trees, with

primarily mown turf throughout. A conservative rough estimate can be placed at 75% loss of large deciduous trees south of Junk Ditch.

The other substantial change in vegetation is the almost complete loss of Jaenicke Gardens, where only a few remnants of the former, extensive plantings remain. There have also been substantial changes to topography in the garden with the removal of the terraces and filling of the pools.

Changes to the circulation system in the park have included the removal of drives and the addition or expansion of parking lots. The pedestrian circulation system has made use of most of the former drives, however, which has resulted in an overall circulation pattern similar to 1949. Principal reductions include loss of paths in Jaenicke Gardens, Trier's Amusement Center, and the tennis complex.

All of the park's water features have experienced some degree of change. Sedimentation on St. Mary's River has increased the size of the North Grove bend by approximately two acres. Sedimentation has also drastically reduced the size of the mouth of Junk Ditch, which was 100-foot wide in 1949 and is just over 20-foot wide today. Junk Ditch itself is filled with sediment and has eroded banks. In East Swinney the southern end of the lake has been filled and the west bank expanded. It also no longer holds water throughout the year. The swimming pool has changed the least of Swinney Park water features, although there is a new bathhouse and waterslide. The lagoon is overgrown and does not fill adequately because the source channel is restricted. None of the Jaenicke Gardens pools remain. The east falls has been removed, while the west falls remains but is not in working order.

There has also been a significant reduction in structures and site furnishings, with the exception of the area of East Swinney south of Washington Boulevard. The only significant furnishings remaining from 1949 in the remainder of East Swinney are the Colonel Foster monument and the footbridge. The only features that have been added are the small playground and the Frisbee-golf stations. The Japanese pavilion, restrooms, play equipment, horseshoe courts, football field, two baseball diamonds, and the ice-skating shelter have been removed. In West Swinney the situation is similar. The two large institutions in West Swinney no longer remain: Trier's Amusement Center and Jaenicke Gardens. The two remaining features, the swimming pool and the baseball field, have been improved and accommodated with large parking lots.

1. North Grove

As mentioned previously, the North Grove has changed from a densely shaded grove with open views of the river to an open, sunlit lawn contained by a vegetative screen at the river's edge, as seen in Figure IV.1. Only a few trees of the original grove remain. The two acres that have been added to this area through sedimentation have been linear strips on the north and east banks of the river. Most of this additional land is covered in volunteer vegetation.

The circulation system pattern is the same: connecting the pedestrian bridge in the north to the North Grove and remainder of the park to the south. The drive has been replaced with a paved walking path. The path passes through the approximate location of the former pavilion and then

hugs the west edge of the unit as it progresses toward the bridge. Figure IV.1 shows this portion of the path, which, because it is recessed in the grade, gets filled with silt when the river floods.

Other than the bridge and stations for the Frisbee-golf course, there are no structures or furnishings remaining in this unit, which had contained the Japanese pavilion, restrooms, playground, and horseshoe courts in 1949.

2. Lake & Athletic Fields

The changes to this unit are very similar to those of the North Grove. Many of the trees that had lined the drive, walk and lake no longer remain, while the banks of the river are much more heavily vegetated. Additions to the vegetation include 25 crabapples divided among three clumps in the southern end of the unit, near Washington Boulevard.

The drive that had created a partial loop through the park now enters, accesses two parking lots, and then turns around at a cul-de-sac, as seen in Figure IV.2. The remaining portion of the drive has been narrowed to create a pedestrian path, seen in Figure IV.3 looking north from Jefferson Boulevard. The walk around the lake's edge no longer remains, and a new asphalt walk has been built along Washington Boulevard.

The lake does not hold water throughout the year, nor does it drain properly. The infrastructure used in filling and draining the lake remains, but is not in working order, and it is widely held that the clay liner has cracked. The southern end of the lake has been filled past the northern end of the south island. The north island remains, but is considerably smaller and no longer contains trees. The west side of the lake has been extended into the former football field. The football/baseball field also now contains a clump of crabapples. The ice-skating shelter has also been removed, while the Colonel Foster monument remains. A small playground has been added near the parking lots east of the lake.

3. Swinney Homestead

The Swinney Homestead landscape unit has not changed as significantly as other areas of the park, although the changes that have occurred have been similar in nature. Like other units in the park, there has been a loss of deciduous trees, particularly on the slope to the northwest. The row of small evergreen trees or shrubs that marked the boundary between the homestead and the tennis complex no longer remains. Circulation has changed and a large parking lot added, which is shared with the tennis complex.

The monuments that were present in 1949 remain today, although the landscape treatment around some of them has altered, such as the addition of the crabapples at the Randall Perry monument. Additions to this unit include the fenced garden and the log cabin, both west of the house. The house has remained but is no longer painted white, as seen from the east in Figure IV.4.

4. Tennis Complex

Spatially, this landscape unit has changed little. There are fewer shade trees, while crabapples and the topiary bed are additions. The circulation change in this area is significant, as there is no longer a defined pedestrian connection with the rest of the park.

The tennis courts are well maintained and well used. The clubhouse is larger than its 1949 predecessor, and is now located northeast of the courts. It can be seen from the parking lot in Figure IV.5. The baseball diamond west of the courts has been removed.

5. Riparian Edge

The riparian edge of West Swinney Park was almost entirely wooded in 1949. Today the river's bank remains wooded, as does the area north of Junk Ditch. South of Junk Ditch most of the trees have been removed, creating long views of mown turf with trees along the low ridges, as seen in Figure IV.6.

The extent of walks through this area in 1949 is not known, although there were paths to the boat dock at the mouth of Junk ditch. These paths no longer remain. After 1949 a vehicular drive had been built through this unit, but has since been removed.

As discussed previously, the mouth of the Junk Ditch has shrunk considerably through sedimentation. A remnant of the dam on Junk Ditch remains but is not functional. The boat dock is buried in sediment and is also not functional.

6. Pool & Amusement Center

This landscape unit bears little resemblance to its 1949 landscape character. This is readily apparent in a comparison of Plan PP W and Plan EC W. The removal of the amusement park in the early 1950s was compounded with the removal of the trees in the 1960s, leaving little more than mown turf. The two existing features of this unit can be seen in Figure IV.7; a view south to the swimming pool from the roller-hockey court.

The path that connected to the amusement park from the Jefferson Boulevard bridge remains. The Vehicular drive to the pool and its parking lot are additions, as is the present bathhouse and waterslide. The path north from the pool is also an addition, and the wide road segment north of the roller-hockey court is a remnant of the interim drive system that was put in place after 1949 and has since been removed.

7. Baseball Field

Changes to the baseball field itself have been minimal, other than occasional improvements to make the field functional. The changes to the remainder of this unit include the addition of restrooms to the southeast and the addition of paved park lots to the west and south. Parking occurred in these areas in 1949 along the sides of the drive and in a gravel lot south of the ballfield, and now these areas have been paved. The west lot, seen in Figure IV.8, is quite large. It exceeds 70-feet in width, whereas the typical width of a double-bay lot is 60-feet. At the north end of the lot is a cul-de-sac where, in 1949, the drive would have continued north and branched to the east.

8. Jaenicke Gardens

As with the area occupied by the former amusement park, the character of Jaenicke Gardens altered considerably since 1949. Unlike the amusement park, however, there are still remnants of the garden that suggest this area's historic use. Spatially, the topography along the Junk Ditch

still creates intimate spaces and internal views. There is also remnant vegetation, such as trees near the bridges and on the west falls, and beds to the northwest, that provide hints of the extent of the former gardens. The west falls is the most significant and substantial remaining structure, seen in Figure IV.9, even though it no longer functions.

There are two arching bridges over the Junk Ditch, although they are replacement structures and do not have the same character as the originals. The existing west bridge can be seen in Figure IV.10. The historic bridge located in this area can be seen in Figure IV.11, while the east bridge can be seen in Figure IV.12.

Most of the remnants are merely ruins – bits of foundation or wall or a few stone steps. With photographs, plans, and a guide, however, it was possible to piece together how the original garden was laid out. Richard Cline, long-time local resident and president of the Swinney Park Restoration Group, aided LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP by providing an oral history interview in the park. In Figure IV.13 he can be seen indicating the approximate position of the fountain that had been located in the upper lily pool. The bridge seen previously in Figure II.12 was located on Cline's left, between the two remaining evergreens.



Figure IV.1 View of the north end of the North Grove, showing open lawn to the left, dense volunteer vegetation on the bank of the river to the right, and the sediment filled asphalt path. LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP.



Figure IV.2 View southeast from the cul-de-sac in East Swinney to the parking lots and east side of the lake. LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP.



Figure IV.3 The site of the former west drive of East Swinney from Jefferson Boulevard, now a pedestrian path. LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP.



Figure IV.4 Contemporary view of the east façade of the Swinney Homestead. LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP.



Figure IV.5 The tennis complex clubhouse from the parking lot, with the courts beyond. LANDSCAPES L.A. • Planning • HP.



Figure IV.6 View south in the formerly wooded riparian zone of West Swinney Park. LANDSCAPES L.A. • Planning • HP.



Figure IV.7 View south from the roller-hockey court to the swimming pool. In 1949 this area was wooded and contained Trier's Amusement Center. LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP.



Figure IV.8 The new parking lot west of the baseball field, looking south along the entrance drive. LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP.



Figure IV.9 Contemporary view of the upper portion of the rockwork of the west waterfall, which is no longer functional. LANDSCAPES
LA•Planning•HP.



Figure IV.10 The current west bridge in Jaenicke Gardens. The current east bridge is an identical match. LANDSCAPES L.A. • Planning • HP.



Figure IV.11 Historic photograph of the original west bridge. Courtesy of Allen County Public Library, 00001474.



Figure IV.12 Circa 1950s postcard of the original east bridge. Courtesy of Private Collection.



Figure IV.13 Local resident and oral history source Richard Cline, indicating the position of the fountain in the upper lily pool. The bridge was located between the evergreens on the left. LANDSCAPES L.A•Planning•HP.

CHAPTER V: CURRENT USE, PROGRAMMING & MAINTENANCE

A. INTRODUCTION

This chapter examines the use, programming and maintenance of Swinney 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, 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 Swinney 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

Swinney 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.

The user survey was conducted during the month of April 2002 that targeted Swinney Park area residents. A copy of the survey form with a full tally of the findings has been included in this report as Appendix A. A total of 34 surveys were collected, of whom 32.4% indicated that they visited the park more than once a week. 85.3% responded that they were regular park users in the summer, as opposed to 35.3% in the winter. In addition, 40% of those surveyed in the Swinney Park neighborhoods for a similar Swinney Park survey reported use of Swinney Park at least a few times a year.

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 Swinney 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 Swinney Park include the tennis courts (17.6% of those surveyed reported use of this facility), swimming pool (8.8%), playground (8.8%), baseball field and Frisbee-golf course. The paths in the park can be

utilized for aerobic exercise, and 20.6% of those surveyed reported jogging in the park. 50% of those surveyed expressed a desire for increased active recreation activities.

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. Of all the park uses surveyed, passive recreation activities were reported most frequently. Passive recreation activities include leisure walking (82.4%), sitting, reading, walking a dog (20.6%), picnicking (5.9%), enjoying being outdoors and observing the scenery (61.8%). Pedestrian paths, shady groves, views and gardens all enhance the passive recreation experience. Areas that lend themselves to passive recreation in Swinney Park include Jaenicke Gardens, the walking trails, and banks of the St. Mary's River. 32.4% of all respondents reported use of Jaenicke Gardens. In an open-ended question that asked what ways Swinney Park should be improved, 17.6% of respondents reported a need for more picnic tables and 26.5% expressed a desire to see a safe pedestrian connection between East Swinney and West Swinney. 35.3% wanted to see a restoration the Jaenicke Garden and plant materials.

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. Swinney Park facilities that foster social recreation include the tennis complex and the swimming pool. 50% of park users reported visiting Swinney Park with a family member, 52.9% with a friend, and 2.9% with a group. 8.8% reported attending organized activities or events, and 44.12% expressed a desire to see more such programs. 55.9% expressed concern over lack of social activities in an open-ended question.

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 Swinney Park potential educational facilities include the Swinney homestead and grounds, the three park memorials, and Jaenicke Gardens. 11.8% of survey respondents reported that the park's rich history was what they liked best about the park.

There are also activities that occur within the park that are detrimental to all forms of recreation listed above and discourage use. Although a specific item addressing the issue was not included in the survey, 58.8% of the respondents expressed their concern over gay cruising in the park. The same percentage also listed park security and safety as "fair" or "poor".

5. Facility Use & Reservations

FWPR records allow for an analysis of the structured use of three of Swinney Park's facilities: the tennis courts, the swimming pool, and the baseball field.

The Swinney Park tennis courts are among the most heavily used FWPR courts in the city. Youth and junior-level lessons are sponsored by FWPR in June and July. Individuals, clubs, and high schools use the tennis complex, which also hosts the annual Fort Wayne tennis tournament for two weeks in August. Various groups can reserve the courts, and August is usually the busiest month. In August of 2001 there were 36 reservations.

The Swinney Park swimming pool is open daily from June 8 through August 10. The pool is used for Learn-to-Swim classes, Junior Lifeguarding classes, open public swim, adult swim and private rentals. Over the 63-day season the pool averaged 155 users a day in 2001, 122 in 2000, and 188 in 1999. The fluctuations from year to year are influenced by many factors, with the weather being the chief variable. The Swinney Park pool is one of four outdoor pools operated by FWPR, including pools at Memorial, Northside and McMillen Parks. The Swinney Park pool ranks third of the four pools in utilization. In 2001 it accounted for 13.56% of the annual attendance among the four pools. This was up from 12.05% in 2000 and down from 15.74% 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 Swinney Pool rental program is rarely taken advantage of; there were no rentals in 2001 or 2000. Hourly rates are \$90 for less than 100 people and \$125 for 101-250 people.

The baseball field at Swinney Park contains a maintained infield, backstop, 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 45 times between April 30 and August 21. The peak months were May and June, with 13 and 15 reservations, respectively.

6. Park Programming

Park programming in Swinney Park is limited to the recreational facilities: the tennis complex, the swimming pool and the baseball field. The park is also used as the staging ground for the annual Three Rivers Festival parade.

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 Swinney Park. FWPR does track maintenance efforts by task for each park, although a detailed breakdown of Swinney 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 Swinney 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. Jaenicke Gardens also receives the horticultural attention of a gardener that spends about 10% of his time in Swinney Park maintaining the beds above the bank on the south side of Junk Ditch. The remainder of his time is spent in other parks. The following is a summary list of general in-house and contracted tasks based on the Byanski interview and a list included in a 1997 park maintenance report:¹

- 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.² 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 Swinney 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 Swinney Park, thus affecting other parks, or the creation of new positions.

A portion of the user survey dwelt on park maintenance and condition. Most areas received a majority of marks of “average” or “fair” out of excellent, good, average, fair, and poor categories. Areas that received a majority of “good” marks included the swimming pool (55.9%), tennis courts (47.1%), and park access (44.1%). Interestingly, park access also received 20.6% “poor” votes. There were also a fairly high number of “poor” votes in other categories, including safety/security (29.4%), the condition of Jaenicke Gardens (82.4%), condition of the lake (85.3%), condition of the playground (20.6%), and condition of park walks (11.8%). 47.1% of respondents wrote in that lack of maintenance was a problem in the park, and another 50% suggested increased maintenance as a way to improve the park.

CHAPTER V ENDNOTES

¹ Board of Park Commissioners. “Park Maintenance: Finance History – Past and Present”. City of Fort Wayne, IN, 1997, p. 8.

² Byanski interview follow-up, May 13, 2002.

CHAPTER VI: EXPLORATION, SELECTION & DESCRIPTION OF SWINNEY 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 Swinney 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 Swinney Park. The recommended treatment is then described and discussed in detail, and illustrated graphically on the Swinney Park *Rehabilitation Concepts Plan West*, Plan RC W, and *Rehabilitation Concepts Plan East*, Plan RC E.

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 Swinney 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 Swinney 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 Swinney 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 North Grove woodland.

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 Swinney 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.

C. RECOMMENDED REHABILITATION TREATMENT

A rehabilitation treatment is recommended for Swinney 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 that draws 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 west playground & basketball court, 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.

Swinney Park's rehabilitation treatment is comprehensive, addressing 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. 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. Enhance Regional Connections & Street Frontages

An important component of the rehabilitation plan is to improve Swinney Park's connectivity to the adjacent neighborhoods, as well as to the City of Fort Wayne. This is done through enhancing regional pedestrian connections and by creating a park drive experience on the adjacent sections of Jefferson and Washington Boulevards.

Swinney Park is currently linked to the City of Fort Wayne's regional trail system via a route that enters the park at Thieme Drive on the west, parallels Washington Boulevard, crosses the vehicular bridge over the St. Mary's River, and then loops back under the bridge and exits the park to the south. Through planned expansion of the regional trail system, two more links should be established in West Swinney, one to the southwest, the other to the northwest. Swinney Park will lie at major crossroads of the regional trail system. Essential to the successful and safe operation of the system is a new pedestrian bridge over the St. Mary's River. The existing sidewalk on the Jefferson Boulevard Bridge is narrow and uncomfortable for pedestrians because of the high-speed traffic.

Swinney Park's integration with the city as a gateway and a nexus of several trails can also be improved by enhancing the driving experience on the major streets that form the southern border. Jefferson Boulevard is a principal access route entering Fort Wayne that creates the opportunity to shape a positive, scenic gateway experience as it passes through the park. The ability to influence the scenic quality and green character of the driving experience of Jefferson and Washington Boulevards is aided by the fact that the land on both sides of the street belongs to Swinney Park. In addition, the treatment to enhance the driving experience can also serve to partially screen the visual and audio intrusion of these major streets from the interior of the park.

There are several ways in which Jefferson and Washington Boulevards can be enhanced. As a general treatment the lengths of both sides of these streets are to be planted with informally clustered, large deciduous trees, as seen on Plans RC W and RC E. The trees should consist of a mixture of tall maturing shade trees that can withstand the conditions of the street frontage, such as oaks, maples and disease resistant American elm/*Ulmus americana*. A monoculture is not recommended, as it creates the opportunity for disease to spread and affect all the trees, but a limited selection of trees, with similar scale, texture and growth rates, should be planted to reinforce continuity. This type of treatment would blend with the existing park planting pattern and greatly enhance the gateway experience as a pleasant drive through a green landscape with turf, trees and river views. The visual impact of the road will also be reduced from within the park through this treatment. One element to consider is the possibility of adding a planted median to these boulevards. If a continuous space of about eight feet in width can be developed as a tree-lined, turf covered median, the character of this entry will be greatly enhanced. This continuous trench would need to have a minimum three-foot soil depth, using an engineered soil and a one-foot drainage layer below. In addition to planting, attention should be given to the selection and installation of park lighting standards to replace the highway cobra heads. A light standard and luminaire should be chosen to blend harmoniously with the candelabra lights on the bridge. The bridge lights, however, appear to spill light into the sky and the use of a downward spreading light with a sky dome cut-off would be preferred for two reasons: the downward light places illumination where it is needed at street and path level and the light is not spilled into the night sky.

The sequential experience of passing through the park should also be considered. The removal of the railroad line at the west edge of the park has created an opportunity to create a gateway to both the city and the park. This gateway could consist of elements appropriate to the park such as vegetation, lighting and perhaps a tasteful sign. Installation of a gateway composition at this location would alert drivers that they are leaving the typical commercial streetscape, transitioning through a park, and about to enter downtown Fort Wayne. The second key location upon entering the city is at the bridge, which serves as the secondary gateway. The views movement along the boulevard through parkland to the river, with trees, turf, views into the park and park lighting make crossing the bridge a noticeable and aesthetically pleasing experience. The third visually significant location is at the junction where Washington and Jefferson divide. This prominent corner is currently fronted with a functional but utilitarian guidedrail. The metal W-rail could be replaced with a low stone wall or similar appropriate detailing. This element may be designed and detailed with the median project if it can proceed. The fourth and final component of the entry sequence is the "Welcome to Fort Wayne" topiary. While some may consider it "dated", it has served as the gateway into the city for 35 years and has become part of

the rich heritage of the park. This feature needs to be kept in good condition, not allowed to fall into decline or disarray. Principal viewing locations upon leaving the city via Washington Boulevard also include the Foster memorial, prominently marking the entrance to East Swinney Park, and to a lesser degree the Randall memorial.

2. Recapture Historic Planting Patterns & Views

In general, Swinney Park contains less than half of its historic tree populace today, not including the lost woodlands in West Swinney. 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 has 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 known 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 Swinney Park has less than half of its original tree density in the freestanding tree areas, a higher renewal rate would be in order. Establishing a tree count for Swinney Park is somewhat more difficult than Lakeside and Memorial Parks because of the historic areas of woodland in West Swinney, as well as the contemporary volunteer woodland edge along the river in East Swinney. LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP has shown 444 new trees, in addition to about 250 existing trees, and 60,100 square feet, or 1.4 acres, of woodland in the proposed rehabilitation plan for East Swinney, and 289 new trees, in addition to about 310 existing trees and 273,300 square feet, or 6.3 acres, of restored woodland in West Swinney Park.

The total existing and proposed trees in Swinney Park is about 1,300. A 4% replacement rate for free standing trees would indicate 52 tree plantings per year and a 5% rate would be 65 annual plantings. The ideal renewal would be a 5% rate for free-standing trees which, when accounting for additional losses during the time period, would bring Swinney Park to full shade and ornamental tree 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. For the proposed woodland areas of 333,400 square feet, or 7.7 acres, the recommended approach is to move forward area by area addressing the proposed woodland plantings on the south east side of West Swinney Park first. These trees would be plantings in groves, beginning at the south edge, at variable spacing from 8 to 35 feet with the intent of forming a complete canopy as the trees mature. When first planted these trees should have large mulch beds around them, with some beds extended around closely planted groups rather than individual trees. As the trees mature and shade increases, all turf should be eliminated, and smaller trees and plants that are native forest understory can be added. Each area of woodland should be addressed sequentially with an annual program by area mapped out. The intent would be to obtain a shade cover in about twenty years and to continue to manage the woodlands at a lesser intensity thereafter.

The trees highlighted in color on Plans RC W and RC E represent both historic tree locations and trees placed to enhance the park experience, the city gateway and the scenic quality and cohesion of the park landscape, particularly at the park perimeter and within the park interiors both east and west where free standing trees have been lost over time. 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 locations. Trees species planted in East Swinney in the 1890s are listed in the Annual Reports, but it is not known where individual trees were located or how well the selected species survived (for a summary of listed trees by historic common names and numbers planted, see page I.2). The lists also do not indicate the types of native trees left standing in the park, such as in the North Grove. Planted or native species are also not provided for West Swinney, which was heavily wooded when it was acquired in 1918. Some photographic views provide partial coverage of these areas, and tree identification from these views and from remaining old trees can aid the selection process.

In selected areas along the St. Mary's River, shown in green on Plans RC W and RC E, it is recommended that the existing riparian woodlands be managed more intensively. The upper woodland that encompassed Trier's Amusement Center in West Swinney is not recommended for replacement, but the remaining trees should be supplemented with additional large native trees, particularly along the walks and drives, leaving the central area generally open. The river edge shown in red on Plan RC E is to be thinned of the dense growth of volunteer and invasive species to open views of the river and to return the river to the park experience.

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 more than 50% of lost trees and to recapture some ecologically healthy and sustainable woodlands over time. The park canopy is not intended to be all of the same age. A replacement species list should be developed based on the historic East Swinney plant lists from the 1890s, augmented by historic photographs and the remnant trees in the park today. It may be determined that certain species indicated on the historic lists, such as sugar maple, would not fare well in the park as it floods regularly, and therefore a substitute species should be selected.

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 East Swinney Park was initially created, a principal recreational attraction of the park was its extensive system drives and walks that supported a passive form of recreation that allowed visitors to enjoy and travel through the green landscape. The drives were modified in the 1930s and sections were converted to Jefferson and Washington Boulevards. In the years that have followed, there have been additional reductions in the ability to drive through the park in various attempts to curtail illegal and inappropriate behavior. In some instances the former drives were converted to walks, while other drives and walks have been removed. Today the ability to explore the park via path is limited, as a remnant, somewhat disconnected network of paths remains. A high demand for walking in the park exists among contemporary park users; completed surveys indicate that the most popular recreational activity in parks today is 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 follows the routes of the former paths and drives, but 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 both halves of the park. In East Swinney this would entail regrading sections of the North Grove trail to create positive drainage and building a new section that passes along the river on the east side of the grove. In West Swinney there will be several long sections added that will be part of the regional trail system.

Critical to the success of the pedestrian circulation improvements is the creation of a new bridge over the St. Mary's River. Based on a preliminary field review, the most suitable location for the new pedestrian bridge would be south of the mouth of Junk Ditch, in the vicinity of the old boat dock. The bridge should not have steps but should be ramped to accommodate wheelchairs, bicycles, and strollers. A pedestrian connection between the two halves of the park has been considered several times in the park's history but the dream has not been realized. Public reaction to this proposal at the public comment meetings was very favorable. It may be possible to obtain grants for transportation enhancements for this project rather than traditional park and recreation funding. LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP is currently working on a Pennsylvania project where we are proposing to use a historic bridge that is to be abandoned by Penn DOT. A similar application may be suitable for Swinney Park.

The existing pedestrian bridge that links East Swinney with the Nebraska neighborhood is over 100 years old. It should be retained and preserved because it is a vital link between the park and the community, and it is an important piece of the park's history. The possibility of removing the steps and ramp the bridge should be thoroughly explored, but it is unlikely that this will be feasible given the proximity of the street and the new floodwall on the east end of the bridge.

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. A subtle way of communicating path lengths for exercise walkers would be a practical addition. Posting a park map with paths, path lengths, and park features at park entrances is one way of providing path length data along with other relevant information. Another method would be incremental path distance markings on the pavement.

The expanded path system also provides an opportunity to place benches along paths in appropriate locations, such as along the river in the North 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, 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. It is also recommended that parking be modified

in both East and West Swinney. In both instances it is preferable that the flag lots be removed and replaced with linear lots along one side of the drive. In East Swinney these lots should be located on alternating sides of the drive, as shown on Plan RC E, to allow views of the lake and the river from the drive.

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

The historic memorials that are placed in the park enhance the rich heritage of Swinney Park. These memorials are a vital component of the park's function as a reflection of Fort Wayne's cultural heritage and history. Swinney Park's four historic monuments, the Foster memorial, the Randall memorial, the Johnny Appleseed memorial, and the Commodore Perry memorial are all in need of conservation and restoration measures by trained experts. It is also important that a maintenance regimen be established that ensures the proper care of existing memorials in the park. These four early memorials are elements that should elicit civic pride and respectful memory.

In addition, a memorial 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 an informational brochure, where the other aspects of park history could also be communicated.

5. Rehabilitate Selected Recreational Facilities

Swinney Park's tennis complex and swimming pool are in good working order and are well used by park visitors. The roller-hockey court is neither a recreational destination nor an historic element and its removal is recommended. The Frisbee golf course is an appropriate park element and should be retained, although portions of the course will need to be modified with the implementation of the treatment plan, such as the stations in Jaenicke Gardens.

In West Swinney Park there have been several recent additions in the vicinity of the baseball field, some being made during the creation of this CLR. With the restrooms, playground, basketball court, and beautiful picnic area in the grove at the edge of the outfield, this area is becoming a recreational nucleus that accommodates a range of activities and age groups. It is recommended that this development continue in this area, and that other suitable facilities that would bring positive use into the park be added. For example, this area would be greatly enhanced with the replacement of the internal parking lot with front-in parking on the west side of the entrance drive, the addition of more shade trees, and the placement of an open-air picnic pavilion. With the regular nightly use of the baseball field and the daily use of the playground, the shelter would be a welcomed amenity for groups and families alike. It is recommended that a structure that is approximately 32 feet by 48 feet and could hold 10 tables would be sufficient. The physical appearance of the pavilion is important, as it has the grand Japanese pavilion in East Swinney and the structures of Jaenicke Gardens as precedents.

As a companion to its western counterpart, it is recommended that secondary recreational destination be created in East Swinney. The historic North Grove was considered for this activity, as it was the historical location of the Japanese pavilion and the playground, but the site was deemed too isolated and too prone to flooding. A more suitable location, also with historic precedent, is at the site of the former skating shelter and contemporary playground. This area is well shaded by existing trees, is not isolated, and is adjacent to the lake. To further develop this area, it is recommended that the flag parking lot be removed and replaced with a front-in lot on the opposite side of the drive, and that the playground be expanded as needed. Other suitable facilities may also be added, including benches and a drinking fountain. A smaller version of the West Swinney open-air picnic pavilion should be built on the scenic site of the former skating shelter, under the shade trees next to the water's edge. It is not recommended that the shelter be rebuilt because of the limited usefulness and the potential damage flooding poses to a walled structure. A sturdy, open pavilion along the lines of the former Japanese Pavilion, which withstood regular floods for more than 70 years, is recommended. To hold 4 tables, the structure would need to be approximately 20 feet by 32 feet.

6. Rehabilitate Ponds & Junk Ditch

Water features in both East and West Swinney have played significant roles in the park's history. In East Swinney, one of the first tasks conducted in the 1890s in the newly acquired park was the construction of an artesian well and a lake which the well fed. The lake became the centerpiece in the popular new park and was encompassed with a vehicular drive and a pedestrian trail. The well was housed in a small but elaborate pavilion. For many years afterward the lake functioned as a popular ice-skating destination and it was a scenic feature of the park as seen from those entering the city on Jefferson Boulevard. Within the past several years the pond has failed and it no longer holds water throughout the year and becomes stagnant and choked with weeds in the summer. The condition of the lake is a significant concern among park neighbors – 85% of survey respondents ranked the condition of the lake as poor. Two options were tested at a public meeting for Swinney Park, the first, fill the lake and convert it to a meadow, or the second, restore the lake. Those present overwhelmingly chose the second option, which LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP also recommends. The lake, though altered in shape and size, is the only remaining historic recreational feature in the main body of East Swinney. Without

the lake, an important piece of cultural heritage is lost. The loss of the lake would also mean the loss of another significant attraction in East Swinney Park, leaving the park empty of nearly all its former recreational facilities. A primary objective of the Swinney Park Rehabilitation Plan is to replace antisocial behavior in the park with positive behavior; in order to achieve this goal there must be a substantial draw to attract users seeking to recreate. A rehabilitated East Swinney lake would serve as one of those attractions.

The rehabilitation of the lake would require a careful analysis as to the cause of the failure, whether it was a loss of the intake, a cracked clay liner, or some other cause. For the lake to be functional again, it will need to be dredged and the liner repaired. The water source will need to be found and be made functional or replaced. It is possible that the pond is still fed by the old well, which may need to be repaired. The outlet to the St. Mary's River will also need to be found and repaired.

A more sustainable strategy for the banks is one that would minimize erosion and sedimentation, improve habitat for aquatic and semi-aquatic species, improve water quality, reduce the need for frequent disruptive and expensive dredging and bank regrading operations, while continuing to provide scenic views and water edge access. This can be achieved by completing the dredging of the pond to a sufficient depth and then implementing the following recommendations. Rather than mowing to the water's edge, a planted edge should be established. This planting would include submerged, emergent and bank plantings of no less the eight to ten feet in depth. These three-planted zones, terrestrial, riparian and aquatic, would consist of a diverse palette of native plants that are adapted to each soil and water regime at the pond edge. The plants selected should be relatively low so as to retain open water views. The establishment of a planted buffer when combined with the armoring of selected areas of the banks with stone and the construction of paths will reduce erosion and sedimentation, increase habitat quality, and reduce foot traffic in undesignated areas. Appendix C: Pond Bank Stabilization: Seneca Park, Rochester, New York contains selected photographs and section details of a similar project completed by a team that included LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP as historic landscape architect.

Two important water features in West Swinney's history include Junk Ditch and the lagoon that it fed. Junk Ditch was turned from an eyesore to the centerpiece of the Japanese Gardens in 1928. Today the banks are badly eroded and the bottom silted in, thereby reducing both its functionality and its aesthetic appeal. The channel that fed the lagoon is also silted in, making the water in the lagoon shallow and stagnant. To restore the health and beauty of these features, they both need to be dredged and the banks repaired. Consideration should be given to the treatment of the Junk Ditch banks as to whether they should be stone lined, as they were historically, or planted with emergent and bank species. This treatment will depend in part on the redesign of the Jaenicke Gardens.

At the lagoon the invasive and volunteer species at the edges should be removed. Damaged willows that are beyond saving should be replaced. In addition to rehabilitating the Junk Ditch source channel, an outflow must be provided. It is likely the remnants of an old one can be found, but it may be beyond repair. The simplest system would be to provide an intake at the southeastern end of the lagoon and run a pipe over to the river. A rustic octagonal pavilion

should be constructed on the lagoon's "island" which will take advantage of views of the lagoon and will serve as a resting point or way station on the regional trail system.

7. Rehabilitate Jaenicke Gardens

Combined with Trier's Amusement Center, Jaenicke Gardens made West Swinney Park a destination that drew visitors from throughout the city and from the broader regional area. The gardens gave the park vitality and brought the city cultural character. They also were the signature piece of the man who shaped much of Fort Wayne's notable park system, Superintendent Adolph Jaenicke. Unfortunately, the gardens also represented a substantial strain on limited operational and maintenance budgets, and in the end were not sustainable. Fort Wayne now faces the difficult decision as to what to do with the area of the former gardens.

LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP and the Cultural Landscape Committee deliberated three alternative treatments for Jaenicke Gardens. All three options were based on the assumptions that one, the present condition of the site was not adequate, and two, something was needed in this area that would attract people to the park. The first alternative was to take advantage of the areas natural features in a new garden design that was based on ecological principals and suitable to floodplain environment. The new garden would be simple and natural in appearance, and likely consist of such features as wildflower meadows, wetlands, paths and boardwalks. The second alternative was at the other end of the spectrum – a complete restoration/reconstruction of the gardens. This process would utilize historic documentation and rebuild the gardens as Jaenicke designed them, as best interpreted from the source material. The third option was to find a middle ground between the two other alternatives and create a new garden in a Japanese style that restored selected features of the Jaenicke Gardens, such as the west falls and the tea-house, but did not attempt to reconstruct the historic gardens in detail. Instead the new design is proposed as Japanese in character, with license to interpret the history of the garden and incorporate the theme into a new design.

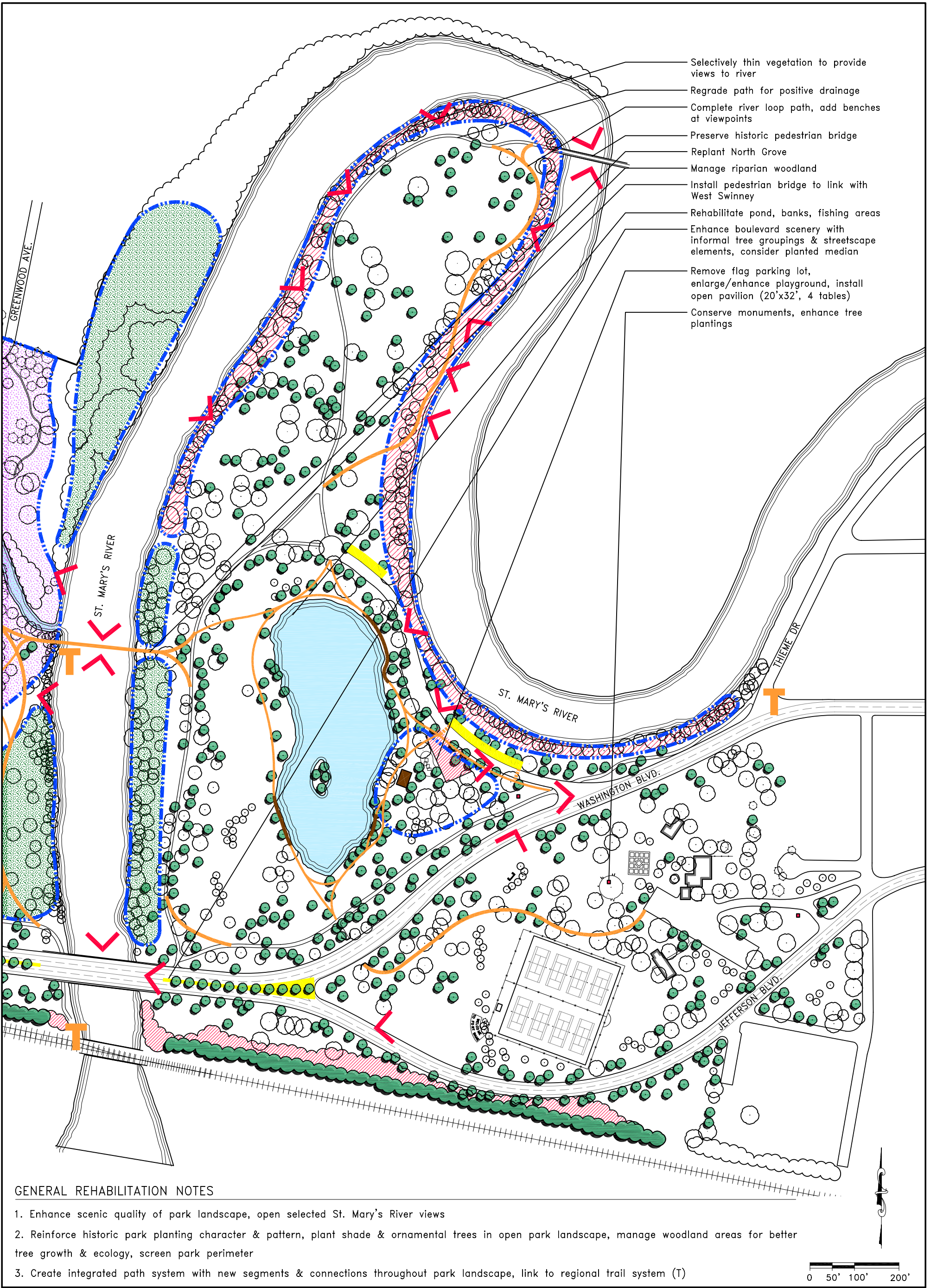
All three options were discussed in detail by the Cultural Landscape Committee and were presented to the public during the second neighborhood review. While favorable opinions were expressed by some individuals for options one and two, the general consensus among committee members and the public that the best strategy was option three. Option one, the redesign of the garden on an ecological theme, was considered to be the lowest maintenance investment, but also the least able of the three alternatives to engender broad public enthusiasm and support and, in the end, not provide sufficient attraction to bring people to the park. It was also rejected because it failed to provide a tribute to Jaenicke's heritage and was at worst disrespectful to this area considered by some to be "sacred ground". Option two, the full restoration of the historic garden, would pay homage to Jaenicke's vision, but in the end was deemed impractical. A full restoration of the garden would face several difficult challenges. First and foremost, so much of the garden has been removed that it would require full reconstruction. For an accurate reconstruction to occur there must be a substantial body of source material from which the plans would be based. After a long and thorough search by LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP, there was simply not enough historic documentation found to validate a reconstruction of the gardens. It is likely that if such a reconstruction were attempted, the resulting garden would not be highly accurate and the principal concern is that the level of maintenance and detail that the former garden had would not be attainable. Concerns over the location of the floodplain were also

raised. Maintenance issues were addressed by the stated facts that if an extensive garden were to be placed in this location, the current maintenance structure of the FWPR would not be able to care for the new gardens without a substantial shift in its priorities and neglect other properties, therefore, maintenance would need to be addressed in an atypical manner, such as the establishment of endowed positions or the creation of a group that maintained and operated the gardens through a lease agreement with the city.

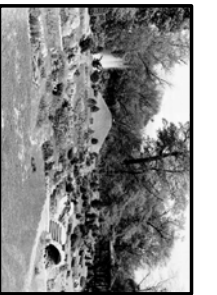
The third option was widely endorsed and is the one recommended by LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP in this plan. The creation of a new garden in a Japanese style that respects and restores certain elements of the Jaenicke Gardens would provide the interpretive opportunity to understand the site's history while not jeopardizing the integrity of the historic gardens with an inaccurate reproduction. A new design also allows the natural challenges of the site to be addressed in a thoughtful and responsible manner. If properly designed and executed, the new garden could be a destination in its own right, continuing in the Jaenicke tradition but drawing on new needs and ideas. It is recommended FWPR work closely with the public and the foundation community in the selection of a design for the new garden, and that the possibility of alternative funding, maintenance and operation strategies be thoroughly explored. By setting sights high and stretching beyond the typical, enthusiasm will be generated and positive attention drawn to Swinney Park. A successful rehabilitation of Jaenicke Gardens is the crux of the Swinney Park Rehabilitation Plan and, when combined with the other elements outlined in this chapter, bring the public back to the park.

D. CONCLUSION

In summary, the recommended rehabilitation for Swinney Park will enrich the park experience and draw positive use back to the park. Trail links will connect neighborhoods and other parks to Swinney Park, enhancing the use of this civic landscape. The new tree plantings will provide a more pleasing park landscape and will renew the historic character. The enlarged and connected system of paths within the park will encourage strolling and exercise walking through the park. These paths will also connect park destinations and provide a safe link between the two isolated halves of the park. Upgraded recreation facilities and picnicking areas will contribute to a richer, more diverse use in both East and West Swinney. The upgrading of utilities will add to the functionality and enjoyment of the park as well. The rehabilitation of the ponds and stream in the park will enhance their function, health, and appearance. And finally, the rehabilitation of Jaenicke Gardens will work in concert with the existing and proposed park features in creating a park that is loved and used by the community it serves.



Swinney Park Cultural Landscape Report Fort Wayne, Indiana



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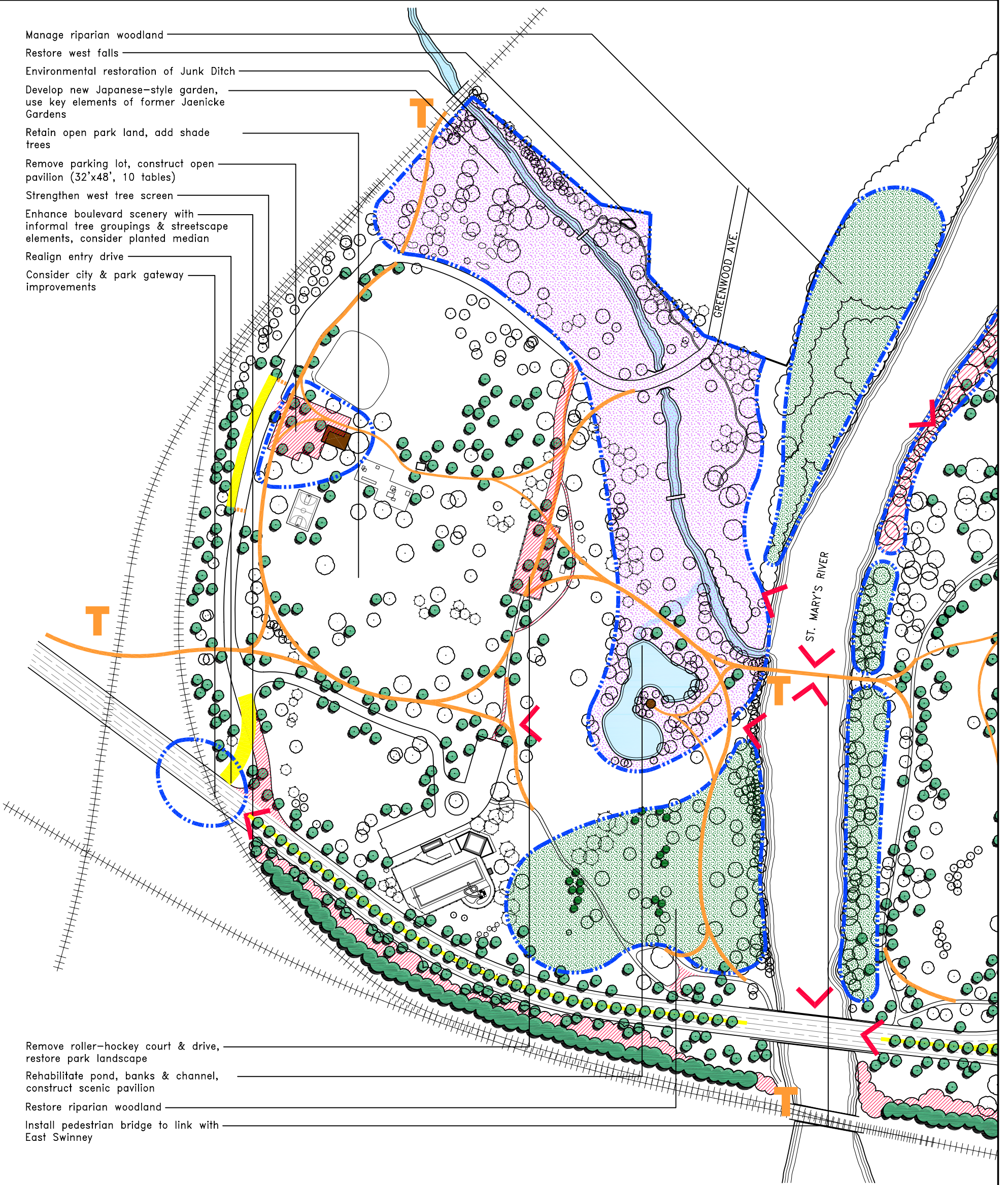
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Rehabilitation
Concepts Plan
East

Plan Number:
RCE
Date:
August 2002

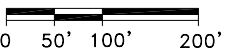
- Manage riparian woodland
- Restore west falls
- Environmental restoration of Junk Ditch
- Develop new Japanese-style garden, use key elements of former Jaenicke Gardens
- Retain open park land, add shade trees
- Remove parking lot, construct open pavilion (32'x48', 10 tables)
- Strengthen west tree screen
- Enhance boulevard scenery with informal tree groupings & streetscape elements, consider planted median
- Realign entry drive
- Consider city & park gateway improvements



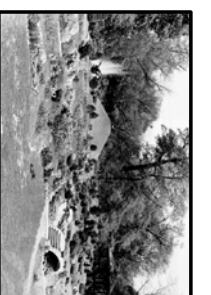
- Remove roller-hockey court & drive, restore park landscape
- Rehabilitate pond, banks & channel, construct scenic pavilion
- Restore riparian woodland
- Install pedestrian bridge to link with East Swinney

GENERAL REHABILITATION NOTES

1. Enhance scenic quality of park landscape, open selected St. Mary's River views
2. Reinforce historic park planting character & pattern, plant shade & ornamental trees in open park landscape, manage woodland areas for better tree growth & ecology, screen park perimeter
3. Create integrated path system with new segments & connections throughout park landscape, link to regional trail system (T)



Swinney Park Cultural Landscape Report Fort Wayne, Indiana



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West**

Plan Number:
RC W

Date:
August 2002

CHAPTER VII: SWINNEY PARK TREATMENT IMPLEMENTATION PHASING & STRATEGIES

A. INTRODUCTION

The comprehensive rehabilitation of Swinney 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 the Swinney Park *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. SWINNEY 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 Swinney Park is a flexible process and is easily phased according to need, interest and economic opportunities. A suggested phasing strategy, laid out in seven project phases, is shown on the *Rehabilitation Phasing Plan*, Plans RP W and RP E.

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 seven 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. Enhance Washington & Jefferson Boulevard Corridors & Park Lands

- Create a gateway landscape to Fort Wayne by upgrading the park landscape both north and south
- Plant informal groupings of large shade trees along both sides of the streets to create a parkland landscape of grand trees in tended turf
- Consider adding a median to these boulevards for the park areas and planting trees in it for a more gracious, green city entry

- Install park light standards along park frontage of Jefferson and Washington Boulevards; consider using a fixture that relates well to the candelabra lights on the bridge; remove the cobra head highway light
- Consider reducing the speed limit as traffic enters the park rather than farther east at the adjacent residential neighborhood
- Replace the W-rail guard with stone wall at the intersection of Jefferson and Washington Boulevards
- Conserve three monuments in the vicinity of the Swinney Homestead
- Construct trail from tennis complex parking lot to underpass

2. Construct New Pedestrian Bridge to Establish Park & Regional Trail Link

- Construct pedestrian bridge over St. Mary's River at mouth of Junk Ditch to enhance park experience by reuniting East and West Swinney Park for park users
- Build paths to link bridge to existing park pedestrian/bicycle circulation system

3. Rehabilitate East Swinney Lake, Playground & Parking

- Dredge and repair lake bottom for greater depth and ecological health
- Establish lake edge plantings with submerged, emergent, and bank plants
- Identify and construct system for lake water source and discharge
- Plant lake shores and path edges with shade trees
- Rehabilitate and enlarge playground
- Construct small picnic pavilion in former skating shelter location
- Remove parking lot paving to west of the river and reorganize to the east to provide more space for playground, enhance play area safety and improve park experience along lake
- Construct two additional linear parking areas on the north side of the drive
- Construct circuit path around lake, winding through trees and with stone armored lake edge areas, connect to existing paths

4. Redesign Jaenicke Gardens in a Japanese Style

- Design and construct a new Japanese Garden that respects the historic Jaenicke Gardens while adjusting to anticipated levels of care
- Rehabilitate Junk Ditch by dredging and restoring edges, providing water supply; consider renewal of the stone falls as a part of the water supply and aeration system
- Restore channel to provide flow of water to lagoon and discharge to river
- Rehabilitate lagoon by dredging, repairing banks, removing undesirable vegetation, planting appropriate vegetation
- Construct small pavilion at the lagoon
- Construct paths to lagoon and in gardens
- Rehabilitate Jaenicke Gardens based on a new design that honors Jaenicke's concept and meets the needs of the site and its users

5. Enhance North Grove, Paths, River Views & Plantings

- Replant the historic North Grove with native shade trees
- Selectively clear undesirable vegetation on the banks of the St. Mary's River to open and frame river views

- Construct new path with benches at key viewing locations and rebuild sections of the existing path to for positive drainage
- Preserve historic pedestrian bridge with repairs as needed

6. Enhance West Swinney Recreation Area, Install Paths & Trees, Reconfigure Parking

- Construct a new family and group use picnic shelter to serve the ballfield, playground and court users; design shelter to blend with park landscape and withstand occasional flooding; a large timber frame style would be appropriate
- Remove the current parking area to the east and shift parking west, nose-in along the entry drive placing all parking along west with park landscape continuous along east
- Add a loop walk around the area and path segments to link with paths in all directions to integrate this section of the park more effectively with other areas
- Remove the paved area and fence now used for street hockey and reinstate a park landscape of lawn and trees
- Add an informal planting of shade trees and some evergreen and flowering trees to reinforce the park landscape

7. Renew & Manage Woodland

- Add path segments to link with the proposed pedestrian bridge paths and other park paths
- Plant informal tree groves in open areas that are proposed as future woodland; use large and small-size floodplain trees such as sycamore, ash, hackberry, red maple and black willow at a spacing that will eventually create a closed woodland canopy; as trees grow and shade increases, cover lawn areas with mulch to suppress grasses and encourage a forest floor regime
- Suppress undesirable species in areas of mixed woodland to improve ecological health
- Add preferred woodland plantings in these mixed woodlands
- Manage woodland growth to favor desired species and to open river vistas at specific locations

The implementation of the rehabilitation plan for Swinney Park will succeed in renewing an attractive, scenic park landscape, bringing a greater density of park amenities to Swinney Park, making connections to trails beyond the park in all directions and upgrading the visual quality and park character of the Jefferson and Washington Boulevards corridor.

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.

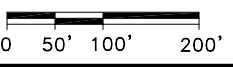
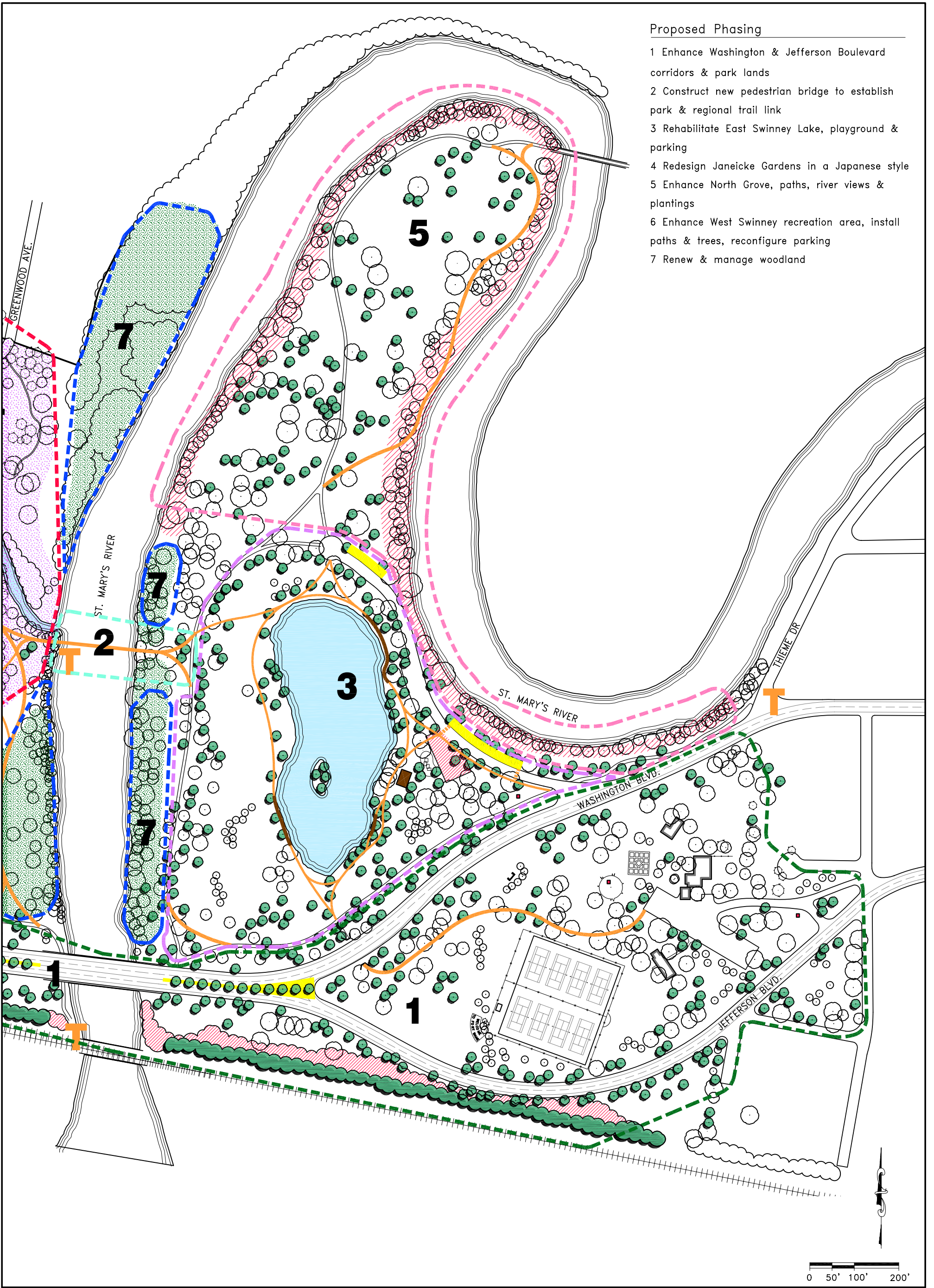
Riverfront Recapture in Hartford, Connecticut, began with a focus on the Connecticut River that advocated planning and public access. Over a period of fifteen years they sequentially reinvented themselves to bring planning to implementation, ongoing maintenance and programming that succeeded in recapturing 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.

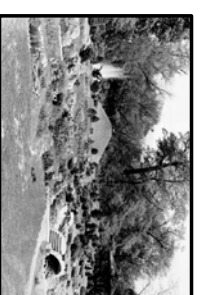
Parks are not simply amenities. They communicate the health of our cities and the values we place on shared resources. In recent research, Richard Florida, Ph.D., has determined that the creative class of young, bright people value ready access to healthy, scenic parks as a primary indicator of their 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 Enhance Washington & Jefferson Boulevard corridors & park lands
- 2 Construct new pedestrian bridge to establish park & regional trail link
- 3 Rehabilitate East Swinney Lake, playground & parking
- 4 Redesign Janeicke Gardens in a Japanese style
- 5 Enhance North Grove, paths, river views & plantings
- 6 Enhance West Swinney recreation area, install paths & trees, reconfigure parking
- 7 Renew & manage woodland



Swinney Park Cultural Landscape Report Fort Wayne, Indiana



Client:
City of Fort Wayne
Department of Parks
& Recreation
705 East State Boulevard
Fort Wayne, IN 46805
260.427.8000

Landscape Architect:
LANDSCAPES
LA • Planning • HP
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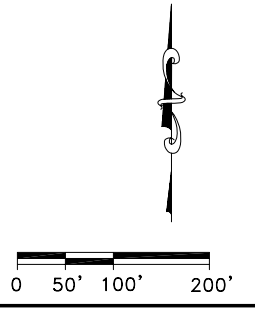
Rehabilitation Phasing Plan East

Drawing Title:
Plan Number:
RP E
Date:
August 2002

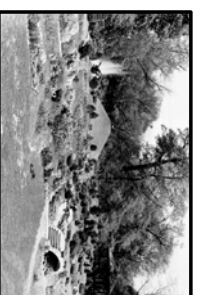


Proposed Phasing

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Swinney Park Cultural Landscape Report Fort Wayne, Indiana



Client:
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Department of Parks
& Recreation
705 East State Boulevard
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Drawing Title:
**Rehabilitation
Phasing Plan
West**

Plan Number:
RP W

Date:
August 2002

APPENDIX A: USER SURVEY FORM & RESULTS

SWINNEY PARK
User Survey

A Historic Landscape Report is in progress for Swinney 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 by May 1 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 Swinney 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"/> Skating |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leisure Walking | <input type="checkbox"/> Swimming |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dog Walking | <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis |
| <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"/> Visit Jaenicke Gardens |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attending Organized Activities/Events | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

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

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

Please rate the following areas of Swinney 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 Jaenicke Gardens	<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 Lake	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Condition of Swimming Pool	<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 Court	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Condition of Tennis Courts	<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 Drives & 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 do you like best about Swinney Park?

What do you like least about Swinney Park?

What ideas would you suggest to improve Swinney 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 Memorial 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 Memorial 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.

Swinney Park Survey Results

Total Surveys Collected 34

1. I am a regular park user in:

A. Summer	29	85.3%
B. Fall	24	70.6%
C. Winter	12	35.3%
D. Spring	22	64.7%

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

A. Daily	2	5.9%
B. More than once a week	9	26.5%
C. A few times a month	12	35.3%
D. A few times a year	10	29.4%
E. Never	0	0.0%

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

A. 1 hour or less	26	76.5%
B. 1-3 hours	7	20.6%
C. More than 3 hours	0	0.0%

4. How do you get to the park?

A. Car	8	23.5%
B. Public Transportation	0	0.0%
C. Walk	26	76.5%
D. Bike	15	44.1%

5. How close to the park do you live?

A. Right next to the park	12	35.3%
B. Less than a 5 minute walk	9	26.5%
C. 5-15 minute walk	10	29.4%
D. Not within easy walking distance	4	11.8%

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

A. Alone	13	38.2%
B. With a friend	17	50.0%
C. With a family member	18	52.9%
D. With a group	1	2.9%

7. What do you do when visiting the park?

A. Jogging/Fitness	7	20.6%
B. Leisure Walking	28	82.4%
C. Dog Walking	7	20.6%
D. Picknicking	2	5.9%
E. Enjoying nature	21	61.8%
F. Sunbathing	1	2.9%
G. Attending Organized Activities or Events	3	8.8%
H. Skating	0	0.0%
I. Swimming	3	8.8%
J. Tennis	6	17.6%
K. Children's playground	3	8.8%
L. Relaxation/Socialization	11	32.4%
M. Visit Jaenicke Gardens	11	32.4%
N. Other	9	26.5%

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

Social Events	15	44.1%
Sporting Activities	17	50.0%
Youth Programs	6	17.6%

9. Please rate the following area of Swinney Park:

	Excellent		Good		Average		Fair		Poor	
General Appearance	0	0.0%	6	17.6%	11	32.4%	15	44.1%	3	8.8%
Cleanliness/Litter Pick-up	0	0.0%	9	26.5%	10	29.4%	13	38.2%	1	2.9%
Safety/Security	0	0.0%	2	5.9%	10	29.4%	10	29.4%	10	29.4%
Condition of Jaenicke Gardens	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	8.8%	1	2.9%	28	82.4%
Condition of Trees	0	0.0%	2	5.9%	16	47.1%	15	44.1%	1	2.9%
Condition of Plants	0	0.0%	1	2.9%	14	41.2%	14	41.2%	3	8.8%
Condition of Lake	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	2.9%	3	8.8%	29	85.3%
Condition of Swimming Pool	3	8.8%	19	55.9%	2	5.9%	2	5.9%	0	0.0%
Condition of Playground	0	0.0%	5	14.7%	3	8.8%	7	20.6%	7	20.6%
Condition of Basketball Court	0	0.0%	4	11.8%	6	17.6%	4	11.8%	4	11.8%
Condition of Tennis Courts	4	11.8%	16	47.1%	6	17.6%	1	2.9%	0	0.0%
Park Access	1	2.9%	15	44.1%	6	17.6%	4	11.8%	7	20.6%
Condition of Drives and Parking	2	5.9%	12	35.3%	9	26.5%	7	20.6%	1	2.9%
Condition of Park Walks	1	2.9%	12	35.3%	9	26.5%	8	23.5%	4	11.8%
Adequacy of Park Signage	0	0.0%	10	29.4%	9	26.5%	7	20.6%	2	5.9%

10. What do you like best about Swinney Park?

Location	14	41.2%
Aesthetics	10	29.4%
History	4	11.8%

11. What do you like least about Swinney Park?

Gay Cruising	20	58.8%
Lack of Social Activities	19	55.9%
Condition of Plant Material	7	20.6%
Lack of Maintenance	16	47.1%
Lack of Picnic Tables	6	17.6%
Pond Condition	11	32.4%
Flooding	2	5.9%

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

Addition of Activities/Events	19	55.9%
Restoration of Garden/Park and Plant Materials	12	35.3%
Increased Maintenance	17	50.0%
Restoration of Pedestrian Bridge/Safe Link Between East and West Swinney	9	26.5%
Increased Policing	3	8.8%

13. What is your age range?

A. 10-16	0	0.0%
B. 17-24	0	0.0%
C. 25-35	3	8.8%
D. 36-45	6	17.6%
E. 46-64	18	52.9%
F. 65+	6	17.6%

14. What is your gender?

A. Male	15	44.1%
B. Female	17	50.0%

15. Do you have children aged 18 or under?

A. No	28	82.4%
B. Yes	5	14.7%

16. If so, are they?

A. Male	How many?	0	Ages:
B. Female	How many?	5	Ages: 4,14,15,15,15

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

A. Primary/Middle School	0	0.0%
B. High School/GED	1	2.9%
C. Some College	10	29.4%
D. College Graduate	14	41.2%
E. Post College/Graduate School	8	23.5%

18. What is your ethnic background?

A. Black		
B. White	32	94.1%
C. Asian	0	0.0%
D. Hispanic	1	2.9%
E. Native American	0	0.0%
F. Other	0	0.0%

19. How often do you visit Lakeside Park?

A. Daily	0	0.0%
B. More than once a week	0	0.0%
C. A few times a month	3	8.8%
D. A few times a year	19	55.9%
E. Never	8	23.5%

20. How often do you visit Memorial Park?

A. Daily	0	0.0%
B. More than once a week	0	0.0%
C. A few times a month	0	0.0%
D. A few times a year	6	17.6%
E. Never	23	67.6%

**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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Ithaca Department of Public Works
245 Pier Road
Ithaca NY 14850
(607) 272-1718
hillman@msn.com

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>>.

Text: Michelle Buckstrup and Nina L. Bassuk

Design and layout: Michelle Buckstrup

Illustrations: Olivia DiRenzo

Acknowledgments

Sincere thanks to George Schichtel and Schichtel’s Nursery for their invaluable collaboration over the years on this and many other research projects.

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

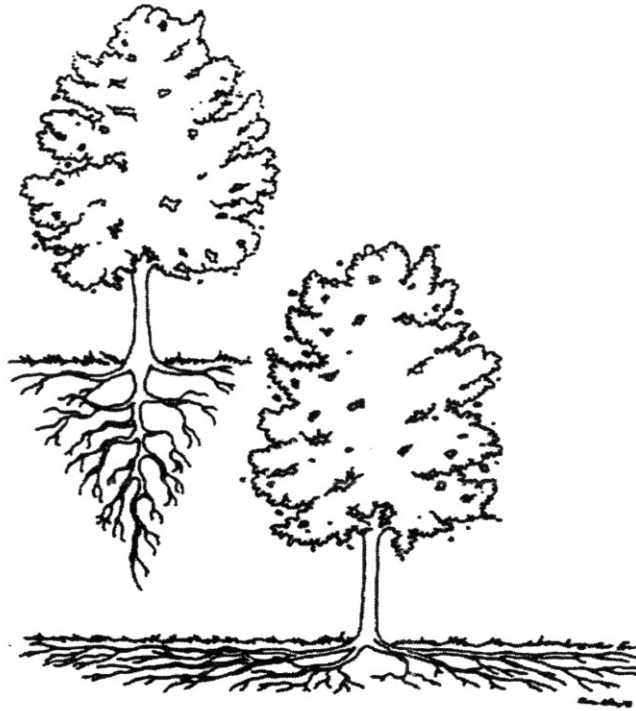
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Why Transplanting is Traumatic

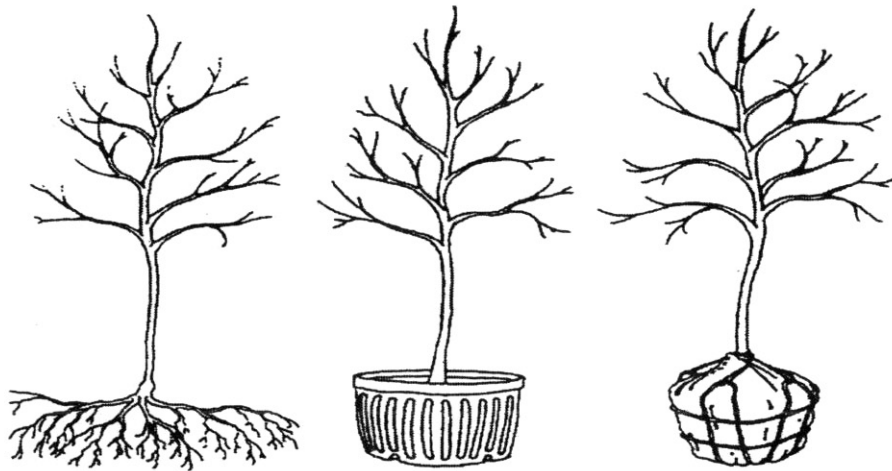
Whether from a nursery field to the city tree lawn or just from one place in your yard to another, it's the roots that suffer when trees are transplanted. Consider this: Shade tree roots are found primarily in the top 12 inches of soil. Tiny absorbing roots, responsible for most of the tree's intake 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.

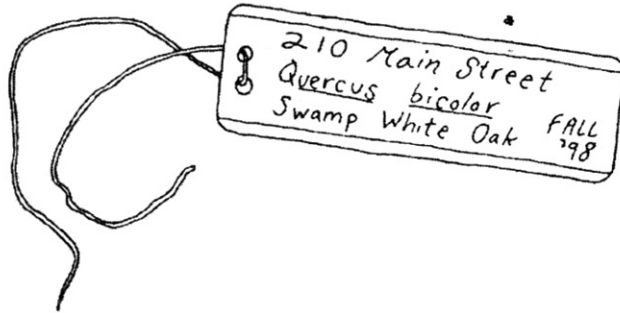
Urban Trees: Site Assessment, Selection for Stress Tolerance, Planting, edited by Nina L. Bassuk and published by the Urban Horticulture Institute (UHI) at Cornell, contains lists of tough urban trees, detailed instructions on how to conduct a site assessment, and transplanting guidelines. See the UHI 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.

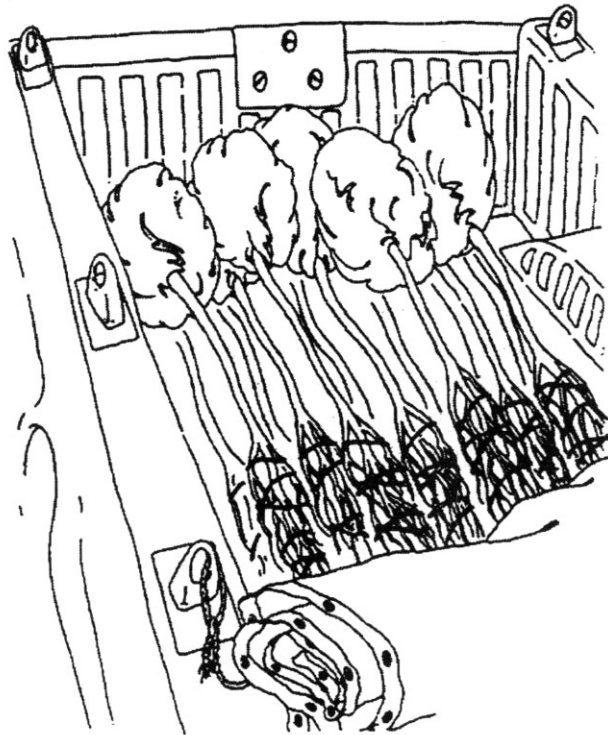
- Work with the nursery to have your trees dug within 24 hours of your arrival. If they absolutely must be dug earlier, they should be kept in a cool, dark place and watered frequently. Bare roots should never be allowed to dry out! Verify that the nursery will tie the branches with twine to prevent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



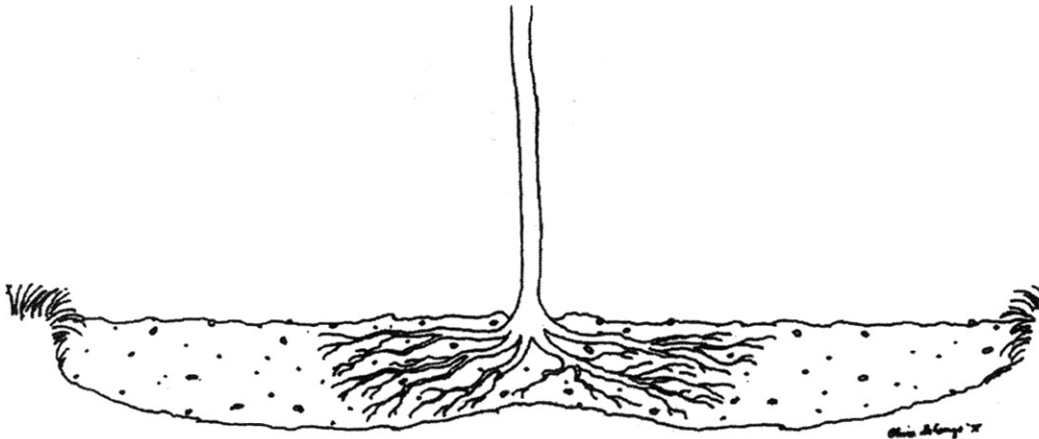
Dipped and bagged trees ready to be tarped and transported. A tarp is essential to keep the wind from desiccating tree tops and roots.

- 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

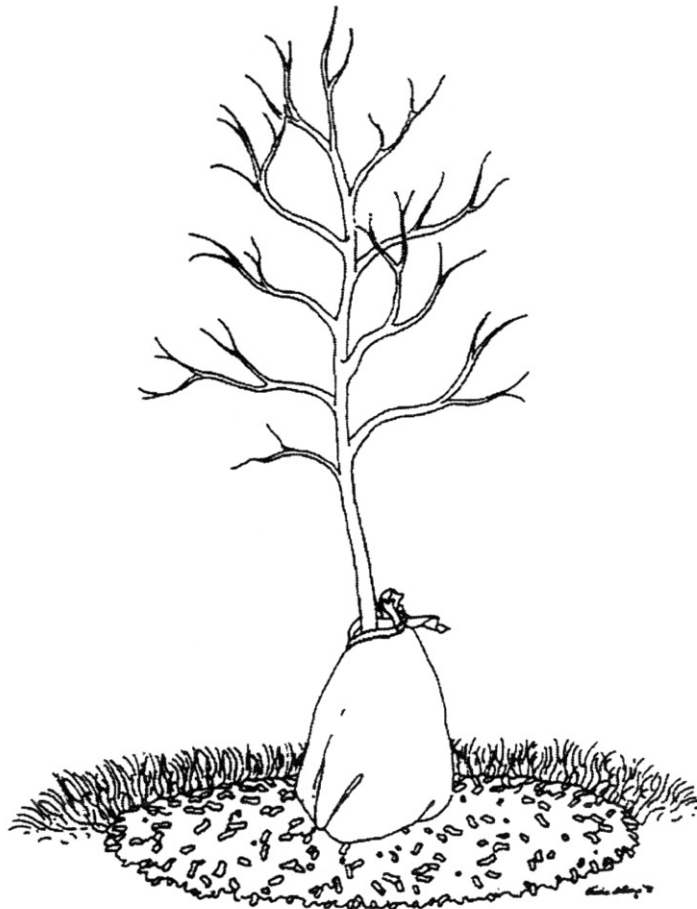


Dig the planting hole shallow and wide, at least three times the diameter of the tree roots. The beginning of the root flare should be at soil level.

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

APPENDIX C: POND BANK STABILIZATION, SENECA PARK, ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

The recommendations provided in this report propose the stabilization and ecological enhancement of the banks of park ponds. In a previous project LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP worked with a team to develop details and carry out construction on a very similar project. This appendix provides a brief explanatory text and a group of photographs that summarize that project and offer additional details so that the intent of the work in Fort Wayne is better understood.

LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP was a team member in a project that addressed the Trout Pond area of Seneca Park, an Olmsted park in Rochester, New York. This project was planned, designed and completed from 1989 to 1993 by Environmental Design & Research P.C. of Syracuse, NY, with LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP as historic landscape architect and Charles Eliot Beveridge, PhD as Olmsted historian on the team. The objectives of the project were to:

- Reinststate a circulation pattern around Trout Pond that was derived from the Olmsted Plan
- Adapt the circulation to current needs for a complete system around the pond
- Provide several water access areas
- Improve ecological health and pond edge stability
- Clarify and decrease pond edge maintenance to the extent possible

The detailing of the project included the development of an asphalt path encircling Trout Pond and crossing a new, rustic timber bridge, as well as five areas where the pavement was widened and a stone paved landing provided water edge access. The team developed a diverse, ecologically sound planting plan to include submerged, emergent and bank plantings of wetland and pond edge, herbaceous plants, shrubs and trees that were appropriate for these conditions. The water edge treatment served to armor the banks with stone in two details:

- Install large, relatively flat stone vertically into pond at water edge and then pave asphalt path up to the stone edge, this detail can also serve as handicapped access with proper grading and edge protection
- Install a series of boulder size stones along edge and for seating and pave around them

The following set of images shows an historic view of the planted pond banks, an existing conditions image of the deteriorated pond edges, plan sections showing bank stabilization strategies, and images of construction underway and completed.



Figure App.C.1 Trout Pond, Seneca Park, with diverse vegetation at water edge and banks, c. 1888-98. Courtesy of City of Rochester Archives.



Figure App.C.2 Deteriorated banks of Trout Pond showing eroded edge conditions, 1989. LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP.

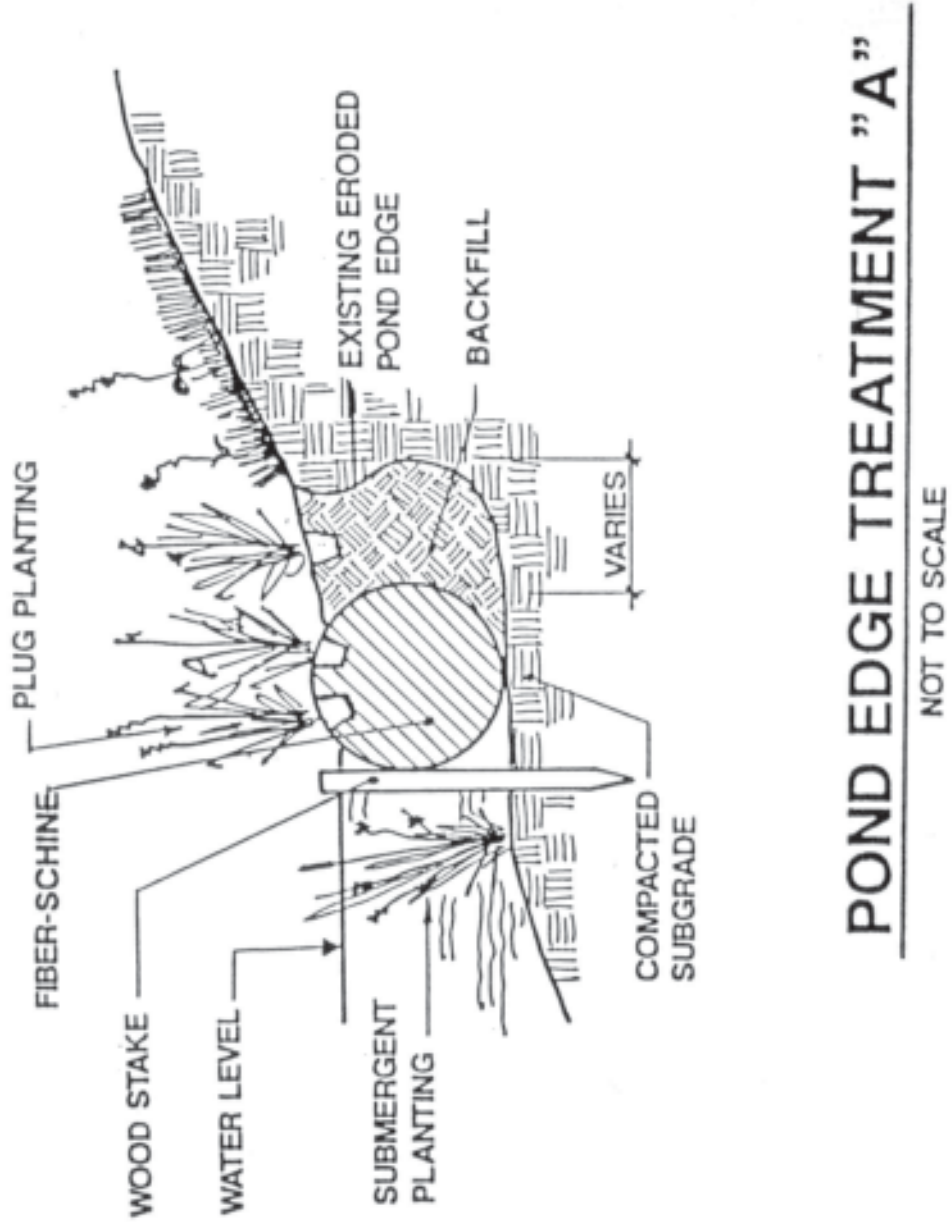


Figure App.C.3 Detail of pond bank showing fiber-schine at water level, fill for eroded bank and plantings. EDR PC project team with LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP.



Figure App.C.4 Photograph of bank reshaping and installation of fiber-schine at Trout Pond. LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP.



Figure App. C.5 Photograph of Trout Pond bank with stabilized edge and new growth. LANDSCAPES LA • Planning • HP.



Figure App.C.6 Edge of planting above bank at path, showing infrequent mowing of pond edge plants on left and turf mowing regime on right.
LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP.



Figure App.C.7 Access area with stone construction shown at intersection with stabilized, planted pond bank. LANDSCAPES LA•Planning•HP.



Figure App.C.8 Trout Pond access area and bank as seen from across the pond, showing seating rocks as well as stone armoring. LANDSCAPES
LA•Planning•HP.

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

Beatty, Amy June. Swinney Park Neighbor

Historic photographs

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

City of Fort Wayne, City/County Building

Planimetric aerials: 1949, 1956, 1966, 1973, 1999
Allen County survey from planimetric aerials: 1974

Richard Cline, President, Swinney Park Restoration Group

Oral history source
Historic image & article collection

Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation, Lawton Park Office & State Boulevard Office

Annual Reports, 1901-1910, 1912-1933, 1946-1975
Current AutoCAD files
Historic newspaper clipping scrapbooks
Historic plans collection
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

Planimetric aerial: 1938

Leonard, Craig. Historic Preservation Consultant

Historic postcard collection

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

Historic postcard collection

Pence, Robert. Swinney Park Neighbor
Historic photographs