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# PARKS STRATEGIC PLAN

for

## PARKS/FORESTRY and RECREATION DEPARTMENT

City of Evanston, Illinois

### RECOMMENDED PARK IMPROVEMENTS AND COSTS

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January 5, 2001

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The **Parks Strategic Plan** is a tool to assist the City of Evanston's Parks/Forestry & Recreation Department in planning for future park and recreation improvements. The Plan includes six primary components:

- Needs assessment
- Open space and park standards
- Policy framework
- Inventory of existing resources
- Park improvements and costs
- Implementation plan

Evanston's existing park system is comprised of 75 parks with a total acreage of 268 acres. Within the City, two separate park districts – the Ridgeville Park District and the Lighthouse Park District – maintain 14 parks with a total of 24.8 acres. In addition, the Cook County Forest Preserve maintains one site – Dwight Perkins Woods – comprising 7.6 acres. The Peter Jans Golf Course contains 54 acres. Altogether, there are 91 park sites with a total acreage of 354.4 acres. When combined with School Districts 65 and 202 (79.7 acres and 63.6 acres respectively), there is a grand total of 497.7 acres of park and school land for recreation.

An inventory of all park and school sites within the City was conducted. Plans for each site were prepared based upon Department data and the City's GIS system. Each park and school site was visited to:

- confirm the park and school site plans,
- inventory all existing facilities,
- identify site characteristics
- identify site assets and liabilities

In addition, all park and recreation buildings and structures were visited. Conditions were identified and evaluated.

The *Inventory of Resources Section* of this study presents a detailed inventory of all park and school sites, and recreation buildings.

The *Park and Open Space Standards Section* of this study analyzed and compared the City's parks against national standards. Parks are classified in four categories – Mini-Parks/Totlots, Neighborhood Parks, Community Parks, and Special Parks. Of the total 354.4 acres (including the two Park Districts, Cook County Forest Preserve and Peter Jans Golf Course), there are 49 Mini-Parks/Totlots totally 35.02 acres or 9.9%. There are 25 neighborhood parks with a total acreage of 105.45 acres, or 29.8%. There are 9 community parks with a total acreage of 122.41, or 34.5%. Finally, there are 6 Special Parks with a total acreage of 91.62, or 25.9%.

National park and recreation standards recommend an average of 10 acres of park land (Mini-Park, Neighborhood Parks, and Community Parks) per 1,000 population. Evanston contains 262.78 acres or 3.59 acres of park land per 1,000 population. If school sites are added, the park land ratio increases to 5.55 acres per 1,000 population. Both figures are well below the national standard of park land per 1,000 population. Unfortunately, since Evanston is essentially built-out with little or no vacant land existing, the opportunity to provide significant additional park land is extremely limited. Therefore, it is critical that existing parks be efficiently planned/designed, maintained, and highly utilized to provide the needed recreational resources to meet the need of the residents.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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In comparison to national standards for recreational facilities, Evanston fares reasonably well in most categories. Noted deficiencies are in the areas of tennis courts, volleyball courts, and swimming pool(s).

In the development of the Parks Strategic Plan, a *Needs Assessment* is included. A number of components comprised the Needs Assessment, including Community Input Meetings, Sports Organization Meeting, and a Community Survey that was conducted in 1999-2000 by the Center for Governmental Studies.

As part of the Needs Assessment, demographics were analyzed for Evanston, as well as compared to national, state, county, and surrounding communities. Evanston's population peaked at 79,708 in 1970, and declined to 73,233 in 1990. It is projected that Evanston's population over the next 20 years will increase by 9.5% to approximately 78,700. Based upon census data, the 0 – 19 and the 65+ age groups have been declining over the past 20 years, 25.5% and 28.6% respectively. Both of these age group declines go against national trends, and generally trends in the state and surrounding communities. If this trend in Evanston continues based on year 2000 census data, it may suggest the need to focus on development of park and recreation improvements oriented more to the 20 – 65 age group needs.

During the Community Input Meetings, comments and suggestions from the public focused primarily on issues related to specific park improvements and facilities. There was also a strong concern expressed for improving facilities for the handicapped and complying with ADA requirements.

The meeting with ten sports organizations and affiliates focused on specific issues related to improving existing facilities.

The final part of the Needs Assessment reviewed the 1999-2000 Community Survey conducted by the Center for Governmental Studies. The survey concluded that most residents were satisfied with the care and maintenance of existing parks and the adequacy of park land. The survey also obtained resident's opinions related to new and/or renovated buildings and facilities. Support was expressed for the renovation of Noyes Cultural Arts Center, a plan to build a new Community Center in South Evanston, and a proposal to build a new indoor basketball facility in South Evanston. In addition a majority of respondents supported a new indoor soccer facility additional softball/baseball fields, and an ice skating rink.

The Plan also contains a policy framework designed to establish goals and objectives in a number of related areas. A key component of this effort was development of a Mission Statement.

Park and building improvements and costs are described in detail for each park site and recreation building. Improvements to parks are broken down into categories, such as utilities, grading, landscape, athletic facilities, playgrounds, paving, and site amenities, with costs determined for each category and total costs including contingency, survey, planning, and designed.

The final section of the Plan – *Implementation* – identifies action steps, alternative funding sources, and a 10-year Capital Improvement Plan. The total cost for recommended improvements to park sites and buildings over a ten year period is estimated at over \$90,000,000, including a 3% inflation factor added for the 10 year period.

## SECTION 1 INTRODUCTION

### Introduction

In 1999, the Department of Parks/Forestry & Recreation for the City of Evanston elected to develop a “Parks Strategic Plan” to assess current and anticipated community park and recreational needs. After reviewing several proposals, the firm of **Land Design Collaborative, Inc.** was selected to assist the Department in development of the Plan.

The Strategic Parks Plan includes six primary components:

- an inventory of resources,
- a needs assessment,
- open space and park standards,
- a policy framework,
- a park improvement and costs
- an implementation plan.

The Parks Strategic Plan provides the Department of Parks/Forestry & Recreation with a clear direction for future park improvements to

## INTRODUCTION

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existing and new facilities, along with documentation to support the proposed course of action.

### Purpose of Parks Strategic Plan

This Plan is both a guide and a tool for shaping the future of the City of Evanston's park system. This Plan will serve as a guide for the Park and Recreation Board and Commission, as well as City Council and the public to conceive and define future direction for Evanston's park system, and be used as a tool by the staff to accomplish the goals and objectives.

The Plan has been developed to be both responsive to the residents of the City of Evanston, and consistent with the *Mission* of the Parks/Forestry & Recreation Department. For the Plan to be effective, it must be a synthesis of ideas and facts, not merely a combination of opinions and conjecture. To achieve this end, the planning process has included a number of methods for providing public opinion, such as an attitude and interest survey, and community input meetings to serve as a sounding board for the Plan.

The planning process has also relied upon the input and direction of the Park and Recreation Board and Commission, as well as the professional skills and talents of the Department staff, and the consulting firm of Land Design Collaborative, Inc. Their combined efforts have produced a Plan that is responsive to the residents and faithful to the *Mission* of the Department.

## General Background

The City of Evanston is one of several communities identified as part of the “North Shore” in the Chicago Region. Located in the northern part of Cook County, adjacent to the City of Chicago, Evanston is adjacent to the communities of Wilmette and Skokie. The City of Evanston’s population in 2000 comprised 73,000 people.

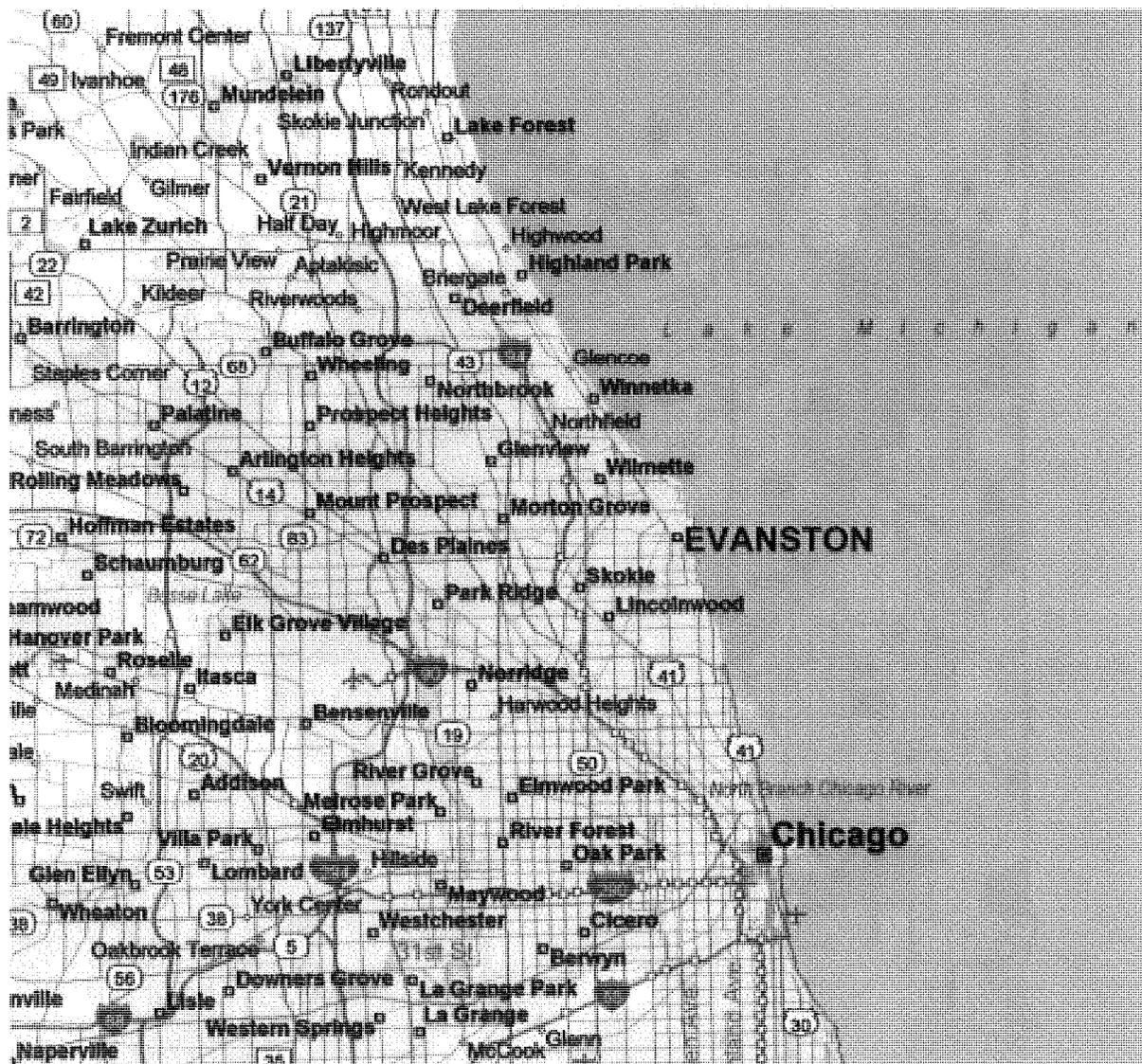
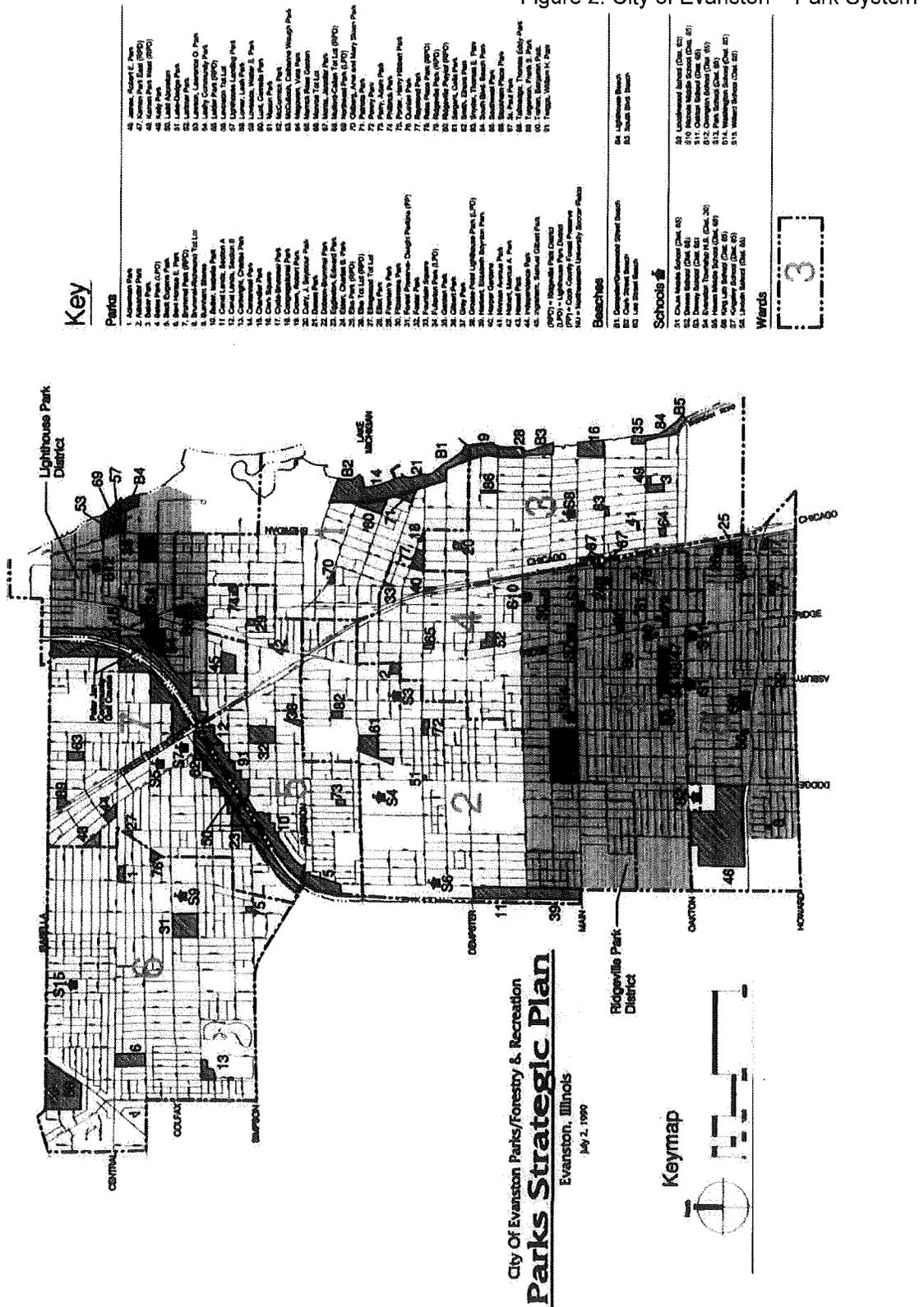


Figure 1: Regional Location

Figure 2: City of Evanston – Park System



## SECTION 2 INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

### Governmental Jurisdictions

The Department of Parks/Forestry & Recreation is a department within the City of Evanston and is responsible for operating and maintaining park lands and buildings and offering recreational programs to the residents of the City of Evanston. Other governmental jurisdictions and agency are described below.

### COUNTY AND TOWNSHIPS

The City of Evanston is located within the County of Cook, and within the Township of Evanston.

### SCHOOL DISTRICTS

The City of Evanston is comprised of two school districts, which serve Evanston Township. School District 65 provides elementary

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

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and middle school programs, with 14 school sites within the community. School District 202 is the Evanston Township High School (grades 9 – 12), and has one facility.

### MUNICIPALITIES

Three municipalities are adjacent to the City of Evanston. These include the Village of Wilmette to the north, the Village of Skokie to the west, and the City of Chicago to the south.

### PARK DISTRICTS

Three surrounding park districts share common boundaries with the City of Evanston. Wilmette Park District borders the City on the north, Skokie Park District borders the City on the west, and the Chicago Park District borders the City on the south.

Within the City of Evanston, two Park Districts are located. The Lighthouse Park District is located in the far northeast area of the City. The Park District owns and operates four park sites, with a total acreage of 5.00 acre. The primary facility of the Lighthouse Park District is the Lighthouse. Ridgeville Park District is located in the southern portion of the City, and owns and manages ten park sites with a total acreage of 12.21 acres.

## Existing Park Land Inventory and Evaluation

Evanston's existing park system is depicted in Figure 2. The system is comprised of xx parks, with a total acreage of xxx acres.

Each park is reviewed on the following pages and is based on field visits during the fall of 1999 and spring of 2000, when all parks were examined, inventoried, and evaluated.

The size and classification is listed for each park, along with a short description of each park's unique characteristics. Existing facilities are listed for each park and the evaluation is divided into two sections, assets and advantages and deficiencies or liabilities.

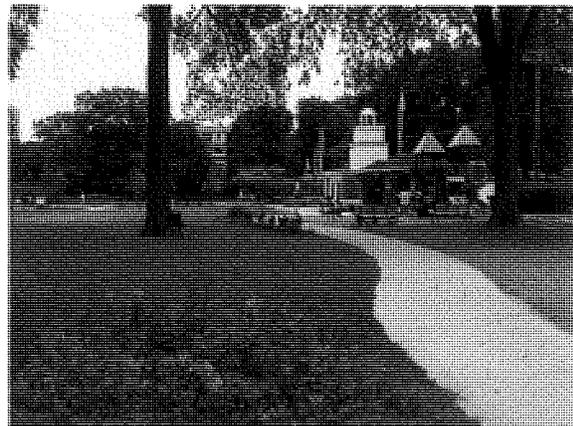
### ACKERMAN PARK (see Figure 3)

Size: 1.25 acres

Ward: 6

Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park



*Ackerman Park – View Southeast*

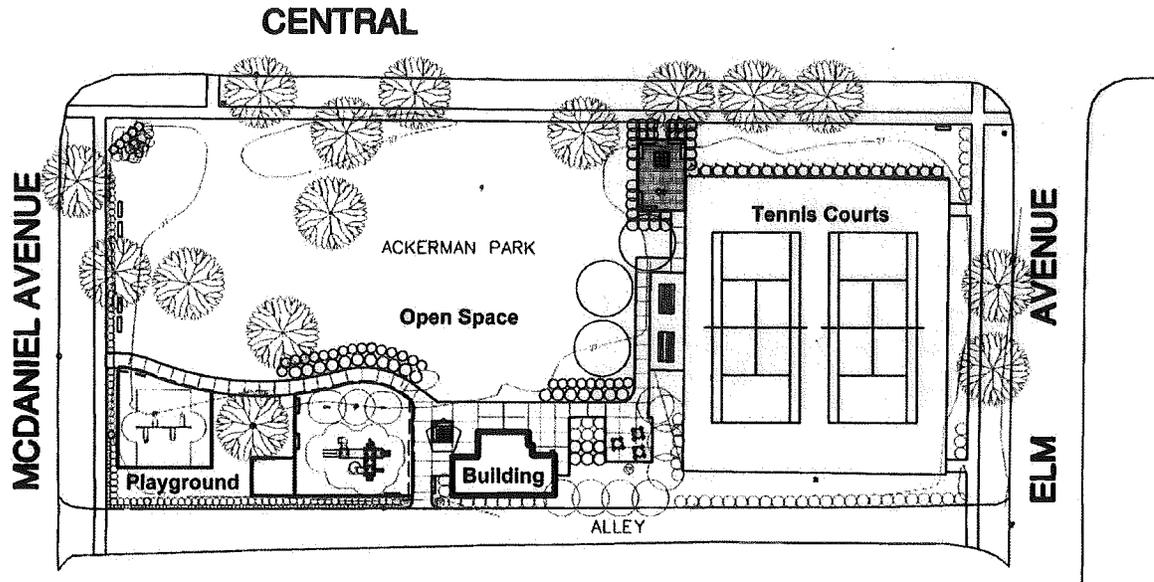


Figure 3: Ackerman Park

Location: South side of Central Street at the southeast corner of Central Street and McDaniel Street

- one drinking fountain (ADA)
- ten shade trees
- fifteen ornamental trees
- two light fixtures

Description:

With streets on two sides, Ackerman Park is highly visible and accessible to the neighborhood on the south side of Central Street. While primarily a neighborhood park, this facility meets mini-park needs for residents in the surrounding area.

Evaluation:

Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood residents
- mature trees – landscape
- is compatible with the surrounding residential areas

Existing Facilities:

- park identification sign and landscape
- two tennis courts with benches/fencing
- open play field with security lighting (used as natural ice rink in winter months)
- concrete pedestrian path
- playground for tots
- two swings for 6-12 year olds
- restroom building
- seventeen benches
- two bleachers for tennis courts
- three trash receptacles
- three table with seats



Ackerman Park – Building and Playground

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

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*Ackerman Park – Seating Area and Tennis Courts*

- open area provides flexibility for different activities on an unstructured basis
- new playground equipment and seating areas
- new landscaping

### Liabilities:

- concrete surfacing in front of restroom building in poor and uneven condition
- turf areas around the building and open area are level and poorly drained creating poor turf conditions
- tennis court surfacing is cracked and in poor condition
- tennis court fencing is old and rusted
- tennis court posts and nets are old and worn
- the existing sign at the corner is old and outdated – too large for the area
- five benches are old and do not match newly installed benches
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- street trees along Central Avenue and McDaniel Street need to be added
- recently installed planting beds need to be increased in the number of shrubs

### Last Improvements:

Made in 1999, which included \$105,000 for the following:

- playground equipment, edging, and surfacing
- benches and game tables
- pedestrian walks (concrete)
- drinking fountain
- landscape

### Building:

For conditions and evaluation of restroom building, see following section “Park Buildings Inventory and Evaluation.”

## ALEXANDER PARK (see Figure 4)

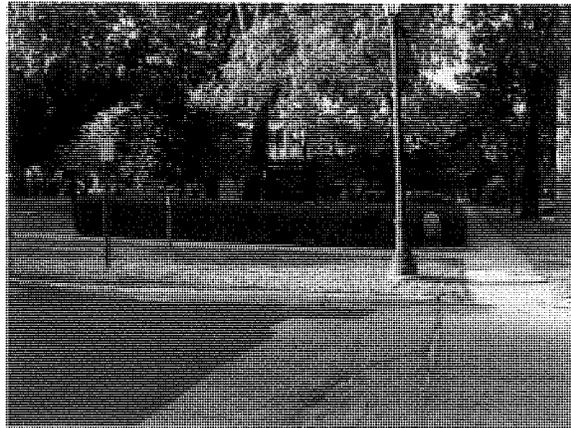
Size: 1.03 acres

Ward: 2

### Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

Location: Northwest corner of Ridge Avenue and Grove Street



*Alexander Park – View North from Grove Street*

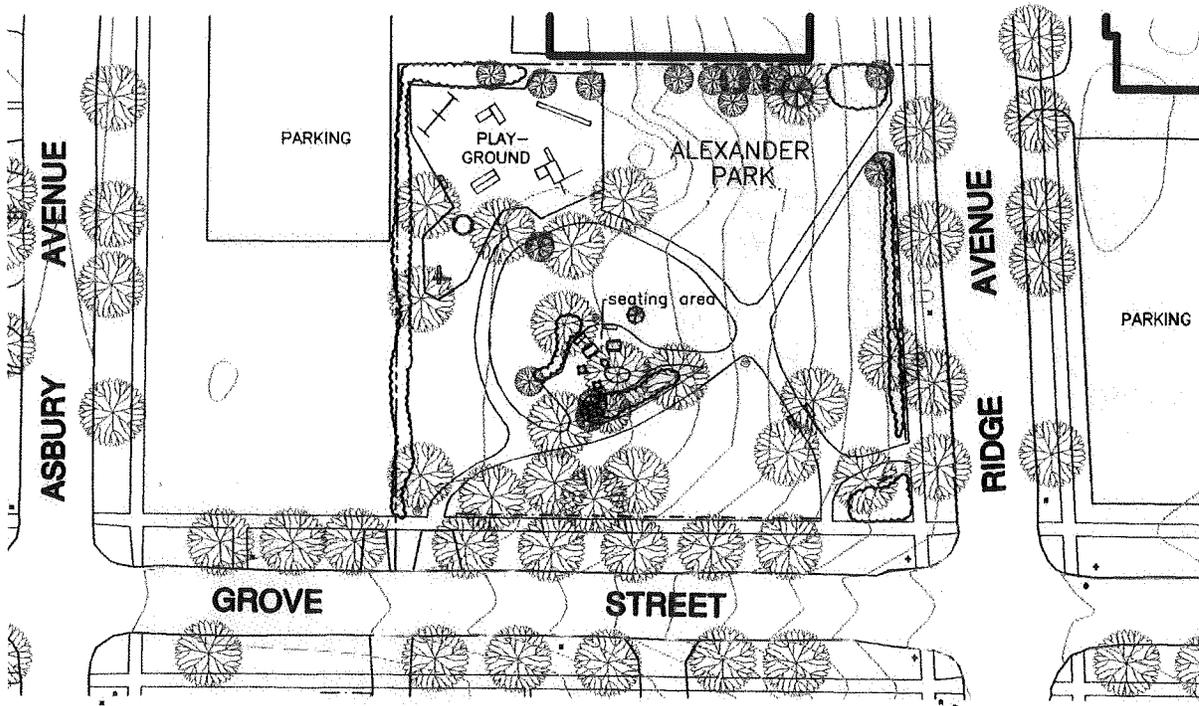


Figure 4: Alexander Park

Description:

With streets on two sides, Alexander Park is highly visible and accessible to the community and the neighborhood on the west side of Ridge Avenue. Located on Ridge Avenue, a major north-south arterial in Evanston, the Park provides one of the few areas of open space along this heavily traveled road.

- three table/seats
- two picnic tables
- one drinking fountain
- 19 shade trees
- 2 evergreen trees
- 20 ornamental trees
- deciduous shrubs

Existing Facilities:

The park was renovated in 2000 and includes the following:

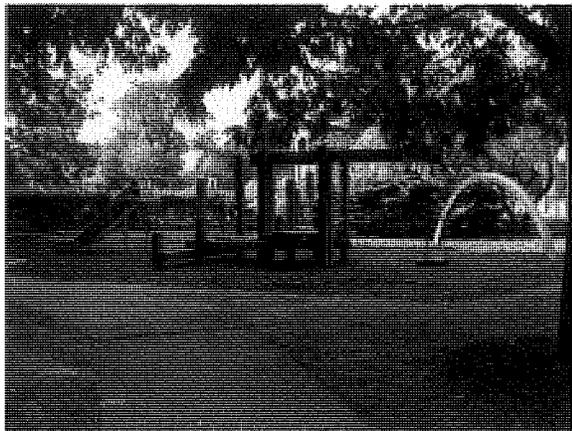
- asphalt pavement path through park
- concrete seating area
- one light fixture
- playground equipment for tots and 6-12 age
- one park identification sign at southeast corner
- split rail wood fencing along streets
- six benches
- three trash receptacles



Alexander Park – Walkways

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

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*Alexander Park - Playground*

### Evaluation:

#### Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood residential west of Park
- mature trees and landscape throughout park
- open space along Ridge Avenue
- open character of the Park

#### Liabilities:

- pedestrian lighting is in poor condition and very ineffective/inefficient
- the concrete paving in the seating area is in poor condition, cracked, and uneven
- the asphalt path through the park is narrow and in poor condition
- the existing sign at the corner is old and outdated – too large for the area
- six benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- the drinking fountain is not ADA compliant
- the chain link fence along the north property boundary is old and rusted
- the existing playground structures are old, do not comply with safety guidelines, and are not ADA compliant

#### Last Improvements:

Made in 1993, which included \$18,000 for Safety modifications to play equipment.

### **BAKER PARK** (see Figure 5)

Size: 1.37 acres

Ward: 3

#### Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

Location: South of Keeney Street and East of Forest Avenue

#### Description:

Located at the southeast corner of Keeney and Forest Streets, Baker Park is highly visible and accessible to the community and the neighborhood surrounding the Park. The park contains a range of recreational facilities – playground, athletic field, basketball court, and restroom building.

#### Existing Facilities:

- one softball field with backstop
- one basketball court
- ice skating (flooded grass area)
- concrete and limestone screenings interior paths
- playground equipment for tots
- playground equipment for 6-12 age
- seven benches
- five trash receptacles



Baker Park – View Southeast

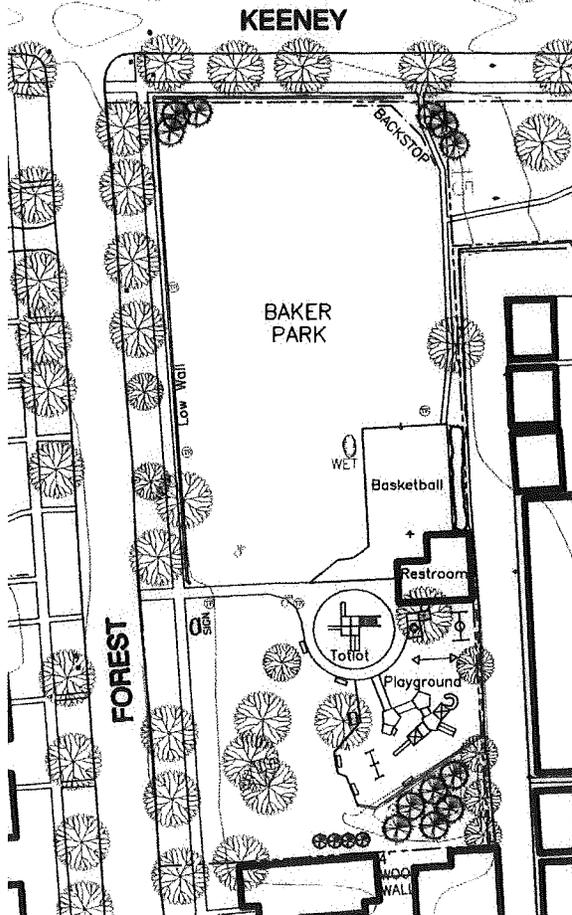


Figure 5: Baker Park

- one table-seat
- two picnic tables
- chain link fencing along boundary
- restroom building
- 12 shade trees
- 15 evergreen trees

Evaluation:

Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood residential surrounding the Park
- mature trees and landscape throughout park
- open space
- open character of the Park
- range of recreational facilities

Liabilities:

- turf areas around the building and open area are level and poorly drained creating poor turf conditions
- concrete surfacing in front of restroom building and the entrance from the alley is in poor and uneven condition
- the limestone path along the east boundary is narrow and in poor condition
- the softball field backstop is small and in poor condition
- basketball court asphalt surfacing is cracked and in poor condition
- the existing sign at the corner is old and outdated – too large for the area
- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- the drinking fountain is not ADA compliant
- the chain link fence along the east property boundary is old and rusted
- the existing playground equipment is old, does not comply with safety guidelines, and are not ADA compliant

Last Improvements:

Made in 1994, which included \$74,000 for the following:

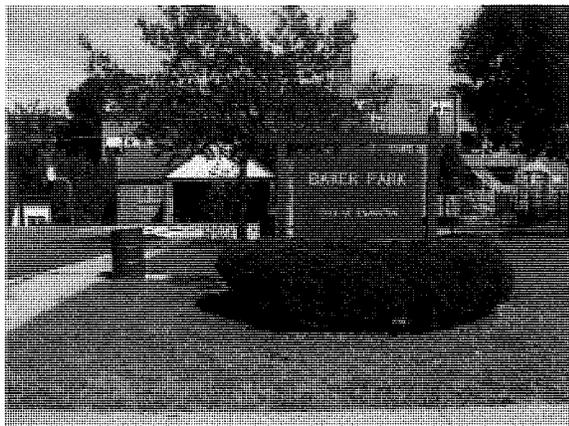
- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- benches



Baker Park - Playground

# INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

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*Baker Park – Building Area*

- drinking fountain
- landscape
- restroom ADA upgrades

Building:

For conditions and evaluation of restroom building, see following section “Park Buildings Inventory and Evaluation.”

**Eugene BECK PARK** (see Figure 6)

Size: 6.50 acres

Ward: 5

Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

Leased: From Metropolitan Water Reclamation District

Location: East of Canal between Lyons Street and Emerson Street

Description:

Beck Park is located along the east side of the Canal in the far western portion of Evanston, and south of Emerson Street. The Park is primarily open with picnic areas, playground, and

walkway. It is part of the linear park/open space system bordering the canal.

Existing Facilities:

- asphalt pedestrian path
- one park identification sign
- brick entrance area for playground
- two tot swings
- six 6-12 year olds swings
- playground for 6-12 year olds
- two benches
- three trash receptacles
- six picnic tables
- one drinking fountain
- two cooking grills
- chain link fence along boundary
- wood post-rail fence around cul-de-sacs
- 118 shade trees
- seven evergreen trees
- 27 ornamental trees

Evaluation:

Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood residential surrounding the Park
- mature trees and landscape throughout park
- open space
- open character of the Park



*Beck Park – View North*

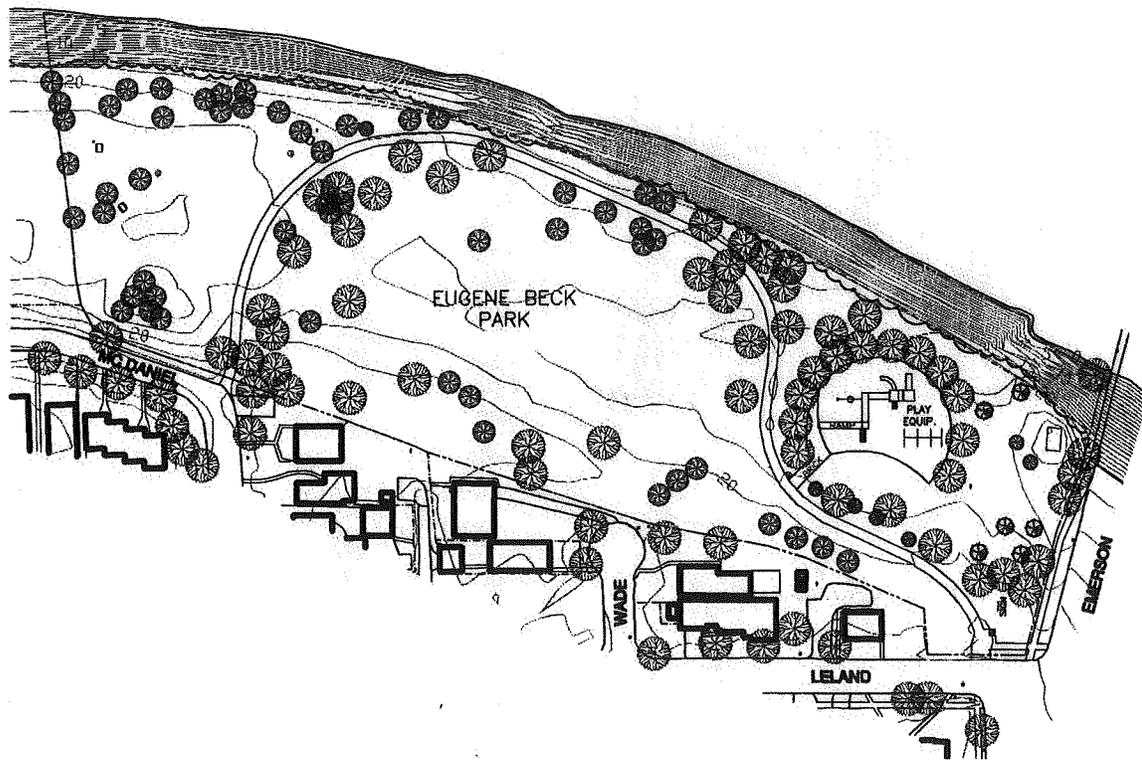


Figure 6: Beck Park

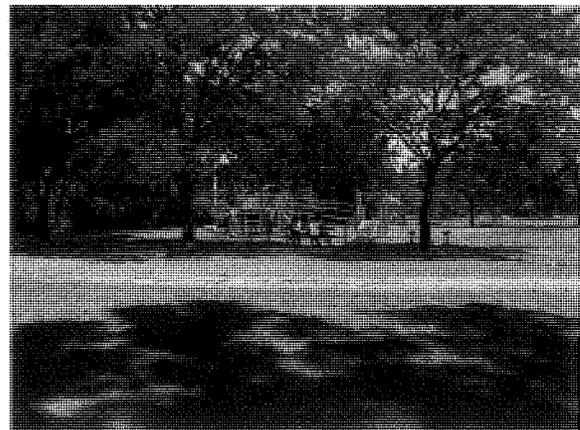
Liabilities:

- turf areas are level and poorly drained creating poor turf conditions
- concrete pavement at northeast corner is cracked, uneven and in poor condition
- the asphalt path through park is narrow and in poor condition
- the existing playground structures are old, do not comply with safety guidelines, and are not ADA compliant
- brick paving providing access to playground is in poor condition and uneven surfacing
- chain link fencing along west property boundary (canal) is rusted and in poor condition
- the existing sign at the corner is old and outdated – too large for the area
- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- trees are old and several have been removed

Last Improvements:

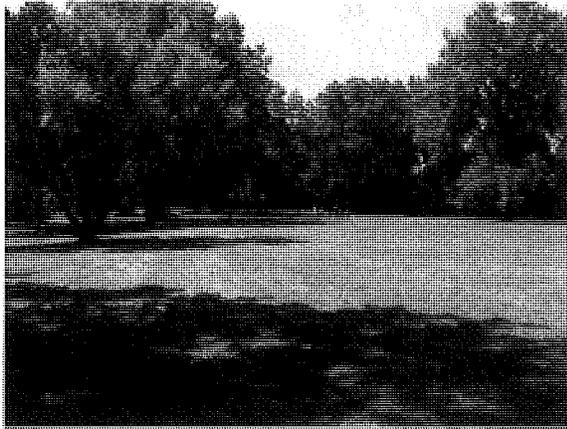
Made in 1984, which included \$56,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- benches and picnic tables
- brick paving
- landscape



*Beck Park – Playground*

**INVENTORY OF RESOURCES**



*Beck Park – View South from Emerson*

- asphalt pathways

**Horace E. BENT PARK (see Figure 7)**

Size: 4.10 acres

Ward: 6

Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

Location: South of Central Avenue and East of Cowper Street

Description:

With streets on three sides, Bent Park is highly visible and accessible to the neighborhood on the south side of Central Street. While primarily a neighborhood park, this facility meets mini-park needs for residents in the surrounding area.

Existing Facilities:

- sign and landscape
- concrete pedestrian path
- service/Access drive to building
- restroom and Daycare building
- one softball field with backstop
- one basketball court

- one soccer field
- two tennis courts with benches
- playground for tots
- playground for 6-12 year olds
- thirteen benches
- five trash receptacles
- one bicycle rack
- four picnic tables
- one drinking fountain
- chain-link fencing around tennis courts
- split rail fence by play area
- one bus stop
- 63 shade trees
- nine evergreen trees
- eight light fixtures
- two flood light fixtures

Evaluation:

Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood residential surrounding the Park
- mature trees and landscape throughout park
- open space
- open character of the Park
- playground

Liabilities:

- turf areas are level and poorly drained creating poor turf conditions



*Bent Park – Building and Playground*

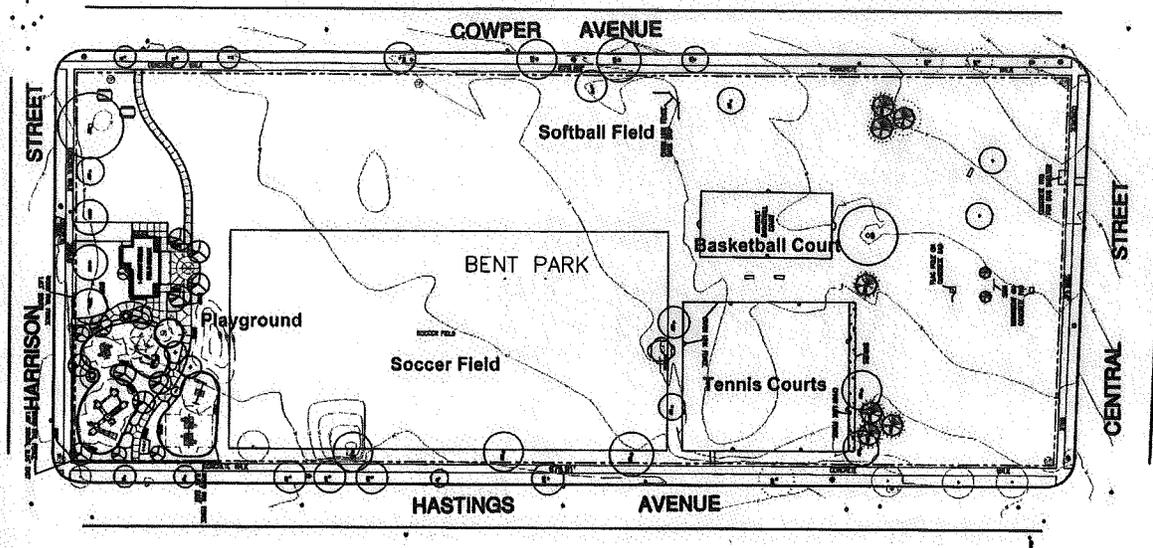


Figure 7: Bent Park

- existing lighting around the building and playground is in poor condition and inefficient
- the asphalt service drive to the building is in poor condition
- tennis court color surfacing is worn
- tennis court fencing is old and in poor condition
- the basketball surfacing is in poor condition and cracked
- basketball and tennis courts do not have an accessible path
- soccer field needs to be regarded for better drainage
- the existing sign on Central Avenue is old and outdated – too large for the area
- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- existing bus shelter on Central Avenue is in poor condition and poorly located in relationship to the park
- street trees are lacking along Central Avenue, Cowper Avenue, and Hastings Avenue
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- trees are old and several have been removed

Last Improvements:

Made in 1999, which included \$132,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- benches
- picnic tables
- drinking fountain
- landscape



*Bent Park – View North*

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

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*Bent Park – Basketball and Tennis Courts*

### Building:

For conditions and evaluation of restroom building, see following section “Park Buildings Inventory and Evaluation.”

### **BOAT RAMP** (see Figure 8)

Size: 3.00 acres

Ward: 1

### Classification

Function: Special Park

Location: East of Dawes Park on Lake Michigan

### Description:

The Boat Ramp is located on the east side of Dawes Park and provides boat access to Lake Michigan. The Boat Ramp is protected by a rip-rap breakwater on the north and east sides. Access to the ramp is provided from Sheridan Road, with parking for cars and trailers only provided to the north of the entrance drive. In addition, a dog beach is provided on the north side of the breakwater.

### Existing Facilities:

- boat parking lot
- dog beach
- boat launch drive
- boat launch ramp with 2 lanes
- rip-rap breakwater/pier

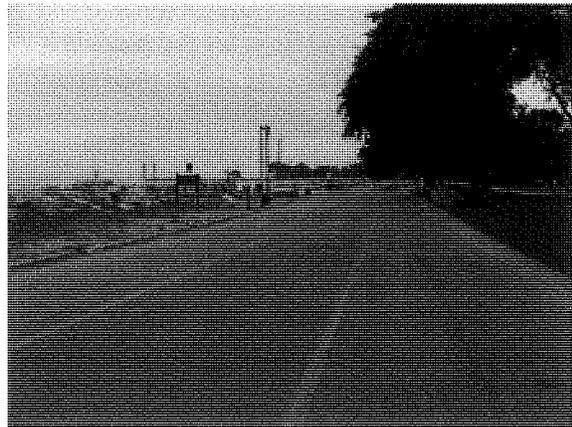
### Evaluation:

#### Assets:

- walkway on pier provides viewing of lake and City panorama
- beach area for dogs
- floating pier
- boat access to Lake Michigan

#### Liabilities:

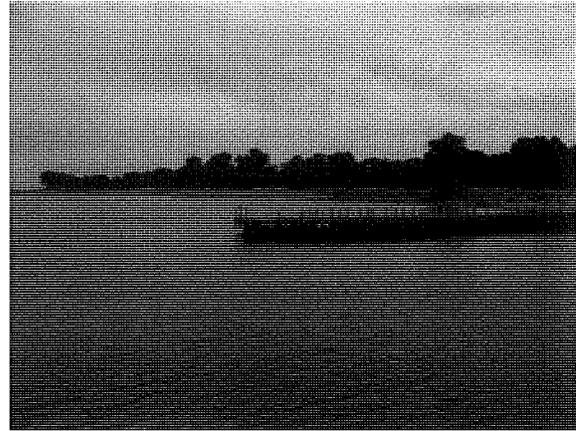
- dog beach is not ADA accessible
- the entrance drive needs to be resurfaced – paving is in poor condition
- parking lot for boat users is in poor condition – needs to be resurfaced and new curbing
- the concrete ramp for boat access is not long enough due to the low level of Lake Michigan
- the rip-rap breakwater needs to be modified
- signage for the breakwater needs to be modified and updated
- gates and fencing for the breakwater are in poor condition and need upgrading



*Boat Ramp – Access Drive and Boat Ramp*



Boat Ramp – Dog Beach



Boat Ramp – View from Pier North

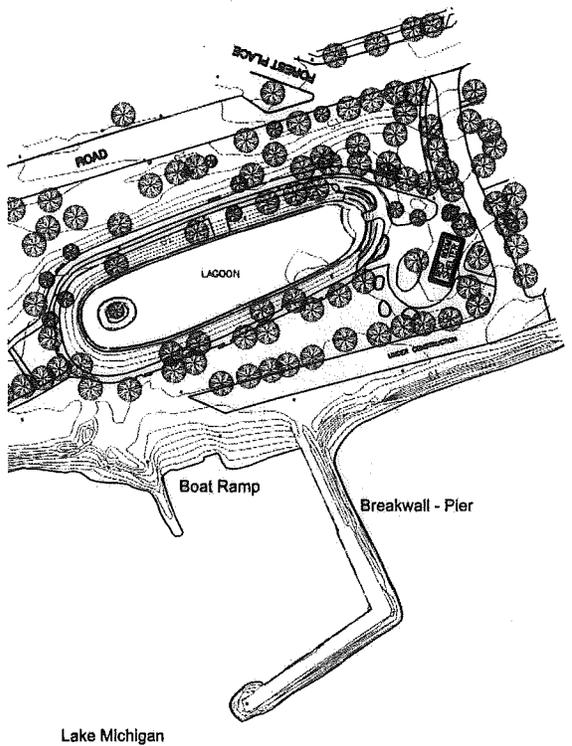


Figure 8: Boat Ramp

Last Improvements:

Made in 1999, which included \$56,000 for paving improvements.

**BRUMMEL-RICHMOND TOTLOT**

(see Figure 9)

Size: 0.16 acres

Ward: 8

Classification

Function: Totlot Park

Location: North of Brummel Street and West of Richmond Avenue

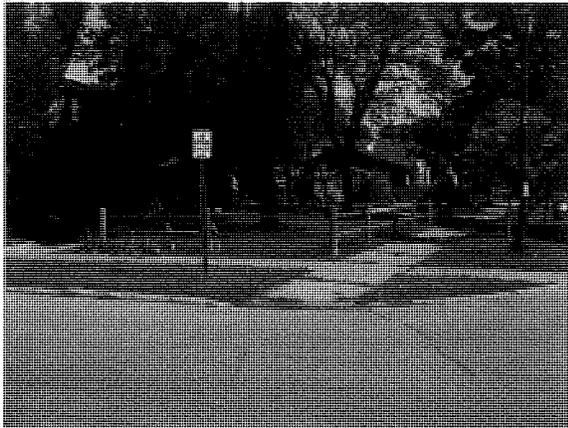
Description:

Brummel-Richmond Totlot is a small park serving the immediate residential neighborhood. The park provides playground equipment and seating.

Existing Facilities:

- concrete walk to playground equipment area
- playground equipment for tots
- four benches
- one trash receptacle
- one drinking fountain
- two rail wood fence along streets
- chain link fence along north and west-boundaries
- 6 shade trees

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES



*Brummel-Richmond Totlot – View North*

- 1 ornamental tree

### Evaluation:

#### Assets:

- good accessibility to residential surrounding the Park
- provides playground equipment for tots and older children
- open space

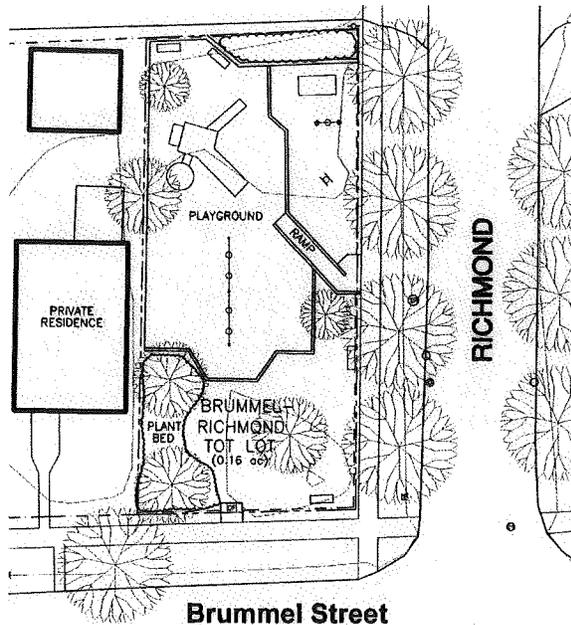
#### Liabilities:

- portions of the exterior sidewalk are poor condition
- the existing chain link fencing along the north boundary is rusted and in poor condition
- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums

### Last Improvements:

Made in 1996, which included \$56,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- benches
- concrete walks
- drinking fountain
- landscape
- fencing



MREL

**Figure 9: Brummel-Richmond Totlot**



*Brummel-Richmond Totlot*

**BURNHAM SHORES PARK**

(see Figure 10)

Size: 5.02 acres

Ward: 3

Classification

Function: Community Park  
Lakefront Park

Location: Lakefront – Sheridan Road between Demspter Street and Hamilton Street

Description:

Burnham Shores Park is part of the Lakefront Park System. It provides a variety of recreation activities, including walking/jogging/bike paths, tennis courts, and picnicking.

Existing Facilities:

- two tennis courts
- two bang boards on tennis courts
- one grass volleyball court
- asphalt bike-pedestrian path
- cinder jogging path
- limestone screenings path
- playground equipment for tots
- playground equipment for 6-12 age

- twelve benches
- eleven trash receptacles
- five bike racks
- four picnic tables
- one drinking fountain
- one cooking grill
- one park identification sign
- one light fixture
- rip-rap along lake
- 79 shade trees
- 16 ornamental trees

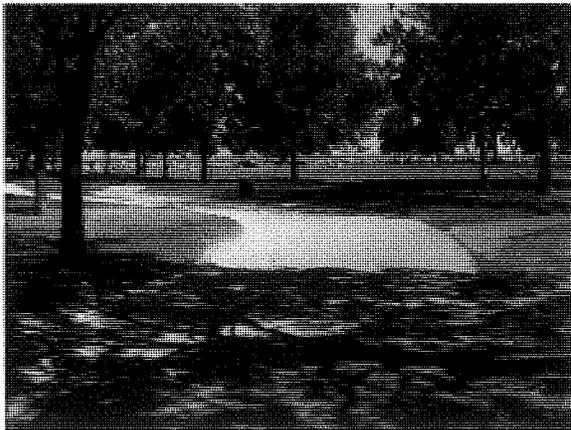
Evaluation:

Assets:

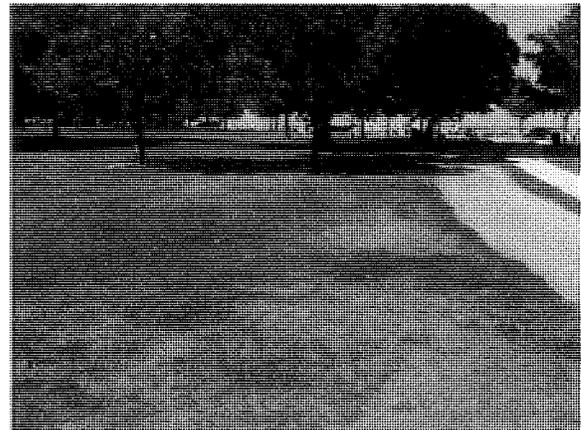
- Lakefront Park System
- mature trees and landscape throughout park
- open space
- open character of the Park
- views and adjacent to Lake Michigan

Liabilities:

- turf areas are level and poorly drained creating poor turf conditions
- existing light fixtures are inadequate and inefficient
- existing limestone path and edging is in poor condition
- the existing cinder path and edging is in poor condition

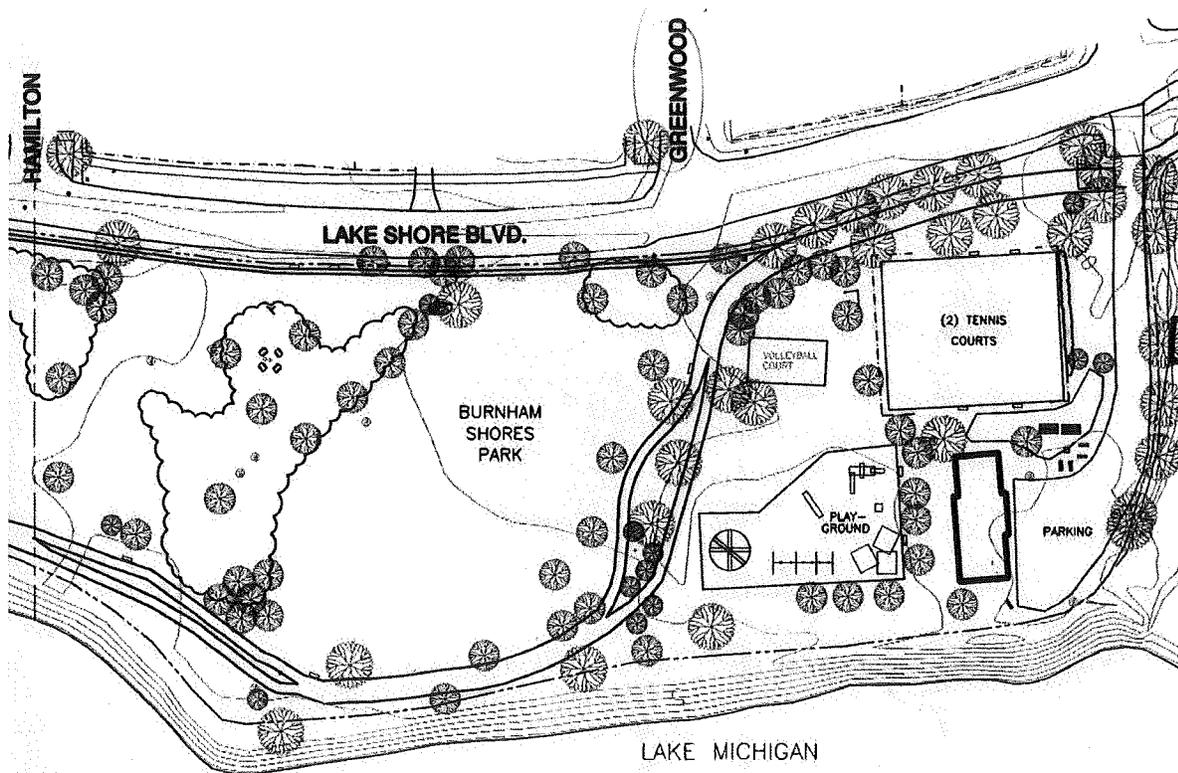


*Burnham Shores Park – Path and Picnic Areas*



*Burnham Shores Park - Paths*

**INVENTORY OF RESOURCES**



**Figure 10: Burnham Shores Park**

- tennis court surfacing is cracked and in poor condition
- tennis court fencing is old and rusted
- tennis court posts and nets are old and worn
- the existing playground structures are old, do not comply with safety guidelines, and are not ADA compliant
- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- drinking fountain is not ADA compliant
- trees are old and several have been removed
- picnic tables are old and not ADA compliant

**Building:**

For conditions and evaluation of restroom building, see following section “Park Buildings Inventory and Evaluation.”

**Last Improvements:**

Made in 1977, which included \$11,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing



*Burnham Shores Park - Playground*

**Isabella BUTLER PARK** (see Figure 11)

Size: 11.9 acres

Ward: 5

Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

Leased: From Metropolitan Water Reclamation District

Location: East of Canal between Bridge Street and Emerson Street

Description:

Butler Park is located along the east side of the Canal in the far western portion of Evanston, and north of Emerson Street. The Park is primarily open with picnic areas, playground, and walkway. It is part of the linear park/open space system bordering the canal.

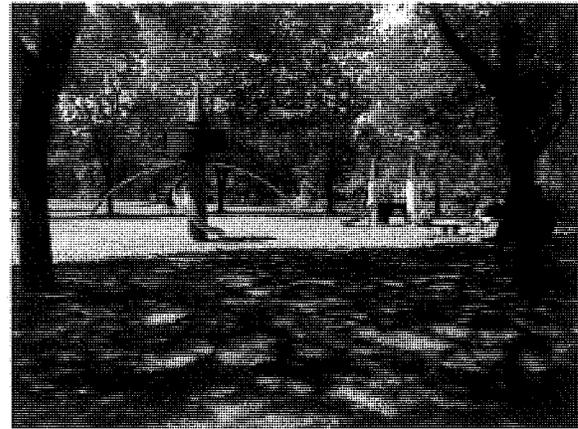
Existing Facilities:

- sign and landscape
- two softball fields with backstops
- concrete sidewalk along boundary
- asphalt pedestrian path
- playground equipment for 6-12 year olds
- four benches
- four trash receptacles
- chain link fence along boundary
- wood post-rail fence along cul-de-sacs
- 122 shade trees
- 47 ornamental trees
- one light fixtures
- two cobra light fixtures

Evaluation:

Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood residential surrounding the Park
- mature trees and landscape throughout park



*Butler Park - Playground*

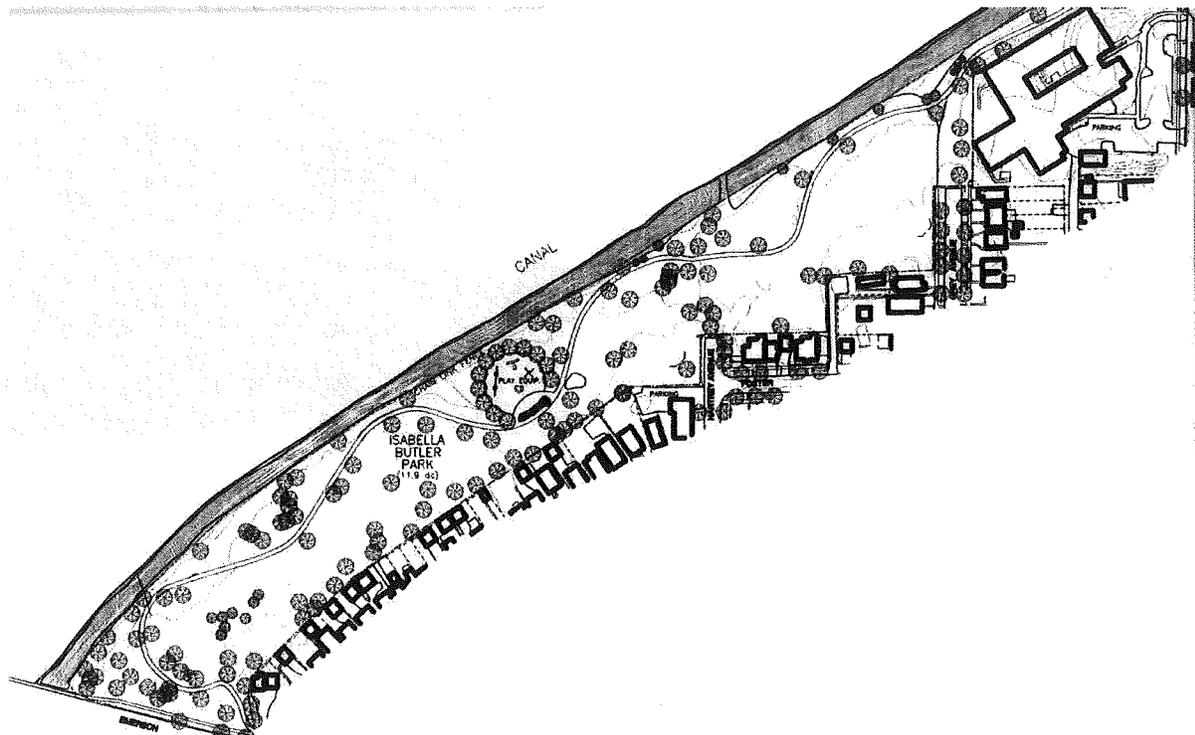
- open space
- open character of the Park

Liabilities:

- turf areas are level and poorly drained creating poor turf conditions
- pathway through park is not lit
- asphalt path is in poor condition and poorly drained
- the existing playground structures are old, do not comply with safety guidelines, and are not ADA compliant
- the existing sign on Emerson Street is old and outdated – too large for the area
- chain link fencing along west property boundary (canal) is rusted and in poor condition
- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- trees are old and several have been removed
- the telephone pole barriers along Hartrey and Grey Avenues are in poor condition and inappropriate

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

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**Figure 11: Butler Park**

### Last Improvements:

Made in 1986, which included \$38,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- benches and picnic tables
- landscape
- asphalt pathways



*Butler Park – Pathway at North End*



*Butler Park – Open Space*

## SECTION 2 INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

### Governmental Jurisdictions

The Department of Parks/Forestry & Recreation is a department within the City of Evanston and is responsible for operating and maintaining park lands and buildings and offering recreational programs to the residents of the City of Evanston. Other governmental jurisdictions and agency are described below.

#### COUNTY AND TOWNSHIPS

The City of Evanston is located within the County of Cook, and within the Township of Evanston.

#### SCHOOL DISTRICTS

The City of Evanston is comprised of two school districts, which serve Evanston Township. School District 65 provides elementary

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

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and middle school programs, with 14 school sites within the community. School District 202 is the Evanston Township High School (grades 9 – 12), and has one facility.

### MUNICIPALITIES

Three municipalities are adjacent to the City of Evanston. These include the Village of Wilmette to the north, the Village of Skokie to the west, and the City of Chicago to the south.

### PARK DISTRICTS

Three surrounding park districts share common boundaries with the City of Evanston. Wilmette Park District borders the City on the north, Skokie Park District borders the City on the west, and the Chicago Park District borders the City on the south.

Within the City of Evanston, two Park Districts are located. The Lighthouse Park District is located in the far northeast area of the City. The Park District owns and operates four park sites, with a total acreage of 5.00 acre. The primary facility of the Lighthouse Park District is the Lighthouse. Ridgeville Park District is located in the southern portion of the City, and owns and manages ten park sites with a total acreage of 12.21 acres.

## Existing Park Land Inventory and Evaluation

Evanston's existing park system is depicted in Figure 2. The system is comprised of xx parks, with a total acreage of xxx acres.

Each park is reviewed on the following pages and is based on field visits during the fall of 1999 and spring of 2000, when all parks were examined, inventoried, and evaluated.

The size and classification is listed for each park, along with a short description of each park's unique characteristics. Existing facilities are listed for each park and the evaluation is divided into two sections, assets and advantages and deficiencies or liabilities.

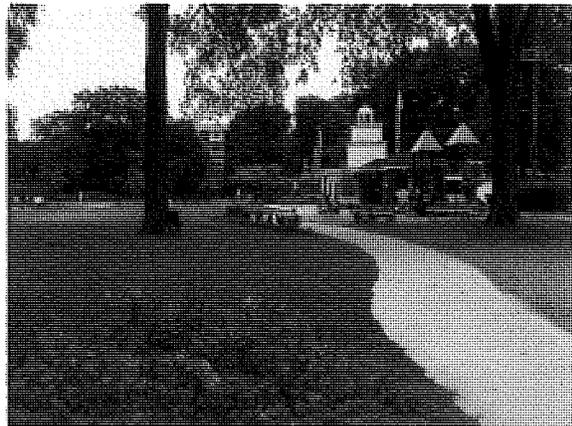
### ACKERMAN PARK (see Figure 3)

Size: 1.25 acres

Ward: 6

Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park



*Ackerman Park – View Southeast*

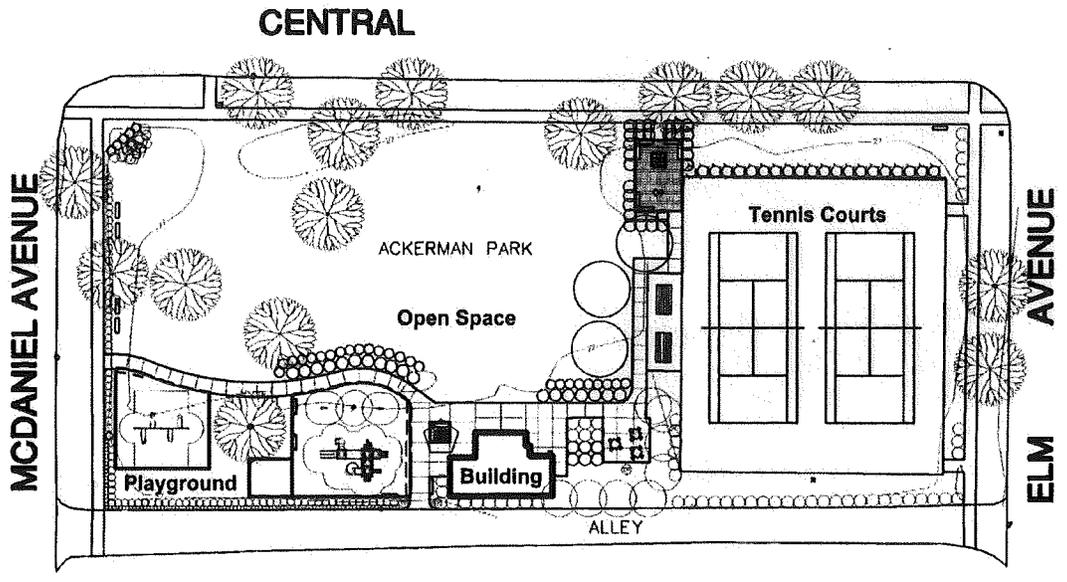


Figure 3: Ackerman Park

Location: South side of Central Street at the southeast corner of Central Street and McDaniel Street

- one drinking fountain (ADA)
- ten shade trees
- fifteen ornamental trees
- two light fixtures

Description:

With streets on two sides, Ackerman Park is highly visible and accessible to the neighborhood on the south side of Central Street. While primarily a neighborhood park, this facility meets mini-park needs for residents in the surrounding area.

Evaluation:

Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood residents
- mature trees – landscape
- is compatible with the surrounding residential areas

Existing Facilities:

- park identification sign and landscape
- two tennis courts with benches/fencing
- open play field with security lighting (used as natural ice rink in winter months)
- concrete pedestrian path
- playground for tots
- two swings for 6-12 year olds
- restroom building
- seventeen benches
- two bleachers for tennis courts
- three trash receptacles
- three table with seats



Ackerman Park – Building and Playground

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

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*Ackerman Park – Seating Area and Tennis Courts*

- open area provides flexibility for different activities on an unstructured basis
- new playground equipment and seating areas
- new landscaping

### Liabilities:

- concrete surfacing in front of restroom building in poor and uneven condition
- turf areas around the building and open area are level and poorly drained creating poor turf conditions
- tennis court surfacing is cracked and in poor condition
- tennis court fencing is old and rusted
- tennis court posts and nets are old and worn
- the existing sign at the corner is old and outdated – too large for the area
- five benches are old and do not match newly installed benches
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- street trees along Central Avenue and McDaniel Street need to be added
- recently installed planting beds need to be increased in the number of shrubs

### Last Improvements:

Made in 1999, which included \$105,000 for the following:

- playground equipment, edging, and surfacing
- benches and game tables
- pedestrian walks (concrete)
- drinking fountain
- landscape

### Building:

For conditions and evaluation of restroom building, see following section “Park Buildings Inventory and Evaluation.”

## **ALEXANDER PARK** (see Figure 4)

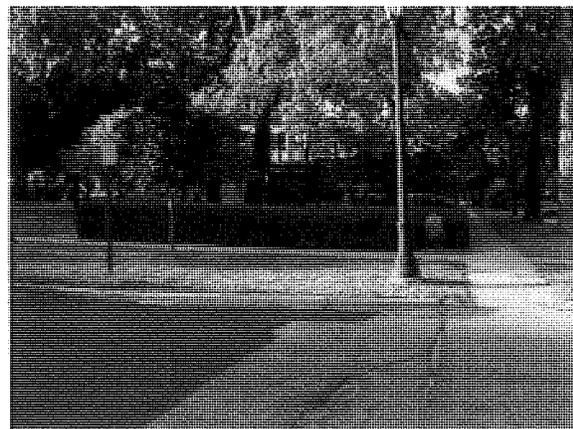
Size: 1.03 acres

Ward: 2

### Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

Location: Northwest corner of Ridge Avenue and Grove Street



*Alexander Park – View North from Grove Street*

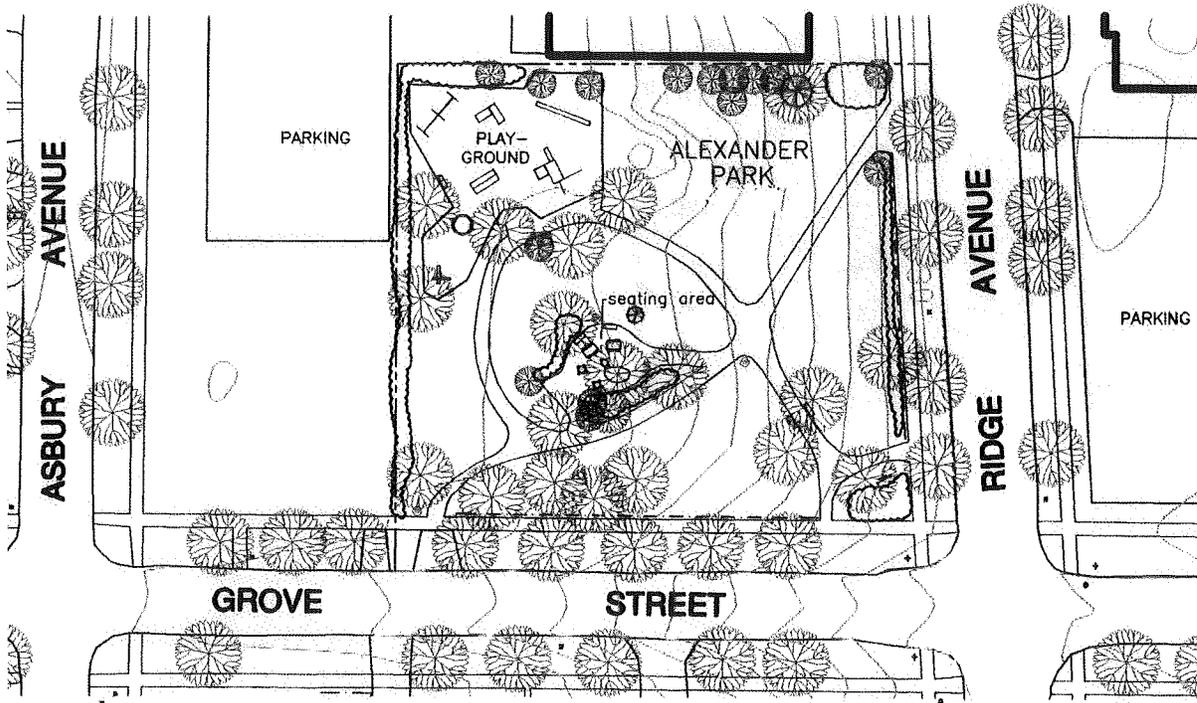


Figure 4: Alexander Park

Description:

With streets on two sides, Alexander Park is highly visible and accessible to the community and the neighborhood on the west side of Ridge Avenue. Located on Ridge Avenue, a major north-south arterial in Evanston, the Park provides one of the few areas of open space along this heavily traveled road.

- three table/seats
- two picnic tables
- one drinking fountain
- 19 shade trees
- 2 evergreen trees
- 20 ornamental trees
- deciduous shrubs

Existing Facilities:

The park was renovated in 2000 and includes the following:

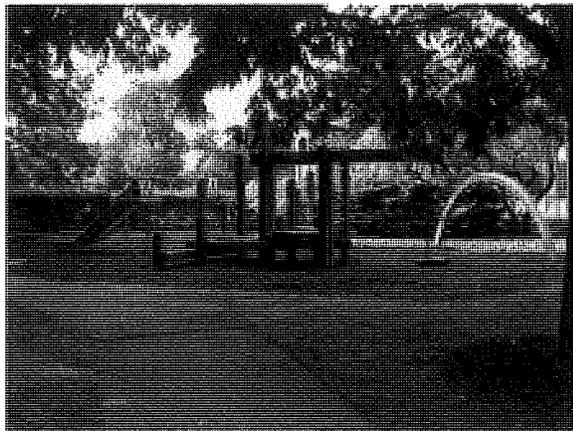
- asphalt pavement path through park
- concrete seating area
- one light fixture
- playground equipment for tots and 6-12 age
- one park identification sign at southeast corner
- split rail wood fencing along streets
- six benches
- three trash receptacles



Alexander Park – Walkways

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

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*Alexander Park - Playground*

### Evaluation:

#### Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood residential west of Park
- mature trees and landscape throughout park
- open space along Ridge Avenue
- open character of the Park

#### Liabilities:

- pedestrian lighting is in poor condition and very ineffective/inefficient
- the concrete paving in the seating area is in poor condition, cracked, and uneven
- the asphalt path through the park is narrow and in poor condition
- the existing sign at the corner is old and outdated – too large for the area
- six benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- the drinking fountain is not ADA compliant
- the chain link fence along the north property boundary is old and rusted
- the existing playground structures are old, do not comply with safety guidelines, and are not ADA compliant

#### Last Improvements:

Made in 1993, which included \$18,000 for Safety modifications to play equipment.

### **BAKER PARK** (see Figure 5)

Size: 1.37 acres

Ward: 3

#### Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

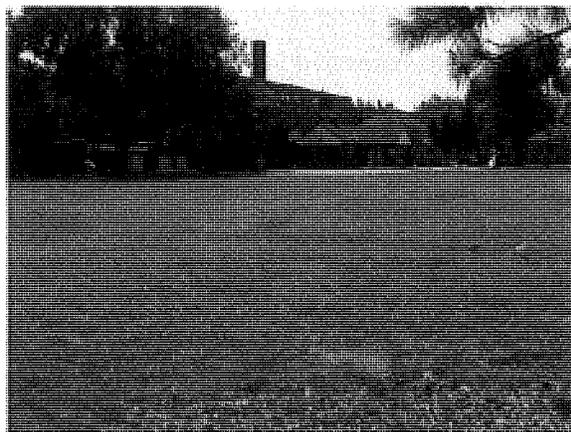
Location: South of Keeney Street and East of Forest Avenue

#### Description:

Located at the southeast corner of Keeney and Forest Streets, Baker Park is highly visible and accessible to the community and the neighborhood surrounding the Park. The park contains a range of recreational facilities – playground, athletic field, basketball court, and restroom building.

#### Existing Facilities:

- one softball field with backstop
- one basketball court
- ice skating (flooded grass area)
- concrete and limestone screenings interior paths
- playground equipment for tots
- playground equipment for 6-12 age
- seven benches
- five trash receptacles



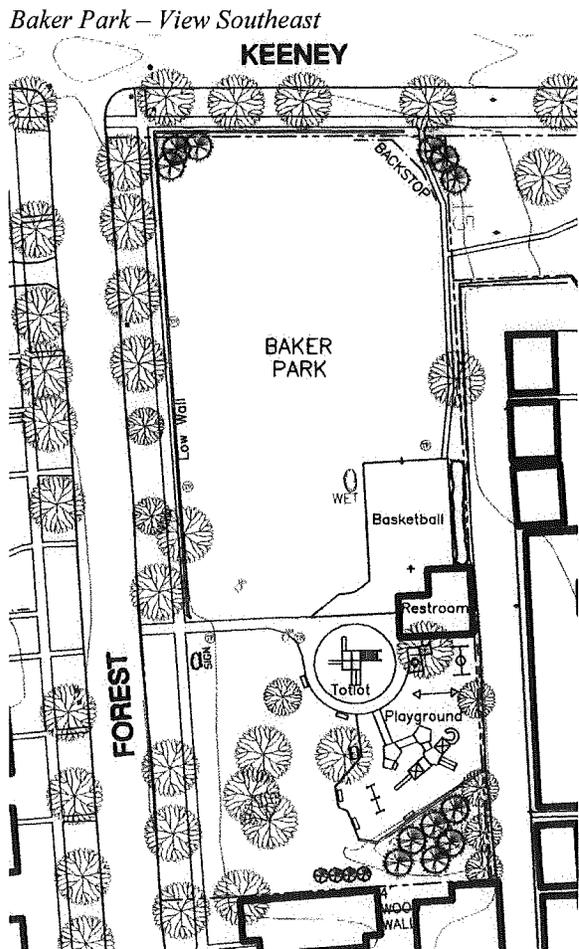


Figure 5: Baker Park

- one table-seat
- two picnic tables
- chain link fencing along boundary
- restroom building
- 12 shade trees
- 15 evergreen trees

Evaluation:

Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood residential surrounding the Park
- mature trees and landscape throughout park
- open space
- open character of the Park
- range of recreational facilities

Liabilities:

- turf areas around the building and open area are level and poorly drained creating poor turf conditions
- concrete surfacing in front of restroom building and the entrance from the alley is in poor and uneven condition
- the limestone path along the east boundary is narrow and in poor condition
- the softball field backstop is small and in poor condition
- basketball court asphalt surfacing is cracked and in poor condition
- the existing sign at the corner is old and outdated – too large for the area
- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- the drinking fountain is not ADA compliant
- the chain link fence along the east property boundary is old and rusted
- the existing playground equipment is old, does not comply with safety guidelines, and are not ADA compliant

Last Improvements:

Made in 1994, which included \$74,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- benches



Baker Park - Playground

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

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*Baker Park – Building Area*

- drinking fountain
- landscape
- restroom ADA upgrades

### Building:

For conditions and evaluation of restroom building, see following section “Park Buildings Inventory and Evaluation.”

### **Eugene BECK PARK** (see Figure 6)

Size: 6.50 acres

Ward: 5

### Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

Leased: From Metropolitan Water Reclamation District

Location: East of Canal between Lyons Street and Emerson Street

### Description:

Beck Park is located along the east side of the Canal in the far western portion of Evanston, and south of Emerson Street. The Park is primarily open with picnic areas, playground, and

walkway. It is part of the linear park/open space system bordering the canal.

### Existing Facilities:

- asphalt pedestrian path
- one park identification sign
- brick entrance area for playground
- two tot swings
- six 6-12 year olds swings
- playground for 6-12 year olds
- two benches
- three trash receptacles
- six picnic tables
- one drinking fountain
- two cooking grills
- chain link fence along boundary
- wood post-rail fence around cul-de-sacs
- 118 shade trees
- seven evergreen trees
- 27 ornamental trees

### Evaluation:

#### Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood residential surrounding the Park
- mature trees and landscape throughout park
- open space
- open character of the Park



*Beck Park – View North*

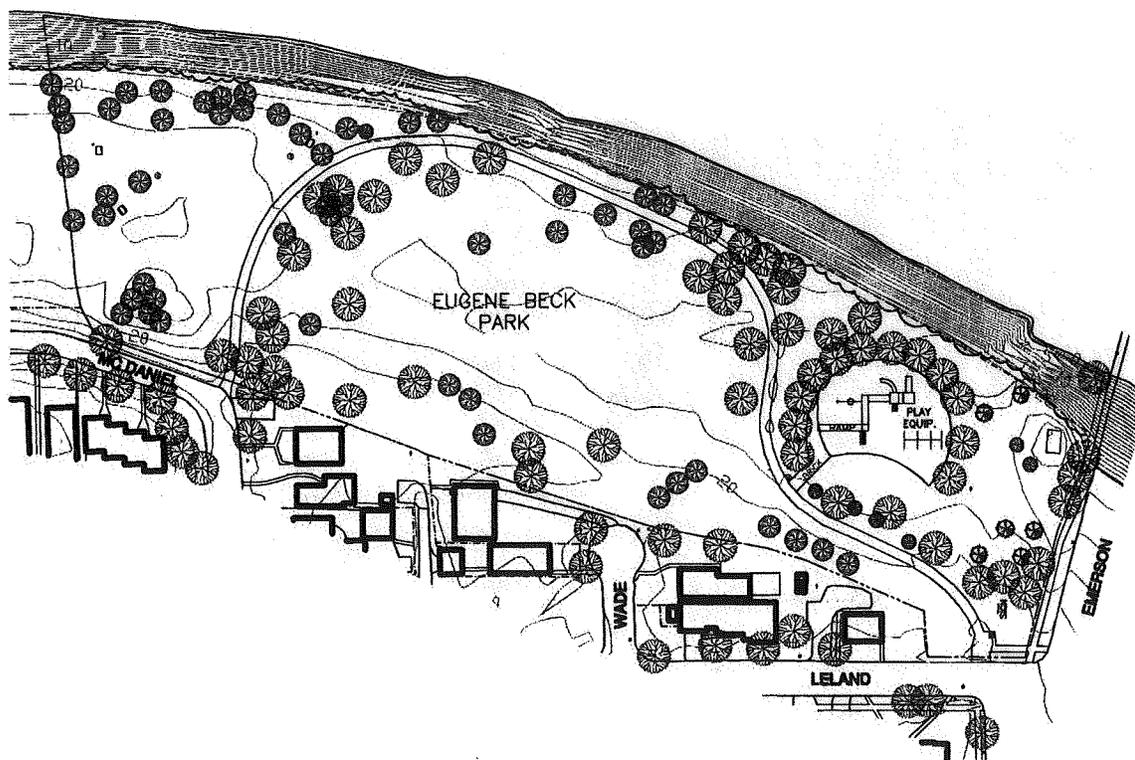


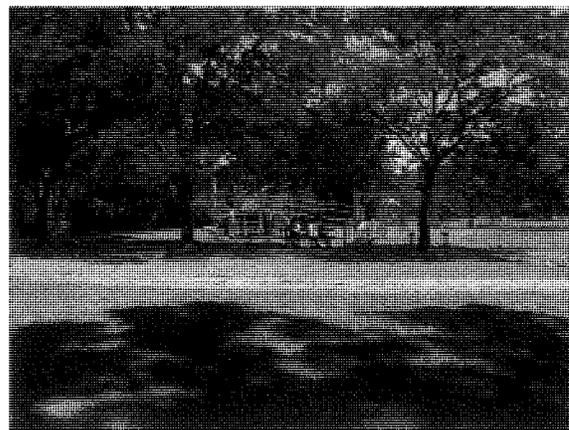
Figure 6: Beck Park

**Liabilities:**

- turf areas are level and poorly drained creating poor turf conditions
- concrete pavement at northeast corner is cracked, uneven and in poor condition
- the asphalt path through park is narrow and in poor condition
- the existing playground structures are old, do not comply with safety guidelines, and are not ADA compliant
- brick paving providing access to playground is in poor condition and uneven surfacing
- chain link fencing along west property boundary (canal) is rusted and in poor condition
- the existing sign at the corner is old and outdated – too large for the area
- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- trees are old and several have been removed

**Last Improvements:**

- Made in 1984, which included \$56,000 for the following:
- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
  - benches and picnic tables
  - brick paving
  - landscape



*Beck Park – Playground*

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

---



*Beck Park – View South from Emerson*

- asphalt pathways

### **Horace E. BENT PARK** (see Figure 7)

Size: 4.10 acres

Ward: 6

Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

Location: South of Central Avenue and East of Cowper Street

Description:

With streets on three sides, Bent Park is highly visible and accessible to the neighborhood on the south side of Central Street. While primarily a neighborhood park, this facility meets mini-park needs for residents in the surrounding area.

Existing Facilities:

- sign and landscape
- concrete pedestrian path
- service/Access drive to building
- restroom and Daycare building
- one softball field with backstop
- one basketball court

- one soccer field
- two tennis courts with benches
- playground for tots
- playground for 6-12 year olds
- thirteen benches
- five trash receptacles
- one bicycle rack
- four picnic tables
- one drinking fountain
- chain-link fencing around tennis courts
- split rail fence by play area
- one bus stop
- 63 shade trees
- nine evergreen trees
- eight light fixtures
- two flood light fixtures

Evaluation:

Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood residential surrounding the Park
- mature trees and landscape throughout park
- open space
- open character of the Park
- playground

Liabilities:

- turf areas are level and poorly drained creating poor turf conditions



*Bent Park – Building and Playground*

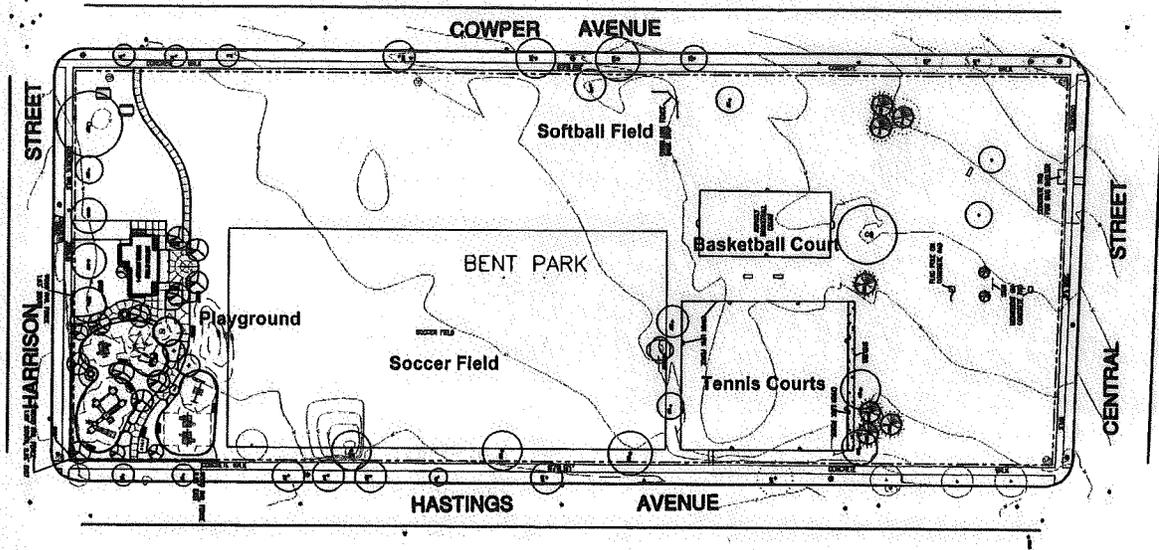


Figure 7: Bent Park

- existing lighting around the building and playground is in poor condition and inefficient
- the asphalt service drive to the building is in poor condition
- tennis court color surfacing is worn
- tennis court fencing is old and in poor condition
- the basketball surfacing is in poor condition and cracked
- basketball and tennis courts do not have an accessible path
- soccer field needs to be regarded for better drainage
- the existing sign on Central Avenue is old and outdated – too large for the area
- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- existing bus shelter on Central Avenue is in poor condition and poorly located in relationship to the park
- street trees are lacking along Central Avenue, Cowper Avenue, and Hastings Avenue
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- trees are old and several have been removed

Last Improvements:

Made in 1999, which included \$132,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- benches
- picnic tables
- drinking fountain
- landscape



*Bent Park – View North*

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

---



*Bent Park – Basketball and Tennis Courts*

### Building:

For conditions and evaluation of restroom building, see following section “Park Buildings Inventory and Evaluation.”

### **BOAT RAMP** (see Figure 8)

Size: 3.00 acres

Ward: 1

### Classification

Function: Special Park

Location: East of Dawes Park on Lake Michigan

### Description:

The Boat Ramp is located on the east side of Dawes Park and provides boat access to Lake Michigan. The Boat Ramp is protected by a rip-rap breakwater on the north and east sides. Access to the ramp is provided from Sheridan Road, with parking for cars and trailers only provided to the north of the entrance drive. In addition, a dog beach is provided on the north side of the breakwater.

### Existing Facilities:

- boat parking lot
- dog beach
- boat launch drive
- boat launch ramp with 2 lanes
- rip-rap breakwater/pier

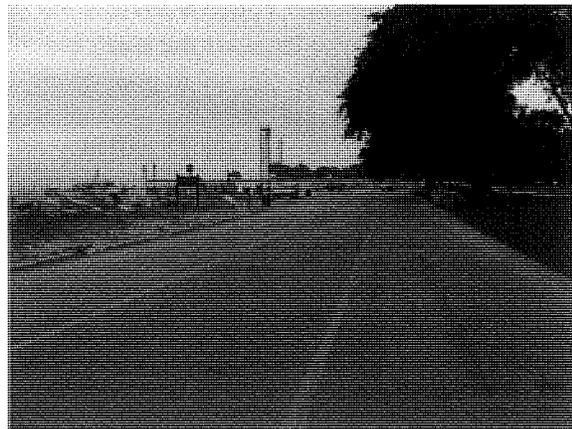
### Evaluation:

#### Assets:

- walkway on pier provides viewing of lake and City panorama
- beach area for dogs
- floating pier
- boat access to Lake Michigan

#### Liabilities:

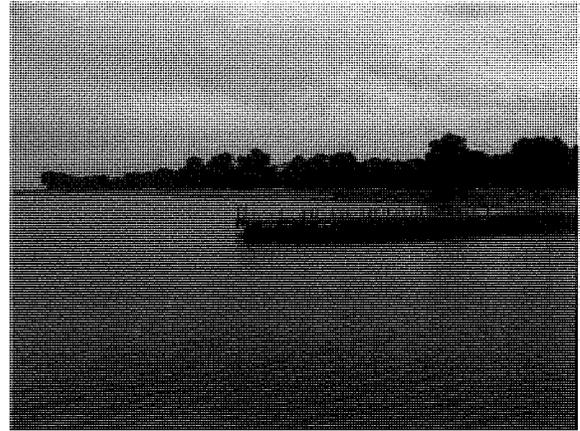
- dog beach is not ADA accessible
- the entrance drive needs to be resurfaced – paving is in poor condition
- parking lot for boat users is in poor condition – needs to be resurfaced and new curbing
- the concrete ramp for boat access is not long enough due to the low level of Lake Michigan
- the rip-rap breakwater needs to be modified
- signage for the breakwater needs to be modified and updated
- gates and fencing for the breakwater are in poor condition and need upgrading



*Boat Ramp – Access Drive and Boat Ramp*



Boat Ramp – Dog Beach



Boat Ramp – View from Pier North

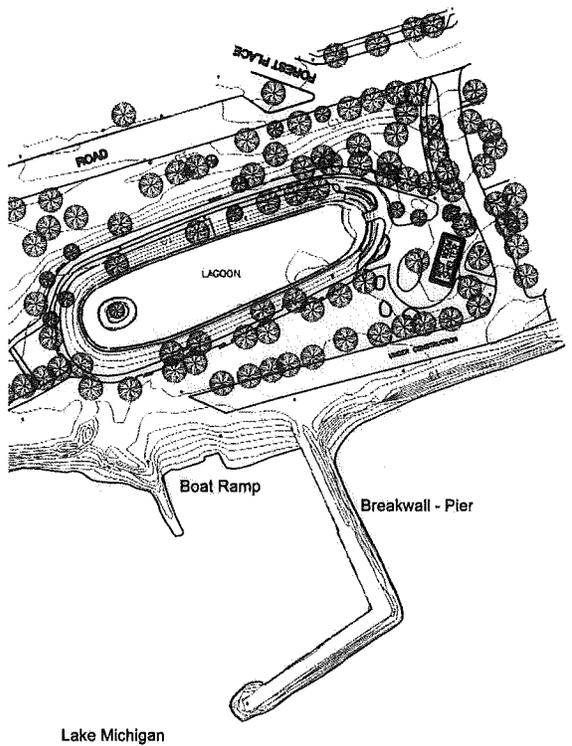


Figure 8: Boat Ramp

Last Improvements:

Made in 1999, which included \$56,000 for paving improvements.

**BRUMMEL-RICHMOND TOTLOT**

(see Figure 9)

Size: 0.16 acres

Ward: 8

Classification

Function: Totlot Park

Location: North of Brummel Street and West of Richmond Avenue

Description:

Brummel-Richmond Totlot is a small park serving the immediate residential neighborhood. The park provides playground equipment and seating.

Existing Facilities:

- concrete walk to playground equipment area
- playground equipment for tots
- four benches
- one trash receptacle
- one drinking fountain
- two rail wood fence along streets
- chain link fence along north and west-boundaries
- 6 shade trees

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES



*Brummel-Richmond Totlot – View North*

- 1 ornamental tree

### Evaluation:

#### Assets:

- good accessibility to residential surrounding the Park
- provides playground equipment for tots and older children
- open space

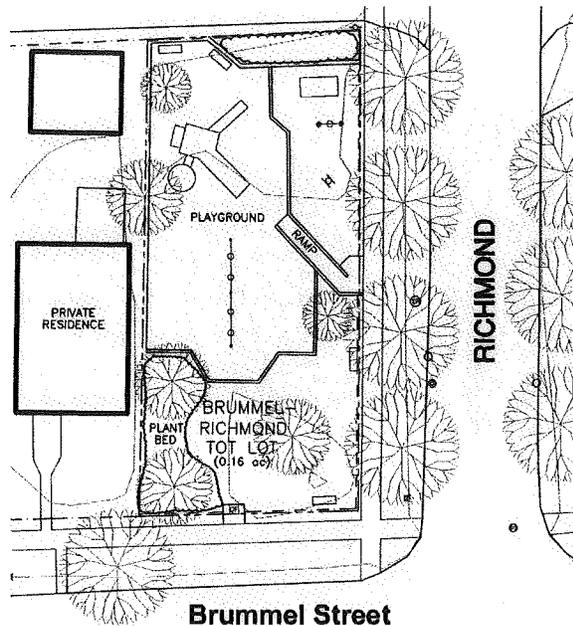
#### Liabilities:

- portions of the exterior sidewalk are poor condition
- the existing chain link fencing along the north boundary is rusted and in poor condition
- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums

### Last Improvements:

Made in 1996, which included \$56,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- benches
- concrete walks
- drinking fountain
- landscape
- fencing



MMEI

**Figure 9: Brummel-Richmond Totlot**



*Brummel-Richmond Totlot*

**BURNHAM SHORES PARK**

(see Figure 10)

Size: 5.02 acres

Ward: 3

Classification

Function: Community Park  
Lakefront Park

Location: Lakefront – Sheridan Road between Denspater Street and Hamilton Street

Description:

Burnham Shores Park is part of the Lakefront Park System. It provides a variety of recreation activities, including walking/jogging/bike paths, tennis courts, and picnicking.

Existing Facilities:

- two tennis courts
- two bang boards on tennis courts
- one grass volleyball court
- asphalt bike-pedestrian path
- cinder jogging path
- limestone screenings path
- playground equipment for tots
- playground equipment for 6-12 age

- twelve benches
- eleven trash receptacles
- five bike racks
- four picnic tables
- one drinking fountain
- one cooking grill
- one park identification sign
- one light fixture
- rip-rap along lake
- 79 shade trees
- 16 ornamental trees

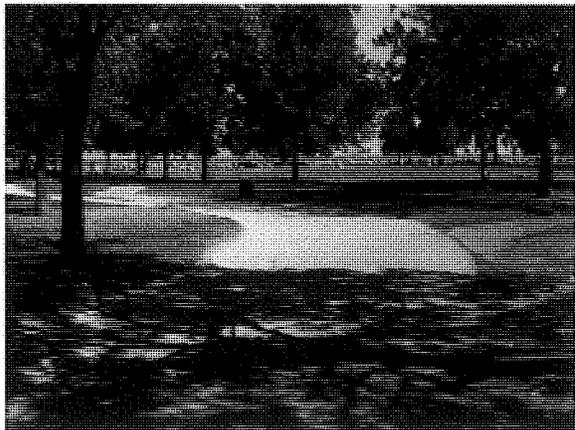
Evaluation:

Assets:

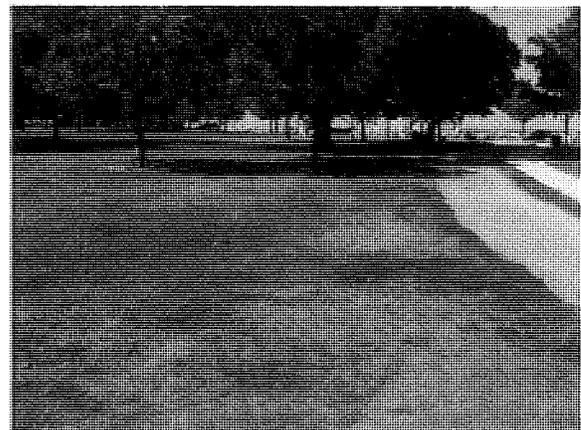
- Lakefront Park System
- mature trees and landscape throughout park
- open space
- open character of the Park
- views and adjacent to Lake Michigan

Liabilities:

- turf areas are level and poorly drained creating poor turf conditions
- existing light fixtures are inadequate and inefficient
- existing limestone path and edging is in poor condition
- the existing cinder path and edging is in poor condition



*Burnham Shores Park – Path and Picnic Areas*



*Burnham Shores Park - Paths*

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

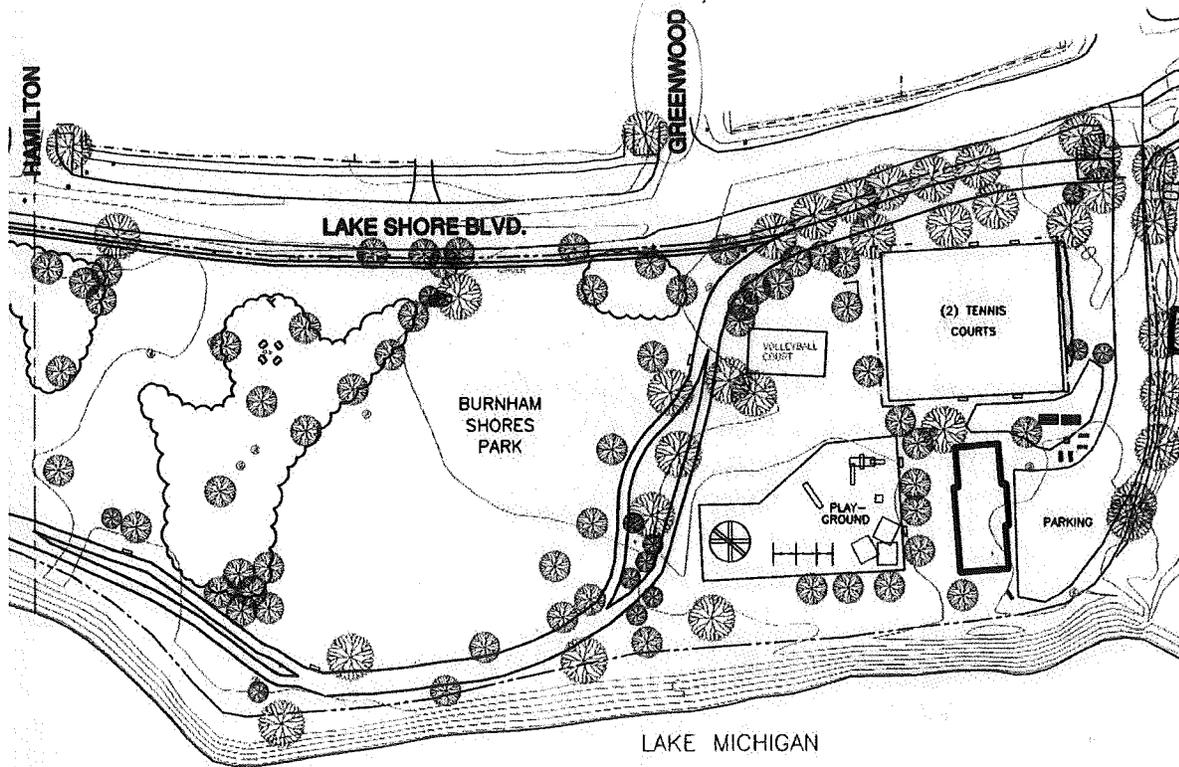


Figure 10: Burnham Shores Park

- tennis court surfacing is cracked and in poor condition
- tennis court fencing is old and rusted
- tennis court posts and nets are old and worn
- the existing playground structures are old, do not comply with safety guidelines, and are not ADA compliant
- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- drinking fountain is not ADA compliant
- trees are old and several have been removed
- picnic tables are old and not ADA compliant

### Last Improvements:

Made in 1977, which included \$11,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing

### Building:

For conditions and evaluation of restroom building, see following section "Park Buildings Inventory and Evaluation."



*Burnham Shores Park - Playground*

**Isabella BUTLER PARK** (see Figure 11)

Size: 11.9 acres

Ward: 5

Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

Leased: From Metropolitan Water Reclamation District

Location: East of Canal between Bridge Street and Emerson Street

Description:

Butler Park is located along the east side of the Canal in the far western portion of Evanston, and north of Emerson Street. The Park is primarily open with picnic areas, playground, and walkway. It is part of the linear park/open space system bordering the canal.

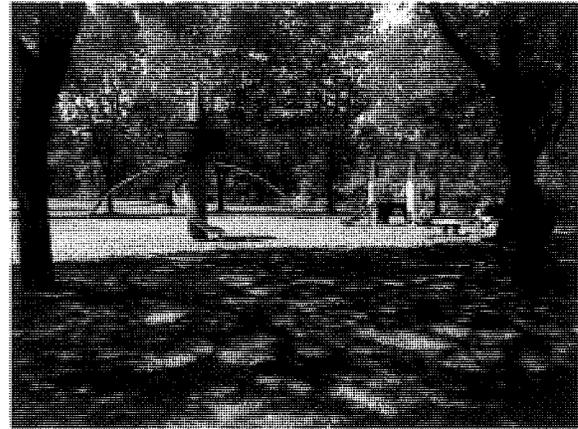
Existing Facilities:

- sign and landscape
- two softball fields with backstops
- concrete sidewalk along boundary
- asphalt pedestrian path
- playground equipment for 6-12 year olds
- four benches
- four trash receptacles
- chain link fence along boundary
- wood post-rail fence along cul-de-sacs
- 122 shade trees
- 47 ornamental trees
- one light fixtures
- two cobra light fixtures

Evaluation:

Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood residential surrounding the Park
- mature trees and landscape throughout park



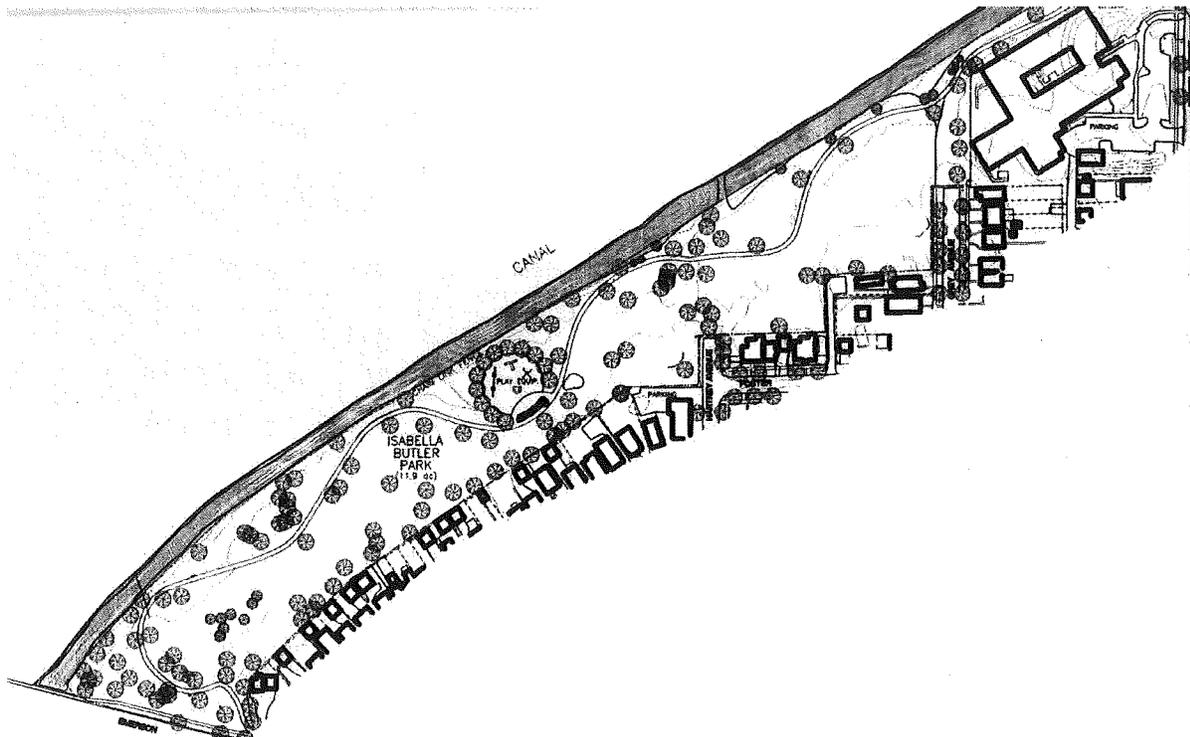
*Butler Park - Playground*

- open space
- open character of the Park

Liabilities:

- turf areas are level and poorly drained creating poor turf conditions
- pathway through park is not lit
- asphalt path is in poor condition and poorly drained
- the existing playground structures are old, do not comply with safety guidelines, and are not ADA compliant
- the existing sign on Emerson Street is old and outdated – too large for the area
- chain link fencing along west property boundary (canal) is rusted and in poor condition
- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- trees are old and several have been removed
- the telephone pole barriers along Hartrey and Grey Avenues are in poor condition and inappropriate

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES



**Figure 11: Butler Park**

### Last Improvements:

Made in 1986, which included \$38,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- benches and picnic tables
- landscape
- asphalt pathways



*Butler Park – Pathway at North End*



*Butler Park – Open Space*

**Charles CARTWRIGHT PARK**

(see Figure 12)

Size: 2.50 acres

Ward: 6

Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

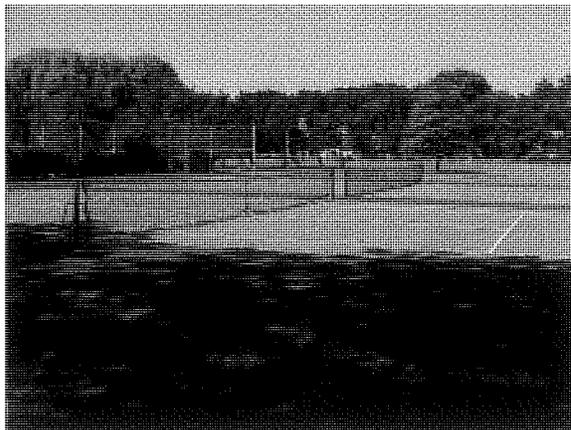
Location: South of Grant Street and East of Prospect Avenue

Description:

With streets on two sides, Cartwright Park is highly visible and accessible to the neighborhood surrounding the Park. While primarily a neighborhood park, this facility meets mini-park needs for residents in the surrounding area.

Existing Facilities:

- sign and landscape
- asphalt pedestrian path
- one basketball court
- two tennis courts with bench
- tennis court fencing
- playground for tots
- playground for 6-12 year olds
- gazebo
- ten benches



*Cartwright Park – Tennis and Basketball Courts*

- three trash receptacles
- one drinking fountain
- chain link fence along South side
- split rail fence along west side
- one sculpture
- 21 shade trees
- 17 evergreen trees
- two ornamental trees
- one square light fixture
- two light fixture

Evaluation:

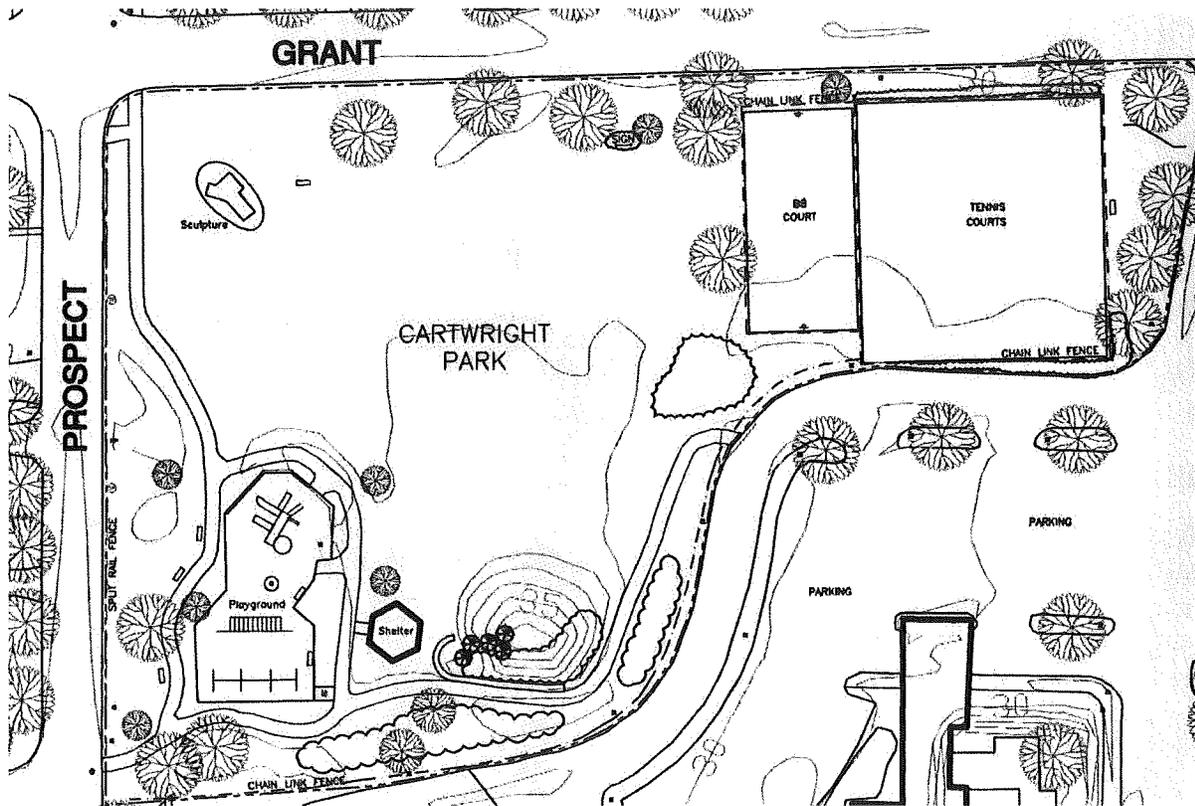
Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood residential surrounding the Park
- mature trees and landscape throughout park
- open space
- open character of the Park
- variety of recreational facilities serving neighborhood

Liabilities:

- turf areas are level and poorly drained creating poor turf conditions
- area around sculpture play piece is poorly drained, and does not have proper safety zones
- existing asphalt paths are in poor condition and do not provide linkage of existing facilities
- tennis court surfacing is cracked and in poor condition
- tennis court fencing is old and rusted
- tennis court posts and nets are old and worn
- basketball court asphalt surfacing is cracked and in poor condition
- basketball backboards are in poor condition
- player benches need to be replaced
- the existing playground structures are old, do not comply with safety guidelines, and are not ADA compliant
- existing benches are old and in poor condition

**INVENTORY OF RESOURCES**



**Figure 12: Cartwright Park**

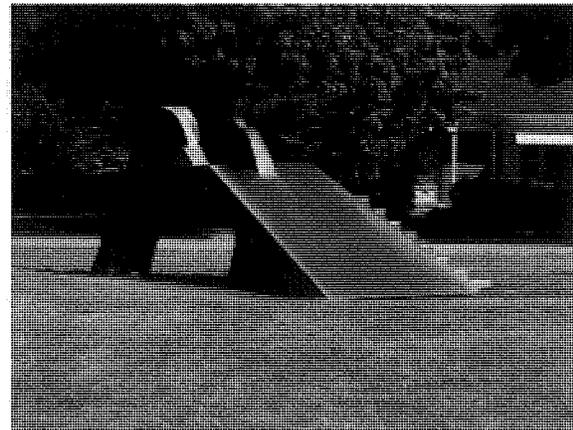
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- ADA access needs to be provided to playground
- fencing along Prospect Avenue is too close to roadway and in poor condition
- trees are lacking along Grant Avenue and Prospect Avenue

Last Improvements:

Made in 1993, which included \$68,000 for the following:



*Cartwright Park - Playground*

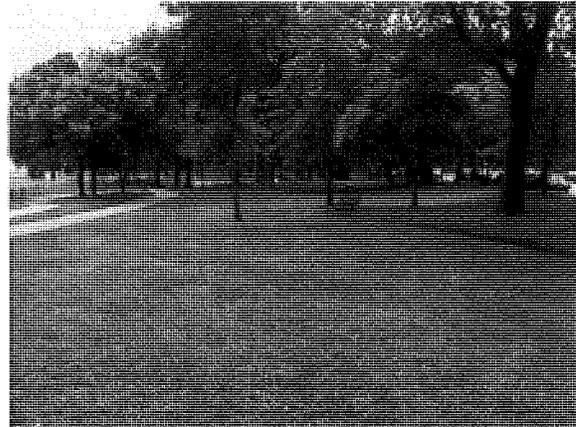


*Cartwright Park - Play Sculpture*

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- benches
- asphalt pathways
- drinking fountain
- landscape
- gazebo

Gazebo:

For conditions and evaluation of the Gazebo structure, see following section “Park Buildings Inventory and Evaluation.”



*Centennial Park – View South*

**CENTENNIAL PARK - CLARK STREET BEACH**

(see Figure 13)

Size: 12.30 acres

Ward: 1

Classification

Function: Community Park  
Lakefront Park

Location: Lakefront – Sheridan Road between Church Street and University Place

Description:

Centennial Park and Clark Street Beach are part of the Lakefront Park System. It provides a variety of recreation activities, including swimming beach, walking/jogging/bike paths, and picnicking.

Existing Facilities:

- park sign and landscape
- asphalt bike and pedestrian path
- cinder jogging path
- limestone screenings jogging path
- picnic area
- restroom Storage Building

- five benches
- eleven trash receptacles
- eighteen picnic tables
- one drinking fountain
- six cooking grills
- temporary wood fence along beach
- one telephone
- one pop machine
- rip-rap along lake
- 23 light fixtures
- 181 shade trees
- 35 ornamental trees
- 4 volleyball courts

Beach Area

- six sand volleyball courts
- two trash receptacles
- two bike racks
- temporary wood snow fence along boundary
- one sign
- three lifeguard towers
- rip-rap along lake
- swimming facilities
- breakwater

Evaluation:

Assets:

- part of Lakefront Park System
- mature trees and landscape throughout park
- open character of the Park
- open space

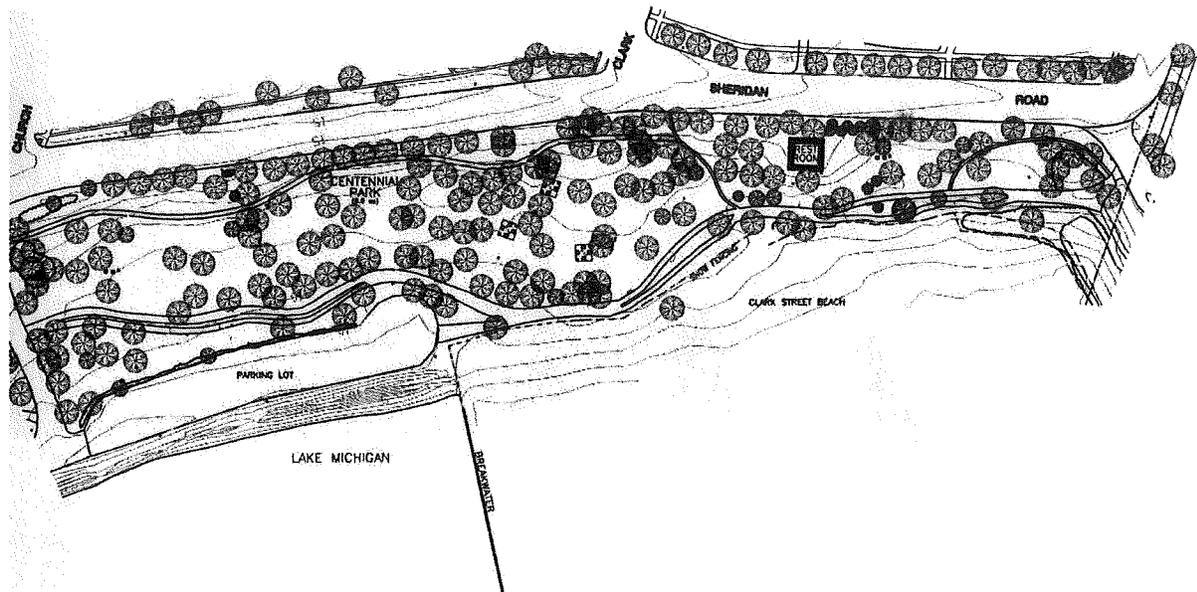
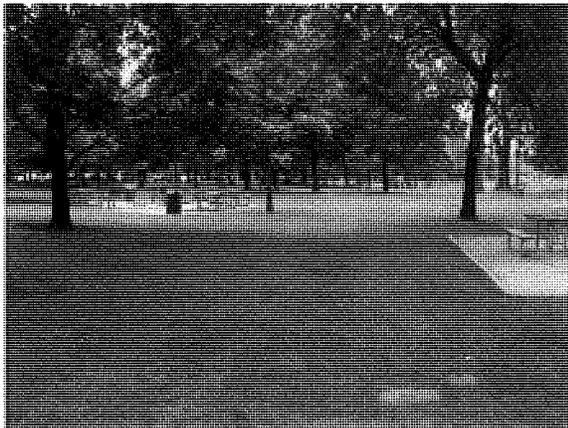


Figure 13: Centennial Park – Clark Street Beach

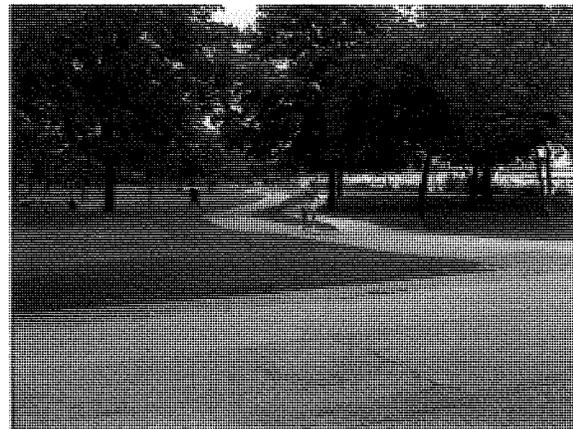
- views and adjacent to Lake Michigan
- swimming beach

Liabilities:

- the existing light fixtures are inadequate and inefficient
- the cinder path and edging is in poor condition
- the limestone path and edging is in poor condition
- entrance to Clark Street Beach is in poor condition and ineffective
- ADA to the beach is lacking
- the existing asphalt pavement through the park is in poor condition
- the existing signs (2) are in poor condition and inappropriate to the park and beach
- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- bike parking areas are in poor condition
- picnic tables are in poor condition and not ADA compliant
- exercise stations are in poor condition



Centennial Park – Picnic Areas



Centennial Park – Path System

- the snow fencing along the beach for control is in poor control and ineffective
- access to the breakwater is dangerous

Building:

For conditions and evaluation of restroom building, see following section “Park Buildings Inventory and Evaluation.”

**CHANDLER PARK and CHANDLER-NEWBERGER COMMUNITY CENTER** (see Figure 13)

Size: 3.20 acres

Ward: 7

Classification

Function: Community Park

Location: North of Lincoln Street and West of CTA

Description:

With streets on two sides, Chandler Park is highly visible and accessible to the neighborhood on the south and west side of Park. While primarily a neighborhood park, this facility meets Community needs with the Chandler-Newberger Community Center for residents in the community. It is adjacent to Peter Jans Golf Course

Existing Facilities:

- sign and landscape
- concrete pedestrian and access path
- one ½ court basketball court
- playground for tots
- Chandler Newburg Community Center Building
- three benches
- eight trash receptacles



*Chandler Park – Building entrance Area*

- three bicycles racks
- six picnic tables
- chain link fencing along east and south boundary
- 12 shade trees
- one evergreen tree
- four ornamental trees
- two light fixtures

Evaluation:

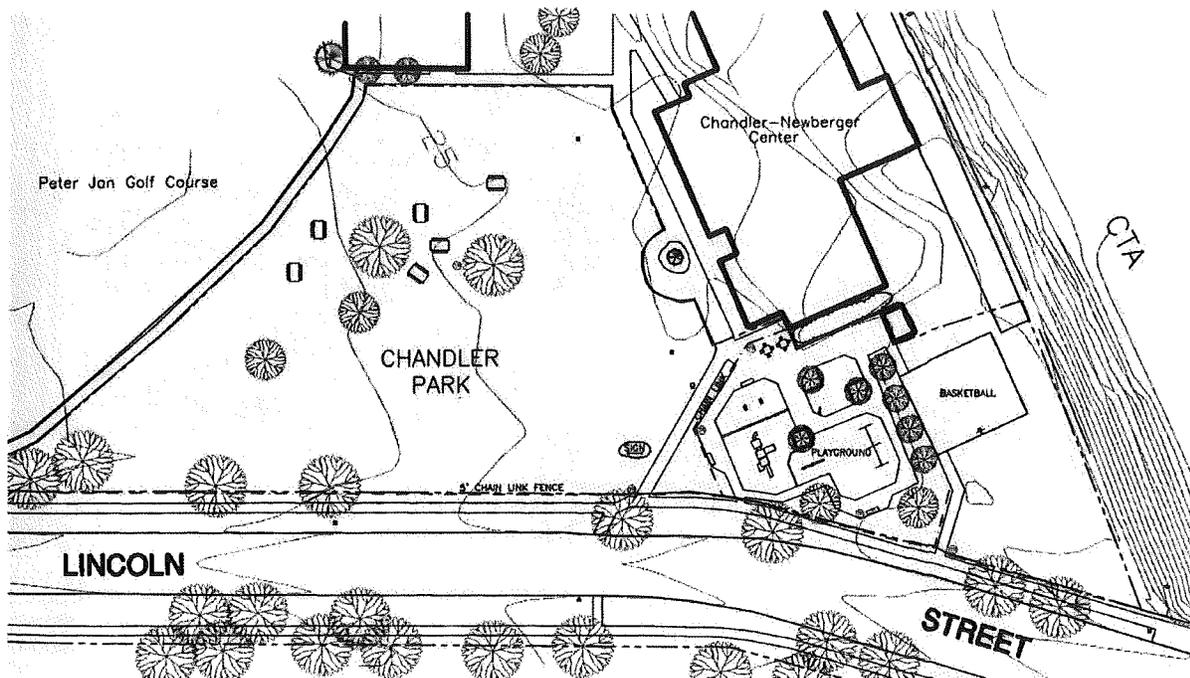
Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood residential surrounding the Park
- mature trees and landscape throughout park
- open space
- open character of the Park

Liabilities:

- turf areas are level and poorly drained creating poor turf conditions
- drainage conditions on the west side of the building is poor and floods
- the parking, drop-off area and vehicular circulation is poor and needs to be redesigned to improve efficiency and function
- concrete walks to the building are too narrow – entrance to the building is confusing
- existing ½ basketball court surfacing is in poor condition
- existing benches are old and in poor condition

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES



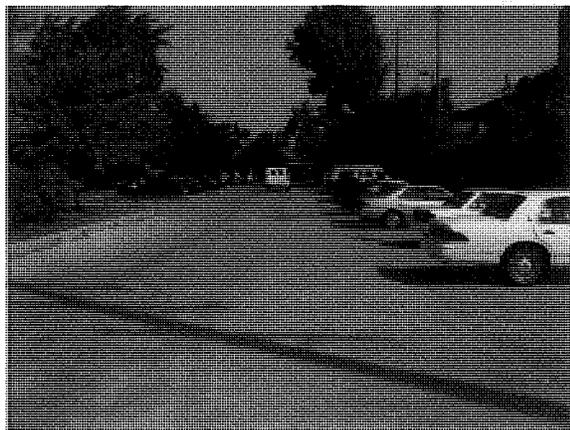
**Figure 13: Chandler Park and Chandler-Newberger Community Center**

- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- picnic tables are old and in poor condition and not ADA compliant
- fencing surrounding playground is in poor condition
- fencing along CTA embankment is in poor condition
- parking lot lighting is poor and inefficient

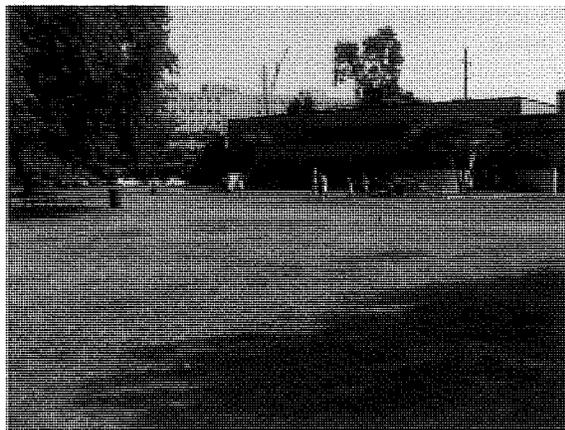
Last Improvements:

Made in 1994, which included \$100,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- fencing
- concrete walks
- storage shelter
- landscape



*Chandler Park - Parking Lot*



*Chandler Park - Open Space/Field*

Building:

For conditions and evaluation of restroom building, see following section "Park Buildings Inventory and Evaluation."

**CLARK SQUARE PARK**

(see Figure 14)

Size: 4.90 acres

Ward: 3

Classification

Function: Lakefront Park

Location: Lakefront – Sheridan Road North of Kedzie Street

Description:

Clark Square Park is part of the Lakefront Park System. It provides limited recreation activities, including walking/jogging/bike paths and picnicking.

Existing Facilities:

- limestone screening jogging path
- concrete walk along lake
- asphalt walks along east and central



*Clark Square Park – Parking Area*



*Clark Square Park – Walk Along Sheridan Road*

- one sand box
- six benches
- six trash receptacles
- one picnic table
- one drinking fountain
- one sign on Sheridan Road
- one street light in parking lot
- rip-rap along lake
- 16 parking spaces on south side
- 101 shade trees
- 6 evergreen trees
- 13 ornamental trees

Evaluation:

Assets:

- Lakefront Park System
- mature trees and landscape throughout park
- open space
- open character of the Park
- views and adjacent to Lake Michigan

Liabilities:

- the existing light fixtures are inadequate and inefficient
- the cinder path and edging is in poor condition
- the limestone path and edging is in poor condition
- existing asphalt paths within the park are in poor and deteriorated condition

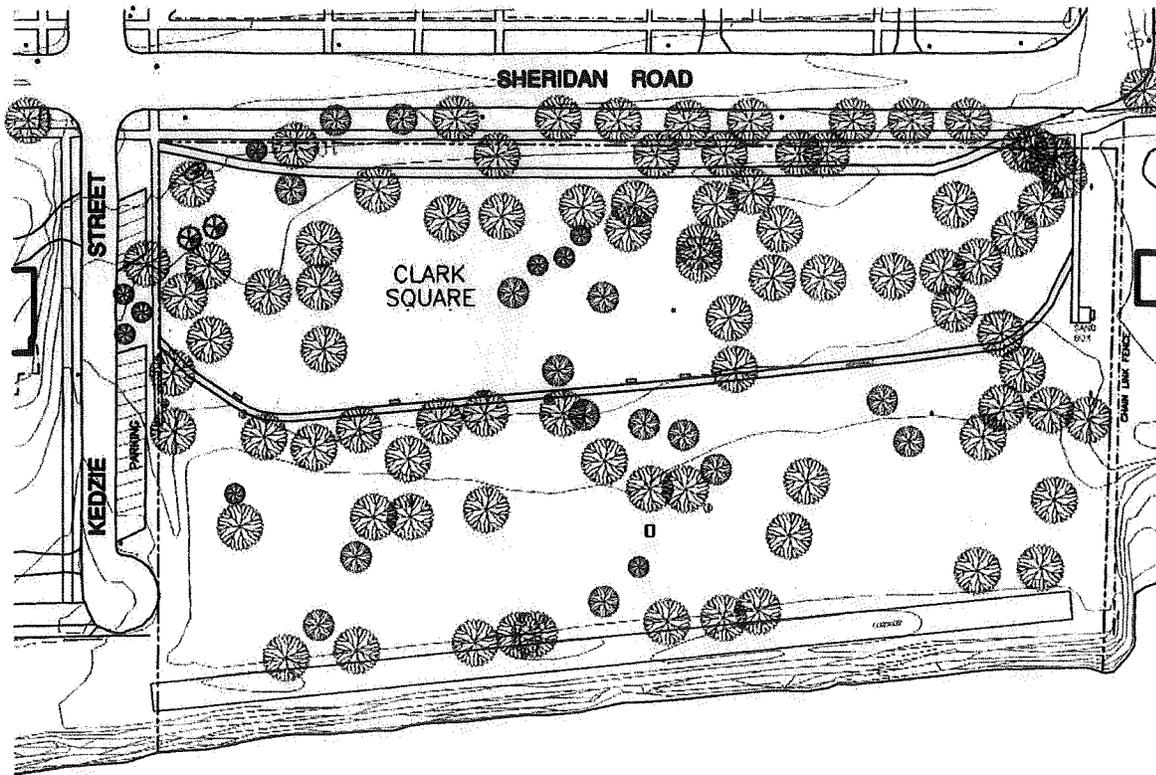
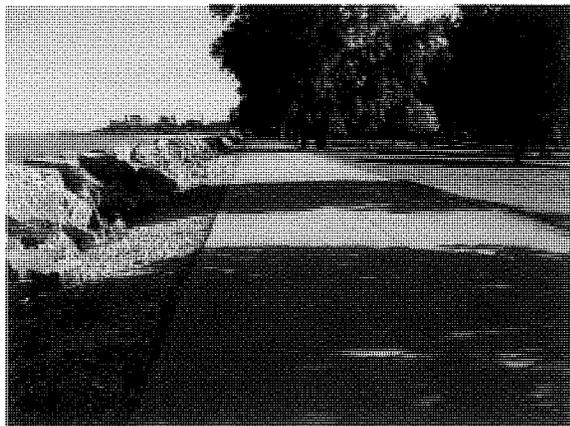


Figure 14: Clark Square Park

- the existing sign is in poor condition and inappropriate to the park and beach
- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- picnic tables are in poor condition and not ADA compliant
- drinking fountains not ADA compliant



Clark Square Park – Walk Along Lake

**CLYDE-BRUMMEL PARK**

(see Figure 15)

Size: 0.60 acres

Ward: 8

Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

Location: North of Brummel Street at Clyde Avenue

Description:

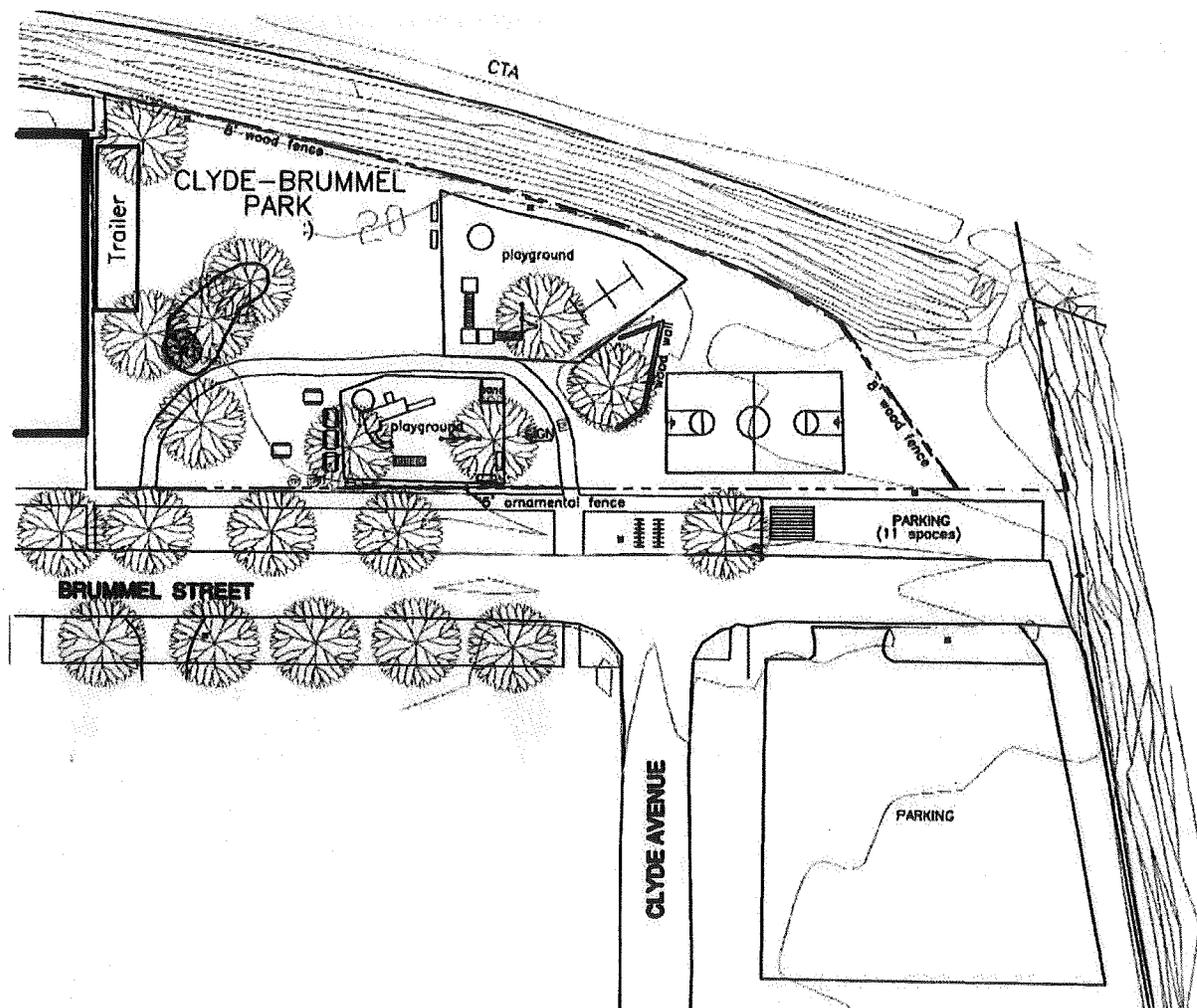
Clyde-Brummel Park is a neighborhood park serving the southeast area of Evanston. The Park contains limited recreational facilities with a playground, picnic area, basketball court and a temporary building for recreational programs.



*Clyde-Brummel Park – Basketball Court*

Existing Facilities:

- one basketball court
- asphalt walks and surfacing within the park
- playground equipment for tots
- playground equipment for 6-12 age
- trailer Building



**Figure 15: Clyde-Brummel Park**

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

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- four benches
- three trash receptacles
- two bike racks
- five picnic tables
- one bleacher
- one drinking fountain
- plywood fence along north boundary
- 6 shade trees
- 3 ornamental trees

### Evaluation:

#### Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood residential surrounding the Park on the south and west

#### Liabilities:

- turf areas and paved areas are level and poorly drained creating poor turf conditions
- the existing light fixtures are inadequate and inefficient
- basketball color coating surfacing is in poor condition
- existing basketball bleacher is in poor condition
- the existing playground structures are old, do not comply with safety guidelines, and are not ADA compliant
- the existing sign is in poor condition and inappropriate to the park and beach

- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- picnic tables are in poor condition and not ADA compliant
- bike racks are in poor condition

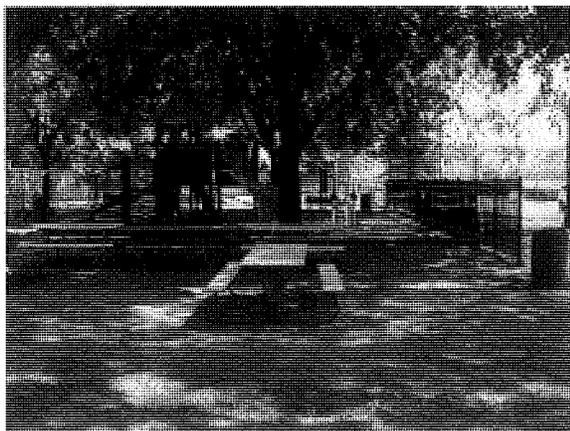
### Last Improvements:

Made in 1992, which included \$48,000 for the following:

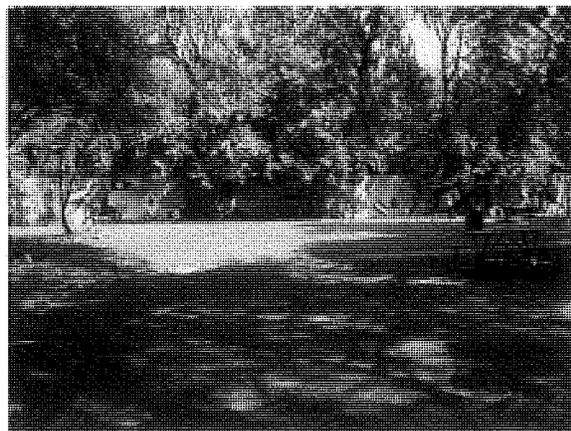
- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- fencing
- asphalt walks
- retaining wall
- landscape

### Building:

For conditions and evaluation of restroom building, see following section "Park Buildings Inventory and Evaluation."



*Clyde-Brummel Park – Playground Area*



*Clyde-Brummel Park – Open Space Area*

**CONGREGATION PARK**

(see Figure 16)

Size: 0.67 acres

Ward: 1

Classification

Function: Vest Pocket Park

Location: North of Lake Street and West of Judson Avenue

Description:

Congregation Park is a small park on the east side of the Church west of Hinman Avenue. The Park has a small sculpture garden and seating area, and is primarily open space in the neighborhood.

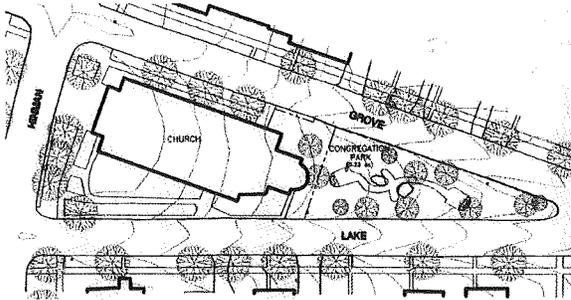


Figure 16: Congregation Park

Existing Facilities:

- two paved seating areas
- two benches
- one bird bath
- ten shade trees
- two ornamental trees
- one light fixture

Evaluation:

Assets:

- open space
- attractive seating area and visual focus to the intersection



Congregation Park

Liabilities:

- no accessible walkway exists to the garden path
- the utility structures are unsightly on the northwest corner of the site

Last Improvements:

Made in 1992, which included \$22,000 for the following:

- two paved seating areas
- two benches
- one bird bath
- ten shade trees
- two ornamental trees
- one light fixture



Congregation Park

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

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### **CROWN PARK and COMMUNITY CENTER** (see Figure 17)

Size: 16.50 acres

Ward: 4

Classification

Function: Community Park

Location: North of Main Street and East of Dodge Avenue

Description:

With streets on three sides, Crown Park is highly visible and accessible to the surrounding neighborhood and the community. The Park contain a variety of active recreational facilities in addition the Crown Community Center which has indoor ice skating facilities.

Existing Facilities:

- one softball field lighted, with backstop, two bleachers, and two benches
- one softball field lighted, with backstop, two bleachers, and one bench
- four lighted tennis courts
- one lighted skateboard park
- one lighted roller hockey rink
- one lighted football fields



*Crown Park – Lighted Athletic Fields*

- one regulation soccer field
- eight small soccer fields for young children
- driveway and parking lot for 43 cars
- one bench
- seventeen trash receptacles
- three drinking fountains
- chain link fencing along south, west and north
- four park identification signs
- 80 shade trees
- 11 evergreen trees
- 2 ornamental trees

Evaluation:

Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood and community
- major athletic facilities serving the community
- open space
- variety of recreational facilities

Liabilities:

- turf areas are level and poorly drained creating poor turf conditions for athletic fields
- the existing parking lot light fixtures are inadequate and inefficient
- parking lot surfacing and curbing is in poor condition and needs resurfacing and new curbing



*Crown Park – Tennis Courts*

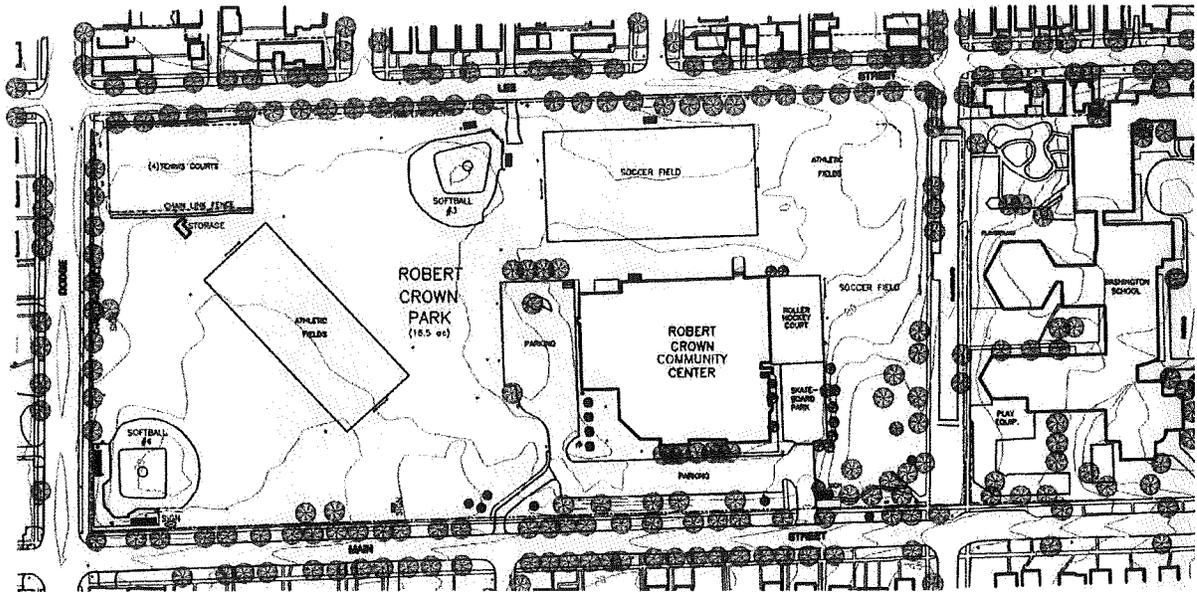


Figure 17: Crown Park and Community Center

- tennis court surfacing is cracked and in poor condition
- tennis court fencing is rusted and in poor condition
- tennis court lighting is old and inefficient
- ballfield backstops, fencing, dugouts, and bleacher pads are in poor condition
- all chain link fencing along park boundaries in poor condition
- drinking fountains are not ADA compliant
- the existing sign is in poor condition and inappropriate to the park and beach

- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums

Last Improvements:

Made in 1974, which included \$132,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing

Building:

For conditions and evaluation of restroom building, see following section “Park Buildings Inventory and Evaluation.”



Crown Park – Parking and Building

# INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

## CURREY PARK

(see Figure 18)

Size: 1.58 acres

Ward: 3

Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

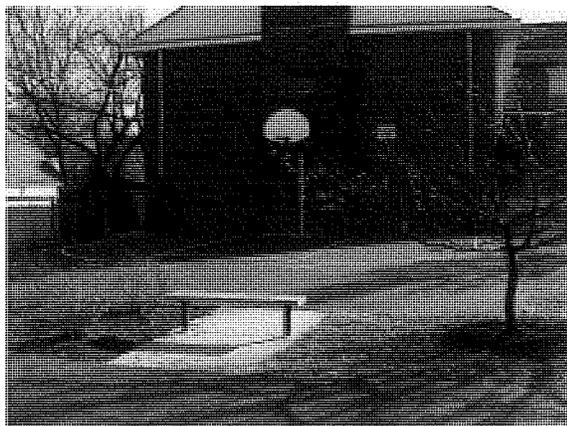
Location: East of Hinman Avenue and North of Dempster Street

Description:

Currey Park is a small park serving a residential area directly surrounding the Park. The park provides playground equipment, seating area, small ballfield, and two one-half basketball courts.

Existing Facilities:

- one softball field with backstop
- two half-court basketball courts
- pre-cast concrete walk and entrance area with seating
- nine benches
- four trash receptacles
- one bike rack
- fencing along boundary
- one sign



Currey Park – Basketball Court

- 9 shade trees
- 5 ornamental trees

Evaluation:

Assets:

- good accessibility to residential surrounding the Park
- provides playground for tots and older children
- open space
- recently renovated Park

Liabilities:

- the ballfield is level and poorly drained creating poor turf conditions
- turf in poor condition in area between basketball courts
- sign is in poor condition and inappropriate
- fencing along east boundary is in poor condition
- recent plantings are sparse

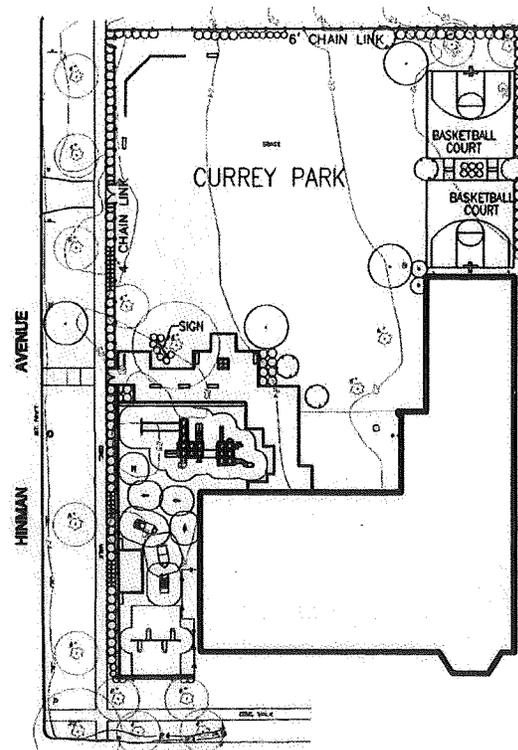
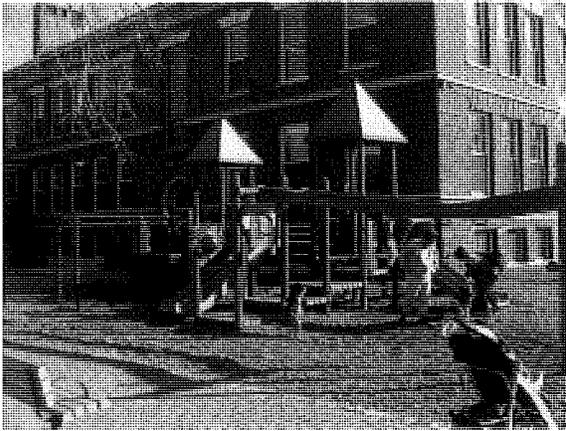


Figure 18: Currey Park

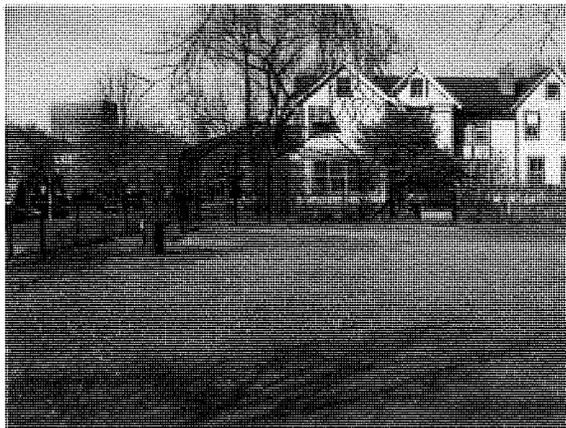


*Currey Park - Playground*

Last Improvements:

Made in 1999, which included \$206,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- benches and picnic tables
- fencing
- landscape
- baseball backstop
- 2 one-half basketball courts



*Currey Park - Softball Field*

**DAWES PARK and GREENWOOD BEACH**

(see Figures 19 and 20)

Size: 12.00 acres

Ward: 1

Classification

Function: Community Park  
Lakefront Park

Location: Lakefront – Sheridan Road between Dempster Street and Church Street

Description:

Dawes Park and Dempster Street Beach is part of the Lakefront Park System. It provides a variety of recreation activities, including swimming beach, walking/jogging/bike paths, lagoon, and picnicking.

Existing Facilities:

- park sign and landscape
- asphalt bike and pedestrian path
- cinder jogging path
- limestone screenings jogging path
- picnic area
- lagoon stage



*Dawes Park – Picnic Areas and Opens Space*

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

- ice skating in the lagoon
- restroom building with enclosed picnic area and concessions
- fifteen benches
- 22 trash receptacles
- sixteen picnic tables
- two drinking fountains
- seven cooking grills
- temporary wood snow fence along Greenwood Beach
- rip-rap along lake
- one pop machine
- 165 shade trees
- one evergreen tree
- 24 ornamental trees
- 27 light fixtures

### Greenwood Beach

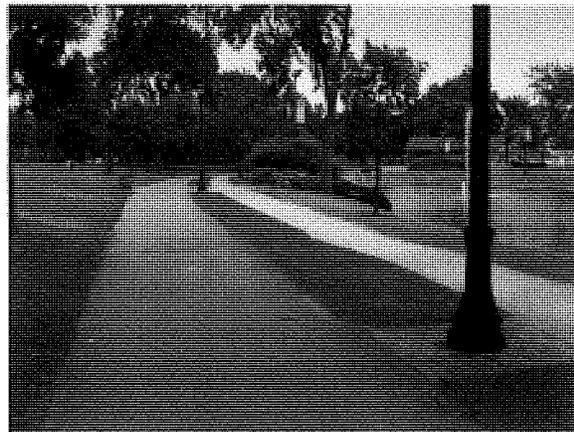
- parking lot shared with Dempster Beach for sail boating and wind surfing (Permits required)
- sail boat/beach parking – shared with Dempster Beach
- three trash receptacle
- two lifeguard towers

- rip-rap along lake
- wave surfing beach
- six shade trees
- swimming beach
- restroom building

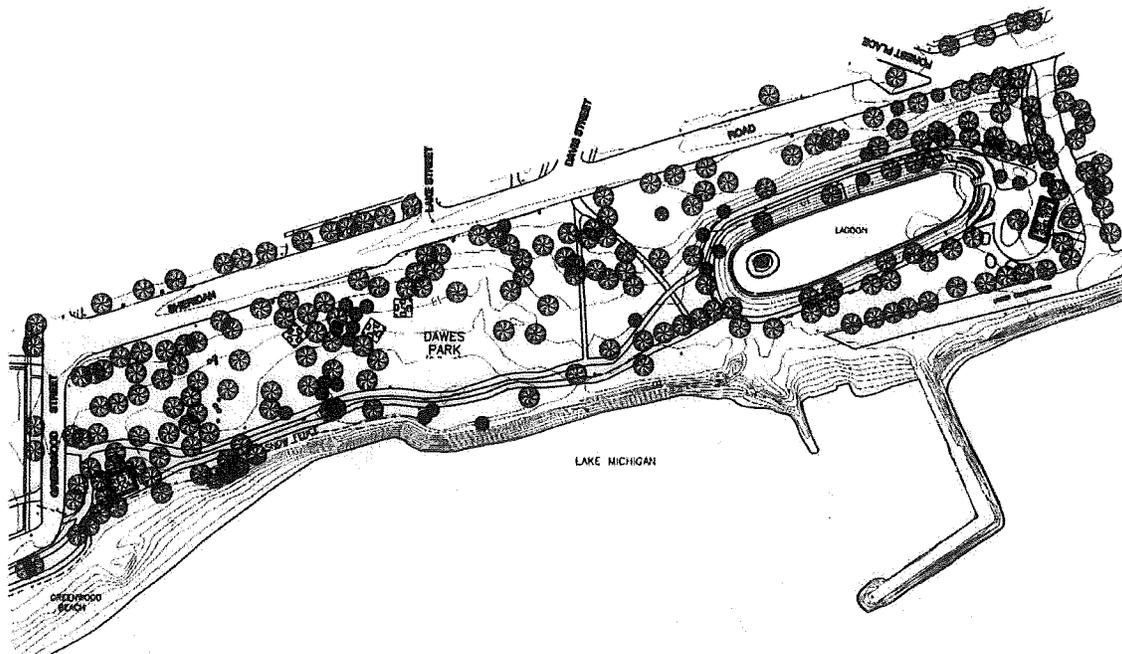
### Evaluation:

#### Assets:

- Lakefront Park System
- mature trees and landscape throughout park



*Dawes Park – Lagoon and Pathways*

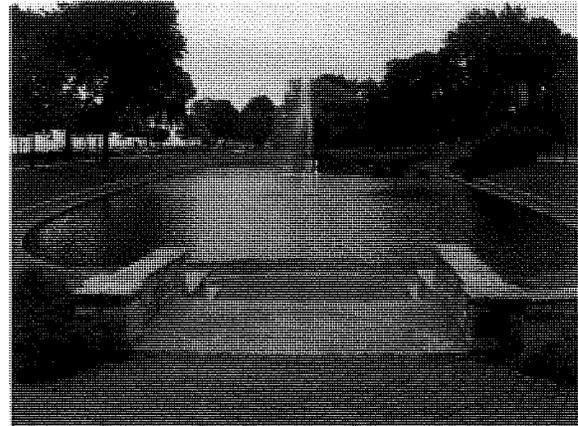


**Figure 19: Dawes Park**

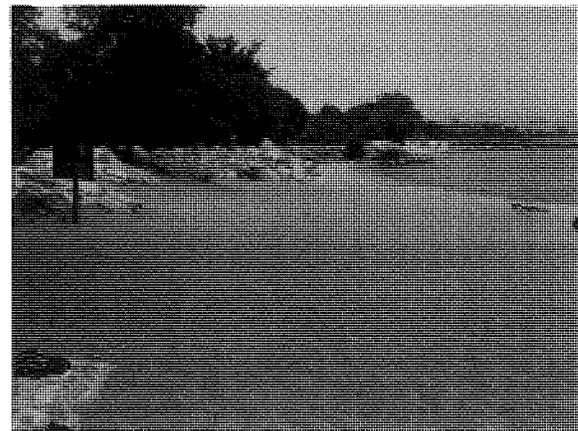
- open space
- open character of the Park
- views and adjacent to Lake Michigan
- swimming beach
- lagoon and activities programmed for the lagoon area
- pathway system for jogging, walking, and bicycling

Liabilities:

- the existing light fixtures are inadequate and inefficient
- the lagoon pump system is old and in poor condition
- the cinder path and edging is in poor condition
- the limestone path and edging is in poor condition
- brick paving around the lagoon is uneven and in poor condition
- lagoon bottom is in poor condition
- entrance to Greenwood Beach is in poor condition and ineffective
- ADA accessibility to the beach is lacking



Dawes Park - Lagoon



Greenwood Beach – Beach Area

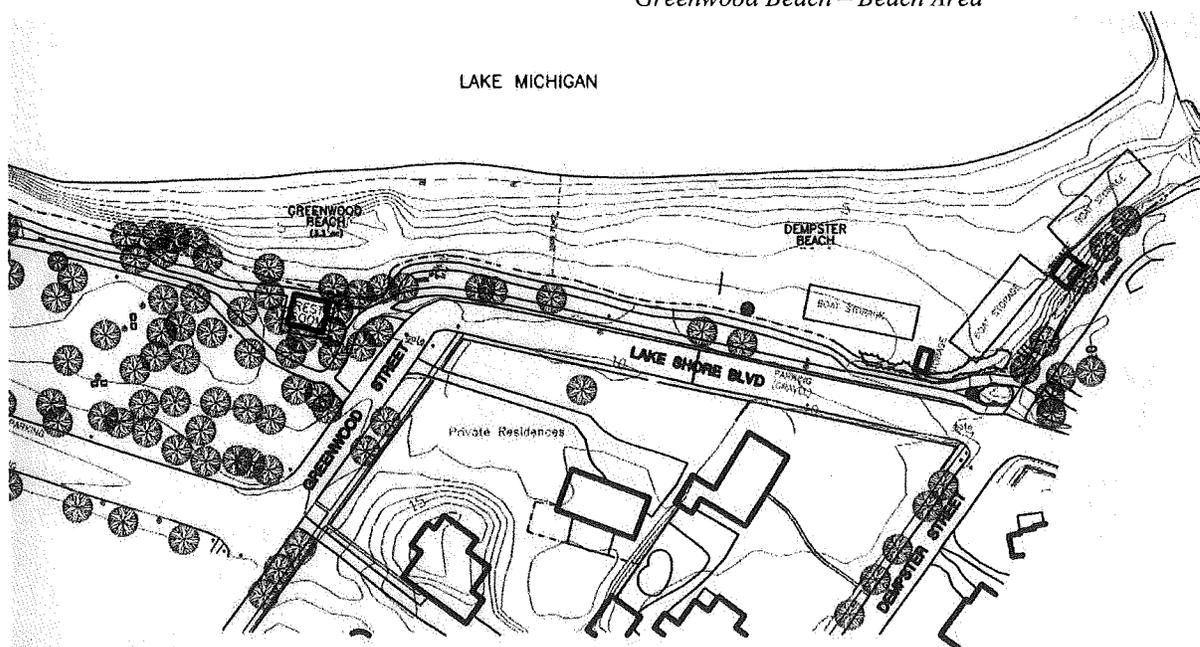


Figure 20: Greenwood Beach

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES



*Greenwood Beach – Path System and Fencing*

- the existing asphalt pavement through the park is in poor condition
- the existing signs (2) are in poor condition and inappropriate to the park and beach
- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- bike parking areas are in poor condition
- picnic tables are in poor condition and not ADA compliant
- the snow fencing along the beach for control is in poor control and ineffective
- access to the breakwater is dangerous

### Buildings:

For conditions and evaluation of restroom and shelter buildings, see following section “Park Buildings Inventory and Evaluation.”

## **DEMPSTER STREET BEACH**

(see Figure 21)

Size: 3.30 acres

Ward: 1

### Classification

Function: Community Park  
Lakefront Park - Beach

Location: Lakefront – North of Dempster Street

### Description:

Dempster Street Beach is part of the Lakefront Park System. It provides a variety of recreation activities, including swimming beach, walking/jogging/bike paths, sail-boating, boat storage, and parking.

### Existing Facilities:

- one sand volleyball court
- limestone screenings jogging path
- parking lot
- asphalt bike and pedestrian path
- one trash receptacle
- temporary wood snow fence along boundary
- two storage equipment racks
- nine shade trees
- two light fixtures
- rip-rap along lake
- boating facilities
- sail boat ramp
- boat storage area

### Evaluation:

#### Assets:

- Lakefront Park System
- boat facilities



*Dempster Street Beach – Boat Storage Area*

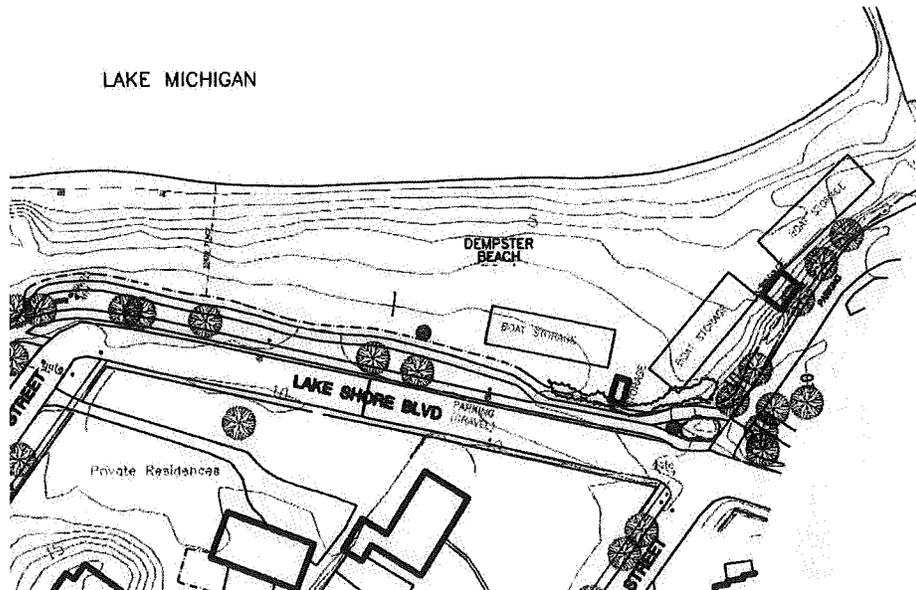


Figure 21: Dempster Street Beach

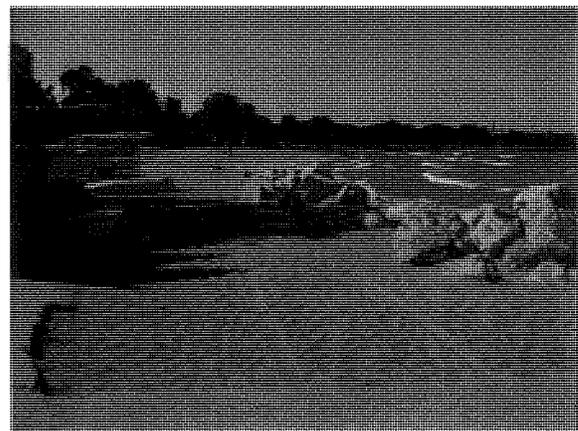
- views and adjacent to Lake Michigan
- swimming beach
- pathway system for jogging, walking, and bicycling

Building:

For conditions and evaluation of Aquatic Center Building, see following section “Park Buildings Inventory and Evaluation.”

Liabilities:

- the existing light fixtures are inadequate and inefficient
- entrance to Dempster Street Beach is in poor condition and ineffective
- the limestone path and edging is in poor condition
- the parking area is in poor condition and inefficient
- paths and drives are poorly designed
- bike parking areas are in poor condition
- the existing sign is in poor condition and inappropriate to the park and beach
- access to the breakwater is dangerous
- ADA accessibility to the beach is lacking
- the existing asphalt pavement through the park is in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- the snow fencing along the beach for control is in poor control and ineffective



*Dempster Street Beach*

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

---

### DOBSON-BRUMMEL PARK

(see Figure 22)

Size: 0.45 acres

Ward: 8

Classification

Function: Totlot Park

Location: East of Ashland between Dobson and Brummel Streets

Description:

Dobson-Brummel Park is a totlot park serving a residential area directly surrounding the Park. The Park is located between two alleys with no direct access to streets. The park provides playground equipment, seating area, open field, and picnic shelter.

Existing Facilities:

- open play field
- concrete walks within park
- playground equipment for tots
- playground equipment for 6-12 age
- picnic shelter
- eight benches
- three trash receptacles
- two picnic tables

- chain link fencing surrounding the park
- 9 shade trees
- 3 ornamental trees

Evaluation:

Assets:

- good accessibility to residential surrounding the Park
- provides playground for tots and older children
- open space
- recently renovated Park

Liabilities:

- poor ADA access from alley does not exist
- the existing sign is in poor condition and inappropriate to the park
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- chain link fencing surrounding park is in poor condition
- turf area in poor condition

Last Improvements:

Made in 1999, which included \$139,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- benches and picnic tables



*Dobson-Brummel Park*



*Dobson-Brummel Park*

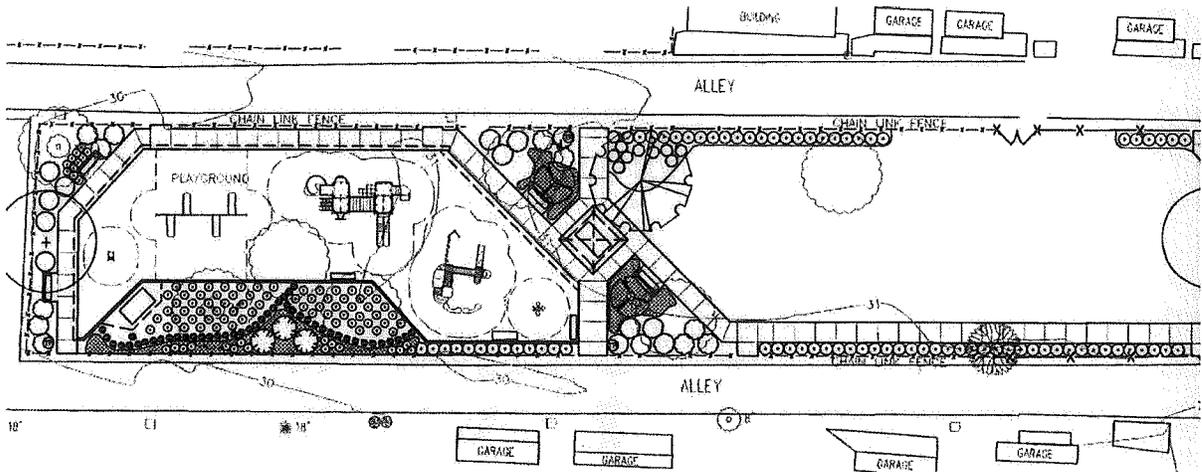


Figure 22: Dobson-Brummel Park

- landscape
- picnic shelter

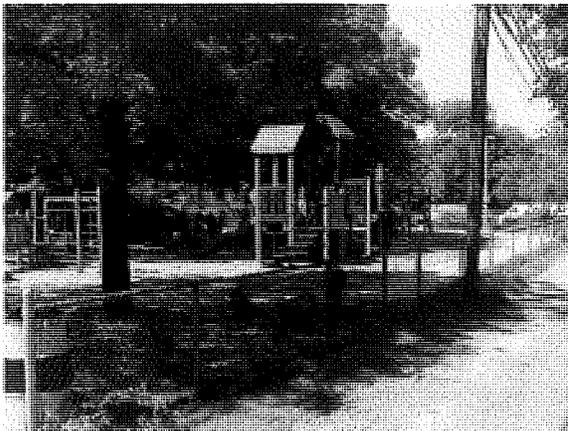
Location: North of McCormick Boulevard between Bridge Street and Hartrey Avenue

Description:

Eggleston Park is a neighborhood park serving a residential area directly surrounding the Park. The Park is located along McCormick Boulevard. The park provides playground equipment, seating area, open field, community gardens, and ½ basketball court.

Existing Facilities:

- sign and landscape
- one ½ court basketball court



Dobson-Brummel Park

**Edward EGGLESTON PARK**

(see Figure 23)

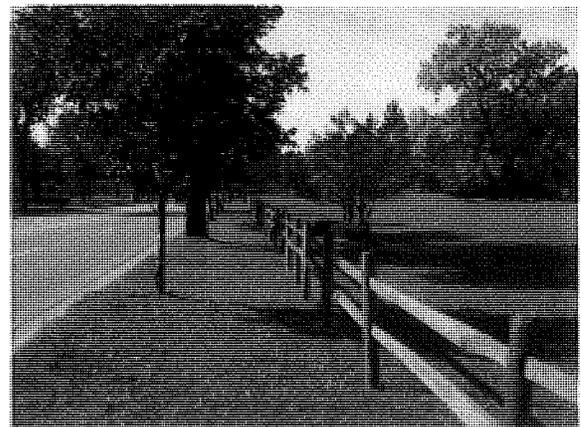
Size: 3.30 acres

Ward: 7

Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

Leased: From Metropolitan Water Reclamation District



Eggleston Park – View Along McCormick Boulevard

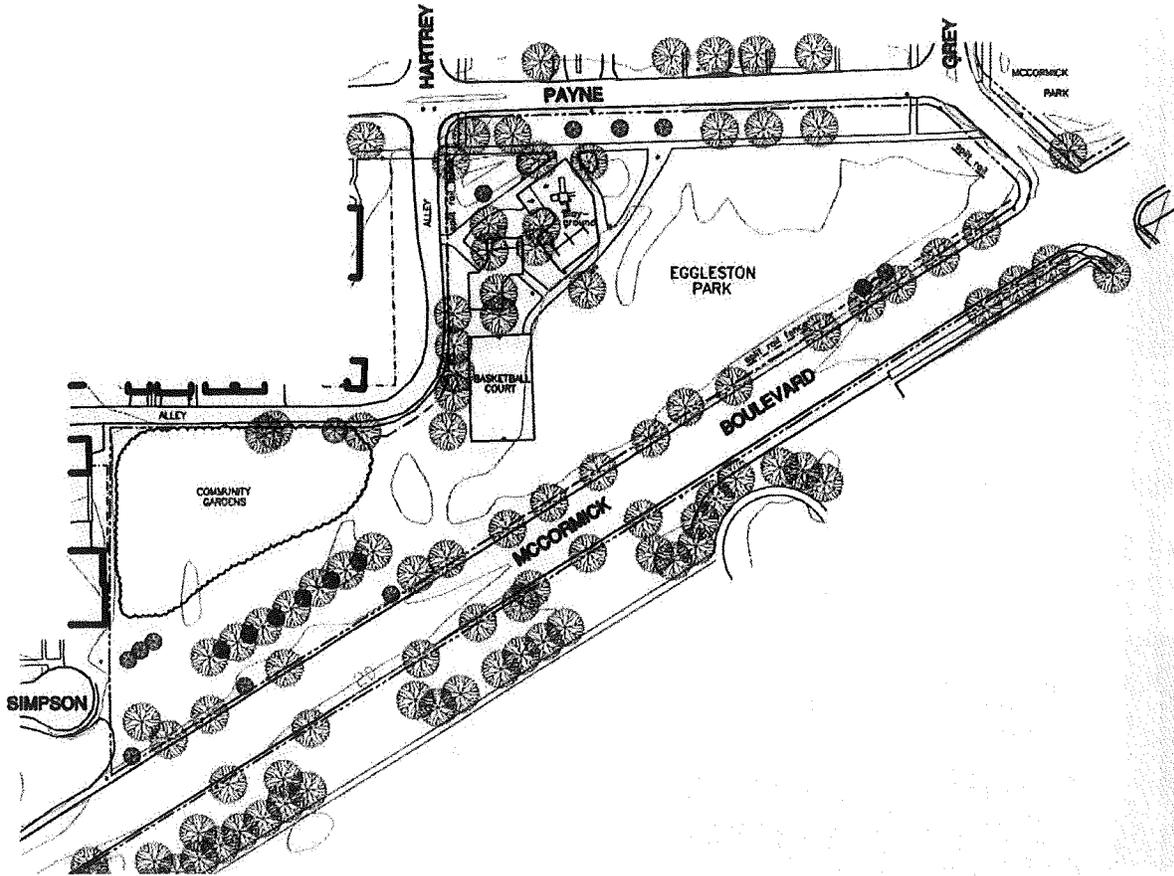
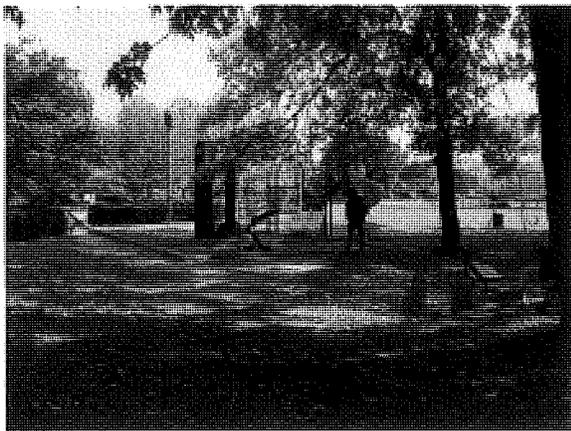


Figure 23: Eggleston Park

- limestone screenings pedestrian walking paths
- one sled hill
- playground for tots
- playground for 6-12 year olds
- two benches
- two trash receptacles
- one drinking fountain
- split rail fence along east side
- one community garden
- 64 shade trees
- two octagonal light fixtures



Eggleston Park - Playground

Evaluation:

Assets:

- good accessibility to residential surrounding the Park
- provides playground for tots and older children
- open character of Park – open space along McCormick Boulevard



*Eggleston Park – Basketball Court*

- open space

**Liabilities:**

- turf area are level and poorly drained creating poor turf conditions
- existing lighting fixtures in poor condition and inefficient
- exterior concrete sidewalks in poor condition
- existing limestone path is in poor condition
- basketball court surfacing is in poor condition
- benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- drinking fountain is not ADA compliant
- playground structures are not ADA compliant and do not comply with safety guidelines
- the existing sign is in poor condition and inappropriate to the park

**Last Improvements:**

Made in 1993, which included \$25,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- landscape

**Charles B. EIDEN PARK**

(see Figure 24)

Size: 1.10 acres

Ward: 4

Classification

Function: Totlot Park

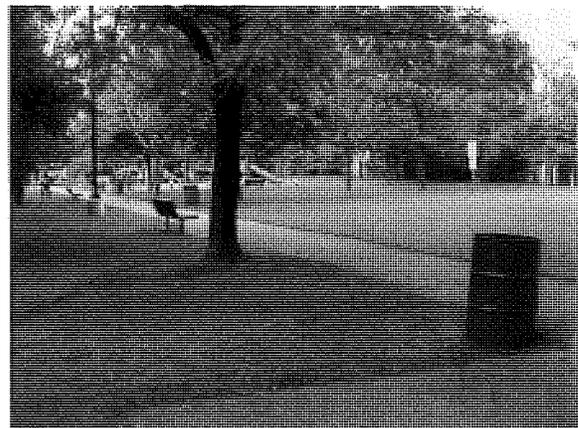
Location: East of Sherman Avenue and west of Custer Street between Madison and Washington Avenues

Description:

Eiden Park is a totlot park serving a residential area directly surrounding the Park. The park provides playground equipment, seating area, open field, and pathways.

Existing Facilities:

- asphalt walk through the park
- playground equipment for tots
- playground equipment for 6-12 age
- six benches
- six trash receptacles
- one drinking fountain (ADA compliant)
- one park identification sign
- three pedestrian lights



*Eiden Park – View from the South*

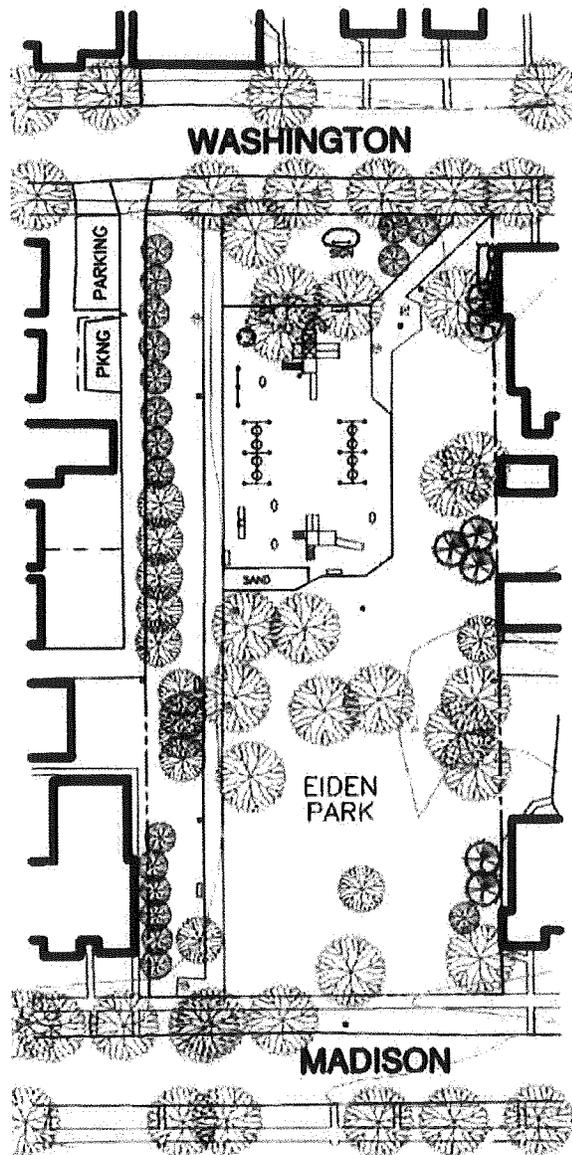


Figure 24: Eiden Park

- 48 shade trees
- 11 evergreen trees
- 13 ornamental trees

Evaluation:

Assets:

- good accessibility to residential surrounding the Park
- open character of Park



*Eiden Park – Path North-South*

- provides playground for tots and older children
- open space

Liabilities:

- turf area are level and poorly drained creating poor turf conditions
- asphalt paving around drinking fountain and playground is in poor condition
- main asphalt path through park is in poor condition
- playground structures are not ADA compliant and do not comply with safety guidelines
- the existing sign is in poor condition and inappropriate to the park
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums



*Eiden Park - Playground*

- benches are old and in poor condition

Last Improvements:

Made in 1994, which included \$15,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing

**ELLINGWOOD TOTLOT**

(see Figure 25)

Size: 0.30 acres

Ward: 7

Classification

Function: Totlot Park

Location: North of Harrison Street, west of Pioneer Avenue, and west of Hartrey Street

Description:

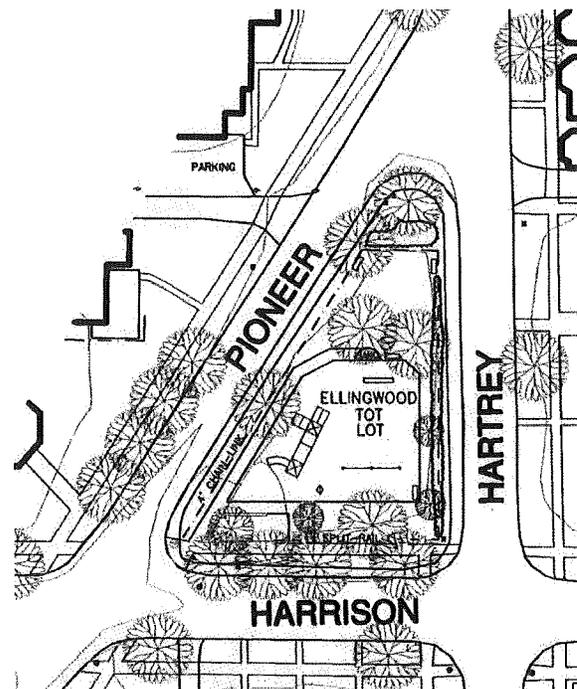
Ellingwood Park is a totlot park serving a residential area directly surrounding the Park. The park provides playground equipment, and seating areas.

Existing Facilities:

- concrete sidewalk along South side
- concrete pedestrian walking path
- playground for tots
- two swings for 6-12 year olds
- five benches
- two trash receptacles
- one drinking fountain
- chain link along boundary
- split rail fence along South side
- one dedication rock
- one retaining wall/planter
- five shade trees
- six ornamental trees
- two memorial stones



*Ellingwood Totlot – Playground*

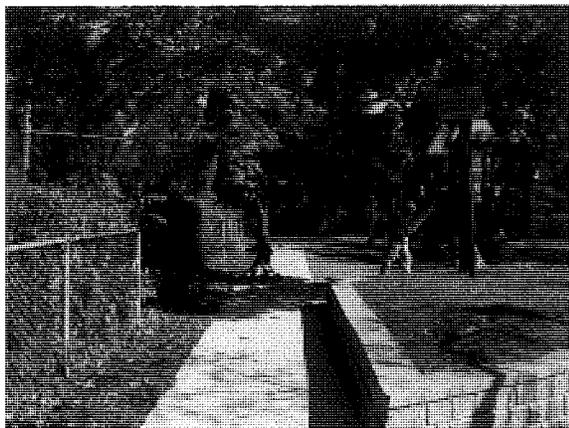


**Figure 25: Ellingwood Totlot**

Evaluation:

Assets:

- accessibility to residential surrounding the Park
- provides new playground for tots and older children



*Ellingwood Totlot*

**Liabilities:**

- the existing sign is in poor condition and inappropriate to the park
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- existing chain link fencing is in poor condition
- park surrounded by streets – accessibility dangerous

**Last Improvements:**

Made in 1999, which included \$78,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- benches and tables
- drinking fountain
- retaining wall
- landscape



*Ellingwood Totlot – Southeast Corner*

### **ELLIOTT PARK and LEE STREET BEACH**

(see Figures 26 and 27)

**Size:** 5.40 acres

**Ward:** 3

**Classification**

**Function:** Community Park  
Lakefront Park

**Location:** Lakefront – Sheridan Road between Hamilton Street and Greenleaf Street

**Description:**

Elliott Park and Lee Street Beach is part of the Lakefront Park System. It provides a variety of recreation activities, including swimming beach, walking/jogging/bike paths, and picnicking.

**Existing Facilities:**

**Elliott Park**

- limestone screening jogging path
- exercise course stations
- restroom building
- four benches
- five trash receptacles
- sixteen picnic tables
- one drinking fountain
- three cooking grills
- one park identification sign
- rip-rap along beach
- 75 shade trees
- 2 evergreen trees
- 13 ornamental trees

**Lee Street Beach**

- cinder path along drive
- swimming beach
- two benches
- nine trash receptacles
- four bike racks
- one drinking fountain



*Elliott Park – Picnic Area*



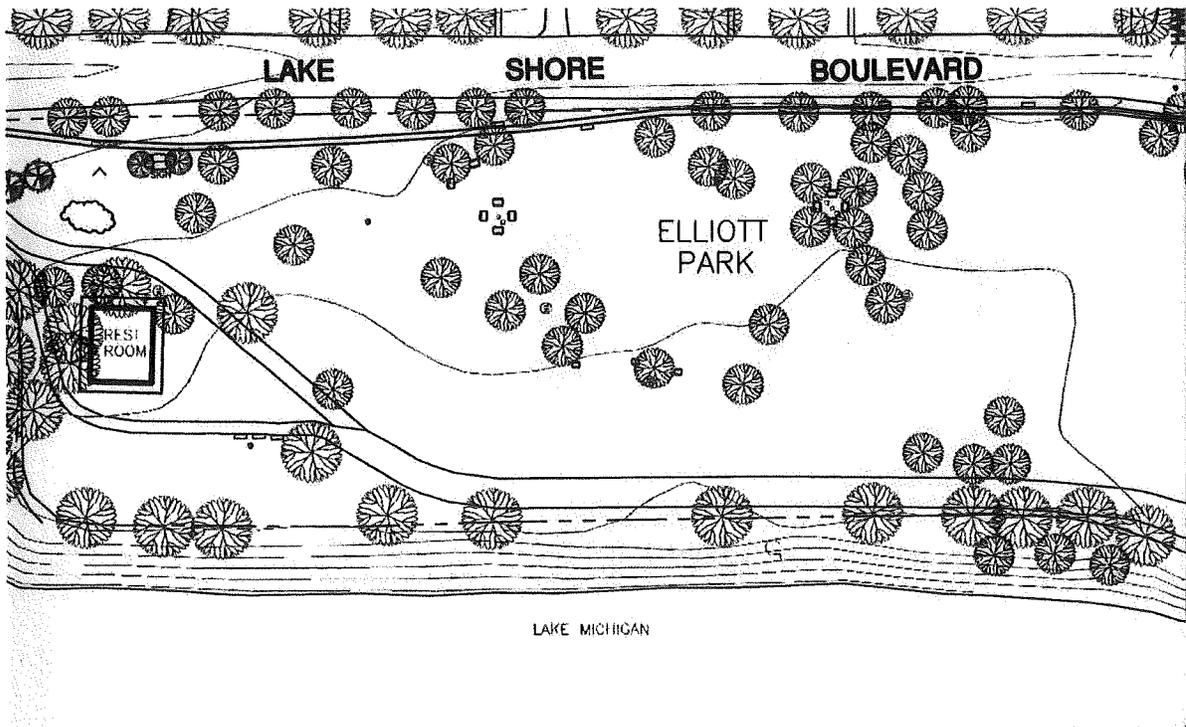
*Elliott Park – Picnic Area and Open Space*

- two light fixtures
- snow fencing along beach area for control
- rip-rap along lake
- public telephone
- 36 shade trees
- 2 evergreen trees
- life guard tower
- breakwater

Evaluation:

Assets:

- Lakefront Park System
- mature trees and landscape throughout park
- open space character of the Park
- views and adjacent to Lake Michigan
- swimming beach



**Figure 26: Elliot Park**

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES



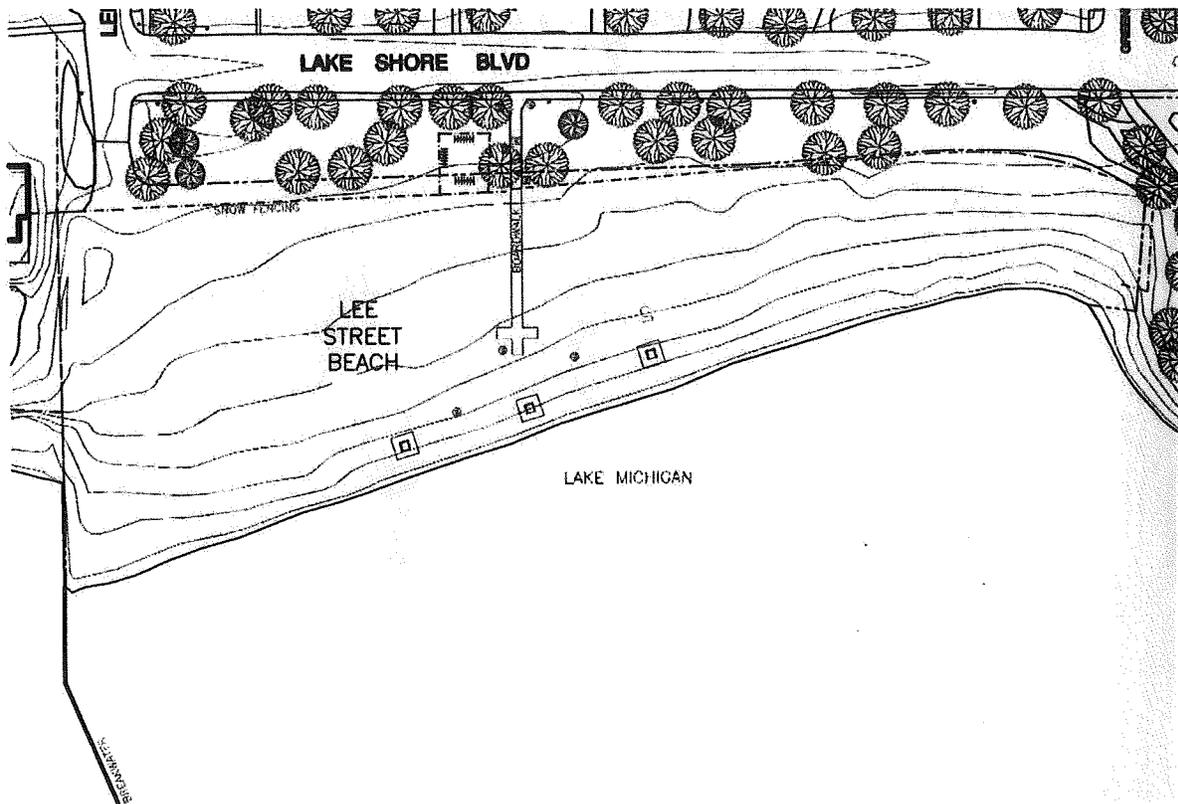
*Elliott Park*



*Lee Street Beach*

### Liabilities:

- the existing light fixtures are inadequate and inefficient
- the cinder path and edging is in poor condition
- pathway system for jogging, walking, and bicycling
- the limestone path and edging is in poor condition
- entrance to Lee Street Beach is in poor condition and ineffective
- ADA to the beach is lacking
- the existing sign is in poor condition and inappropriate to the park and beach



**Figure 27: Lee Street Beach**



*Lee Street Beach*

- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- bike parking areas are in poor condition
- picnic tables are in poor condition and not ADA compliant
- existing grills are in poor condition
- exercise stations are in poor condition
- the snow fencing along the beach for control is in poor condition and ineffective
- access to the breakwater is dangerous

Building:

For conditions and evaluation of restroom building, see following section “Park Buildings Inventory and Evaluation.”

**FIREMAN’S PARK**

(see Figure 28)

Size: 0.54 acres

Ward: 5

Classification

Function: Totlot Park

Location: South of Simpson Street and West of Maple Avenue



*Fireman’s Park*

Description:

With streets on two sides, Fireman’s Park is highly visible and accessible to the neighborhood surrounding the Park. Park contains a monument to firemen and an old fire truck play equipment.

Existing Facilities:

- concrete sidewalk along boundary
- asphalt pedestrian path
- playground for tots
- one playgrounds for 6-12 year olds
- fire truck play structure
- three benches
- two trash receptacles
- one picnic table
- one drinking fountain
- chain link fencing along south and west boundary
- split rail fencing along north and east boundary
- one monument
- 16 shade trees
- four evergreen trees
- seven ornamental trees

Evaluation:

Assets:

- mature trees and landscape throughout park
- open space

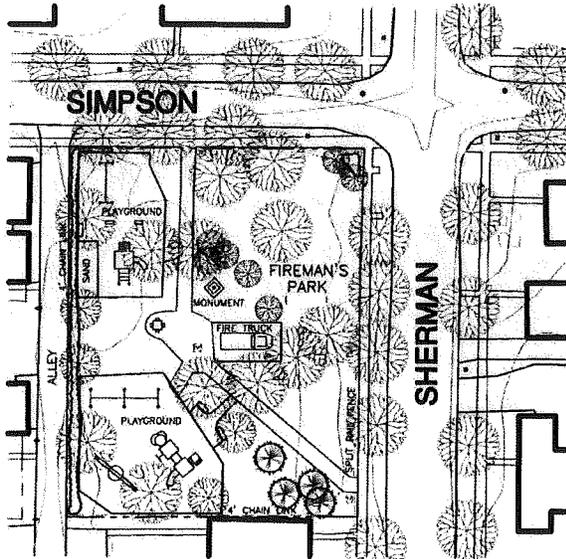


Figure 28: Fireman's Park

- good accessibility and visibility to neighborhood residential surrounding the Park
- playground equipment for all ages
- monument

**Liabilities:**

- main asphalt path through park is in poor condition
- playground structures are not ADA compliant and do not comply with safety guidelines



Fireman's Park - Playground



Fireman's Park – Monument and Fire Truck

- existing chain link fencing is in poor condition
- existing split rail fencing is in poor condition
- the existing sign is in poor condition and inappropriate to the park
- benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- drinking fountain is not ADA compliant

Last Improvements:

Made in 1994, which included \$18,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing

**FITZSIMONS PARK** (see Figure 29)

Size: 0.70 acres

Ward: 4

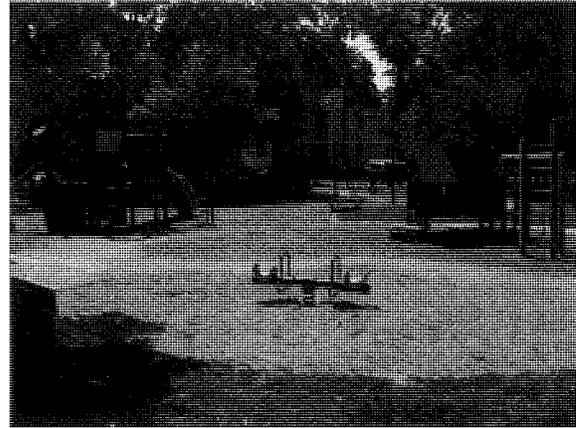
Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

Location: North of Lee Street and East of Elmwood Street



Fitzsimons Park



Fitzsimons Park

Description:

With streets on two sides, Fitzsimons Park is highly visible and accessible to the neighborhood surrounding the Park. The Park is adjacent to Nichols Middle School.

Existing Facilities:

- two tennis courts with lighting
- one bang board on tennis courts
- concrete walk through park and around playground
- playground equipment for tots

- playground equipment for 6-12 age
- eight benches
- six trash receptacles
- three picnic tables
- three rail fencing along street
- chain link fencing along north boundary
- 10 shade trees
- 1 evergreen tree
- 15 ornamental trees
- two game tables

Evaluation:

Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood residents

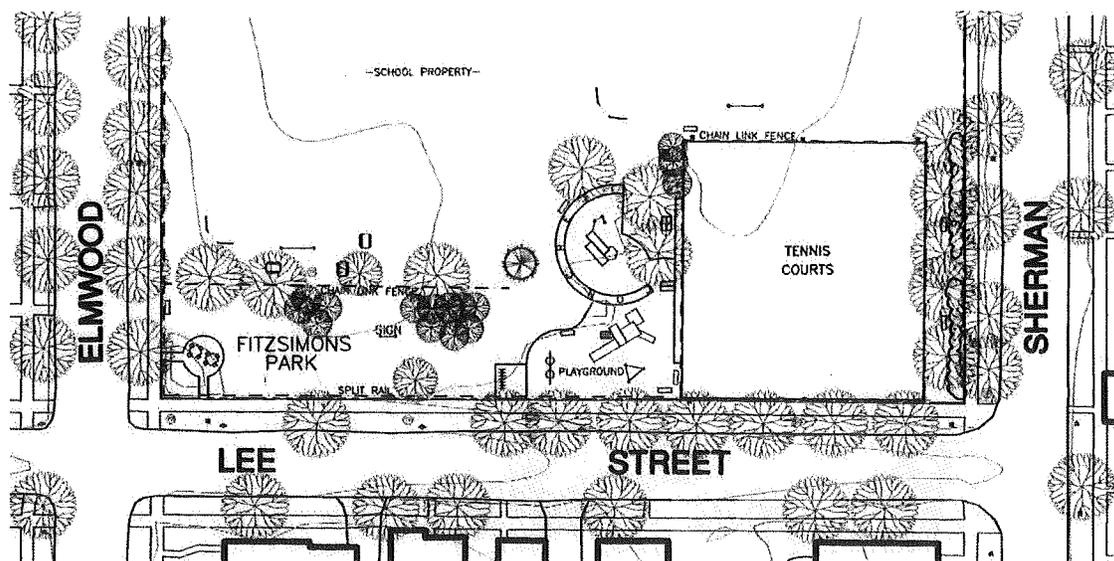


Figure 29: Fitzsimons Park



*Fitzsimons Park*

- location adjacent to Middle School
- is compatible with the surrounding residential areas
- new playground equipment and seating areas
- new landscaping

**Liabilities:**

- tennis court surfacing is in poor condition
- tennis court fencing and lighting is in poor condition
- the existing sign is in poor condition and inappropriate to the park
- benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- existing fencing along north boundary is in poor condition

**Last Improvements:**

Made in 1997, which included \$80,000 for the following:

- playground equipment, edging, and surfacing
- benches and game tables
- concrete walk
- fencing
- landscape

**FOSTER FIELD and FLEETWOOD  
JOURDAIN COMMUNITY CENTER**  
(see Figure 30)

Size: 5.12 acres

Ward: 5

Classification

Function: Community Park

Location: North of Foster Street and West of Ashland Avenue

Description:

With streets on four sides, Foster Field is highly visible and accessible to the surrounding neighborhood and the community. The Park contains a variety of active recreational facilities in addition the Fleetwood Jourdain Community Center which has a variety of recreation program facilities.

Existing Facilities:

- one park identification sign
- two softball field with backstops and lighting
- two bleachers and three benches for softball fields
- one basketball court
- two tennis courts with benches and lighted



*Foster Field – Lighted Ballfield*

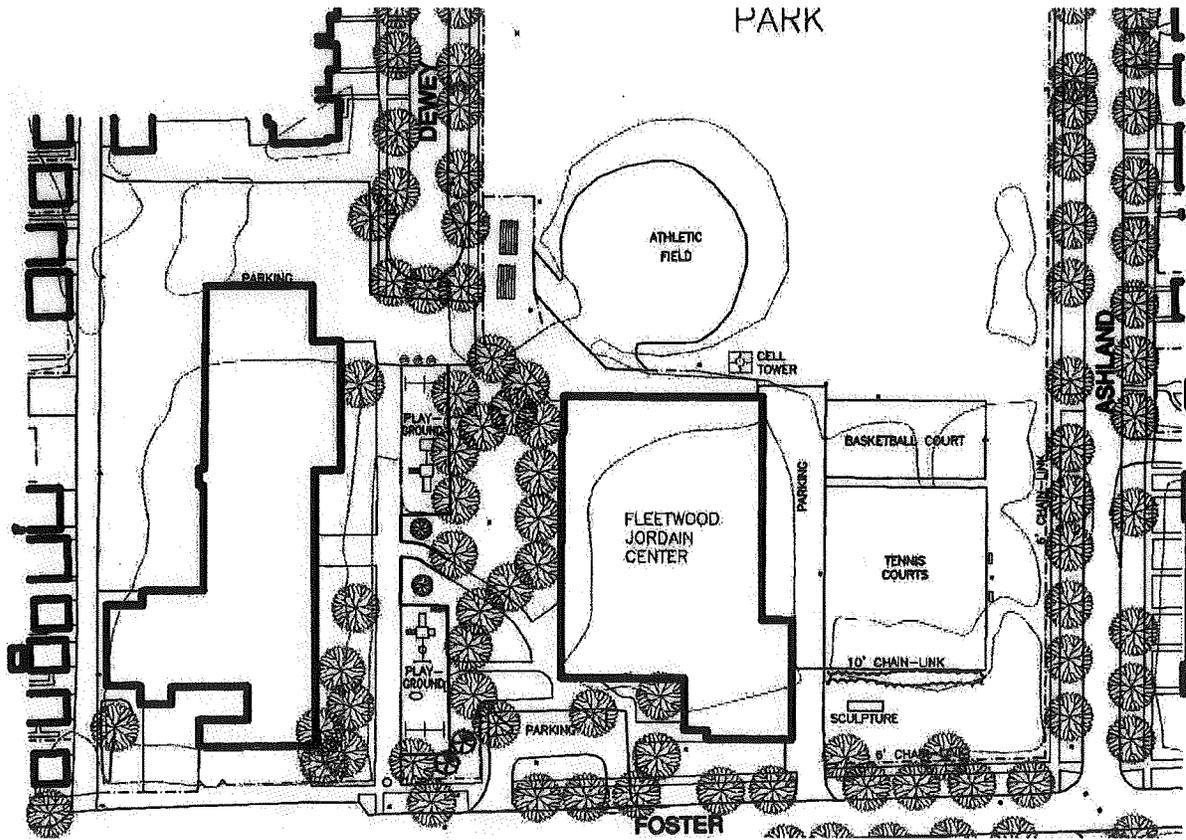


Figure 30: Foster Field and Fleetwood Jourdain Community Center

- one volleyball court
- one football field (fall season)
- concrete pedestrian path
- playground for tots
- playground for 6-12 year olds
- three benches
- Fleetwood Jourdain Community Center Building
- five trash receptacles
- one bicycle rack
- chain link fencing along all sides
- iron fence along one side
- one sculpture
- one cell phone tower
- 18 shade trees
- two evergreen trees
- four ornamental trees
- three cobra head light fixtures
- one light fixtures



Foster Field

Evaluation:

Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood and community
- open space

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

---

- athletic facilities serving the community – lighted field
- variety of recreational facilities
- Community Center building with a variety of recreation programs and facilities

### Liabilities:

- turf areas are level and poorly drained creating poor turf conditions
- existing lighting is poor and inefficient
- parking lot is poorly designed and inadequate
- pick-up/drop-off area is inadequate
- tennis court surfacing is in poor condition
- tennis court fencing is in poor condition
- basketball court surfacing is in poor condition
- baseball field lighting is inefficient
- ballfield backstops, dugouts, field fencing and bleachers are in poor condition
- playground structures are not ADA compliant and do not comply with safety guidelines
- existing chain link fencing is in poor condition
- drinking fountain is not ADA compliant
- the existing sign is in poor condition and inappropriate to the park
- benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums



*Foster Field – Basketball Courts and Service Area*

### Last Improvements:

Made in 1988, which included \$42,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- fencing
- concrete walks
- landscape

### Building:

For conditions and evaluation of Fleetwood-Jourdain Community Center building, see following section “Park Buildings Inventory and Evaluation.”

## **GARDEN PARK**

(see Figure 31)

Size: 1.36 acres

Ward: 3

### Classification

Function: Lakefront Park

Location: Lakefront – North of Sheridan Square

### Description:

Garden Park is part of the Lakefront Park System and is adjacent to South Boulevard Beach. It provides limited recreation activities, including walking/jogging/bike paths and picnicking, and playground.

### Existing Facilities:

- limestone screening path
- rip-rap along lake
- playground equipment for tots
- playground equipment for 6-12 age
- one bench
- four trash receptacles



Garden Park



Garden Park – Open Space and Playground

- eight picnic tables
- one drinking fountain with concrete pavers
- two lights
- two cooking grills
- three rail board fencing along street boundary
- 34 shade trees
- 1 ornamental tree

6 evergreen trees

Evaluation:

Assets:

- Lakefront Park System
- mature trees and landscape throughout park
- open space character of the Park
- views and adjacent to Lake Michigan
- playground for tots and 6-12 year olds

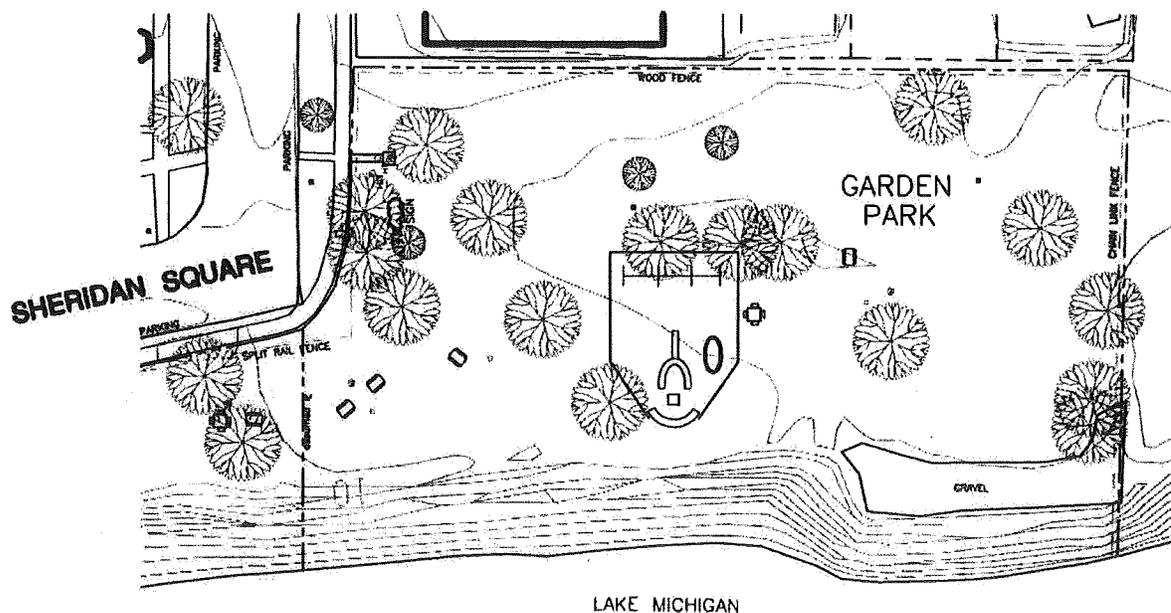


Figure 31: Garden Park



*Garden Park*

### Liabilities:

- the existing light fixtures are inadequate and inefficient
- entrance paving is in poor condition
- the limestone path and edging is in poor condition
- existing playground structures are not ADA compliant and do not meet safety guidelines
- the existing sign is in poor condition and inappropriate to the park
- drinking fountain is not ADA compliant
- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- picnic tables are in poor condition and not ADA compliant
- existing grills are in poor condition
- existing wood fencing needs re-painting

### Last Improvements:

Made in 1990, which included \$36,000 for the following:

- playground equipment, edging, and surfacing
- concrete pavers
- picnic tables and grills
- landscape

## GILBERT PARK

(see Figure 32)

Size: 0.70 acres

Ward: 5

### Classification

Function: Totlot Park

Location: North of Emerson Street at Ashland Avenue

### Description:

Gilbert Park is a totlot park serving a residential area directly surrounding the Park. The park provides playground equipment, seating area, and pathway.

### Existing Facilities:

- limestone screening pedestrian path
- asphalt pedestrian path
- playground for tots
- playground for 6-12 year olds
- four benches
- two trash receptacles
- one table with seats
- chain link fencing along east and west-boundary
- 13 shade trees
- one cobra light fixture



*Gilbert Park - Playground*



Figure 32: Gilbert Park

Evaluation:

Assets:

- good accessibility to residential surrounding the Park
- open space character of Park
- provides playground for tots and older children

Liabilities:

- existing asphalt walks are in poor condition
- the limestone path and edging is in poor condition
- existing playground structures are not ADA compliant and do not meet safety guidelines



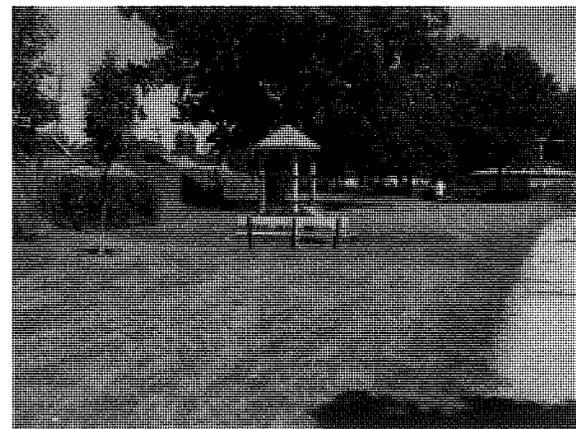
*Gilbert Park – Sign and Entrance to Park*

- the existing sign is in poor condition and inappropriate to the park
- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- table seats are in poor condition and not ADA compliant
- existing chain link fencing is in poor condition

Last Improvements:

Made in 1993, which included \$12,000 for the following:

- added play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- landscape



*Gilbert Park – Playground Equipment*

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

---

### GREY PARK (see Figure 33)

Size: 1.56 acres

Ward: 4

Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

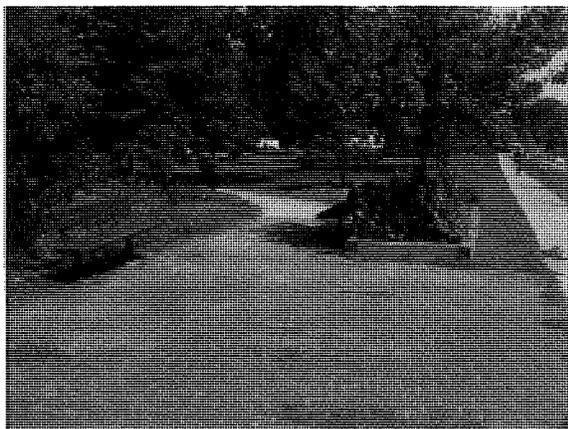
Location: North of Main Street and East of Ridge Avenue

Description:

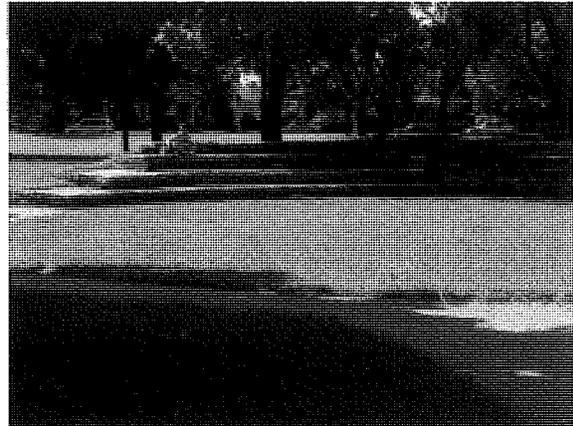
With streets on three sides, Grey Park is highly visible and accessible to the neighborhood surrounding the Park. The Park is located near the Main Street retail area and is highly visible along Ridge Avenue.

Existing Facilities:

- concrete walks through the park
- three seating areas
- stone wall amphitheater area
- playground for tots
- playground for 6-12 year olds
- eight benches
- six trash receptacles
- three concrete planters
- two tables with seats
- two picnic tables



*Grey Park – Entrance Seating Area at Ridge/Main*



*Grey Park – Stone Amphitheater*

- chain link fencing along north boundary
- community flower garden plot
- 32 shade trees
- 4 evergreen trees
- 5 ornamental trees

Evaluation:

Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood residents
- is compatible with the surrounding residential areas
- playground equipment and seating areas
- landscaping
- stone amphitheater

Liabilities:

- existing lighting in the park is poor and inefficient
- existing concrete walks are in poor condition
- concrete paving at the corner entrances are in poor condition
- existing playground structures are not ADA compliant and do not meet safety guidelines
- the existing sign is in poor condition and inappropriate to the park
- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums

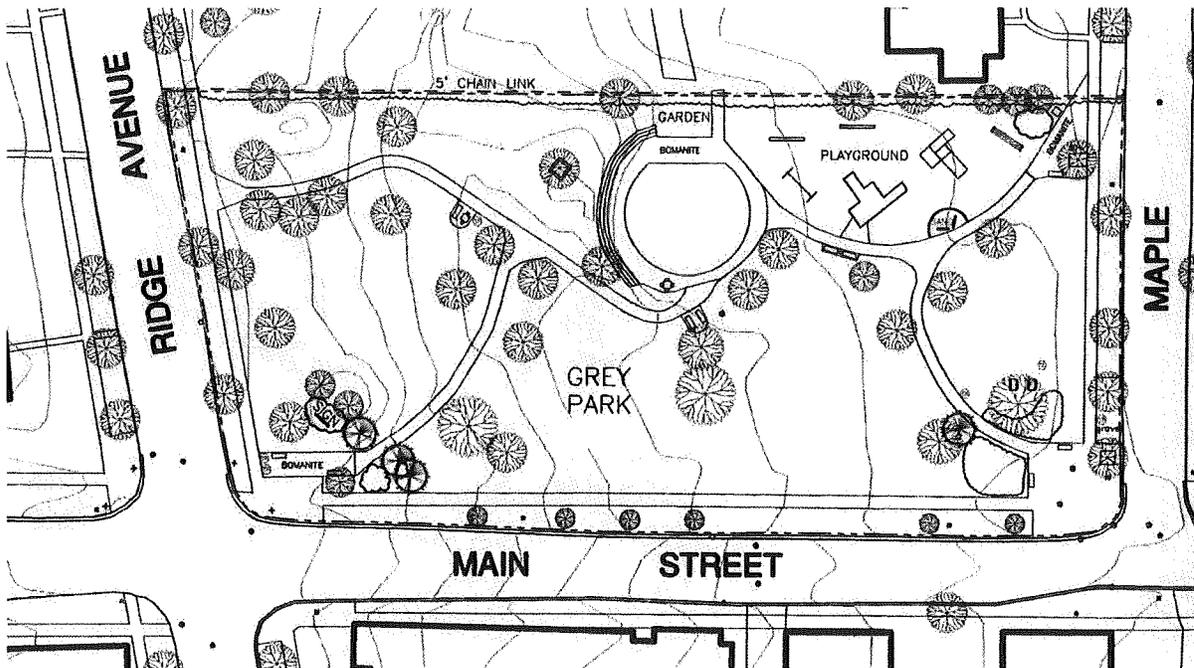


Figure 33: Grey Park

- location at busy intersection
- existing chain link fencing is in poor condition
- the existing stone walls and paving are in poor condition
- concrete planters at the entrances are in poor condition

Last Improvements:

Made in 1994, which included \$26,000 for the following:

- playground equipment, edging, and surfacing
- landscape

**Elizabeth Boynton HARBERT PARK**

(see Figures 34 and 35)

Size: 13.5 acres

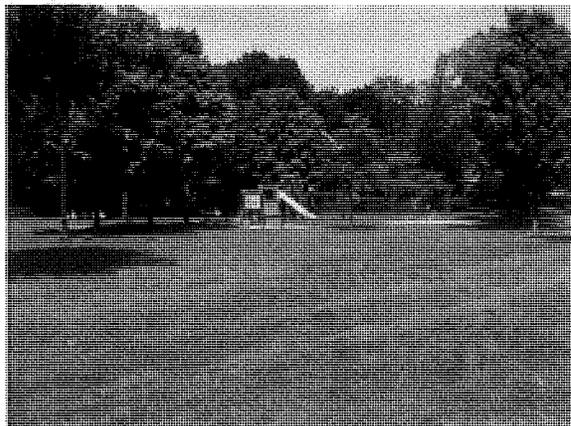
Ward: 2

Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

Leased: From Metropolitan Water Reclamation District

Location: East of Canal between Main Street and Dempster Street



Grey Park – Open Space and Playground

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

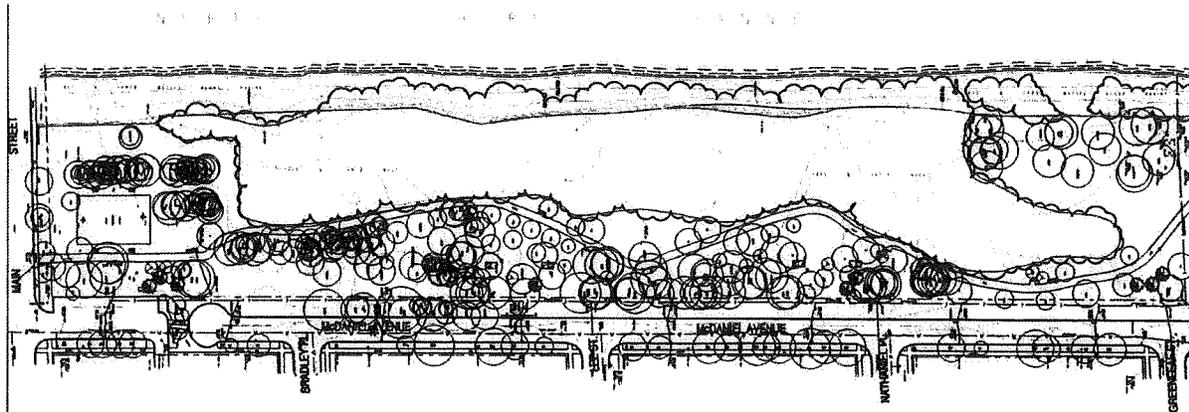


Figure 34: Harbert Park South

### Description:

Harbert Park is located along the east side of the Canal in the far western portion of Evanston between Main Street and Dempster Street. The Park is primarily open with picnic areas, playground, basketball court, and pathways. It is part of the linear park/open space system bordering the Canal.

### Existing Facilities:

- one basketball court with benches (lighted)
- one grass volleyball court
- asphalt path through park
- 13 benches
- nine trash receptacles
- one bike rack

- concrete paving around playground
- playground for tots and 6-12 age
- 26 light fixtures
- five picnic tables
- one drinking fountain
- wood deck overlook
- Evanston entrance column at northeast corner
- two cooking grills
- one sign at south end of park on Main Street
- 401 Shade trees
- two evergreen tree
- 13 ornamental trees

### Evaluation:

#### Assets:

- open space



Harbert Park - Pathway and Overlook Deck



Harbert Park - Path and Playground

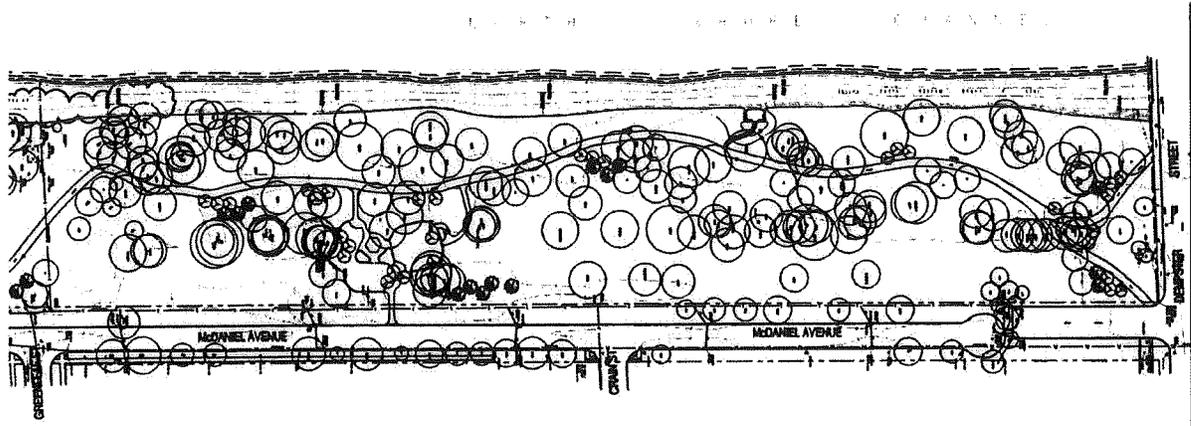


Figure 35: Harbert Park North

- good accessibility to neighborhood residential surrounding the Park
- mature trees and landscape throughout park
- open character of the Park
- well lighted pathway system
- new playground

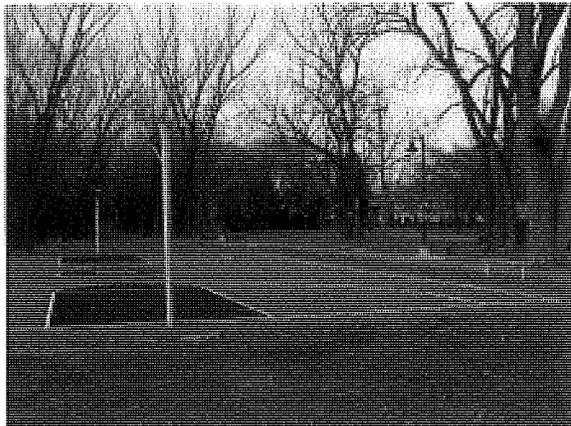
**Liabilities:**

- existing asphalt walks are in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- existing chain link fencing is in poor condition
- the existing stone walls and paving are in poor condition

**Last Improvements:**

Made in 1998/99, which included \$331,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- benches, grills, and picnic tables
- landscape
- drinking fountain
- pedestrian lights
- basketball court with benches and lights
- bike rack
- deck overlook



Harbert Park – Basketball Court



Harbert Park – Pathway

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

### HARPER GARDEN PARK

(see Figure 36)

Size: 0.08 acres

Ward: 4

Classification

Function: Vest Pocket Park

Leased: From CTA

Location: North of Lake Street and West of Sherman Avenue

Description:

Harper Garden Park is a small mini-park south of Lake Street and between Sherman Avenue and the CTA tracks. The Park contains a bench and a drinking fountain.

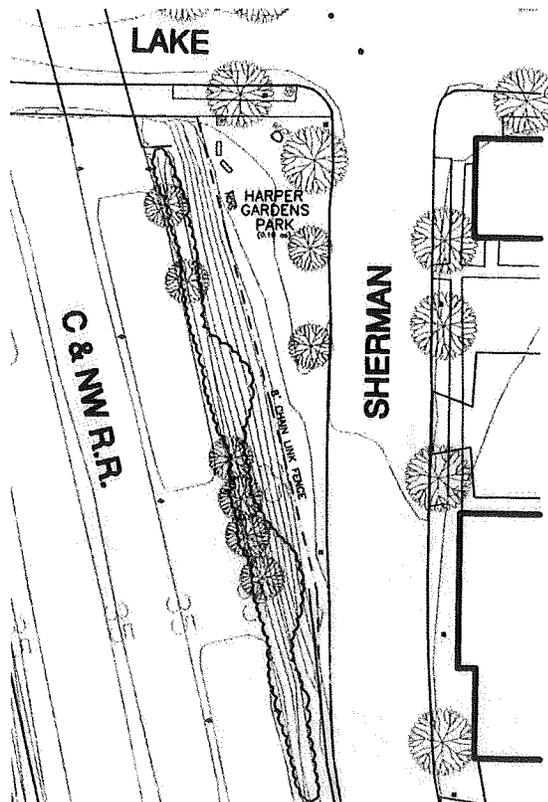


Figure 36: Harper Park

Existing Facilities:

- concrete sidewalk along north and east
- two benches
- one trash receptacle
- one drinking fountain
- chain link fencing and plantings along CTA embankment
- one park identification sign
- one dedication monument stone
- 3 shade trees

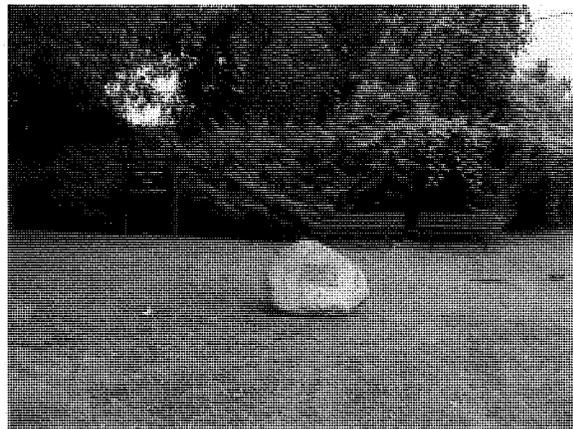
Evaluation:

Assets:

- open space
- seating area and open space along Sherman Avenue

Liabilities:

- no accessible path to benches is provided
- paving around drinking fountain needs to be provided for ADA accessibility
- the existing sign is in poor condition and inappropriate to the park
- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacle is painted 55 gallon drums
- existing chain link fencing is in poor condition



Harper Park

**HINMAN PARK**

(see Figure 37)

Size: 0.20 acres

Ward: 3

Classification

Function: Totlot Park

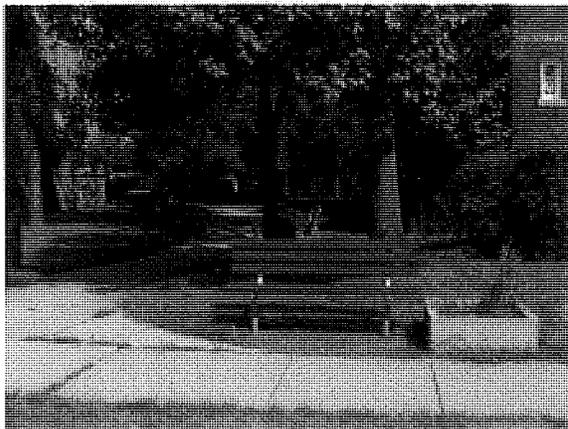
Location: East side of Hinman Avenue between Keeney and Kedzie Street

Description:

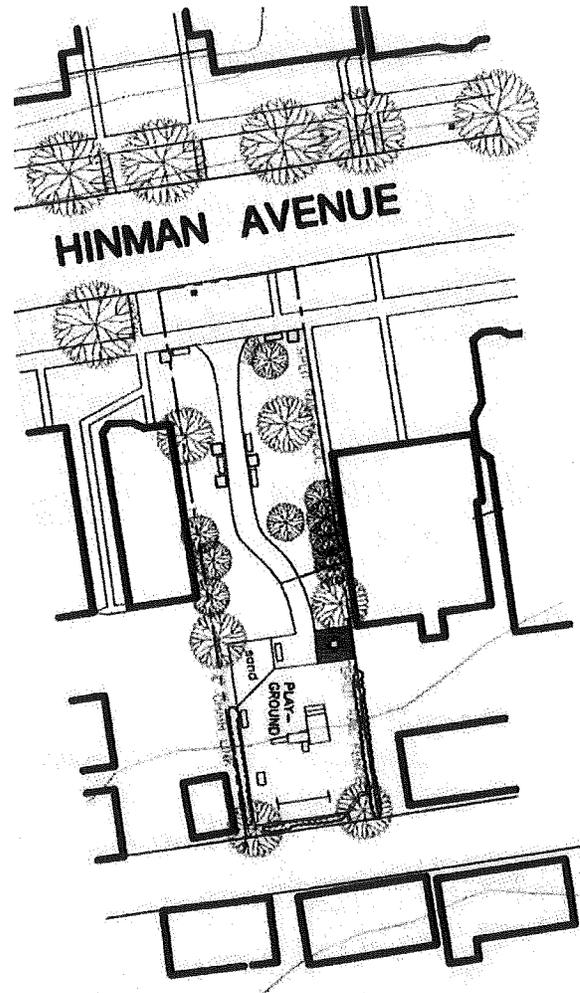
Hinman Park is a totlot park serving a residential area directly surrounding the park. The park provides playground equipment, seating area, and pathway.

Existing Facilities:

- concrete walk from street to playground
- playground equipment for tots
- seven benches
- one trash receptacle
- five concrete planters
- one picnic table
- one drinking fountain
- chain link fencing along south and east boundaries
- 7 shade trees
- 16 ornamental trees



*Hinman Park – Entrance and Seating Areas*



**Figure 37: Hinman Park**

Evaluation:

Assets:

- good accessibility to residential surrounding the Park
- provides playground for tots
- seating areas

Liabilities:

- existing concrete walks are in poor condition
- existing playground structures are not ADA compliant and do not meet safety guidelines
- picnic table is old and in poor condition
- the existing sign is in poor condition and inappropriate to the park

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

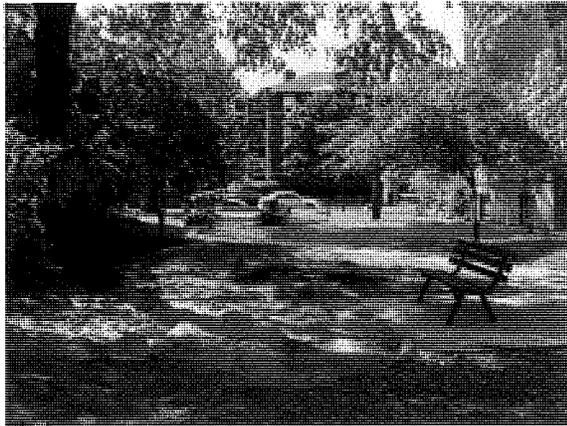
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- drinking fountain is not ADA compliant
- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacle is painted 55 gallon drums
- existing chain link fencing is in poor condition

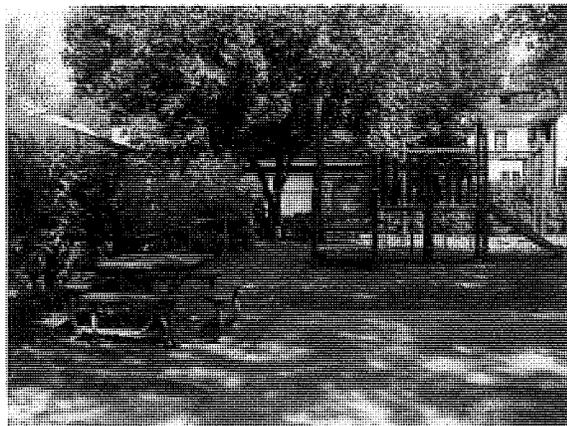
### Last Improvements:

Made in 1991, which included \$22,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- landscape
- fencing



*Hinman Park – Walk and Seating Areas*



*Hinman Park - Playground*

## HOBART PARK

(see Figure 38)

Size: 0.14 acres

Ward: 5

### Classification

Function: Totlot Park

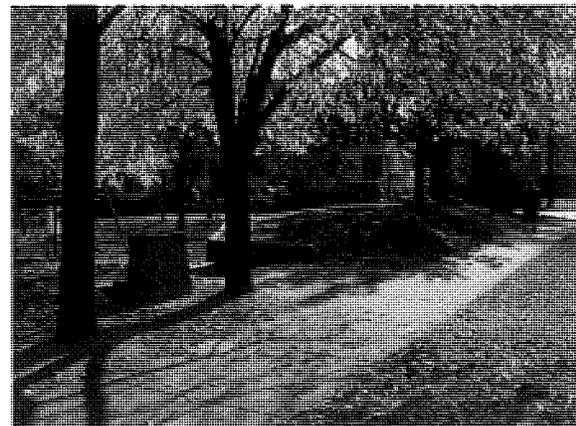
Location: East of Ridge Avenue and North of Foster Street

### Description:

Hobart Park is a totlot park serving a residential area directly surrounding the Park. The park provides playground equipment, seating area, and pathway.

### Existing Facilities:

- limestone screenings pedestrian path
- playground for tots
- two benches
- one trash receptacle
- one drinking fountain
- chain link fencing along north and east boundary
- split rail fencing along south and west boundary
- one retaining wall
- seven shade trees



*Hobart Park – Entrance on Ridge Avenue*

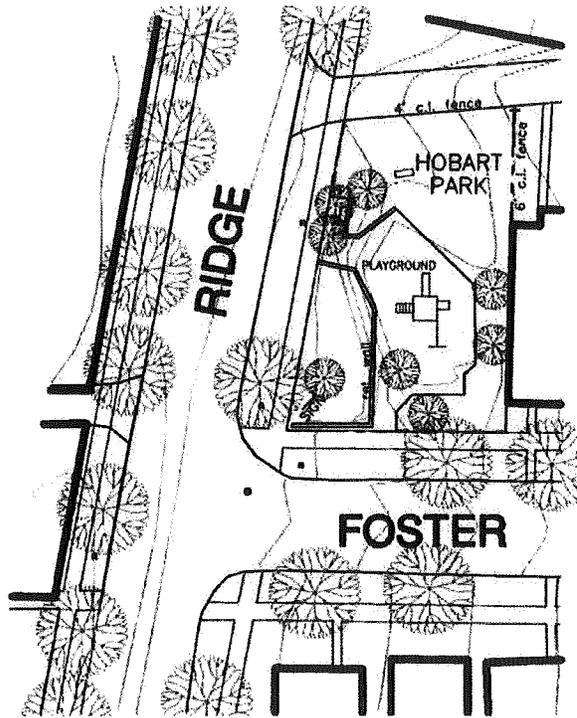


Figure 38: Hobart Park

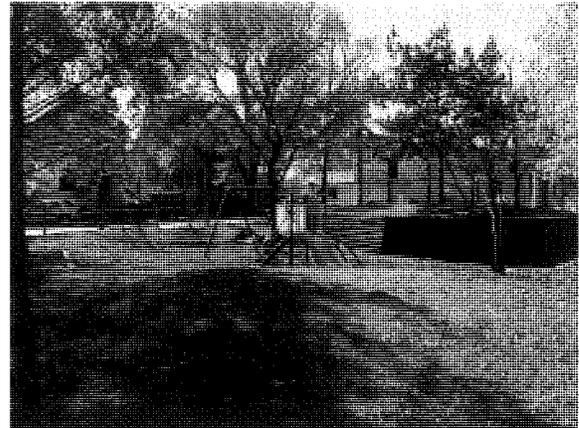
Evaluation:

Assets:

- good accessibility to residential surrounding the Park
- provides playground for tots
- seating areas
- open space along Ridge Avenue

Liabilities:

- existing limestone walk to playground is in poor condition
- concrete sidewalk is in poor condition
- existing stairs are in poor condition and unsafe
- existing playground structures are not ADA compliant and do not meet safety guidelines
- the existing sign is in poor condition and inappropriate to the park
- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- existing retaining wall needs to be repaired



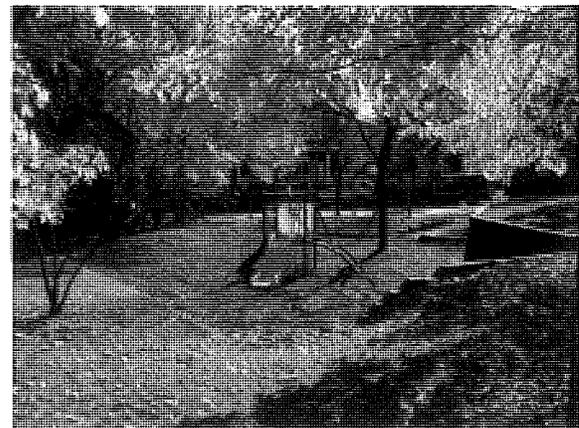
Hobart Park - Playground

- trash receptacle is painted 55 gallon drum
- existing chain link fencing is in poor condition

Last Improvements:

Made in 1991, which included \$5,000 for the following:

- playground equipment, edging, and surfacing
- landscape



Hobart Park - Playground

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

### HOWELL PARK (see Figure 39)

Size: 1.60 acres

Ward: 7

Classification

Function: Parkway – Mini-Park

Location: North of Hartzell Street and East of Walnut Avenue

Description:

Howell Park is surrounded by three streets, and serves primarily as parkway and open space to the immediately surrounding neighborhood. There are pathways and several benches in the Park

Existing Facilities:

- one park identification sign
- limestone screenings pedestrian path
- six benches
- two trash receptacles
- 51 shade trees
- nine ornamental trees

Evaluation:

Assets:

- seating areas
- good accessibility to residential surrounding the Park
- open space

Liabilities:

- turf areas are level and poorly drained creating poor turf conditions
- existing limestone walk is in poor condition
- the existing sign is in poor condition and inappropriate to the park
- existing benches are old and in poor condition

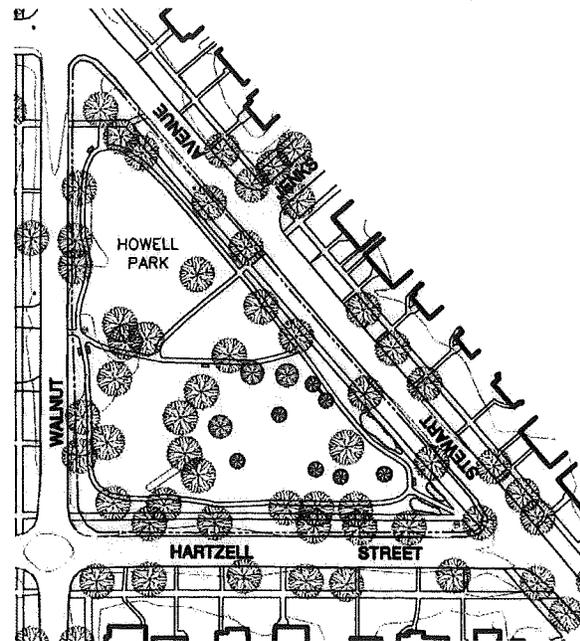
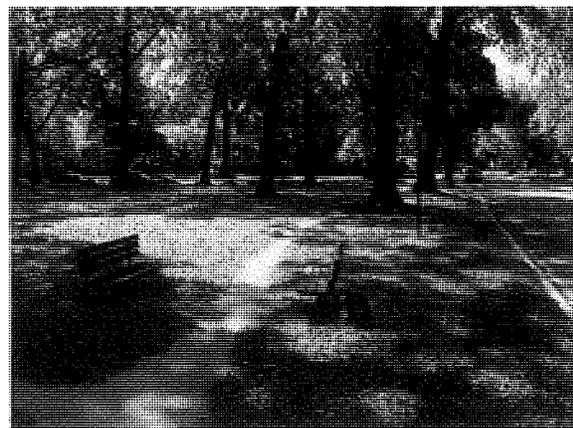


Figure 39: Howell Park

- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums



Howell Park – Pathway and Seating Area



Howell Park – Open Space



Independence Park – Entrance Path

**INDEPENDENCE PARK** (see Figure 40)

Size: 1.60 acres

Ward: 7

Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

Location: North of Central Street and East of Steward Avenue

Description:

With streets on two sides, Independence Park is highly visible and accessible to the neighborhood surrounding the Park. While primarily a neighborhood park, this facility meets mini-park needs for residents in the surrounding area. The Park provides a strong open space area for adjacent commercial areas

Existing Facilities:

- sign and landscape
- limestone screenings pedestrian walking path
- two table-seating areas
- playground for tots
- playground for 6-12 year olds

- fourteen benches
- seven trash receptacles
- two table seats
- one drinking fountain
- chain link fencing along east side
- 27 shade trees
- one evergreen tree
- 36 ornamental trees
- bike rack
- one pay public telephone

Evaluation:

Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood residents
- is compatible with the surrounding residential areas



Independence Park

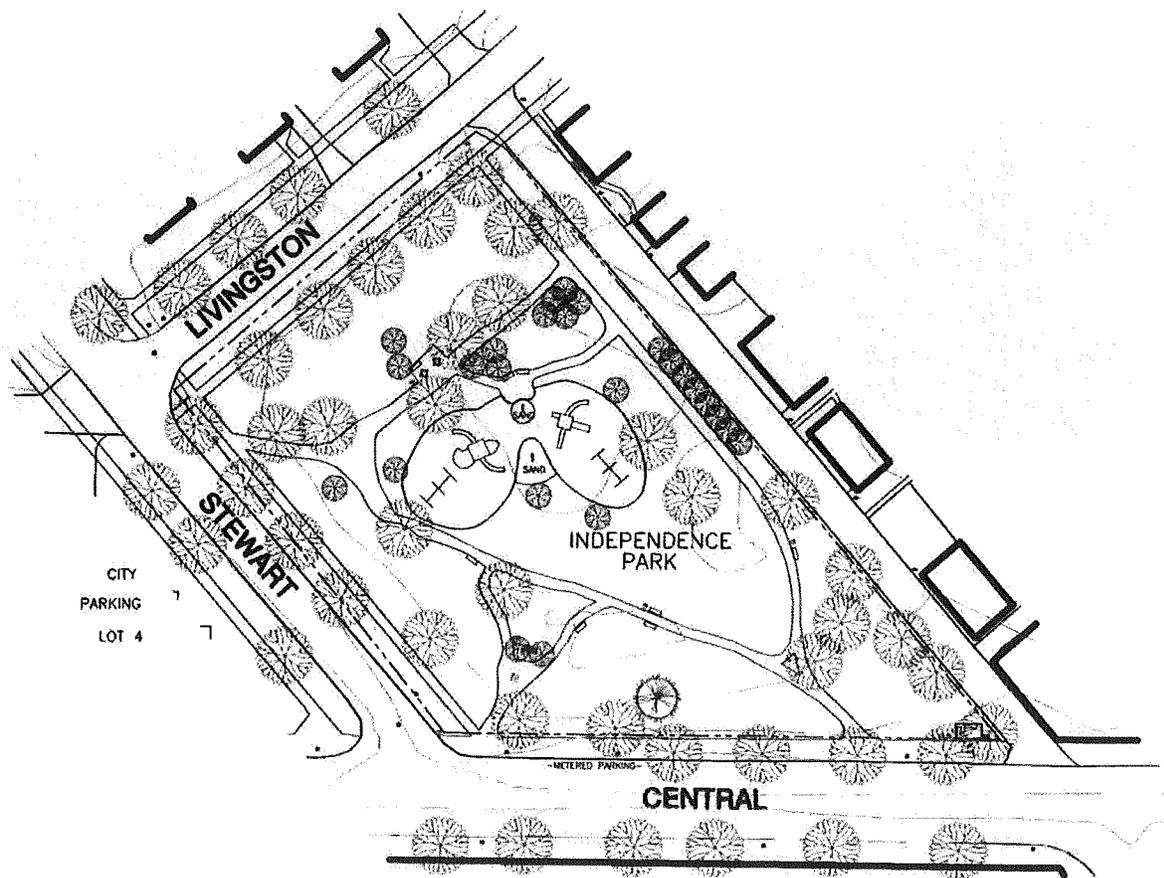
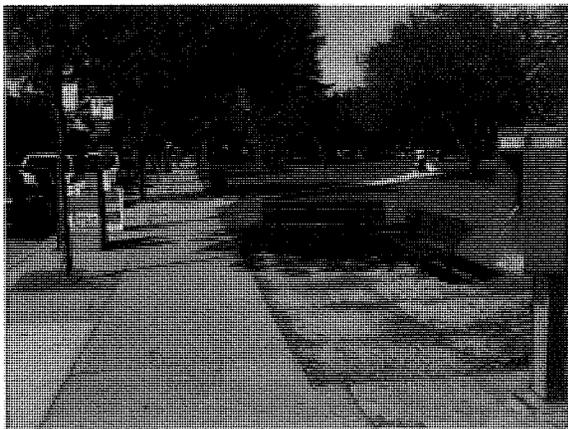


Figure 40: Independence Park

- mature trees – landscape
- playground equipment for tots and 6-12 year olds
- open space in the Central Street commercial area

Liabilities:

- existing limestone walks are in poor condition
- concrete sidewalk on north side of park is in poor condition
- existing playground structures are not ADA compliant and do not meet safety guidelines
- the existing sign is in poor condition and inappropriate to the park
- drinking fountain is not ADA compliant
- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- picnic seat-tables are old and in poor condition
- existing chain link fencing is in poor condition
- bike rack is in poor condition



Independence Park – View Along Central Avenue

Last Improvements:

Made in 1994, which included \$71,000 for the following:

- playground equipment, edging, and surfacing
- landscape
- seating area
- benches and tables
- limestone walks

**Samuel Gilbert INGRAHAM PARK**

(see Figure 41)

Size: 3.00 acres

Ward: 7

Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

Location: East of Ridge Avenue between Simpson Street and Leonard Place

Description:

With streets on two sides, Ingraham Park is highly visible and accessible to the neighborhood surrounding the Park. The Park is adjacent to Civic Center and serves primarily

as open space to the neighborhood with no active recreational facilities.

Existing Facilities:

- sign and landscape
- one trash receptacle
- two picnic tables
- 55 shade trees

Evaluation:

Assets:

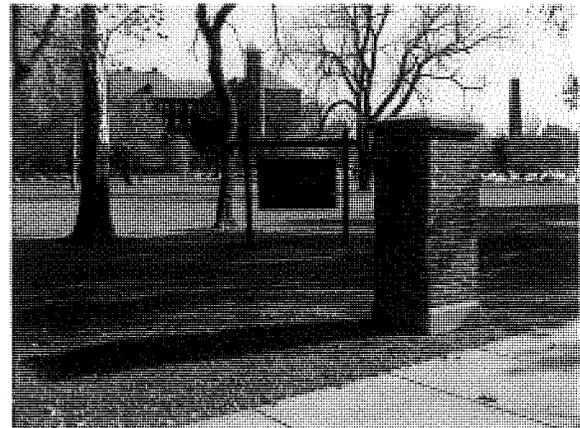
- good accessibility to neighborhood residents
- is compatible with the surrounding residential areas
- mature trees – landscape
- open space

Liabilities:

- turf areas are level and poorly drained
- no walks exist within the park
- the existing sign is in poor condition and inappropriate to the park
- picnic tables are old, in poor condition, and not accessible



*Ingraham Park – View West*



*Ingraham Park – View East to Civic Center*

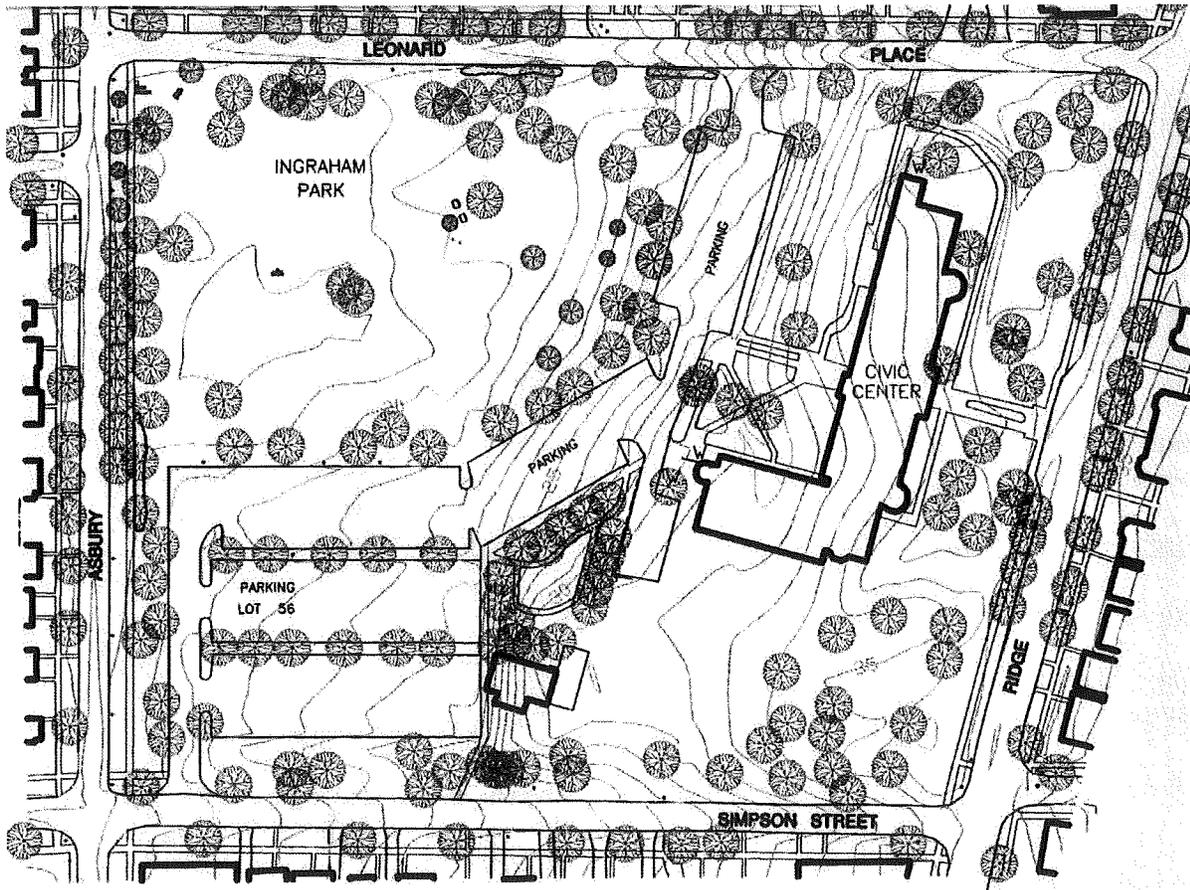
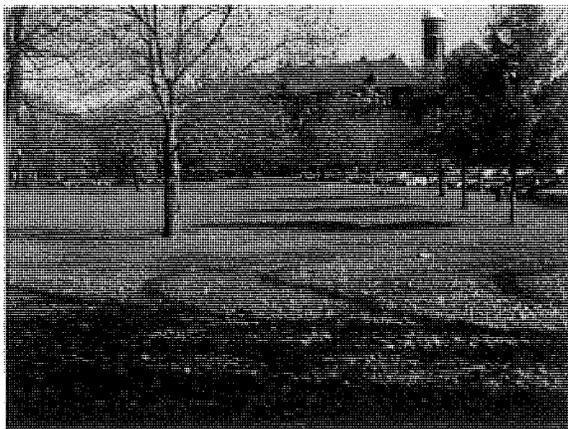


Figure 41: Ingraham Park

- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums



Ingraham Park – View east to Civic Center

**Robert JAMES PARK**  
(see Figure 42)

Size: 45.59 acres

Ward: 8

Classification

Function: Community Park

Location: South of Oakton Street and West of Dodge Avenue

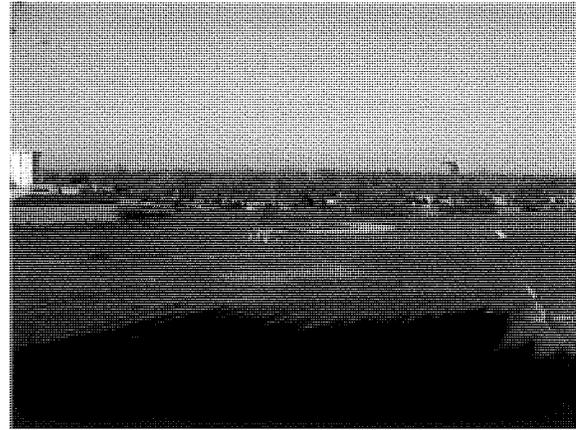
Description:

With streets on two sides, James Park is highly visible and accessible to the surrounding neighborhood and the community. The Park provides the major recreational athletic facilities

in Evanston, and contains a wide range of facilities, including soccer fields, softball and baseball fields, tennis courts, walking paths, and sled hill.

Existing Facilities:

- four ball fields with lights, bleachers, benches, and backstops
- six softball fields with backstops, bleachers, and benches
- one basketball court
- one soccer fields with two bleachers
- two soccer fields with one bleacher each
- two soccer fields with no bleachers
- six tennis courts with fencing
- one open play field
- three sled hills
- limestone pedestrian walk connects four fields that form quad
- two pedestrian benches
- temporary fencing along west side of park



*James Park*

- 28 trash receptacles
- four picnic tables
- three drinking fountains
- chain-link fencing along north side and by school
- wood fencing along east side
- 112 shade trees
- 74 evergreen trees

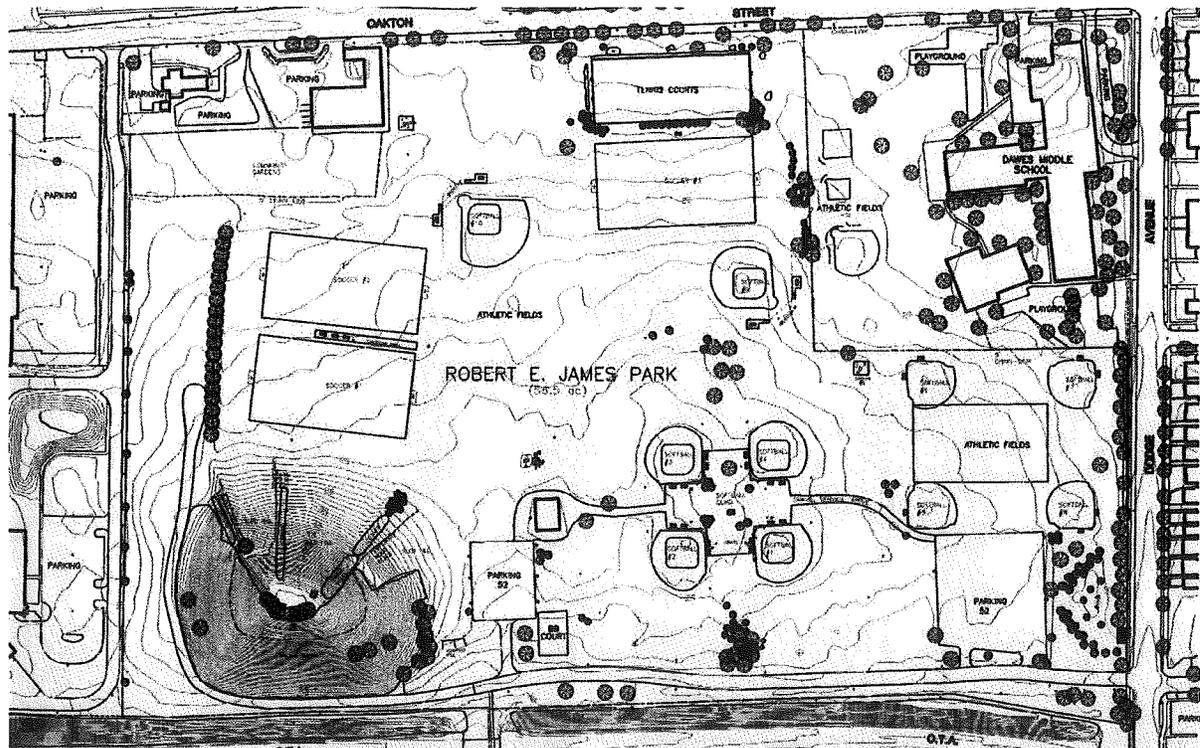


Figure 42: James Park

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

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*James Park - Ballfields*

- 45 ornamental trees
- shrubs form screen along Oakton Street and the east side of the park
- community garden
- 11 Cobra lights along street and drive
- 36 Flood lights throughout park on fields

### Evaluation:

#### Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood and community
- is compatible with the surrounding residential areas
- wide range of athletic field facilities
- open space



*James Park - Basketball Court*

#### Liabilities:

- athletic turf areas are level and poorly drained creating poor turf conditions
- turf areas lack underdrain system and irrigation system
- no parking lot lighting
- pedestrian system lacks lighting for safety and security
- sledding hill lights are in poor condition and inefficient
- entrance drive and parking lot paving is in poor condition
- tennis court fencing is in poor condition
- tennis court lighting is in poor condition and inefficient
- basketball court surfacing is in poor condition



*James Park - Sled Hill*



*James Park - Tennis Courts*

- hill facilities, including steps, fencing and walls are in poor condition
- athletic field facilities, including backstops, benches, bleachers, and fencing are in poor condition
- the existing signs are in poor condition and inappropriate to the park
- unused ski-hill facilities need to be removed
- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- picnic table is old and in poor condition
- existing chain link fencing on west side is in poor condition
- fitness station is old and in poor condition
- landscape throughout park is sparse and lacking overall

Last improvements:

Made in 1999/2000, which included \$1,100,000 for the following:

- playground equipment, edging, and surfacing
- benches and tables
- drinking fountains
- bike paths
- fencing
- garden spigots
- building renovation and expansion
- pony league backstops
- landscape
- gazebo

**KELLY PARK** (see Figure 43)

Size: 0.33 acres

Ward: 3

Classification

Function: Totlot Park

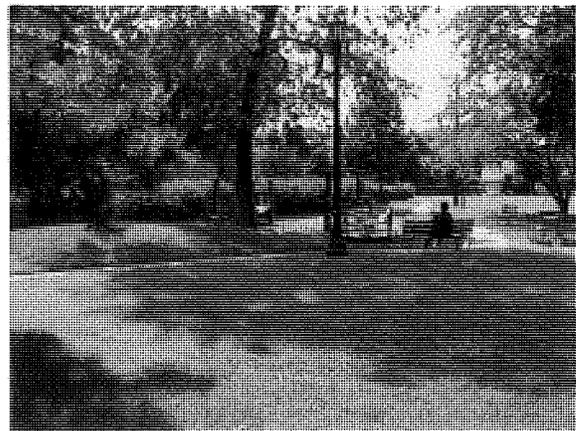
Location: South of Kenney Street and West of Michigan Avenue

Description:

Kelly Park is a totlot park serving a residential area directly surrounding the Park. The park provides playground equipment, seating area, and pathway and is adjacent to Baker Park.

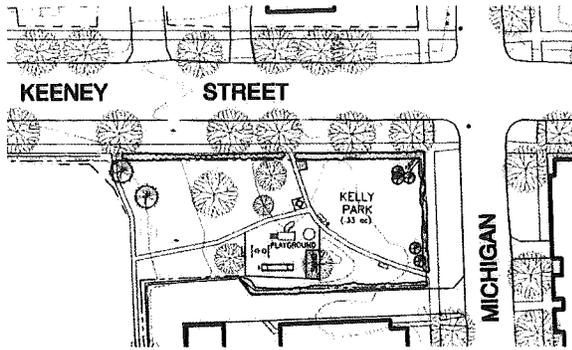
Existing Facilities:

- concrete sidewalk through park
- one light fixture
- playground equipment for tots
- three benches
- two trash receptacles
- one table-seat
- one drinking fountain
- one park identification sign
- 4 shade trees
- 6 evergreen trees
- 1 ornamental tree
- chain link fencing along south side



*Kelly Park – View West*

**INVENTORY OF RESOURCES**



**Figure 43: Kelly Park**

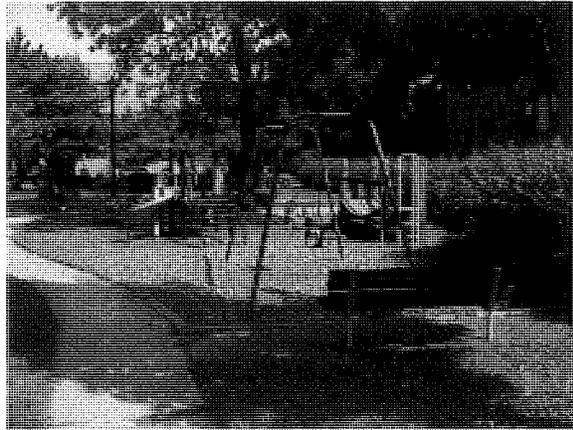
Evaluation:

**Assets:**

- good accessibility to residential surrounding the Park
- provides playground for tots
- seating areas
- open space
- drinking fountain is accessible

**Liabilities**

- existing concrete paving is in poor condition
- existing playground structures are not ADA compliant and do not meet safety guidelines
- the existing signs are in poor condition and inappropriate to the park
- existing benches are old and in poor condition



*Kelly Park - Playground*

- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- picnic table is old and in poor condition
- existing chain link fencing is in poor condition

Last Improvements:

Made in 1988, which included \$24,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- drinking fountain



*Kelly Park – View West*

**LADD ARBORETUM**

(see Figures 44, 45, and 46)

Size: 17.36 acres

Ward: 7

Classification

Function: Special Park

Location: South Side of McCormick Boulevard between Emerson Street and Green Bay Road



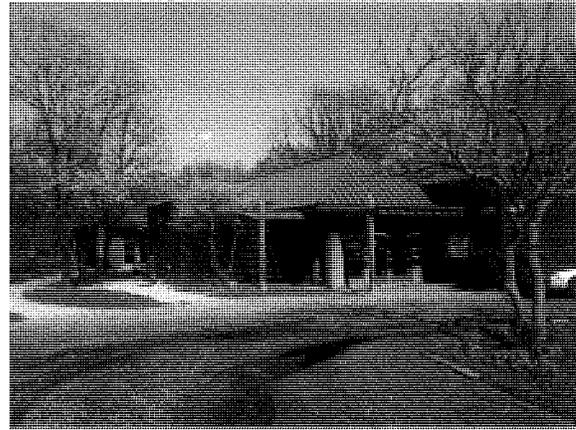
*Ladd Arboretum*

Description:

Ladd Arboretum is a unique park facility within the City of Evanston. Located along the south side of McCormick Boulevard, it provides a one mile linear park along the Canal. Plantings and the Ecology Center provide an educational resource for the community.

Existing Facilities:

- three signs and landscape
- five special information signs
- concrete sidewalk along Bridge Avenue, Emerson, Green Bay
- limestone screenings pedestrian walking path
- two seating areas
- pavilion
- Ecology Center Building with circular entrance drive
- windmill structure
- canoe launch
- 37 benches
- eight trash receptacles
- chain link fencing along canal
- one waterfall planting bed
- one Rotary friendship garden
- one flag pole
- three dedication stones
- 336 shade trees



*Ladd Arboretum*

- 149 evergreen trees
- 218 ornamental trees

Evaluation:

Assets:

- excellent open space
- Ecology Center Building with environmental programs and resources
- landscape plantings
- seating areas
- walks

Liabilities

- lighting system along pedestrian path is lacking for safety and security
- the parking lot lacks ADA accessibility
- parking lot surfacing and curbing is in poor condition
- existing limestone path and edging is in poor condition
- drive in front of Ecology Building is in poor condition
- walks in garden area are in poor condition
- the existing fencing along canal is in poor condition
- the existing signs are in poor condition and inappropriate to the park
- picnic table is old and in poor condition
- existing benches are old and in poor condition

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- educational signage is in poor condition
- planting throughout arboretum needs to be upgraded

### Last Improvements:

Made in 1960, which included \$24,000 for the following:

- initial development of site
- landscape
- limestone pathways
- gazebo
- water supply
- benches

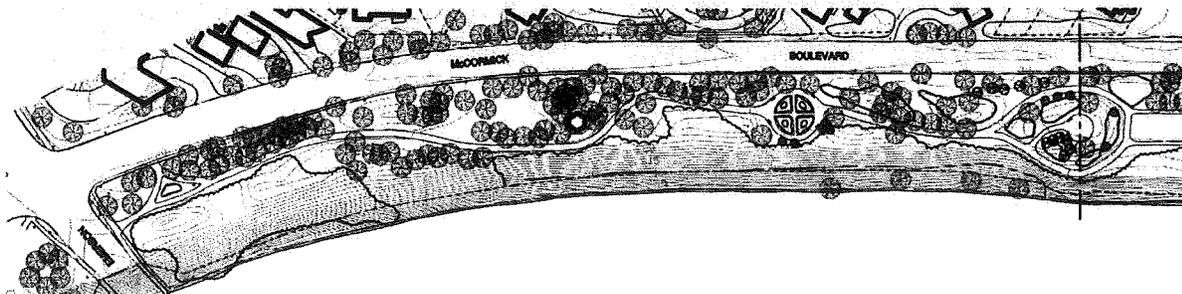


Figure 44: Ladd Arboretum – West Area

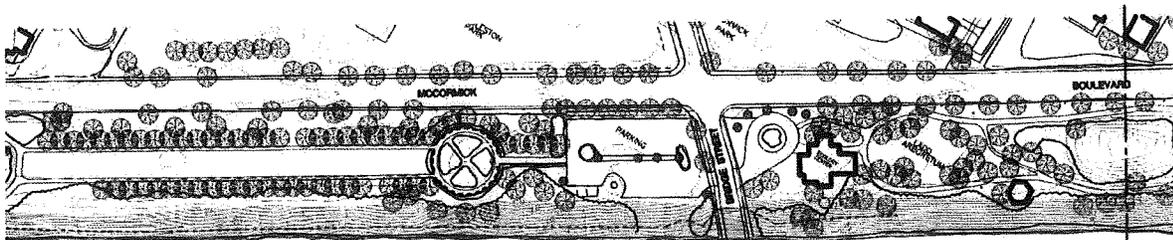


Figure 45: Ladd Arboretum – Central Area

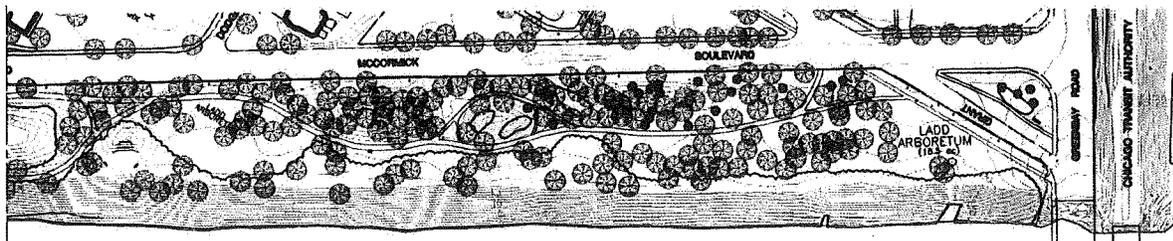


Figure 46: Ladd Arboretum – East Area

**LAKE-DODGE PARK**

(see Figure 47)

Size: 0.12 acres

Ward: 2

Classification

Function: Parkway

Location: Southeast Corner of Lake Street and Dodge Street

Description:

Lake-Dodge Park is a small island of land located at the intersection of Lake Street and Dodge Street. No facilities are located within this site, and is purely green space within the right-of way.

Existing Facilities:

None

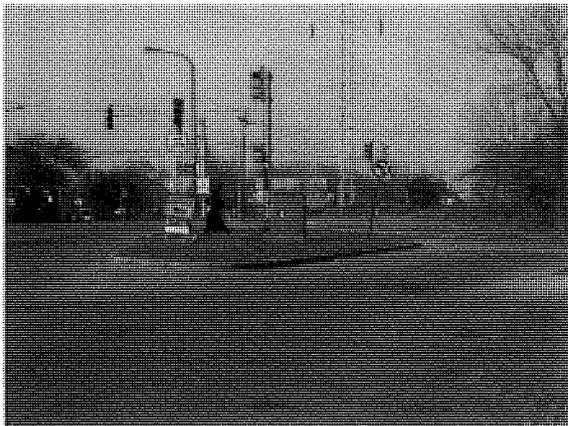
Evaluation:

Assets:

- green space within a paved right-of-way

Liabilities:

- cluttered appearance with traffic signs and poles



Lake-Dodge Park

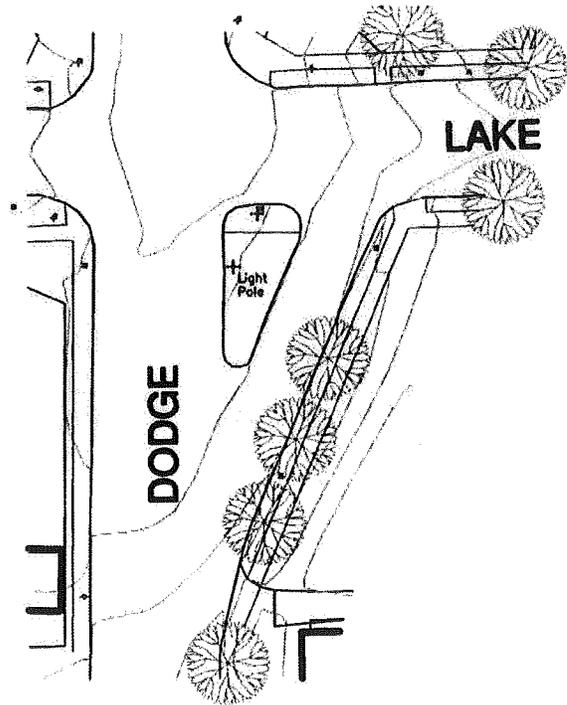


Figure 47: Lake-Dodge Park

- poorly maintained – no landscape except grass and weeds

**LARIMER PARK (see Figure 48)**

Size: 1.80 acres

Ward: 4

Classification

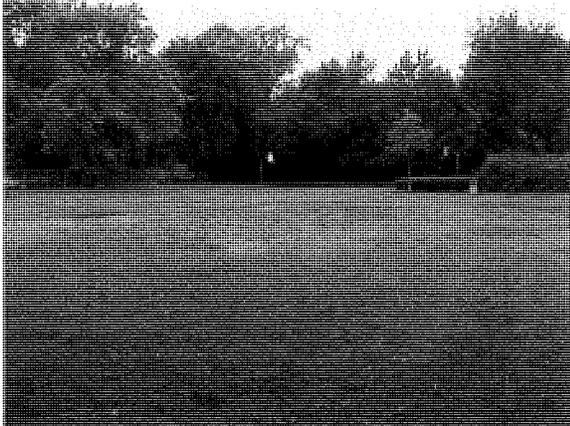
Function: Neighborhood Park

Location: North of Crain Street at Oak Avenue

Description:

Larimer Park is a small neighborhood park located on the north side of Crain Street and consists of a playground, basketball court, softball field, and shelter. During the winter

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

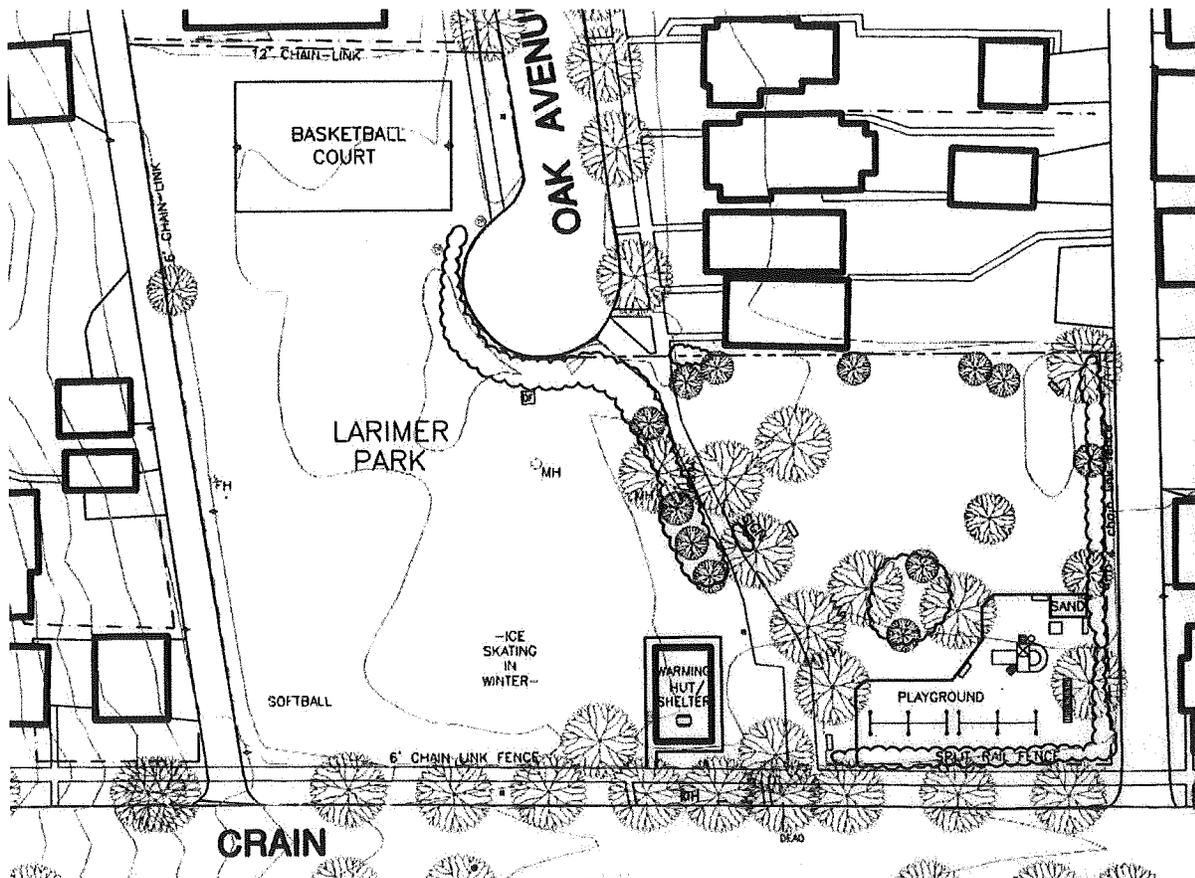


*Larimer Park – Open Space and Basketball Court*

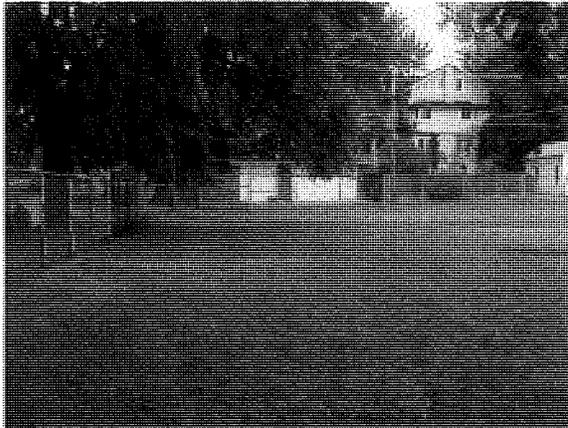
the open field is flooded and the shelter serves as a warming structure. During the summer the shelter is an open structure.

### Existing Facilities:

- one park identification sign
- one ball field with back stop
- ice skating area
- basketball court
- asphalt walk through park
- playground equipment for tots
- playground equipment for 6-12 age
- park/Shelter Building
- seven benches
- three trash receptacles
- one picnic table
- one drinking fountain
- chain link fencing along entire property boundaries
- 17 shade trees



**Figure 48: Larimer Park**



*Larimer Park - Softball Field Area*

- 5 evergreen trees
- 13 ornamental trees

Evaluation:

Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood residents
- is compatible with the surrounding residential areas
- playground equipment for all ages
- shelter for summer and winter use
- variety of facilities
- open space within the neighborhood
- mature landscape in park

Liabilities

- turf athletic fields are level and poorly drained creating poor turf conditions
- the existing asphalt path through park is in poor condition
- accessible path to basketball court lacking
- basketball court surfacing is in poor condition
- the existing sign is in poor condition and inappropriate to the park
- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- drinking fountain is not ADA compliant
- picnic table is old and in poor condition
- baseball backstop is in poor condition



*Larimer Park - Playground*

- playground is not ADA compliant and does not comply with safety guidelines
- existing boundary fencing is in poor condition
- landscape is sparse and needs to be upgraded west and north
- existing light fixtures are in poor condition and inefficient

Last Improvements:

Made in 1993, which included \$38,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- benches and tables
- retaining wall
- fencing
- landscape

**Lawrence O. LAWSON PARK**  
(see Figure 49)

Size: 2.00 acres

Ward: 7

Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES



*Lawson Park – Community Gardens*



*Lawson Park - Playground*

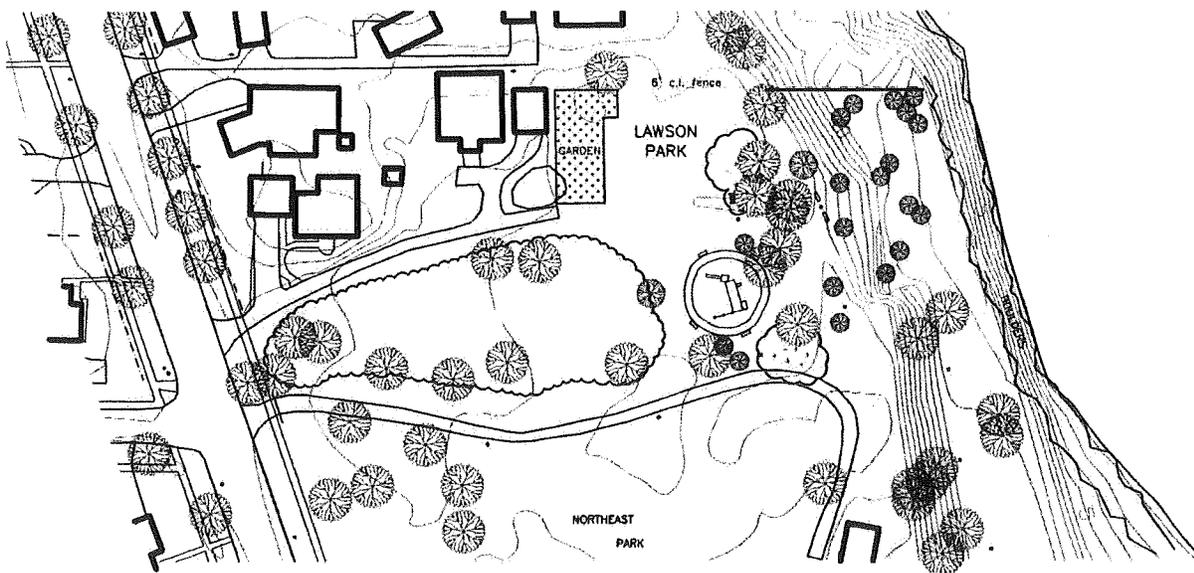
Location: East of Sheridan Road and North of Clinton Place

Description:

Lawson Park is a small neighborhood park and part of the Lakefront Park system located east of Sheridan Road and adjacent and north of Northwest Park (Lighthouse Park District Park). The Park contains limited facilities with a playground, benches, and community garden.

Existing Facilities:

- mulch walking path along lake
- one park identification sign
- rip-rap along lake
- playground for 6-12 year olds
- six benches
- four trash receptacles
- one drinking fountain
- chain link fencing along North side
- community gardens
- 80 shade trees
- three lighting fixtures



**Figure 49: Lawson Park**



*Lawson Park – View of Lake Michigan*

Evaluation:

Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood residents
- is compatible with the surrounding residential areas
- playground equipment for 6-12 age
- open space within the neighborhood
- mature landscape in park
- part of lake front park system

Liabilities

- water service to community garden is in poor condition
- existing light fixtures are in poor condition and inefficient
- interior path system is lacking
- playground is not ADA compliant and does not comply with safety guidelines
- the existing sign is in poor condition and inappropriate to the park
- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- community garden area is cluttered and unsightly
- existing boundary fencing is in poor condition

Last Improvements:

Made in 1991, which included \$32,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- benches
- limestone walks
- concrete pavers
- landscape

**LEAHY COMMUNITY PARK**

(see Figure 50)

Size: 4.20 acres

Ward: 7

Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

Location: South of Lincoln Avenue and West of Ridge Avenue

Description:

Leahy Community Park is located on the south side Lincoln Avenue and opposite Chandler Park and Community Center. The Park contains a variety of recreational facilities, including playground, tennis courts, softball field, restroom building, and walks.



*Leahy Community Park - Playground*

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

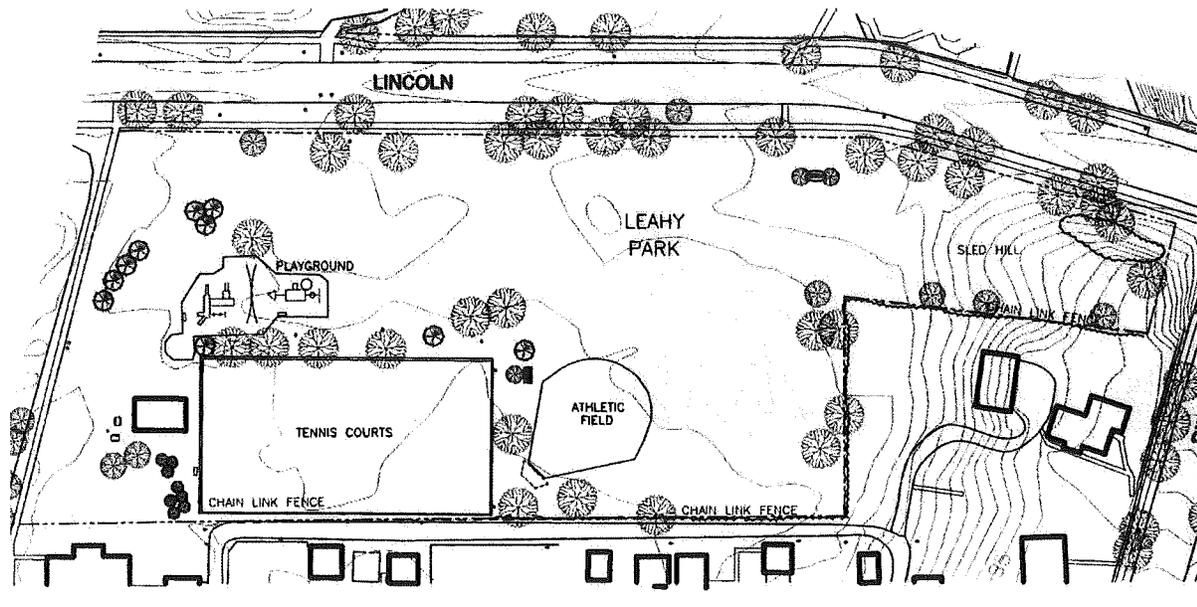


Figure 50: Leahy Community Park

### Existing Facilities:

- sign and landscape
- one ball field with backstop and benches
- four lighted tennis courts with bench
- open play field
- concrete sidewalk along North side
- playground for tots
- playground for 6-12 year olds
- structure with restrooms
- three benches
- three trash receptacles
- three picnic tables
- one drinking fountain
- one cooking grill
- 42 shade trees
- 13 evergreen trees
- 14 ornamental trees
- twelve flood light fixtures



*Leahy Community Park – Open Field*



*Leahy Community Park - Path*

Evaluation:

Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood residents
- is compatible with the surrounding residential areas
- playground equipment for all ages
- restroom and recreation program building
- variety of facilities
- open space within the neighborhood
- mature landscape in park

Liabilities

- turf athletic fields are level and poorly drained creating poor turf conditions
- existing light fixtures are in poor condition and inefficient
- the existing asphalt path through park is in poor condition
- accessible walks to playground, building, and tennis court are lacking
- tennis court paving, fencing, and lighting is in poor condition
- the existing sign is in poor condition and inappropriate to the park
- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- drinking fountain is not ADA compliant
- picnic table is old and in poor condition
- ballfield backstop, fencing, benches, and bleachers are in poor condition
- playground is not ADA compliant and does not comply with safety guidelines

Last Improvements:

Made in 1990, which included \$52,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- benches and tables
- cooking grills
- landscape

**LEVINSON TOTLOT**

(see Figure 51)

Size: 0.28 acres

Ward: 8

Classification

Function: Totlot Park

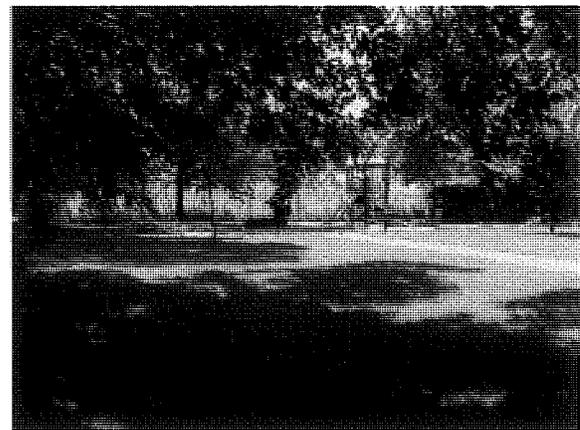
Location: South of Mulford Street at Florence Avenue

Description:

Levinson Park is a small totlot located at Mulford Street and Florence Avenue. It contains a playground and seating area.

Existing Facilities:

- limestone screenings walk from street to playground
- playground equipment for tots
- three benches
- one trash receptacle
- one picnic table
- one drinking fountain (ADA compliant)
- one park identification sign
- 4 shade trees



*Levinson Totlot - Playground*

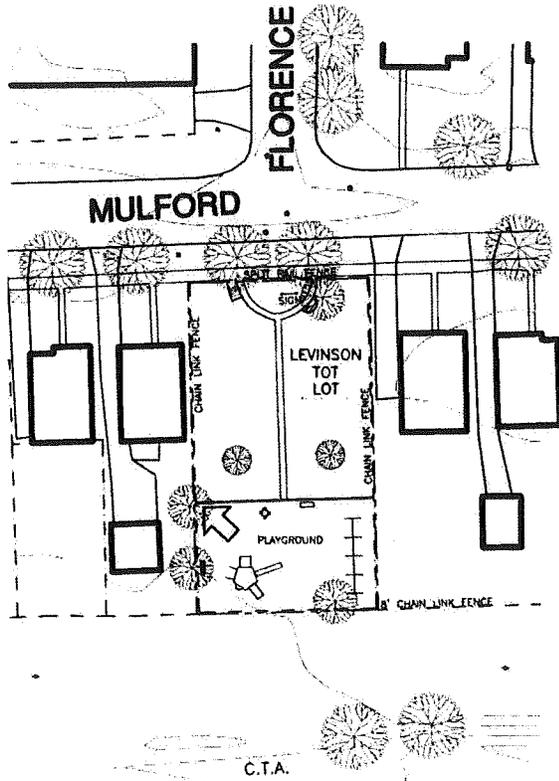
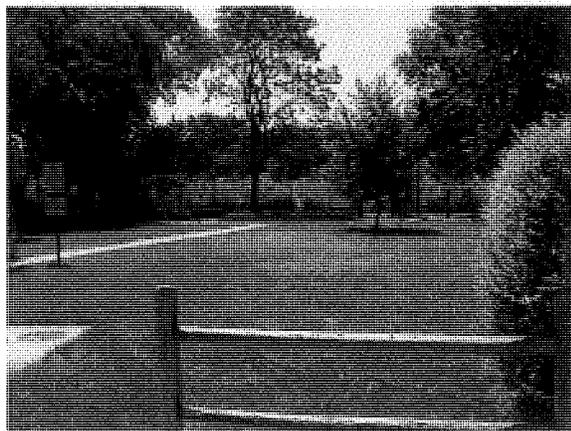


Figure 51: Levinson Totlot

Evaluation:

Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood residents
- is compatible with the surrounding residential areas
- playground equipment for tots



Levinson Totlot – Entrance and Playground

- open space within the neighborhood

Liabilities

- existing limestone paving is in poor condition
- playground is not ADA compliant and does not comply with safety guidelines
- existing fencing is in poor condition
- the existing sign is in poor condition and inappropriate to the park
- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- picnic table is old and in poor condition

**LIGHTHOUSE LANDING PARK and BEACH**

(see Figures 52 and 53)

Size: 4.80 acres

Ward: 7

Classification

Function: Lakefront Park and Beach

Location: West of Sheridan Road and Central Street

Description:

Lighthouse Landing Park and Beach is part of the overall Lakefront Park System. The park and beach is part of a complex of five parks, including Lawson Park, Northeast Park and Gross Pointe Lighthouse (the last two are part of the Lighthouse Park District).

Existing Facilities:

- sign and landscape
- stone pedestrian walk
- council circle
- parking lot with access drive

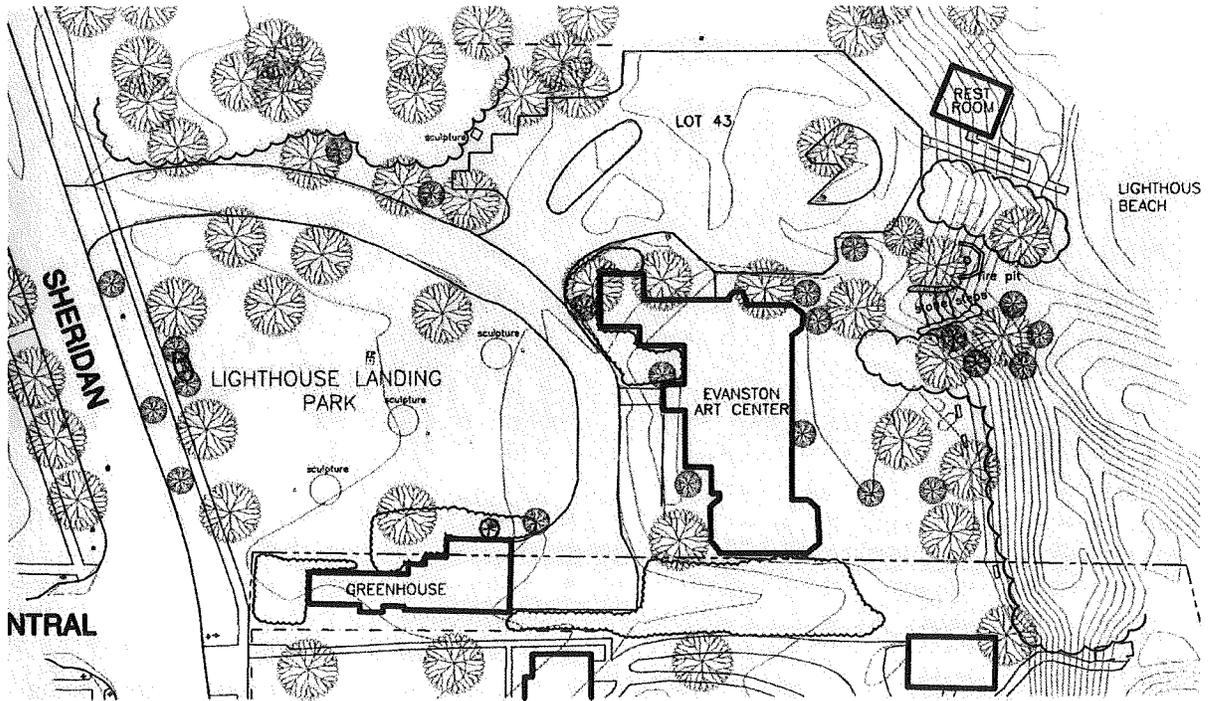
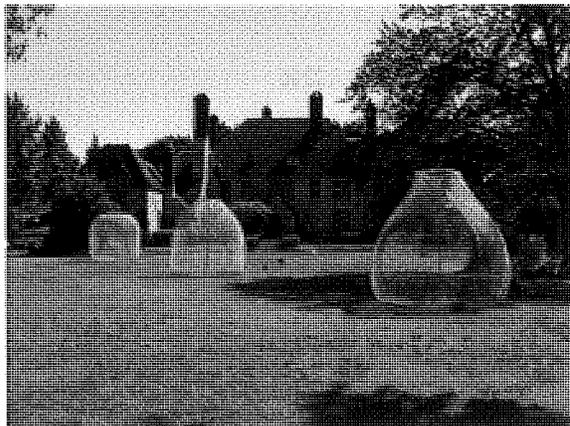


Figure 52: Lighthouse Landing Park

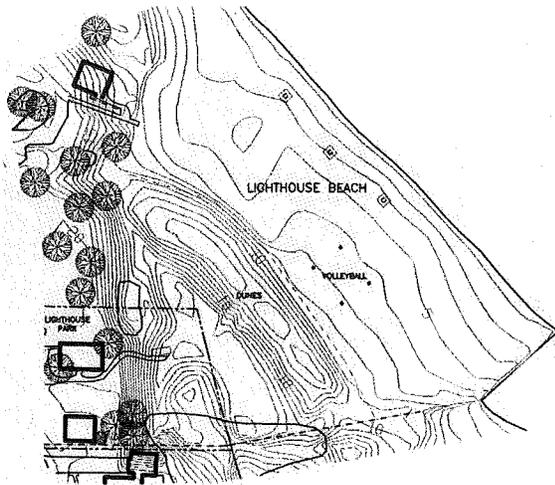
- Evanston Arts Center Building
  - three benches
  - two trash receptacles
  - one flag pole
  - waterfall with pond
  - 65 shade trees
  - 26 evergreen trees
  - 13 ornamental trees
  - one cobra light fixture
  - one tallmadge light fixture
- Lighthouse Beach:
- sign
  - two sand volleyball courts
  - restroom building with lookout deck
  - temporary wood fencing along boundary
  - rip-rap along lake
  - two benches
  - one public telephone



Lighthouse Landing Park – Evanston Arts Center



Lighthouse Landing Park - View to lake



**Figure 53: Lighthouse Landing Beach**

- three lifeguard towers
- swimming facilities

Evaluation:

Assets:

- open space and view to Lake Michigan
- public access to Lake Michigan
- Evanston Arts Center building
- open space along Sheridan Road
- natural areas along Lake Michigan
- mature landscape in park – originally designed by Jens Jenson

Liabilities

- the existing parking lot light fixtures are inadequate and inefficient



*Lighthouse Landing Beach*



*Lighthouse Landing Beach*

- stone paving is uneven and old – east of Art Center
- entrance to beach is in poor condition and ineffective
- ADA accessibility to the beach is lacking
- parking lot needs sealing and line stripping
- the existing sign is in poor condition and inappropriate to the park and beach
- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- bike parking areas are in poor condition
- picnic tables are in poor condition and not ADA compliant
- drinking fountain is not ADA compliant
- the snow fencing along the beach for control is in poor condition and ineffective
- access to the breakwater is dangerous

**Leah LOMAR PARK**

(see Figure 54)

Size: 1.70 acres

Ward: 8

Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

Location: South of Mulford Street at Wesley Avenue

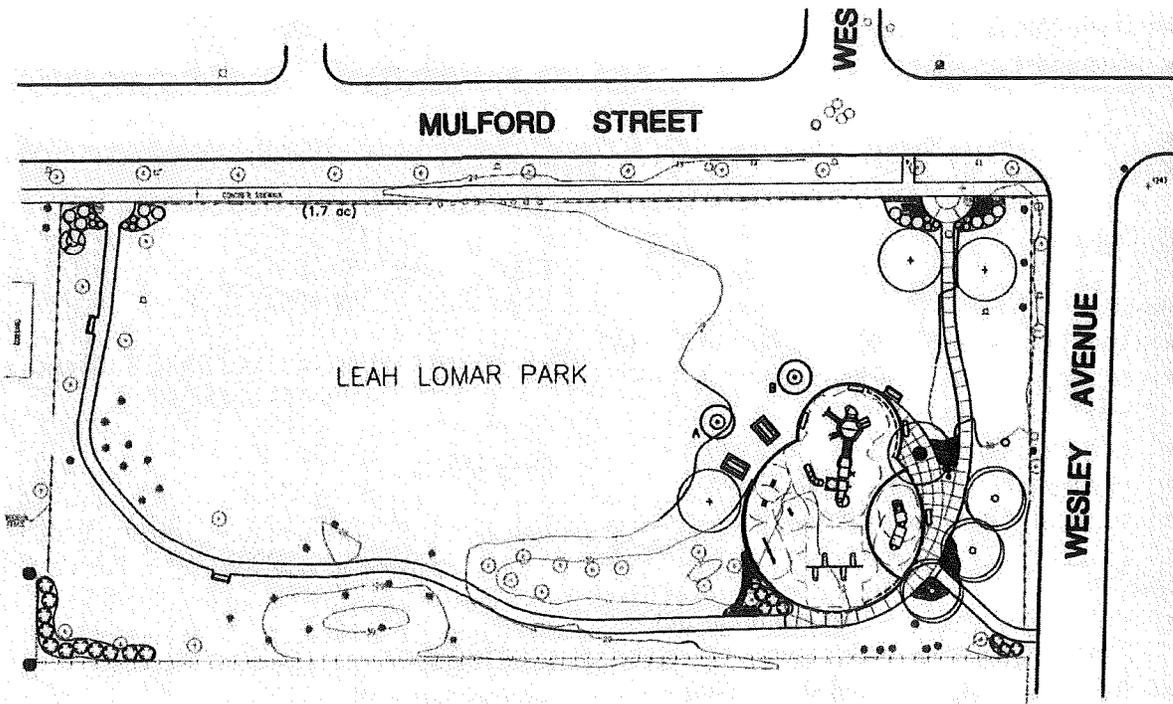


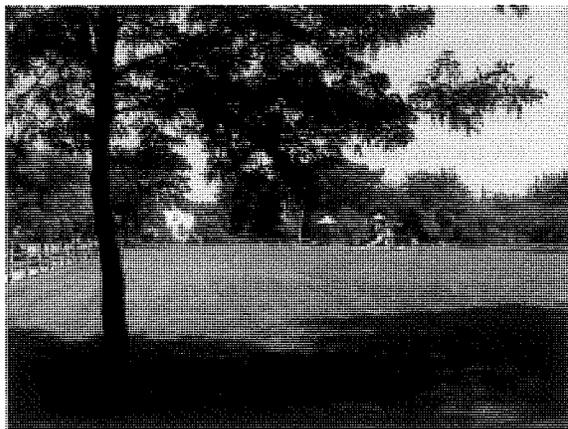
Figure 54: Lomar Park

Description:

Lomar Park is located on the south side Mulford Street at Wesley Avenue. The Park contains a number of recreational facilities, including playground, picnic area, open field, and walks.

Existing Facilities:

- limestone screenings path around the park
- concrete walks around the playground area
- playground equipment for tots
- playground equipment for 6-12 age
- eight benches
- five trash receptacles
- two picnic tables
- one drinking fountain
- split rail wood fence along north, east and west boundaries



Lomar Park – Open Space and Playground



Lomar Park – Open Space

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

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- chain link fence along south boundary
- one park identification sign
- 15 shade trees
- 23 evergreen trees
- 19 ornamental trees

### Evaluation:

#### Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood residents
- is compatible with the surrounding residential areas
- new playground equipment for all ages
- open space within the neighborhood
- new and mature landscape in park

#### Liabilities

- the existing sign is in poor condition and inappropriate to the park
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- 

### Last improvements:

Made in 1999, which included \$128,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- benches and tables
- drinking fountain
- landscape
- limestone pathways



*Lamar Park - Playground*

## LOVELACE PARK

(see Figure 55)

Size: 17.50 acres

Ward: 6

### Classification

Function: Community Park

Location: West of Gross Point Road and South of Isabella Street

### Description:

Lovelace Park is a community park located in the far northwest area of Evanston. The Park provides a variety of recreational facilities, including playground, soccer field, basketball court, tennis courts, recreation building, parking, and walks.

### Existing Facilities:

- concrete sidewalk along south side
- asphalt pedestrian walking path
- limestone screenings path around pond
- parking lot with access drive
- seating area adjacent pond
- one basketball court
- one irrigated soccer field with bleachers
- six tennis courts with benches
- playground for tots
- playground for 6-12 year olds
- 25 benches
- 13 trash receptacles
- four bicycles racks
- six picnic tables
- one drinking fountain
- three cooking grills
- chain link fencing along west and north boundary
- 220 shade trees
- 30 evergreen trees
- 68 ornamental trees
- 31 light fixtures

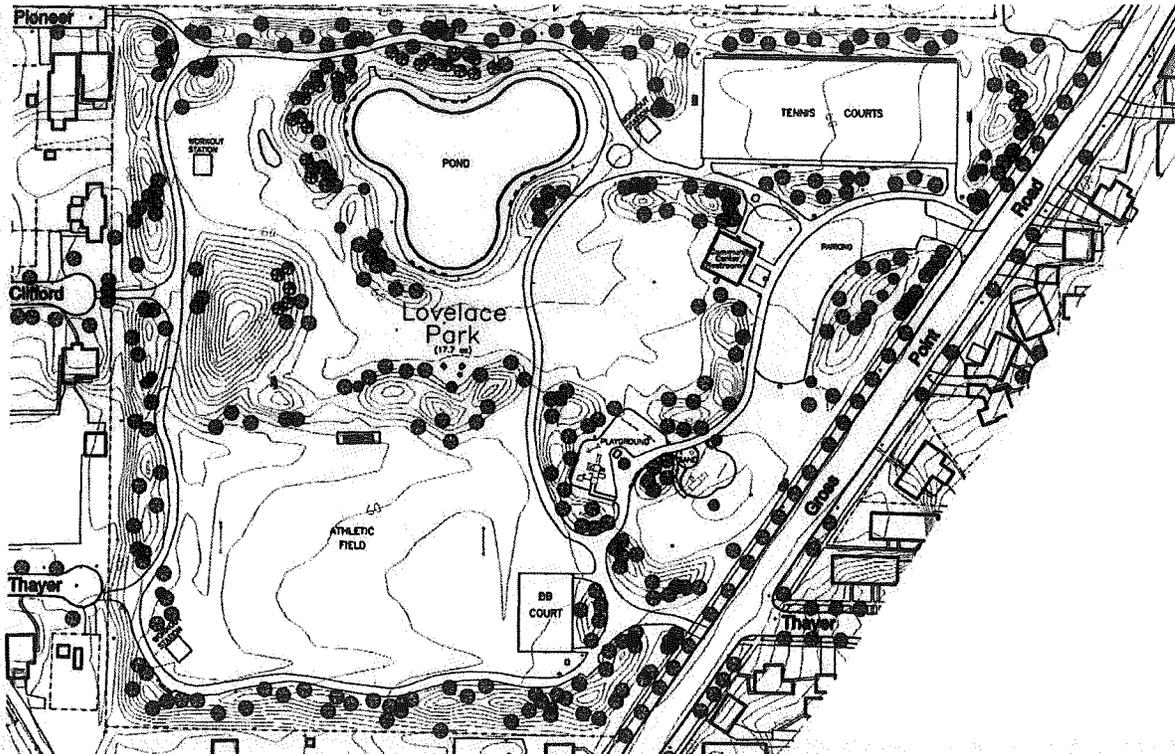


Figure 55: Lovelace Park

Evaluation:

Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood residents
- is compatible with the surrounding residential areas
- new playground equipment for all ages
- open space within the neighborhood
- new and mature landscape in park
- variety of recreational facilities to serve community
- pond and surrounding seating areas

Liabilities

- existing irrigation system is old and outdated
- existing light fixtures are in poor condition and inefficient
- the existing asphalt path through park is in poor condition
- existing limestone paving around pond is in poor condition

- parking lot paving and curbing is in poor condition
- basketball surfacing is in poor condition
- the existing sign is in poor condition and inappropriate to the park
- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- picnic table are old and in poor condition
- bike racks and parking area is in poor condition
- fencing is in poor condition along boundary

Last Improvements:

Made in 1996, which included \$116,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- benches and tables
- concrete and asphalt walks
- landscape

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

### Cornelia LUNT PARK

(see Figure 56)

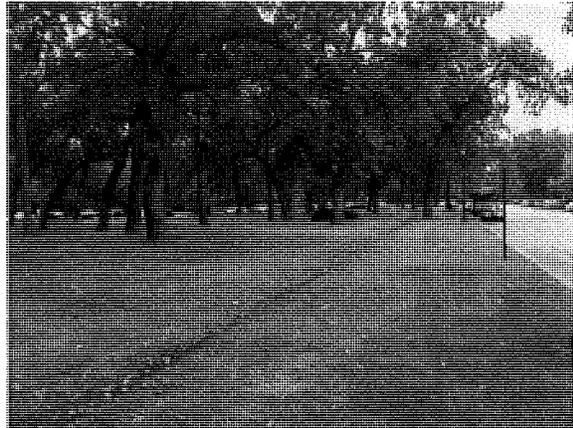
Size: 1.76 acres

Ward: 1

Classification

Function: Lakefront Park  
Special Park

Location: Lakefront, Sheridan Road North  
of Church Street and East of  
Judson Street



*Lunt Park – View along Sheridan Road*

Description:

Lunt Park is part of the Lakefront Park system located west of Sheridan Road and opposite Centennial Park. The Park serves primarily as open space and contains a small seating area in the southeast corner of the Park.

- seating area
- ten benches
- three trash receptacles
- stone trough – historically significant
- 73 shade trees
- 28 ornamental trees

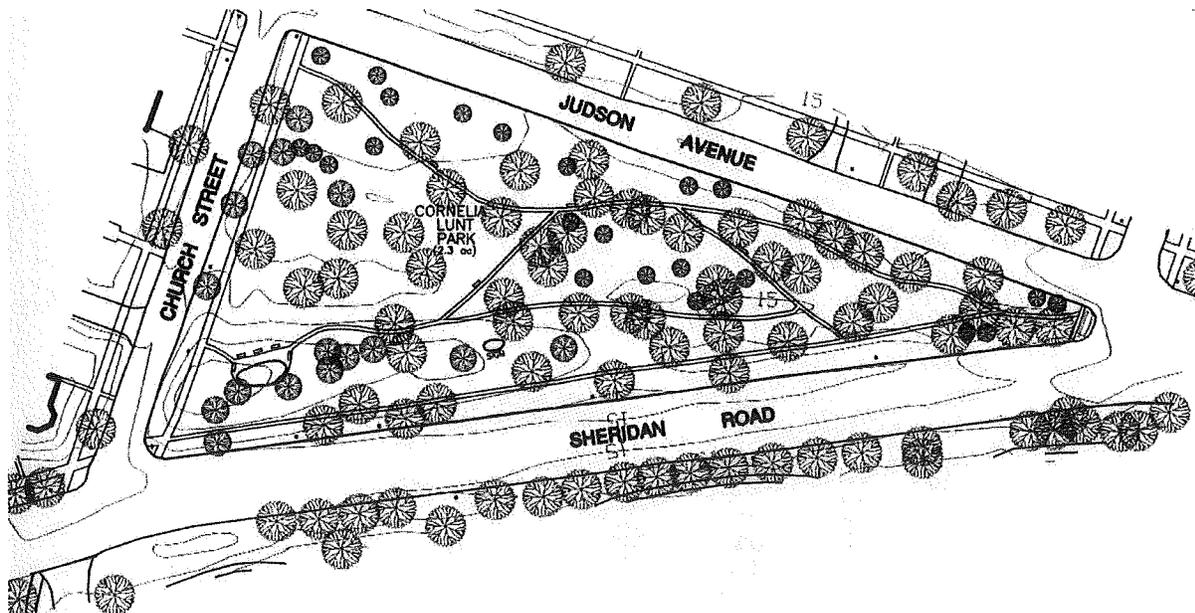
Evaluation:

Assets:

good accessibility to neighborhood residents

Existing Facilities:

- park sign and landscape
- cinder screenings pedestrian path



**Figure 56: Lunt Park**

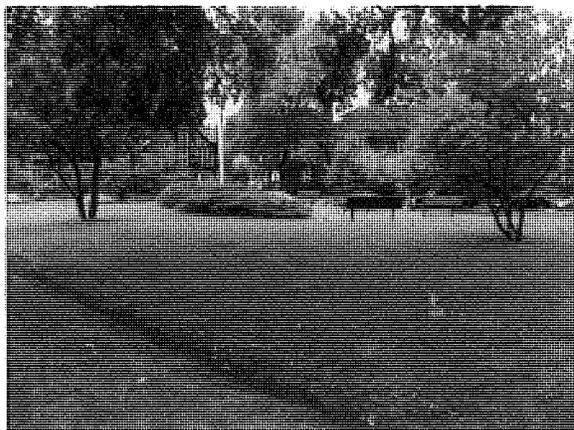


*Lunt Park – View along Church Street*

- is compatible with the surrounding residential areas
- open space within the neighborhood
- new and mature landscape in park

**Liabilities**

- existing cinder paving and edging is in poor condition
- paving in seating area is in poor condition
- the existing sign is in poor condition and inappropriate to the park
- existing benches are old and in poor condition
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums
- concrete water trough is in poor condition



*Lunt Park – Seating Area*

**MASON PARK**

(see Figure 57)

Size: 5.15 acres

Ward: 2

Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park  
Community Park

Location: South Side of Church Street and West of Florence Avenue

Description:

Mason Park, located on the south side of Church Street, is both a neighborhood park and a community park. The Park contains a range of recreational facilities, including, playground, picnic area, open field, tennis courts, basketball courts, ballfield, sled hill, recreational building, and walks.

Existing Facilities:

- one ball field
- four basketball courts
- two tennis courts
- one open play field
- sledding hill
- five light fixtures
- interior asphalt and limestone paths



*Mason Park – Open Space and Ballfield*

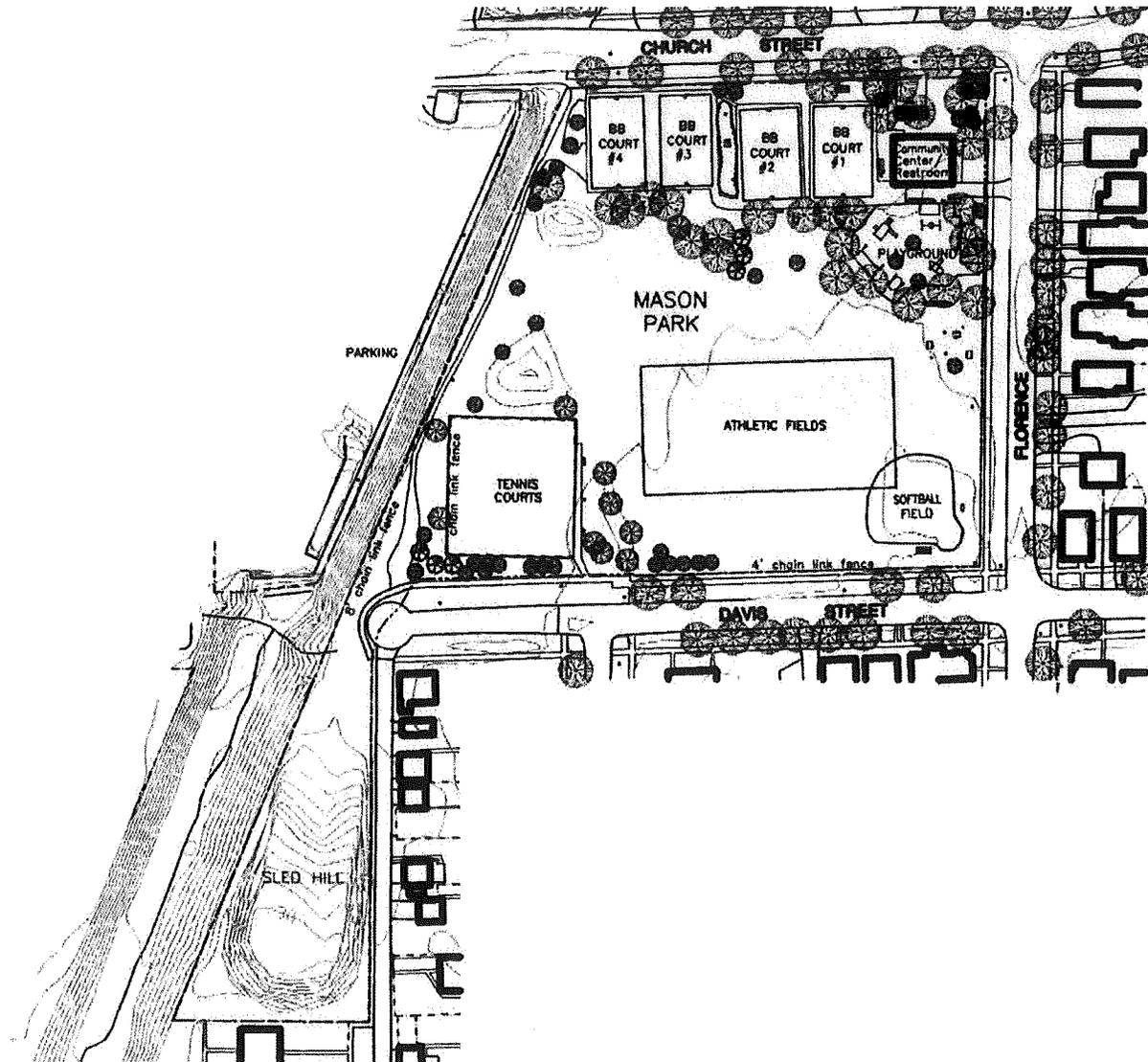


Figure 57: Mason Park

- concrete seating area in front of building
- playground equipment for tots
- playground equipment for 6-12 age
- restroom building/field house
- eight benches
- eleven trash receptacles
- one bike rack
- seven picnic tables
- one drinking fountain on building
- two cooking grills
- one park identification sign on Church Street

- 43 shade trees
- 9 evergreen trees
- 47 ornamental trees

Evaluation:

Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood residents
- is compatible with the surrounding residential areas
- playground equipment for all ages
- open space within the neighborhood
- mature landscape in park
- wide range of recreational facilities

Liabilities

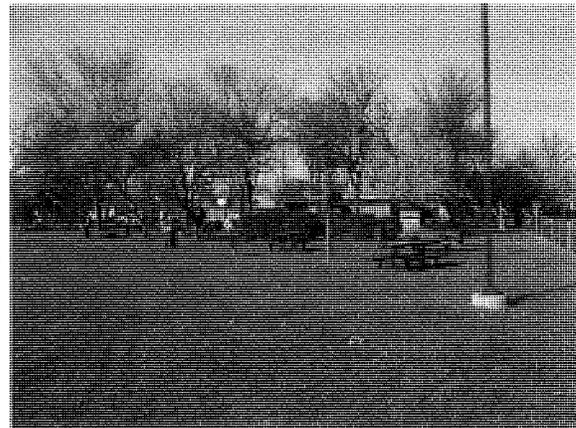
- athletic field turf is in poor condition.
- athletic field areas are level and poorly drained affecting the turf conditions.
- the asphalt driveway on the south side of the building is in poor condition.
- existing asphalt paths should be replaced with new asphalt paths throughout the park.
- the pavement and seating area in front of the building is in poor condition.
- the existing asphalt path south of the tennis courts is in poor condition and does not extend along the street.
- limestone path and edging in poor condition.
- the ballfield backstop is in poor condition.
- ballfield bleachers are in poor condition.
- the ballfield lacks player benches and field fencing.
- infield surfacing is in poor condition.
- the tennis courts are in poor condition with cracks.
- tennis court fencing is in poor condition.
- player benches for tennis courts do not exist.
- tennis nets/posts are in poor condition.
- the basketball court pavement is in poor condition.
- many pieces of playground equipment that do not comply with CPSC and ASTM.
- the playground surfacing is insufficient.
- the planter retaining wall in the playground is in poor condition.
- the existing sign is old and outdated.
- existing benches throughout the park are in poor condition.
- existing trash receptacles should be replaced throughout the park with new trash receptacles.
- picnic tables are in poor condition and not ADA compliant.
- damaged bollards on the north side of Davis Street (south edge of park) are in poor condition and need replacement with a fence.

- retaining wall in front of the building is in poor condition.

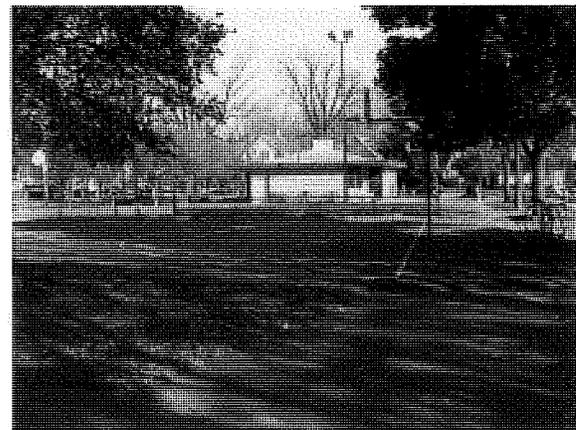
Last improvements:

Made in 1991, which included \$29,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- benches
- picnic tables and grills
- landscape



*Mason Park – Picnic Area and Playground*



*Mason Park – Basketball Courts and Building*

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

---

### McCORMICK PARK

(see Figure 58)

Size: 3.00 acres

Ward: 7

Classification

Function: Parkway Park  
Community Gardens

Location: North Side of McCormick  
Boulevard between Bridge Street  
and Grant Avenue

Description:

McCormick Park, located on the north side of McCormick Boulevard, is opposite the Ladd Arboretum. The Park is limited to primarily open space along McCormick Boulevard and community gardens.

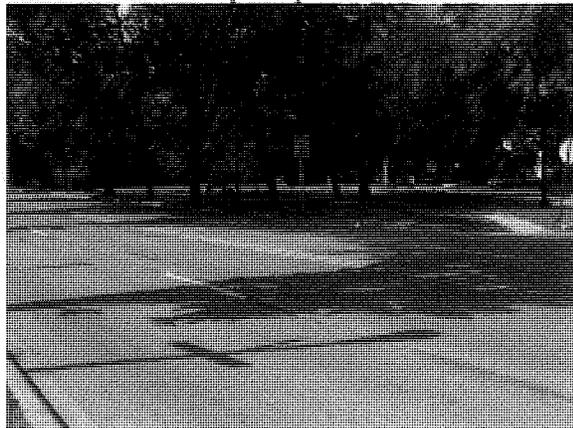
Existing Facilities:

- community gardens with mulch paths
- four trash receptacles
- 101 shade trees
- 17 evergreen trees
- 22 ornamental trees

Evaluation:

Assets:

- mature landscape in park

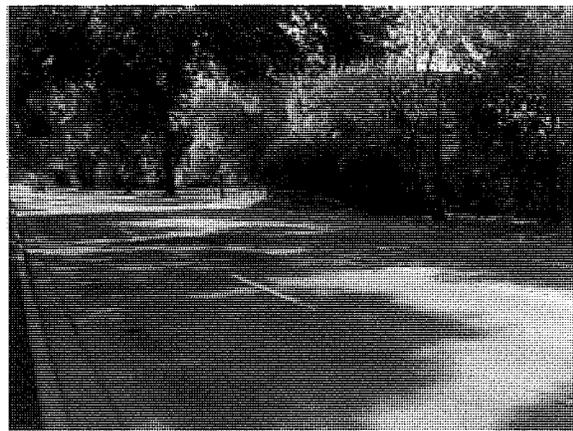


*McCormick Park – View at Grant Street*

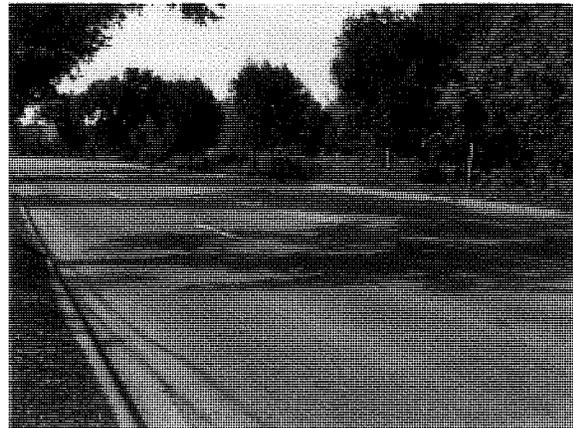
- open space within the neighborhood
- community garden plots

Liabilities

- water line and lawn hydrants are not available for gardens
- a new park identification sign with related plantings should be provided.
- benches are in poor condition.
- the community gardens need to be improved in overall organization, layout, and maintenance to reduce unsightly conditions.
- landscape maintenance should be provided along the length of the park to improve overall visual impact.
- new tree plantings and landscape should be provided throughout the park to replace old trees and those removed.



*McCormick Park*



*McCormick Park – Community Gardens*

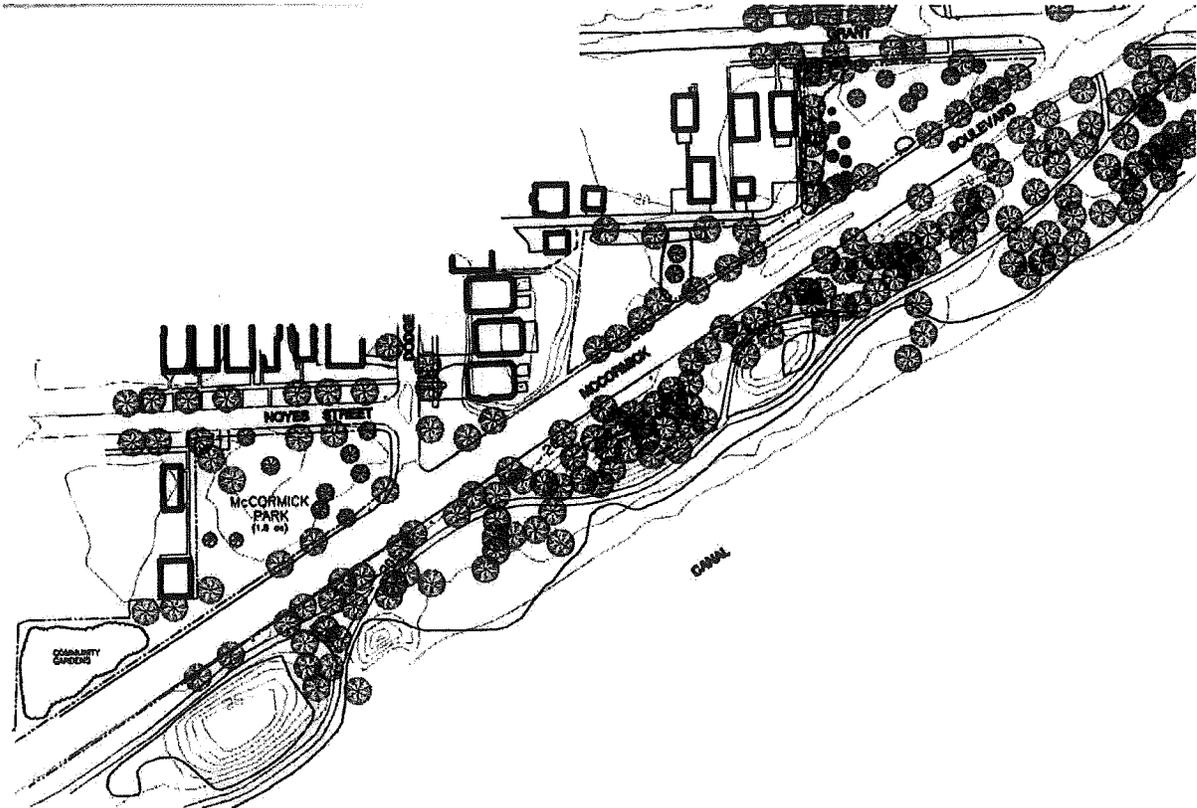


Figure 58: McCormick Park

**McCULLOCK PARK**  
(see Figure 59)

Size: 1.80 acres

Ward: 7

Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

Leased:

Location: South of Jenks Street, North of Livingston Street, and between Broadway and Eastwood Streets

Description:

McCulloch Park, located on the north side of Livingston Street, is a small neighborhood Park. The Park consists of a playground, basketball court, walks, and open space.

Existing Facilities:

- limestone screenings pedestrian path
- one ½ court basketball court with bench
- one sled hill
- playground for tots
- playground for 6-12 year olds
- three benches
- two trash receptacles
- three picnic tables
- one drinking fountain

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

- split rail fence along all four boundaries
- 39 shade trees
- three evergreen trees
- 15 ornamental trees
- three octagonal light fixtures

### Evaluation:

#### Assets:

- open space within the neighborhood
- mature landscape in park
- playground equipment for all ages

#### Liabilities

- the existing light fixtures are in poor condition and inefficient.
- limestone screening path are in poor condition.
- basketball court paving and color coating is in poor condition.
- the existing sign should be replaced with a new system sign and related landscape planting.
- existing benches are in poor condition.
- existing trash receptacles are in poor condition.
- existing picnic tables are in poor condition.
- existing drinking fountain is not ADA compliant.
- existing playground equipment does not meet ADA and ASTM safety standards.

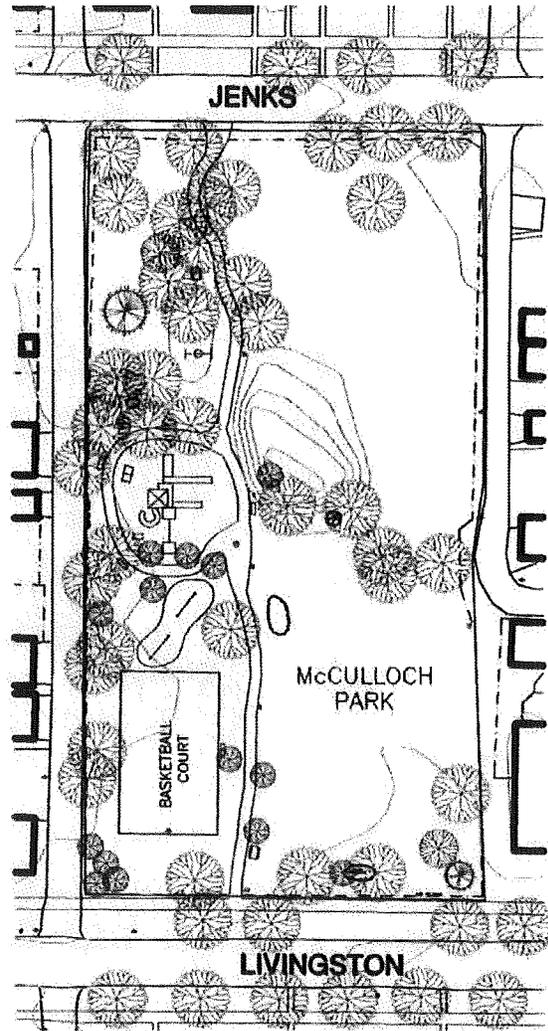


Figure 59: McCulloch Park



McCulloch Park – Basketball Court



McCulloch Park - Playground



*McCulloch Park – Open Space*

- existing split-rail fencing is in poor condition.
- new tree plantings and landscape should be provided throughout the park to replace old trees and those removed.

Last Improvements:

Made in 1994, which included \$54,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- benches and tables
- limestone walks
- fencing
- landscape

**Vera MEGOWEN PARK**

(see Figure 60)

Size: 0.59 acres

Ward: 3

Classification

Function: Totlot Park

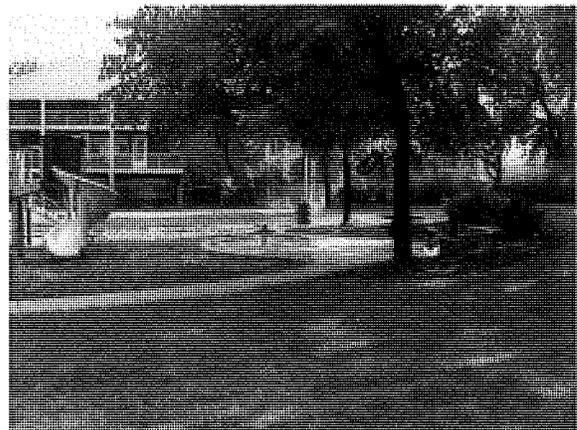
Location: North of South Boulevard and West of Hinman Street

Description:

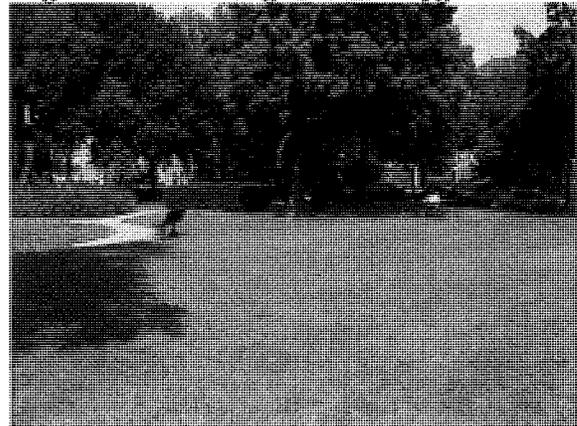
Megowen Park, a totlot, is located on the west side of Hinman Street. The Park consists of a playground, picnic area, and walk.

Existing Facilities:

- concrete walk through park
- playground equipment for tots
- three benches
- two trash receptacles
- two picnic tables
- chain link fencing along west side alley
- one dedication marker
- 9 shade trees



*Megowen Park – Seating Area and Playground*



*Megowen Park – Open Space*

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

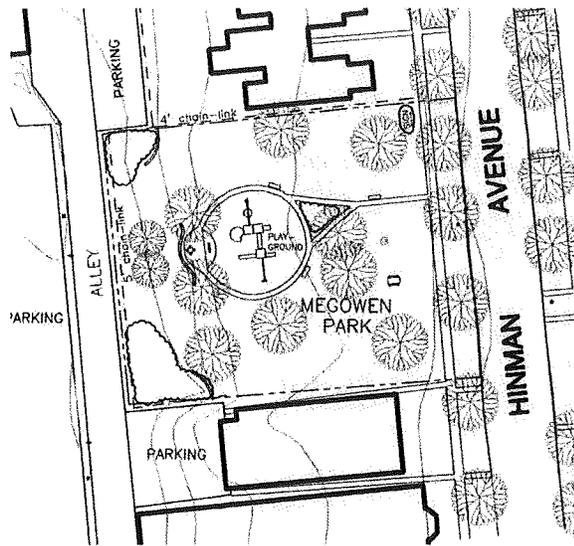


Figure 60: Megowen Park

### Evaluation:

#### Assets:

- open space within the neighborhood
- mature landscape in park
- playground equipment for tots
- picnic and seating area

#### Liabilities

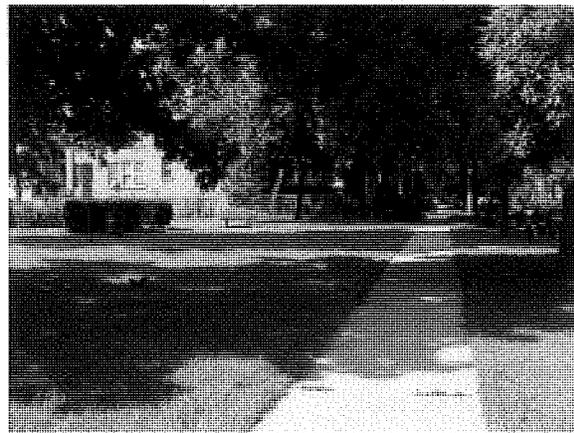
- lacks lighting.
- existing playground equipment for tots does not meet ASTM safety standards and ADA compliant.
- existing chain link fencing is in poor condition along boundary areas.
- the existing sign should be replaced with a new system sign and related landscape planting.
- existing benches throughout the park are in poor condition.
- existing picnic table are in poor condition.
- existing trash receptacles should be replaced throughout the park.
- new tree plantings and landscape should be provided throughout the park to replace old trees and those removed.

- additional buffer plantings and landscape should be added along south/west/north property boundaries.

### Last Improvements:

Made in 1989, which included \$31,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- benches
- concrete walks
- fencing
- landscape
- retaining walls



Megowen Park – View along Hinman Street

## MERRICK ROSE GARDEN

(see Figure 61)

Size: 0.56 acres

Ward: 4

### Classification

Function: Special Park

Location: South of Lake Street and West of Oak Street

Description:

Merrick Rose Garden is a very specialized park located near downtown Evanston. The formalized rose garden and historic fountain provides a unique park setting in the surrounding residential neighborhood.

Existing Facilities:

- limestone screening pathway with brick edging
- nine wood benches and six concrete benches
- two trash receptacles
- ornamental iron fencing along north, east and south sides
- chain link fencing along west side
- three dedication monuments/markers
- one ornamental iron display fountain
- six evergreen trees
- eight ornamental trees
- brick retaining wall west

Evaluation:

Assets:

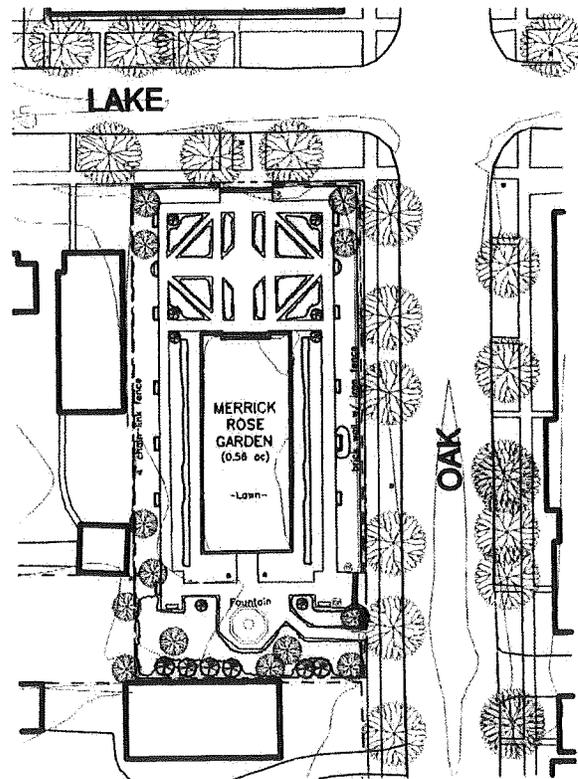
- open space within the neighborhood
- mature landscape in park
- historic fountain
- seating areas
- formalized plantings
- display of roses accredited by All American Rose Society

Liabilities

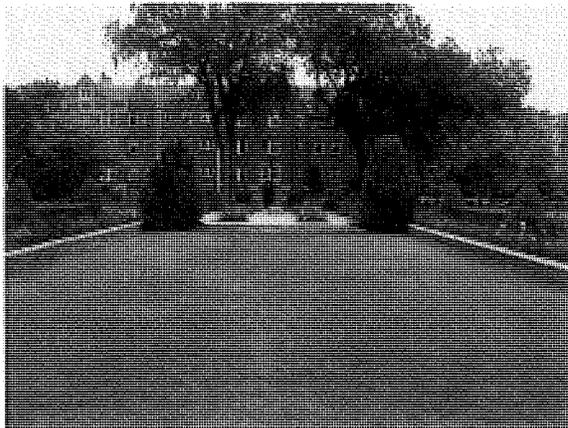
- no pedestrian lighting exists.
- existing irrigation system does not function.
- brick walls are failing.
- the existing sign needs to be upgraded.
- fencing is in poor condition along boundary



*Merrick Rose Garden*



**Figure 61: Merrick Rose Garden**



*Merrick Rose Garden*

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES



*Merrick Rose Garden*

### Last Improvements:

Made in 1988, which included \$75,000 for the following:

- new irrigation system
- rebuilt brick retaining walls
- ornamental fencing
- landscape

### **MONROE TOTLOT**

(see Figure 62)

Size: 0.10 acres

Ward: 9

### Classification

Function: Totlot Park

Location: North Side of Monroe Street

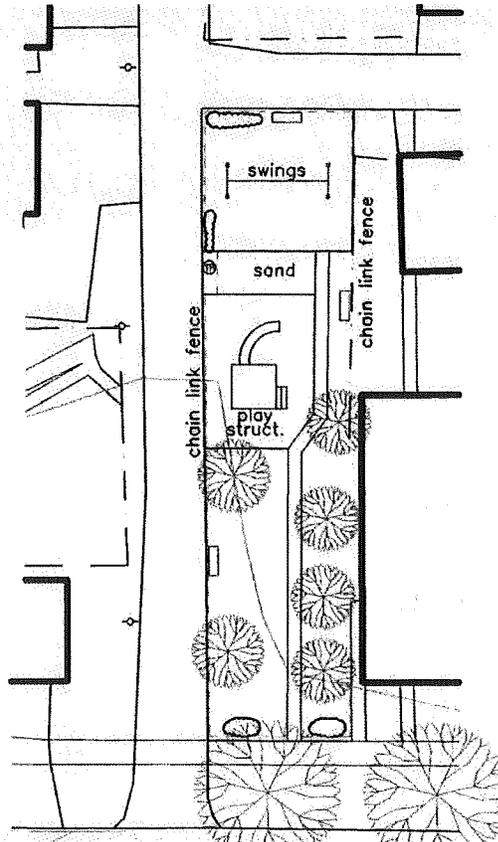
### Description:

Monroe Park is a small totlot located on the south side of Monroe Street. It contains a playground and seating area.

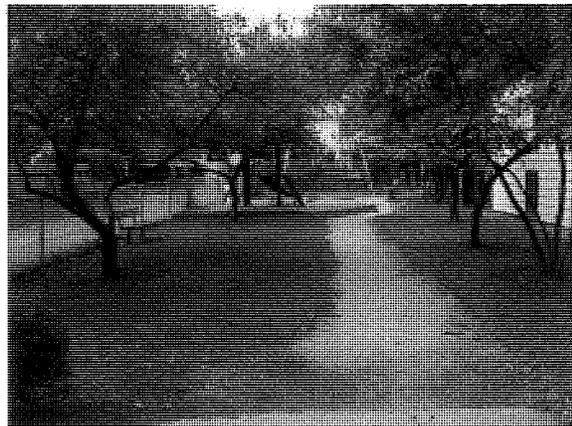
### Existing Facilities:

- limestone screenings walk from street to playground
- playground equipment for tots

- playground swings for 6-12 age
- three benches
- one trash receptacle
- chain link fencing north and east
- two rail wood fence on Monroe Street
- 6 ornamental trees



**Figure 62: Monroe Totlot**



*Monroe Totlot - Playground*

Evaluation:

Assets:

- open space within the neighborhood
- playground for tot
- seating area

Liabilities

- existing limestone walks are in poor condition.
- existing playground equipment for tots does not meet ADA and ASTM safety standards.
- provide a new system sign and related landscape planting.
- existing trash receptacle should be replaced.
- the existing chain link fencing should be replaced with vinyl coated chain link fencing.
- additional trees and landscape should be provided in the park.
- existing benches are in poor condition.

Last Improvements:

Made in 1991, which included \$9,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- limestone walks
- benches



*Monroe Totlot - Playground*

**Jennifer MORRIS PARK**

(see Figure 63)

Size: 0.10 acres

Ward: 9

Classification

Function: Mini-Park

Location: Washington Street East of Custer Avenue

Description:

Morris Park lies between Custer Avenue and the CTA tracks and south of Washington Street. The park is purely open space.

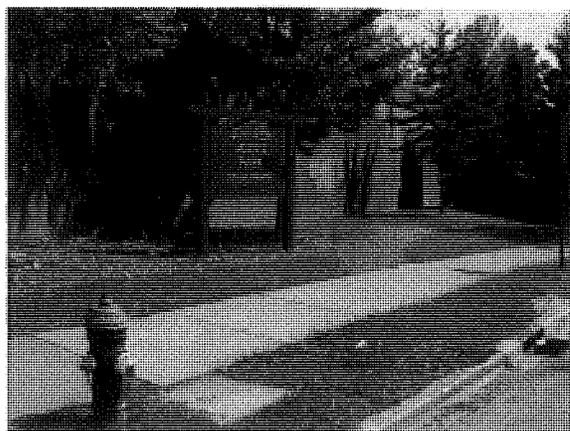
Existing Facilities:

- brick path
- one park identification sign
- two shade trees
- three evergreen trees
- one ornamental tree

Evaluation:

Assets:

- open space within the neighborhood



*Morris Park*

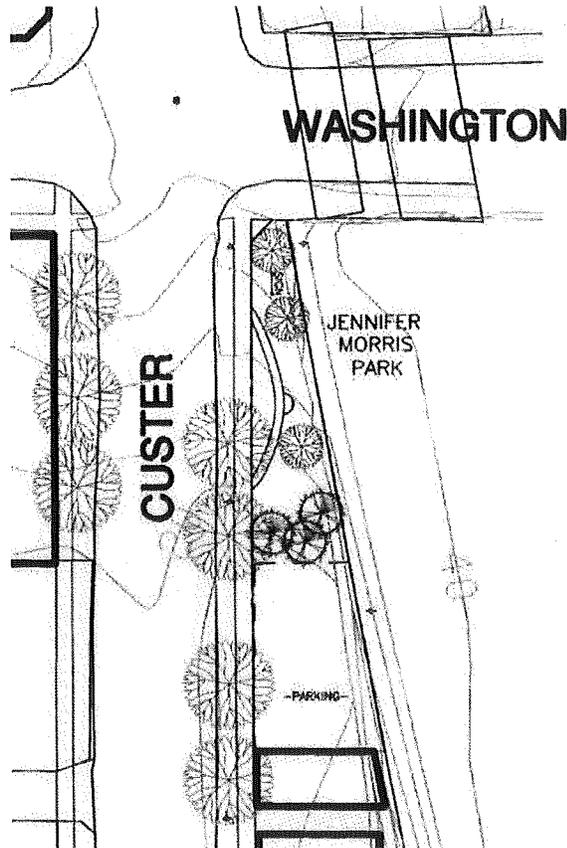
## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

### Liabilities

- existing brick walk is in poor condition
- the existing sign should be replaced with a new system sign and related landscape planting



*Morris Park*



**Figure 63: Morris Park**

- new trash receptacle should be added.
- existing bench is in poor condition.
- add street trees on Custer Street.
- additional trees and landscape should be provided in the park along the CTA wall.

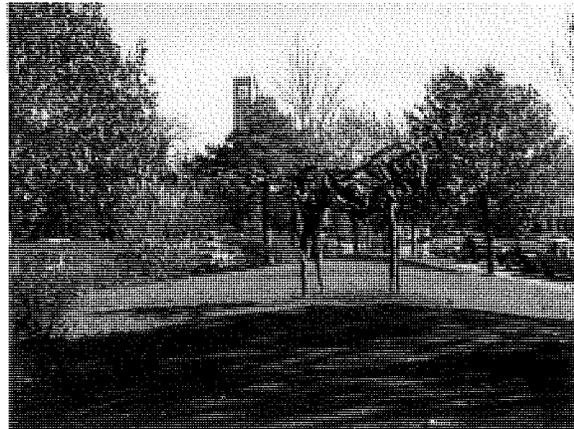
### **Anne & Mary Sloan OLDBERG PARK** (see Figure 64)

Size: 0.35 acres

Ward: 1

Classification

Function: Mini-Park (maintained by Northwestern University)



*Oldberg Park – Bronze Sculpture*

Location: Southwest Corner of Elgin Road and Sherman Avenue

Description:

Oldberg Park is a small mini-park on the edge of downtown Evanston. The Park provides a strong open space entrance to the north part of downtown. The park contains a seating area, walkways, and a bronze sculpture of a horse.

Existing Facilities:

- brick pedestrian path
- two benches
- two trash receptacles
- one drinking fountain
- one horse sculpture
- fifteen shade trees
- five evergreen trees
- seven ornamental trees

Evaluation:

Assets:

- open space within the neighborhood
- mature landscape in park

Liabilities

- consider addition of irrigation system for plantings and lawn areas.
- consider addition of site lighting on pathway and around seating area.

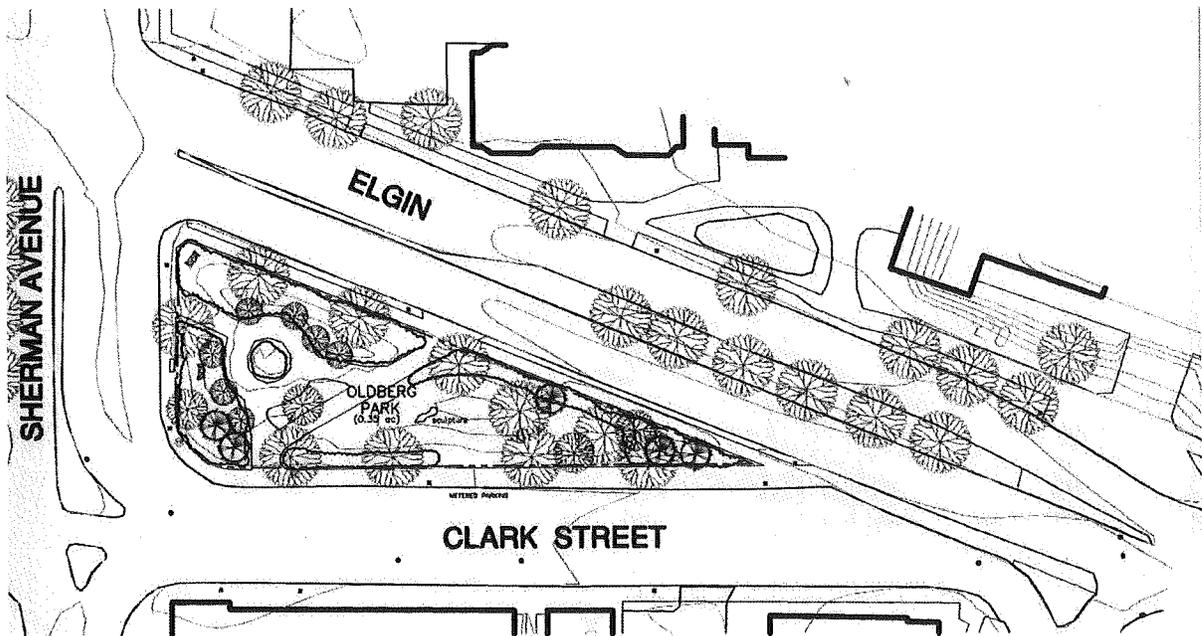
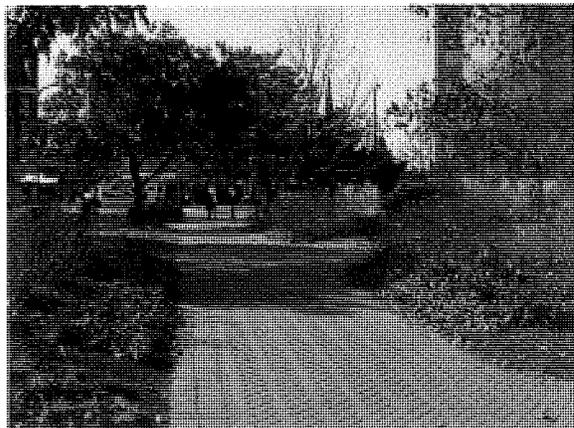
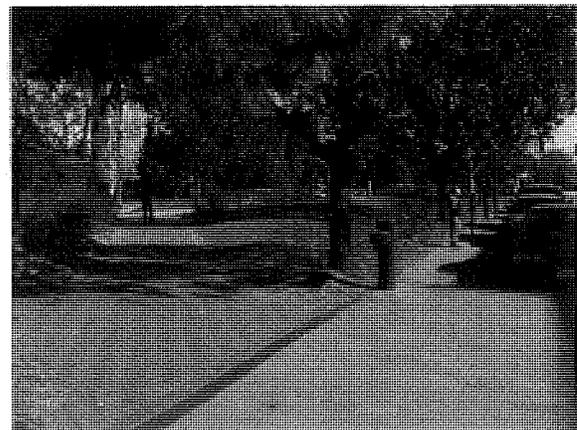


Figure 64: Oldberg Park



*Oldberg Park – Walk through Park*



*Oldberg Park – View from South Side*

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

### Last Improvements:

Made in 1993, which included \$115,000 for the following:

- landscape
- concrete and brick walks
- drinking fountain
- signage

### **PATRIOTS PARK**

(see Figure 65)

Size: 1.20 acres

Ward: 1

### Classification

Function: Lakefront Park System

Location: North of Davis Street, West of Sheridan Place and East of Sheridan Road

### Description:

Patriots Park is part of the Lakefront Park system located west of Sheridan Road and opposite Dawes Park. The Park serves primarily as open space and contains a flagpole and monument.

### Existing Facilities:

- one flag pole
- one monument
- 22 shade trees

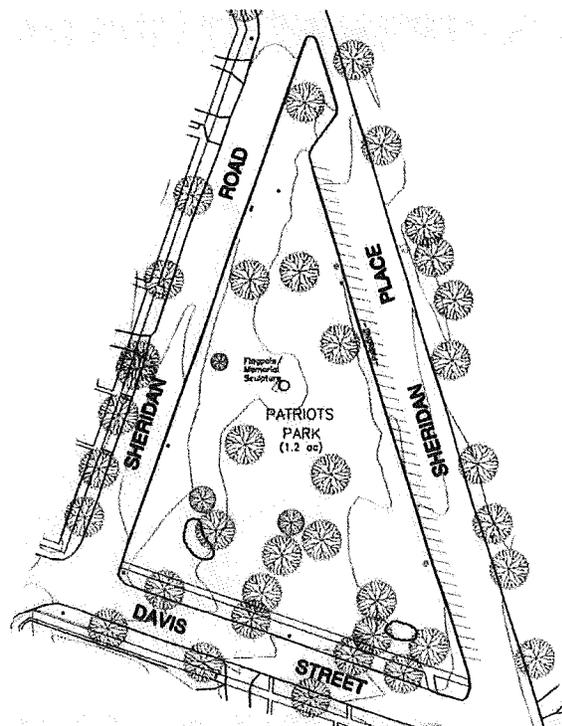
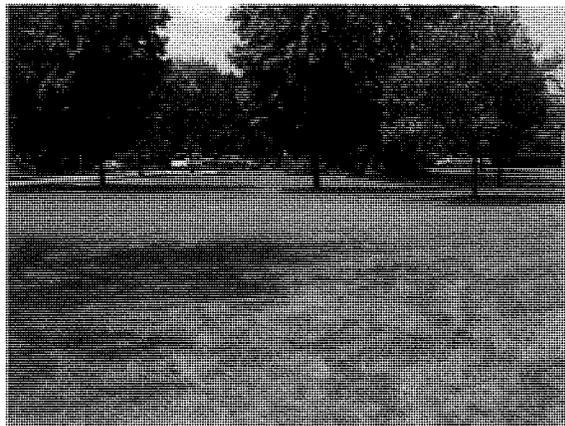


Figure 65: Patriots Park



*Patriots Park*



*Patriots Park*

Evaluation:

Assets:

- open space within the neighborhood
- mature landscape in park

Liabilities

- consider addition of six new park benches.
- flagpole is in poor condition.
- a new identification sign should be added with related landscape plantings.
- trash receptacles should be provided.
- the limestone and bronze base of the memorial should be properly cleaned and restored.
- new tree plantings should be provided throughout the park to replace old trees and those removed.

**PENNY PARK**

(see Figure 66)

Size: 1.14 acres

Ward: 2

Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

Location: South of Lake Street and West of Ashland Avenue

Description:

Penny Park is located on the south side Street and west of Ashland Avenue. The park serves as a neighborhood park with a large unique wood playground and open field area.

Existing Facilities:

- one open play field
- concrete walk through park
- “Leathers” playground equipment for tots and 6-12 age
- three wood benches
- three trash receptacles
- one bike rack
- two picnic tables
- one drinking fountain
- chain link fencing along south boundary
- two-rail fence along east and north
- two stone dedication markers
- 14 shade trees
- 2 evergreen trees
- 6 ornamental trees
- 2 interior light fixtures

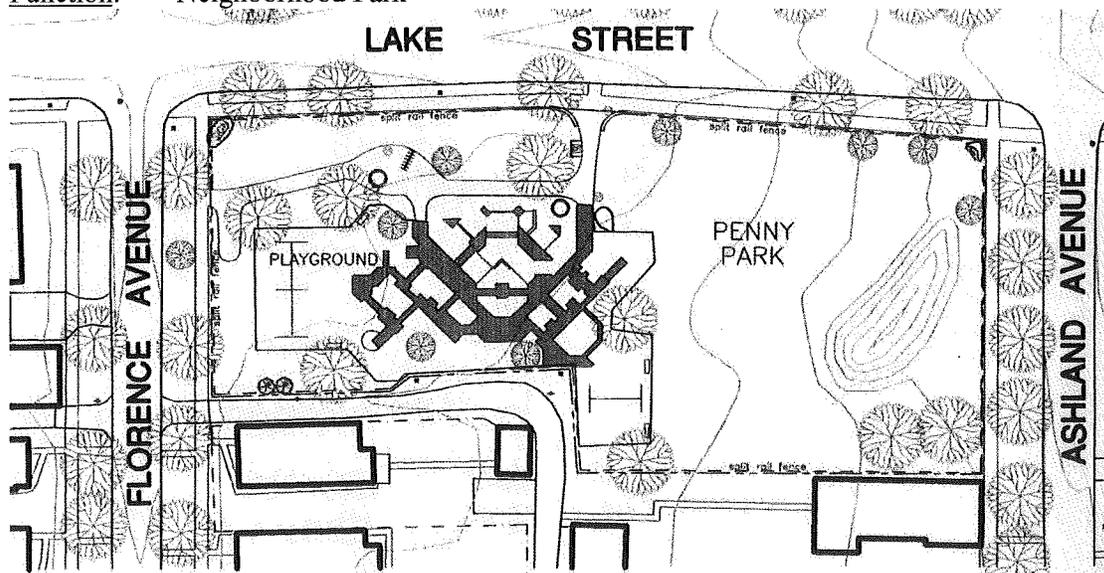


Figure 66: Penny Park

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES



*Penny Park - Playground*

### Evaluation:

#### Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood residents
- playground equipment for all ages
- open space in the neighborhood

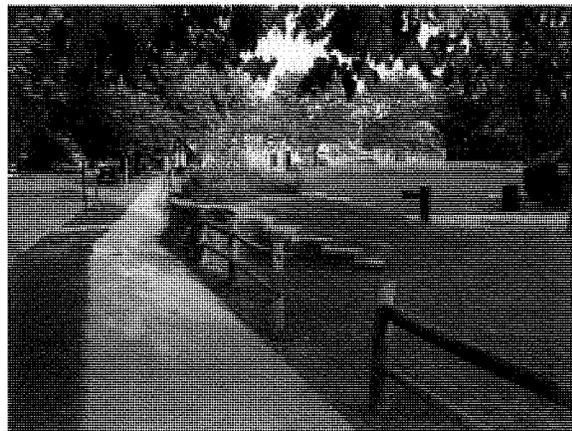
#### Liabilities

- turf areas should be level and poorly drained creating poor turf conditions.
- the existing sign should be replaced with a new system identification sign and related landscape plantings.
- existing benches throughout the park are in poor condition.
- existing trash receptacles should be replaced throughout the park.
- new bike rack should be installed.



*Penny Park – Playground and Seating Area*

- existing playground equipment should be upgraded and renovated.
- new tree plantings and landscape should be provided throughout the park to replace old trees and those removed.
- existing chain link fencing along the south boundary is in poor condition



*Penny Park – Entrance Area*

### Last Improvements:

Made in 1990, which included \$100,000 for the following:

- Leathers play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- benches and tables
- concrete walk
- lighting
- landscape

### **Adam PERRY PARK**

(see Figure 67)

Size: 0.55 acres

Ward: 5

Classification

Function: Totlot Park

Location: Hovland Court

Description:

Perry Park, a totlot, is located on the east side of Hovland Court. The Park consists of a playground, open space, and walk.

Existing Facilities:

- one park identification sign
- asphalt pedestrian path
- playground for tots
- playground for 6-12 year olds
- three benches
- four trash receptacles
- chain link fencing along north, south and east boundaries
- sign and landscape
- 29 shade trees
- one evergreen tree
- six ornamental trees
- one circle light fixture

Evaluation:

Assets:

- open space within the neighborhood
- mature landscape in park
- playground equipment for all ages
- seating area

Liabilities

- existing light fixture are in poor condition and inefficient.
- existing asphalt walkway is in poor condition.
- existing playground equipment does not meet ADA and ASTM safety standards.
- the existing sign should be replaced related landscape planting.

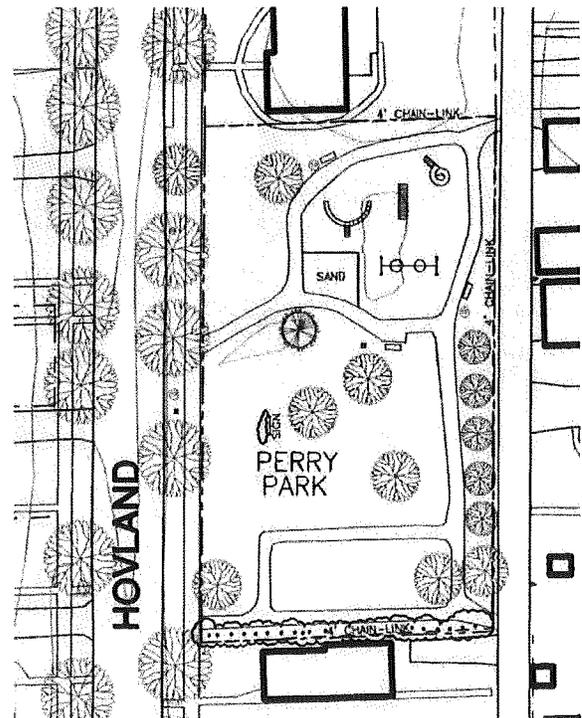
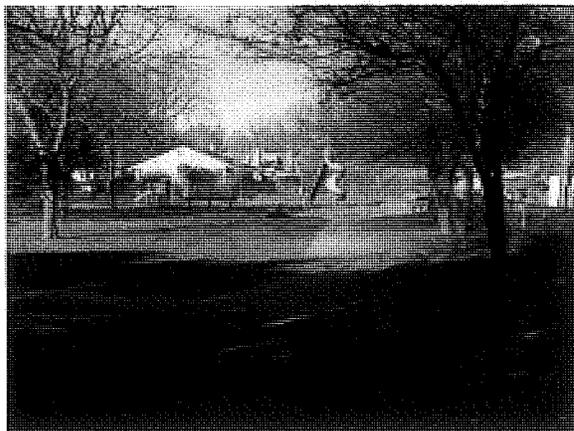
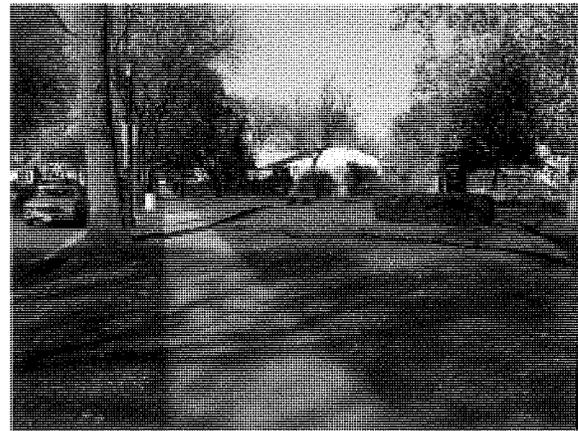


Figure 67: Perry Park



Perry Park - Playground Area



Perry Park – View North along Street

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

- existing trash receptacles should be replaced throughout the park.
- picnic tables are not ADA compliant.
- existing chain link fencing along boundaries is in poor condition.
- new tree plantings and landscape should be provided throughout the park to replace old trees and those removed.
- provide planting buffer screen along north boundary.



*Perry Park – View South along Street*

### Last Improvements:

Made in 1991, which included \$17,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing

### **PHILBRICK PARK**

(see Figure 68)

Size: 0.65 acres

Ward: 5

### Classification

Function: Totlot Park

Location: South of Gaffield Street and West of Sherman Avenue

### Description:

Philbrick Park, a totlot, is located south of Gaffield Street and west of Sherman Avenue. The Park consists of a playground, seating area, open space, and walk.

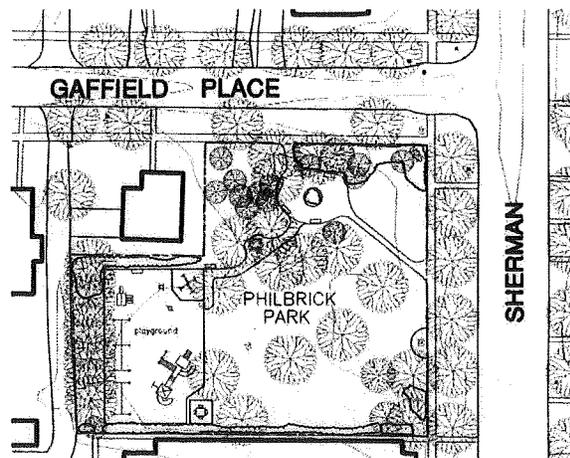
### Existing Facilities:

- bomanite pedestrian path
- seating area
- playground for tots
- playground for 6-12 year olds
- seven benches
- tree trash receptacles
- one table seat
- one picnic table
- one drinking fountain
- chain link along south and west boundaries
- 18 shade trees
- 22 ornamental trees

### Evaluation:

#### Assets:

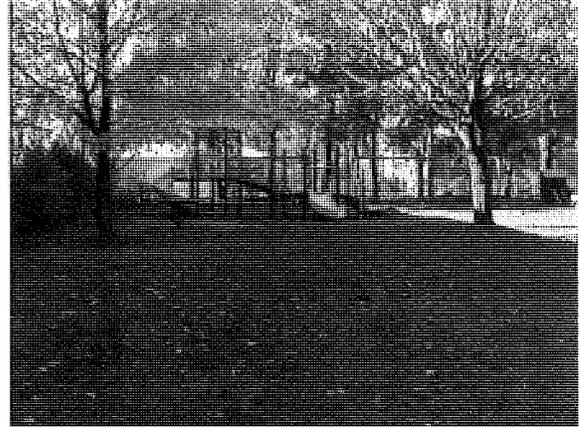
- open space within the neighborhood
- mature landscape in park
- playground equipment for all ages
- seating area



**Figure 68: Philbrick Park**



*Philbrick Park – View along Street*



*Philbrick Park - Playground*

**Liabilities**

- the stone paving in the seating area is in poor condition and unsafe.
- existing playground equipment does not meet ADA and ASTM safety standards.
- the existing sign should be replaced with a new system sign and related landscape planting.
- existing benches are in poor condition.
- existing trash receptacles should be replaced throughout the.
- existing picnic tables are in poor condition.
- existing chain link fencing along south and west boundaries is in poor condition.
- additional landscape plantings need to be provided along the alley and south boundary.

- the turf grass around the playground needs to be improved due to compaction and shade -- possible enlarge playground surfacing.
- new tree plantings and landscape should be provided throughout the park to replace old trees and those removed.
- new landscaping should be installed in circle plant bed at seating area.

Last Improvements:

Made in 1995, which included \$69,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- concrete and limestone walks
- drinking fountain
- benches and tables
- landscape



*Philbrick Park – Seating Area*

**Harry Hibbert PORTER PARK**  
(see Figure 69)

Size: 0.36 acres

Ward: 6

Classification

Function: Totlot Park

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

Location: North of Simpson Street and East of Bennett Avenue

Description:

Porter Park, a totlot, is located north of Simpson Street and east of Bennett Avenue. The Park consists of a playground, seating area, open space, basketball court, and walk.

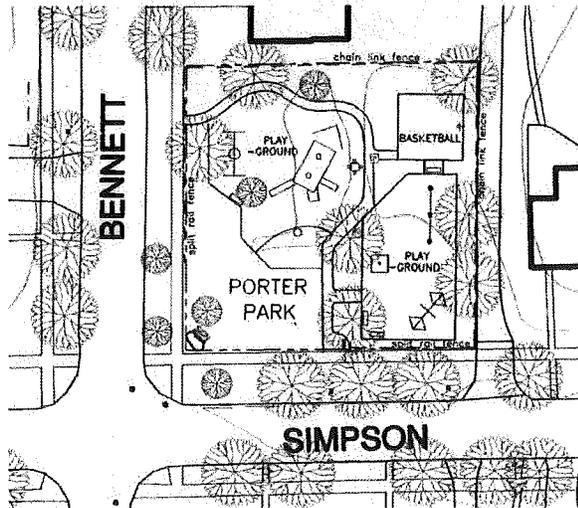


Figure 69: Porter Park

Existing Facilities:

- sign and landscape
- one 1/2 basketball court
- playground for tots
- playground for 6-12 year olds
- three benches
- one trash receptacle
- one bicycle rack
- one picnic table
- one drinking fountain
- chain link fencing along North and East sides
- split rail fence along South and West sides
- eleven shade trees

Evaluation:

Assets:

- open space within the neighborhood
- mature landscape in park
- playground equipment for all ages
- seating area

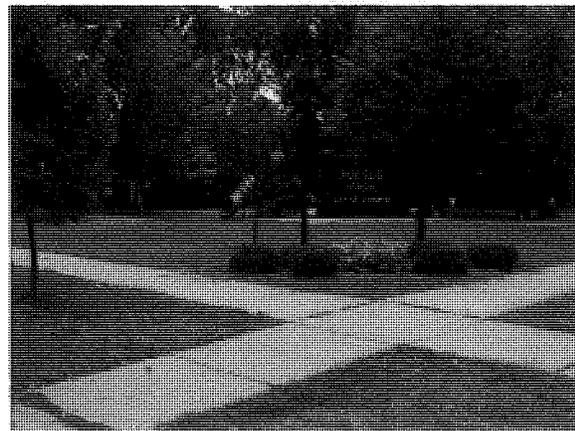
Liabilities

- the basketball court paving and color coating is in poor condition.
- the existing sign should be replaced with a new system sign and related landscape planting.
- existing bench is in poor condition.
- existing trash receptacle should be replaced.
- existing playground equipment does not meet ADA and ASTM safety standards.
- existing chain-link fencing is in poor condition.
- new tree plantings and landscape should be provided throughout the park to replace old plantings

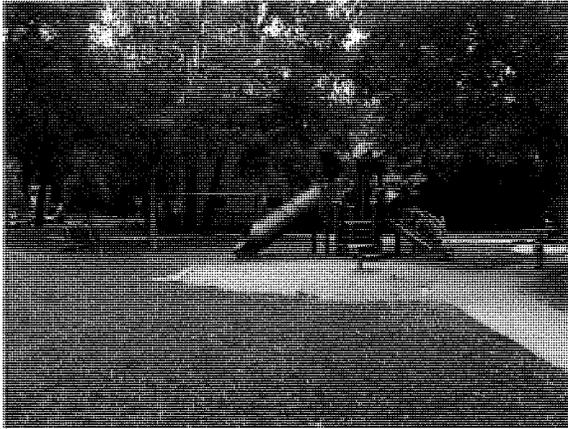
Last Improvements:

Made in 1996, which included \$75,000 for the following:

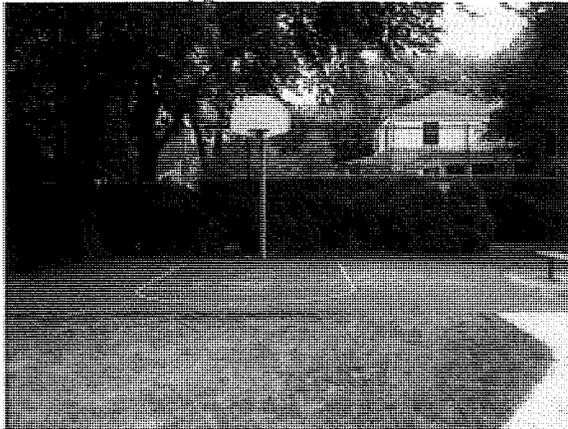
- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- concrete and asphalt walks
- drinking fountain
- benches and tables
- landscape



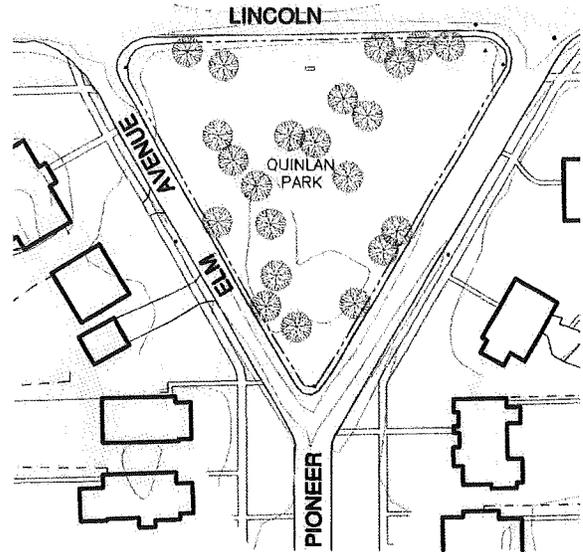
Porter Park – View from Street



*Porter Park - Playground*



*Porter Park – Basketball Court*



**Figure 70: Quinlan Park**

Existing Facilities:

- one bench
- one trash receptacle
- 22 shade trees
- three light fixtures

Evaluation:

Assets:

- good accessibility to residential surrounding the Park
- open space

**QUINLAN PARK** (see Figure 70)

Size: 0.70 acres

Ward: 6

Classification

Function: Parkway – Mini-Park

Location: South of Lincoln Avenue at Pioneer Road

Description:

Quinlan Park is in the center of three streets, and serves primarily as parkway and open space to the immediately surrounding neighborhood.



*Quinlan Park – View South*

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

---

### Liabilities:

- existing bench is in poor condition.
- add a new system sign and related landscape planting.
- a concrete sidewalk is missing along Lincoln Avenue.
- existing trash receptacle should be replaced.
- additional street trees should be added along all three bordering streets.



*Quinlan Park – View West*

### RAYMOND PARK (see Figure 71)

Size: 1.75 acres

Ward: 1

#### Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

Location: Northeast Corner of Lake Street and Chicago Avenue

#### Description:

Raymond Park is located on the southeast side of the downtown. The Park serves as a small neighborhood park and a “Green Commons” area.

### Existing Facilities:

- two park signs and landscape
- concrete sidewalk along boundary
- concrete pedestrian path
- seating area
- playground for tots
- playground for 6-12 years olds
- fourteen benches
- six trash receptacles
- one drinking fountain
- one dedication plaque display
- 50 shade trees
- four ornamental trees
- one light fixtures
- one Cobra light fixture

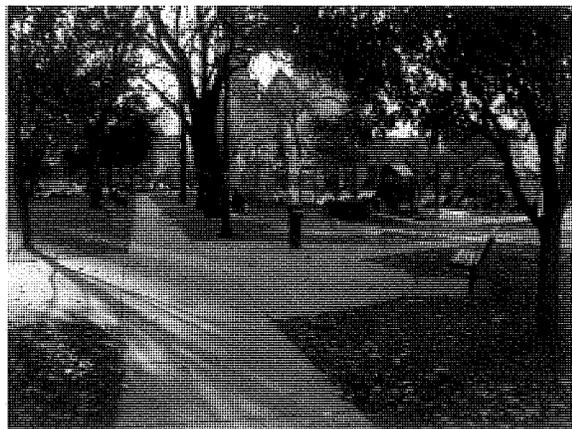
### Evaluation:

#### Assets:

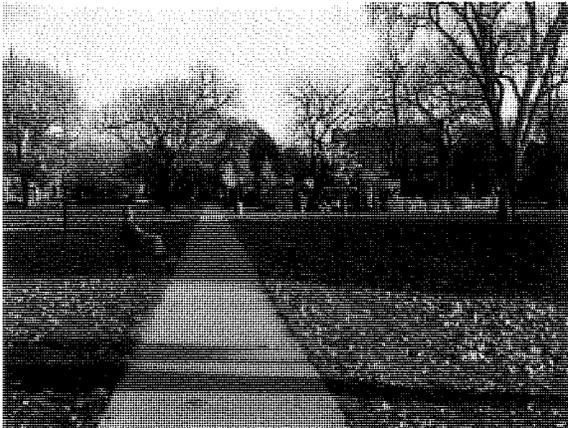
- good accessibility to neighborhood residents
- playground equipment for all ages
- open space in the community and neighborhood
- green space in downtown

#### Liabilities

- additional pedestrian lights are needs along the walks.
- edging around sponsor bricks is in poor condition.



*Raymond Park – Paths and Playground*



Raymond Park - Path

- new tree plantings should be provided throughout the park to replace old trees and those removed.
- existing picnic tables are in poor condition and not ADA compliant



Raymond Park - Playground

- existing playground equipment does not meet ADA and ASTM safety standards.
- the existing signs (two) should be replaced with two new system identification signs and related landscape plantings.
- existing park benches are in poor condition.
- existing trash receptacles should be replaced.

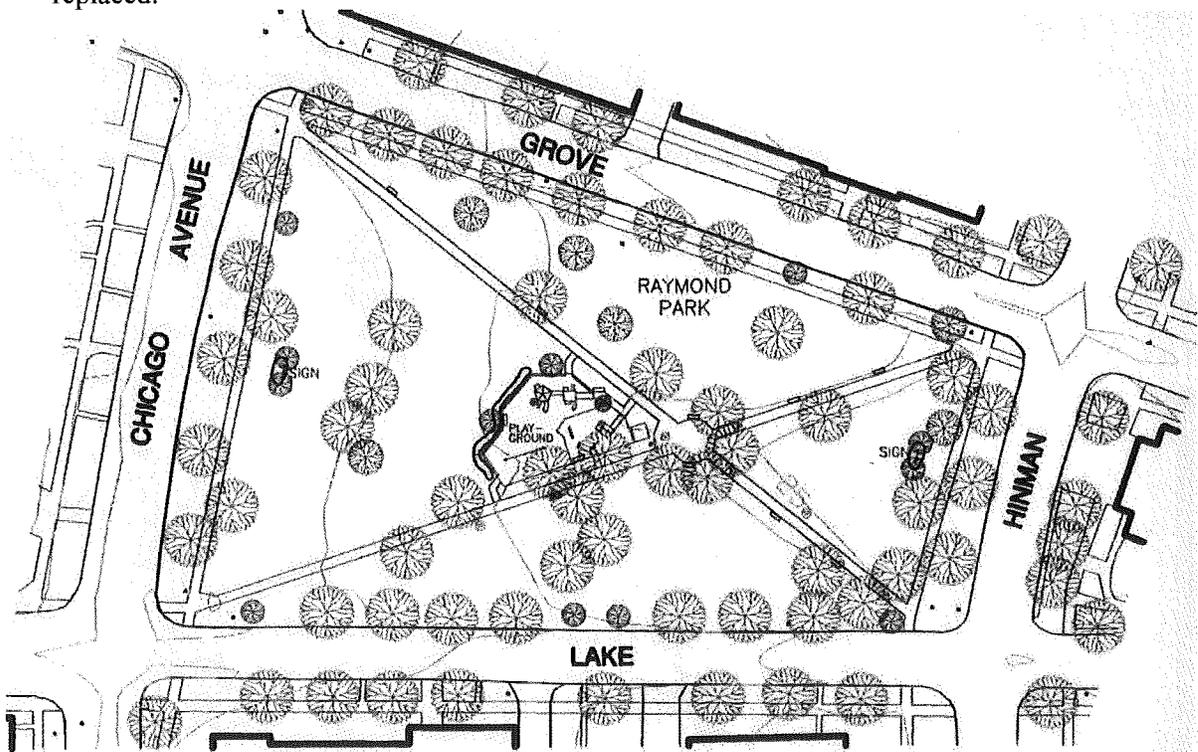


Figure 71: Raymond Park

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

### Last Improvements:

Made in 1996, which included \$84,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- drinking fountain
  
- concrete walk
- landscape

### **Cella SARGENT PARK**

(see Figure 72)

Size: 0.10 acres

Ward: 9

### Classification

Function: Totlot Park

Location: North of Reba Place and West of Elmwood Avenue

### Description:

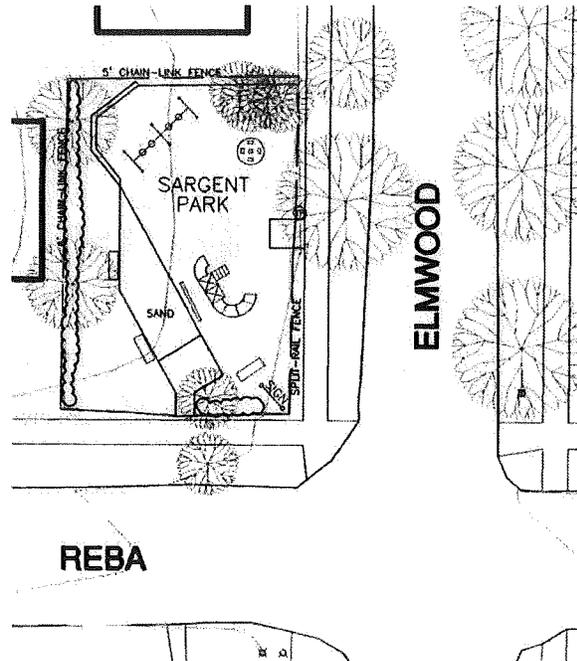
Sargent Park, a totlot, is located on the north side of Reba Place and west of Elmwood Avenue. The Park consists of a playground.

### Existing Facilities:

- one park identification sign



*Sargent Park - Playground*



**Figure 72: Sargent Park**

- limestone screenings path
- playground swings
- playground equipment for tots
- three benches
- one trash receptacle
- chain link fencing along north and west boundaries
- three rail wood fence along Streets
- wood retaining wall along playground
- 1 shade tree
- 5 ornamental trees

### Evaluation:

#### Assets:

- open space within the neighborhood
- playground equipment for all ages

#### Liabilities

- existing limestone walks and edging are in poor condition.
- the existing sign should be replaced with a new system sign and related landscape planting



Sargent Park - Playground

- existing benches are in poor condition.
- existing trash receptacle should be replaced.
- existing playground equipment does not meet ADA and ASTM safety standards.
- ADA accessibility to playground equipment is lacking.
- the existing chain link fencing is in poor condition.
- additional trees and landscape should be provided in the park.

Last Improvements:

Made in 1992, which included \$9,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- landscape

**Elnora SMITH PARK**

(see Figure 73)

Size: 1.07 acres

Ward: 2

Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

Location: East of Ashland Avenue and South of Lyons Street

Description:

Smith Park is a small neighborhood Park located on the south side of Lyons Avenue and east side of Ashland Avenue. The Park consists of a playground, seating area, and open space.

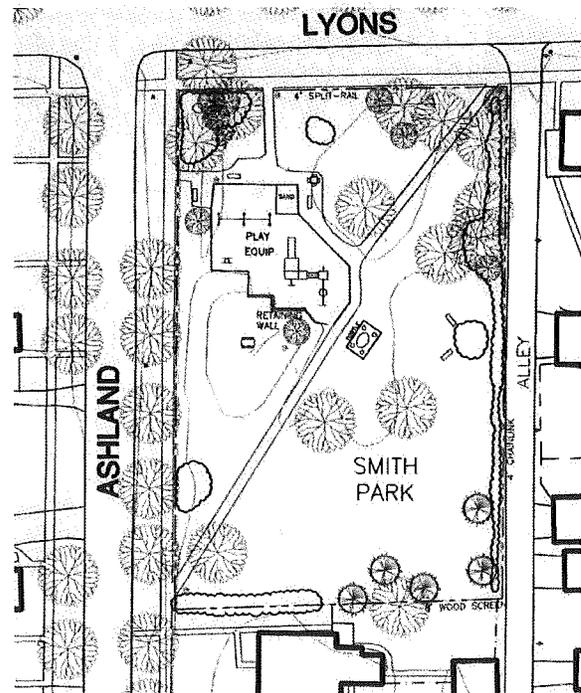


Figure 73: Smith Park

Existing Facilities:

- limestone screening path though park
- playground equipment for tots
- playground equipment for 6-12 age
- 13 ornamental trees
- five benches
- five trash receptacles
- one table-seat
- one picnic table
- two rail wood fence along streets
- chain-link fencing along property boundary
- one sign at northwest corner
- wood retaining wall bordering playground
- 7 shade trees
- 4 evergreen trees

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

---



*Smith Park – Seating Area and Playground*



*Smith Park – Open Space*

### Evaluation:

#### Assets:

- open space within the neighborhood
- playground equipment for all ages

#### Liabilities

- pedestrian lights along park walk is lacking.
- existing limestone screenings pathways is in poor condition.
- existing playground equipment does not meet ASTM safety standards and ADA accessibility requirements.
- existing wood retaining wall is in poor condition.
- existing chain link fencing along east property line is in poor condition.



*Smith Park – Open Space and Playground*

- the existing sign should be replaced with a new system identification sign and related landscape plantings.
- existing benches throughout the park are in poor condition.
- existing trash receptacles should be replaced throughout the park.
- existing picnic table is in poor condition and not ADA compliant.
- new drinking fountain (ADA compliant) should be provided.
- new tree plantings and landscape should be provided throughout the park to replace old trees and those removed.

### Last Improvements:

Made in 1992, which included \$3,000 for the following:

- safety modifications to playground

### **Thomas E. SNYDER PARK** (see Figure 74)

Size: 0.25 acres

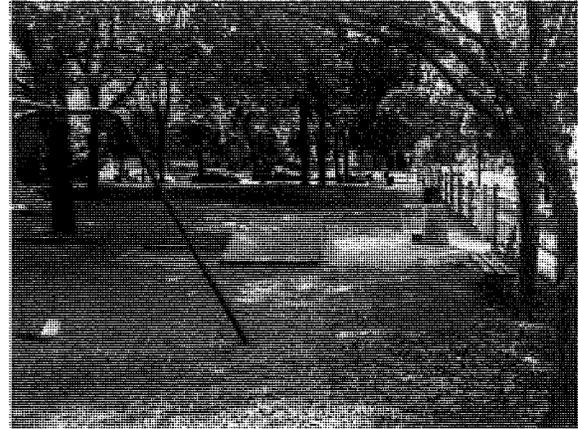
Ward: 3

Classification

Function: Totlot Park



Snyder Park – View along Street



Snyder Park - Playground

**Location:** East of Judson Avenue and South of Kedzie Street

**Description:**

Snyder Park is totlot located on the south side of Kedzie Street and east side of Judson Avenue. The Park consists of a playground, seating area, and open space.

**Existing Facilities:**

- limestone screenings paving around drinking fountain and playground entrance
- playground equipment for tots
- swings for 6-12 age
- pre-cast concrete retaining wall along playground
- nine benches
- three trash receptacles
- one drinking fountain
- three rail fence along Kedzie and Judson

**Evaluation:**

**Assets:**

- open space within the neighborhood
- playground equipment for all ages

**Liabilities**

- turf grass areas are level and poorly drained creating poor turf conditions.
- interior walks are in poor condition.
- existing playground equipment for tots does not meet ASTM safety standards and ADA compliant.
- new 6-12 age swing set should be provided.
- existing chain link fencing should be replaced with vinyl coated chain link fencing on boundary areas.
- the existing sign should be replaced with a new system sign and related landscape planting.
- existing benches throughout the park are in poor condition.
- existing trash receptacles should be replaced throughout the park.
- new drinking fountain ADA compatible should be added to the park.
- new tree plantings and landscape should be provided throughout the park to replace old trees and those removed.

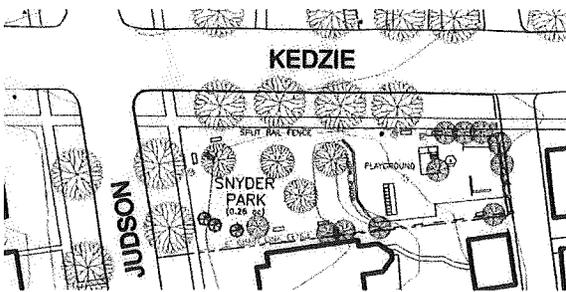


Figure 74: Snyder Park

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

---



*Smith Park – Playground*

### Last Improvements:

Made in 1977, which included \$10,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- landscape
- benches

### **ST. PAUL PARK** (see Figure 75)

Size: 0.56 acres

Ward: 3

### Classification

Function: Mini-Park

Leased: From CTA

Location: West Side of Chicago Avenue  
and South of Main Street

### Description:

St. Paul Park consists of two separate pieces of land located between the CTA embankment and Chicago Avenue. The Park contains two seating areas and serves as open space along Chicago Avenue at the Main Street CTA Station.



*St. Paul Park – View North to CTA Station*

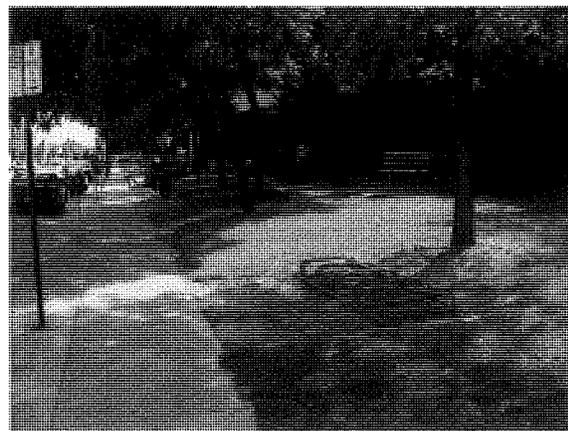
### Existing Facilities:

- concrete walk through park area
- concrete paving seating area
- nine benches
- five trash receptacles
- seven bike racks
- chain link fencing along CTA embankment
- 23 shade trees
- 22 ornamental trees

### Evaluation:

#### Assets:

- landscape – green space - along Chicago Avenue
- seating areas



*St. Paul Park – View South to CTA Station*

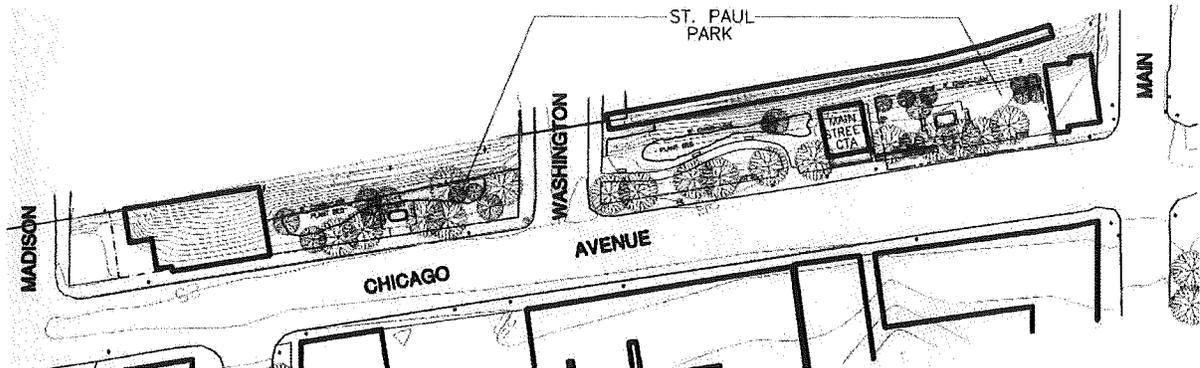


Figure 75: St. Paul Park

**Liabilities**

- seating areas and concrete paving are in poor condition and are not ADA compliant.
- worn paths existing in turf areas.
- existing fencing along CTA embankment is in poor condition.
- existing benches are old and in poor condition.
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums.
- wood retaining wall along sidewalk is in poor condition.
- the existing bike racks and parking area is in poor condition and not sufficient.
- dumpster needs to be screened.
- landscape is sparse and in poor condition.

**SOUTH BOULEVARD PARK and BEACH**

(see Figure 76)

Size: 2.58 acres

Ward: 3

Classification

Function: Lakefront Park and Beach

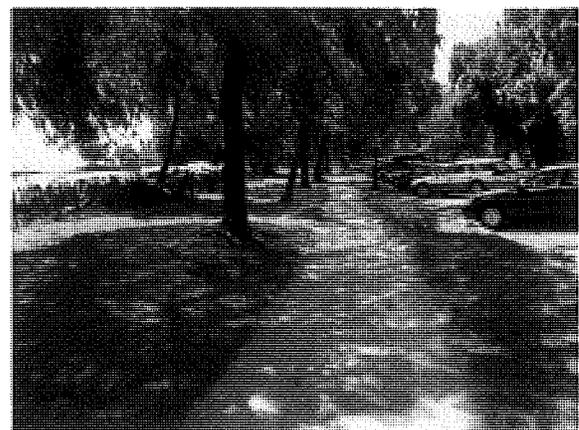
Location: Lakefront- Sheridan Square north of City limits

Description:

South Boulevard Park and Beach is part of the overall Lakefront Park System. The Park includes swimming beach, restroom building, walks, and seating areas.



St. Paul Park – Seating Area



South Boulevard Park/Beach - Path

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

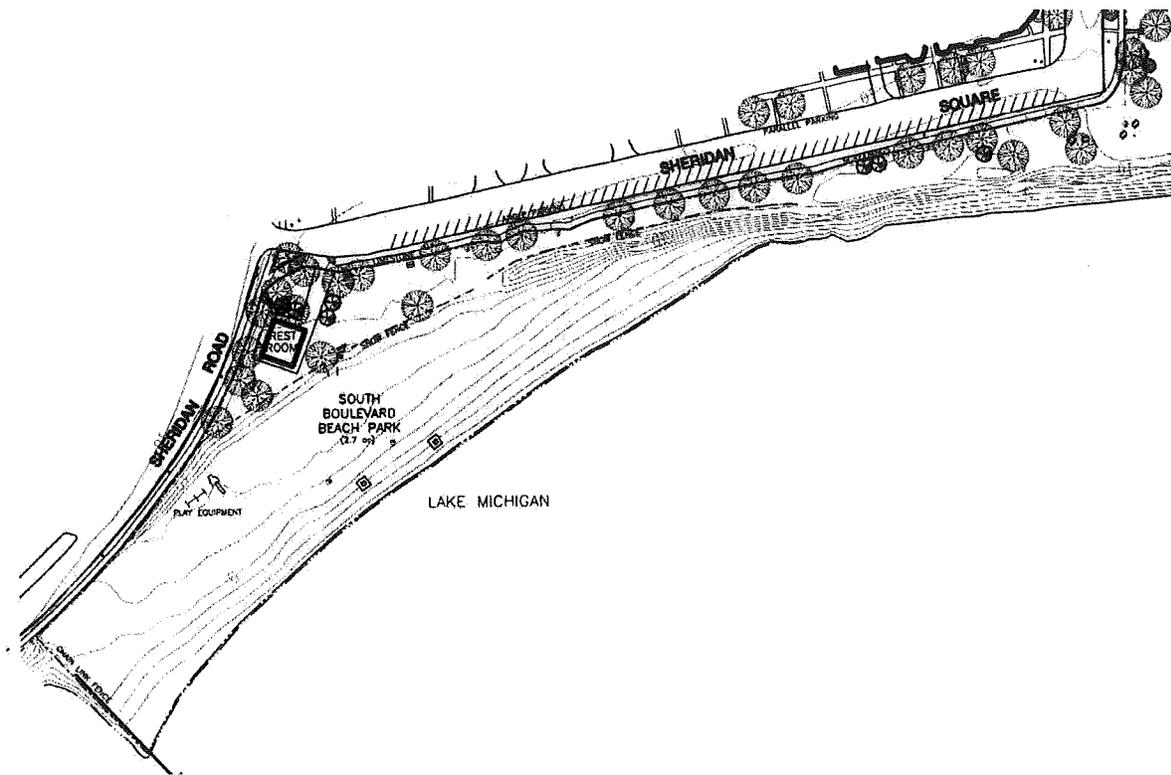


Figure 76: South Boulevard Park and Beach

### Existing Facilities:

- swimming beach
- limestone screenings path
- asphalt pedestrian-bike path
- restroom/beach Building
- two benches
- five trash receptacles
- two bike racks
- snow fencing defining beach area
- rip-rap along lake
- 28 shade trees
- 4 evergreen trees
- 4 ornamental trees
- breakwater

- open space along Sheridan Road
- swimming beach
- walk/path system

### Liabilities

- pick-up and drop-off area should be provided in front of the beach entrance facility.

### Evaluation:

#### Assets:

- open space and view to Lake Michigan
- public access to Lake Michigan



South Boulevard Park/Beach



*South Boulevard Park/Beach – Beach Entrance*

- new entrance to the beach should be developed with paving and fencing in relationship with new restroom/beach entrance building.
- limestone screenings path and edging are in poor condition.
- beach should be ADA accessible with a boardwalk.
- the existing snow fencing defining the beach should be removed and replaced with a new fencing system that can be removed during off-season periods.
- install gate and vinyl chain link fencing on breakwater pier for safety and security.
- add new identification sign and related landscape plantings.
- existing benches throughout the park are in poor condition.
- existing trash receptacles should be replaced throughout the.
- add signage to breakwater pier to call out danger.
- new tree plantings and landscape should be provided throughout the park to replace old trees and those removed.
- the area along Sheridan Road should be improved with new fencing and plantings to enhance view of the lake and entrance to City.

Building

For conditions and evaluation of restroom building, see following section “Park Buildings Inventory and Evaluation.”

**SOUTHWEST PARK** (see Figure 77)

Size: 0.50 acres

Ward: 9

Classification

Function: Totlot Park

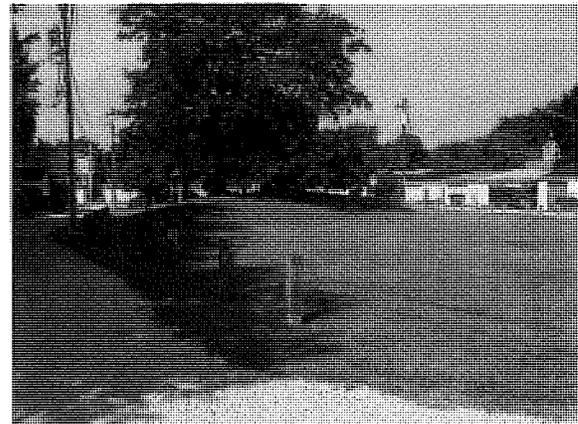
Location: South of Seward Street and West of Wesley Avenue

Description:

Southwest Park is a totlot within the interior of a block, and bordered by allies on the north and south. The Park includes a playground, seating area, and open field.

Existing Facilities:

- open play field
- concrete walks within park
- playground equipment for tots
- playground equipment for 6-12 age



*Southwest Park – Open Space*

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

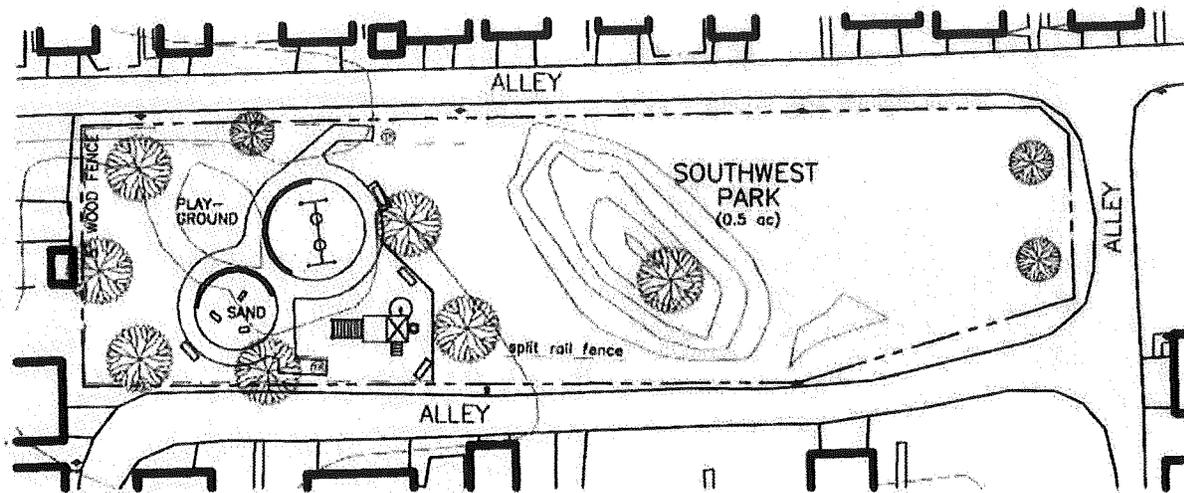


Figure 77: Southwest Park

- four benches
- two trash receptacles
- two rail wood fence surrounding playground
- wood bollards
- 9 shade trees
- 2 ornamental trees

Evaluation:

Assets:

- playground equipment for all ages
- open space in the neighborhood

Liabilities

- park is poorly accessible.
- playground equipment is not ADA compliant and does not comply with safety guidelines.
- wood fencing is in poor condition.
- existing benches are old and in poor condition.
- trash receptacles are painted 55 gallon drums.
- picnic tables are old and not ADA compliant.



Southwest Park - Playground



Southwest Park - Playground

Last Improvements:

Made in 1993, which included \$23,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- retaining wall
- landscape

Existing Facilities:

- four talmadge light fixtures
- one trash receptacle
- 29 shade trees

**STOCKHAM PLACE PARK**

(see Figure 78)

Size: 0.36 acres

Ward: 3

Classification

Function: Parkway Park

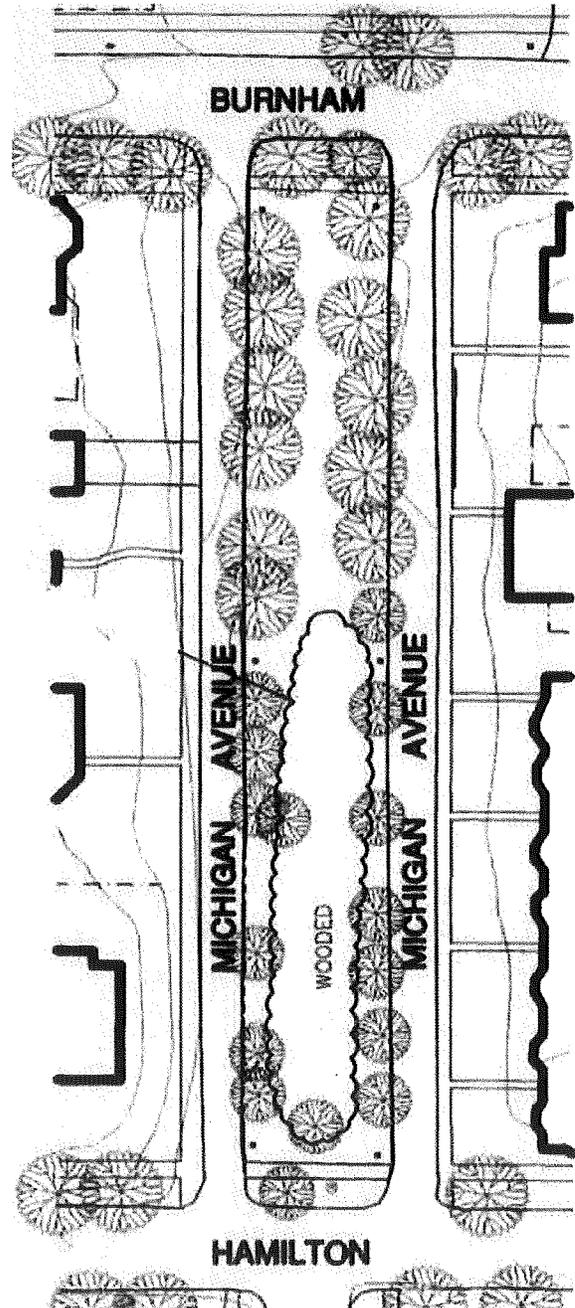
Location: Michigan Avenue between Burnham Street and Hamilton Street

Description:

Stockham Place Park is wide median park between traffic lanes on Michigan Avenue. The Park contains a number of mature elm trees, Tallmadge light fixtures, and one trash receptacle. The park area is purely visual open space for the one block length of Michigan Avenue.



*Stockham Place Park – View South*



**Figure 78: Stockham Place Park**

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

---



*Stockham Place Park – View North*

### Evaluation:

#### Assets:

- open space within the neighborhood
- mature trees

#### Liabilities

- turf areas drain poorly, need to re-grade to improve drainage and turf conditions
- the existing trash receptacles are inappropriate and need to be replaced
- additional tree plantings need to be provided to replace old and removed trees
- the addition and park benches should be considered

### **TALLMADGE PARK and NOYES CULTURAL ARTS CENTER**

(see Figure 79)

Size: 2.80 acres

Ward: 7

#### Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park  
Community Park



*Tallmadge Park – Walks, Playground and Amphitheater*

Location: East of Ridge Avenue and West of the CTA tracks

### Description:

Tallmadge Park is a neighborhood park and a community park with the Noyes Community Center. The Park contains a number of recreational facilities, including softball fields, playground, basketball courts, seating areas, amphitheater, parking, and open space.

### Existing Facilities:

- one park identification signs
- concrete pedestrian path
- tiered seating area
- two baseball fields with bench
- three 1/2 basketball courts
- parking lot with access drive
- playground for tots
- playground for 6-12 year olds
- Noyes Cultural Arts Center Building
- 15 benches
- six trash receptacles
- one bicycle rack
- one drinking fountain
- chain link fencing along North and West sides
- split rail fencing around parking lot
- 63 shade trees

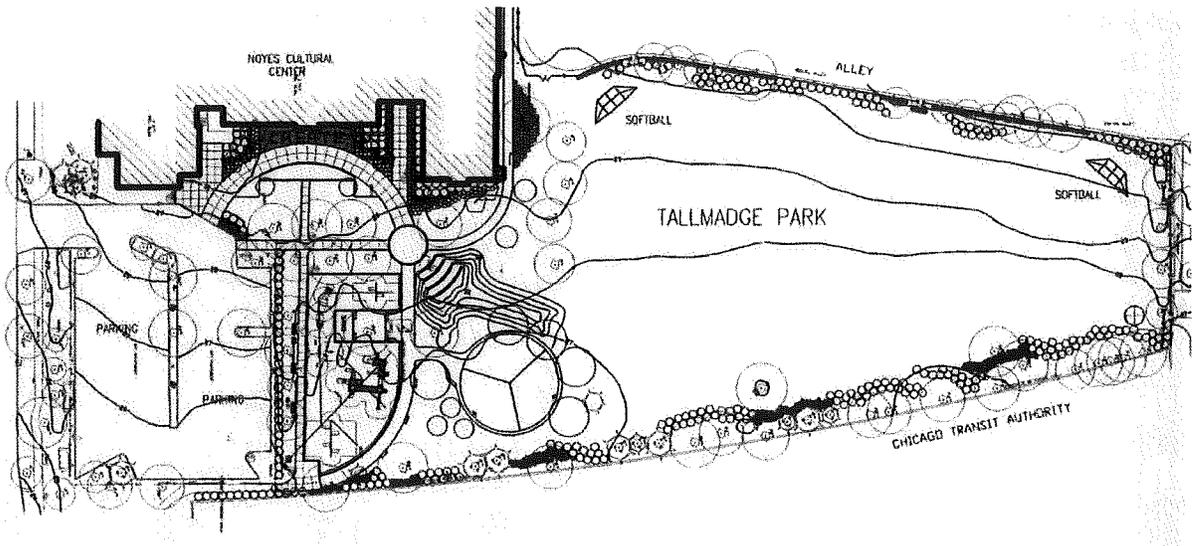


Figure 79: Tallmadge Park

- 12 evergreen trees
- five ornamental trees
- five tallmadge light fixtures

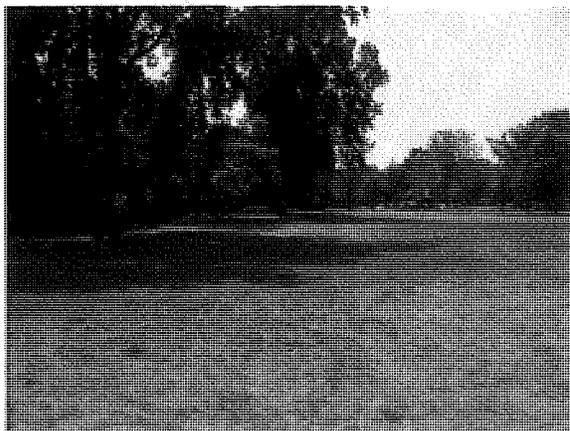
Evaluation:

Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood residents
- is compatible with the surrounding residential areas
- new playground equipment for all ages
- Noyes Community Arts Center building
- new and mature landscape plantings

Liabilities

- poor drainage exists on the west side of the building.
- turf areas are level and poorly drained creating poor turf conditions.
- provide more security lighting.
- provide electrical outlet throughout park to help with programs.
- add more lighting in parking lot.
- parking is insufficient.
- construct a drop-off zone for children.
- players benches are in poor condition
- provide bollards at main entry walkway to prevent vehicular traffic.



Tallmadge Park – Open Space/Field



Tallmadge Park – Basketball Courts

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

- consider a new fencing in lieu if split rail fencing.
- replace two existing signs with a new system sign and related landscape planting.
- existing trash receptacles should be replaced throughout the park.
- additional landscape plantings should be provided in parking lot islands.
- new tree plantings and landscape should be provided throughout the park to replace old trees and those removed.

### Last Improvements:

Made in 1999, which included \$263,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- benches and tables
- amphitheater
- fencing
- basketball courts
- landscape
- baseball backstop
- pedestrian walks

### Building

For conditions and evaluation of the Noyes Community Center building, see following section "Park Buildings Inventory and Evaluation."

### **Frank S. Torgerson PARK** (see Figure 80)

Size: 1.00 acres

Ward: 7

### Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

Location: North of Jenks Street and East of Poplar Avenue



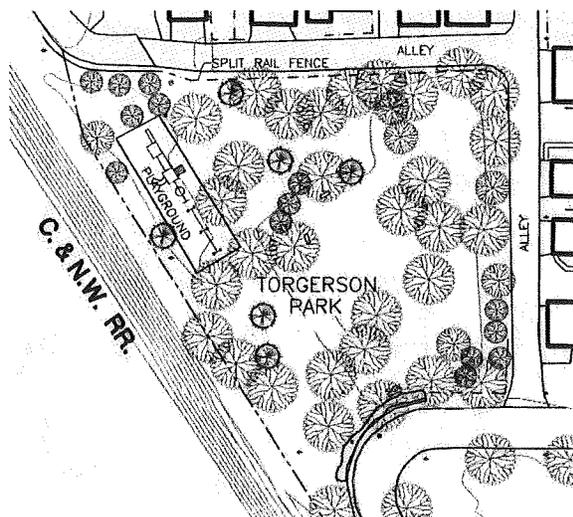
*Torgerson Park - Playground*

### Description:

Torgerson Park is located in northern Evanston and serves as a small neighborhood park. The Park contains a playground, seating area, and open space.

### Existing Facilities:

- sign and landscape
- playground for tots
- two swings for 6-12 year olds
- two benches
- one trash receptacle
- chain link fence along railroad



**Figure 80: Torgerson Park**



*Torgerson Park – Opens Space Area*

- wood post/rail fence along boundary
- 33 shade trees
- 16 evergreen trees
- 24 ornamental trees
- two light fixtures

Evaluation:

Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood residents
- playground equipment for all ages
- open space in the neighborhood
- mature landscape

Liabilities

- no accessible paths are provided in the park.
- existing playground equipment for tots does not meet ADA and ASTM safety standards.
- existing chain-link fencing is in poor condition.
- the existing sign should be replaced with a new system sign and related landscape planting.
- existing benches should be replaced.
- existing trash receptacles should be replaced throughout the park.
- additional landscape planting should be provide along the railroad tracks as a buffer/screen.
- new tree plantings and landscape should be provided throughout the park to replace old trees and those removed.



*Torgerson Park – Seating Area*

Last Improvements:

Made in 1989, which included \$31,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- benches
- fencing and guardrails
- landscape

**Benjamin TRAHAN PARK**

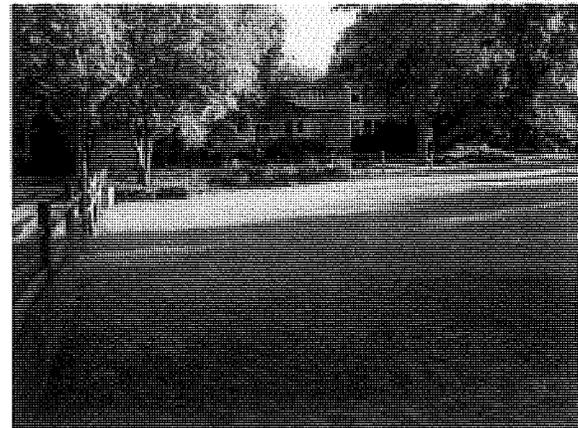
(see Figure 81)

Size: 0.45 acres

Ward: 9

Classification

Function: Mini- Park



*Trahan Park*

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

Location: East of Ridge Avenue and North of Monroe Street

Description:

Trahan Park is located along the east side of Ridge Avenue and serves as a small mini-park. The Park contains no recreational facilities.

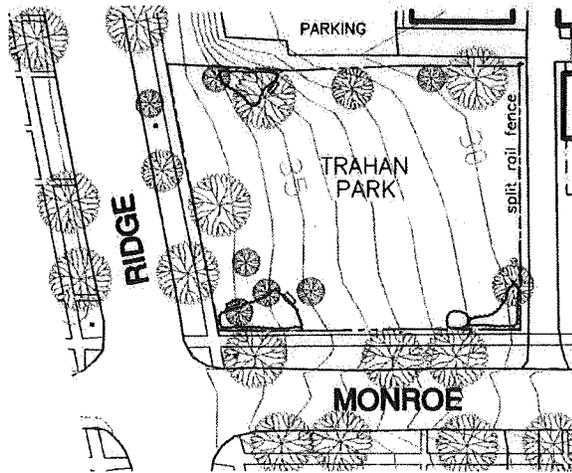
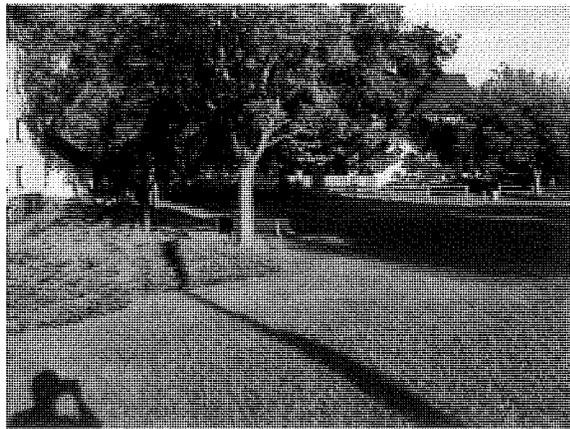


Figure 81: Trahan Park

Existing Facilities:

- three benches
- one trash receptacle
- two rail wood fence on east and south boundaries of park
- community flower garden plot



Trahan Park

- 7 shade trees
- 4 ornamental trees

Evaluation:

Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood residents
- open space in the neighborhood
- mature landscape

Liabilities

- consider the installation of limestone walkway through park to seating area or potential play area.
- consider adding playground equipment for tots.
- existing wood fence on alley side is in poor condition.
- provide a new system sign and related landscape planting.
- existing benches should be replaced.
- existing trash receptacle should be replaced.
- provide new picnic tables.
- additional trees and landscape should be provided in the park.

### William H. TWIGGS PARK

(see Figure 82)

Size: 10.45 acres

Ward: 5

Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

Ownership: Leased from Water Reclamation District

Location: South of the Canal, between Simpson Street and Ashland

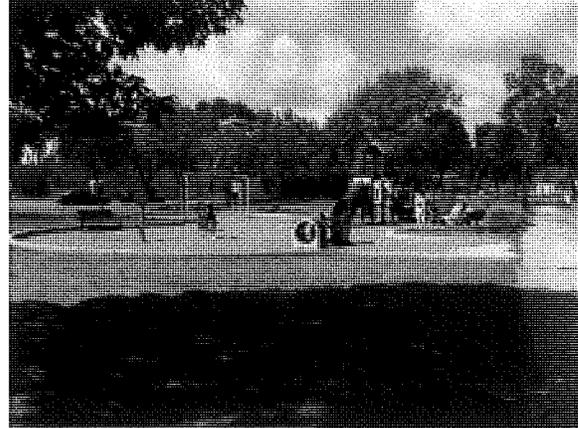
Description:

Twiggs is a neighborhood park located along the south side of the Canal, opposite the Ladd Arboretum. The Park contains a number of recreational facilities, including softball field, playground, basketball court, seating areas, shelter, community gardens, walks, and open space.

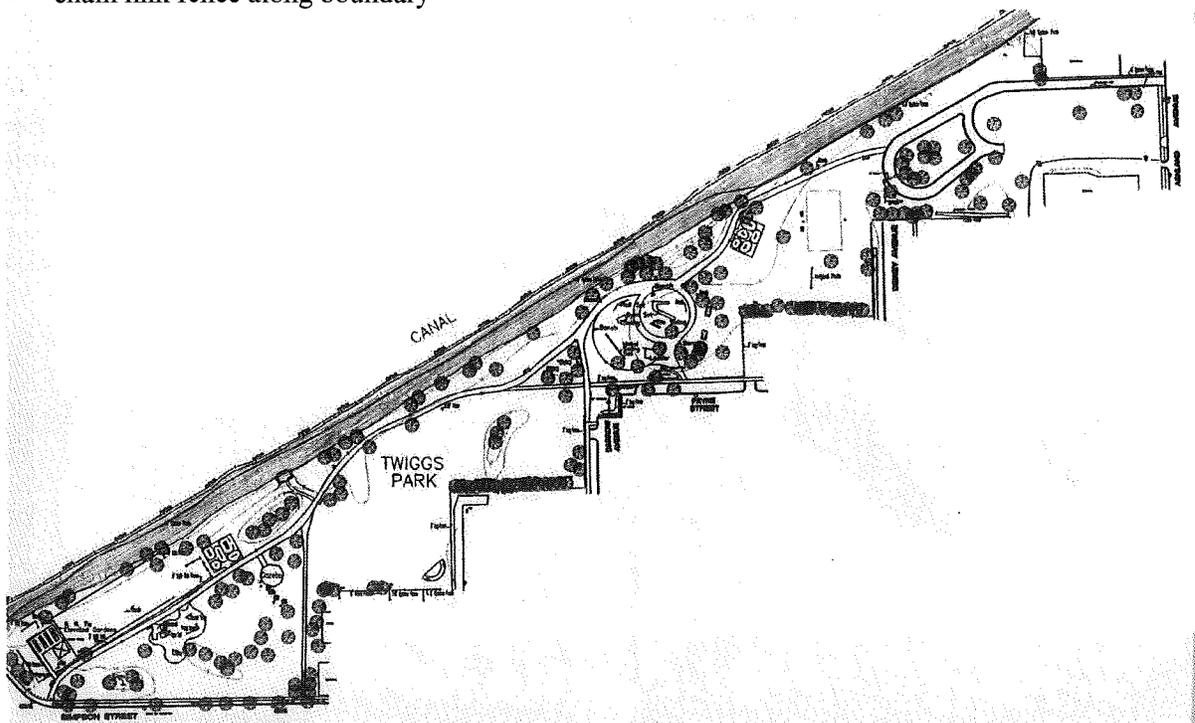
- split rail fence south of play area
- wood post/beam fence along cul-de-sacs
- one community garden
- 86 shade trees
- 15 evergreen trees
- 42 ornamental trees

Existing Facilities:

- one sign
- asphalt bike and pedestrian path
- playground for tots
- playground for 6-12 year olds
- picnic shelter
- three cooking grills
- nine benches
- pedestrian lighting along pathway
- fourteen trash receptacles
- eight picnic tables
- deck overlook
- chain link fence along boundary



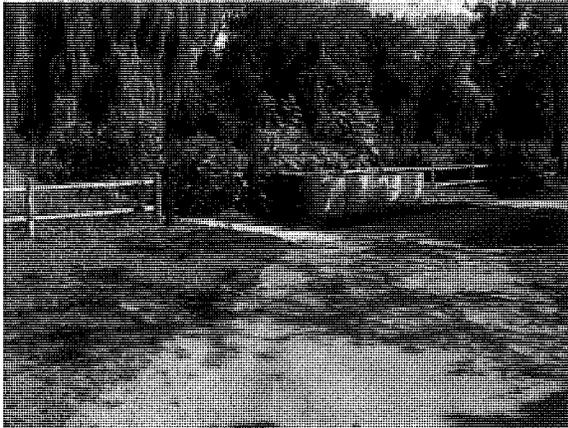
*Twiggs Park - Playground*



**Figure 82: Twiggs Park**

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

---



*Twiggs Park – Community Gardens*

### Evaluation:

#### Assets:

- good accessibility to neighborhood residents
- is compatible with the surrounding residential areas
- new playground equipment for all ages
- wide range of facilities
- new and mature landscape plantings

#### Liabilities

- pathway through park is in poor condition.
- extend asphalt pathway from Twiggs to Canal Lands B.
- existing chain link fencing along canal boundary is in poor condition.



*Twiggs Park – Canal Lands B (east area)*

- existing telephone pole guardrail should be replaced with a new barrier where streets end at park's edge.
- provide a new system sign with related landscape planting .
- existing trash receptacles should be replaced throughout the park.
- new tree plantings and landscape should be provided throughout the park to replace old trees and those removed.

### Last Improvements:

Made in 1998/1999, which included \$350,000 for the following:

- play equipment, edging, and surfacing
- benches and picnic tables
- cooking grills
- drinking fountain
- basketball court
- lighting
- deck overlook
- gazebo
- landscape

### Building

For conditions and evaluation of the shelter building, see following section "Park Buildings Inventory and Evaluation."



*Twiggs Park – Playground and Open Space*

## Existing Park Building Inventory and Evaluation

Evanston's Department of Parks/Forestry & Recreation maintains and operates numerous buildings for recreational programs and activities.

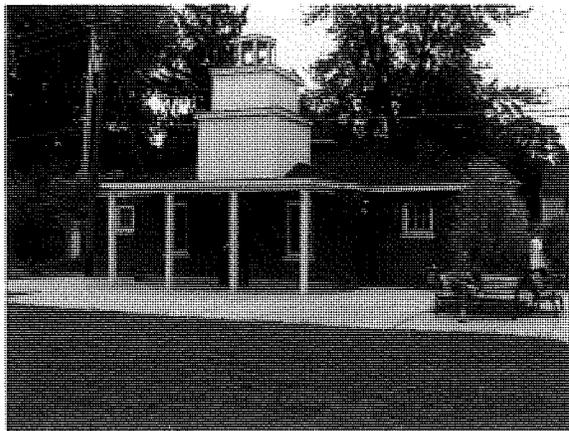
Each building for recreational programs and activities is reviewed on the following pages and is based on field visits during the fall of 1999 and spring of 2000, when all park/recreational buildings were examined, inventoried, and evaluated.

A short description and evaluation of each park/recreational building is provided.

### ACKERMAN PARK – RESTROOM BUILDING

#### Description:

The restroom building in Ackerman Park is a one story masonry building containing approximately 1,100 square feet. The building contains two restrooms and a storage area.



*Ackerman Park Restroom Building*

#### Evaluation of Conditions:

- building shows signs of excessive settlement
- condition of exterior wall materials and trim has deteriorated beyond its useful life
- restroom facilities are not ADA compliant
- brick beneath ivy likely to be in worse condition than that exposed
- structure is poorly lit
- inadequate signage
- windows are in poor condition
- building suffers from various aesthetic compromises, such as the over-scaled cupola and associated tower

### BAKER PARK – RESTROOM BUILDING

#### Description:

The restroom building in Baker Park is a one story masonry building containing approximately 900 square feet. The building contains two restrooms and a storage area.

#### Evaluation of Conditions:

- brick and trim are in particularly poor condition



*Baker Park Restroom Building*



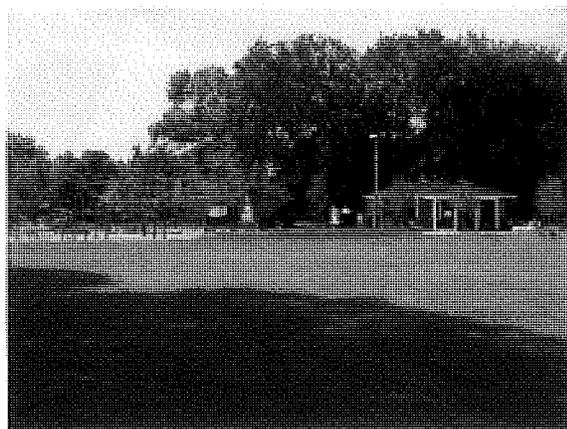
*Baker Park Restroom Building*

- steps up into toilet room require additional accessible ramp
- obvious signs of settlement are compromising the brick walls
- poor lighting
- poor signage

### **BENT PARK – RESTROOM BUILDING**

#### Description:

The restroom building in Bent Park is a one story masonry building containing approximately 1,200 square feet. The building contains two restrooms and a storage area.



*Bent Park Restroom Building*

#### Evaluation of Conditions:

- brick and trim are in particularly poor condition
- steps up into toilet room require additional accessible ramp
- obvious signs of settlement are compromising the brick walls
- poor lighting
- poor signage

### **CARTWRIGHT PARK – GAZEBO**

#### Description:

The gazebo in Cartwright Park is a one story wood hexagon structure containing approximately 400 square feet. The structure has a wood railing on four sides with permanent benches.

#### Existing Conditions:

- re-roof soon - many asphalt singles are missing and/or broken.
- the wood structure should receive routine stain or preservatives.



*Cartwright Park Gazebo*

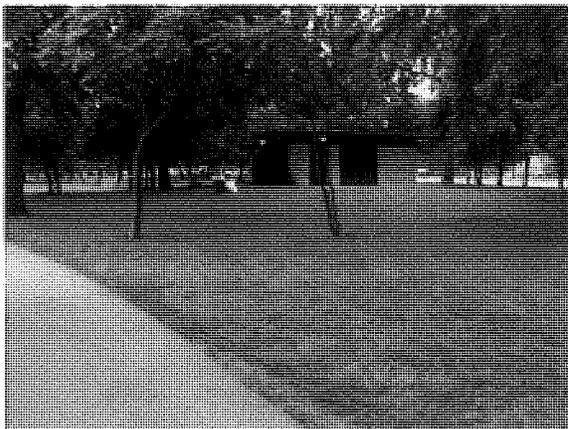
**CENTENNIAL PARK - CLARK STREET BEACH RESTROOM BUILDING**

Description:

The restroom building in Centennial Park is a one story, masonry block and wood building containing approximately 1,800 square feet. The building contains two restrooms and a storage area, with a shower located on the outside of the building.

Evaluation of Conditions:

- facilities appear to be too small and improperly placed for the program
- toilet rooms are not handicap accessible
- toilet room fixtures and partitions and interior finishes have outlived their useful life
- exterior shower does not drain to a compliant drain and sanitary sewer system
- shower use is deteriorating and discoloring the exterior stone
- exterior vending machine sites in the open
- tree branches obstruct roofing
- exterior lighting is poor
- routine caulking/sealant requires maintenance
- signage is not handicap compliant



*Centennial Park Restroom Building*

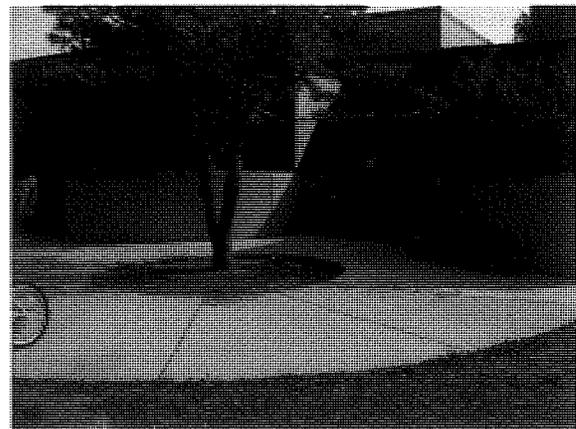
**CHANDLER PARK – NEWBERGER COMMUNITY CENTER**

Description:

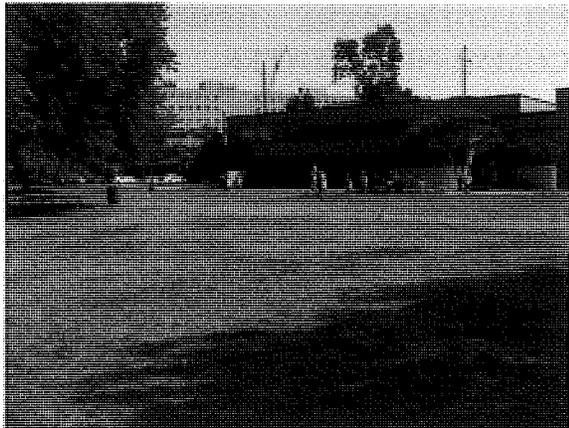
The Newberger Community Center, located in Chandler Park, is a one story masonry building. The building contains a variety of recreation/activity rooms and facilities, including a gymnasium, restrooms, meeting rooms, and administrative offices.

Evaluation of Conditions:

- improve drainage and retaining wall construction at the gymnasium southeast corner
- kitchen lighting is poor
- multipurpose room closet doors are locked from the interior of the closet (potential hazard to children)
- multipurpose room sinks too high to accommodate children and preschool functions
- water coolers are too high for children and do not appear to be ADA compliant
- Evanston Hospital shed is not architecturally compatible with existing building
- directional signage at both streets is difficult to read and difficult to follow



*Newberger Community Center*



*Newberger Community Center*

- brick masonry is dirty and mortar is deteriorating
- counter heights are inappropriate

### **CROWN COMMUNITY CENTER**

#### Description:

Crown Community Center is a one story, masonry building containing approximately 13,000 square feet. The building is one of the major recreational buildings in the community, and contains a number of programs/activities, including an ice skating rink, gymnasium, locker room/showers, program/multi-purpose rooms, restrooms, and administrative offices.

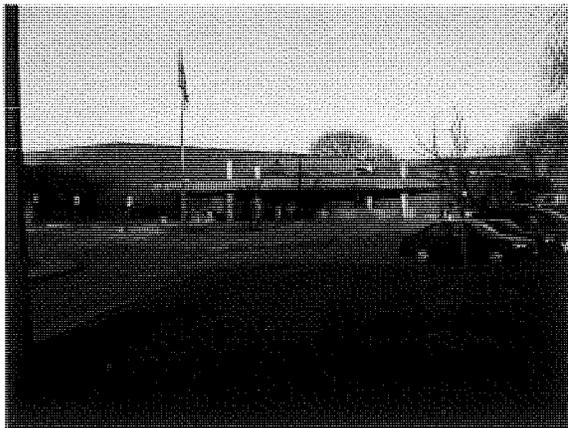


*Crown Community Center*

#### Evaluation of Conditions:

- the main ice rink east and west walls reveals significant movement cracks. Based on site observations, the north wall appears to be moving, potentially due to subsurface frost at the foundation level related to the ice rink cooling elements. The movement of the north wall has dislodged the roof trusses at the bearing points of the south wall. Tests should be performed at the footing level of the north wall to establish soil stability and structural engineer should provide remedial solution for repair of the north, east, and west walls, and truss bearing locations of the south wall of the main rink.
- improve truck ramp, retaining wall, and site drainage at main rink truck delivery door. Improve vehicular access to truck ramp.
- improve signage and exterior lighting.
- improve or replace existing sloped glazing systems throughout.
- provide bird deterrents at exterior canopy.
- improve canopy rainwater capture system.
- provide handrails at stairs and ramps.
- provide refuse enclosure,
- routine paint required at exterior ferrous metals.
- routine sealant maintenance required throughout.
- miscellaneous exterior door replacement required.
- completely renovate all existing team rooms and showers.
- main rink bleacher area not ADA accessible.
- lighting replacement at main hall
- tile replacement at main hall.
- water fountain replacement at main hall.
- lower kitchen counter heights to accommodate younger users and ADA.
- kitchen cabinets require replacement.
- arts and crafts room dividers require replacement.
- arts and crafts room cabinets require replacement.

- replace gymnasium basketball backboards with adjustable heights, electrically adjustable units.
- replace scoreboard.
- ADA compliant electrical water cooler to replace existing.
- replace tile in storage room of gymnasium.
- all toilet rooms are non-ADA compliant.
- replace dance studio flooring.
- update rental skate storage system.
- replace office rolling shutters.
- renovate interior finishes of administrative offices.
- replace public address system, particularly controls and speakers at the Studio rink.
- replace studio rink flooring.
- replace studio rink sound absorbing ceiling.
- replace studio rink steel pipe refrigerant system.
- renovate lobby box benches throughout.
- office counter top height is not ADA compliant.
- improve office lighting.
- concession counter height not ADA compliant.
- replace concession rolling grills.
- improve vending machine enclosures.
- replace locker coin mechanisms.
- consider updating electrical system to provide switches for overall light controls (major lights are currently controlled by breakers only).
- replace main rink floor tile.
- replace main rink doors.
- replace main rink ceiling in various locations.
- replace existing main rink globe lights.
- update main rink sound system to provide CD capabilities.
- replace main rink bleacher seats.
- replace gymnasium HVAC system.
- replace main rink cooling coil.
- replace Zamboni room ice melting pit and rail construction
- replace main cooling tower.
- replace cooling system compressor and three condensers.
- replace ice temperature control system with programmable calendar system.
- replace copper boiler, which services the ice resurfacing machine room.
- ground detector for building electrical services not operative.
- facility boiler undersized.
- replace exterior gas storage area enclosure.
- resurface existing parking lot and expand if possible.
- thorough concrete cleaning at front entry required.
- soil appears to be too high at the grade line of the north elevation.



*Crown Community Center*

**DAWES PARK - GREENWOOD BEACH RESTROOM BUILDING**

Description:

The restroom building in Dawes Park – Greenwood Beach is a one story, masonry block and wood building containing approximately 1,800 square feet. The building contains two restrooms and a storage area, with a shower located on the outside of the building.

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

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*Dawes Park – Greenwood Beach Restroom*

### Evaluation of Conditions:

- facility appears to be too small and improperly placed for the program requirements.
- toilet rooms are not handicap accessible.
- toilet room fixtures and partitions and interior finishes have outlived their useful life.
- exterior shower does not drain to a compliant drain and sanitary sewer system.
- shower use is deteriorating and discoloring the exterior stone.
- exterior vending machine sits in the open
- tree branches obstruct roofing.
- exterior lighting is poor.
- routine caulking/sealant requires maintenance.
- signage is not handicapped compliant.

### **DAWES PARK LAGOON BUILDING**

#### Description:

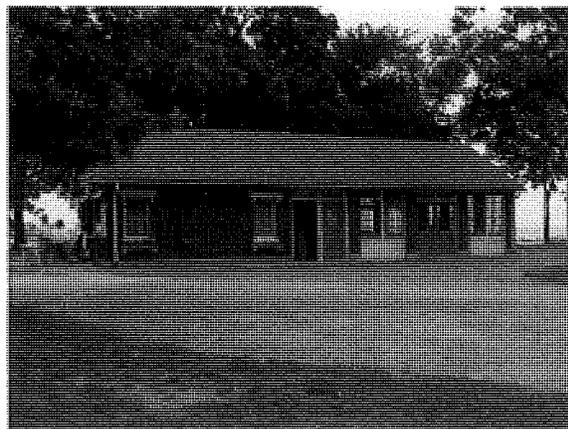
The Dawes Park Lagoon Building, a historical structure, is a one story, masonry and wood building containing. The building contains two restrooms and a concession area, and a picnic area.



*Dawes Park Lagoon Building*

### Evaluation of Conditions:

- brick mortar in poor condition
- flashings are in poor condition
- miscellaneous carpenter details are mission and/or in poor condition
- paint/stain in poor condition
- caulking/sealant in poor condition
- interior lighting is poor
- baby changing station in men's toilet room is missing
- toilet room accessories are missing
- toilet room ventilation is poor
- ADA compliant signage at toilets rooms is missing
- toilet rooms do not have required five foot diameter wheelchair turning radius



*Dawes Park Lagoon Building*

**DEMPSTER STREET BEACH  
AQUATICS CENTER BUILDING**

Description:

The Dempster Steet Beach Aquatics Building is a one story, masonry building containing approximately 3,500 square feet. The building contains two restrooms, storage areas, and life guard administrative facilities.

Existing Conditions:

- facility appears to be too small for program requirements
- facility sits too low to allow staff complete view of beachfront and lake front.  
Recommendation - Inclusion of tower (which would also improve radio horizon).
- refuse enclosure area dilapidated,
- truck trailer used as program storage for aquatic events.
- exterior brick and wood trim deteriorating
- grade slopes toward building in multiple locations.
- paint/stain and caulking/sealant require routine maintenance.
- under-counter refrigerator undersized for staff requirements.
- settlement cracks have appeared at the joints. Steel lintels are corroding.



*Dempster Street Beach Aquatics Center*

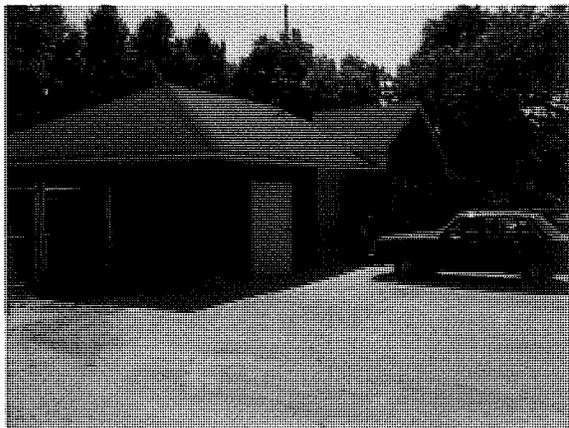
**DOBSON-BRUMMEL PARK  
SHELTER**

Description:

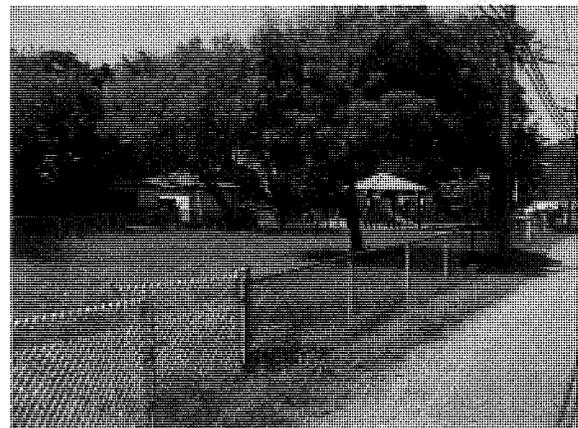
The park shelter in Dobson-Brummel Park is a one story wood hexagon structure containing approximately 400 square feet.

Evaluation of Conditions:

- shelter structure will need paint/stain



*Dempster Street Beach Aquatics Center*



*Dobson-Brummel Park Shelter*

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

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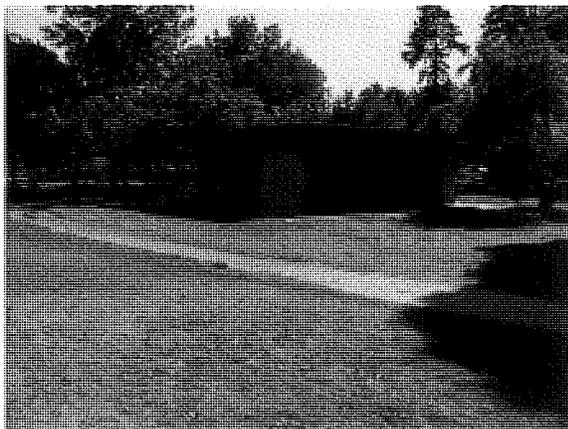
### ELLIOTT PARK – LEE STREET BEACH RESTROOM BUILDING

#### Description:

The restroom building in Elliott Park is a one story, masonry block and wood building containing approximately 1,800 square feet. The building contains two restrooms and a storage area, with a shower located on the outside of the building.

#### Evaluation of Conditions:

- facilities appear to be too small and improperly placed for the program requirements
- toilet rooms are not handicapped accessible.
- toilet room fixtures and partitions and interior finishes have outlived their useful life
- exterior shower does not drain to a compliant drain and sanitary sewer system.
- shower use is deteriorating and discoloring the exterior stone.
- exterior vending machine sits in the open.
- tree branches obstruct roofing.
- exterior lighting is poor.
- routine caulking/sealant requires maintenance.
- signage is not handicapped compliant.



*Elliott Park – Lee Street Beach Restroom*

### FOSTER FIELD FLEETWOOD-JOURDAIN COMMUNITY CENTER

#### Description:

The Fleetwood-Jourdain Community Center, located in Foster Park, is a one story masonry building containing approximately 100,000 square feet. The building contains a variety of recreation/activity rooms and facilities, including a gymnasium, restrooms, meeting rooms, gallery space and administrative offices.

#### Evaluation of Conditions:

- brick needs cleaning and tuckpointing
- second floor office area is not handicap accessible
- existing finishes, such as ceiling tiles and floor tiles, require replacement
- fitness room too small for program requirements
- arts and crafts room, computers, and computer area outdated. Electrical and phone upgrades required.
- replace gymnasium curtain with automated curtain
- replace manual roll away bleachers with automated bleachers
- replace tack board system at hall



*Fleetwood-Jourdain Community Center*



*Fleetwood-Jourdain Community Center*

- provide enclosed storage area of program necessities near meeting room.
- provide adequate refuse enclosure
- drinking fountain not ADA compliant
- non-compliant ADA entry ramp at front entrance
- poor exterior signage and lighting
- men's and women's locker and toilet rooms in poor condition
- no stage accessibility

**LADD ARBORETUM ECOLOGY CENTER BUILDING**

Description:

The Ecology Center Building, located in Ladd Arboretum, is a one story wood building. The building contains a variety of activity rooms and facilities, including educational exhibits, restrooms, meeting rooms, and administrative offices.

Evaluation of Conditions:

- outdated battery storage system and "rock box passage solar system" are not in working order.
- disable windmill generating ability.

- maintenance to windmill structure and surrounding enclosure is poor.
- paint/stain in poor condition.
- sealant/caulk in poor condition.
- greenhouse enclosure and sloped glazing system in poor condition.
- clean and tuck-point existing masonry
- canal overlook not ADA accessible.
- replace/update roof mounted sloped glazing system.
- deteriorated wood trim.
- damaged drywall surfaces in main program room and storage room.
- deteriorated wood finishes in greenhouse.
- deteriorated floor tile in storage room.
- permanent shelves and location for reference library are lacking.

**LADD ARBORETUM GAZEBO**

Description:

The Gazebo, located in Ladd Arboretum, is a one story wood building containing approximately 800 square feet.

Evaluation of Conditions:

- roofing and flashing are in poor condition
- deteriorated wood trim.
- paint/stain maintenance
- caulking/sealant maintenance.
- minor brick tuck-pointing and cleaning.
- provide ADA accessibility

**LARIMER PARK SHELTER BUILDING**

Description:

The Shelter Building in Larimer Park is a one story wood rectangular structure. During the winter months the structure can be enclosed to

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

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serve as a warming building for outdoor ice skating.

### Existing Conditions:

- Lighting is poor
- Roof is in poor condition
- Rakes and fascias and miscellaneous trim are in poor condition
- Normal paint/stain and sealant maintenance



*Larimer Park Shelter*

### **LAWSON PARK SHELTER**

#### Description:

The shelter in Lawson Park is a one story wood rectangular structure containing approximately 000 square feet. The shelter is used for picnicking.

#### Evaluation of Conditions:

- poor lighting.
- miscellaneous trim and rafter ends are in poor condition
- paint/stain at all surfaces of structure and underside roof deck



*Lawson Park Shelter*

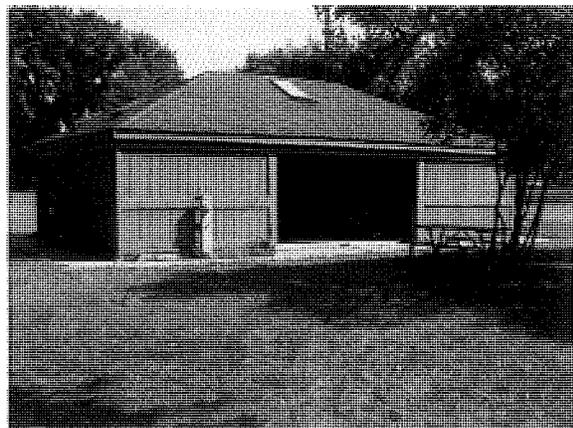
### **LEAHY COMMUNITY PARK – RESTROOM BUILDING**

#### Description:

The restroom building in Leahy Community Park is a one story masonry building containing approximately 0,000 square feet. The building contains two restrooms and a storage area.

#### Evaluation of Conditions:

- adjust grade at building's southwest corner to slope away from structure
- signage is not ADA compliant
- paint/stain and sealant in poor condition

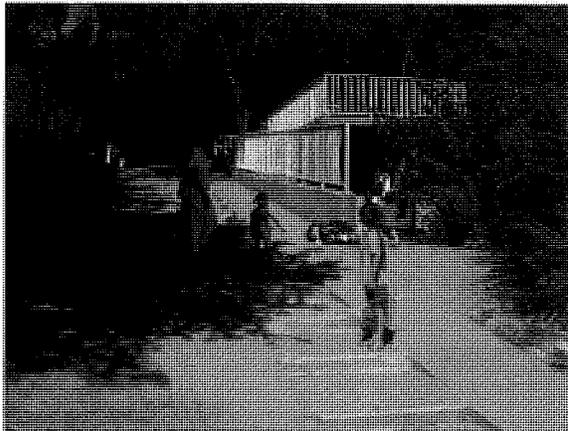


*Leahy Community Park Restroom Building*

**LIGHTHOUSE LANDING BEACH  
RESTROOM BUILDING**

Description:

The restroom building in Lighthouse Landing Park/Beach is a one story, masonry block building. The building contains two restrooms and a storage area.



*Lighthouse Landing Beach Restroom*

Evaluation of Conditions:

- stairs, ramps, and railings not ADA compliant.
- roofing membrane non discernable.
- caulking/sealant.
- toilet rooms are in fair to poor condition and are undersized.
- exterior shower does not drain to a compliant drain and sanitary sewer system.
- shower use is deteriorating and discoloring the exterior wall.
- exterior lighting is poor.
- toilet room fixtures, partitions and interior finishes have outlived their useful life.
- facility appears to be small and improperly placed for the program requirements.
- signage is not handicapped compliant.

**LIGHTHOUSE LANDING  
NORTH BOILER BUILDING**

Description:

The North Boiler Building in Lighthouse Landing Park is a one story, masonry building. The building contains classroom and storage.

Evaluation of Conditions:

- metal roofing and gutter systems in poor condition
- paint and sealant maintenance.
- windows in poor condition
- doors in poor condition
- interior ceiling and wall damage due to previous root leaks.
- toilet room ventilation is poor.
- damaged finishes in toilet room due to previous plumbing leaks.
- decayed exterior wood trim.
- ADA compliant accessible route from parking lot and ADA compliant accessible route to terrace areas is lacking.
- consider renovating exterior to a more historically accurate exterior appearance.

**LIGHTHOUSE LANDING  
SOUTH BOILER BUILDING**

Description:

The South Boiler Building in Lighthouse Landing Park is a one story, masonry building. The building contains classroom and storage.

Evaluation of Conditions:

- replace metal roofing and gutter systems,
- routine paint and sealant maintenance.
- replace windows.
- replace doors.
- patch interior ceiling and wall damage due to previous roof leaks,

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

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- repair damaged finishes in toilet room due to previous plumbing leaks.
- replace decayed exterior wood trim.
- provide ADA compliant accessible route from parking lot and ADA compliant accessible route to terrace areas.
- replace roofing and rainwater system.
- clean and tuck-point, and paint existing masonry walls.
- replace significant deteriorated wood trim at the exterior.
- routine paint/stain.
- routine caulking/sealant.
- windows, doors, and overhead rolling shutters are inappropriate for the historic character of the building.
- building is inaccessible based on ADA rules.
- consider replacing cabinetry and millwork at the interior.
- consider renovating exterior to a more historically accurate exterior appearance.

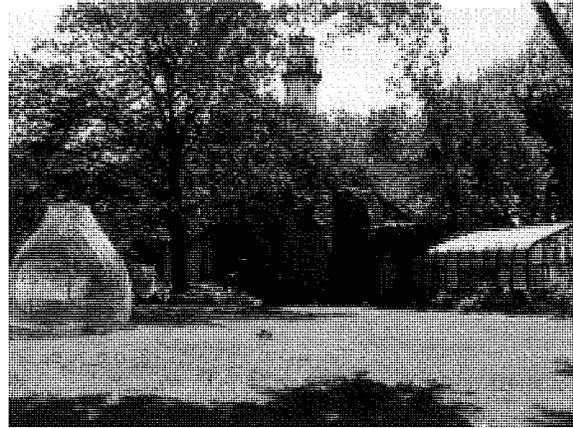
### LIGHTHOUSE LANDING GREENHOUSE

#### Description:

The Greenhouse at Lighthouse Landing Park is a one story, glass structure.

#### Evaluation of Conditions:

- re-glaze and re-gasket greenhouse structure.
- demolition of existing at the greenhouse structure at south side of main greenhouse.
- clean and tuckpoint stone.
- repair/replace doors and thresholds.
- repair/replace interior concrete slabs.
- update growing tables.
- update shelving area and potting tables.
- lighting is poor.



*Lighthouse Landing Greenhouse*

### LOVELACE PARK RESTROOM BUILDING

#### Description:

The restroom building in Lovelace Park is a one story, masonry block building. The building contains two restrooms, multi-purpose room, and a storage area.

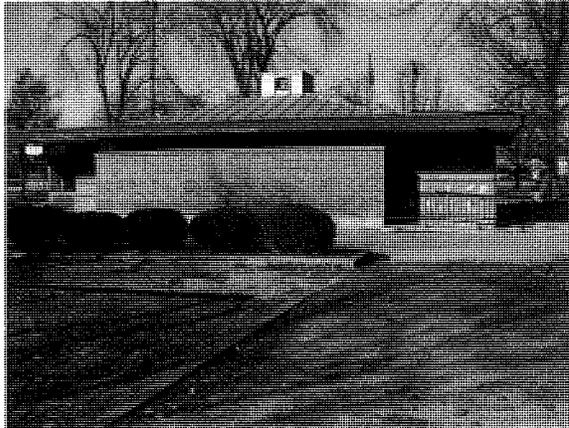
#### Evaluation of Conditions:

- miscellaneous exterior wood trim in poor condition.
- stain/paint.
- caulking/sealant.
- minor patching/painting and repair of interior finishes and cabinetry.
- routine maintenance of interior finishes at toilet rooms.
- improve signage at toilet rooms.
- improve lighting/electrical at toilet rooms.

**MASON COMMUNITY PARK  
RESTROOM BUILDING**

Description:

The restroom building in Mason Community Park is a one story masonry building. The building contains two restrooms, a multi-purpose room, and a storage area.



*Mason Community Park Restroom Building*

Evaluation of Conditions:

- consider concrete stain at exterior expose stone/concrete walls to unify appearance.
- all exterior glazing is in poor condition.
- exterior railings at ramp with ADA and code compliant railings.
- clean/tuckpoint masonry.
- miscellaneous exterior wood trim missing and/or in poor condition.
- paint/stain.
- caulking/sealant.
- reseal interior concrete floor.
- stain/paint interior to lighten and unify appearance.
- lighting/electrical is in poor condition.
- lighting and ventilation at toilet rooms is poor.
- missing toilet room accessories.

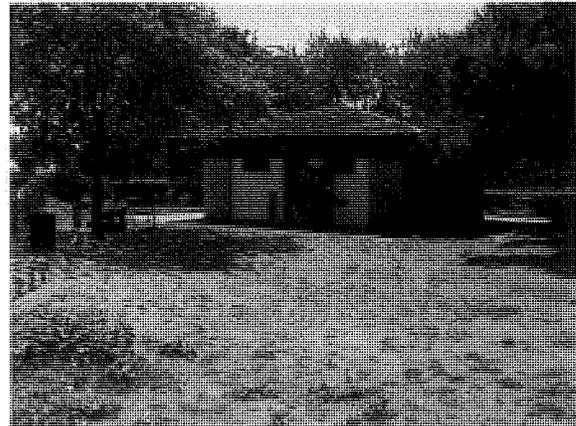
**SOUTH BOULEVARD BEACH  
RESTROOM BUILDING**

Description:

The restroom building in South Boulevard Park/Beach is a one story, masonry block and wood building containing approximately 1,800 square feet. The building contains two restrooms and a storage area, with a shower located on the outside of the building.

Evaluation of Conditions:

- facilities appear to be to small and improperly placed for the program requirements.
- toilet rooms are not handicapped accessible.
- toilet fixtures and partitions and interior finishes have outlived their useful life.
- exterior shower does not drain to a complaint drain and sanitary sewer system shower use is deteriorating and discoloring the exterior stone.
- exterior vending machine sits in the open.
- tree branches have struck roofing.
- exterior lighting is poor.
- routine chalking/sealant requires maintenance.
- signage is not handicapped compliant.
- roof construction is not properly vented.



*South Boulevard Park/Beach Restroom*

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

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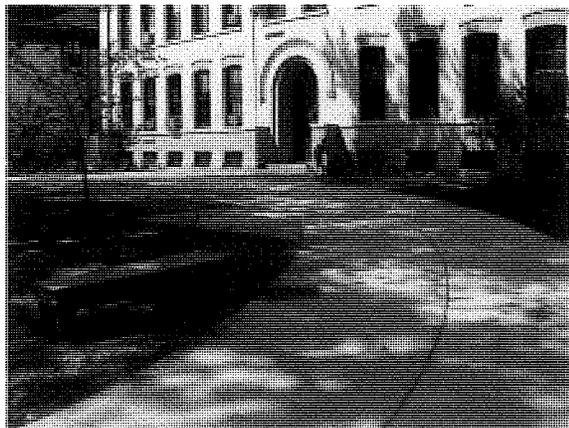
### TALLMADGE PARK NOYES CULTURAL ARTS CENTER BUILDING

#### Description:

The Noyes Community Center, located in Tallmadge Park, is a two-story masonry building. The building contains a variety of recreation/activity rooms and facilities, including a gymnasium, restrooms, meeting rooms, craft rooms, and administrative offices.

#### Evaluation of Conditions:

- key system is inadequate.
- expand administrative office areas.
- doors and hardware are not ADA compliant.
- ventilation at copy room is inadequate.
- roof leaks at actor's gymnasium.
- paint/stain at actor's gymnasium.
- theater toilet not accessible.
- theater kitchen requires complete renovation.
- theater box office currently resides in a closet.
- second floor hall lighting is poor.
- one basement studio is not accessible.
- permanent UPS delivery area needed.
- foundation waterproofing at various areas is poor.



*Noyes Community Center*



*Noyes Community Center*

- improve facility entrance sequence.
- improve facility telephone system to include voice mail.
- provide administrative area with computer networking capabilities.
- improve vending areas.
- provide refuse enclosure.
- repair entire existing exterior facade.
- refinish existing wood floors of hallways.
- consider replacing stair guardrails (spacings wider than current codes allow).
- routine paint and plaster patching at interior.
- provide proper closure for previously blocked up theater clerestory windows.

### TRIGGS PARK – GAZEBO

#### Description:

The gazebo in Twigg's Park is a one-story prefabricated metal hexagon structure containing approximately 400 square feet. The structure is new and serves the playground area.

#### Evaluation of Conditions:

- structure should be added to routine maintenance cycle for paint at the steel superstructure and stain of wood ceiling.



*Twiggs Park Gazebo*

## Ridgeville Park District Existing Park Land Inventory

Within the City of Evanston, the Ridgeville Park District (a separate taxing authority) maintains and operates ten park sites comprising 12.21 acres of park land. The Park District encompasses a total area of 1.3 square miles in the southern portion of Evanston, and serves a population of approximately 30,000 residents.

Even though the City of Evanston has no control or responsibilities for the District's park land, it does serve and provide recreational resources to the residents of Evanston. Therefore, the District's land and recreational facilities need to be included in the overall tabulation of park land and facilities.

Each park in the Ridgeville Park District is reviewed on the following pages and is based on field visits during the fall of 1999 and spring of 2000, when all parks were examined and inventoried.

The size and classification is listed for each park, along with a short description of each park's unique characteristics. Existing facilities are listed for each park. An evaluation of the existing facilities was not conducted, since improvements to the Ridgeville Park District's park facilities is not a part of this Plan.

### **BRUMMEL PARK** (see Figure 83)

Size: 0.80 acres

Ward: 8

Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

Location: Southwest Corner of Brummel Street and Elmwood Avenue

# INVENTORY OF RESOURCES



*Brummel Park*



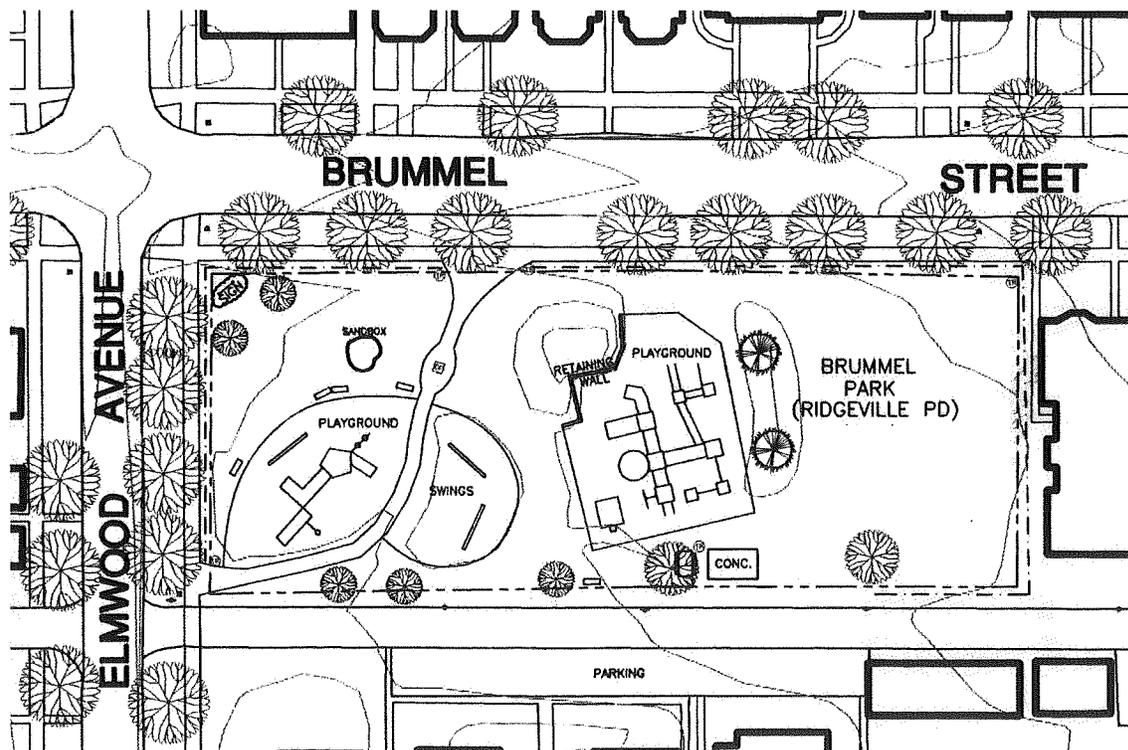
*Brummel Park*

Description:

With streets on two sides, Brummel Park is highly visible and accessible to the neighborhood surrounding the Park. While primarily a neighborhood park, this facility meets mini-park needs for residents in the surrounding area.

Existing Facilities:

- playground equipment for tots
- playground equipment for 6-12 age
- four benches
- two picnic tables
- one drinking fountain
- concrete walk through park
- one park sign



**Figure 83: Brummel Park**

**ELKS PARK** (see Figure 84)

Size: 2.90 acres

Ward: 8

Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

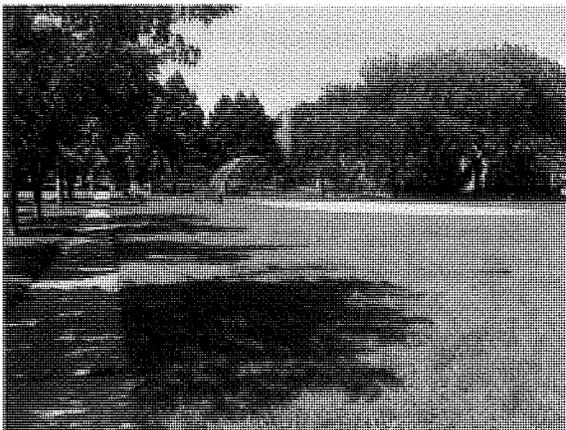
Location: Northeast Corner of Mulford Street and Callan Avenue

Description:

With streets on two sides, Elks Park is highly visible and accessible to the neighborhood surrounding the Park.

Existing Facilities:

- one softball field with backstop
- one softball field
- one trash receptacle
- four benches
- one soccer field



*Elks Park*



*Elks Park*

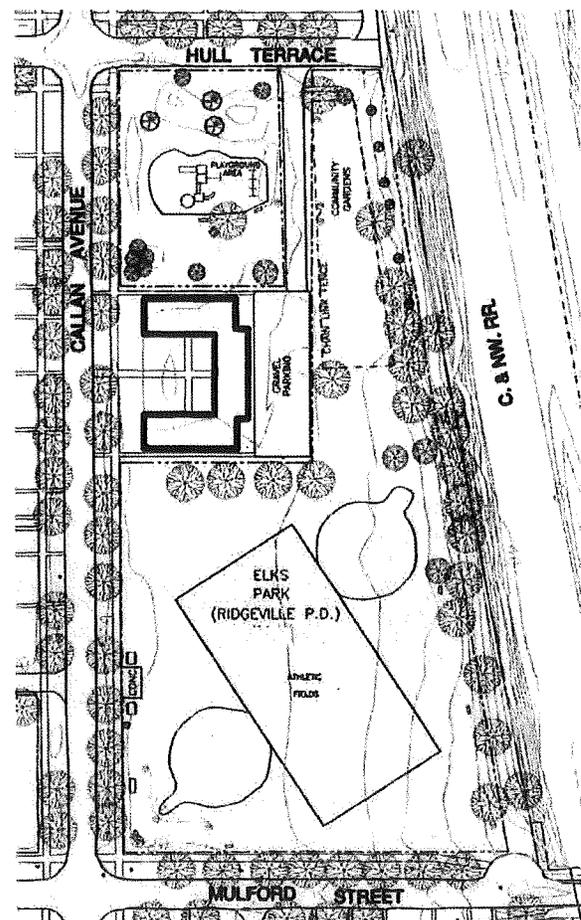


Figure 84: Elks Park

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

### ELKS TOTLOT (see Figure 85)

Size: 0.80 acres

Ward: 8

Classification

Function: Totlot Park

Location: Southeast Corner of Callan Avenue and Hull Terrace

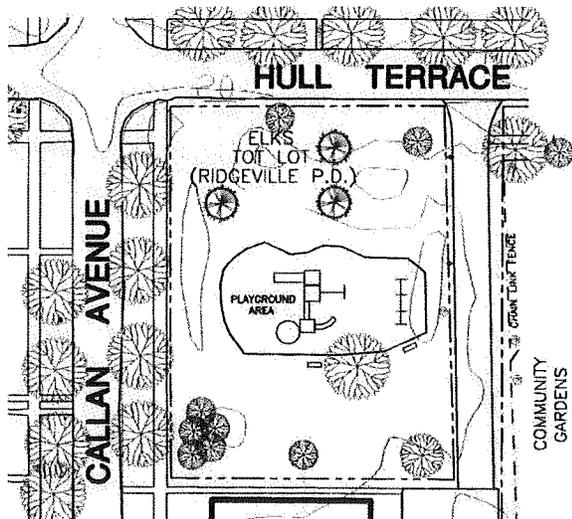


Figure 85: Elks Totlot

Description:

With streets on two sides, Elks Totlot is highly visible and accessible to the neighborhood



Elks Totlot



Elks Totlot

surrounding the Park. The totlot is also adjacent to Elks Park, which is to the south.

Existing Facilities:

- playground equipment for 6-12 age
- playground swings for tots
- two benches
- three trash receptacles

### KAMEN PARK EAST (see Figure 86)

Size: 1.60 acres

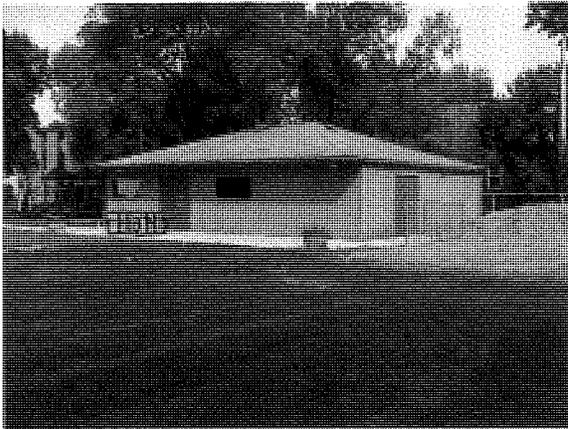
Ward: 9

Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park



Kamen Park East - Ballfield



*Kamen Park East – Recreation Building*

Location: Northeast Corner of Barton Street and South Boulevard

Description:

With streets on two sides, Kamen Park East is highly visible and accessible to the neighborhood surrounding the Park. Kamen Park East is one of three parks along South Boulevard Avenue.

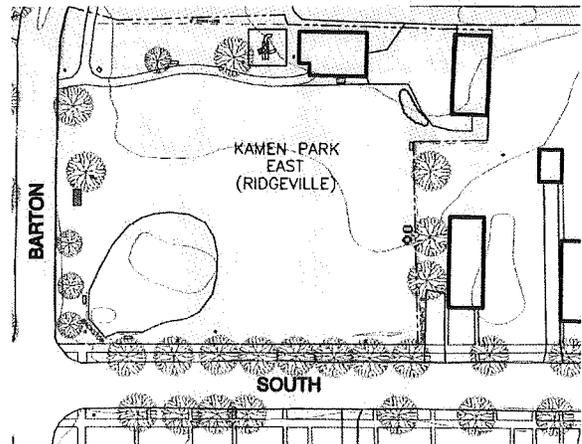
Existing Facilities:

- one lighted open play field
- one lighted softball field with backstop and players fence
- playground equipment for tots
- four benches



*Kamen Park East - Playground*

- three trash receptacles
- one bike rack
- three picnic tables
- one drinking fountain
- one park identification sign
- park program building
- park maintenance building



**Figure 86: Kamen Park East**

**KAMEN PARK WEST (see Figure 87)**

Size: 1.90 acres

Ward: 9

Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park



*Kamen Park West – Basketball Court*

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES



*Kamen Park West*

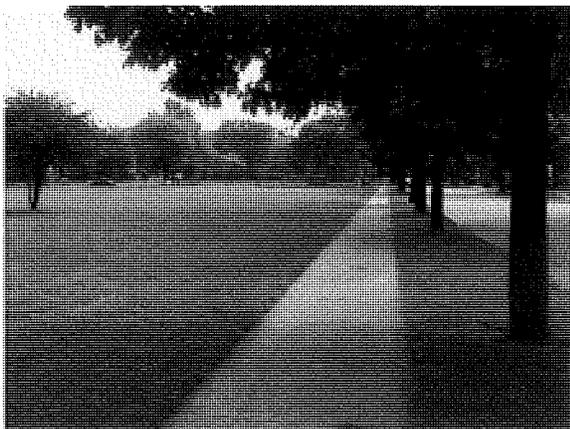
Location: Northeast Corner of Barton Street and South Boulevard

Description:

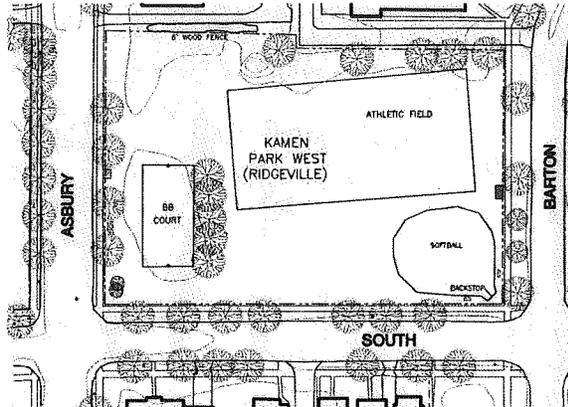
With streets on two sides, Kamen Park East is highly visible and accessible to the neighborhood surrounding the Park. Kamen Park West is one of three parks along South Boulevard Avenue.

Existing Facilities:

- one softball field with backstop, players fence, and bleachers
- one basketball court
- one soccer field
- one bench



*Kamen Park West*



**Figure 87: Kamen Park West**

- one trash receptacle
- one drinking fountain

**LEIDER PARK** (see Figure 88)

Size: 2.10 acres

Ward: 9

Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

Location: Northwest Corner of Asbury Street and South Boulevard



*Leider Park*



Leider Park - Playground



Leider Park

Description:

With streets on two sides, Leider Park is highly visible and accessible to the neighborhood surrounding the Park. Leider Park is one of three parks along South Boulevard Avenue.

Existing Facilities:

- concrete walkway through park
- two playgrounds for 6-12 age
- playground equipment for tots
- five benches
- one trash receptacle
- three picnic tables
- one drinking fountain
- lights for playground area

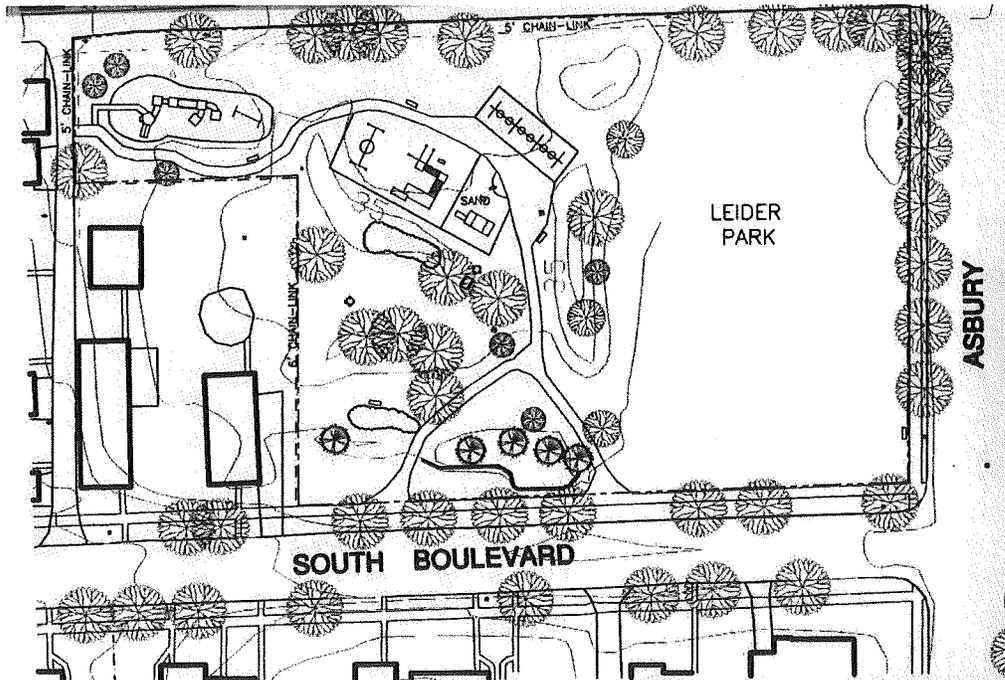


Figure 88: Leider Park

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

### MULFORD-CALLAN PARK

(see Figure 89)

Size: 0.37 acres

Ward: 8

Classification

Function: Totlot Park

Location: Northeast Corner of Callan Avenue and Mulford Drive

Description:

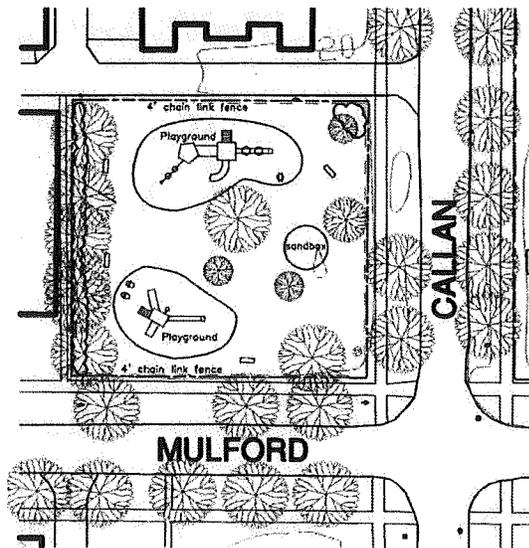
With streets on two sides, Mulford-Callan Park is highly visible and accessible to the neighborhood surrounding the Park. Mulford-Callan is one of three parks within the immediate area.

Existing Facilities:

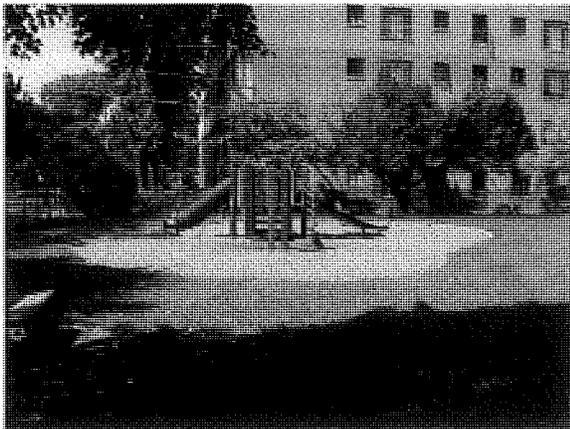
- playground equipment for tots
- playground equipment for 6-12 age
- four benches
- one trash receptacle



*Mulford-Callan Park - Playground*



**Figure 89: Mulford-Callan Park**



*Mulford-Callan Park - Playground*

### PLAYLOT

(see Figure 90)

Size: 0.10 acres

Ward: 9

Classification

Function: Totlot Park

Location: Located on Alley North of South Boulevard and West of Ridge Avenue

Description:

The Playlot is a small totlot located in the back of residential lots and accessible from an alley.

Existing Facilities:

- playground equipment for tots
- two benches
- chain link fencing along west side
- wood rail fence along north and east sides
- 5 shade trees

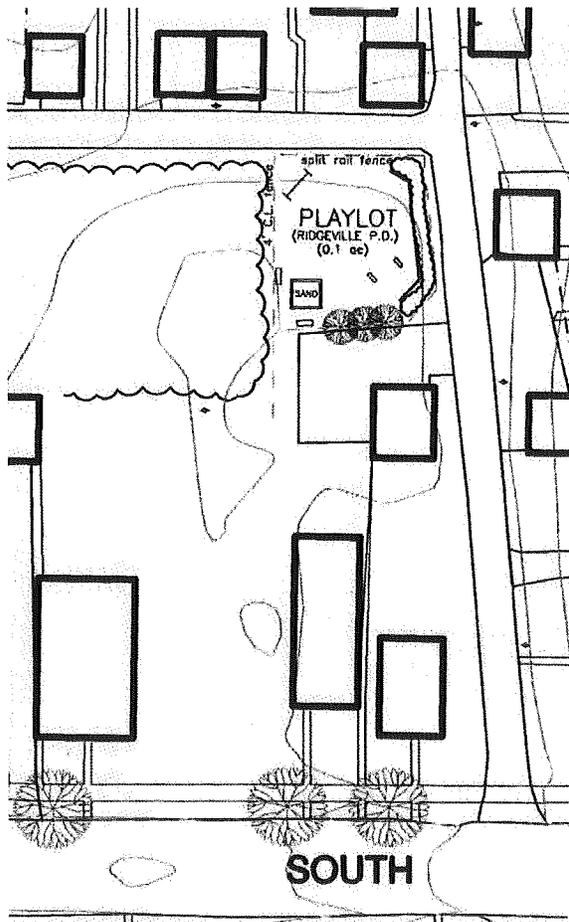


Figure 90: Playlot

**REBA PLACE PARK**

(see Figure 91)

Size: 0.34 acres

Ward: 9

Classification

Function: Totlot Park

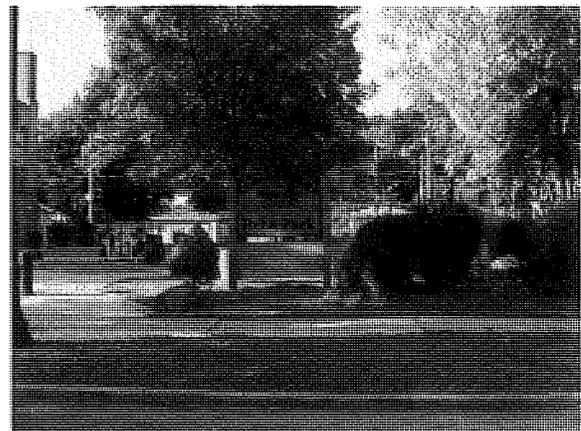
Location: North of Reba Place

Description:

Reba Place Park is a small totlot located on the north side of Reba Place. The park is easily accessible to the surrounding neighborhood.

Existing Facilities:

- one basketball court
- concrete walk from street to basketball court
- playground equipment for tots
- playground equipment for 6-12 age
- four benches
- two trash receptacles
- one table-seats
- one drinking fountain
- one park identification sign
- 5 shade trees
- 5 ornamental trees
- one light fixture

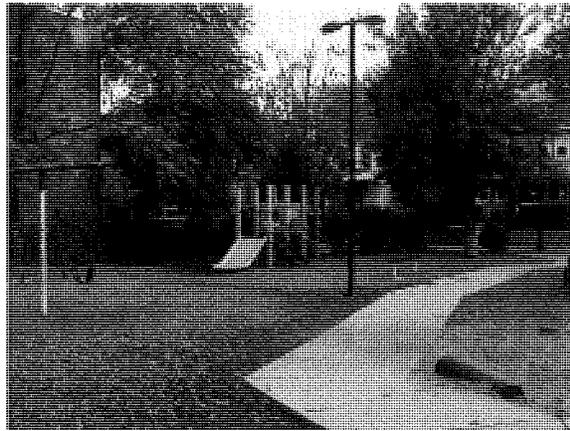


Reba Place Park

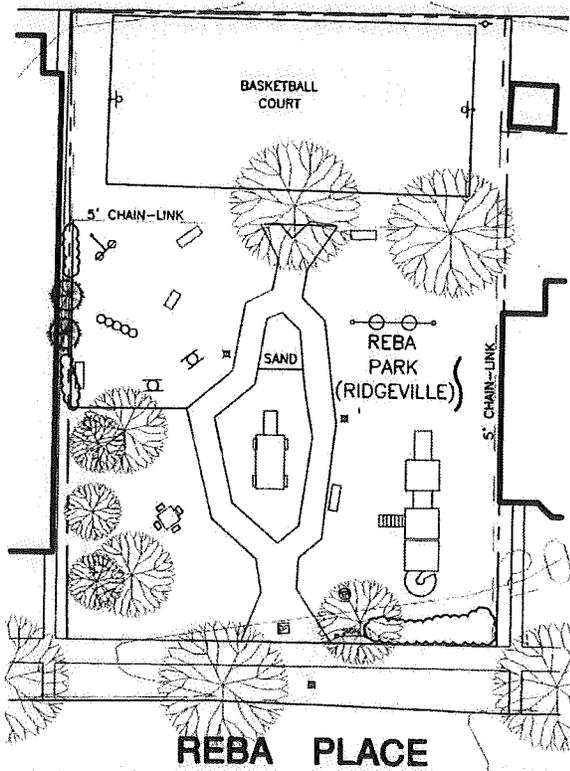
**INVENTORY OF RESOURCES**



*Reba Place Park – Basketball Court*



*Reba Place Park – Basketball Court*



**Figure 91: Reba Place Park**

**RIDGEVILLE PARK (see Figure 92)**

Size: 1.30 acres

Ward: 9

Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

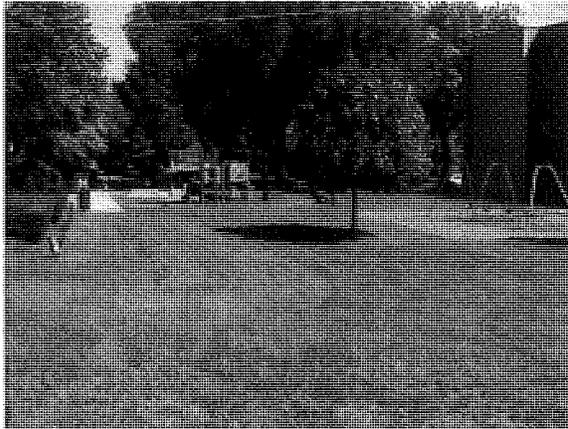
Location: Northwest Corner of Ridge Avenue and South Boulevard

Description:

With streets on three sides, Ridgeville Park is highly visible and accessible to the neighborhood surrounding the Park. Ridgeville Park is one of the Park District's main office.



*Ridgeville Park – Basketball Courts*



Ridgeville Park - Playground



Ridgeville Park

Existing Facilities:

- two basketball courts
- one open field area
- playground swings for tots
- playground equipment for 6-12 age
- district community center building
- eight benches
- three trash receptacles
- one bike rack
- four picnic tables
- one performance stage

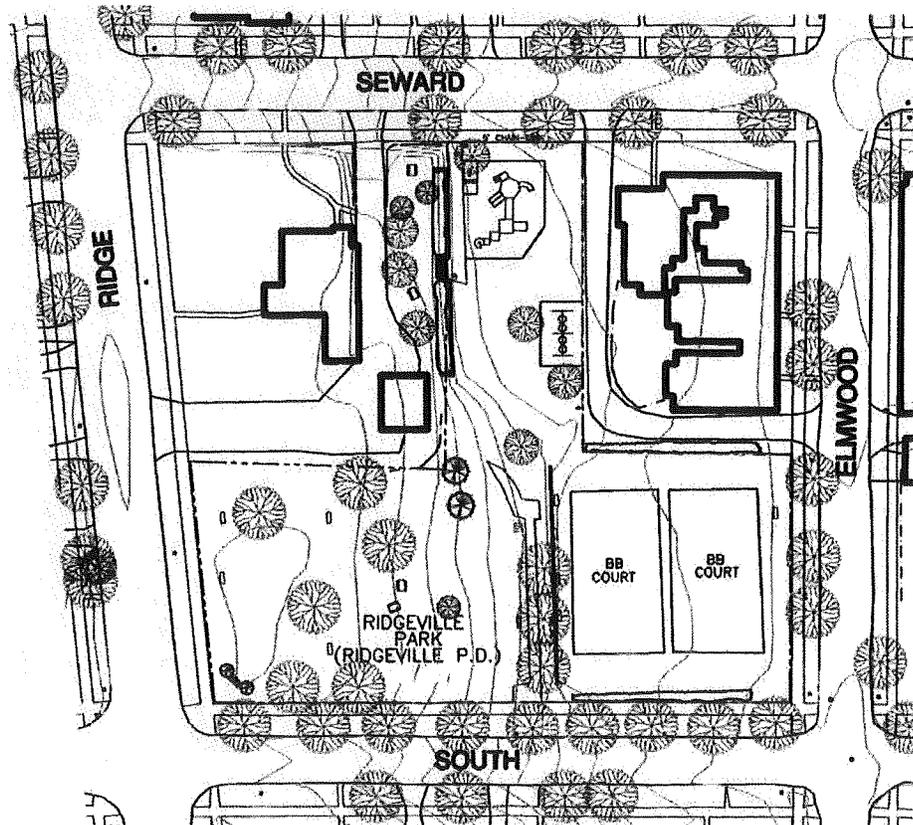


Figure 92: Ridgeville Park

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

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### Lighthouse Park District Existing Park Land Inventory

Within the City of Evanston, the Lighthouse Park District (a separate taxing authority) maintains and operates four park sites comprising 5 acres of park land. The Park District encompasses a total area of 1 square miles in the northern portion of Evanston, and serves a population of approximately 73,000 residents.

Even though the City of Evanston has no control or responsibilities for the District's park land, it does serve and provide recreational resources to the residents of Evanston. Therefore, the District's land and recreational facilities need to be included in the overall tabulation of park land and facilities.

Each park in the Lighthouse Park District is reviewed on the following pages and is based on field visits during the fall of 1999 and spring of 2000, when all parks were examined and inventoried.

The size and classification is listed for each park, along with a short description of each park's unique characteristics. Existing facilities are listed for each park. An evaluation of the existing facilities was not conducted, since improvements to the Lighthouse Park District's park facilities is not a part of this Plan.

#### **BATES PARK** (see Figure 93)

Size: 0.60 acres

Ward: 7

Classification

Function: Mini- Park

Location: North of Lincoln Avenue and West of Ridge Avenue

Description:

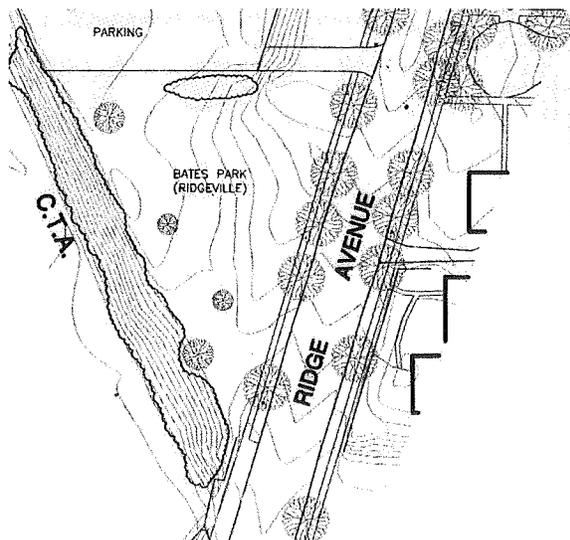
Bates Park is located north of Lincoln Avenue and on the west side of Ridge Avenue. The park serves as open space with no recreational facilities.

Existing Facilities:

- concrete sidewalk along East side
- four shade trees
- one tallmadge light fixture



*Bates Park*



**Figure 93: Bates Park**

**FULLERTON PARK** (see Figure 94)

Size: 0.60 acres

Ward: 7

Classification

Function: Mini-Park

Location: North of Lincoln Avenue and East of Ridge Avenue

Description:

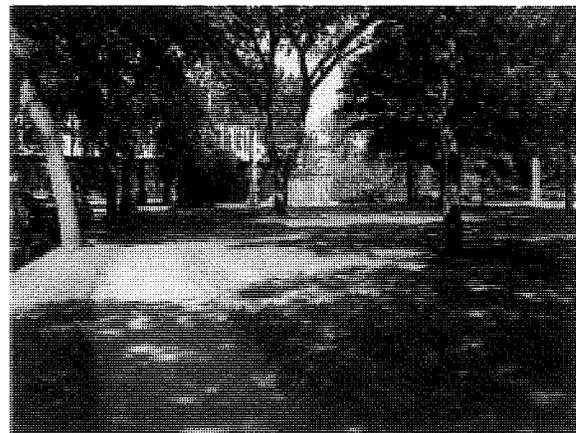
Fullerton Park is located north of Lincoln Avenue and on the east side of Ridge Avenue. The park serves as open space with no recreational facilities.

Existing Facilities:

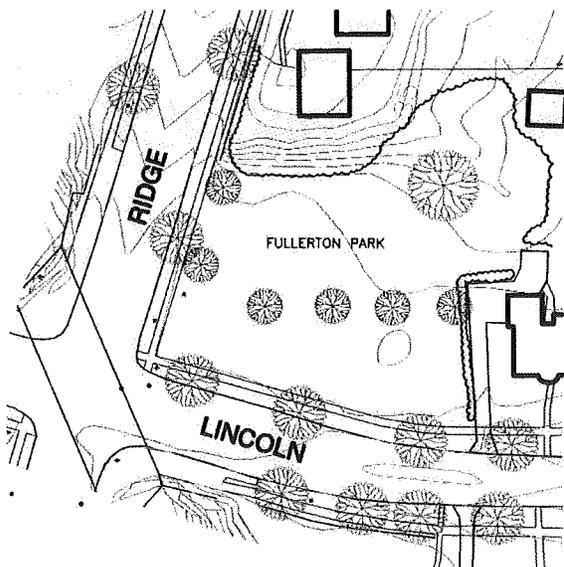
- concrete sidewalks along South and West side
- 12 shade trees
- one tallmadge light fixture



*Fullerton Park*



*Fullerton Park*



**Figure 94: Fullerton Park**

**GROSS POINT LIGHTHOUSE**  
(see Figure 95)

Size: 1.50 acres

Ward: 7

Classification

Function: Special Park

Location: East side of Sheridan Road at Central Avenue

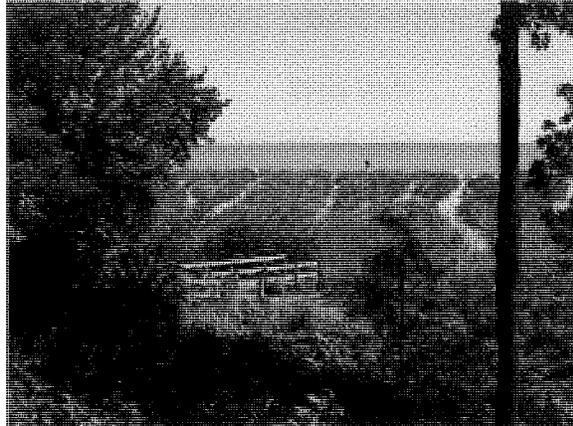
Description:

Gross Point Lighthouse is the prime facility of the Lighthouse Park District. The site

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES



*Gross Point Lighthouse*

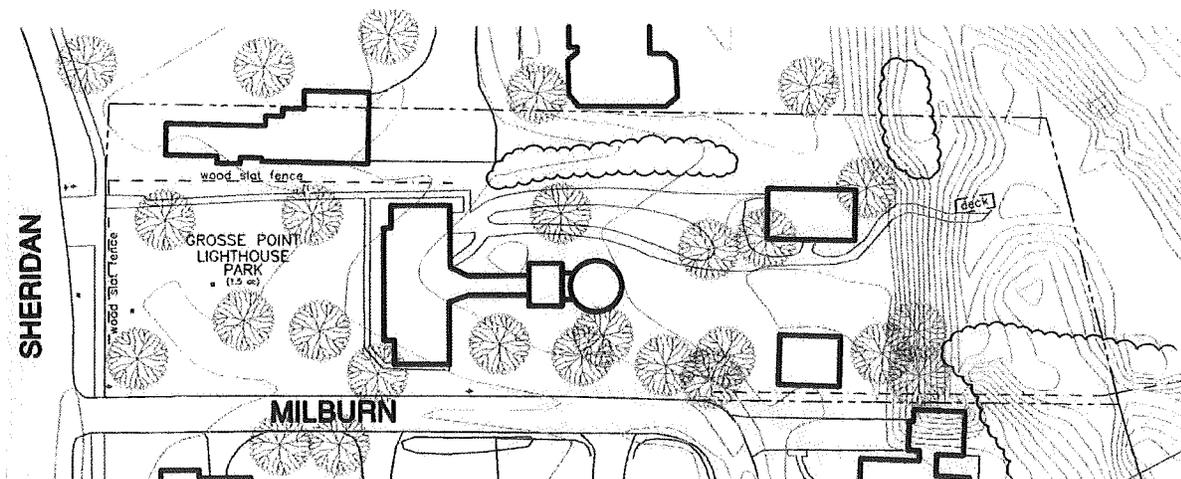


*Gross Point Lighthouse*

comprises 1.50 acres and consists of the Lighthouse and Lighthouse Keepers House. The facility has been designated as a National Historic site.

### Existing Facilities:

- sign and landscape
- one information sign
- concrete sidewalk along West side
- stepping stone walkway
- gravel pedestrian path in garden
- concrete pedestrian path to building
- three benches
- one bicycle rack
- white picket fence along North and West side
- one flag pole
- one birdhouse
- one stone retaining wall
- two bird baths
- 26 shade trees
- 73 evergreen trees
- 19 ornamental trees



**Figure 95: Gross Point Lighthouse**

**NORTHEAST PARK** (see Figure 96)

Size: 2.30 acres

Ward: 7

Classification

Function: Neighborhood Park

Location: Sheridan Avenue North of Lighthouse Landings Park

Description:

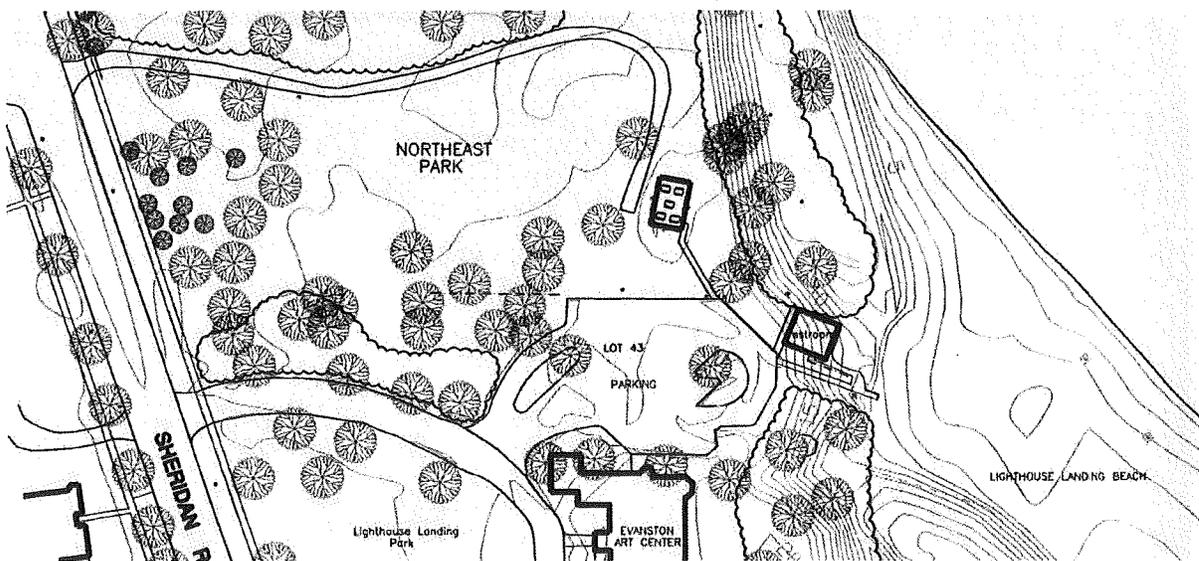
Northeast Park is part of the complex of park land known as Lighthouse Parks, part of which is owned and operated by the Lighthouse Park District and the City of Evanston. Northeast Park lies between Lawson Park and Lighthouse Landing Park/Beach. The Park is predominately open space with a picnic shelter.

Existing Facilities:

- concrete sidewalk along West side
- limestone screenings pedestrian walking path
- vehicular drive to picnic shelter
- picnic shelter
- eight trash receptacles
- five picnic tables
- 27 shade trees
- one evergreen tree
- four tallmadge light fixtures



*Northeast Park*



**Figure 96: Northeast Park**



*Northeast Park*



*Northeast Park*

## Cook County Forest Preserve District Existing Park Land Inventory

Within the City of Evanston, Cook County Forest Preserve District maintains and operates one park site, Dwight Perkins Woods Forest Preserve, comprising 7.00 acres of park land. The Park is located in the northeast portion of the City of Evanston.

Even though the City of Evanston has no control or responsibilities for the District's park land, it does serve and provide recreational resources to the residents of Evanston. Therefore, the District's land and recreational facilities need to be included in the overall tabulation of park land and facilities.

Dwight Perkins Woods is reviewed on the following page and is based on a field visit during the fall of 1999, when the park was examined and inventoried.

The size and classification is listed for the park, along with a short description of the park's unique characteristics. Existing facilities are listed for the park. An evaluation of the existing facilities was not conducted, since improvements to the Cook County Forest Preserve's park facilities is not a part of this Plan.

### **DWIGHT PERKINS WOOD FOREST PRESERVE**

(see Figure 97)

Size: 7.00 acres

Ward: 6

Classification

Function: Nature Preserve



*Dwight Perkins Woods*



*Dwight Perkins Woods*

**Location:** North of Grant Street and East of Ewing Street

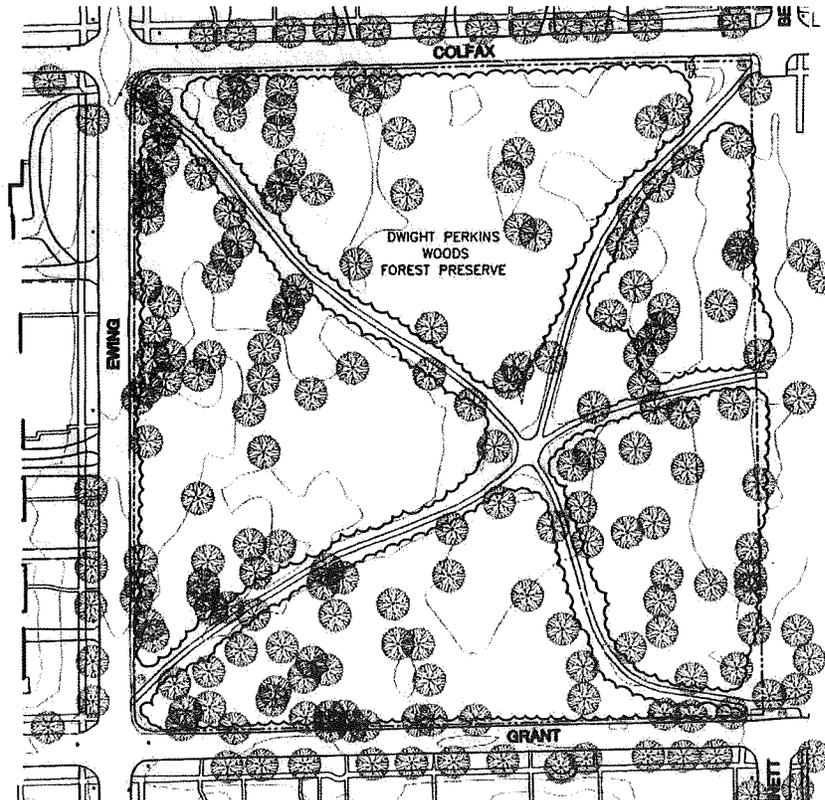
is a nature preserve with asphalt walks through the Park.

**Description:**

With streets on three sides, Dwight Perkins Woods is highly visible and accessible to the neighborhood surrounding the Park. The Park

**Existing Facilities:**

- asphalt pedestrian walks
- sign
- four trash receptacles



**Figure 97: Dwight Perkins Woods**

**INVENTORY OF RESOURCES**

**School District 65  
Existing School Land  
Inventory**

Within the City of Evanston, School District 65 provides educational programs for kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grades. The School maintains and operates 15 school sites in Evanston, and one school site in Skokie. Altogether, the 15 school sites in Evanston comprise 000 acres of land.

Even though the City of Evanston has no control or responsibilities for the School District's school land, it does serve and provide recreational resources to the residents of Evanston. Therefore, the School District's land and recreational facilities need to be included in the overall tabulation of park land and facilities.

Each school site in School District 65 is reviewed on the following pages and is based on field visits during the fall of 1999 and spring of 2000, when all schools were examined and inventoried.

The size and classification is listed for each school, along with a short description of each site's unique characteristics. Existing facilities are listed for each school site. An evaluation of the existing facilities was not conducted, since improvements to the School District's site facilities is not a part of this Plan.

**CHUTE MIDDLE SCHOOL**

(see Figure 98)

Size: 7.60 acres

Ward: 8

School

Classification: Middle School – Grades 6 - 8

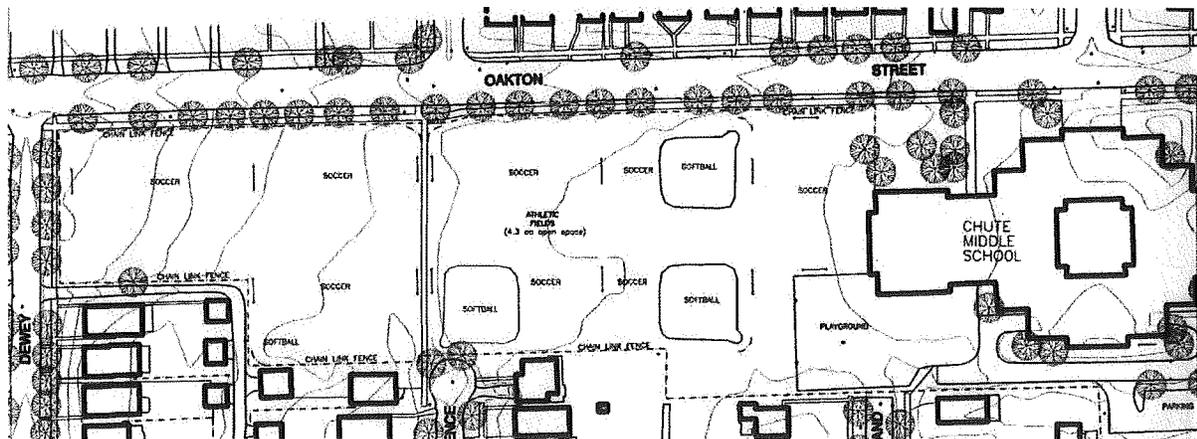
Location: South Side of Oakton Street East of Dewey Street

Existing Facilities:

- five softball fields with backstops
- two ½ court basketball courts
- eight soccer fields with goal posts
- parking lot



*Chute Middle School*



**Figure 98: Chute Middle School**



Chute Middle School



Dawes School - Playground

**DAWES SCHOOL**

(see Figure 99)

Size: 8.90 acres

Ward: 9

School

Classification: Elementary School  
Grades Kindergarten – 5

Location: Southwest Corner of Dodge Avenue and Oakton Street

Existing Facilities:

- two softball fields with backstops and benches
- one softball field with backstop, bleachers, & benches
- One basketball courts
- concrete pathway to play area and school entrances
- parking lot
- open asphalt play area
- playground for 6-12 year olds
- five benches
- five trash receptacles
- one picnic table

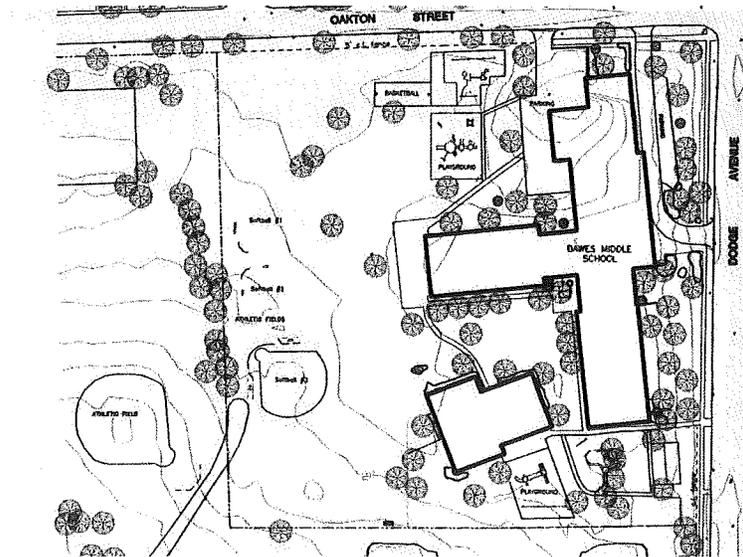
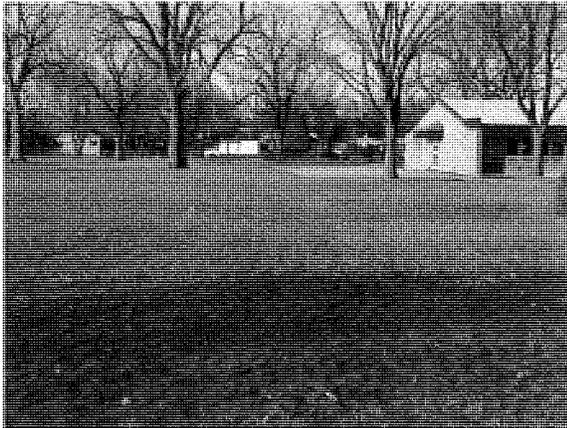


Figure 99: Dawes School

# INVENTORY OF RESOURCES



Dawes School – Basketball Court



Dawes School – Open Field

## DEWEY SCHOOL

(see Figure 100)

Size: 3.40 acres

Ward: 2

### School

Classification: Elementary School  
Grades Kindergarten – 5

Location: Northeast Corner of Lake Street  
and Wesley Avenue

### Existing Facilities:

- one softball field
- two ½ court basketball courts
- one open play field
- school drop-off
- playground for tots
- playground for 6-12 year olds
- four bicycle racks

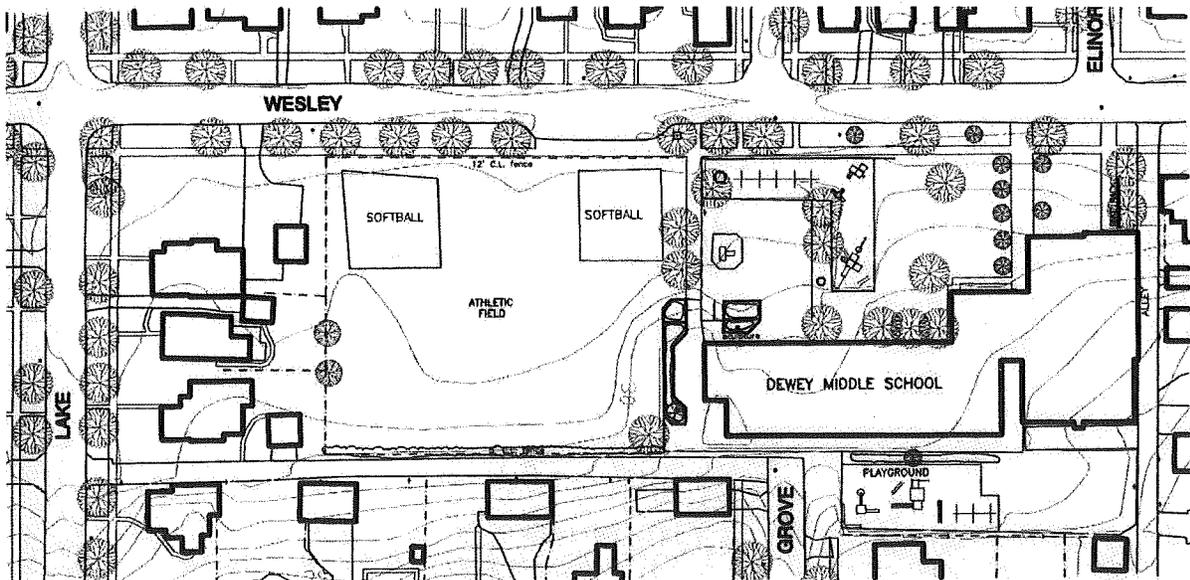
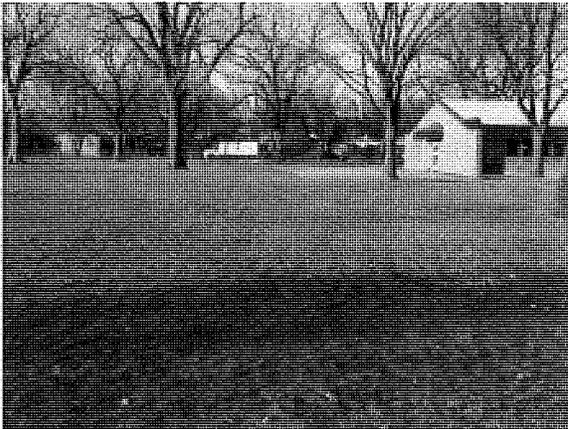


Figure 100: Dewey School

**INVENTORY OF RESOURCES**



*Dewey School*



*Dewey School*

School

Classification: Middle School  
Grades 6 - 8

Location: Southwest Corner of Green Bay Road and Lincoln Avenue

Existing Facilities:

- two full basketball courts
- one ½ court basketball courts
- eight soccer fields with goal posts
- asphalt walks connects to Kingsley School and runs throughout the school property
- daycare storage shed
- five benches
- eight bicycle racks



*Haven Middle School*

**HAVEN MIDDLE SCHOOL**

(see Figure 101)

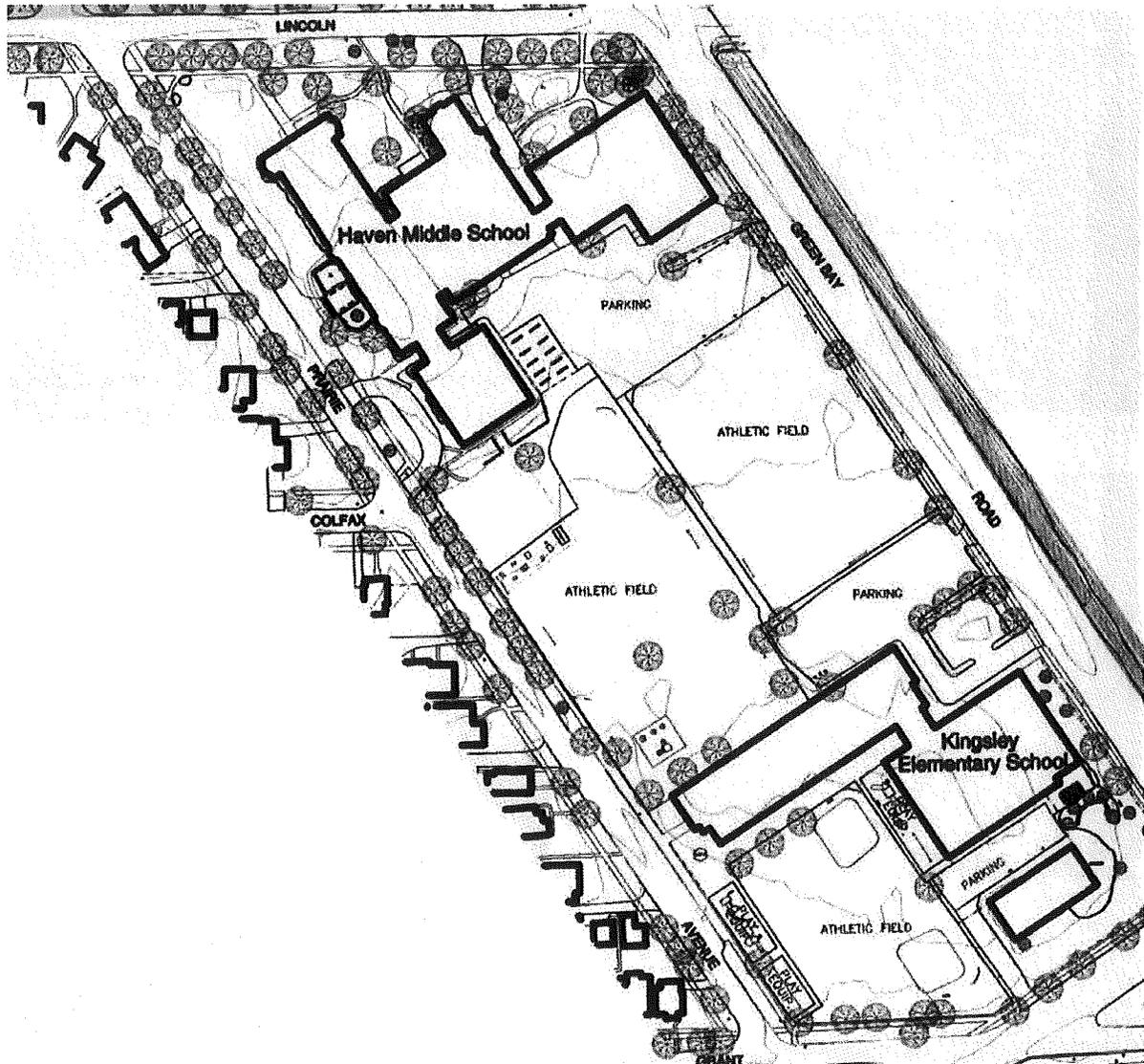
Size: 6.40 acres

Ward: 7



*Haven Middle School*

**INVENTORY OF RESOURCES**



**Figure 101: Haven Middle School**

**LINCOLN SCHOOL**

(see Figure 102)

Size: 2.90 acres

Ward: 3

School

Classification: Elementary School  
Grades Kindergarten - 5

Location: Northeast Corner of Main Street and Hinman Street

Existing Facilities:

- one softball fields with backstop
- one long jump pit
- playground for tots
- playground for 6-12 year olds

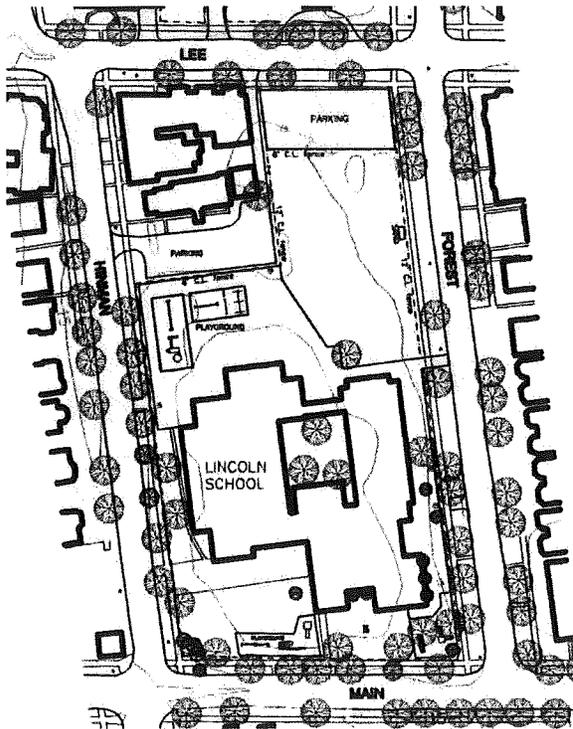


Figure 102: Lincoln School

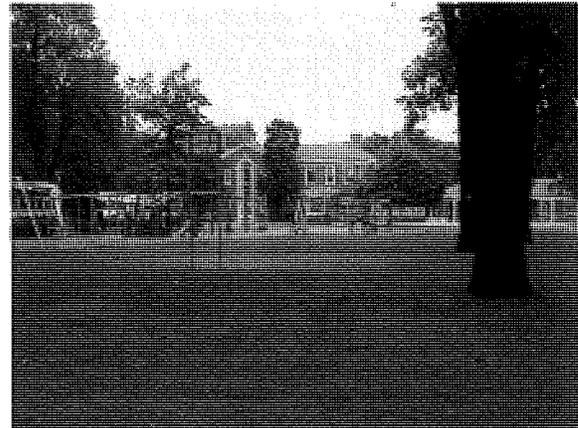
School

Classification: Elementary School  
Grades Kindergarten - 5

Location: Northwest Corner of Grant Street and McDaniel Street

Existing Facilities:

- three softball fields with backstops/benches
- one basketball court
- three ½ court basketball courts
- one soccer field
- playground for 6-12 year olds



*Lincolnwood School*

**LINCOLNWOOD SCHOOL**

(see Figure 103)

Size: 9.20 acres

Ward: 6

INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

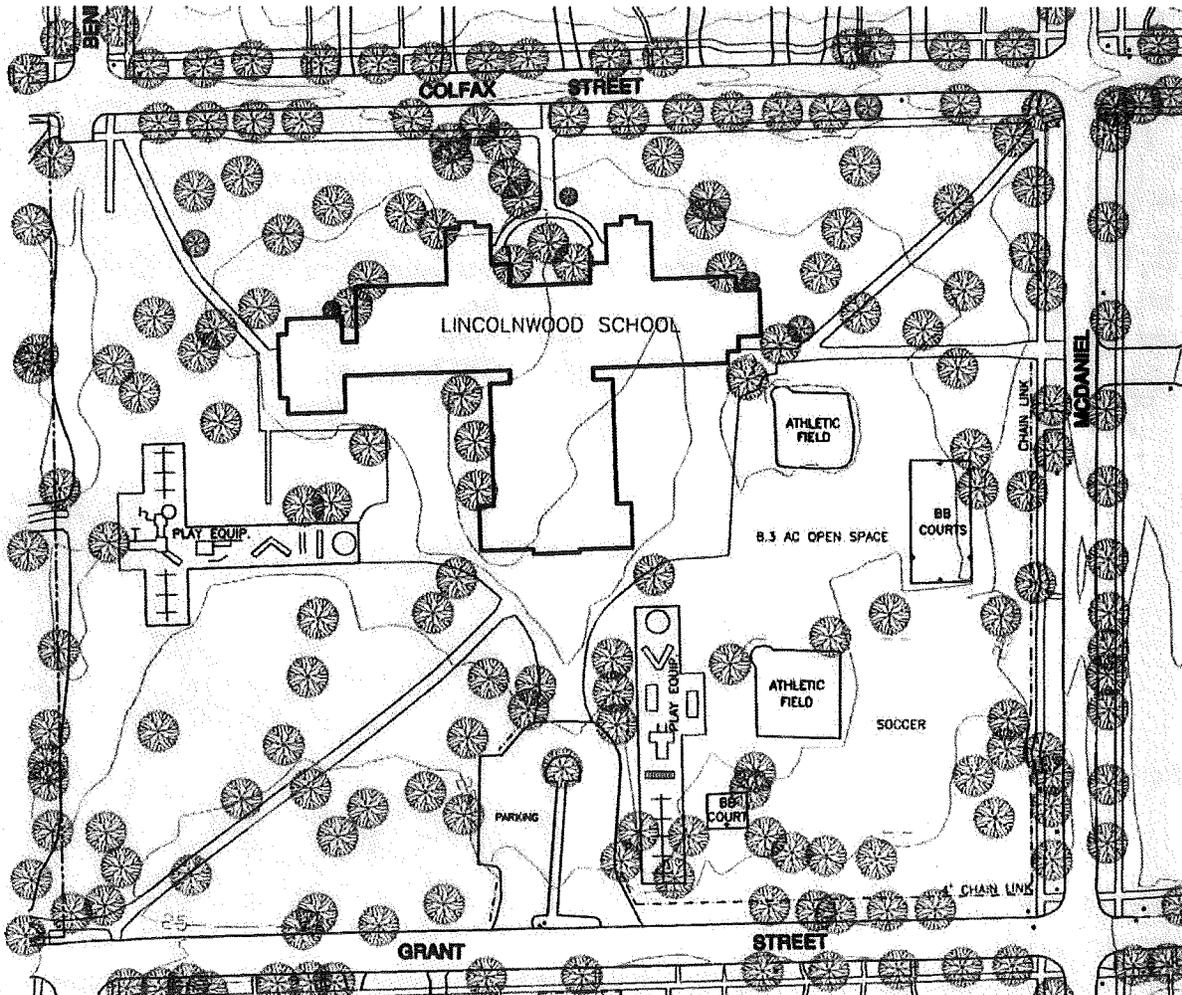
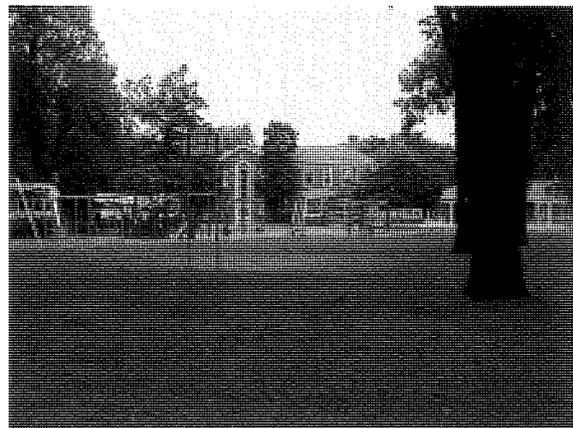


Figure 103: Lincolnwood School



Lincolnwood School



Lincolnwood School

**KING LAB SCHOOL**

(see Figure 104)

Size: 13.0 acres

Ward: 2

School

Classification: Elementary School  
Grades Kindergarten - 5

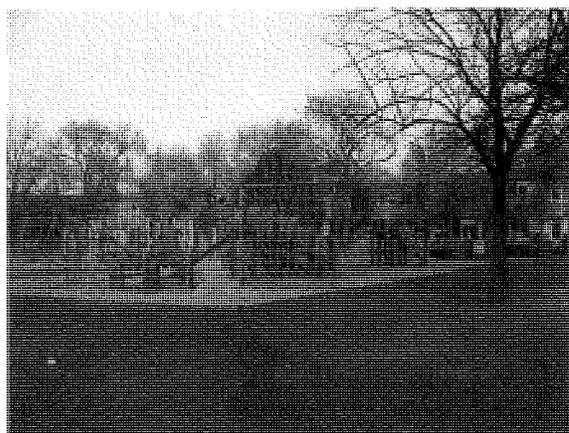
Location: North of Lake Street and East of the Canal

Existing Facilities:

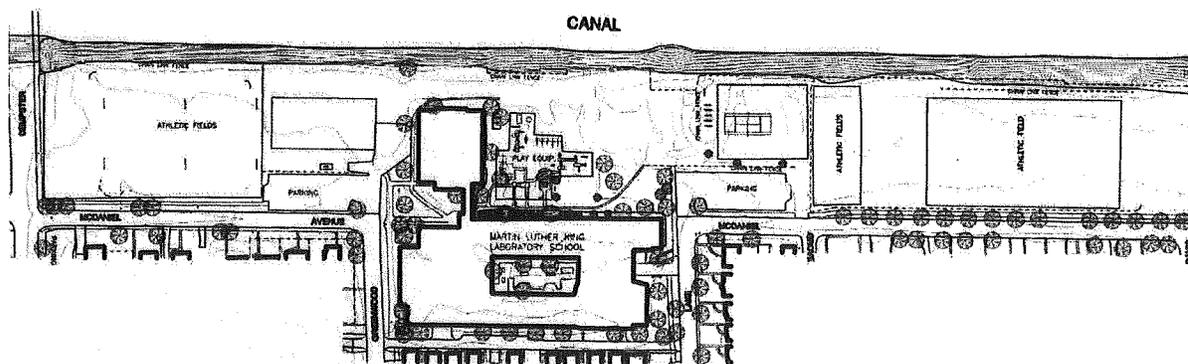
- four softball fields with backstops
- three ½ court basketball courts
- four soccer fields with goal posts
- one tennis court (removable)
- one long jump pit
- parking lot
- playground for tots
- playground for 6-12 year olds
- eleven benches
- five bicycle racks



*King Lab School*



*King Lab School*



**Figure 104: King Lab School**

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

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*King Lab School*

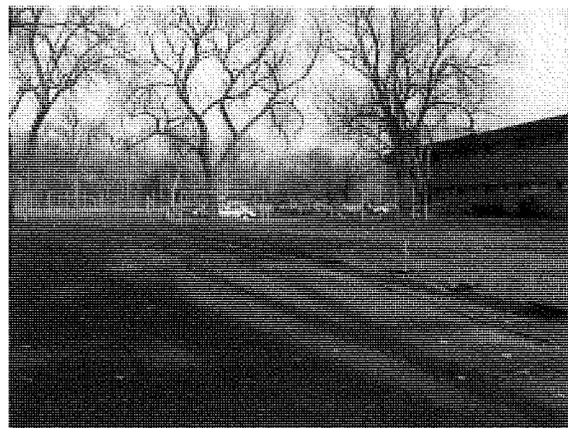


*King Lab School*

Location: Northwest Corner of Green Bay Road and McCormick Boulevard

Existing Facilities:

- one softball fields with backstop
- two softball fields with backstops and benches
- two ½ court basketball courts
- asphalt pathways to playgrounds and school entrances
- circular seating area
- open asphalt play area
- playground for 6-12 year olds
- eight benches
- four bicycle racks



*Kingsley School*

### **KINGSLEY SCHOOL**

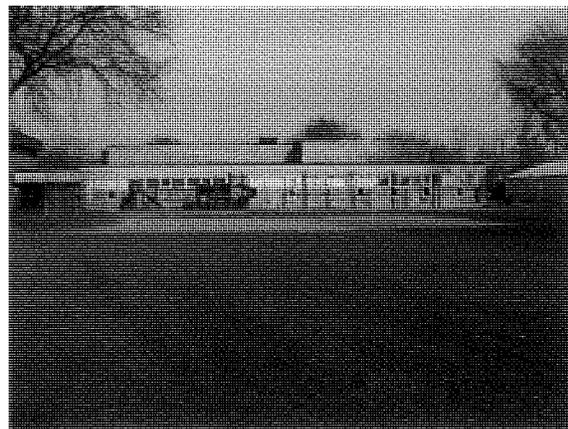
(see Figure 105)

Size: 4.10 acres

Ward: 7

School

Classification: Elementary School  
Grades Kindergarten - 5



*Kingsley School*

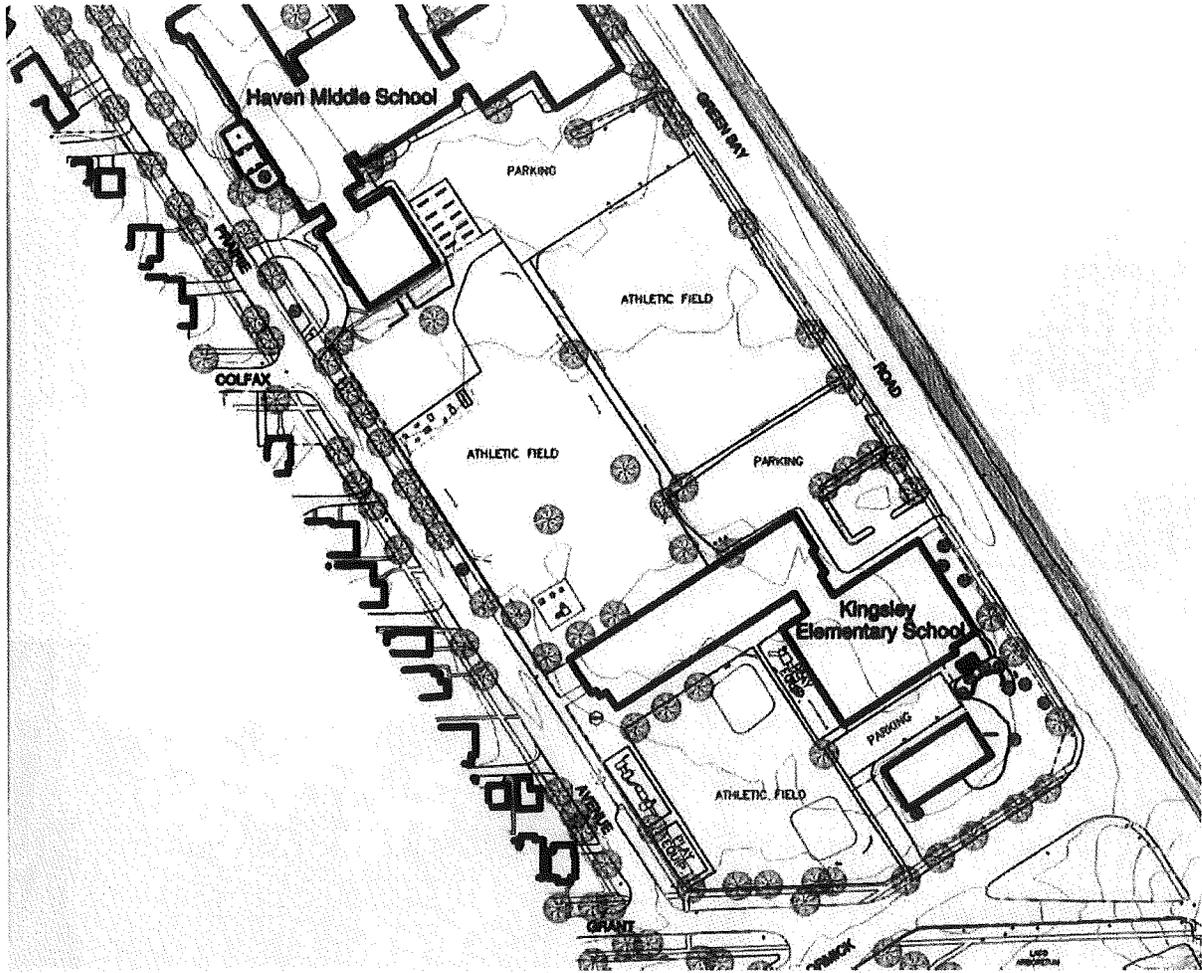
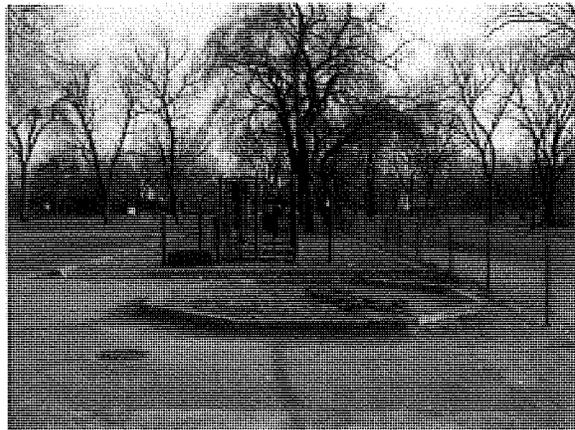


Figure 105: Kingsley School



*Kingsley School*

**NICHOLS MIDDLE SCHOOL**

(see Figure 106)

Size: 4.10 acres

Ward: 5

School Classification: Middle School  
Grades 6 - 8

Location: Southwest Corner of Greenleaf Street and Sherman Avenue

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

### Existing Facilities:

- three softball fields with backstops/benches
- two ½ court basketball courts
- three soccer fields with goal posts
- two ½ field soccer fields with goal posts
- playground for tots
- four bicycle racks
- one picnic tables

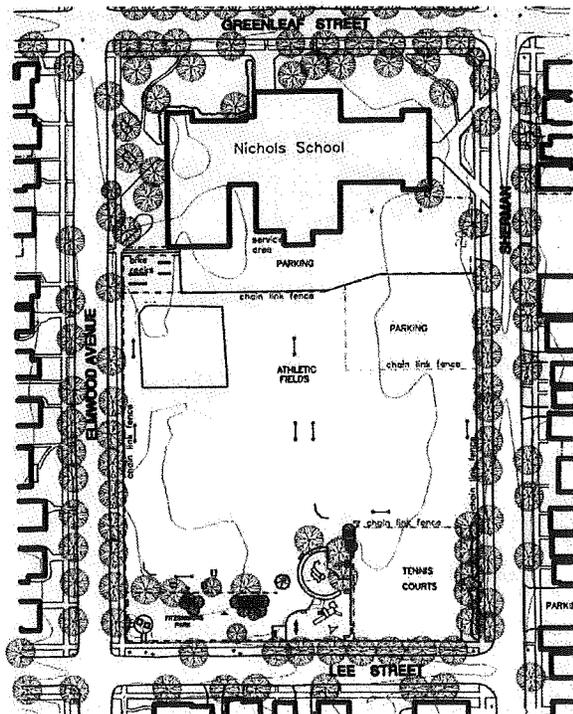


Figure 106: Nichols Middle School

### OAKTON SCHOOL

(see Figure 107)

Size: 5.80 acres

Ward: 5

### School

Classification: Elementary School  
Grades Kindergarten - 5

Location: Southwest Corner of Ridge Avenue and Oakton Street

### Existing Facilities:

- three softball fields with backstops
- two ½ court basketball courts
- one soccer field
- asphalt and paver pathways provide access to basketball courts
- circular seating area
- playground for tots
- playground for 6-12 year olds
- six benches
- 



Oakton School



Oakton School

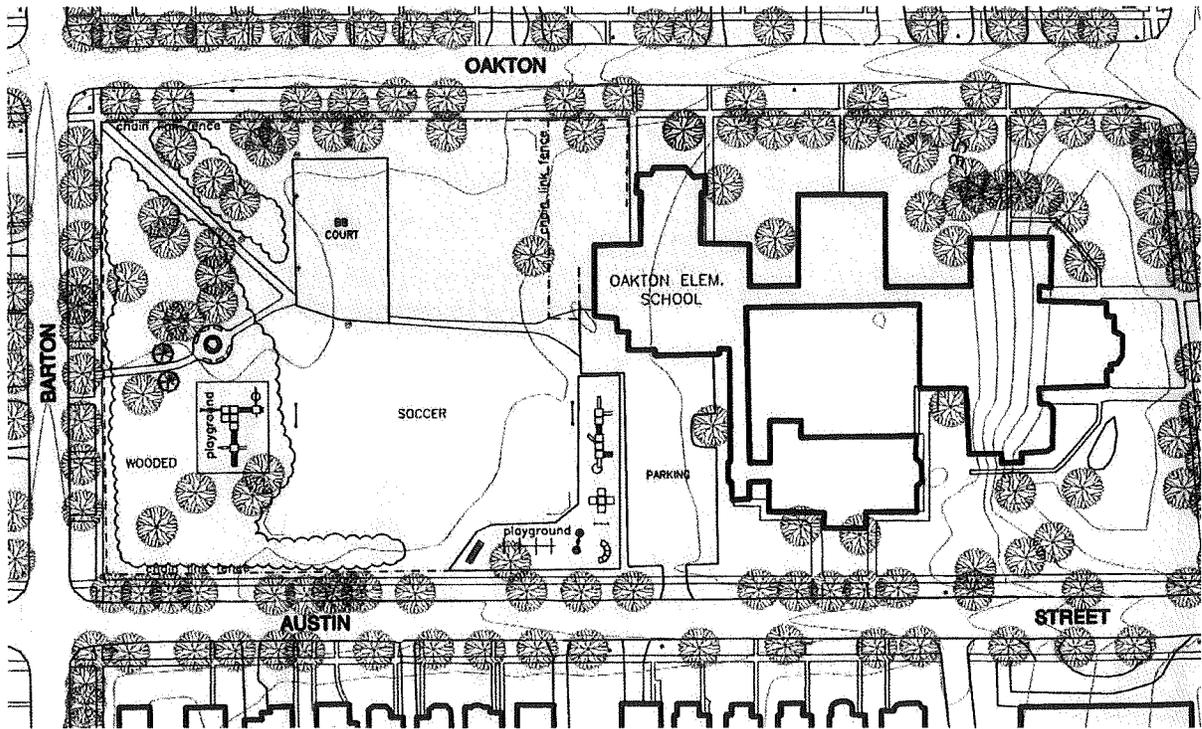


Figure 107: Oakton School



Oakton School

**ORRINGTON SCHOOL**

(see Figure 108)

Size: 2.00 acres

Ward: 7

School

Classification: Elementary School  
Grades Kindergarten - 5

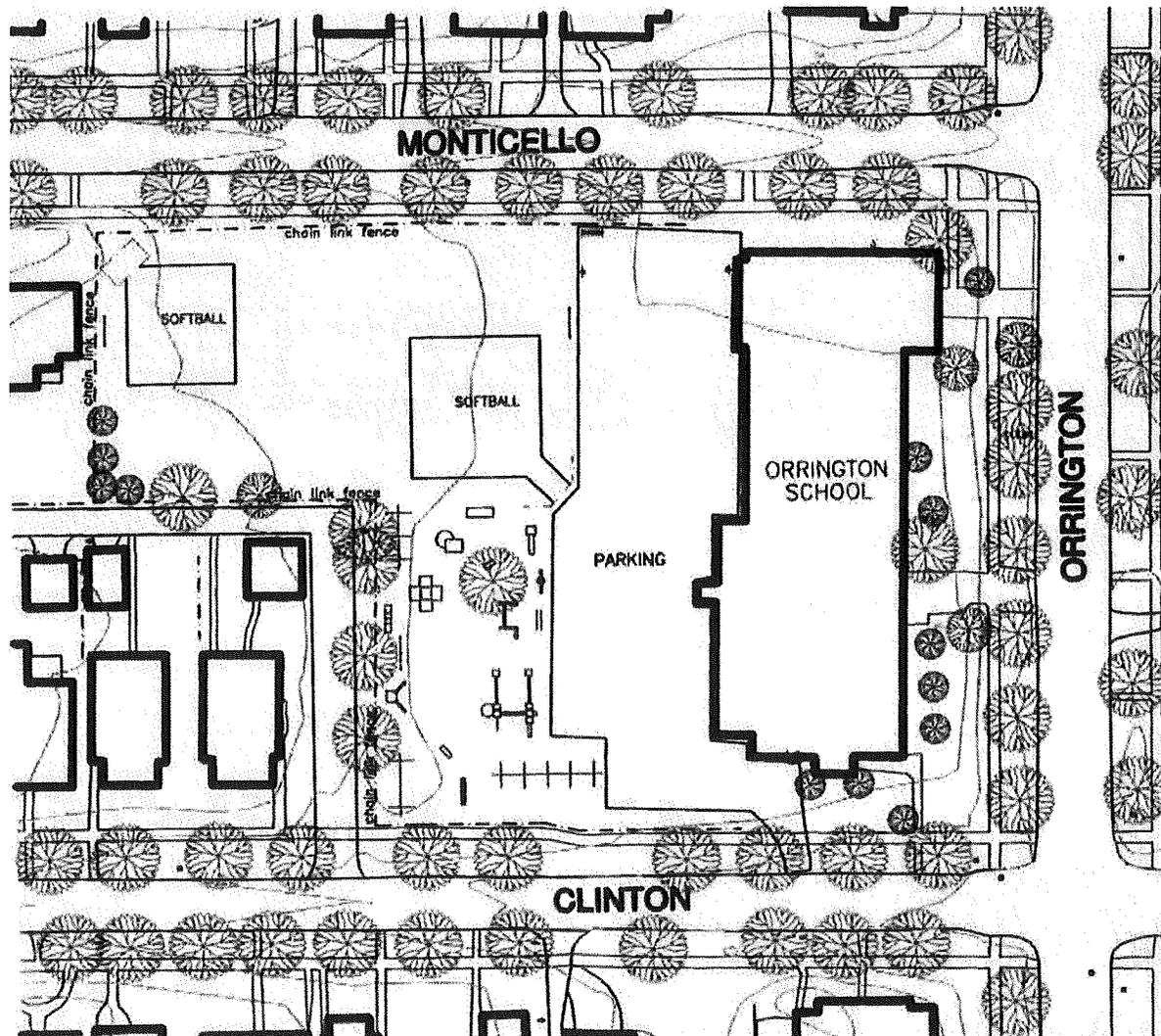
Location: Southwest Corner of Orrington Street and Monticello Street

Existing Facilities:

- two softball fields with backstops and benches
- one basketball court
- one soccer fields
- concrete pathways to and around school
- playground for tots
- playground for 6-12 year olds

**INVENTORY OF RESOURCES**

- two benches
- one bicycle rack



**Figure 108: Orrington School**

**PARK SCHOOL**  
(see Figure 109)

Size: 1.80 acres

Ward: 4

School  
Classification: Special Education Center for Children with Multiple Physical and Mental Disabilities

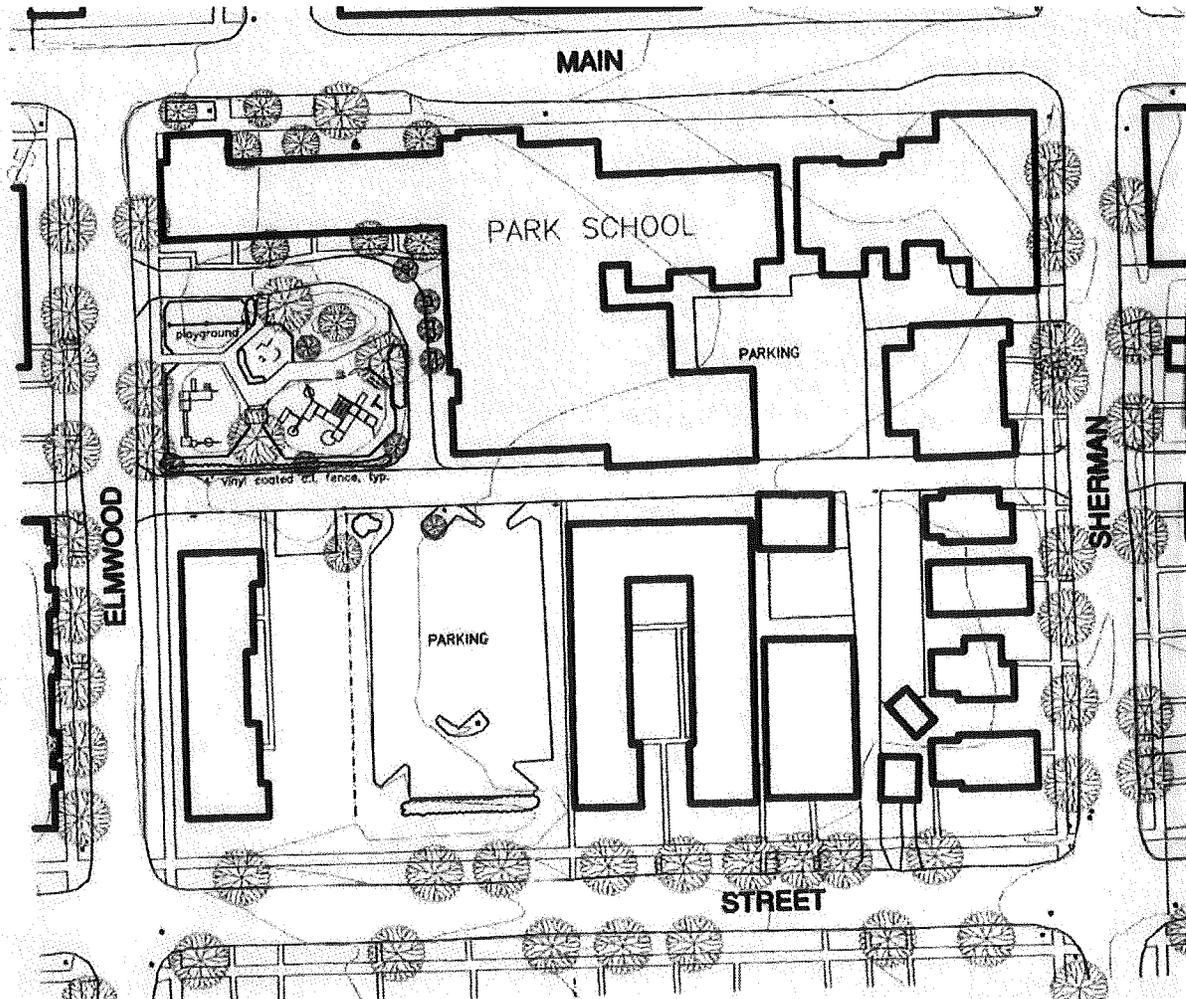
**INVENTORY OF RESOURCES**

Location: Southeast Corner of Main Street and Elmwood Avenue

- bus drop-off
- playground for tots
- playground for 6-12 year olds

Existing Facilities:

- parking lot



**Figure 109: Park School**

**WASHINGTON SCHOOL**

(see Figure 110)

Size: 5.50 acres

Ward: 4

School

Classification: Elementary School  
Grades Kindergarten - 5

Location: Southwest Corner of Ashland Avenue and Lee Street

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

### Existing Facilities:

- one ½ court basketball court
- one basketball court with benches
- parking lot
- playground for tots
- playground for 6-12 year olds
- twelve benches

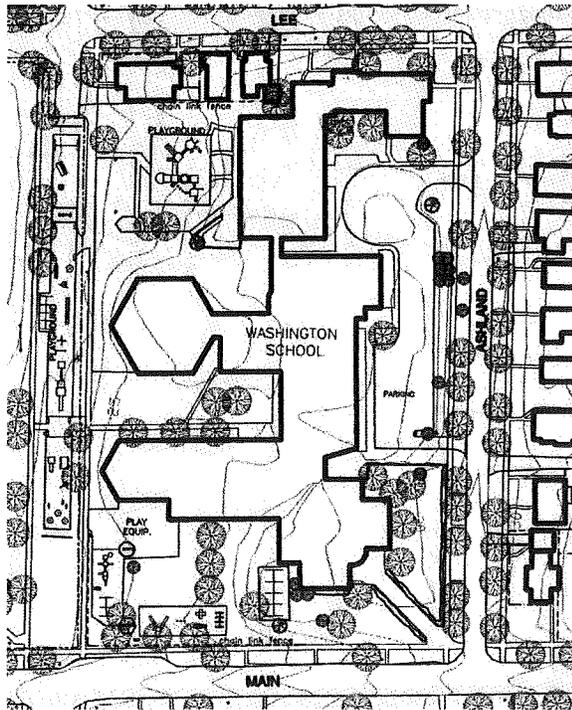


Figure 110: Washington School

### **WILLARD SCHOOL** (see Figure 111)

Size: 5.00 acres

Ward: 6

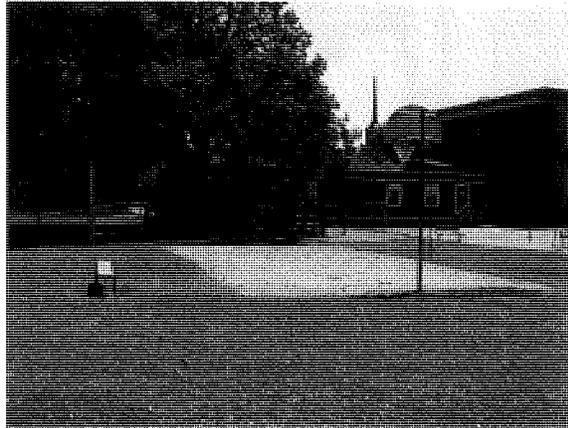
### School

Classification: Elementary School  
Grades Kindergarten - 5

Location: Northeast Corner of Hurd  
Avenue and Park Place

### Existing Facilities:

- five softball fields with backstops and benches
- one ½ court basketball court
- one soccer field with goal posts
- playground for 6-12 year olds
- two bicycle racks



*Willard School*



*Willard School*



Willard School

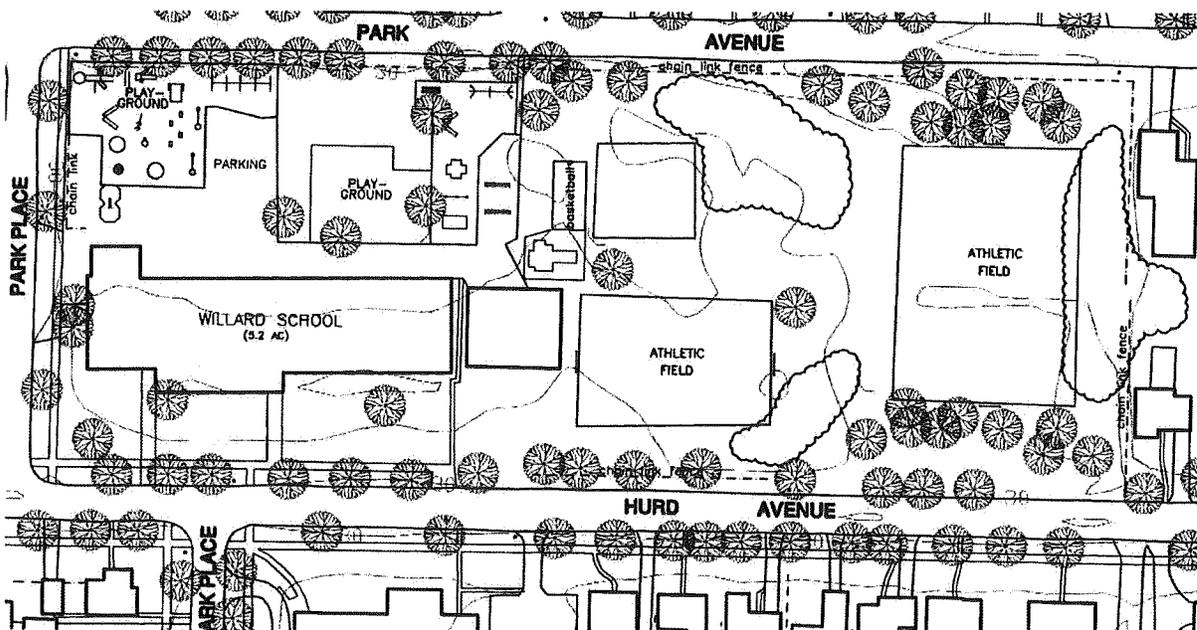


Figure 111: Willard School

### School District 202 Existing School Land Inventory

Within the City of Evanston, Evanston Township High School District 202 provides educational programs for 9th through 12<sup>th</sup> grades. The School maintains and operates one school site in Evanston, comprising 63.60 acres.

Even though the City of Evanston has no control or responsibilities for the School District's school land, it does serve and provide recreational resources to the residents of Evanston. Therefore, the School District's land and recreational facilities need to be included in the overall tabulation of park land and facilities.

Evanston Township High School is reviewed on the following pages and is based on field visits during the fall of 1999 and spring of 2000, when the school was examined and inventoried.

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

---

The size and classification is listed for the school, along with a short description of site's unique characteristics. Existing facilities are listed for the school site. An evaluation of the existing facilities was not conducted, since improvements to the High School's site facilities is not a part of this Plan.

### EVANSTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL

(see Figure 112)

Size: 63.60 acres

Ward: 2

School

Classification: High School - Grades 9 - 12

Location: Southwest Corner of Church Street and Dodge Avenue

Existing Facilities:

- one softball field with backstop, bleacher and two benches
- one softball field with backstop, three bleachers, two benches, covered dugout, and scoreboard
- two softball fields with backstops
- one baseball field with backstop, two bleachers, two benches, and scoreboard
- two baseball fields with backstops
- one football field with two bleachers, two benches, press box, and scoreboard
- one practice football field with bleacher and two benches
- six soccer fields with goal posts
- eleven tennis courts
- one discus throw pad
- one eight-lane track
- one open play field
- concrete pathway provides access to school
- locker Rooms (under stadium)
- one restrooms (under stadium)
- concession stand (under stadium)
- one batting cage
- two portable toilets
- one bus stop
- one drinking fountain
- two ticket booths
- Chain-link fencing surrounds the fields

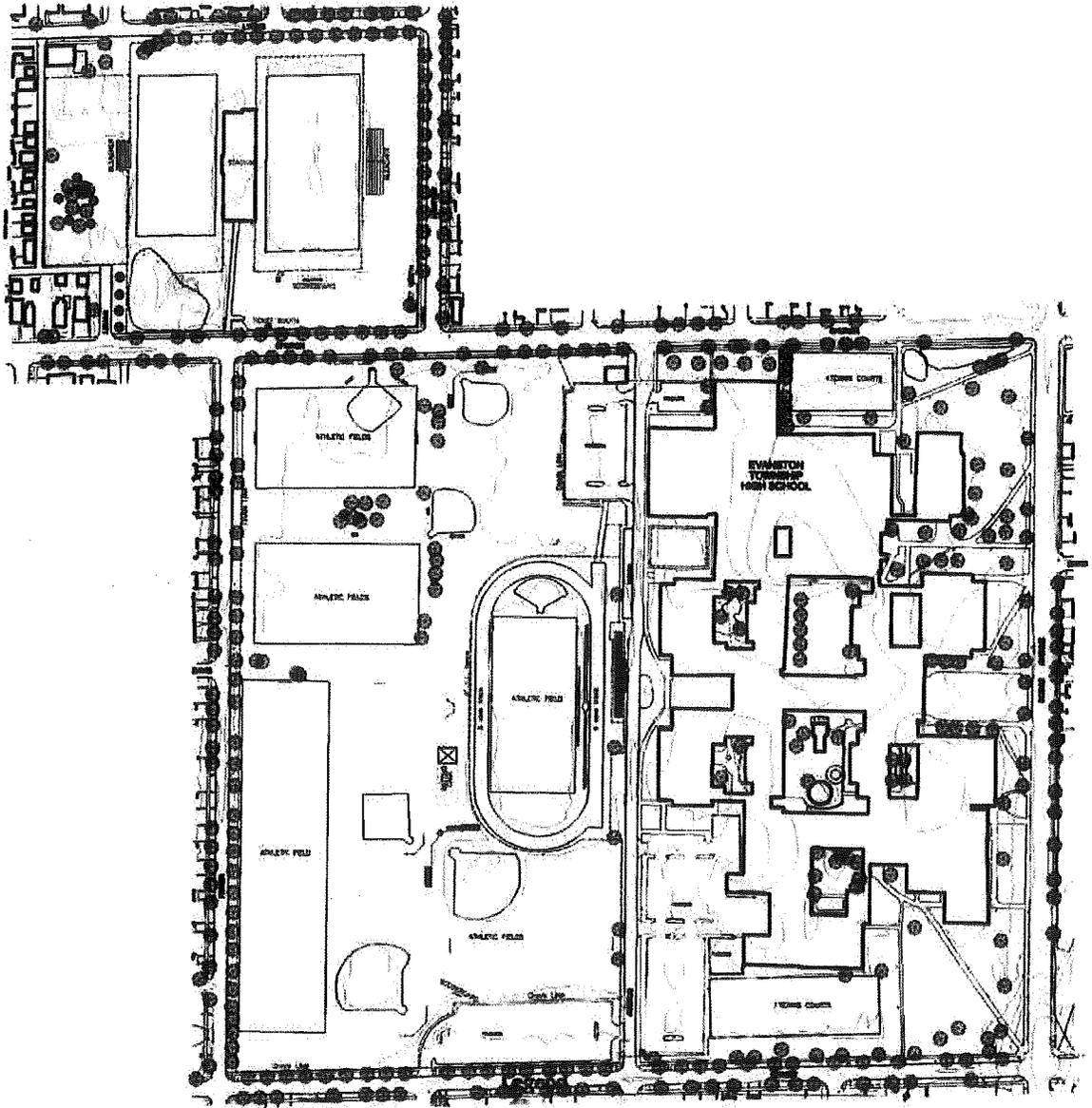


Figure 112: Evanston Township High School

## **INVENTORY OF RESOURCES**

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## Summary of Evanston Parks, Schools, and Park Districts Facilities

Based upon the inventory of Evanston Parks, Ridgeville Park District Parks, Lighthouse Park District Parks, Cook County Forest Preserve District Parks, and School District sites, Table 1 is a summary of the facilities and acreages.

The City of Evanston owns, maintains and operates a total of 65 park sites with a total acreage of 199.64 acres. In addition, the City leases land for 10 park sites with a total acreage of 68.45 acres. With the owned and leased land, the City maintains and operates a total of 75 park sites with a total acreage of 268.09 acres.

The Ridgeville Park District owns, maintains, and operates 10 park sites with a total acreage of 12.21 acres. The Lighthouse Park District owns, maintains and operates four park sites with a total acreage of 5.00 acres. The Cook County Forest Preserve District owns and maintains one park site with a total acreage of 7.70.

Total park sites within the City of Evanston are 90 with a total acreage of 292.90 acres.

In addition to City park land and the Park Districts, the two school districts owns and maintains 15 school sites with a total acreage of 143.30 acres.

All park and school land within the City of Evanston equals 105 sites with a total acreage of 436.20 acres available for recreational use.

## Regional/Local Facilities

Besides the City of Evanston's facilities, Evanston residents can take advantage of many public and private recreational facilities, both in Evans-

ton and in the surrounding communities. Some of the more significant facilities include:

### COOK COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT

Evanston is fortunate to be located near major facilities within the Cook County Forest Preserve system. These include the Skokie Lagoons, Harms Woods, and the Chicago Botanical Gardens. These facilities provide a range of active and passive recreational uses, including golfing, picnicking, hiking, horseback riding, nature interpretation, bicycling, and others.

### PRIVATE COUNTRY CLUBS

Evanston does not have any private country clubs located within its boundaries. However, a number of country clubs exist in the surrounding communities. These include: Lake Shore Country Club (Glencoe), Skokie Country Club (Glencoe), North Shore Country Club (Glenview), Evanston Country Club (Skokie), and Westmoreland Country Club (Wilmette).

## Neighboring Park Districts

Just as Evanston makes its park programs and facilities available to non-residents, neighboring park districts make their facilities and programs available to Evanston residents. While a slightly higher out-of-district fees may be charged, the proximity of these facilities must be considered in evaluating future Evanston park needs.

Three Park Districts – Skokie, Wilmette, and Chicago -- are adjacent and surround the City of Evanston. Except for Chicago, Skokie and Wilmette are smaller and serve a less population, but all offer a wide range of facilities.

# INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

Table 1: Summary of Evanston Park, Schools, and Park Districts Facilities

FACILITIES PARKS/SCHOOLS	City of Evanston																		
	ACKERMAN PARK	ALEXANDER PARK	BAKER PARK	BECK PARK	BENT PARK	BOAT RAMP	BRUMMEL-RICHMOND TOTLOT	BURNHAM SHORES	BUTLER PARK	CANAL LANDS SECTION B (TWIGGS)	CARTWRIGHT PARK	CENTENNIAL PARK/CLARK ST BEACH	CHANDLER PARK	CLARK SQUARE	CLDYE-BRUMMEL PARK	CONGREGATIONAL PARK	CROWN PARK	CURRY PARK	DAWES PARK/GREENWOOD BEACH
Amphitheater																			
Baseball Field - Structured																			
Baseball Field - Structured																			
Baseball Field - Lighted																			
Baseball Field - Unstructured																			
Basketball Court - Full Court			1		1					1					1		1		
Basketball Court - Half Court												1						2	
Beach - Swimming											●								●
Boat Ramp						●													
Community Gardens																			
Dog Beach						●													
Fishing																			
Football Field																	1		
Gazebo										●									
Ice Skating Rink - Seasonal	●		●																●
Ice Hockey Rink																	2		
Open Field	1		1	1	1			1		1		1				1	1		
Playground (2 - 5 yr old ages)	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1		1		1			1		
Playground (6 - 12 yr old ages)	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1				1			1		
Picnic Area		●	●	●	●			●			●	●	●	●					●
Picnic/Park Shelter																			●
Skateboard Park																	1		
Sled Hill																			
Soccer Field - Full Field																	1		
Soccer Field - Partial Field																	8		
Softball Field - Structured																	2		
Softball Field - Lighted																	2		
Softball Field - Unstructured			1		1			2									1	1	
Tennis Court	2				2			2		2									
Tennis Courts - Lighted																	4		
Volleyball Court								1			6								
Bike Paths				●			●	●			●		●						●
Drinking Fountain	1	1		1			1			1	1		1	1					2
Overlook Deck																			
Restroom	●	●	●		●						●								2
Recreation Building												●			●				
Seating Areas	●	●	●	●			●	●		●		●	●	●	●	●		●	●
Walking Paths	●	●	●	●	●		●	●		●	●	●	●						●
Day Camp																			
Preschool Programs																			
Theater/Stage																			
<b>ACREAGES</b>																			
Acreage - Owned by City	1.25	1.03	1.37		4.10	3.00	0.16	5.02			2.50	12.30	3.20	4.90	0.60	0.67	16.50	1.58	12.00
Acreage Leased by City				6.50				11.90											
Park District Acreage																			
School District Acreage																			

INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

Table 1: Summary of Evanston Park, Schools, and Park Districts Facilities (cont'd)

FACILITIES PARKS/SCHOOLS	City of Evanston																				
	DEMPSTER STREET BEACH	DOBSON-BRUNNELL PARK	EGGESTON PARK	EIDEN PARK	ELLINGWOOD TOTTLOT	ELLIOTT PARK/LEE STREET BEACH	FIREMAN'S PARK	FITZSIMONS PARK	FOSTER PARK	GARDEN PARK	GILBERT PARK	GREY PARK	HARBET PARK	HARPER GARDENS PARK	HINMAN PARK	HOBART PARK	HOWELL PARK	INDEPENDENCE PARK	INGRAHAM PARK	JAMES PARK	
Amphitheater																					
Baseball Field - Structured																					10
Baseball Field - Structured																					10
Baseball Field - Lighted								1													
Baseball Field - Unstructured																					
Basketball Court - Full Court								1					1								1
Basketball Court - Half Court			1																		
Beach - Swimming	●					●															
Boat Ramp	●																				
Community Gardens			●									●									●
Dog Beach																					
Fishing																					
Football Field																					
Gazebo																					
Ice Skating Rink - Seasonal																					
Ice Hockey Rink																					
Open Field		1		1				1											1	1	1
Playground (2 - 5 yr old ages)		1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1			1		1	1
Playground (6 - 12 yr old ages)		1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1	1		1		1	1
Picnic Area		●				●	●	●		●	●	●	●		●				●	●	●
Picnic/Park Shelter		●																			
Skateboard Park																					
Sled Hill			●																		●
Soccer Field - Full Field																					3
Soccer Field - Partial Field																					
Softball Field - Structured																					6
Softball Field - Lighted									1												4
Softball Field - Unstructured																					6
Tennis Court																					
Tennis Courts - Lighted								2	2												
Volleyball Court	1							1					1								
Bike Paths	●					●							●								●
Drinking Fountain			1	1	1	1	1			1		1	1	1	1			1			
Overlook Deck													●								
Restroom						●															●
Recreation Building									●												
Seating Areas	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Walking Paths	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Day Camp																					
Preschool Programs																					
Theater/Stage																					
<b>ACREAGES</b>																					
Acreage - Owned by City	3.30	0.45		1.10	0.30	5.40	0.54	0.70	5.12	1.36	0.70	1.56			0.20	0.14	1.60	1.60	3.00	45.59	
Acreage Leased by City			3.30										13.50	0.08							
Park District Acreage																					
School District Acreage																					

# INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

Table 1: Summary of Evanston Park, Schools, and Park Districts Facilities (cont'd)

FACILITIES PARKS/SCHOOLS	City of Evanston																			
	KELLY PARK	LADD ARBORETUM	LAKE-DODGE PARK	LARIMER PARK	LAWSON PARK	LEAHY COMMUNITY PARK	LEVINSON TOTLOT	LIGHTHOUSE LANDING PARK/BEACH	LEAHLOMAR PARK	LOVELACE PARK	LUNT PARK	MASON PARK	McCORMICK PARK	McCULLOCH PARK	MEGOWAN PARK	MERRICK ROSE GARDEN	MONROE TOTLOT	MORRIS PARK	OLDBERG PARK	PATRIOTS PARK
Amphitheater																				
Baseball Field - Structured												1								
Baseball Field - Structured												1								
Baseball Field - Lighted																				
Baseball Field - Unstructured																				
Basketball Court - Full Court				1					1		4									
Basketball Court - Half Court													1							
Beach - Swimming								●						1						
Boat Ramp																				
Community Gardens					●							●								
Dog Beach																				
Fishing									●											
Football Field										●										
Gazebo		●																		
Ice Skating Rink - Seasonal				●																
Ice Hockey Rink																				
Open Field																				
Playground (2 - 5 yr old ages)	1			1		1	1		1	1		2		1					1	
Playground (6 - 12 yr old ages)	1			1	1	1	1		1	1		1		1	1				1	
Picnic Area				●		●	●	●	●	●		●		●	●					
Picnic/Park Shelter				●		●														
Skateboard Park																				
Sled Hill						●						●								
Soccer Field - Full Field										1										
Soccer Field - Partial Field																				
Softball Field - Structured						1														
Softball Field -Lighted																				
Softball Field - Unstructured				1																
Tennis Court										6		2								
Tennis Courts - Lighted						4														
Volleyball Court							2													
Bike Paths		●							●											
Drinking Fountain	1			1			1		1	1				1					1	
Overlook Deck																				
Restroom						●			●			●								
Recreation Building		●					●					●								
Seating Areas	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Walking Paths	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●			●	●
Day Camp																				
Preschool Programs																				
Theater/Stage																				
ACREAGES																				
Acreage - Owned by City	0.33		0.12	1.80	2.00	4.20	0.28	4.80	1.70	17.50	1.76	5.13			0.59	0.56	0.10	0.10	0.35	1.20
Acreage Leased by City		17.36											3.00	1.80						
Park District Acreage																				
School District Acreage																				

INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

Table 1: Summary of Evanston Park, Schools, and Park Districts Facilities (cont'd)

FACILITIES PARKS/SCHOOLS	City of Evanston														TOTAL EVANSTON PARK FACILITIES			
	PENNY PARK	PERRY PARK	PHILBRICK PARK	PORTER PARK	QUINLAN PARK	RAYMOND PARK	SARGENT PARK	SMITH PARK	SNYDER PARK	SOUTH BLYD BEACH PARK	SOUTHWEST PARK	ST. PAUL PARK	STOCKHAM PLACE PARK	TALMADGE PARK		TORGERSON PARK	TRAHAN PARK	TWIGGS PARK
Amphitheater																		1
Baseball Field - Structured														1				12
Baseball Field - Structured														1				12
Baseball Field - Lighted																		1
Baseball Field - Unstructured																		0
Basketball Court - Full Court																		14
Basketball Court - Half Court				1										3				9
Beach - Swimming									●									6
Boat Ramp																		2
Community Gardens																●		6
Dog Beach																		1
Fishing																		1
Football Field																		1
Gazebo																		2
Ice Skating Rink - Seasonal																		4
Ice Hockey Rink																		2
Open Field	1	1									1					1	1	24
Playground (2 - 5 yr old ages)	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1		1	1		1	1	49
Playground (6 - 12 yr old ages)	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1		1		1	1		1	1	47
Picnic Area	●		●	●				●									●	35
Picnic/Park Shelter																	●	5
Skateboard Park																		1
Sled Hill																		4
Soccer Field - Full Field																		5
Soccer Field - Partial Field																		8
Softball Field - Structured																		9
Softball Field - Lighted																		7
Softball Field - Unstructured																		7
Tennis Court																		22
Tennis Courts - Lighted																		12
Volleyball Court																		12
Bike Paths										●							●	15
Drinking Fountain	1		1	1		1			1				1					35
Overlook Deck																		1
Restroom										●								13
Recreation Building														●				7
Seating Areas	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	63
Walking Paths	●	●	●	●		●	●	●		●	●	●		●			●	56
Day Camp																		0
Preschool Programs																		0
Theater/Stage																		0
<b>ACREAGES</b>																		
Acreage - Owned by City	1.14	0.55	0.65	0.36	0.70	1.75	0.10	1.07	0.25	2.58	0.50		0.36	2.80	1.00	0.45		199.64
Acreage Leased by City													0.56				10.45	68.45
Park District Acreage																		
School District Acreage																		



**INVENTORY OF RESOURCES**

**Table 1: Summary of Evanston Park, Schools, and Park Districts Facilities (cont'd)**

FACILITIES PARKS/SCHOOLS	School Districts 65 & 202														TOTAL SCHOOL FACILITIES	TOTAL PARK/SCHOOL FACILITIES/ACRES	
	CHUTE MIDDLE SCHOOL	DAWES SCHOOL	DEWEY SCHOOL	HAVEN MIDDLE SCHOOL	KING LAB SCHOOL	KINGSLEY SCHOOL	LINCOLN SCHOOL	LINCOLNWOOD SCHOOL	NICHOLS MIDDLE SCHOOL	OAKTON SCHOOL	ORRINGTON SCHOOL	PARK SCHOOL	WASHINGTON SCHOOL	WILLARD SCHOOL			EVANSTON TWP HIGH SCHOOL
Amphitheater																0	1
Baseball Field - Structured																3	15
Baseball Field - Structured																3	15
Baseball Field - Lighted																0	1
Baseball Field - Unstructured																0	1
Basketball Court - Full Court		1		2				1			1		1			5	23
Basketball Court - Half Court	2		2	1	3	2	3	2	2				1	1		17	26
Beach - Swimming																0	6
Boat Ramp																0	2
Community Gardens																0	6
Dog Beach																0	1
Fishing																0	1
Football Field															2	2	3
Gazebo																0	2
Ice Skating Rink - Seasonal																0	4
Ice Hockey Rink																0	2
Open Field			1													1	29
Playground (2 - 5 yr old ages)			1		1		1		1	1	1	1	1			8	65
Playground (6 - 12 yr old ages)		1	1		1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1		10	63
Picnic Area		●						●								2	41
Picnic/Park Shelter																0	6
Skateboard Park																0	2
Sled Hill																0	4
Soccer Field - Full Field								3	1	1					6	11	16
Soccer Field - Partial Field	8			8	4		1	2						1		16	24
Softball Field - Structured	5	3	1		4	3	1	3	3	3	2			5	4	29	39
Softball Field - Lighted																0	9
Softball Field - Unstructured																0	7
Tennis Court					1										11	12	34
Tennis Courts - Lighted																0	12
Volleyball Court																0	12
Bike Paths																0	16
Drinking Fountain																0	40
Overlook Deck																0	1
Restroom																0	13
Recreation Building																0	10
Seating Areas		●		●	●	●										4	77
Walking Paths				●		●										2	65
Day Camp																0	0
Preschool Programs																0	0
Theater/Stage																0	1
<b>ACREAGES</b>																	
Acres - Owned by City																	199.64
Acres Leased by City																	68.45
Park District Acreage																	24.81
School District Acreage	7.60	8.90	3.40	6.40	13.00	4.10	2.90	9.20	4.10	5.80	2.00	1.80	5.50	5.00	63.60	143.30	143.3
																	436.20

## **INVENTORY OF RESOURCES**

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Most of these facilities are within a range of five miles of Evanston. Table 2 identifies and compares the facilities of each of these surrounding Park Districts (and others except Chicago) with those of the City of Evanston.

**INVENTORY OF RESOURCES**

**Table 2: Comparison of City of Evanston and Surrounding Park District Facilities**

<b>Statistics and Facilities</b>	<b>City of Evanston</b>	<b>Northbrook Park District</b>	<b>Wilmette Park District</b>	<b>Skokie Park District</b>	<b>Highland Park District</b>
Population Served	73233	37,500	26,690	59,432	32,600
District Area (sq. miles)	8.5	11.4	6	10	13
Acres Owned	199.64	498.7	313	171	592
Acres Leased	68.45	2.42	17	58	18
Total Park Acres	268.09	501.12	330	229	610
Park Sites	75	20	24	43	44
Buildings Owned	21	12	10	6	6
Buildings Leased			1		1
<b>FACILITIES</b>					
Arboretum	1				
Baseball Fields	12	17	8	4	7
Basketball Courts – Outdoor	23	5	1	36	6
Basketball Courts – Indoor			1	2	5
Beach Facility	6		1		4
Boating Facility	2		1	2	1
Community Gardens	6		2	1	1
Concession Stands	2	6	4	3	1
Cross-Country Skiing	7	1	1		2
Driving Range - Golf		1	1	1	1
Fishing	1	1	1	1	4
Football Fields	1	2	2		2
Golf Course – 18 hole		1	1		1
Golf Course – 9 hole		2		1	
Golf Course Miniature		1		1	1
Gymnasium				1	2
Historic Structures		1	1	1	
Ice Rink – Interior	2	2	2	2	1
Ice Rink – Outdoor	4	3	4	1	1
Museum		1		1	1
Nursery/Tree Farm	1	1	1		1
Picnic	35	8	13	12	8
Playgrounds	86	16	14	38	22
Racquet/Handball – indoor					4
Restaurant		1			1
Sled Hill	4	2			1
Skate Park	1				1
Soccer Fields	13	11	12	8	6
Softball Fields	23	8	10	23	19
Swimming Pool – Outdoor		2	1	2	1
Tennis Courts – Indoor			8		6
Tennis Courts – Outdoor	34	22	20	39	41

## INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

**Table 2: Comparison City of Evanston and Surrounding Park District Facilities (cont'd)**

Statistics and Facilities	City of Evanston	Northbrook Park District	Wilmette Park District	Skokie Park District	Highland Park District
Velodrome		1			
Volleyball Courts – Outdoor	12	2	4	3	2
Volleyball Courts – Indoor				1	2
Waterslide		1		1	2
Bicycle Trails		1	2	14	2
Nature Trails			1		2
Arts & Crafts Center	1	2	1	1	1
Day-Care/Pre-school Center		1	1	1	1
Health Club			1	1	1
Interpretative Nature	1	1	1	1	1
Performing Arts Center	1	1	2	1	
Senior Citizen Center	1	1	1	1	1

### Recreation Department Affiliates

To strengthen the link between Evanston's Department of Parks and Recreation and local non-profit organizations serving Evanston's residents, the City has established an affiliate program. Affiliate organizations benefit the Department by providing more focused attention on a particular area of recreation than could be provided exclusively by the Park and Recreation Department. In return, the Department assists these organizations in providing facilities to conduct their programs.

The affiliate program also offers the Department input into the programs offered by each group. Affiliates are required to provide the Department with information regarding their bylaws, mission, and budget. Based on this information, the Department then has the opportunity to provide suggestions to facilitate provision of appropriate programs for the whole community.

## SECTION 3 PARK AND OPEN SPACE STANDARDS

### Parks and Open Space Planning

Statutory law in Illinois directly governs the powers, duties, and purposes associated with the formation and operation of Park Districts and Park and Recreation Departments in Illinois. The City of Evanston has the power and statutory authority to levy and collect taxes for operational purposes on all taxable property in the City. Funds may be accumulated annually for such purposes related to the planning, establishment, and maintaining of park and recreation programs within the boundaries of the City. The City as a home-rule municipality may acquire by gift, grant, or purchase, real estate and lands for parks and playground purposes, and these lands may be improved, equipped, and maintained.

Since the founding of Evanston in 1860, the population has expanded greatly to its present day population of over 73,000. Over that period, the City has grown and the land for parks

## PARK AND OPEN SPACE STANDARDS

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and recreation has slowly grown to its present day acreage of 268 acres.

The development and expansion of a park system can take many forms. Park land can be obtained as remnants or left over pieces of land in developments, where the developer is required to donate a certain amount of land proportioned to the size and/or number of homes. Quite often, these pieces of land may not be highly suited to active recreational facilities, and more often, they are usually small and scattered. Or, a municipality can be aggressive by acquiring land, which is highly suited to recreational uses and often large enough to be properly developed, and properly located to serve the needs of the City's residents.

Numerous concepts for the development of parkland and open space systems can be found throughout the region and the country. Many of these include the development of numerous neighborhood parks versus the development of one or two large community parks. Park systems can be developed solely on the basis of natural resource systems, or they can be dependent upon development patterns and densities. Whatever concept is chosen for the development of a park and open space system, it must be flexible and meet the specific needs of the community, including its financial resources.

Experience has shown that simply defining a park by its classification does not adequately relate a park to other open space requirements in a community system. A system has to be established that can distinguish between recreation, conservation, and shaping functions of open space. The responsibilities for open space and parkland also require understanding and definitions as the City and private developers negotiate for public and private land uses.

Open space for recreation has often received inadequate attention with too little land set aside, and with land available being poorly lo-

cated and unsuitable for recreation purposes. In an attempt to correct some of the short-comings encountered in the past, a more definitive system of open space must be developed.

The role played by the Department of Parks and Recreation as part of this system is fundamental to the City's Comprehensive Plan and the Department's Parks Strategic Plan. The roles and responsibilities of other governmental agencies are also important. The open space system will reduce inter-agency competition and fragmented efforts, and at the same time produce a unified approach to serving the residents of the City of Evanston.

### PARK LAND/OPEN SPACE PURPOSE AND FUNCTIONS

The term open space, in its broadest sense, includes land to serve parks and recreation, conservation and protection, and community shaping functions. Open space should never be considered synonymous with "vacant" or "unused" land since open space does not lay idle. Open space is also not synonymous with "parks and recreation areas." While vacant or undeveloped land has the potential for being classified as open, that should be done only after a conscious decision has been made to purchase or regulate these lands, and only if these lands are able to perform one of three open space functions.

Along with residential, agriculture, commercial, and industrial land uses, open space serves an important purpose in land classification and in planning for how land is to be used. Open space is classified according to its function or use. The three primary functions of open space are:

- Recreation Function -- to provide recreation resources
- Conservation and Protection Function -- to preserve natural resources

- Shaping Function -- to structure the form of community development

#### RECREATION FUNCTION

Open space land used for recreation covers a multitude of facility types and activities, from neighborhood parks to the larger regional forest preserves and state parks.

Recreation open space may be used for either passive or active recreational activities and may be either publicly or privately owned. Each type of recreation area will be further classified to better define its purpose, objective, size, service area, population served, and location.

#### CONSERVATION AND PROTECTION FUNCTION

Conservation open space guards and maintains natural processes, and thereby, safeguards humankind from certain natural hazards by protecting unique or fragile areas.

Protection open space elements are identified and defined by their physiographic, geologic, vegetative, hydrologic, or biologic characteristics. The designation of areas as conservation open space does not depend upon demand as in the case for the provision of most recreation open spaces, but rather upon their unsuitability for urban development or their uniqueness as natural resources.

Open space for conservation encompasses objectives such as: protecting water bodies and water courses, groundwater recharge areas, erodible slopes, forests, floodwater control and woodlands, soils having severe limitations for development, unique or endangered vegetation and wildlife habitats, and areas of unique historic and architectural merit. Protection, however, does not mean total prohibition of use. Such lands may be used for a variety of recrea-

tion activities, such as hiking, outdoor recreation, interpretation, etc., as long as that usage will not cause deterioration or interfere with the capacity to perform the protective function.

#### SHAPING FUNCTION

The use of open space areas to shape the pattern of urban development is the open space function, which has been least recognized. It is based, however, on the following objectives:

- Open space can promote the formation of distinct cohesive neighborhoods, which can be served effectively by municipal services and facilities, thus promoting urban growth into efficient corridors of development and helping to prevent urban sprawl.
- Open space can define the boundaries of neighborhoods, districts, or entire communities to maintain distinctive characteristics, thus giving a sense of community identity.
- Open space can provide relief from extensive urbanization by preserving elements of the natural environment near developed areas, thus breaking visual monotony by its own contact with development.

The *Shaping Function* is a primary responsibility of the City, however, with almost all land developed in the City, and little land available for additional park and recreational land use, consideration will not be given to this function in this Plan. But, all open space functions can and do overlap one another. The lands designated by this Plan as filling a *Recreation* or *Conservation/Protection* function may also be determined by community and regional planning agencies to have value as a shaping function.

## PARK AND OPEN SPACE STANDARDS

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### Park Land and Open Space Classification/Types

Prior to the development of this Plan, the City had not been utilizing a classification system for the City's parks.

This Plan presents a classification system for park and open space that provides a guideline for the orderly and effective development of the City's existing parks and future parks. This system is based upon the existing park and open space lands, population served, future population growth, use of the park and open space lands, service area and distance, and size of the park. The classification system for park and open space land is listed below in Table 3.

**Table 3: Park Classification System**

PARK CLASSIFICATION	USE
Totlot or Mini Park	specialized playground and aesthetic
Neighborhood Park	active recreational fields and facilities, playgrounds
Community Park	active recreational fields, diverse facilities, specialized district wide uses and events, community center
Linear Park	recreational travel, hiking, Bicycling
Open/Special Park	parks for specialized uses and open space

### PARK TYPES

As discussed in the following section on Park Standards, several types of parks combine to create the Evanston Park System. Each type of park serves a unique function, and in some situations, such as Crown Park, an individual park may serve multiple functions. The follow-

ing provides a discussion of the major park types within the City of Evanston.

#### Totlot/Mini-Park

##### Description:

Mini-parks or totlots are small, usually 1 acre or less, parks which provide limited recreational opportunities within easy walking distance of residents. This type of park is often referred to as a totlot, which is often the primary function of the park in a residential area. In some areas, the mini-park may simply be open space or a seating area, such as with Congregation Park or Quinlan Park. The mini-park function is sometimes consolidated into a larger neighborhood or community park.

##### Location:

- easily accessible to neighborhood
- should be on a residential street near center of area served
- generally within a ¼ mile radius from residents served, and centrally located within neighborhood area

##### Typical Facilities:

- accessible playground equipment
- basketball court
- benches
- landscape improvements
- walks/path

##### Design Issues:

- child safety is a key issue, both in terms of location and design of play areas
- preserve and enhance landscape

#### Neighborhood Park

##### Description:

Neighborhood parks provide residents with nearby open space and recreational facilities. Ideally, all residents would have a neighborhood

park within ½ mile of their residence. The size of each neighborhood park will vary with the size and population of the neighborhood served, but should be between 2 to 12 acres.

Bent and Mason Parks are the best examples of neighborhood parks. The following are characteristics of an effective neighborhood park:

**Location:**

- easily accessible to neighborhood
- should be in residential area for easy pedestrian access
- for safety, neighborhood parks should not be located on an arterial street
- generally within a ½ mile radius from residents served, and centrally located within neighborhood area
- should have physical and visual access from residential street on at least one side of the park

**Typical Facilities:**

- accessible playground equipment
- informal sports fields where conditions permit
- multi-purpose courts (basketball/volleyball, etc.)
- picnic tables and/or shelters
- benches
- landscape improvements
- walks/path

**Design Issues:**

- minimize lighted facilities in neighborhood parks to preserve the residential character of the area. However, security lighting should be included for safety and to reduce vandalism.
- delineate use areas with landscape and provide shade near playground and picnic areas
- child safety is a key issue, both in terms of location and design of play areas
- preserve and enhance landscape

- provide handicap access to playground and other major facilities

**Community Park**

**Description:**

As the name implies, a community park provides facilities and open space for the entire municipality. This type of park serves as a community focal point, providing a site for special events, sports tournaments, and daily recreational enjoyment of Evanston residents.

Community parks are ideally between 20 and 50 acres, although larger sites are common when associated with a nature preserve. In practice, community parks are typically smaller in older and fully developed communities such as Evanston. Parks are also classified as community parks when their function is to provide facilities to the entire community, such as the beaches at the Lakefront Parks. Other community parks in Evanston include the James Park and Lovelace Park.

**Location:**

- easily accessible from all parts of the community
- the site should be appropriate for the facilities outlined below without the need for major earthwork

**Typical Facilities:**

- lighted sports fields complex (softball, baseball, soccer, football)
- open space for casual active play (softball, football, frisbee, etc.)
- picnic tables and group picnic shelters
- fitness areas and/or trails
- landscape improvements as detailed under design considerations. Special botanical displays and/or gardens would be appropriate
- area for staging of special events
- accessible playground equipment

## PARK AND OPEN SPACE STANDARDS

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- off-street parking
- tennis courts
- swimming beach or pool
- passive open space and wooded areas
- public restrooms in high activity areas
- multi-purpose courts for basketball and other activities requiring a paved surface

### Design Issues:

- locate playground areas away from roadways for child safety
- delineate use areas with landscaping and provide shade near playground and picnic areas
- site layout should take advantage of natural site characteristics to reduce construction costs and to preserve existing vegetation whenever possible
- provide handicap access to playgrounds and other major facilities

### Special Use Parks

#### Description:

Certain facilities defy classification into one of the above park types. These facilities, such as a public plaza or a farmer's market, are Special Use Parks. This type of facility would provide employees and residents with a passive recreational outlet, but would not be appropriate in one of the above park types. Greenbelt parks and golf courses are both examples of other special use parks.

#### Location:

- dependent on park function
- on site with unusual natural amenities, regardless of location

#### Possible Facilities:

- nature trails
- jogging/bicycle trails
- nature center
- major sports complex (softball, soccer, etc.)

- public plaza
- farmer's market
- golf course and/or driving range
- other desired public recreational facilities

#### Design Issues:

- site design should be sensitive to the natural environment, limiting access as needed to preserve fragile areas

### Open Space

#### Description:

Open space areas represent land that is currently used for open recreational use (e.g. a golf course) or property that primarily serves as a community green belt. Open space areas are intended for preservation and passive recreational uses such as hiking or scenic enjoyment while driving within the community. Forest Preserves are typically classified as regional open space. Within the Evanston park system, several of the small parks within roadways, are classified as open space.

#### Location:

- where unique natural conditions exist
- where property provides a connection or link between open spaces, parks, or other public facilities

#### Typical Facilities:

- nature trails
- hike/bike trails
- golf course
- nature preserve
- picnic area

#### Design Issues:

- Protect existing site assets while providing public access

**PARK AND OPEN SPACE STANDARDS**

**CLASSIFICATION OF EVANSTON PARKS**

Based upon park standards, Table 4 classifies Evanston parks, Ridgeville Park District parks, and Lighthouse Park District parks.

**Table 4: Classification Of Evanston Parks**

<u>EVANSTON PARKS</u>	<u>Acreage</u>
<b><u>Mini-Park/Totlots</u></b>	
Brummel-Richmond Park	0.16
Clyde-Brummel Park	0.60
Congregation Park	0.67
Currey Park	1.58
Dobson-Brummel Park	0.45
Eiden Park	1.10
Ellingwood Park	0.30
Fireman's Park	0.54
Fitzsimons Park	0.70
Garden Park	1.36
Gilbert Park	0.70
Grey Park	1.56
Harper Park*	0.08
Hinman Park	0.20
Hobart Park	0.14
Howell Park	1.60
Independence Park	1.60
Kelly Park	0.33
Lake-Dodge Park	0.12
Lawson Park	2.00
Levison Park	0.28
Lunt Park	1.76
McCulloch Park*	1.80
Megowen Park	0.59
Monroe Park	0.10
Morris Park	0.10
Oldberg Park	0.35
Patriots Park	1.20
Penny Park	1.14
Perry Park	0.55
Philbrick Park	0.65
Porter Park	0.36
Quinlan Park	0.70
Raymond Park	1.75
Sargent Park	0.10
Smith Park	1.07
Snyder Park	0.25
St. Paul Park*	0.56
Southwest Park	0.50
Stockham Park	0.36
Torgerson Park	1.00

**Table 4: Classification Of Evanston Parks (cont'd)**

<u>EVANSTON PARKS</u>	<u>Acreage</u>
Trahan Park	0.45
<b>TOTAL TOTLOT/MINI-PARKS</b>	<b>31.41</b>
<b><u>Neighborhood Parks</u></b>	
Ackerman Park	1.25
Alexander Park	1.03
Baker Park	1.37
Beck Park*	6.50
Butler Park*	11.90
Carwright Park	2.50
Chandler Park	3.20
Clark Square	4.90
Eggleston Park*	3.30
Foster Field	5.12
Harbert Park	13.50
Ingraham Park	3.00
Larimer Park	1.80
Leahy Community Park	4.20
Lomar Park	1.70
Mason Park	5.15
McCormick Park*	3.00
South Boulevard Park	2.58
Tallmadge Park	2.80
<b>TOTAL NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS</b>	<b>93.35</b>
<b><u>Community Parks</u></b>	
Burnham Shores Park	5.02
Centennial Park	12.30
Crown Park	16.50
Dawes Park	12.00
Dempster Beach	3.30
Elliott Park	5.40
James Park	45.59
Lighthouse Landing Beach/Park	4.80
Lovelace Park	17.50
<b>TOTAL COMMUNITY PARKS</b>	<b>122.41</b>
<b><u>Special Parks</u></b>	
Boat Ramp	3.00
Ladd Arboretum*	17.36
Merrick Rose Garden	0.56
<b>TOTAL SPECIAL PARKS</b>	<b>20.92</b>

## PARK AND OPEN SPACE STANDARDS

**Table 4: Classification Of Evanston Parks  
(cont'd)**

<b>RIDGEVILLE PARK DISTRICT</b>	<b>Acreage</b>
<b><u>Mini-Park/Totlots</u></b>	
Brummel Park	0.80
Elks Totlot	0.80
Mulford-Callan Park	0.37
Playlot	0.10
Reba Place	0.34
<b>TOTAL TOLOT/MINI-PARKS</b>	<b>2.41</b>
<b><u>Neighborhood Parks</u></b>	
Elks Park	2.90
Kamen Park East	1.60
Kamen Park West	1.90
Leider Park	2.10
Ridgeville Park	1.30
<b>TOTAL NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS</b>	<b>9.80</b>
<b><u>LIGHTHOUSE PARK DISTRICT</u></b>	
<b><u>Mini-Park/Totlots</u></b>	
Bates Park	0.60
Fullerton Park	0.60
<b>TOTAL TOLOT/MINI-PARKS</b>	<b>1.20</b>
<b><u>Neighborhood Parks</u></b>	
Northeast Park	2.30
<b>TOTAL NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS</b>	<b>2.30</b>
<b><u>Special Parks</u></b>	
Gross Point Lighthouse	1.50
<b>TOTAL SPECIAL PARKS</b>	<b>1.50</b>

\* Leased Land

### Park Land and Open Space Standards

If recreation, park, and other public officials are to be responsive to the present and future needs of the community, they must be guided by standards that recognize human needs as well as cultural, geographic, and economic differences in the community.

Within the field of parks and recreation management, standards have been developed to guide local governments in evaluating demand for park lands and facilities. These standards are designed to provide a starting point in evaluating local facilities.

Standards must be flexible guides for planning, acquiring, and developing park and recreation areas. The standards recommended by this Plan must be uniquely designed to accommodate the City of Evanston.

Table 5 provides a comparison of accepted park area standards to actual developed park land within the City of Evanston. These standards are related to the total population of a community, and stated in terms of acres per 1,000 residents. Due to the variable nature of communities, the standards are stated as a range. Table 5 reflects this range, with the low standard column reflecting the low end of the range and the high standard reflecting the upper end of the range.

For comparison purposes, total park land has been divided into five functional park categories. These categories include mini-parks/totlots, neighborhood parks, community parks, open space parks, and special use parks. Specific standards do not exist for open space or special use parks, due to their unique nature.

## PARK AND OPEN SPACE STANDARDS

As Table 5 indicates, the City's park system varies from national park land standards in a

**Table 5: Comparison of City of Evanston Parks to National Standards**

	National Standard per 1,000	Low Standard vs. Evanston Population	High Standard vs. Evanston Population	Existing City of Evanston	Existing City of Evanston & Park Districts
Mini Park	.25 to .5 ac.	18.25 ac.	36.5 ac.	31.41 ac.	35.02 ac.
Neighborhood Park	1.0 to 2.0 ac.	73.0 ac.	146.0 ac.	93.35 ac.	105.45 ac.
Community Park	5.0 to 8.0 ac.	365.0 ac.	584.0 ac.	122.41 ac.	122.41 ac.
<i>Subtotal</i>	6.25 to 10.5 ac.	456.25 ac.	766.5 ac.	247.17 ac.	262.88 ac.
Open Space	variable	n/a	n/a	0.0	0.0
Special Use	variable	n/a	n/a	0.0	0.0
<i>Total</i>	6.25 to 10.5 ac.	456.25 ac.	766.5 ac.	247.17 ac.	262.88 ac.

number of areas. The City meets the high

for mini-park/totlot space, especially when combined with the two Park Districts. In Evanston's park system, this is a strong asset of the City's parks.

In terms of Neighborhood Parks, the City is generally within the low to high range, especially again, with the addition of the two Park Districts.

The weakest or deficiency of the Park System is in the Community Parks. The City has a little more than 50% of the low standard for community parks.

Overall, the City falls well below the total standard of park land, with 3.60 acres per 1,000 population (including the two Park Districts)

The precise application of adopted standards is impractical. Deviations are necessary to secure and preserve natural topographic features, and adjust to the shape and population of the park user areas, as well as other elements of the City's Comprehensive Plan.

To properly use the population ratio method, adjustments must be made for the following local factors:

1. Distance to the park
2. Socio-economic factors
3. Special local conditions, such as barriers
4. New trends in leisure attitudes and interests
5. Private or commercial facilities
6. Available resources
7. Expressed needs and desires of users

Acreage alone does not assure a well-balanced park system. Sites should be designed and developed with a balance of facilities according to the recommended classifications. Therefore, a proper relationship in the size, number, location, and type of facilities developed for each park site is critical to a relevant system for parks and recreation in the City.

The other major factor is availability of land. Evanston is an older community, which is almost completely built-out. With very few exceptions, there is simply no land available for new parks.

The changing leisure attitudes and interests of the public must be a continuing factor for consideration along with the standards for planning

## PARK AND OPEN SPACE STANDARDS

**Table 6: Park Classification Standards**

Park Classification	Use	Service Area	Size of Park	Acres per 1,000 Population	Population Served
Totlot/Mini Park	specialized playground and aesthetic	1/4 mile radius served	0.5 - 2 acres	0.25 to 0.5 acres	300-500 residents
Neighborhood Park	active recreational fields and facilities, playgrounds	1/4 -1/2 mile radius served	1.0 – 15 acres	1.0 – 4.0 acres/1,000	500-2,500 residents
Community Park	active and diverse recreational facilities district wide uses and events, community center	1/2 –1 mile radius served	10 – 50 acres	5.0 – 8.0 acres/1,000	2,500-5,000 residents
Open Space	conservation and protection of natural resources	entire district			entire population
Special Parks	recreational travel, hiking, bicycling	entire district			entire population

leisure facilities and programs. Public need is especially critical in determining what is to be built in the parks and when it is to be built. Citizen involvement in the planning process is strongly encouraged.

The principal uses of standards are:

1. to provide comprehensive plans
2. to provide a systematic approach to land acquisition
3. to justify and assist in determining priorities for acquisition and development of park and recreation areas
4. to measure the effectiveness of a park and recreation system

To be effective, standards must meet the following criteria:

1. reflect the needs of the citizens of the City of Evanston
2. be reasonably attainable
3. be acceptable and usable to the professionals and policy makers
4. be based on sound principles and the best available information
5. stand the test of time and challenge
6. be applied consistently within the community planning process

Table 6 summarizes the standards for the Park Classification System.

Standards also exist to compare the number of specific facilities offered by the Park District to the population served. These standards are detailed in Table 7. Based on these standards, Evanston has done a good job of providing facilities to the community. Of the 15 facility categories, Evanston combined with the two Park Districts exceed the national standards in seven categories, is equal in one category, and below in seven categories.

This table also highlights the fact that over reliance on national standards should be avoided. For example, according to the standards, City has 6 more soccer fields than needed based on the total population. However, the demographic characteristics of Evanston, along with actual demand and use of facilities, suggest that the national standard is low for the community, and that the actual number of fields may be low.

**PARK AND OPEN SPACE STANDARDS**

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**Table 7: Comparison of City of Evanston Facilities to National Standards**

Facility	Standard (1 per x residents)	Existing Facilities Evanston & Two Park Districts	Required Facility	Surplus (Deficit)
Basketball (full court)	5,000	18	15	+3
Ice Hockey (indoor)	100,000	2	1	+1
Ice Skating (outdoor)	30,000	4	2	+2
Tennis	2,000	34	37	-3
Volleyball	5,000	12	15	-3
Baseball/Softball (unlighted)	5,000	29	15	+14
Baseball/Softball (lighted)	30,000	10	3	+7
Football	20,000	1	4	-3
Soccer	10,000	13	7	+6
Golf-Driving Range	50,000	0	1	-1
Golf- 18 Hole	50,000	0	1	-1
Swimming Pool	20,000	0	4	-4
Community Center	25,000	3	3	0
Outdoor Theater	20,000	1	4	-3
Playground	1,000	110	73	+37

**PARK AND OPEN SPACE STANDARDS**

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## SECTION 4 NEEDS ASSESSMENT

### Demographics

To be effective, the Parks & Recreation Department must be responsive to the current needs of residents. Two community surveys conducted prior to this Plan play an important part in determining needs. Another essential step is to evaluate the current and projected characteristics of the population served by Department programs and facilities. For example, if the population is growing rapidly, there will be an increased demand for park space. If the population is aging, there may be a need to shift the emphasis of recreational programs from small children to older adults. The following summarizes key demographic trends affecting the provision of parks and recreation in the City of Evanston.

#### NATIONAL DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

- The “baby boomlet” is over. The so-called baby boomlet, the increase in U.S. child-births caused when members of the post-

## NEEDS ASSESSMENT

World War II generation had their own children, peaked in about 1990, and has been on the decline since then. If this national trend reflects Evanston's population, the recent enrollment growth in the local school district may be nearing an end.

- In a 1990 study, people in the U.S. age 16 and older were asked to identify the major motivation for leisure activities. The study revealed that most Americans are recuperators in their spare time, preferring to relax instead of achieve. The study also revealed that we are still creatures of habit, tending to gravitate toward familiar activities.  
*Source: American Demographics, May, 1992, pp. 26-33*
- Persons per household continue to decline. This decline often means fewer children living at home.
- The American population is getting older. In addition to the birth rate trends that support this statement, people are living longer due to enhanced medical technology.

### LOCAL DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

Two sources of demographic data provide a perspective on the population characteristics of the City of Evanston. The U.S. Census provides reliable and relevant information on the overall population and trends. In addition, School Districts 65 and 202 maintain population data on the number of school children enrolled each year, plus projections for future years. This information from the School Districts is useful in

understanding one of the primary markets for Department services: pre-school and elementary age children.

### U.S. CENSUS

Evanston's population increased significantly in the 1900s through the early 1960s. The community's peak population of 79,808 was recorded in 1970. Since that time, the overall population has declined to a 1990 population of 73,233, where it has leveled off, and projected to grow slowly, or less than 1% annually. Although shifts in the characteristics of this total population may occur, Evanston's stable housing stock suggests that the City's total population will remain relatively constant over the next twenty years. The Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission (NIPC) projects the population of Evanston at 78,754 by the year 2020. Table 6 identifies the population and percent of change between 1950 and 1990, with estimates for 1998 and 2020. Unfortunately, at this time, census data for the year 2000 is not available that would provide the most current demographic data.

A comparison of 1970 to 1990 Census data in Table 7 provides some interesting insights into the characteristics and needs of the 73,000 residents served by the Park Department. For the 0 – 5 age group, the population has declined by over 1,400 or 25%, between 1970 and 1990. During the same period, the 6 – 19 age group has declined by 5,335 or, 29%. This generally corresponds to national trends. The 65+ age group has also declined during the same period, over 2,100 or 19%. This trend does not con-

**Table 6: Evanston Population since 1950**

	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	Estimated 1998*	Projected 2020*
Evanston Population	73,611	79,283	79,808	73,708	73,233	71,928	78,754
Change from Previous Census	12.6%	7.7%	0.7%	-7.6%	-0.6%	-1.8%	9.5%

\* estimated and projected populations from Northern Illinois Planning Commission

**Table 7: Evanston Population and Change**

	1970		1980		1990		1970 – 1980		1980 - 1990	
	People	%	People	%	People	%	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Numeric Change	Percent Change
0-5	5,548	7.0%	3,505	4.8%	4,136	5.7%	-2,043	36.8%	+631	18.0%
6-19	18,648	23.4%	15,260	20.7%	13,313	18.2%	-3,388	18.2%	-2,947	19.3%
20-64	44,387	55.6%	44,533	60.4%	46,747	63.8%	+146	0.3%	+2,214	5.0%
65+	11,225	14.0%	10,410	14.1%	9,037	12.3%	-1,373	12.2%	-1,373	13.2%
Median Age	28.3		30.6		31.9		+2.0	6.9%	1.3	4.2%
Household Size	2.70		2.35		2.31		-0.35	-12.9%	-0.04	-1.7%
Population	79,808		73,708		73,233		-6,100	-7.6%	-575	-0.6%

form to the national trend of an increasing aging population. The 20 – 64 age group increased by almost 2,400 or 5%. In 1990, the 20 – 64 age group is by far the most dominant age group with over 63%, followed by the 6 – 19 with over 18%, 65+ with over 12%, and the 0 – 5 with almost 6%.

With the reduction in population between 1970 and 1990 – 8% -- the household size decreased from 2.70 to 2.31 or 14%, and the median age increased from 28.3 to 31.9 or 13%.

When compared to national, state, county and nearby communities, Evanston’s 1990 demographic profile varies considerably in numerous categories. In the 0 – 5 and 6 – 11 age groups, Evanston has the lowest percentage except for

Skokie, 6.9% and 7.6% respectively. Evanston’s 12 – 18 age group is the lowest (6.0%) of all the comparison communities, as well as national, state, and county. In the 19 – 24 age group, Evanston’s percentage is 15.6%, more than twice as compared to other communities. This is probably a result of the student population of Northwestern University.

The 25 – 34 age group is also high (19.7%) in comparison to surrounding communities and national, state, and county figures. This age group represents the highest percentage of all age groups in Evanston. The 35 - 44 age group (15.0%) corresponds to national, state, and county figures, but is lower than surrounding communities

**Table 8: Census Population Comparisons to National, State, Regional and Communities (1990 Census)**

	Evanston	U.S.	Illinois	Cook Co.	Glenview	Highland Park	Northbrook	Skokie	Wilmette	Winnetka
0-5	6.9%	8.9%	8.9%	8.9%	8.3%	8.8%	7.5%	6.6%	8.6%	9.5%
6-11	7.6%	8.7%	8.7%	8.3%	8.4%	8.2%	8.1%	6.9%	9.4%	10.9%
12-18	6.0%	9.5%	9.2%	9.3%	8.9%	8.7%	9.7%	8.0%	7.7%	8.8%
19-24	15.6%	9.3%	9.1%	9.3%	6.9%	6.1%	5.8%	5.9%	5.2%	5.1%
25-34	19.7%	17.4%	17.4%	18.5%	13.4%	13.1%	10.2%	13.0%	10.2%	8.8%
35-44	15.0%	15.1%	14.9%	14.6%	16.6%	17.8%	16.3%	14.9%	17.3%	16.8%
45-59	13.2%	14.4%	14.5%	14.4%	19.1%	19.5%	21.2%	17.2%	19.3%	21.6%
60-64	3.7%	4.3%	4.3%	4.4%	5.5%	5.5%	6.5%	6.8%	6.1%	5.6%
65+	12.4%	12.6%	12.6%	12.4%	12.8%	12.4%	14.6%	20.7%	16.2%	12.9%
Under 18	20.5%	27.1%	27.2%	26.1%	25.6%	25.7%	25.3%	21.5%	24.5%	28.0%
Median Age	31.9	32.9	32.8	32.6	37.5	37.9	40.6	41.4	40.4	39.5
Household Size	2.31	2.63	2.65	2.67	2.75	2.73	2.78	2.58	2.71	2.84
Population	73,233				37,093	30,575	32,308	59,432	26,690	12,174

## NEEDS ASSESSMENT

**Table 9: Educational Attainment - % of Population (1990 Census)**

	Evanston	U.S.	Illinois	Cook Co.	Skokie	Highland Park	Northbrook	Glenview	Wilmette	Winnetka
Less than 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	3.1%	6.6%	6.6%	7.4%	4.6%	2.4%	1.5%	2.0%	1.9%	0.3%
9 <sup>th</sup> to 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade, no Diploma	3.8%	9.9%	8.6%	9.7%	5.9%	2.7%	2.7%	3.3%	1.5%	0.7%
High School Grad	8.3%	19.2%	19.1%	16.9%	16.5%	8.9%	10.4%	12.9%	7.2%	3.4%
Some College, no Degree	9.4%	12.0%	12.4%	12.3%	14.9%	13.1%	13.3%	14.9%	11.7%	7.6%
Associate Degree	2.2%	3.9%	3.7%	3.4%	3.9%	2.6%	3.1%	3.4%	2.9%	1.7%
Bachelor Degree	18.9%	8.4%	8.7%	9.3%	15.7%	21.3%	23.1%	18.8%	22.2%	28.2%
Graduate or Professional Degree	18.2%	4.6%	4.8%	5.4%	10.9%	16.9%	14.9%	12.4%	22.0%	24.0%

In the 35 – 44 age group, Evanston generally corresponds to national, state, and county figures, but is lower than almost all surrounding communities. In both the 45 – 59 and 60 – 64 age groups, Evanston is the lowest in comparison to national, state, county and surrounding communities, and in 65+ age group, Evanston is comparable. As a result, Evanston's population is middle aged and younger, with the median age of 31.9, similar to national, state, and county figures, but considerably less than the surrounding communities, which range from 37.5 to 41.4. Evanston has both the lowest median age and the smallest household size with 2.31 in comparison to the range of 2.63 to 2.84.

Table 9 shows a comparison of Education Attainment by percentage of population (1990 census). Evanston ranks very high in those with Bachelors Degree and Graduate/Professional Degrees, 18.9% and 18.2% respectively, when compared to national, state, county and surrounding communities, representing a well-educated community.

However, in terms of household income characteristics, Evanston is the lowest (\$41,115) compared to the six comparison communities. Skokie is slightly higher with \$42,276, and Winnetka is the highest at \$118,456. Evanston is considerably higher than the national (\$30,056), state (\$32,252) and county (\$32,673)

**Table 10: Household Income Characteristics - % of Population (1990 Census)**

	Evans-ton	U.S.	Illinois	Cook Co.	Highland Park	Northbrook	Glenview	Skokie	Wilmette	Winnetka
Less than \$9,999	10.7%	15.5%	8.1%	14.8%	1.8%	3.0%	3.4%	6.4%	3.2%	2.0%
\$10,000 – 24,999	18.3%	26.4%	24.1%	22.9%	10.6%	8.2%	12.4%	18.4%	8.1%	6.2%
\$25,000 – 34,999	13.7%	15.8%	15.5%	15.2%	7.4%	7.0%	9.3%	14.2%	8.2%	5.0%
\$35,000 – 49,999	17.0%	17.9%	19.1%	18.6%	11.9%	11.0%	15.8%	20.4%	12.1%	8.4%
\$50,000 – 74,999	19.1%	15.0%	16.7%	16.9%	18.2%	21.9%	21.8%	21.6%	20.9%	13.0%
\$75,000 – 99,999	8.9%	5.1%	5.6%	6.0%	13.5%	14.7%	12.6%	9.1%	13.7%	8.6%
\$100,000 or more	12.0%	2.8%	4.6%	5.5%	34.6%	34.2%	24.7%	9.6%	33.7%	56.7%
Median Income	\$41,115	\$30,056	\$32,252	\$32,673	\$71,905	\$73,362	\$59,020	\$42,276	\$71,274	\$118,456

median incomes.

As a result of the differences, the demographic profiles of Evanston's neighbors suggests that each is serving both similar and different socio-economic groups. These demographic profiles suggest potential for shared programs and facilities to serve comparable client bases.

The above demographic profiles need to be reviewed when year 2000 census data is available in order to determine if trend during the past 10 years have continued.

**SCHOOL DISTRICTS 65 AND 202 ENROLLMENTS**

Table 11 identifies the enrollments in both School Districts 65 and 202 which serve the City of Evanston over the past 30 years, and projections for the next 5 years. Reviewing the enrollment figures for the past 30 years, the following is evident:

- The highest enrollments occurred in 1970, with 10,425 students in District 65 and 5,144 students in District 202.
- Since 1970, District 65 enrollments have steadily declined to 1987, when the enrollment reached a low of 5,968 students, or 43% less.
- Since 1970, District 202 enrollments have steadily declined to 1995, when the enrollment reached a low of 2,624, or 49% less.
- Since 1987, School District 65 enrollment has gradually increased to a high of 6,967 (1999), or approximately an annual growth of little more than 1%.
- Since 1995, School District 202 enrollment has gradually increased to a high of 3,045 (2000), or approximately an annual growth of little more than 3%.

**Table 11: School Districts 65 and 202 Enrollments**

YEAR	SCHOOL DISTRICT 65	SCHOOL DISTRICT 202	TOTAL
1970-71	10,425	5,144	15,569
1971-72	9,957	5,132	15,089
1972-73	9,481	4,890	14,371
1973-74	9,244	4,738	13,982
1974-75	9,012	4,678	13,690
1975-76	8,753	4,604	13,357
1976-77	8,413	4,428	12,841
1977-78	7,960	4,355	12,315
1978-79	7,521	4,297	11,818
1979-80	7,061	3,919	10,980
1980-81	6,840	3,773	10,613
1981-82	6,503	3,571	10,074
1982-83	6,272	3,441	9,713
1983-84	6,125	3,488	9,613
1984-85	6,076	3,468	9,544
1985-86	6,073	3,576	9,649
1986-87	6,082	3,419	9,501
1987-88	5,968	3,234	9,202
1988-89	6,101	3,021	9,122
1989-90	6,158	2,836	8,994
1990-91	6,305	2,742	9,047
1991-92	6,478	2,677	9,155
1992-93	6,654	2,769	9,423
1993-94	6,674	2,674	9,348
1994-95	6,706	2,705	9,411
1995-96	6,879	2,624	9,503
1996-97	6,853	2,703	9,556
1997-98	6,988	2,764	9,752
1998-99	6,953	2,815	9,768
1999-00	6,967	2,967	9,934
2000-01	6,946	3,045	9,991
2001-02*	7,066	3,123	10,189
2002-03*	7,043	3,211	10,254
2003-04*	7,083	3,191	10,274
2004-05*	7,069	3,223	10,292
2005-06*		3,322	
2006-07*		3,255	
2007-08*		3,269	
2008-09*		3,239	

\*projected school enrollments  
Source: School Districts 65 and 202

## NEEDS ASSESSMENT

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- School District 65 enrollment is projected to increase to 7,069 by the year 2004, or a total of 1.7%.
- School District 202 enrollment is projected to increase to 3,239 by the year 2009, or an annual rate of approximately 0.06%.

The above School District enrollments correspond closely to the demographic profiles reviewed in the prior subsection. The decline of the 6 – 18 age group has been significant in Evanston between 1970 and 1990. Over this 20 year period, the total school age population dropped from 15,569 to 8,994, a total of 6,575 or 42%. In 2000, the school age population totals 9,991, an increase of 997 or 10% since 1990. Based upon projections, school age population will increase by 300 or 3% by the year 2004.

This limited projected increase would suggest that existing Park Department programming, with some minor modification and expansion, should be sufficient to meet anticipated demand of Evanston residents

### Trends in Recreation

The fastest growing recreational activities, as identified in 1986 by the President's Commission on the American Outdoors, were canoeing, sailing, bicycling, hiking/backpack-ing, walking for pleasure, attending outdoor cultural events, camping, and water skiing.

In Evanston, the popularity of the Evanston lakefront walks is evidence of the popularity of bicycling and walking for pleasure. If the preceding list were compiled in 1995, it would likely include in-line skating and in-line hockey. In-line skating has become very popular in the last few years, with skaters often outnumbering bicyclists on trails within the area. In-line

hockey has also grown as a way to expand the outdoor season for this sport.

Golf is another sport, which has gained popularity in recent years. This trend is likely to continue, as golf is a sport, which is playable by an aging population. As anyone who has tried to get a weekend tee time at local public and private golf courses know, golf is a particularly popular activity in and around Evanston.

According to the National Sporting Goods Association's National Fitness Study, conducted in 1989, 59% of people between 25 and 40 years old are almost totally sedentary, with only 17% classified as reasonably active. In contrast to these findings, a 1990 survey conducted by Prevention Magazine found that 34% of the 1,254 respondents stated that they exercise strenuously at least three days a week.

Another trend is the growing interest in "wellness" programs, which combine exercise stress relief, and proper diet programs. Typically, hospitals are the originators of these programs. However, many park and recreation agencies also provide such programs. Wellness programs were also a recommendation of the President's Commission.

According to the National Recreation and Park Association, another issue that is increasing in magnitude is the need for and provision of child care services. With more single parents, and more two-career families, affordable child care is an issue that many park and recreation departments are being asked to address.

The amount of time Americans spend on leisure activities seems to be holding relatively constant. While the average American is spending more time working for pay than in the past, they are spending less time doing "home work" (cooking, laundry, cleaning, home maintenance, etc.).

*Source: Business Week, May 22, 1995. p. 34*

As concern over taxes of all kinds escalates, and with the presence of tax caps, park and recreation professionals increasingly are emphasizing revenue generation from non-tax revenue sources. Budget concerns in some communities have limited major new facilities to those facilities that can generate a sufficient income to cover operating and construction costs.

Water theme parks, with wave pools, water-slides and support facilities, are a relatively recent trend in new recreational facilities. While these facilities have traditionally been developed by private businesses, many park districts in the Chicago metropolitan area have constructed water theme parks in the past ten years. Wheeling, Nilse, Skokie, Hoffman Estates, and Schaumburg are examples of communities that have opened such facilities. The Schaumburg water-park is an indoor facility for year-round use.

These facilities generally are very popular when first opened. It is still too early to tell, however, whether they can maintain their appeal and attendance levels over time.

## Community Input Meetings

During the development of the *Parks Strategic Plan*, a series of community public meetings were held in wards to gain input from residents as to park needs, conditions, and recommendations. The following is a summary of comments received during the four community input meetings:

### 1. WARDS 1 AND 3 PUBLIC MEETINGS Date: June 22, 2000

The following comments and suggestions were expressed by the public:

- Snyder Park – need to replace playground equipment and upgrade

facilities. Would like to have grass areas, not weeds.

- Need more soccer facilities/need to raise standards for soccer facilities (there is an increase in demand for soccer). Improve maintenance for soccer fields.
- Great opportunity to impact children with improved park facilities.
- Convert lagoon into an ice skating facility (install portable ice-making machinery).

### 2. WARDS 2, 4 AND 5 PUBLIC MEETINGS Date: June 29, 2000

The following comments and suggestions were expressed by the public:

- How accessible will the parks be?
- Concerned with lighting and safety in the parks
- Concern for security in the parks
- Concern for disabled people in the parks
- Twiggs Park – concern for people sitting on raised garden beds
- Twiggs Park – not many children playing in the park because it is not considered safe
- Handicap use: Twiggs Park – needs to be accessible and safe. There have been problems in the park with undesirable elements (drugs)
- Need to upgrade playground equipment in Butler Park
- Pathways in Twiggs Park and Butler Parks are not well drained/ mud in the paths—difficult for wheelchairs to negotiate
- Keep paths clean of broken glass—problems for wheelchairs
- The paths have side slopes, which are dangerous to wheelchairs

## NEEDS ASSESSMENT

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- Need to look at pathways
- Use concrete paths instead of asphalt?
- Complement: Parks look good, communications of problems has greatly improved
- Smith Park – problem of thistles in the planting beds and the perimeter -- concern for safety with children
- Maintenance of some parks is not equal to other parks
- Smith Park – need to replace wood chips in playground
- People in Smith Park have been more visible in taking control of the park
- Gilbert Park – appropriate age group is now playing there
- Would be nice to have an outdoor swimming pool
- Need to provide means and resources for children to learn to swim – everyone – it is a matter of public safety.
- Need an outdoor pool and provide free swimming lessons
- Y's and high school cannot meet the needs for swimming program -- must provide a public responsibility for swimming lessons/pool
- Need to think about an indoor pool
- Maintenance of facilities is an issue -- need to maintain properly
- Issue of quality of maintenance and implementation
- Need for on-going maintenance at (Lincolnwood School) i. e., someone needs to be looking at parks on a regular basis
- Need for a set plan for maintenance schedules of parks
- Establish a cycle program for park facilities
- Cartwright Park -- drainage problem ... "We want the parks to be properly maintained".
- There should be support for a bond issue to raise money for park improvements
- Need to "sell the community" on a bond referendum
- % of land in parks?
- % of budget spent on parks?
- How much money goes into the department?
- Programs are subsidized by general funds
- Concern: "We have a high tax rate, yet we do not have the facilities to match"
- "We are here to express concern for tennis courts to be upgraded/improved"

### 3. WARDS 6 AND 7 PUBLIC MEETINGS

Date: June 28, 2000

The following comments and suggestions were expressed by the public:

- Do we need more lighted tennis courts?
- Let's get the basic improvements done, like new surfacing
- Isn't it less expensive to maintain what we have, not build new
- Why are our parks not like other surrounding communities?
- Issue of Lovelace Park tennis courts- Why not upgrade?
- Concern with improvements not being implemented
- The plan needs to be specific about priorities
- Isn't there an alternative for Lovelace if there is a \$60,000 shortfall?
- Does the city try to get corporate sponsors for improvements?
- Priorities! Health/safety/liability issues need to be addressed first before the building of new/additional facilities
- Need to look at work on existing facilities -- existing facilities need to be upgraded to standards
- Will the plan be adopted as "one plan" or will there be parts?
- Issue was raised about "formation of park district"
- Play tennis out of Evanston

- Fees for programs are evaluated each year.

- Tennis court gates need to be improved for accessibility needs

4. WARDS 8 AND 9 PUBLIC MEETINGS

Date: June 19, 2000

The following comments and suggestions were expressed by the public:

- Status of community building -- Center located in Southeast Evanston -- need
- Playground equipment geared for more older kids/pre-teens/especially in Southwest Park
- Make the playground equipment ADA accessible
- Would like to see a park with special disability facilities, with a playground designed for the disabled.
- Swimming pool -- accommodate disabled
- Remember ADA -- are minimum standards -- need to think/design to higher standards
- Input of users (such as disabled) should be part of the design/planning process
- Need input of kids (disabled) in the design of parks
- Make the beaches accessible
- James Park -- make paths accessible to sport facilities and streets
- Make sure wood chips for playgrounds are properly chipped (fine)
- James Park -- bleachers for soccer fields are not safe
- Those parks that are used by department of recreation programs need to be "more accessible" or provide for special accessibility needs
- Need to identify those parks that are better accessible/ list those parks
- Need to improve coordination/cooperation with Ridgeville Park District
- Need to develop new library adjacent to new community center

## Sports Organization Input Meeting

During the development of the *Parks Strategic Plan*, a meeting was held with representatives of the various sports organizations/affiliates in Evanston. The following is a summary of comments received during the meeting:

### 1. EVANSTON YOUTH BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

- There has been significant growth in Evanston baseball
- There are 30% more children than in previous years, totally 850 children in either baseball or softball
- James Park is the facilities that are used most frequently
- Concerns for these fields include uneven/sloping infields and outfields, and the need for better infield surfacing
- There are 11 fields at James Park, and 5 fields need immediate rehabilitation – four in the quad and one by the tennis courts
- Order of importance for rehabilitation:
  - rehabilitate the playing surfaces by grading, installing proper drainage systems, and using suitable soil/material in infields and outfields
  - need additional storage for maintenance, irrigation systems for the fields, washrooms, concession stands, batting cage, and hardware, such as backstops and benches
- Stressed the point that they do not want additional fields, but instead, want better than current fields

## NEEDS ASSESSMENT

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### 2. EVANSTON SOCCER ASSOCIATION

- Participation has been up 80% in the past 5 years
- There are a total of approximately 350 children that participate in soccer.
- James Park and Lovelace Park are the parks more often used by Team Evanston
- Recommendations include:
  - would like to have a few more fields, if possible
  - due to the wear on turf at the goals, the fields should be shifted from year to year to allow the grass to regenerate
  - regeneration of turf areas could be accomplished by using movable goals and making the fields oversized to allow the shift

### 3. EVANSTON AMERICAN YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION

- The program is comprised of roughly 1,500 children and use approximately 20 fields.
- The soccer fields they use most frequently are at the Evanston Township High School, Middle School, and James Park.
- Due to the limited parking at smaller neighborhood parks, the larger parks are preferred, however, they will use other parks, if necessary.
- Recommendations include:
  - would like to have more fields
  - the fields should be oversized to facilitate the shifting of the fields from season to season – this will allow the grass to regenerate
  - Need proper drainage and surfacing
  - Walks and landscape should be located far enough from the fields to allow them to shift
  - would like to have more storage

- would like to have a 2<sup>nd</sup> space for training, coaches, referees, etc.
- would like a new method to be used for marking boundaries – no more burning lines into the field
- sprinklers are broken at the base of the hill and cause safety issues for participants – need to replace sprinkler heads
- holes from moving the goals need to be filled in for safety
- post signs that direct overflow parking to park along the south side of the entrance drive
- consider using land along the Channel in cooperation with Skokie

### 4. EVANSTON YOUTH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

- Losing a lot of participants to neighboring communities because of poor facilities
- The existing rink is dark and dreary and not liked by participants
- Crown is the only place for this sport
- Recommendations include:
  - Paint the lobby, ice arena, and locker rooms with brighter colors
  - Add more lighting to the ice arena, lobby, concessions, and locker rooms

### 5. EVANSTON SPEED SKATING CLUB

- Current ice rink is not the proper size – the national requirements are 100 feet by 200 feet
- Since ice rink is not the proper size, not allowed to hold races in Evanston
- Recommendations include:
  - need larger tracks to facilitate the sport
  - would like more tracks, including a 400 meter track in the same park as the official sized track

6. EVANSTON SAILING CLUB

- Currently this is the mostly an adult program
- Remodeling of the beach house has caused the sailing club to lose storage
- Need to make known that the complaints about parking lot problems are not being caused by sailors
- Recommendations include:
  - Need to develop a youth program
  - Need rescue boats to facilitate in the beginning of a youth program
  - Resurface and extend ramp
  - Rocks on the beach and in the water are dangerous and need to be removed
  - Chain-link fencing on breakwater is very sharp and needs to be replaced with a fencing that does not have the sharp edges
  - Would like to have a couple of paths/rows of matting on the beach to make it easier for children to pull boats to water
  - Need storage
  - Need link to aquatics camp
  - Relocate the trailers to provide a better view to the lake from people using the park and path system along the lakefront
  - Need more parking for trailers (of sailors that are visiting)
  - Reorganize parking

7. EVANSTON WINDSURFING ASSOCIATION

- Would like to see new beach house built and to have same characteristics as Chicago's new beach houses – example, like showers out of the way of the paths, hidden.
- Windsurfing Association would like to work with the City to expand the sport to the youth

- Recommendations include:
  - Need more parking
  - Need more storage friendly to windsurfers and more secure
  - Would like to have larger gates put in to allow windsurfers to get through with all their gear
  - Would like to either move bike path or find a way to slow down the traffic – causes safety issues
  - Would like speed bumps on bike path, walking paths, drive and in parking lot – would help make people more aware where they are and more cautious as to not wreck into windsurfers

8. WOMENS GOLF LEAGUE

- Recommendations include:
  - Need new club house and bath house facilities
  - Bath house facility on Isabella not adequate
  - Continue improvements being made

9. EVANSTON BOAT RAMP ASSOCIATION

- Have a unique problem this year with the low water level of Lake Michigan
- The organization has received grant money from the State
- Recommendations include:
  - Totally rebuild boat ramp
  - Make the boat ramp longer – help with future changes in water level
  - Need better parking
  - Need to come up with a plan on how to reserve the parking for boaters and their trailers – intent is to restrict anyone other than boaters from using this parking lot
  - Path should be placed along the western edge on the outside of the parking lot and drive

- Layout path to keep people away from the boat ramp – this will improve safety issues for boaters and pedestrians
- Would like to build a marina
- Need to better fence around the dog beach to improve safety for dogs
- Move entrance about 100 yards to the north to keep pedestrian traffic further away from the boat ramp

### 10. EVANSTON RUNNING CLUB

- Members use the outdoor and indoor tracks at the Evanston Township High School
- The lakefront is also used by some members
- The club is basically happy with the paths and water fountains provided along the lakefront
- Recommendations include:
  - Would like to have mile markers along the lakefront paths
  - Would like to have a track different from the High School – they are at the mercy of the High School organizations
  - Would like to have a place that they can hold night meetings – it is preferred that it be located close by the lakefront path system

## Community Survey

In 1999-2000, the City of Evanston contracted The Center for Governmental Studies of Northern Illinois University (De Kalb, Illinois) and Group 1 Resources (Lombard, Illinois) to conduct a survey of Evanston residents on a number of issues. Of the seven areas surveyed, Parks and Recreation was one of the specific categories. Detailed information about the survey, methodology, and statistical analysis can be re-

viewed in a copy of the report obtained from the City of Evanston.

The following is a summary synopsis of the Chapter dealing with Parks and Recreation.

## INTRODUCTION

A number of questions in the survey addressed issues of parks and recreation in Evanston. Respondents were asked, first, about the general adequacy of public parks and their maintenance by the city. Then they were asked to assess the current adequacy of particular kinds of recreational resources or programs (e.g., playgrounds, soccer fields). Finally, there were questions that gave respondents opportunities to register support or opposition to building various kinds of new recreational facilities and renovating an existing one.

## CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF PARKS AND OF THEIR TREES

The surveyed residents were asked to assess the adequacy of the care and maintenance of parks and their trees, as well as of the supply of parkland in their part of the city. Ninety percent of those sampled were either "very satisfied" or "satisfied" with the parks' care and maintenance. The percentage of "very satisfied" residents was rather high (37 percent). Opinions were positive regardless of the quadrant of the city in which respondents lived. The combined percentages of "satisfied" and "very satisfied" respondents varied in the narrow range of 83 percent in the Northwest to 92 percent in the Southwest. Also noteworthy were the small percentages of respondents -- 1 to 3 percent -- who did not give an opinion. Parks and recreation issues tended to elicit opinions from almost all respondents, presumably because they and their family members use the city's parks or at least notice park land as they travel through the city.

The second general aspect of parks and recreation programs addressed in the survey was the care and maintenance of trees in the parks. Older cities like Evanston may have a comparative advantage over newer suburbs because of the number and variety of trees in parks and along the parkways of public streets. Again, surveyed residents gave the parks programs high marks. Ninety percent of the whole sample said that they were satisfied or "very" satisfied with tree maintenance. Very few respondents failed to give an opinion, and there was little variation across the four areas of residence in the high percentage of surveyed residents who were in one or the other "satisfied" category -- 86 percent to 93 percent.

#### ADEQUACY OF PARK LAND IN RESIDENTS' OWN PART OF THE CITY

According to the survey, almost all residents believe that the amount of parkland in their area of the city is sufficient. Eighty-seven percent of the whole sample and from 83 percent to 90 percent of the area samples chose the "yes" response when asked if the supply was sufficient where they live.

#### SUFFICIENCY OF MAJOR RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS

The survey asked the residents to evaluate the adequacy of four types of recreational facilities or programs (playgrounds, after-school programs, soccer fields, and baseball and softball fields) and to identify other kinds whose supply was insufficient.

##### *Playgrounds*

Most respondents believed that playgrounds were in adequate supply in the city, as well as being conveniently located. Eighty percent (80%) of all surveyed persons answered af-

firmatively to the question about sufficiency of public playgrounds. A similar percentage, 84 percent, felt that Evanston's public playgrounds were conveniently located. The approval percentage for the adequacy of supply varied little by area of residence. On the dimension of convenience of location, the affirmative percentage was significantly less among residents in the Northeast (72 percent) compared to respondents from the other three areas (85 percent to 89 percent). On both, dimensions, the opinions of white and African American respondents were similar. Eighty-one percent of the former and 77 percent of the latter were satisfied with the supply of playgrounds; and only two percentage points separated the two groups in their approval of the geographic distribution of playgrounds (84 percent versus 82 percent).

##### *After-School Programs*

When asked about the adequacy of "after-school programs for children that keep them engaged in positive and safe activities, 43 percent of the respondents did not know enough about the issue to give an opinion. In partial consequence, the "yes" responses were limited to 36 percent of the whole sample and from 26 percent to 43 percent of the area samples. Twenty-one percent of all respondents answered "no." This question may have been too detailed with the inclusion of the adjectives, "positive and safe." The lowest rate of "don't knows," 29 percent, and the highest rate of approval, 46 percent, came from respondents 46 to 55 years old. Among the other groups (less than 35 years old, 35 to 45, and older than 55), positive responses ranged narrowly from 32 percent to 35 percent. There were no significant differences by race. While 37 percent of the African American respondents gave "yes" answers, the corresponding percentage among the whites was 36 percent.

### *Adequacy of the Number of Existing Soccer Fields*

The frequency of "don't know" responses was even higher (46 percent) when residents were asked to assess whether the city had enough soccer fields. Probably, not enough residents play the sport to be able to make this kind of judgment. The "yes" responses were limited to 34 percent of the whole sample and to 27 percent to 33 percent of the area samples, except in the southwest quadrant, 50 percent of whose surveyed residents gave positive answers. The "no" responses, indicating an insufficient number of soccer fields, comprised 20 percent of the whole sample and from 14 percent to 22 percent of the area samples. As expected, the percent of "don't knows" increased with the age of the respondents. Older people do not play the sport as frequently as younger residents. However, even among the approximately one-quarter of surveyed residents younger than 35, forty-two percent did not give an opinion about the adequacy of the number of soccer fields.

### *Adequacy of the Number of Existing Baseball and Softball Diamonds*

The pattern of responses about baseball and softball diamonds largely mirrored what we found for soccer fields. The "don't know" answers comprised a large percentage of both the whole sample, 37 percent, and most of the area samples. The exceptional case again was the southwestern quadrant, only 27 percent of whose respondents failed to give an opinion and 61 percent of whom were satisfied with the number of diamonds. By comparison only 44 percent of the whole sample and 31 percent to 48 percent of the respondents from the other three areas gave positive answers. Residents in the area south of Dempster and west of Ridge seem to be more knowledgeable about, and pleased with, the soccer and baseball/softball facilities in Evanston.

Compared to white respondents, surveyed African American residents were somewhat more likely to give positive answers about the adequacy of soccer and baseball/softball fields. For soccer the difference was 43 percent of the African Americans saying that the number of fields was sufficient, compared to 32 percent of the whites. The difference was greater for baseball/softball: 57 percent versus 41 percent. These differences were *not* related to the southwest quadrant's respondents being more positive. African American members of the sample were not disproportionately more numerous in that quadrant.

### *Adequacy of Other Types of Facilities*

At the end of survey's section dealing with current parks and recreation facilities and programs, residents were asked, "Are there any other kinds of recreation facilities that you believe need to be increased?" Forty-three percent of the whole sample answered "yes." Fifty percent said "no," and only 7 percent failed to give an opinion.

The residents who wanted to increase "other" types of recreational facilities were then asked to list what they recommended. For the whole unweighted sample (536 respondents) as well as in each area sample, the most frequently mentioned addition was some kind of swimming pool (indoor, outdoor, or unspecified). Pools were requested by 13 percent of the whole. A relatively distant second in frequency of being mentioned was tennis courts. Desired was either the building of new ones or better maintenance or lighting for existing courts. This type of facility was mentioned by 6 percent of the whole sample. Tied for third at 3 percent were basketball courts and ice skating rinks. Only a handful of respondents -- fewer than five persons -- called for more baseball diamonds or soccer fields. Somewhat more, a total of 7 asked for more after-school programs.

## RESIDENTS' OPINION OF BUILDINGS OR RENOVATING VARIOUS FACILITIES

The survey provided the opportunity also to obtain residents' opinions about building or renovating eight specific recreational projects or types of facilities. Almost every respondent gave an opinion on these eight projects. Those proposals receiving the highest levels of approval (i.e., respondents chose the options "strongly support" or "support") included a project to renovate the Noyes Cultural Arts Center (74 percent supported it), a plan to build a new community center in South Evanston (73 percent), and a proposal to build a new indoor basketball facility in South Evanston (68 percent).

Majorities of 57 percent and 51 percent, respectively, supported building an indoor soccer facility in South Evanston and also additional outdoor soccer facilities in that part of the city (tables 6.14 and 6.15). Three of the eight proposals failed to win majority support in the whole sample: additional softball/baseball fields for South Evanston and an indoor tennis facility for that area, as well as a proposed ice skating rink with no location indicated (tables 6.17, 6.18, and 6.19).

Six of the questions dealt with proposed improvements in South Evanston. It was expected that higher percentages of surveyed residents from both quadrants south of Dempster Street would support these projects compared to respondents from the two northern areas of residence. That pattern did emerge for four of the six: the proposed community center, the indoor soccer facility, the outdoor soccer facility, and the indoor tennis facility, but not for the indoor basketball and indoor softball/baseball. However, majorities from all four quadrants favored a new community center for that part of the city, as well as additional indoor basketball facilities.

When analyzing support for these eight projects by the respondents' ethnic identities, statistically significant differences regarding five was found. First, approval for renovating the Noyes Cultural Arts Center was at a rate of 77 percent among the surveyed white residents, compared to 64 percent among African American respondents. However regarding three of the six projects proposed for South Evanston, differences were in the opposite direction. Compared to whites, significantly more African American respondents supported the proposed indoor soccer, indoor basketball, and indoor tennis facilities. For example, regarding the tennis facilities, the percentage of whites in favor was 42 percent, compared to 68 percent among African American residents who were surveyed. The higher level of support among African Americans does not seem to be clearly related to place of residence. For example, 66 percent of them who lived in the northwest quadrant approved of building tennis facilities in South Evanston, as did 67 percent who resided in the northeast.

Support varied also with the age of the surveyed residents. For six of the eight projects (excepting the Noyes Center and the South Evanston community center), younger residents -- those less than 35 years old -- approved the proposed facilities at higher rates compared to older respondents. For example, the difference for the indoor tennis courts project was 61 percent approval in the younger groups versus 43 percent among those 35 years and older.



## SECTION 5 POLICY GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

During the Strategic Planning process, the Department developed an overall mission statement. This statement was designed to provide focus to Department of Parks and Recreation's facilities and services, build a consensus for future direction and serve in planning for the future.

### Mission Statement

*The City of Evanston's Department of Parks/Forestry & Recreation strives to serve the community faithfully by developing and maintaining quality facilities; open spaces; and recreational, educational, and cultural opportunities. To that end the Department shall at all times provide responsive and courteous service; exercise fiscal prudence; and manifest environmental awareness. Where possible, the Department shall cooperate with other community organizations and agencies to enrich further the lives of Evanston's residents.*

## **POLICY GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

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### **Goals & Objectives**

To accomplish its mission the Department of Park/Forestry & Recreation has developed the following goals:

#### **LAND AND FACILITIES**

1. Provide open space and facilities that are supported by user fees, taxes and other appropriate sources of revenue.
2. Develop parks and facilities that provide safe outlets for recreation and self-improvement.
3. Improve the function, safety, accessibility, and appearance of all City park property.
  - Meet or exceed federal accessibility requirements (ADA) in the renovation or design of facilities.
  - Renovate facilities in Parks per recommendations in the facility evaluation.
  - Maintain all athletic fields, focusing on improved stationary equipment/fixtures.
  - Maintain and enhance the quality of existing tennis and basketball courts.
  - Develop a mix of health and fitness facilities that provide for year-round activity.
  - Develop a unified sign system for park identification.
  - Maintain a renovation program of facilities within the park system.
  - Coordinate site amenities to develop a unified image.

4. Meet community needs for parks and recreational facilities through property acquisitions, exchange, sale or other options appropriate and within available resources.
5. Consider the effects of park, facilities and usage on neighboring properties.
  - Continue to plant shrubs and other landscape material to screen adjacent residents from active recreational areas.
  - Design lighting, location, and orientation of facilities to minimize impact on surrounding properties.
  - Schedule programs and activities to meet recreational needs with recognition of potential impact on adjacent residents
6. Safely link open space and trail systems with major community destinations.

#### **PROGRAMS**

1. Ensure that programs meet the interests and needs of persons of all ages and abilities by providing and sponsoring programs independently or in cooperation with other community organizations or agencies.
  - Conduct an annual meeting of Department Affiliates and community organizations to evaluate planned programs and potential for cooperative efforts.
2. Provide reasonable opportunities for all residents to participate in programs regardless of ability to pay established fees.

- Grant authority to reduce and/or waive program fees when sufficient evidence of need is provided.
3. Foster a sense of responsibility for the environment.
    - Incorporate environmental education within all programs, where appropriate.
    - Maintain and enhance recycling at City facilities.
  4. Provide opportunities for individuals and groups to participate in cultural, recreational, and educational activities, and to develop lifetime leisure skills.
    - Continue to promote availability of facilities for use by individuals and community groups.
    - Continue to sponsor or co-sponsor recreation and service programs appropriate to various ages and special events for teenage residents.
    - Provide opportunities for adults to meet in a social, recreational, educational setting, e.g., travelogues, investment clubs, gourmet clubs, and cultural field trips.
    - Sponsor or co-sponsor programs for senior citizens.
    - Conduct recreational programs, which explore various art forms through instruction or lectures, exhibits, and trips.
    - Continue popular recreational programs and explore potential for new programs. Incorporate appropriate instruction within recreational programs to promote safety and enjoyment.
  5. Develop and conduct planning that is progressive and anticipates future needs and interests.
    - Continue to promote the health benefits of participation in fitness and recreational activities for all ages.
    - Conduct on-going review of recreation trends through participation in professional organizations at the national, state, and regional levels.
    - Review Parks Strategic Plan annually, and publish an update to the plan every five years.
  6. Continue to sponsor special events in the Parks, such as 4<sup>th</sup> of July, movies, concerts, and other activities.
    - Investigate opportunities to affiliate with special interest groups, service clubs, and the private sector in organizing and operating special events.
    - Consider additional special events that could be offered, such as art shows, antique shows, running and bicycle races, etc.

### MAINTENANCE

1. Maintain the quality and appearance of athletic fields, courts, playgrounds, parks, and City Department buildings.
  - Focus athletic field improvements on enhanced player safety and maximized field use.
  - Ensure that all facilities meet current safety standards and are inviting and appealing.

## POLICY GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

2. Preserve and enhance the native forest and shrub and tree plantings on all City park property.
  - Conduct annual tree planting program to replace and/or supplement existing trees.
  - Inventory all trees within each park, create a computerized database, and establish a comprehensive program for pest control, watering, pruning and fertilization.
  - Develop a program to improve turf quality in parks.
3. Provide plantings that are easy to maintain and which improve the appearance of Evanston.
  - Emphasize the use of perennials in floral plantings.
  - Plant flowers and shrubs in clusters within planting beds to facilitate ease of maintenance and maximize visual impact of planting.
4. Employ efficient maintenance practices, which are sensitive to potential long-term environmental impacts.
  - Where appropriate, utilize organic or natural methods of pest and weed control.
5. Maximize usable life of all vehicles and equipment.
  - Continue a preventative maintenance program for all vehicles and equipment.

## ADMINISTRATION

1. Provide a safe, productive and pleasant work environment, fair compensation and opportunities and encouragement for professional growth.
  - Maintain in-house employee administered risk management program.
  - Continue to review annual salaries for full-time employees based on market values.
  - Encourage employees' active membership in professional organizations.
  - Conduct periodic review of Personnel Policies.
  - Develop pay ranges for full time positions.
  - Conduct periodic review of salary/benefits to comparable agencies.
2. Develop in, and expect from, staff a strong sense of personal service in connection with all programs and services.
  - Initiate training programs that emphasize service.
  - Review/Revise policies and procedures to reflect the importance of service.
3. Provide services regardless of ability, race, ethnic or socioeconomic background, creed, sex or age.
4. Offer competent, high quality leadership and direction in all programs and services.

## POLICY GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

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5. Take all reasonable measures to promote the safety and efficacy of all City Department sponsored activities.
6. Encourage volunteers to participate in the delivery of City Department services.
  - Develop a program to recognize volunteer service.
7. Maintain cordial, effective relationships among the staff, Recreation Board and the community.
  - Plan and conduct annual staff outing.
  - Develop and implement a customer service program.
8. Upgrade computer systems for the operations and management of the City Department.
3. Pursue revenues from public and private sources.
  - Continue to seek state and federal grants for park renovation projects and/or property acquisition.
  - Apply for funding from private foundations, where appropriate, to supplement available City Department resources.
  - Pursue corporate/business sponsors to help fund programs and facilities.
  - Maintain and upgrade building retrofits designed to save energy, costs and nonrenewable resources.
4. Establish policies for assessing fees and charges for City Department services and facilities.
  - Compare fees for similar services and facilities provided outside the Park District.

### FINANCE

1. Exercise fiscal responsibility and prudence in all financial and business transactions, including development of a long-range financial plan, and prompt payment of bills for quality goods and services.
2. Develop and conduct a program for the solicitation, application, and acknowledgment of private donations of real estate and financial assets.
  - Continue to promote programs in which interested citizens and groups assist the City Department in enhancing the appearance of parks and facilities, e.g., tree donor and adopt-a-park.
  - Establish a not-for-profit foundation.

### COMMUNICATION

1. Strive to inform City of Evanston residents of Department programs, activities and facilities.
  - Mail the program guide and newsletter to all residents, and provide additional copies for review and/or distribution at the Civic Center, Library, and Schools.
  - Increase use of Cable TV to inform residents of meetings and services.
  - Consider and evaluate the development of a City Department Web-site to provide information about Park Department programs and registration.

## **POLICY GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

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2. Seek community input in planning and effecting changes to parks and facilities. Conduct periodic evaluations of Department programs and services.
  - Conduct a community survey at least every five years to evaluate attitudes toward, and interest in, City Department programs, facilities and services.
  - Provide participants with an opportunity to evaluate programs and facilities and to suggest improvements.
  - Continue liaison with community-based affiliate organizations.
  - Convene focus groups on a periodic basis to discuss various aspects of City Department services.
3. Encourage public participation at all Recreation Board meetings.
  - Make all official actions and documents available to the public at the Library and Civic Center.
  - Continue practice of allowing citizens to address the Board at the beginning of all meetings of the Recreation Board.
4. Establish a Citizen Advisory Committee.
  - The formation of a CAC can assist the City Department with evaluating its programs, facilities and activities, and help promote public awareness.

### **ENVIRONMENT**

1. Encourage the use of Parks for enjoyment of native flora and fauna and promote ecological awareness and sensitivity.

2. Use techniques and materials that conserve natural resources and protect the environment.
  - Utilize recycled materials when practical and appropriate.

### **COOPERATION AND COLLABORATION**

Conserve community resources to the greatest possible extent through cooperation with other local organizations and agencies.

- Explore and implement cooperative relationships with other governmental units, Cook County Forest Preserve District, surrounding Park Districts and other community organizations.
- Continue to develop a strong relationship and working partnership with School Districts 65 and 202.