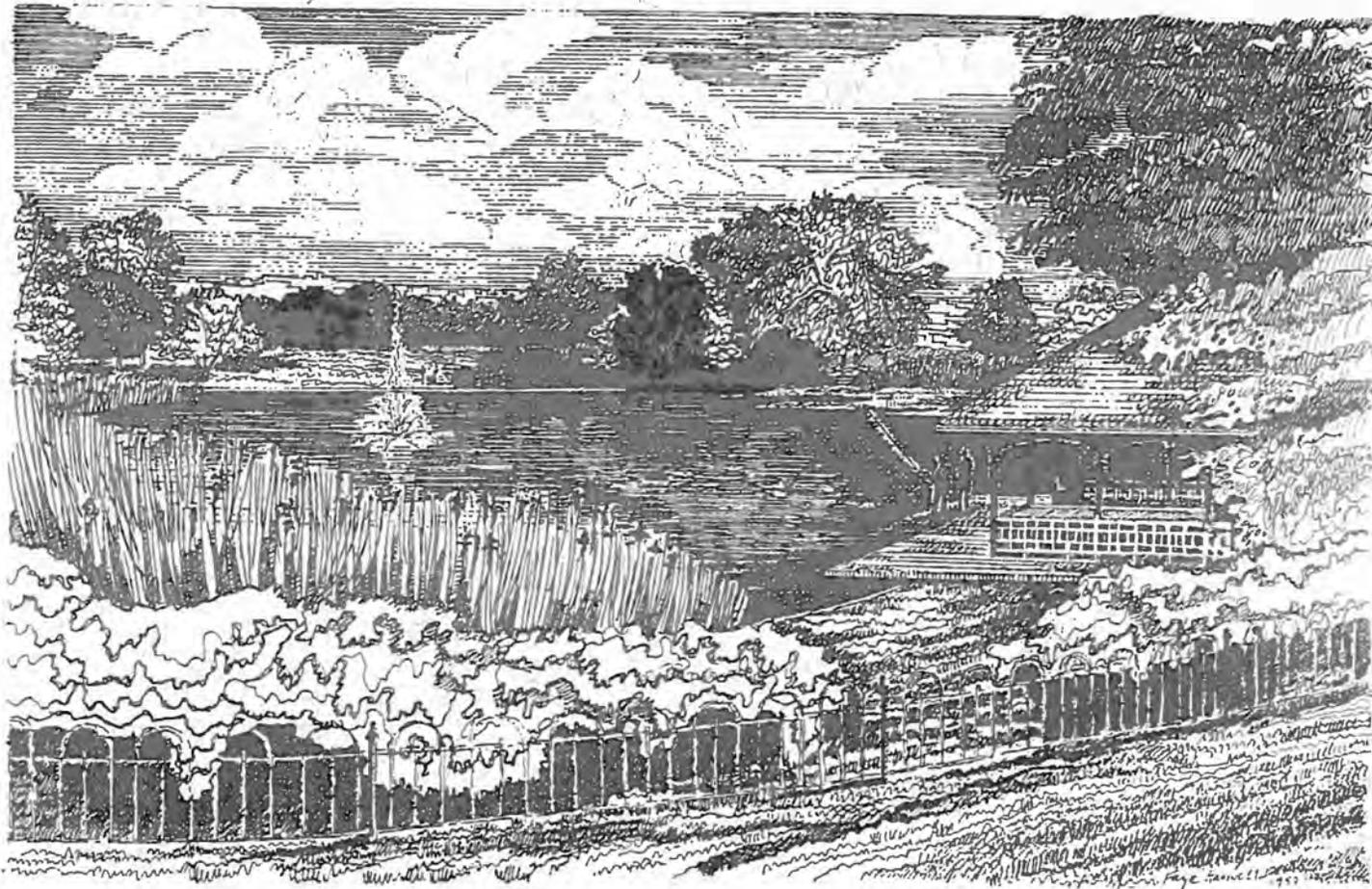


A MASTER PLAN *FOR* PATTERSON PARK *IN* BALTIMORE, MARYLAND



CITY OF BALTIMORE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS  
CAPITAL PROJECTS AND PLANNING DIVISION

JANUARY 1998

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A MASTER PLAN *FOR* PATTERSON PARK *IN* BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

prepared in collaboration with:

*City of Baltimore*  
*Department of Recreation and Parks*  
*Capital Projects and Planning Division*

by:

*Rhodeside and Harwell, Incorporated*  
*Delon Hampton & Associates, Chartered*  
*A. Morton Thomas and Associates, Inc.*  
*Charles E. Beveridge, Historical Consultant*

*January 1998*

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CITY OF BALTIMORE

KURT L. SCHMOKE, Mayor



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

250 City Hall  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

October 10, 1997

Dear Reader:

Baltimore has a rich legacy of open spaces and recreational facilities. For over 150 years, Patterson Park has served the diverse recreational needs of Southeast Baltimore and it remains the heart of its neighborhoods.

I congratulate each of you who volunteered your time to participate in this master plan-- an important stage in mapping the park's future. This plan is a symbol of the kind of partnership between the City of Baltimore and its citizens which will protect our open space legacy for the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Kurt L. Schموke'.

Kurt L. Schموke  
Mayor

---

CITY OF BALTIMORE

KURT L. SCHMOKE, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION  
AND PARKS

THOMAS V. OVERTON, ACTING DIRECTOR  
DR. RALPH W. E. JONES, JR. BUILDING  
3001 East Drive - Druid Hill Park, Baltimore, Maryland 21217

---

September 24, 1997

Dear Reader:

Patterson Park is Baltimore's oldest and most intensively used green space. The residents of Southeast Baltimore have demonstrated their desire and commitment to sustaining the park as a centerpiece of their community through their active and vocal participation in the planning process that formed the basis for this master plan.

The genius of Patterson Park lies in the successful marriage of a historically rich pastoral landscape with contemporary recreational facilities. With this plan we can continue this tradition with sensitive renovation of historic elements and recreation facilities as well as adaptations designed to help the park function better for today's users. We thank all those who worked with us to develop the visionary plan expressed in these pages and look forward to continuing the partnership we have begun.

Sincerely,

Thomas Overton  
Acting Director



June 1, 1998

Dear Reader,

This report is the culmination of a collaborative effort between community residents in southeast Baltimore and Baltimore City government representatives.

Throughout the process, people who love Patterson Park actively participated in public and community meetings, discussing issues of facilities, park use, and marketing. Of special interest was the renovation of the "Boat Lake." At the conclusion of the process, community members made recommendations about what projects should take priority in Patterson Park's renovation.

Interest in Patterson Park is so great that a new park advocacy group, the "Friends of Patterson Park," has formed. We foresee our role as assisting and working together with Baltimore City agencies to make Patterson Park the best park in the city. We also envision raising funds to support special projects for the park.

We would like to thank the Abell Foundation for their generosity in funding the printing of additional copies of the master plan for use by the Friends of Patterson Park. We welcome the interest and assistance of park advocates.

Sincerely,

*Mary Sloan Roby*

Mary Sloan Roby  
Charter Committee



## ***Project Team***

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Photogrammetric Data Services

## ***Acknowledgments***

A spirit of partnership was considered essential to the success of the Patterson Park Master Plan. We gratefully acknowledge all of the members of the community who volunteered their time as members of the Master Plan Advisory Committee during Phase II: Plan Synthesis.

Barbara Baynes  
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Additional assistance was volunteered by members of the following committees during Phase I: Inventory and Analysis. Individuals serving on each of these committees can be found in **Appendix 1**.

Natural Resources  
Recreation and Users  
Physical Features  
Promotion and Marketing

The staff of the University of Maryland Urban Studies and Planning Program under the skillful direction of Sidney Brower were partners in designing, implementing, and analyzing the user observations and neighborhood telephone survey. Ed Strocko was the dedicated staff person and Sara Merriman directed the production of the report, *Patterson Park—How People Use It and Feel About It*.

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## Executive Summary

Patterson Park is one of the oldest public parks in the nation and has a rich history. William Patterson donated the first six acres for a "public walk" in 1827-- a quarter century prior to the American Parks Movement. Significant historic activities occurred on this site dating from the 18<sup>th</sup> century when citizen soldiers deterred the British in the war of 1812.

The 155-acre park is now Baltimore's most intensively used greenspace and plays a vital role in the lives of the people of southeast Baltimore and the region. The park has suffered a long period of decline, similar to the plight of parks in other northeast cities. Even so, Patterson Park remains a beautiful green oasis with a unique marriage of pastoral scenery and a diversity of well-used athletic facilities.

The Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks with the citizens of Southeast Baltimore developed a long-term vision for rehabilitating the park, as reflected in this master plan. While some funds are available to begin, the full realization of the plan will require significantly more resources. A creative partnership between Baltimore City

and those citizens and organizations that care about the park will be necessary to fully rehabilitate Patterson Park.

The plan includes history, inventory and analysis of the existing conditions, followed by a chapter of park preservation and improvement strategies. Recommendations include strategies to be applied park-wide as well as considerations for specific zones.

### VISION

Park constituents crafted a vision to guide the planning process:

*Working together, we can sustain Patterson Park as a beautiful natural environment, an important historic monument and a first rate recreational facility for future generations.*

*Through thoughtful use of our precious resource we can enjoy an urban oasis where people use the park sensitively and with mutual respect towards each other.*

*By understanding the whole of Patterson Park, we can invest in and manage the site to better serve the community and ensure the park's long-term integrity.*

### OBJECTIVES

The plan supports four objectives:

- Preserve and enhance the historic integrity of the park.
- Preserve and enhance the site's natural resources.
- Preserve and enhance present recreational functions, modifying facilities and circulation patterns to support contemporary recreation needs in a safe, pleasant and orderly environment.
- Restrict vehicular access to limited areas of the park, revise site features to conform to this objective and protect the park and its users from the impact of vehicles.

## RECOMMENDATIONS: THE WHOLE PARK

### **Design Guidelines**

Structures and buildings which contribute to the historic integrity of the park should be rehabilitated using standards found in *US Secretary of the Interior (USSI) Guidelines for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *USSI Guidelines for the Treatment of Historic Landscapes*. New construction and furnishings should be sensitive in scale, design, and materials to the historic context of the park.

### **Vegetation**

Restore the tree canopy to the historic numbers by planting nearly 1,000 trees park-wide. Establish flower and shrub beds in a limited fashion as shown in the plan, only when adequate maintenance can be arranged. Improve vegetation management to assure longevity and health of trees, shrubs, grass, and herbaceous plants.

### **Access and Circulation**

Retain the major historic framework intact, rehabilitating existing pathways with materials appropriate to the historic period of reference. Reorganize some pathways to enhance the function and order of the site. Limit vehicular access to service, emergency, or permitted users and adapt entryway curbs and barriers to control access in an aesthetically appropriate manner.

### **Infrastructure and Drainage**

Rehabilitate drainage infrastructure, giving first priority to the lake watershed.

### **Buildings and Structures**

Rehabilitate all historic buildings and structures and develop a long-term maintenance plan. Build a new concession stand near the Pagoda, a new bathhouse, fishing pavilion, and rest room facility.

### **Site Furnishings**

Remove existing low-intensity arc lamps throughout the carriageways and replace with pedestrian-scale historic light standards in selected areas-- including the park perimeter. Provide significantly more benches and trash cans in locations convenient and comfortable for park users. Repair or replace existing benches where locations are appropriate. Provide a sensitively designed park sign system including way finding, rules, and interpretation. Rehabilitate drinking fountains

### **Programming**

Retain the present distribution of uses in the park, with the exception of adding a beach volleyball facility. Avoid introducing additional uses, which give proprietary use of sections of the park to a single user-group.

### **Maintenance and Management**

Establish a Park Administrator position to oversee all aspects of park programming and management. Establish a Park Manager to oversee a dedicated maintenance crew, housing only Patterson Park staff and equipment in the park. Improve standard maintenance practices, especially vegetation management and trash pick-up. Provide

visitor services and park rangers for the oversight and security of park and its users.

### **Partnering**

Establish public/private partnerships to (1) allow public input in issues related to parks maintenance and management; (2) increase volunteerism; and (3) raise additional revenues for maintenance and programming.

## RECOMMENDATIONS: PARK ZONES

### **The Perimeter**

Rehabilitate each of the park entries by: restoring gateways and pathways, providing sensitively designed park name and rules signs, adapting curb-cuts to conform with vehicular access plan, redesigning barriers to be more aesthetically appealing, and adapt entries for accessibility to the physically challenged. Significantly increase the number of benches and trash cans.

### **The Heart of the Park (i.e. the northwest quadrant)**

Restore all the historic buildings, pathways, and structures. Re-establish shrub beds and remove fencing at the base of the Pagoda. Construct a small building across from the Pagoda at the site of the extant little casino for food concessions, catering, and rest rooms. Renovate the White House, continuing the tenancy of Banner Neighborhoods, and also accommodate park-related programming such as a police substation, offices for the Friends of Patterson Park or meeting and

exhibit space. Rehabilitate the fountain and adapt it to a recirculating system.

### ***The Maintenance Complex and Community Gardens***

Designate the maintenance complex for housing crews and equipment for a Patterson Park- dedicated staff only. Retain programming of the "stables" as a park maintenance office, demolish concrete block shed and replace with a smaller structure, and integrate the existing historic building into the park landscape. Enlarge the community gardens and revise the fencing.

### ***The Mall***

Restore the mall, replacing extant features such as the large urns. Construct a pavilion at the mall's terminus reflective of the pavilion once located there. Provide a custom-designed play environment and rest rooms at the present playground site.

### ***The "Boat Lake"***

Investigate management and design alternatives to improve the water quality and habitat of the lake. Prepare and implement a design and management plan which will improve the water quality for fish habitat, maintain a balance between emergent wetland and open water habitat, and improve safe access to the lake edge. Provide a pavilion reflective of the extinct historic structure. Install a fountain in the same location as the historic site.

### ***The Casino and Virginia Baker Recreation Center***

Collaborate with the Commission on Aging during the renovation of the Casino for adult day-care. Revise the vehicular access to the Casino, relocating parking to the rear and eliminating use of the brick diagonal pedestrian mall by vehicles. Encourage community meetings to be located at the Virginia Baker Recreation center, instead of the Casino, to reduce use pressures caused by vehicles. Upgrade parking and pedestrian access to the Recreation Center.

### ***The Recreation Park***

Stabilize the Field House from further deterioration and rehabilitate the building for a community use. Simplify and rehabilitate the pedestrian pathways and fencing. Replace the existing pool and bathhouse complex with a new facility sized to accommodate present use levels and providing the appropriate amenities for the community. Upgrade and renovate all existing recreation facilities. Provide a year-round shelter for the ice rink. Retain the major pathway system in the eastern park annex and trees. Remove the concrete gutter at the base of the slope.



## Chapter 1: Introduction

### A description of the planning process

#### THE MASTER PLANNING PROCESS

The Master Planning process for Patterson Park commenced in spring of 1995, under the direction of the Department of Recreation and Parks (DRP) and the Division of Capital Projects & Planning. The consultant joined in the collaboration in the winter of 1996. The planning team established a five phase procedure for preparing the Master Plan. These phases and brief description of the tasks involved are described below:

##### *Phase 1: Inventory*

- A. Organize citizen committees to assess the condition of the park, including physical features; natural resources; recreation activities; and users. Establish a Friend's Group.
- B. Conduct a systematic observation of users and a telephone survey in collaboration with the University of Maryland's Urban Studies and Planning Program.
- C. Prepare surveys and base maps.

##### *Phase 2: Analysis*

- A. Analyze the inventory to determine areas where change may be appropriate due to deterioration or use.
- B. Consolidate findings of the inventory to establish an opportunities and constraints analysis.
- C. Form a Citizen Advisory Committee with representation throughout the community.

- D. Collect and review data and information about the history and current condition of the park.
- E. Document (in plan and narrative formats) existing conditions data about the park, including geology, topography, and hydrology; vegetation and wildlife; access and circulation; infrastructure; buildings and structures; site furnishings; recreation facilities; profile of users; and maintenance and management.
- F. Develop programmatic needs list for inclusion with the Master Plan.

##### *Phase 3: Alternatives*

- A. Prepare alternative concepts, based upon programmatic needs and opportunities and constraints.
- B. Receive feedback on alternatives and generate a preferred alternative site plan.

##### *Phase 4: Draft Master Plan*

- A. Prepare draft park development plan illustrating areas and elements to conserve as well as new construction.
- B. Revise draft based on input from the DRP and the public.
- C. Prepare preliminary cost estimate and phasing plan.

##### *Phase 5: Final Master Plan*

- A. Finalize Master Plan, cost estimate, and phasing plan.
- B. Adjust Plan and recommendations based on comments from the DRP and the public.
- C. Prepare Master Plan report.

Throughout the development of the Master Plan, the DRP and consultant team has held numerous meetings in the park with the Advisory Committee and public. The plans, cost estimate, and planning strategies have all been modified and adjusted during the process to respond to concerns expressed during these meetings. Finally, surveys have been conducted to identify programmatic concerns as well as priorities for implementation and phasing.

In summary, the Master Planning process has been a collaborative effort made by the DRP, the planning team, the Advisory Committee, and the public.

#### **OBJECTIVES FOR PRESERVATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF PATTERSON PARK**

At the outset of the project, the DRP established a number of objectives to serve as the framework for the Patterson Park Master Plan. The objectives reflect the need identified by the DRP to preserve the historic quality of the park while, at the same time, provide a safe environment that supports recreational usage. The objectives for the Patterson Park Master Plan include:

- Identify areas of the park requiring various levels of protection or change (e.g., preservation, conservation, modification, new construction).
- Establish a collaborative planning process between the Department of Recreation and Parks, the Advisory Committee, the public, and the planning team;
- Formulate a baseline of understanding of the history and significance of Patterson Park; and

## Chapter 2: History of the Park

### A history of Patterson Park from 1827 to today

For over one and a half centuries, Patterson Park has served the urban recreation needs of a population with varied cultural, ethnic, and economic backgrounds. Throughout this long history of diverse uses, affected by dramatic changes in America's political, social, and cultural conditions; the park has retained its overall integrity and most areas of Patterson Park remain functionally and historically intact. The park retains a coherent identity and sense of place, and is a strong example of a designed landscape of the years 1827 to 1925. Lampl Associates, in a summary of the historic significance of Patterson Park, states:

*Patterson Park is culturally significant within the context of '19th and 20th Century Park Planning in Baltimore.' Patterson witnessed three major stages of growth, each of which is integral to an understanding of American social history and landscape architecture. From its origins as a formal 'Public Walk' in 1827, to its romantic development as a 'country park' between the 1860s and 1900s, to its early 20th century conversion and expansion into the city's most comprehensive athletic center,*

*Patterson Park is a unique reflection of the changing ideals of American leisure over the course of 100 years...it is the first and only known 'public walk' in the city, and...it is one of two parks originally established under authority of Ordinance No. 227, approved June 4, 1860, which established the first Park Commission. Patterson Park, along with Druid Hill Park, reveals Baltimore's stature as one of the earliest cities in the country to embrace the new country park tradition spawned by Central Park in 1857 (Lampl Associates, NRHP Report).*

#### THE PUBLIC WALK

A "public walk" for enjoyment by the citizens of Baltimore was first envisioned by William Patterson, an Irish immigrant who came to America in 1766, became successful in the shipping industry, and eventually helped to found the B&O Railroad. In 1827, Patterson donated to Baltimore Town six acres of land on a high knoll with dramatic views overlooking the harbor. From this initial endowment of land, Patterson Park grew steadily, augmented by four more major land

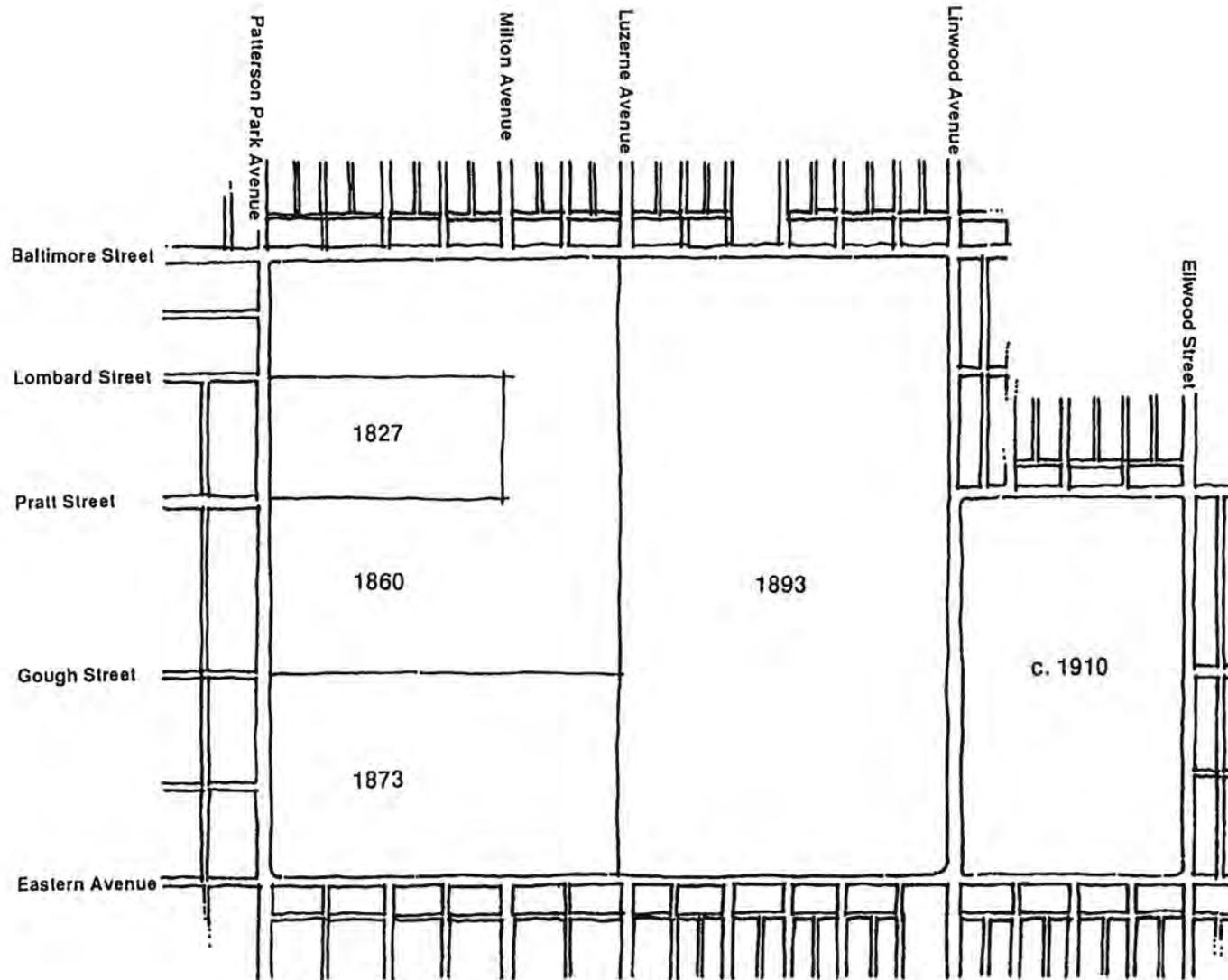
acquisitions until the last purchase was made in 1907 (*Figure 1*). Now 155 acres in size, the park reflects a legacy that probably exceeded even Patterson's original expectations and that has endeared his name to many generations of Baltimoreans.

The evolution of Patterson's site from the original six acres to the park as it exists today is marked by three major stages of development: the Public Walk, the Country Park, and the Recreation Park. These stages reflect both local and national trends and are influenced by social history as well as trends in the approach to the design of the American Landscape.

#### BEFORE THE PUBLIC WALK

In 1792, William Patterson purchased a 200 acre estate on Harris Creek that included all of the present-day park west of Luzerne Street (if Luzerne Street extended through the park). Just east of where Luzerne Street would have extended were the banks of Harris Creek (once navigable and now underground), marking the eastern boundary of the estate. The Patapsco River, which at that time lay just south of Fait Street, was the

A MASTER PLAN FOR PATTERSON PARK IN BALTIMORE, MARYLAND



LAND ACQUISITION DIAGRAM

figure 1

southern boundary, and the tract extended northward almost to the present site of Johns Hopkins Medical Center. The location of the western boundary is not clear; however, a 1783 survey of part of the estate implies that the property extended westward at least to what is now known as Collington Street. Patterson purchased the estate as an investment for his heirs with money made as a shipping merchant and from arms sales for the American Revolution. He never resided here or developed the site.

At the time of purchase, all of the property within the present-day park had already been surveyed (at least on paper) and was laid out under the direction of the "Commissioners of Baltimore Town." The street pattern established is similar to the pattern of rowhouse squares which can be seen today surrounding the park. The six acres donated by Patterson thirty-five years later corresponded to two city blocks laid out by survey and were delineated by Patterson Park Avenue (formerly Gist Street), and the extension of Lombard Street, Pratt Street, and Milton Avenue. With this layout, Patterson Park could easily have been consigned to strict development, with rows of brick houses complete with marble steps.

Patterson's original purchase included a high knoll with views of the harbor, which to this day is one of the park's greatest assets. This unique land characteristic also resulted in the park's involvement in several significant activities during the war of 1812. The citizens of Baltimore built Rodgers' Bastion, part of a

system of fortifications called Hampstead Hill, on this site to protect them from British invasion. The battery was a significant deterrent during the Battle of North Point. During the bombardment of Fort McHenry, the British had planned to conduct an overland campaign around the northwest branch of the harbor, but the venture was deterred by the fortifications at Hampstead Hill. Though, unlike Fort McHenry, Patterson Park has not captured the attention of the touring public, it played a critical role in safeguarding Baltimore at that fateful time. A relic of the original outline of the earthen battery and its curtain walls can still be seen today at the base of the Pagoda.

#### **THE PUBLIC WALK AS PART OF BALTIMORE'S OPEN SPACE TRADITION**

Patterson's six acre gift is also notable for being one of the earliest examples in Baltimore, and perhaps in the country, of what are now known as public parks. When offered to the city in 1827, no precedent had been established for setting aside public lands for purely recreational purposes. Going for a stroll for fresh air, socializing, or exercise was limited to city streets or private property. The term "park" at that time was associated most closely with the hunting preserves of nobility in Europe; and so Patterson himself called his gift to the city a "Public Walk."

Lampl Associates asserts that, "despite its lack of recognition, Patterson's 1827 Walk may, in fact represent one of the earliest

'public parks' in this country" (Lampl Associates, *NRHP Report*).

Baltimore's entrepreneurial spirit also created an impetus toward providing open space for the public before the widespread adoption of the public park concept. In the early nineteenth century, for example, private developers created squares which were sold or donated to the City as speculative ventures in order to increase the value of surrounding properties. Contemporary parks, such as Franklin Square (c. 1839) and Union Square (c. 1847), owe their beginnings to this innovation; and there is some speculation that Patterson's donation may have had a similar intent, though it preceded these squares by more than a decade. Like the later squares, the Public Walk fitted into the proposed urban grid system. It is important to note that Patterson also specified in the deed that a strip of land 100 feet wide be maintained, including street frontages to provide for a promenade on each of the four sides of the donated land.

Although there are no images of the earliest days of the Public Walk, written records indicate that after Patterson's donation, there were no major improvements to the site for several years. By the time of his death in 1835, however, Patterson had seen to it that over 200 trees were planted in straight rows on the six acres. In 1850, a wooden fence was erected around the park and references to the area henceforth alternated between "Patterson's Park" and "Patterson Park." Three years later, the park was formally

presented to the public in a ceremony attended by 20,000 citizens. The site included trees and benches, and the surrounding streets on all four sides were graded and paved. The earliest image available of this section of the park is dated 1864 (*Figure 2*) and Rodgers' Bastion is the only feature from this time in the park's history which is still recognizable today.

### THE PARK BEGINS TO GROW

The significance of Patterson's Public Walk as it relates to the Park today is that it served to inspire future expansions. By 1860, Baltimore was caught up in the American Park Movement, which inspired the beginning of the park's period of incremental growth. The nation-wide movement was the result of the contemporary European concept of developing public parks in the style of the private "picturesque garden" landscapes and "pastoral" hunting parks of eighteenth century England and France. Concentrated mainly in urban areas, the American Park Movement sought to provide city dwellers with large parks. The first of the private hunting style parks opened to the public in the United States, Central Park in New York City, was designed by Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux in 1858 and strongly influenced the development of similar parks in other cities.

By the mid-nineteenth century, there were a number of advocates for green space in Baltimore City. At the same time, there was also intense competition for a private

enterprise to be awarded a horse-drawn railway franchise. Linking these two requirements, John HB Latrobe and Mayor Swann proposed a city ordinance which mandated that the company awarded the railway franchise contribute one-fifth of its income to the purchase and maintenance of public open space in the city. This ordinance funded both the expansion of Patterson Park and the purchase of Druid Hill Park.

In 1860, the Baltimore City Park Commission, headed by Latrobe, was formed to locate and purchase a large area of land to create a park for the city of Baltimore. The Commission purchased the Lloyd Nicholas Rogers estate, called Druid Hill. The citizens of East Baltimore were angered that Baltimore's great park was to be located north of the city and they lobbied for the expansion of Patterson Park. In response, the Commission purchased another 29 acres from William Patterson's heirs. The boundaries of the park now became Baltimore Street, Gough Street, Patterson Park Avenue and Luzerne Street.

### THE CIVIL WAR ERA AND THE 1860S PARK

The Civil War slowed progress on the new park as Union soldiers established an encampment on site. This was a difficult period for Baltimore, and the Union occupation was instituted to prevent insurrection by Confederate sympathizers. Once again, Hampstead Hill was a logical place for military activities, and Rodgers' Bastion—with its dramatic views of the

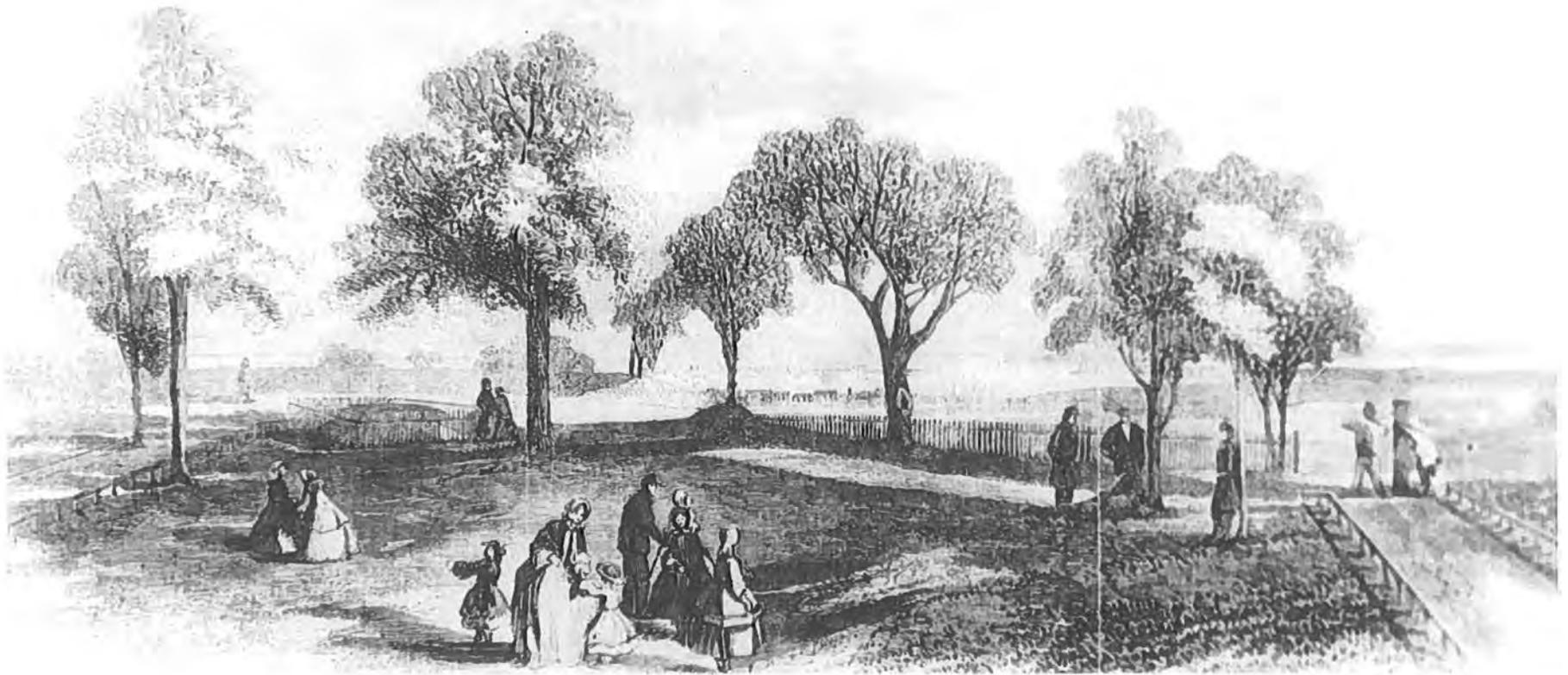
harbor—was considered by the soldiers to be one of the site's greatest assets. Four regiments occupied the site at different times from 1861 to 1863; and from 1863 to 1865, it served as the USA General Hospital at Patterson Park.

Amazingly, some park improvements occurred in the midst of the occupation, including the development of "The Drive," the main serpentine carriage route through the park.

After the end of the Union occupation, improvements continued to the 35 acre park. Drainage improvements were made throughout the site and a lake (smaller in size than the present-day lake) was created inadvertently due to grading operations that exposed shallow groundwater on the site. This feature proved very popular, particularly for ice skating. Several structures were also constructed, some of which still exist today.

A number of the significant structures in Patterson Park were designed by George Aloysius Frederick. Frederick, whose greatest known work is Baltimore's City Hall, was hired by the Park Commission and designed many of the nineteenth century structures in Druid Hill Park as well as Patterson Park. He probably designed the marble fountain (the first architectural element in the park), which still stands today; and, shortly thereafter, the Gate House (referred to by the present-day community as "The White House"). During this same

A MASTER PLAN FOR PATTERSON PARK IN BALTIMORE, MARYLAND



VIEW OF PATTERSON PARK FACING EAST SHOWING RODGERS' BASTION AT CENTER LEFT  
SOURCE: LESLIE'S ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY, 1861

figure 2

period, Frederick designed the Lombard Street pillars and accompanying iron gates, completing the formal entry to the park and the core of the present Nineteenth Century Park.

### THE COUNTRY PARK

In 1873, the park was expanded to 56 acres in order to create a grander park which would retain the vistas of the site. This property was acquired again through acquisition from Patterson's heirs, this time as a result of condemnation. The earliest map of Patterson Park (*Figure 3*) was surveyed and drawn in 1876 by Augustus Faul, Engineer and General Superintendent of Parks.

The 1876 park plan shows that the basic framework for the western side of the present-day park was already in place at this time. Developed in the fashionable tradition of Country Parks, it features a curvilinear carriageway with interconnecting pedestrian pathways, a skating pond, (now called the Boat Lake) and a formal "mall." When built, the Mall, a copy of a feature from Central Park, included large, decorative urns containing floral displays as special focal elements. The high point at the "Battery of 1814" was adorned with a small frame concession building featuring gingerbread eaves. As the park grew over the next century, this western side would retain its own integrity, existing functionally and aesthetically as a distinct area even as the park expanded eastward.

Two important features of the 1870s park no longer exist: the Conservatory and the Taurus Fountain. The Conservatory, an exquisite and fanciful Victorian glass pavilion with a wooden frame, was the first of its kind in Baltimore's parks. It was kept well-stocked with tropical plants favored at the time by the park's horticulturist. Over the next 100 years, the high-maintenance facility would be rebuilt several times. Finally, in 1984, the final version of the Conservatory, an iron structure in poor condition, was removed.

The Taurus Fountain was developed from a natural spring at Patterson Park in the tradition of springs in England. Before its development as a park feature, the spring had long been a popular source for drinking water as well as a gathering place. Located at the northern terminus of the Mall, the spring was impounded in a decorative marble structure with a bull's head, whose nostrils spouted water into a marble basin. The structure was covered by an exotic shelter. The spring ultimately was retired and the marble bull's head was eventually relocated to a stone wall surrounding the oval walkway northeast of the Pagoda.

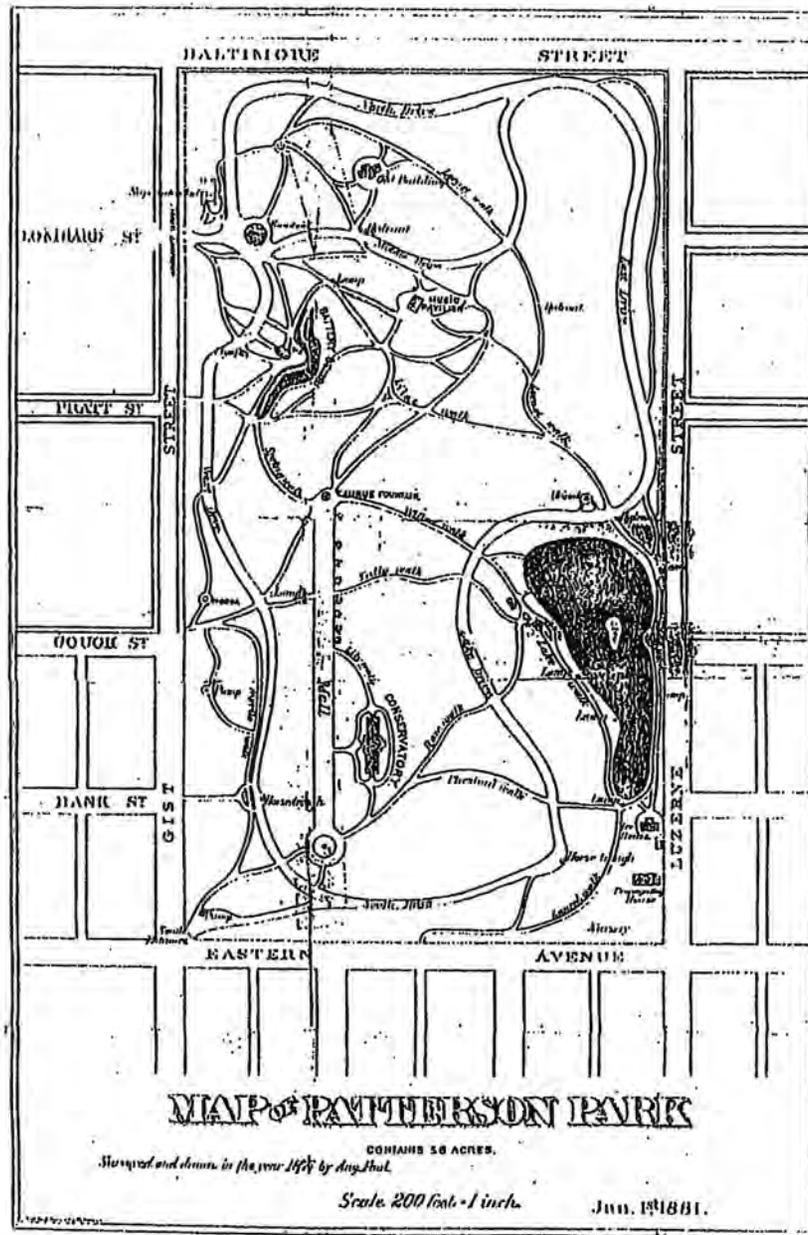
The Park Commission acquired an additional 58 acres (again through condemnation from William Patterson's heirs) in 1882, doubling the size of the park to 114 acres. This newly acquired land to the east was characterized as "a wide, unsightly and marshy ravine" where Harris Creek and Harford Run converged, flowing through the property.

The City developed plans to build an extensive sewer for Harford Run which would begin upstream from Patterson Park and continue to the Harbor. The Parks Commission successfully lobbied to have the first section of the sewer built in Patterson Park. By 1894, the sewer extended from North Avenue to the Harbor and to this day, the massive brick tunnel, seventeen feet wide by nine feet tall, lies below Patterson Park, and extends through the park parallel to Lakewood Avenue.

After the death of Augustus Faul in 1884, Charles H. Latrobe assumed the position of "General Superintendent and Engineer for Public Parks." His map (*Figure 4*), c. 1899, showcases the influences of the Country Park era on Patterson Park and reflects the sixteen years of park development which followed under his direction. By the turn of the century, the stream valley and marshlands of Harford Run and Harris Creek were reclaimed to form the park's second lake. This water body was encircled by a series of terraces and circumnavigated by a carriageway with adjoining pedestrian pathways.

In addition to the considerable grading and drainage improvements that occurred at the eastern side of the park, Charles Latrobe designed and implemented several important architectural additions to the western park during the 1890s. The Observatory (Pagoda), two storm shelters, and the Casino all contribute considerably to the character of the park to this day. These structures were

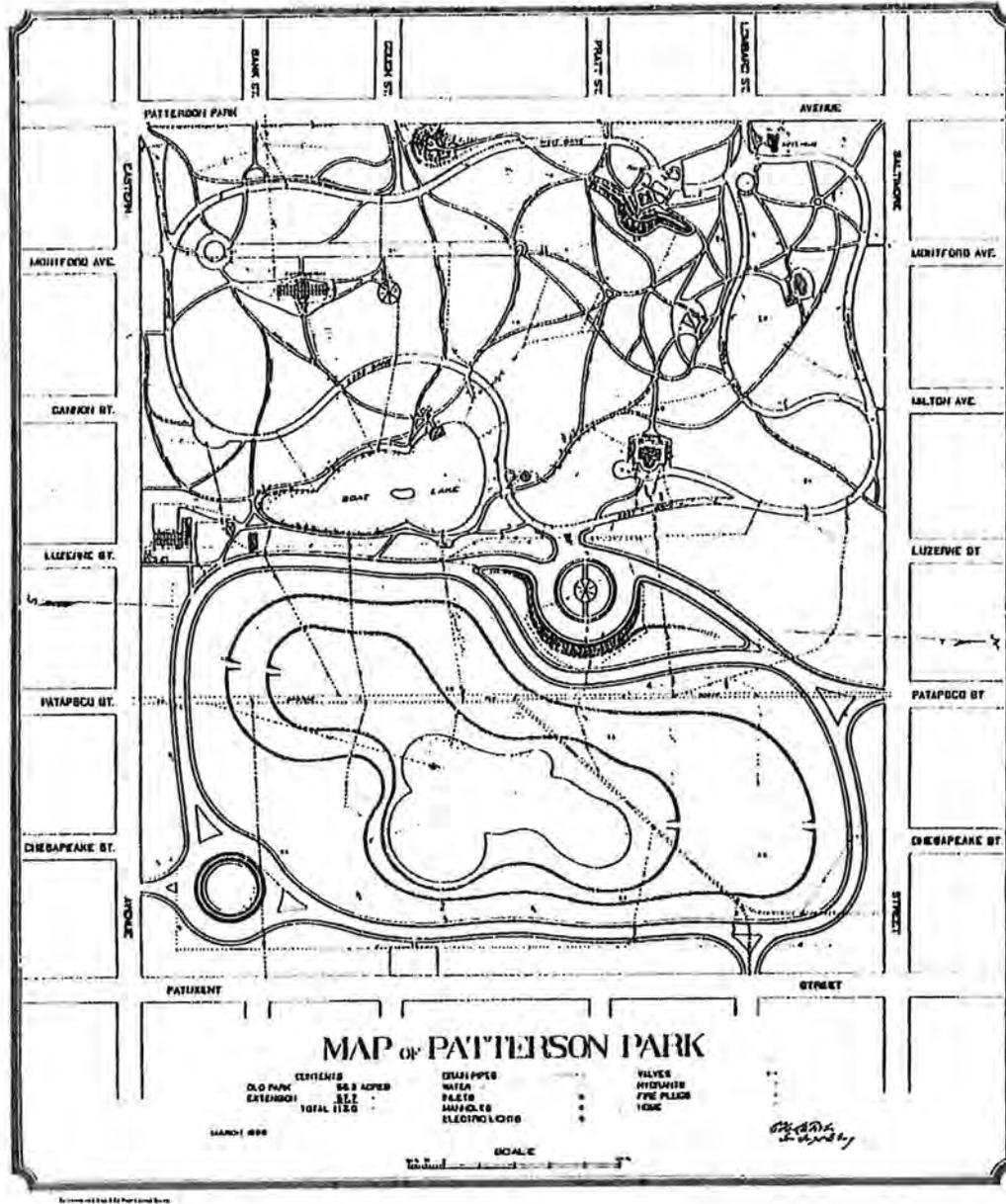
A MASTER PLAN FOR PATTERSON PARK IN BALTIMORE, MARYLAND



1881 MAP OF PATTERSON PARK

figure 3

A MASTER PLAN FOR PATTERSON PARK IN BALTIMORE, MARYLAND



placed strategically in the landscape to complement the views and vistas in the grand ornamental tradition of the Country Park.

Lampl Associates describes the character of the park at this time:

*By the turn of the century...Patterson Park had developed into a sizable pleasure ground for urban dwellers. 'Rural scenery' was abundant in the tremendous variety of flora within. 'Passive' recreation was available in the form of boating, skating, strolling, or driving by carriage. Picturesque follies [i.e., traditional architectural landscape ornament of the day], such as the Observatory and the Bastion, allowed people to be transported to another place or another time. Settees provided for relaxation and concerts, enlightenment, all within a pleasing, natural setting (Lampl Associates, NRHP Report).*

While the park provided significant and pleasurable open space for southeast Baltimore, the acreage was considerably smaller than the convention established for the rural parks of the period. Now 114 acres, the park was less than one-fifth the size of Druid Hill or New York's Central Park or Prospect Park, for example. This factor was noted by Olmsted Brothers, renowned landscape architects from Brookline, Massachusetts, prompting them to recommend expansion in their report *Development of Public Grounds, Greater Baltimore* (1904). While park expansion

would continue in the twentieth century, the size never reached the extent of their recommendations, nor the wishes of many civic leaders of Baltimore. Olmsted Brothers had envisioned the park extending to Highland Avenue to the east, and south to Fait street at the eastern side of the park (development had already occurred on the southwest boundary). However, attitudes were changing about the relative value of pastoral open space versus active recreation facilities as the country and Baltimore were on the brink of the Recreation Movement. The Park Commission was faced with balancing these two priorities as they invested in Baltimore City's parks system.

### THE AMERICAN RECREATION MOVEMENT

At the turn of the century, Baltimore, like other American cities, developed a new attitude toward parks and recreation. At this time, play and sports (versus simple enjoyment of pastoral open space) were promoted as a means to physical, mental, moral, and social health. With this shift came intense pressure on the parks system to provide active recreation facilities. These facilities had very different site requirements from the pastoral landscapes of the nineteenth century, specifically the introduction of flat open areas, the absence of trees, and fencing. As William Norris stated in 1927, "And so it was that Forestation gave way to Recreation." According to Lampl Associates,

*It was not long after Latrobe's plan was finally implemented, however, that it was effectively undone as a romantic composition. Three years after completion of the lake, and two years after the start of tree planting in the northern esplanade and surrounding the lake, the first of several 'intrusions' occurred...in an unnamed section of the Extension, a baseball grounds was laid off. Five years later...an entire athletic field was laid out in what would have been a substantially planted esplanade. The field contained ¼ mile cinder track encircling a baseball and football field. The first athletic dressing house, a small temporary structure, was placed upon the grounds near the fields. In 1902, the Municipal Games were held in the athletic field and over 15,000 persons attended. In 1903, the children's playground was moved from its Storm Shelter location to [a location near present day Linwood Avenue] in order to consolidate recreational activities in the area.*

*Figure 5 illustrates the dawn of the recreation era in Patterson Park. The plan is an inventory of on site conditions in 1915 as drawn by Olmsted Brothers. Only part of the conditions shown reflect landscape architectural design work by Olmsted Brothers.*

Between 1905 and 1915, Olmsted Brothers provided consulting services for the development of the eastern side of the park. The final addition to the park, east of

A MASTER PLAN FOR PATTERSON PARK IN BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

PLAN OF  
PATTERSON PARK

BALTIMORE, MD.

SCALE 1/8" = 1'

DEDUCED FROM ORIGINAL TOPOGRAPHICAL SHEETS

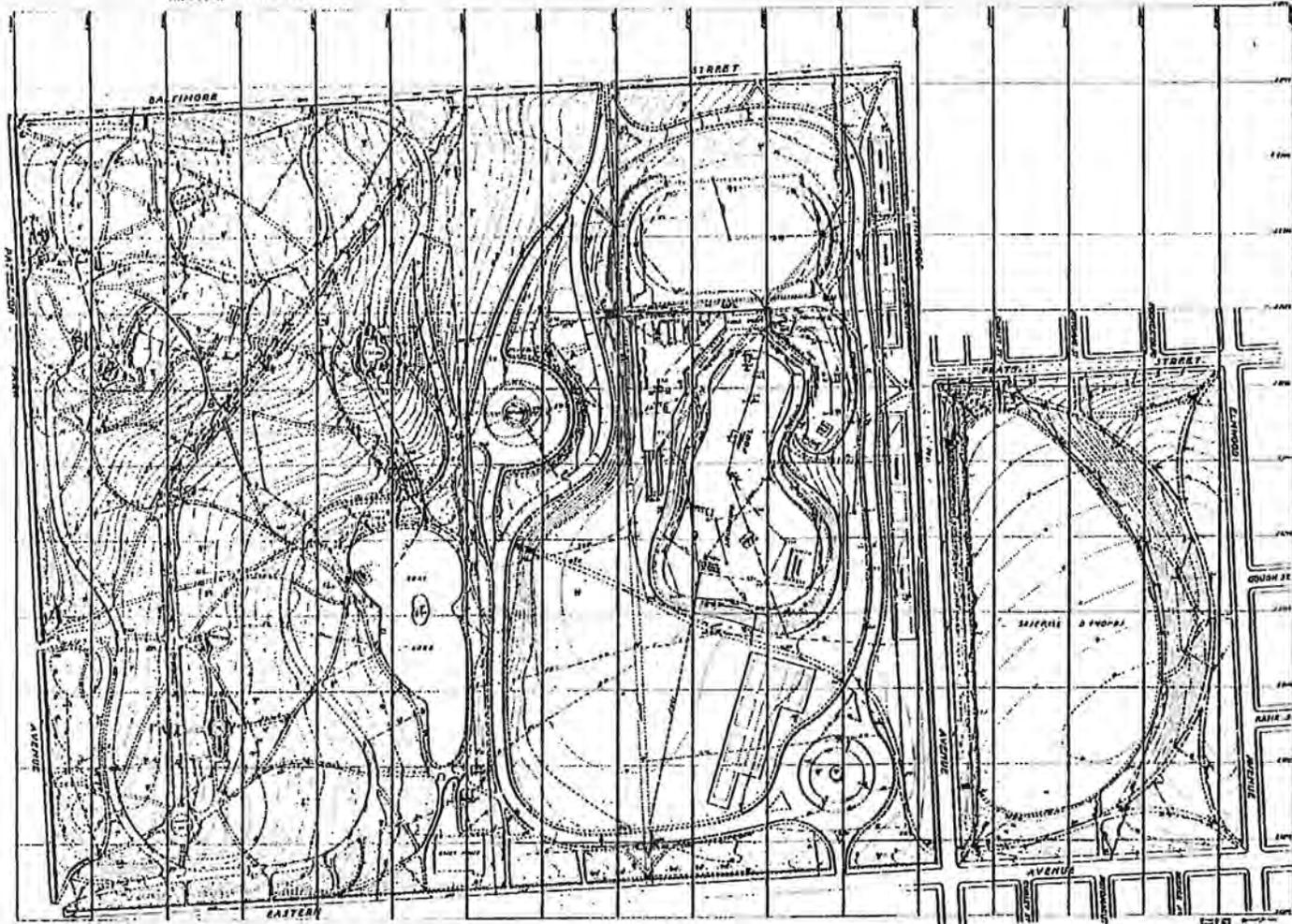
PREPARED BY J. KIRBY CROSS, CIVIL ENGINEER

OLMSTED BROTHERS, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

ACCORDING TO THE PLAN OF 1915

FILE NO. 1011-PARK-10-15

DESCRIPTION	NO.
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WATER COURSE	200



1915 PLAN OF PATTERSON PARK PREPARED BY OLNSTED BROTHERS

figure 5

Linwood Avenue, was purchased in 1908; and improvements, including grading and walkways similar to those existing today, were designed by Olmsted Brothers. Other plans by the firm that were only partially implemented were designed to integrate active recreation facilities. These included the design of a field house that is still standing, a graded swimming beach on the north side of the lake, bath house facilities, and a playground. Olmsted Brothers succeeded in providing an elegant design by which the Tudor Revival brick field house serviced the ball fields and established a north south axis between the fields and the lake. On the southern side of the field house were wings which extended at a 45 degree angle that enveloped the beach, and provided bath house facilities. Their design also included a baseball field and running track, open air gymnasium, and a little children's lawn.

Although Olmsted Brothers may have preferred to treat parks primarily as rural landscapes in the nineteenth century, Lampl Associates notes,

*the Olmsteds recognized the role of active recreation in urban environments, and were responsive to the Commission's priorities to make Patterson Park a pioneer in the active recreation movement (Lampl Associates, NRHP Report).*

The Olmsted design for the east side of the park reflects the firm's mixed approach to design. As Lampl Associates states,

*Today, the 1882-1883 portion of the park displays little from Latrobe's plan, but much of the Olmsted Brothers' work. The landscape does not indicate, however, the desires of the Olmsted Brothers that were never implemented. These include the screening around different park areas to shelter features 'from views from other parts of the park and to increase the effectiveness of the appearance of several features.' Nor does it indicate thick plantings that were supposed to surround the bath house wings of the field house. Finally, and to the frustration of the firm, a coherent path system to link athletic facilities was never implemented either (Lampl Associates, NRHP Report).*

Patterson Park was recognized at this time for its extensive recreation facilities which drew huge crowds of users and spectators. By 1925, Baltimore City's athletic facilities outnumbered those of any other city, and many were located in Patterson Park.

At the same time that such a high level of attention was being paid to athletic recreation facilities, Patterson Park received its last element of striking architecture. In 1924, the Music Pavilion (Figure 6) was installed near Baltimore Street and Luzerne Avenue (presently the site of Virginia Baker Recreation Center). It is still fondly remembered by many members of the community. The wood, plaster, and steel structure was a circular pavilion with an elevated stage and many glass windows. Popular dances and concerts broadcast by the

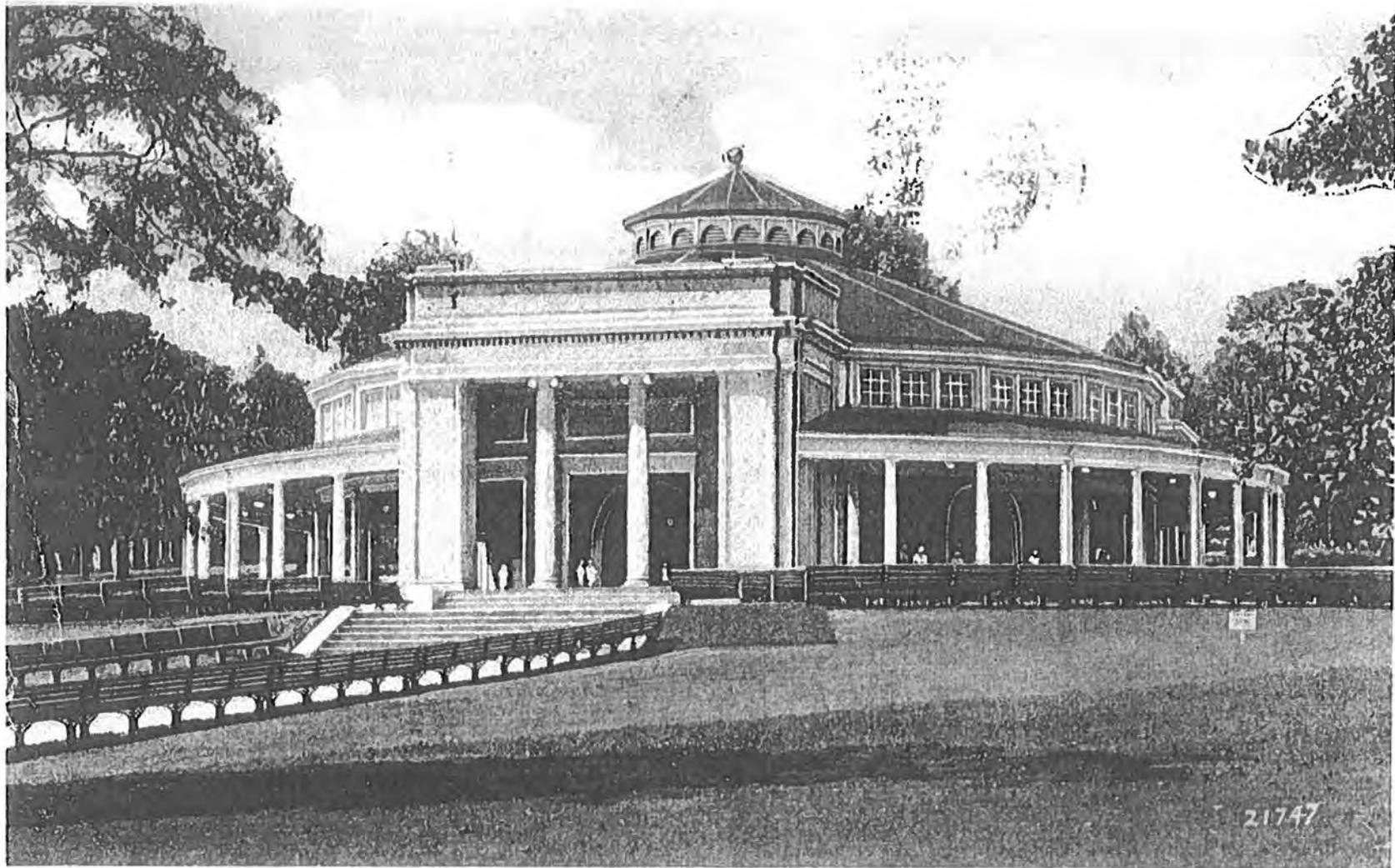
local Baltimore radio station WBAL occurred here regularly until it burned down in 1972 and was never replaced.

The memorable Pavilion replaced the function of the original music stage that was located northeast of the Pagoda, where an oval walkway currently exists. When the original structure was removed, an oval shaped kiddie pool surrounded by a roller rink was established. The footprint of this facility has been reinterpreted as an oval walkway and seating area.

## THE MODERN ERA

Athletic facilities continued to be the major focus of improvements for the remainder of the park's history. Four events had a vital impact on the present day park. First, in 1940, policy was established to eliminate all vehicular traffic from the park. Then, in the 1950s, the lake was drained, filled and replaced with an Olympic-sized pool in the same configuration as the present day pool. Filling the lake made available additional lands for the development of athletic facilities. At this time, Patterson Park was in full use as an urban playground, and the Bureau of Recreation presided over a full program of activities. The park included 15 baseball and softball fields and 17 tennis courts (Figure 7).

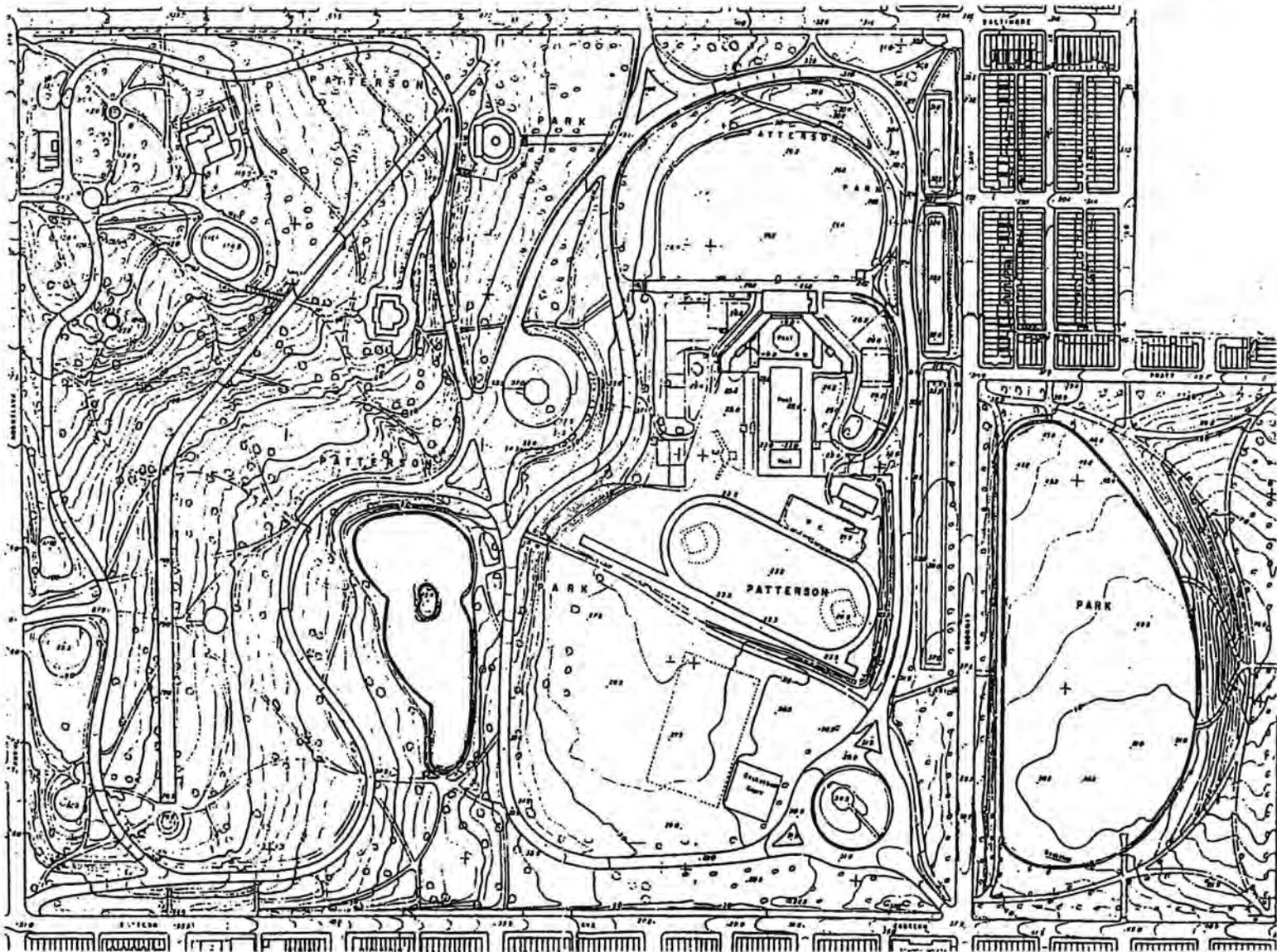
Just as social conflict marked the 1960s and 1970s nationwide, Patterson Park entered into a problematic era. In the 1970s, large scale vandalism and arson devastated the



1928 VIEW OF THE MUSIC PAVILION

figure 6

A MASTER PLAN FOR PATTERSON PARK IN BALTIMORE, MARYLAND



CIRCA 1960 MAP OF PATTERSON PARK

figure 7

park. Sadly, according to Charles Walker, the perpetrators of this extensive property damage were young vandals and arsonists from the park's immediate neighborhoods.

Yet even as these unfortunate events occurred, significant investments were being made. For example, the same month that Utz Twardowicz Field was dedicated, a five alarm fire damaged the brick field house and destroyed the adjoining bath house buildings. In response, the present concrete bath house was built. In 1972, arsonists set fire to the cherished Music Pavilion, which was never replaced. Shortly thereafter, the Virginia Baker Recreation Center was constructed at the same site. The final major act of arson burned the interior of the stone Casino, which would have been demolished without the efforts of neighborhood activists. In the early 1980s, the Casino was renovated, retaining the integrity of the stone walls, but significantly changing the character of the windows, railings, and interior.

The final major expenditure of funds occurred in the park in the 1980s under the Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery Act. Under this federal grant program, a new playground was provided and improvements were made to the basic infrastructure of the park. At this time, the children's wading pool at the western end of the park was converted to the oval bed presently northeast of the Pagoda.

## LOOKING FORWARD

The recent collapse of the skating pavilion roof, loss of tree canopy, and deterioration of pavings and infrastructure demonstrate the need to ensure that Patterson Park is regarded as one of Baltimore's important public resources. In accordance with the Baltimore Department of Recreation and Parks' *Strategic Plan for Action*, the comprehensive plan developed for Patterson Park in this study marks a concerted effort by the Department to base a plan not only on a thorough understanding of the park's cultural, historic, and natural resources, but on a consensus of park users and community groups as well.

Patterson Park's unique history of development has resulted in a successful blending of the Country Park with twentieth century athletic facilities. Some of the qualities which contribute to the beauty and function of the park today are a direct result of the incremental development of the past. While designers would typically caution against such a piece-meal approach to park development, the fact that the western park developed its own integrity before the purchase of the eastern park has allowed for a unique marriage of activities. Today, people of southeast Baltimore and the region can enjoy both the vistas and relaxed pace of the Country Park to the west as well as the athletic activities of the eastern park in a uniquely beautiful setting. The park's rich history provides a strong, unifying structure for future development to accommodate the

needs of citizens into the twenty-first century, while preserving and restoring one of Baltimore's significant historic and cultural resources.

## Chapter 3: Existing Conditions

### *A discussion of the park's current condition*

#### **GEOLOGY**

The character, physical features, and development history of Patterson Park are strongly influenced by the geology of the site. Part of the Coastal Plain Physiographic Region, the underlying rock was formed from the deposits of a historic floodplain and swamp that existed in a previous geologic era when the site was completely under water. The entire site is part of the Arundel Geologic Formation and most of the park is part of the clay facies which are predominantly clay deposits. However, the high point, historically known as Hampstead Hill, then Roger's Bastion, and currently the site of the Pagoda, is underlain by a sand facies. This structure has played a major role in the park's history and evolution.

The sand facies can be envisioned as a knoll of sand deposits that overlies the clay facies. This sand formation was likely deposited as the result of a major flood that transported the sand from uplands and deposited it in the swamp area. (The same type of sand formation is located beneath Highlandtown, another high point in the region.) These sand deposits and resulting soils are more resistant

to erosion than the surrounding clay. Thus, the people of southeast Baltimore are graced with a compelling high point at the Pagoda, with a view that has attracted people to the site since at least the eighteenth century. The popularity of this high point in the early nineteenth century may indeed have spurred William Patterson to consider donating his first six acres to the City of Baltimore.

#### **SOILS**

The soils of Patterson Park reflect the park's geological characteristics. The highest elevations of the park in the northwest quadrant are delineated approximately by a line at the intersection of Patterson Park Avenue and Bank Street to the north terminus of the Mall, following the broad diagonal pathway to the entry at Luzerne Ave. These soils are underlain by the sand facies of the Arundel formation and as a result have a fine sandy loam texture and are well drained. Immediately to the southeast is a strip of land that crosses the park and includes the Mall, the Boat Lake, the Casino, and the Virginia Baker Recreation Center; extending to the Lakewood Avenue entrance. These poorly drained soils have a loamy

texture at the surface with clay one foot below the surface. The eastern section of the main park that extends to Linwood Avenue (previously a stream valley and marsh) consists entirely of fill land placed in the nineteenth century that contains ash, debris, and soil. Recently, engineers hired to assist in designing a new structure for the Mimi DiPietro Ice Rink determined that the soils in this area are not well-suited to bearing the load of a large building. The park annex to the east of Linwood Avenue is a former clay pit.

#### **HYDROLOGY**

The geology, soils, and development history of Patterson Park have resulted in a complex hydrology in the park. Historical records of the central portion of the park (i.e., between the Pagoda and the Boat Lake and including the Casino area) indicate that there has always been an active flow of water beneath the surface soils in this area overlying a perched water table (a condition where water falling on the ground infiltrates until reaching a clay layer where it collects and flows beneath the surface. Where the clay layer intersects the surface, water will flow out

creating a spring.) During the park's development in the nineteenth century, extensive grading was performed in this area, filling in ravines and providing subsurface drainage with oyster shells and clay pipes. The Taurus Fountain, once located at the northern terminus of the Mall, was created from a prolific spring on site which pre-dates the park. The Boat Lake, which was inadvertently created in the nineteenth century during a grading operation, is still fed by perched groundwater flows through every season of the year.

At the surface, the park east of Luzerne Street does not provide many clues about its hydrologic history. Formerly the valley of a navigable stream, the stream was placed in a culvert in the late 1800s and the area filled with ash, debris, and soil. The seventeen-foot-wide brick tunnel is still in place beneath the park, and in the 1970s a major public works project augmented this channel with an additional sixteen-foot-wide culvert called the Lakewood Avenue Storm Drain. For fifty years beginning at the turn of the century, a lake was located here; and today, the former stream valley is no longer discernable.

### TOPOGRAPHY

The topography of Patterson Park may be its single most character-defining feature. The highest elevations are located at the Lombard Street gateway and the Pagoda; and here, one experiences a sweeping view of the park with the harbor at a distance, accompanied by a gentle breeze. The western side of the park

gently slopes to the southeast, providing a picturesque setting for pathways, carriageways and the Lake. One hundred feet below the elevation of the Pagoda are the playing fields in the eastern park. Formerly a stream valley, the eastern park is now relatively flat and well suited to the existing playing fields. The bowl of the eastern annex, a former clay pit, is located fifteen feet above Linwood Avenue and is elegantly enclosed by the slopes rising to Ellwood Avenue. Standing atop this slope looking westward, one is treated to a sweeping view of the park.

### VEGETATION

Trees have always been an important element in Patterson Park. The earliest record of tree planting dates back to 1835, when William Patterson planted 200 trees on his six acres of donated land. Had he been able to see his wishes carried out, the Public Walk would have been densely canopied with 33 trees per acre or one tree every 13 feet (excluding possible tree deaths). Since that time, the density of trees in the park has steadily declined.

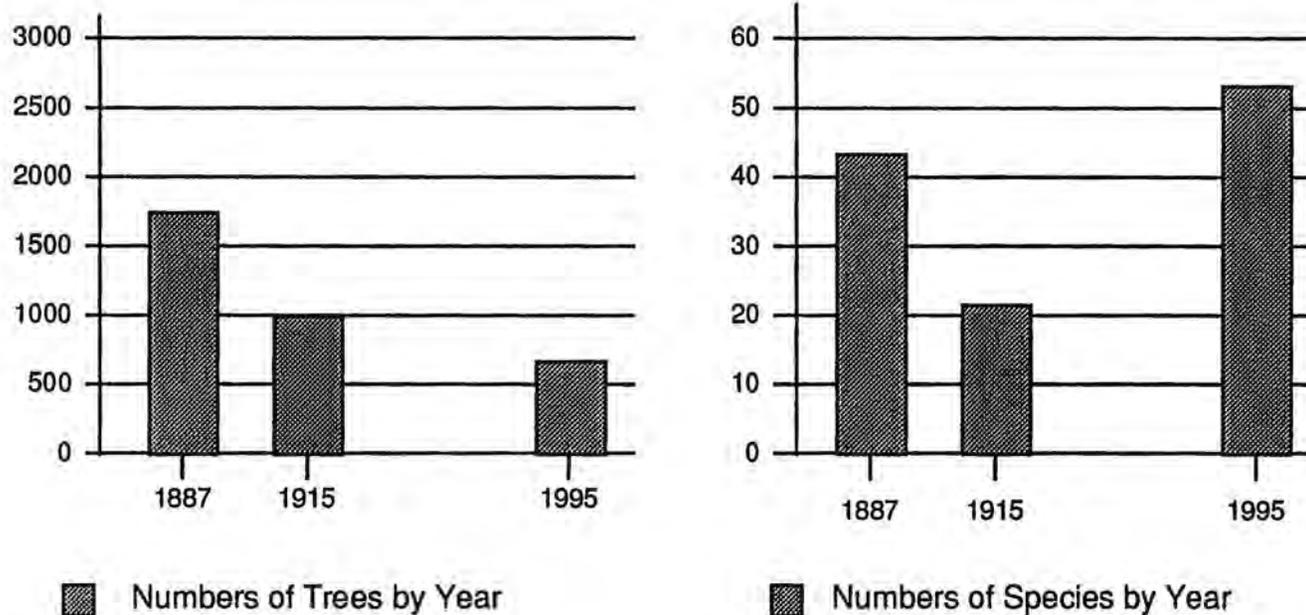
A historic trend of the numbers and species of trees in the park was developed for the master plan (*Figure 8*). Three data sources were used to establish trends: (1) an inventory conducted in 1887 and reported in the annual Parks Commission report; (2) a map of the park dated 1915 which documented tree locations and species; and (3) a survey performed in 1995 as part of the

current master plan. Since the park was only six acres in 1835, the major trends were established beginning in 1887 when the park was 144 acres (i.e. west of Linwood Avenue only). Presently, the park west of Linwood Avenue has 808 trees, half the number that were in the park in 1887, and three quarters of the number found there in 1915.

The species composition of the trees within the park has changed considerably since the nineteenth century, not only in the diversity (i.e. numbers of different species present) but also in the composition of the tree species. In 1887, the most predominant species were an assortment of maples: silver, Norway, red, and box elder. The second most prominent trees were lindens, both European and American. In 1915, the dominant species continued to be maples, and lindens increased in prominence. The maple species in the 1915 inventory were unspecified, though it is known that sugar maples were planted between 1887 and 1915, adding to the number of maple species on the site. Species diversity declined by more than half during this period from 45 species to 21.

Since 1915, species diversity has increased by nearly three times to 59 species. Lindens are now dominant, representing nearly one out of three trees in the park and Oaks are much more prominent at a density of one out of every six trees. Maples, on the other hand, have declined from a previous dominance of one out of three trees to now only one out of ten. Of the maples, the box elder has disappeared; the silver, Norway, and sugar

A MASTER PLAN FOR PATTERSON PARK IN BALTIMORE, MARYLAND



THE TREES OF PATTERSON PARK WEST OF LINWOOD AVENUE, 1887-1995

figure 8

maples have declined dramatically in numbers; but the red maples have increased. Appendix 6 includes the numbers and species of trees in the three years analyzed. Though Lindens and Oaks are the dominant trees of the park, Patterson Park has a remarkable and eclectic assortment of species including some rather uncommon trees. The largest Amur Cork and the largest Weeping Mulberry in the city reside here.

The spatial distribution of trees in 1915 can be seen in a 1996 topographic survey (Figure 9). The park at this time was characterized by groves of trees delineating a sequence of small open spaces. Most of the trees were located in the western half of the park and the eastern side was left open for the space requirements of recreational fields and courts. Currently, the tree density is so sparse that the definition of spaces is less apparent (Figure 10).

Shrubs were utilized throughout Patterson Park during various periods in history. Extant plans by the Olmsted firm also show large masses of shrubs that are proposed to create the amenity of dense vegetation and to buffer the interior of the park from the bustle of the city outside its perimeter. Although today most shrubs have been removed due to concerns about visibility, park security, and limited maintenance availability, modest shrub plantings remain near the foundation and in beds at the Superintendent's House; near the Casino and at its foundations; adjacent to the Virginia Baker Recreation Center; at the Linwood Avenue/Baltimore

Avenue Gate; and around the base of the Pagoda.

The dominant ground cover in Patterson Park is grass lawn, appropriately mown to a height suitable for easy pedestrian access throughout the park. Drawings, photographs, and postcards of the park show that this groundcover condition was typical in Patterson Park (Figure 11). Although several areas exist at seeps and broken drainage facilities where the grass is in poor condition, and there are noticeable eroded areas around the Boat Lake, the ball fields, and adjacent to deteriorated pavement; most of the lawn is in reasonably good condition and provides the visitor with rolling green vistas typical of the Country Park.

Flower beds exist today in a few places, such as around the Superintendent's house, where they are maintained by members of the neighborhood community, and within the community gardens. Daffodil displays surround the edges of the park. The level of maintenance, however, is not adequate for displays in a public park, and the beds often appear somewhat disheveled. Floral displays existed during the early twentieth century in limited beds near the Pagoda. In addition, large urns with lavish floral displays were a key decorative feature of the Mall and flowers were displayed extensively near the former Conservatory. Although these displays were frequently shown in historic postcards and photographs of the park, the landscape was generally broad and open in

design, with a green, pastoral effect of lawn and trees predominating (Figure 8).

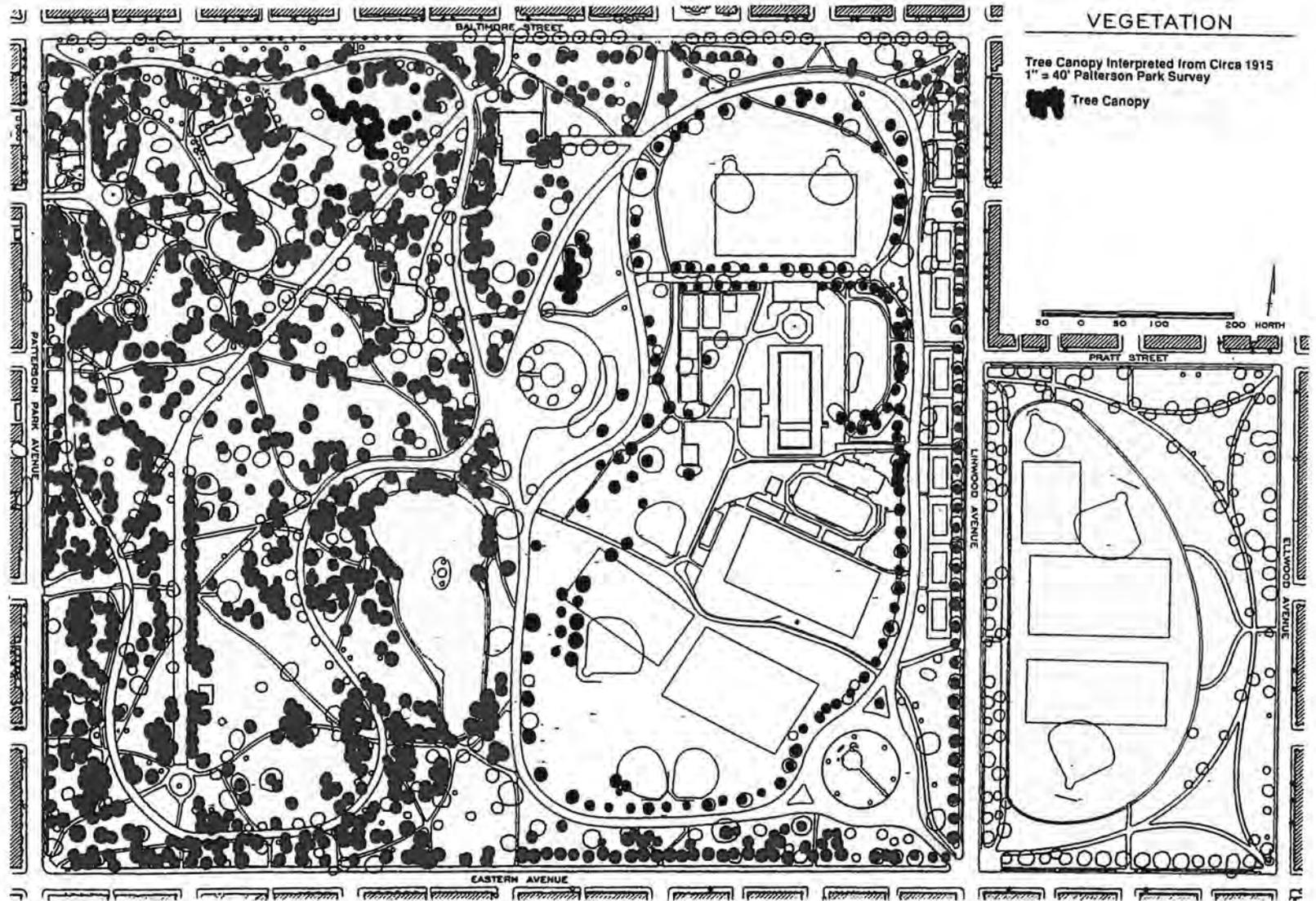
## BIRD HABITAT

For birds, Patterson Park is an oasis in the middle of some of the densest residential development in Baltimore. While less than 20 different bird species are usually found in this part of the city, local residents have observed 47 species of birds in the park, and one quarter of them breed there.

The two predominant habitats of these birds are the mowed landscape with scattered trees (rarely forming a closed canopy), and the pond/emergent wetland complex. The lawn and trees attract many of the common "edge" species usually found in urban and suburban areas (so-called because these species also tend to be present in forest edges); however, the pond/wetland environment, rarely found in urban areas, provides a habitat for some water birds that are uncommon in the greater Baltimore area. For this reason, the number of different species that have been observed in the park is greater than the number of different species found in three-quarters of the city.

Most of the water birds observed in the park pass through and do not breed in the pond; however, three species breed there annually. The red-wing black-bird enjoys breeding in the cattails and its song is audible by the pond's edge; the mallards are prolific, and park visitors seem to enjoy watching them; but the most treasured members of the park

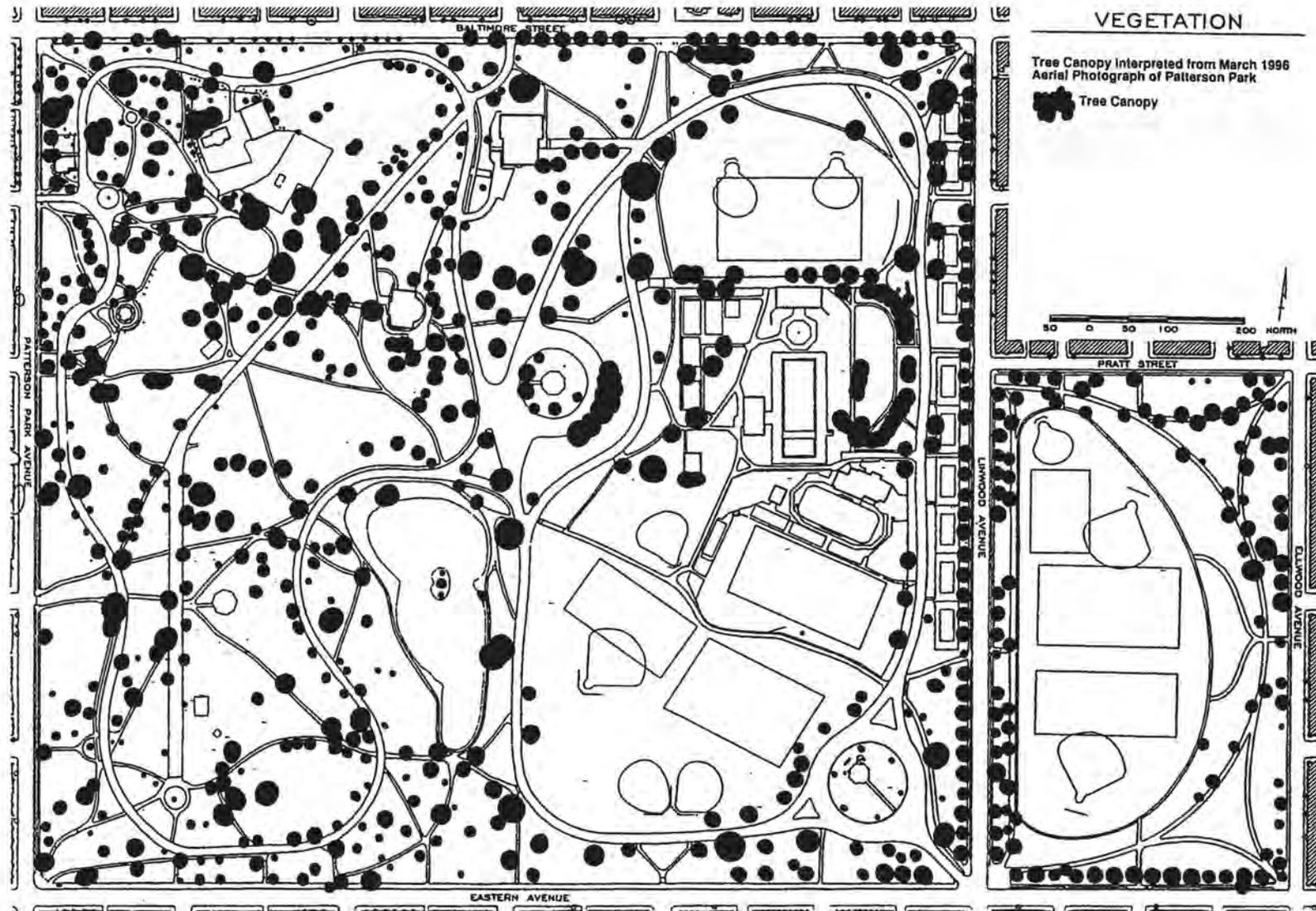
A MASTER PLAN FOR PATTERSON PARK IN BALTIMORE, MARYLAND



CIRCA 1915 TREE CANOPY

figure 9

A MASTER PLAN FOR PATTERSON PARK IN BALTIMORE, MARYLAND



1996 TREE CANOPY

figure 10



TAURUS FOUNTAIN AT NORTHERN TERMINUS OF MALL  
SOURCE: ART WORK OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND, 1899

community may be the elegant wood ducks who breed in cavities in the park trees each year and raise their families in the park.

While the cattail habitat provides cover for water birds, their food value is limited. A diverse community of wetland vegetation may be more beneficial to a greater number of water birds.

Of all of the birds in the park, songbirds have the greatest population. These species would benefit from a more highly structured layering of vegetation. In addition, the birds do not have access to the water because of the configuration of the edge. Enhancing the songbirds' access to the water would greatly enhance their habitat.

### **ACCESS AND CIRCULATION**

Much of the pathway system that exists today in Patterson Park was well established by the turn of the century, and by 1915 the major elements of the circulation pattern were in place. Five principles seemed to have guided the design of the circulation system: separating carriages from pedestrian travel, providing access from the adjacent urban street grid, connecting major amenities, providing a formal pedestrian mall and providing a diversity of choices for pedestrians to travel through the landscape. Over time, many of these original characteristics have been retained; and, with a few exceptions, the circulation within the park is generally clear and coherent.

### ***The Carriageways***

"The drive" was an essential part of Baltimore's approach to designing open spaces in the nineteenth century and can be seen in both Druid Hill and Patterson Park. Twenty-five feet in width, the carriageways at Patterson Park would allow passage of two carriages. The first carriageway was designed to circumnavigate the western park and later a second loop was designed around the eastern addition, creating a "figure-eight" design. A traveler could engage in a leisurely carriage ride along the curvilinear roads, traversing the topography without intruding on the interior park. At the crossing of the "figure-eight" was an esplanade that encircled a rain shelter. Here, carriages could park and enjoy the scenic view of the eastern lake. The original layout of the carriageways exists today, with minor modifications.

### ***The Mall***

In addition to the curvilinear roads and pathways characteristic of the English Country Landscape style, the Park Commission also favored the creation of a straight, broad pedestrian avenue, to be called "the Mall." In the 1860s, a promenade was constructed in Druid Hill; and in the 1870s, the Mall was built in Patterson Park. At the northern end of the Mall was the prominent and prolific Taurus fountain. By 1915, the Mall was connected to the carriageway by a broad diagonal pathway leading from the Luzerne Street carriage entrance. The Mall and diagonal connection

remain today, though the Taurus fountain no longer marks the northern terminus.

### ***Pedestrian Pathways***

The character of the pathways in the western park, eastern park, and annex differ; this is not surprising given the park's incremental development. The complex system found today in the western park is similar to the historic layout and is characterized by pathways linking entrance ways with the many park features. Walkers had an abundance of choices in selecting their path through the park, and pathways paralleled the carriageway in only a few locations. In addition, the paths were set into the terrain in such a way as to minimize their visual intrusion into the broad grassy vistas of the park.

In contrast to the western park, the original pathways in the eastern park were limited to two walks which were situated parallel to each side of the carriageway. The carriageway, pathways, lake, and surrounding terraces were one organic unified whole. By 1915, however, Olmsted Brothers had introduced straight lines, axis, and symmetry to the composition as they introduced athletic facilities to this part of the park. Still, there was simplicity and order to the composition. Today, the athletic facilities and the fences that were added piecemeal to the park have created a sense of disorder. In addition, the pathways originally accompanying the carriageways have long since been removed. The eastern annex,

relatively unchanged since its original design, has an elegant simplicity as pathways connect the entryways and gracefully encircle the playing fields below.

### **Entrance ways**

When it was first established as a six-acre Public Walk, Patterson Park was surrounded by undeveloped land, access was limited to one entrance and the park was enclosed by a fence. As development in the surrounding blocks occurred and the park grew, entrance ways evolved to accommodate entry from most of the surrounding streets. The variety of design styles provides a charmingly eclectic personality to the edges of the park, though renovation is needed at many of the sites. The entry ways seem a fitting symbol to a park that is such an integral part of its community (Table A).

### **Issues Related to Access and Circulation Today**

Pathways in the park today are an important element of the park experience. More than any single facility, the pathways are used for recreation by walkers, joggers, rollerbladers, and cyclists. Issues and challenges include vehicular access, renovation needs, spatial organization, and accommodating pedestrian desire lines.

### **Vehicular Access**

Since the 1940s, no cars have been allowed access to Patterson Park without a permit. In an effort to limit access, many of the park

entries have been equipped with utilitarian barriers which degrade the former elegance of the entryways. Traditionally, permits have been granted for special events and for equipment drop-off for athletic activities. Enforcement of this policy has been inconsistent, however, and conflicts continue in the community, although the majority of people favor restricting cars in the park.

Six park features act as destinations for cars: athletic fields, the maintenance yard, the Virginia Baker Recreation Center, the Casino, the White House and the Ice Rink. These destinations create an attraction for people to park their cars nearby and have different issues associated with them:

- Athletic patrons often want to park their cars near athletic events. Enforcement of the vehicular policy is the responsibility of the Baltimore City Police. In their effort to promote a positive experience in the park they have taken a rather gentle approach in enforcing the rules with athletic patrons, resulting in significant abuses.
- In recent years the maintenance staff have been instructed to park their cars outside of the park. This practice has placed a hardship on employees since they arrive to work early in the morning when the surrounding streets are full of parked cars from the neighboring residences, and many of the streets have restricted parking for part of the day.

Long-term goals for reorganization within the department include reducing the number of employees who report to the maintenance yard in Patterson Park.

- The Virginia Baker Recreation Center is a destination for daytime and evening activities. The facility has a small parking lot which does not meet the demand of patrons. Often people attending functions here expect to park in the park.
- The Casino now houses a day care facility for the elderly. A shuttle brings the clients to the facility and the present layout of roads and pathways does not adequately support this function. In addition, the staff parking needs are not met. The historic paving surrounding the building has suffered significant degradation from vehicular traffic.
- The White House contains offices for Banner Neighborhoods and other community organizations. Staff and visitors to this facility park in front of the marble fountain, intruding on this historic center of the park. Restricted parking on Patterson Park Avenue makes on-street parking a challenge for users of this building. Traffic studies are needed on Patterson Park Avenue to determine whether parking restrictions can be lifted on at least one side of the street to

**Table A: Entrances in Patterson Park**

Entrance	Date Built	Material/Style	Current Status
Patterson Park Ave./ Lombard St.	1869 (Designed by George Frederick and original gate to 1860s park)	Marble; Renaissance Revival	Iron gates missing; good condition; vehicular access should be restricted.
Gough St. / Patterson Park Ave.	1893	Rough granite pylons with carved crosses.	Iron work missing; pylons mark entry which originally was a carriageway but is now grass with two adjoining pedestrian ways. Vehicular curb cut should be replaced with at pedestrian scale.
Lakewood Ave. / Baltimore Street	1895	Granite pylons; Renaissance Revival	Originally carriageway now pedestrian. Bollards objectionable. Central pathway does not relate to street crossing. One bronze light fixture is missing; ironwork missing; no signage; graffiti.
Eastern Ave./ Patterson Park Ave.	Late nineteenth century	Sandstone; Romanesque Revival	Originally carriageway now pedestrian. Ironwork missing; good condition; needs cleaning.
Luzerne Ave./ Baltimore Street	Between 1894 & 1915	Small granite block; lacks architectural character	Main vehicular access to park. Entrance does not have a positive sense of entry; poor quality signage; gate needed.
Kenwood St. / Baltimore St.	Between 1894 & 1915	Stone masonry; castellated mode reminiscent of Jacobean design.	Good condition.
Ortmann Field entrance	ca. 1910	Iron arch and grill work, brick piers with limestone coping	Good condition; missing ornamental urn at crest of arch.
Patterson Park Ave/ Baltimore St.	ca. 1916 (Not the original gate at this location)	Cast stone; one of three similar.	Once a carriageway, now pedestrian, but width allows for cars. Iron lamps missing; good condition; aesthetic barrier needed.
Baltimore St. / Linwood Ave.	1916	Cast stone; one of three similar (see above); this one with wing walls.	Lamp and sign incompatible (originally had iron lamps); condition good to fair due to spalling.
Eastern Ave./ Linwood Ave.	1921	Cast stone; one of three similar (see above)	Poor signage, incompatible lamps (probably once had iron lamps); good condition. Barrier needed to limit vehicle access.

accommodate the users of the White House.

- The Mimi DiPietro Ice Rink is a daytime and evening destination. Some users, particularly in the evenings, attempt to park within the park to gain close access to this facility. Some people do not feel safe walking on the residential streets to attend this facility.

#### *Renovation Needs*

Many of the pathways in Patterson Park need significant renovation. The park has had an eclectic assortment of paving materials for most of its history including: asphalt, asphalt block (both hexagonal and rectangular pavers), brick, and concrete. Each of these materials can be found in various conditions throughout the park:

- Asphalt exists in both the carriageways and pathways. The carriageways are in good condition, but severely degraded asphalt is located on the western and southern edges of the park annex.
- Brick and asphalt pavers are found on the pathways throughout the western park. All of these pathways need edging and weed removal, and many of the paths need to be reset due to settlement and drainage problems.
- Concrete pathways are limited but much of the concrete needs repair,

including the historic east-west mall north of the old field house, and the pathways on the west and east sides of the lake.

- Twenty different concrete stairs are scattered around the edges and within the interior of the park. One-third of these are in very poor condition and another fifth require some repair. None of the stairs have hand rails and, therefore, do not meet current standards of the Americans With Disabilities Act.

#### *Spatial Organization*

Since the turn of the century, the eastern park has seen dramatic changes in the configuration of site features interior to the carriageway. Once a lake surrounded by grass terraces, this area is now densely filled with an assortment of athletic facilities. In the early twentieth century the Olmsted Brothers provided an elegant design which created an orderly setting for athletic facilities around the northern side of the lake. Since that time, however, over a dozen discrete projects have been implemented in the area without a sensitive approach towards a unified whole. The result has been a disjointed maze of facilities connected by awkward pathways, and a redundant and inhospitable array of fencing.

#### *Accommodating Pedestrian Desire Lines*

Given the diversity of options for moving through the park landscape, there are few

places where pedestrian movement is not well provided for. One exception includes an east-west movement from the Lombard Street gate and the Patterson Park Avenue/Baltimore Street gate to the pool. This factor is not surprising considering that the pathway system for the western park was established before the eastern park existed. Some provisions were made to accommodate this movement in the twentieth century by providing access from the rear of the Casino. The present tenant needs for this area of the park make this alternative unworkable, however.

#### **DRAINAGE INFRASTRUCTURE**

By the turn of the century, Patterson Park was laced with an intricate pattern of inlets and clay subsurface drainage pipes. Historic records show that active springs created a problem for nineteenth century park planners who responded by installing oyster shell drainage fields, inlets, and pipes. The major framework for the drainage infrastructure was created by the turn of the century and still exists today.

Most of the drainage infrastructure of the western park drains to the Boat Lake. While a technical study is needed to comprehensively diagnose the scope of the problem, there are two areas within this system that are known to be failing:

- Standing water can be found year-round in an area between the Pagoda and Boat Lake. A test pit revealed a

six inch clay pipe in this area completely clogged with sediment.

- When turned on, the marble fountain is fed with city water and designed to discharge continually to a conveyance system which drains to the Boat Lake. This system is clogged, making the fountain non-functional.

### ***The Boat Lake***

The lake's 35 acre watershed is entirely within the park and the lake is fed through eight outlets which collect water throughout the watershed. The two and one-half acre lake is believed to be only four feet deep at its greatest depth. Presently, the lake is populated with a stand of cattails quickly encroaching into the water surface area as sediments settle from the watershed. Algal blooms are prolific in the summer months accompanied by noxious odor and occasional fish kills.

### ***The Eastern Park***

Part of the drainage infrastructure of the eastern park dates from the nineteenth century. A 17-foot wide brick tunnel extends north-south through the park and transports water from Harford Run which once extended to the northern part of the city. Pipes transporting Harris Creek and drain pipes from the Boat Lake connect to this conduit which drains directly to the harbor. A major 16-foot wide relief drain was built in the 1970s that extends from Lakewood

Avenue at the north edge of the park and discharges to the old conduit just north of Eastern Avenue.

Over a dozen projects built since 1915 have drainage infrastructure which connect to the major drainage facilities beneath the park. No major drainage problems were observed in the eastern park during sight investigations for the master plan.

### ***The Annex***

The drainage infrastructure in the park annex is fairly simple. At the base of the west-facing slope is a concrete swale. A system of a dozen inlets is located in or near the swale and pipes convey water from these inlets to storm drains in the adjoining streets. A seep of water was observed on the northern end of the slope.

## **BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES**

The buildings, entrances, and structures of Patterson Park are an integral part of the life and style of the park and illustrate the cultural evolution that occurred throughout the park's life span. The earliest (nineteenth century) structure, Rodgers' Bastion, predates the park. And while early buildings reflect the traditions of the Country Park era, later additions express the modern tradition of utilitarian recreation facilities and high-tech building materials of the late twentieth century.

### ***Buildings and Pavilions***

Table B is a summary of the buildings and pavilions remaining in Patterson Park that includes the date they were built, their original function, and their current status. Six of the significant buildings in the park date from the nineteenth century: the Gatekeeper's House; the Stable; the Pagoda; the Casino; and two octagonal pavilions. These structures were carefully designed and sited in the tradition of the Country Park style of design. Each of these facilities is in good condition, with the exception of the Pagoda which is in need of significant repair. These buildings are an integral part of the charm of the historic park.

The most threatened building in the park is the Field House. Built in 1905, and designed by the firm of Wyatt and Nolting of Baltimore after a concept by the Olmsted Brothers, this Tudor Revival style building is the only building in the park which represents the Recreation Movement at the turn of the century. The Field House was also an important component of the Olmsted Brothers' recreation complex design. Originally, the building had two wings on the southern side which extended diagonally to frame the circular swimming beach also conceived by the Olmsted Brothers. Presently, the building is severely degraded due to deferred maintenance. The western side is vacant and the eastern side is used by the Aquatics Division for storage. The roof had a hole for an extended time which left the interior open to the elements and pigeons, ruining the surfaces. The hole now has a

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**Table B: Buildings and Shelters in Patterson Park**

Building (original name(s) & popular reference)	Date Built and Original Use	Current Status
The Gatekeeper's House; The Superintendent's House; The White House	Designed by George Frederick in 1866 as a dwelling and office for the park superintendent and his family.	Banner Neighborhoods Community Corp. resides in building rent-free in exchange for on-going maintenance of the facility. Building is in good condition but may need significant repairs in window and roof in near future. Banner Neighborhoods plans to move soon, and an after-use has not been identified.
(2) Octagonal storm shelters;	Designed by Charles Latrobe, ca. 1890.	These iron and wood structures were recently re-roofed and painted.
Observatory; Pagoda	Designed by Charles H. Latrobe in 1891 in the Exotic and Picturesque tradition of park architecture as an observatory.	Not currently open to the public and in need of major renovation. Butcher's Hill Community Organization presently sponsoring fund raising and renovation plan.
Stables; Maintenance Yard	Originally built in 1870 and rebuilt after fire in 1881. Designed by George Frederick for livestock and storing tools, carriages, and wagons.	Houses Patterson Park Division offices. Crew members and equipment provide service throughout Southeast Baltimore. Departmental reorganization calls for a smaller staff, dedicated only to Patterson Park, to be located here. Structure is in good condition except for sandblasting that destroyed the surface of the brick. Southwest corner needs repointing.
The Mansion House; The Casino <sup>1</sup>	Designed in 1893 by Charles H. Latrobe, the new General Superintendent of the City's Parks, as a new focal point for the expanded park. Design included basement tool house and park office, upper story suite of residential apartments and public restrooms. First used as a refreshment stand, and then, in 1899, as Park Commission offices.	Since 1992, the Commission on Aging and Retirement Education (CARE) has leased the building for Adult Day Care. CARE has received a \$5 million grant from the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene for major renovations to adapt the building. Project is in design development.
Virginia Baker Recreation Center	Built in 1974 after a fire destroyed the dance pavilion that existed previously on this site.	Bureau of Recreation performs recreational programming in this recently-renovated building. Facility includes offices, two game and meeting rooms, a gymnasium, and stage.
Quoit House	Originally a wood-frame building with many windows, it was designed in 1915 by the Olmsted Brothers firm and built in 1925.	An aesthetically inappropriate precast concrete veneer now encases the building. The Old Men's Club meets here to play cards and socialize.
Field House	Built in 1905, and designed by Wyatt and Nolting of Baltimore after the original concept by Olmsted Brothers to serve as a field house for recreational facilities. Diagonal wings once framed the southern exposure at the basement grade level. These wings were bath houses for the swimming lake to the south.	The building on the west side, under the jurisdiction of Patterson Park Division, is vacant. The east side is occupied by the Aquatics Division and used for storage. Decades of deferred maintenance have caused serious deterioration of the roof and interior finishes.
New Bath House	Contemporary concrete block structure built in 1970 after arson fire destroyed bath house to the north which was part of the recreation complex designed by Olmsted Brothers.	The building is in good condition; however, the interior floor plan does not conform to the management needs of the operation.
Mimi DiPietro Ice Rink	Original outdoor rink built in 1967. Tension structure and building renovations performed 20 years later (1986-1987).	Tension structure has failed several times due to snow loads. It appears that since the structure is not heated it has difficulty shedding heavy snow storms. Estimates to replace the structure with an alternative were \$1.5 million. Existing foundations cannot be used for a heavier building due to unstable soils. The Department plans to replace the tension structure this year.

<sup>1</sup>The Random House College Dictionary defines Casino as: 1. A building or large room used for meetings, dancing, etc.

temporary patch. Any recreational use of this building will require gutting and completely renovating the interior.

Some of the modern architecture in the park was developed in response to two acts of arson in the 1970s, from which the park suffered considerable damage. Unfortunate casualties included an elegant circular dance pavilion near Luzerne and Baltimore Streets and the bath house wings of the Field House. Two modern buildings were built to replace these features, the Virginia Baker Recreation Center and the present bath house. These structures were designed in the modern aesthetic of an era that favored efficiency and an absence of ornament.

The last building placed in the park was the Mimi DiPietro Ice Rink. Built in 1986, the rink's "bubble" roof was a high-tension structure of woven fabric which failed several times under snow loads. Presently, the Department has plans to replace the damaged bubble with a new upgraded one of similar design. The 40-foot-tall structure is a prominent form in the landscape, out of scale with other park structures, visually out of context, and able to be used only in the fall and winter because the material allows for too much heat gain in the summer months. An estimate for replacing this type of structure with a year-round facility made of more traditional building materials and more sensitive to the landscape context was over one million dollars.

## SITE FURNISHINGS

*Figure 12* illustrates the location of existing site furnishings. Features such as entrance gates, walls, and fencing lend considerable character to the park.

### *Lighting*

Electric lighting has been a tradition in Patterson Park for over 100 years. The intensity of lighting in the park has increased continually to the present day. By the turn of the century the park had 28 arc lights in the park west of Linwood Avenue. Low level lighting was provided around the Lombard Street Gate/Pagoda area, the Mall, the Casino, and the Lake. Most of these were serviced by above-ground wires, though CH Latrobe proposed underground electric lines beginning in 1885. At the turn of the century, the lights were an elegant "Standard Park Pole" provided by the Bush Company.

By 1915 there were 116 lights west of Linwood Avenue and an additional 47 in the eastern annex. The eastern swimming lake was a dramatic sight with lighting around its entire edge as well as the interior of the lake. The Mall had five poles down the center of the pavement alternating with huge Victorian urns making a dramatic statement. Light standards continued along the mall extension on either side of the pathway.

The present-day lighting pattern was established in the early 1970s when all of the carriage roads were equipped with 25 foot high arc lamps every 170 feet. This approach

changed the emphasis from low level accent lighting at a pedestrian scale in a few areas of the park to low level lighting throughout the carriageways at a height more characteristic of parking lot and roadway lighting. New luminaires were installed in the 1980s.

### *Landscape Structures*

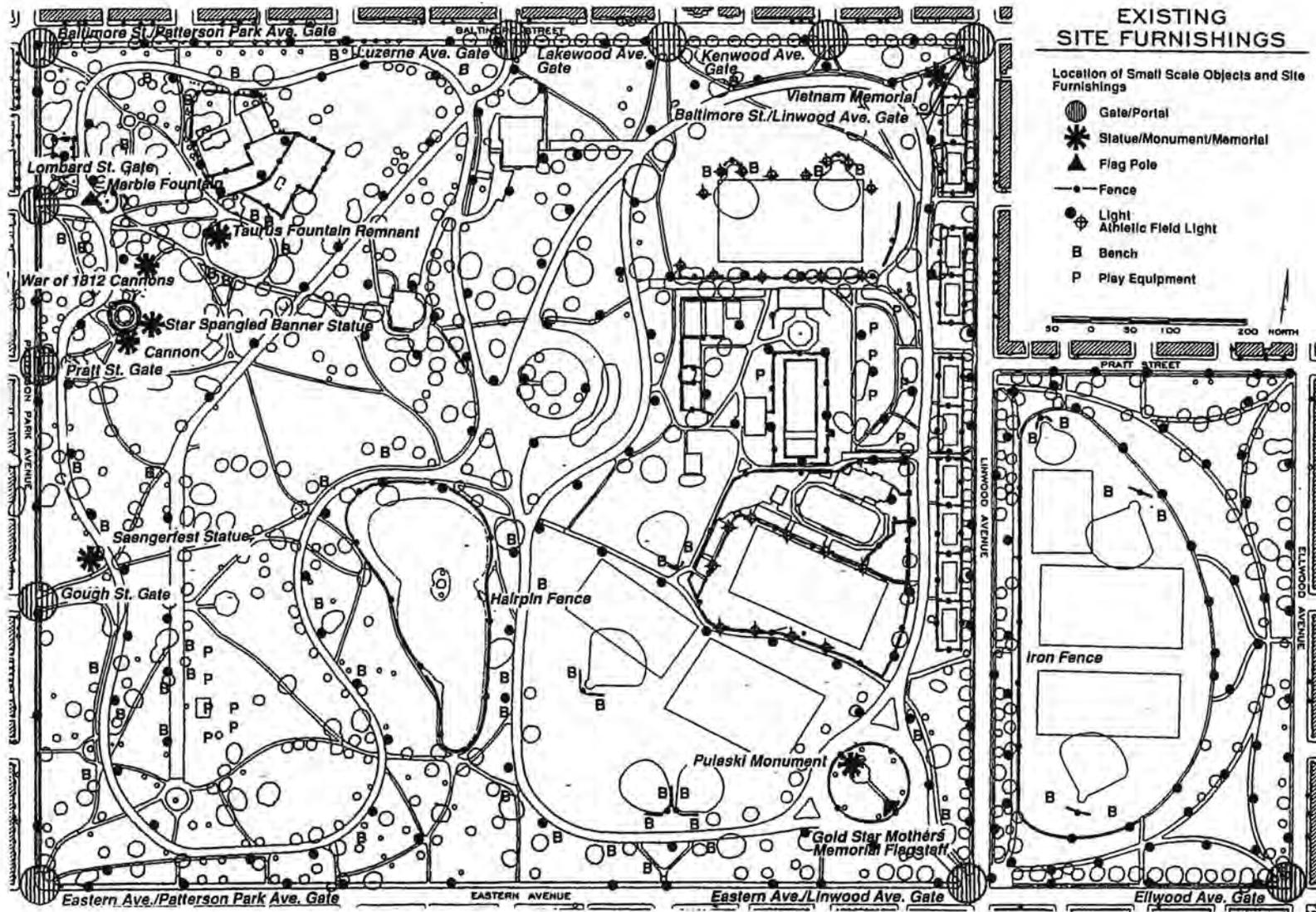
Table C summarizes the date built and the current status of the landscape structures that lend considerable character to the park. The earliest element, Rodgers' Bastion, was recognized from the beginning by park designers as an appropriate feature of visual interest in the Country Park. The tradition of placing structures in the park as functional ornament began in the nineteenth century and is well represented by the marble fountain built in 1865 as the first architectural feature in the park. The latest addition, the Count Casimar Pulaski monument, dates from 1951 and is cherished by the local Polish community.

Fencing styles in the park represent three styles and eras, including a Victorian "hairpin" style, flat iron picket, and contemporary chain link. Many of the landscape structures of the park need some level of repair.

### *Entrance Gates*

The entrance gates of Patterson Park were added over a period of 50 years as the park evolved. As the park expanded and development occurred on the perimeter, park entrances appeared, and they reflect a

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EXISTING SITE FURNISHINGS

figure 12

**Table C: Landscape Structures in Patterson Park**

Structure	Date Built	Material	Status
Rodgers' Bastion	1814	earthen battery	Original earthwork significantly graded to be less severe.
Marble Fountain	1865	marble	Parking compromises aesthetics and use of fountain. Operable but leaks slightly and is not designed to recirculate. Overflow is conveyed to clogged system which drains to Boat Lake.
Perimeter fence remnant	1865—1899	large granite blocks	Extending the length of Patterson Park Avenue and along Baltimore Street and Eastern Avenue to their intersection with Port Street. Holes on top of blocks indicate previous iron fence. Some blocks out of alignment, some spalling.
Stone wall southeast of sculpture garden	twentieth century	stone	Nice wall/nice tree; major crack in wall; stone caps missing.
Saengerfest Statue	1915	bronze and granite	Won as first prize by the United Singers of Baltimore at Saengerfest in Brooklyn, NY.
Star Spangled Banner Statue	1914	bronze and granite	Designed by J. Maxwell Miller, a prominent sculptor from the Maryland Art Institute, and dedicated by the Star Spangled Banner Centennial Commission to honor the writing of the national anthem. Two neighborhood children were models. Good Condition.
Gold Star Mothers Memorial Flagstaff	1923	flagpole and bronze relief	Pays tribute to the 154 soldiers of World War I from East Baltimore.
Kiddie Pool (now sculpture garden) with bull's head	1925 (Bull's head once part of Taurus Fountain at north end of Mall)	stone wall; marble bulls head	Arc lamps compromise view of bull. Area is enjoyed as a quiet, contained space. Sculpture has been vandalized, and poor drainage around perimeter walk results in sediment deposits in area.
Count Casimir Pulaski monument	1951	bronze relief	Designed by A. Cradziszewski, sculpted by Hans Schuler, currently in good condition. The sword is missing (continually stolen whenever replaced). Constituents have requested gate to enclose grassy circle to protect the area from dogs.
Iron picket fence at eastern annex	ca. 1913	flat iron pickets	Constructed during the Olmsted Brothers era of park design, it is a unique design that has an industrial feel to it. Only remaining fragment is at eastern annex at the top of the bank along Linwood Avenue. Needs painting.
"Hairpin" picket fence	1932	round solid iron	Fashioned after earlier fences of the Victorian era, it surrounds the pond. Needs repair or removal.
Chain link fencing	Mid-late twentieth century	chain link steel	Some fencing redundant; needs repair; rusted mesh should be replaced with black vinyl coated mesh.
Benches	19th & twentieth century	iron and metal	Benches of insufficient number and in need of repair.

diversity of styles. The earliest entrance was actually the only entrance to the 1860s park. Located at the intersection of Patterson Park Avenue and Lombard Street, these Renaissance Revival gates are arguably the most elegant in the park. Later, in the early twentieth century, two entrances were executed in a picturesque masonry style that is reminiscent of seventeenth century castles. The latest entrances, dated from the 1920s, reflect the cost savings and flexibility of concrete construction. Virtually all of the iron work, light fixtures and signage that ornamented many of the gates are now gone, although most of the stone and concrete pediments are in good condition.

## RECREATION FACILITIES

Recreation facilities began to appear in Patterson Park at the turn of the century when a pronounced change occurred in the nation's attitude toward the appropriate use of public open space. At this time, Baltimore's Public Park Commission recognized the need to provide athletic facilities to its citizens; and in 1895, Patterson Park was provided with its first baseball grounds. Throughout the twentieth century, recreation facilities have been provided in increasing numbers, though the locations of fields and courts have varied.

### *Ball Diamonds*

There are four different types of ball diamonds and ten separate fields in Patterson Park based on individual design and

configuration needs, outfield constraints, and programming, including softball; little league softball/hardball; little league hardball only; and baseball. **Table D** summarizes the location, size, and programming of each field.

All of the ball diamonds are in good condition, although the grass often gets high in the spring when cutting crews find it difficult to keep up with the rapidly growing grass. Regrading would be helpful to most fields and new lights would improve the lighted fields.

The softball diamonds are heavily programmed on week nights from May through September by city slow ball and fast ball leagues scheduled by the Department of Recreation and Parks.

Three 60-foot ball diamonds are permitted exclusively to the Highlandtown Exchange Club, a local little league for six to 12 year olds which has a well-established presence in the community. Games are scheduled on weeknights and Saturdays. The organizers would like a hood to be installed on the backstop and increased lighting for safety (not field lighting).

Baseball diamonds are scheduled for play on week nights and Saturdays with about five city-run leagues and several other private leagues. Fields are used only about 50 percent of the available time because the demand for baseball in Baltimore is less intense than softball. Field number 1, Sterling Sheriff Fowble Field, is maintained

by the Harbor Federal Baseball Club, a member of the Metro Baseball League.

### *Soccer/Football*

Five fields are available for soccer, one field for football; and the Utz Twardowicz Stadium is used for both football and soccer tournaments.

Baltimore City has soccer leagues for five different age groups under the age of 16 and sponsors the Baltimore Metro Invitational Soccer Tournament in the park in October and November.

Youth football for ages nine through 13 is organized into four leagues. Games for these leagues are scheduled at several facilities throughout the city including Patterson Park from September through November.

### *Tennis*

The tennis courts are well used in the park and the number of courts seems to adequately support the demand. The courts need resurfacing, however, and length of play could be extended if lights were provided on the courts south of Pratt Street.

### *Basketball*

The five Patterson Park basketball courts are in three different dimensions: two are nearly regulation high-school size, but slightly too narrow; two are not regulation size, though there is adequate space surrounding them to extend their length; and one is a half-court

**Table D: Ball Diamonds of Patterson Park**

Baseline dimension	Location or Name where appropriate	Lights Y/N	Primary Users
Softball 60'	Ortmann Field (2) East annex Utz Twardowicz Stadium	Y (2) N Y	Approximately 15 city-run softball leagues primarily from downtown and southeast Baltimore.
Softball and Little League Hardball 60'	Eastern & Lakewood Avenue (2)/William H. Schutz Fields	N	Highlandtown Exchange Club
Little League Hardball (no softball) 60'	West of Utz Stadium	N	Highlandtown Exchange Club
Baseball (adult) 90'	East Annex (2)/ # 1 is Sterling Sheriff Fowble Field Southwest of Utz Stadium	N (2) N	Approximately five city-wide leagues, Metro Baseball League, Salvation Army, Harbor Federal Baseball Club.

with space to expand if necessary. The courts are well-used, with the heaviest play on the larger two courts. Resurfacing is needed and the short courts could be expanded to enhance play opportunities.

### **Pool**

The pool is a well-used facility, though the size of the facility exceeds the space requirements based on use. The season lasts from mid-June to Labor Day. Mornings are reserved for the area Fun Camps, which offer lessons and free swim opportunities for children. The afternoons and early evenings are open to the general public.

The pool was built in the 1950s, and the filtration equipment was replaced in 1973. The entire facility is due to be replaced. The wading pool is closed due to a problem in the drain line which the Department of Recreation and Parks has been unable to repair adequately. During community meetings, members of the public felt that all of the present functions (such as diving and wading) should continue to be maintained in the pool complex in addition to the main pool. A new configuration may be appropriate to meet present-day standards, including a more efficient and compact design and improved functional relationships with the bath house facility.

### **Special Events**

Festivals and other privately-sponsored events are a vital part of the park experience. Typically, events begin in April with the

annual Boy Scouts of America Spring Camporee where 250 boys camp west of the Boat Lake. In May, the park is host to the annual week-long Maryland Preakness Festival sponsored by the local Highlandtown Merchants Association. June and July are occupied by the annual Polish and Italian festivals, respectively; though in the summer of 1997, the Italian festival was relocated. Recently, the Friends of Patterson Park and the Parks and People Foundation initiated an annual "Parkfest," an effort to showcase the park and increase constituents to advocate for its preservation.

Smaller events are also a regular part of the activities in the park. Once or twice a year, the Municipal Concert Band sponsors a popular concert in the park. City Springs Elementary School and Saint Elizabeth's school use the park on a regular basis, and the city Fire Department holds an annual fire-prevention exposition. Baltimore Road Runners sponsors a ten mile run, and in some years, a bicycle race is sponsored in the park. Family reunions and picnics are not a regular occurrence in the park, perhaps because of the lack of vehicular access to the pavilions.

### **Virginia S. Baker Recreation Center**

The Recreation Center is a vital community center and has a complete year-round schedule of programs. The center includes a large all-purpose room and gymnasium, a game room, a meeting room, a kitchen, and offices for Department staff.

In the summers, the center offers Fun Camp for ages five to 11 with complete programming on and off site with after-care available for working parents. In addition, sports leagues in basketball, football, soccer, volleyball and lacrosse are organized at the center. Various recreational classes, such as aerobics and dance, can be found here as well as a study hall where tutoring is offered. A game room is offered for self-directed play and the meeting room is available at no charge to community groups. The programming adapts to the needs of the community, and it is a well-used facility.

### **Mimi DiPietro Ice Rink**

Open from October to April, the ice rink is a popular center of activity for both the neighboring community and the broader metropolitan hockey community. An ice hockey clinic teaches the fundamentals of skating technique and rules of the game, and ice skating lessons are available for individuals interested in figure skating. Open skating for the public is available and the ice hockey leagues program the ice continuously. Because of the constraints of the building, the facility has a limited season. Regional demand would probably support a year-round facility

### **USER PROFILE**

The site that hosts Patterson Park has always been an attractive location to visitors seeking a scenic landscape. In the early nineteenth century, residents came to the high point of

the site, now the location of the Pagoda, to admire the sweeping view of the harbor and to obtain water from the area's prolific spring.

As the site was developed into a public park in the nineteenth century, Baltimore city leaders embraced the belief of park advocates nation-wide that parks symbolize an ideal democratic society in which people from all walks of life have the opportunity to interact. While this was the spirit of the park founders, it is not clear whether the nineteenth century Patterson Park actually assumed the role of an urban melting pot, since photographic images from this period tend to depict only the leisure class.

Lamp Associates attempts to describe the nineteenth century recreational experience of visitors to Patterson Park in their description of this "sizable pleasure ground for urban dwellers:"

*Rural scenery was abundant in the tremendous variety of flora within [complemented by exotic horticultural displays in the conservatory]. 'Passive' recreation was available in the form of boating, [ice] skating, strolling, or driving by carriage. Picturesque follies, such as the Observatory and the Bastion, allowed people to be transported to another place or another time. Settees provided for relaxation, concerts, and enlightenment, all within a pleasing natural setting (Lamp Associates, NRHP Report).*

The turn of the century witnessed the introduction of new activities into the park as active recreation was used as a tool to cure the social ills of the city. For example, Baltimore's Free Public Bath Commission championed the creation of swimming baths at the public facilities, recognizing that many poorer households did not have bathing facilities. However, because the Parks Commission was committed to segregation, there were no facilities available for use by African Americans in early twentieth century Patterson Park.

Today, Patterson Park's visitors reflect the ethnic diversity of the surrounding communities. Recreational experiences are equally varied, and range from passive activities, such as strolling and walking dogs; to active recreation, such as softball and tennis.

#### **Observations of Summer Use**

Recreational use of the park was studied extensively during the master planning process with the assistance of the University of Maryland's Urban Studies and Planning Program. Casual observations were augmented with a systematic quantification of park activities, location of activities, and the age and sex of the participants. Over 5,000 visitors were observed on a Saturday, Sunday, Wednesday, and Thursday in July 1995. The following discussion is based on these observations, assuming that the sample is representative of summer patterns in general. A more detailed summary report is

available from the Baltimore Department of Recreation and Parks.

#### **Attendance**

Approximately 2,500 people per day visit Patterson Park in the summer. Although the park is used throughout the day, between mid-morning and dusk, the park contains a minimum of 200 people. At the peak time of activity, 500 to 900 people may be using the park. One of the factors affecting the variation in peak use is the number of simultaneous ball games scheduled in the athletic fields. Slightly more people can be found in the park on Saturdays and Sundays than on a weekday; and while Saturday use peaks in the late morning, Sunday use peaks in late afternoon. Activity on weekdays peaks in the evening with a significant secondary peak in late morning.

This pattern of activity contrasts with Druid Hill Park where weekend use tends to be five times the weekday rate. Though the total number of people who visit Patterson Park is a fraction of those who visit Druid Hill, the intensity of use at Patterson, a significantly smaller park, is twice that of Druid Hill on the weekends and more than four times on the weekdays. For this reason, Patterson Park may be the most intensely used park in the city. Since most people walk to the park, except for certain visitors to the recreation facilities, attendance is predominantly from the surrounding communities. This pattern of use reflects how integral the park is to the daily life of the surrounding communities.

**Table E: Ranking of Daily Activities  
Observed on July 8, 9, 20, 26th, 1995**

Activity																	% of People Observed in all 4 Days (◆)	
Walking																	◆	24%
Sitting																	◆	17
Unorganized Play																	◆	12
Walking Dog					◆													7
Standing					◆													7
Swimming**				◆														5
Basketball				◆														5
Baseball				◆														4
Picnicking				◆														4
Cycling				◆														3
Softball				◆														2
Tennis				◆														2
Jogging				◆														2
Lying/Sleeping				◆														1
Rollerblading				◆														<1
Fishing				◆														<1
Golfing				◆														<1
Other				◆														<1
	0-	1-2	3-4	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12	13-14	15-16	17-18	19-20	21-22	23-24	25-26	27-28	29-30	Total: 100%	
Percent of people observed participating daily*																		

\*Range of activity extends from the smallest number of people per day observed engaging in an activity to the highest number of people per day for the four days observed.

### *Composition*

Over half of the summer visitors to Patterson Park are adults, and there are twice as many men as women. Only one-quarter of park visitors are children, and one out of seven visitors are teenagers. Teen-age boys outnumber teen-age girls by a ratio of four to one.

While men outnumber women with regard to virtually all of the park's activities, the greatest disparities are found in active recreational activities, such as ball games. Nearly all of the park's basketball participants are male; and only one in 12 participants in baseball (including little league and adult leagues) is female. Even a non-team sport, such as jogging, is dominated by men by a ratio of two to one.

### *Activities*

Visitors to Patterson Park engage in a wide range of physical activity. Table E ranks a list of summer activities by the numbers of observed participants. Park activities excluded from this study include fall or winter activities, such as soccer, football, and ice skating.

Passive recreation, including walking, sitting, standing, lying, unorganized play, walking a dog, or picnicking are enjoyed by three out of every four park visitors. Nearly one out of four people relaxes by sitting or standing in the park, and one quarter of this number represents spectators at ball games.

One out of every four visitors engages in walking, the park's most popular activity. Visitors usually take advantage of the park's extensive path system; and at any time during the day, people can be found strolling throughout the park.

The fourth most popular activity is walking a dog. One out of every 14 visitors to the park in the summer is engaged in walking a dog, and this group represents one of the most consistent constituents of the park. The heaviest dog-walking traffic can be found in the park in the early morning and after 4:30 PM, when 25 to 50 people visit with their pets. Between 7:30 and 8:30 AM, the dog walkers sometimes represent as many as half of the park visitors. Nearly two-thirds of the dog walkers do not keep their pets leashed.

One out of four visitors to the park participates in active recreation, including facility-based activities such as ball games and tennis; as well as path-based activities such as jogging. This is one-third the number of those engaging in passive activities. Of these active park participants, one out of five play basketball and one of six play baseball (baseball includes little league and adult leagues).

### *Location and Intensity of Use*

Part of the genius of Patterson Park lies in the successful merger of a pastoral landscape designed for path-based activities with a profusion of built recreational facilities. Thus, the intensity of park use as measured

by people per acre varies, reflecting these diverse uses. Figure 13 is a map showing the location of users on one Sunday. Five areas, comprising one-tenth of the entire park, have a significantly greater intensity of use than the remainder of the park. These areas include the swimming pool, the Linwood Avenue playground, basketball courts, tennis courts, and the Boat Lake.

The intensity of use of the swimming pool is five times greater than the rest of the park. Even considering its short, three-month long season, the space devoted to this activity annually serves a comparable number of people as the rest of the park on a people per acre basis.

Likewise, the intensity of use of the Linwood Avenue Playground is more than four times greater than the rest of the park. This area is popular with children and families and is the greatest focus of casual play for children. Nearly half of the children who play in the park use this facility, and one-third of playing children use the playground at the promenade.

The site also complements the softball fields at Ortman field since families can visit for the dual purpose of viewing a ball game and playing in the playground. Over half of the family picnicking in the park occurs here and in the south end of Ortman Field.

The basketball courts have more than four times the intensity of use as most of the park. Half of the players are men, over one-third

A MASTER PLAN FOR PATTERSON PARK IN BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

7:30 - 8:30 AM



10:30 - 11:30 AM



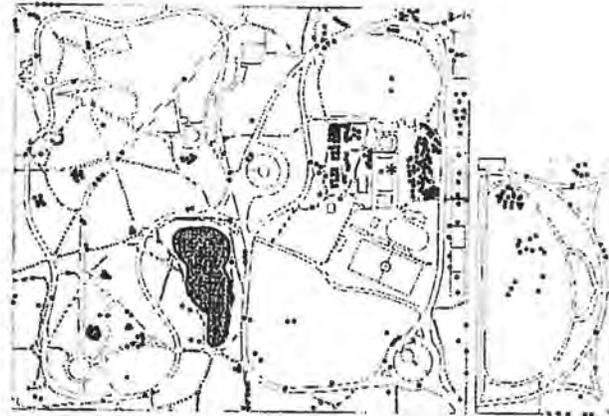
1:30 - 2:30 PM



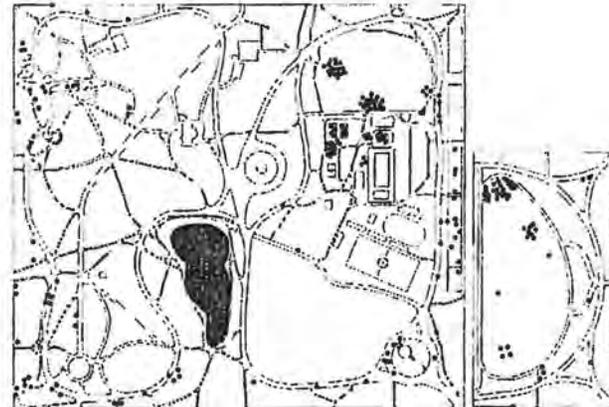
**Legend**

- One Person
- ★ 97 People

4:30 - 5:30 PM



7:30 - 8:30 PM



PARK USE FOR SUNDAY, JULY 9, 1995

figure 13

are teenage boys, and the remainder are children. The three teenage girls who visit the courts comprise only 1.0 percent of the total number of visitors. The courts are used throughout each day, with activity peaking after 4:30 p.m.

The tennis courts have more than twice the intensity of use as most of the park; and although tennis play is a fairly consistent daily activity, peak use occurs on Sunday afternoons. While the courts are predominately used for tennis, they are also less frequently the scene of rollerblade, hockey, and lacrosse practice.

The Boat Lake is the single most popular place to walk, and its intensity of use is twice the rest of the park. In addition to serving as a meditative area for relaxation, the Boat Lake offers the people of Baltimore a unique opportunity to fish in the city. While people fishing represent a small percentage of the total users, fishing does occur here in spite of the inconvenient configuration of the fencing and lake edge. A fish rodeo held in Summer 1997 and sponsored by the Department of Recreation and Parks was very well-attended.

The hillside, which is defined as the area between the Pagoda, the Boat Lake, and the Casino, has an average intensity of use. However, the area is a popular place for dog walkers, where one out of four dogs were observed.

The single most used type of facilities in the park is the pathways. On Sunday, over one out

of every six people were observed on the pathways. Most of the walking occurs on the paths, and cycling and rollerblading are also popular pathway activities.

### ***Neighborhood Use and Perceptions***

A telephone interview was completed for 230 residents in the surrounding neighborhoods to obtain their perceptions of the park. This method was employed in order to sample equal numbers of park users and non-users.

#### ***Activities***

Of the members of the community who use the park, three out of four individuals walk there to attend special events, such as festivals. Half of the people polled like to watch the ducks, use the playground, and participate in some kind of active recreation.

#### ***Perceptions of Neighborhood Users***

Nearly all of the residents who use the park view it as a part of their neighborhood and most of them perceive the space to be a neighborhood park, not a city-wide park. Most neighborhood visitors visit the park at least once per week.

Half of the park users in the neighborhood are concerned that there are some problems with dogs in the park that need immediate remedy. The existence of feces and urine in public areas are the greatest concerns among neighborhood residents, but many people also feel threatened by dogs that are walked without a leash. Most residents are in favor of enforcing the leash law and mandatory clean-up after dogs by owners.

There is little community support for creating a separate use area in the park for dogs.

Most community users feel relatively safe in the park during the day, despite the fact that most are aware of at least one violent incident that has occurred in the park within the last five years, and some individuals knew the crime victims personally. Over half of the neighborhood park users feel that the park is safe for children, but two-thirds of the people polled feel that their children are actually safer in their neighborhood. Most community park users would like park police to be hired to patrol the park.

Half of neighborhood park users feel that improvements need to be made to the Boat Lake. Most of the complaints made by neighborhood residents indicate that they would like the quality of lake maintenance to be improved, and the vegetation surrounding the lake controlled. While many residents would like to maintain a balance of habitat and open water, a significant number of users emphasized habitat over open water.

Over half of the community park users feel that automobile parking should be reduced or eliminated in the park.

#### ***Perceptions of Neighborhood Non-users***

Most of the non-users interviewed are elderly members of the community, and most of them had been a park user in the past. When asked why they do not use the park, non-users cited both perceived park problems and their own age or infirmity as reasons. Half of

the neighborhood park non-users do not feel safe in the park during the day. Most non-users believe that there are problems with some of the park activities in which people are engaged, but that most of these activities are not criminal in nature. Most of the security-related problems discussed by non-users tended to be dismissed as related to behavior exhibited by "kids." Only one out of seven non-users said that they would use the park if it were safer.

## Chapter 4: Park Preservation and Improvement Strategies

### Recommendations for the whole park, park zones, and precincts

Though the Master Plan is not specifically a cultural landscape or park preservation plan, changes to a place with such a rich history warrant careful consideration, and the planning team was guided by a strong preservation ethic. The information provided by the Department of Recreation and Parks, Dr. Charles E. Beveridge, and the summary of park significance by Lampl Associates formed the baseline for establishing historic context and significance; and this, balanced with community interests, guides the majority of the recommendations. It is critical that the recommendations accommodate community interests and be sensitive to the site's natural and cultural history.

The recommendations that follow are the result of a highly participatory process. Public meetings and forums led by the Advisory Committee, city staff, and the planning team, were held at crucial stages in the Master Plan's development. Issues, concerns, and disparate visions for the park's future were discussed; alternatives were developed and evaluated; and consensus achieved through the creation of a clear program of complimentary actions and improvement strategies. Conceptual cost

estimates were then developed along with a recommended list of priority projects. The recommended actions, cost estimates, and priority list will guide future decisions regarding park uses; capital improvements; recreation programming; cultural and environmental preservation; and on-going community projects.

The evaluations and recommendations are presented in two ways: 1) *Recommendations for the Whole Park* is a section entirely devoted to park-wide systems and resources, including roads and paths, vegetation, and infrastructure; and 2) *Recommendations for Park Zones & Precincts* contains more detailed recommendations for distinct areas within the park. *Figure 14* illustrates the Master Plan for Patterson Park and *Figure 15* illustrates Park Zones and Precincts.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE WHOLE PARK

##### Vegetation

The park's character is largely defined by its trees and mowed lawn. Although in the last 80 years, the number of trees in the park has

been dramatically reduced, and nearly 100 of the existing 800 trees were identified as damaged, diseased, or otherwise unhealthy in the 1995 survey, the overall character of the park's open landscape, viewed through carefully-placed groupings of trees, still remains. Presently, the park's mature trees are among its most important assets.

##### Trees

- Restore the park's overall quantity of trees to its historic level. Approximately 1006 trees (906 new trees plus 100 trees to replace those that are presently unhealthy) are required to bring the total number of trees to the 1887 quantity of 1,714.
- Prepare an ongoing tree maintenance and planting program that includes the use of grant funding and volunteer efforts for planting, where appropriate.
- Emphasize use of native species with distribution and species selection based on historic plant lists and available historic planting plans. Trees should be used to provide

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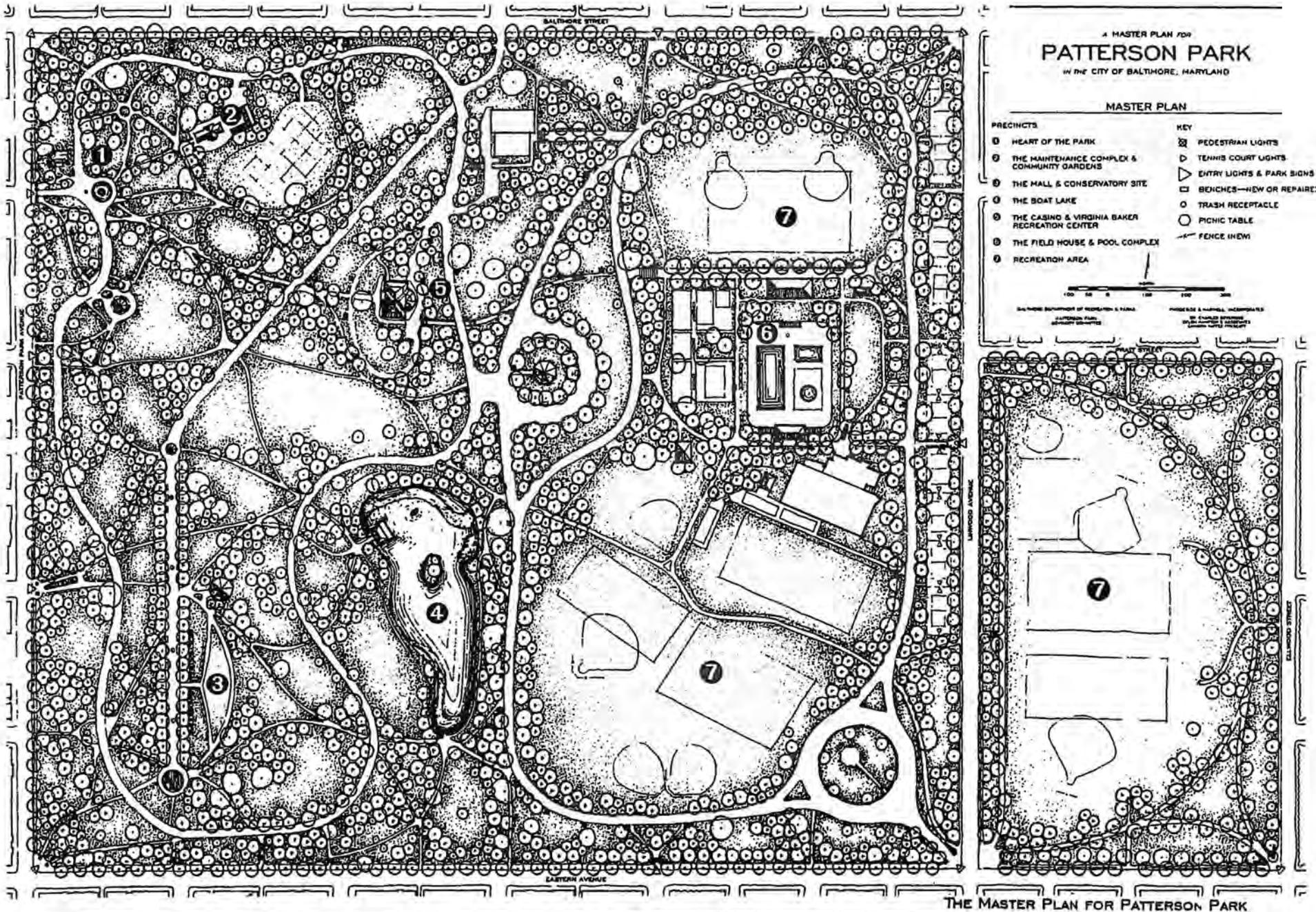


figure 14

A MASTER PLAN FOR PATTERSON PARK IN BALTIMORE, MARYLAND



PRECINCTS AND ZONES

figure 15

shade, emphasize vistas, screen elements such as fencing and utilities, and (in some areas such as the hillside east of Linwood Avenue) "hide what would otherwise be...very steep and ungainly" topography (JC Olmsted, "Patterson Park: List of Trees Planted Historically," July 1906). Except where illustrated, trees should be grouped informally.

- Create informal groupings of mixed species rather than monoculture groupings. Plant at adequate distances to maintain health of lawns.
- Establish a nursery to propagate commercially unavailable vegetation.
- Establish an annual program to prune and fertilize existing trees.
- Utilize plant species known to have been planted in the park historically, and/or noted in the available historic planting plans.
- Re-establish historic plant patterns and species mixes. Where historic planting plans exist, use these as the basis for new plans. For example, a 1906 Olmsted Brothers plan exists for the area north of the Field House.
- Plant evergreen trees as part of clusters to define views or create screening. Work with police and maintenance staff to accommodate security needs.

- Plant one (1) species of tree on each street bordering the park so that each street has a different species of tree.
- Plant groves of flowering trees where: historic plans include them; accents of color or diversity are desired without compromising historic plans; and contemporary structures have been placed. flowering trees and evergreen trees.
- Develop, in collaboration with the Department of Recreation and Parks and the Department of Public Works, a street tree planting program for the streets surrounding the park. Park Commission reports recommend Sugar Maples. Consider American Linden, various oaks, and red maples for such plantings.
- Establish a tree labeling program for the Nineteenth Century Park, so that mature specimen trees may be easily identified by park visitors.

#### Lawns

Despite a limited maintenance program, the park's lawns are in reasonably good condition.

- Continue the maintenance of lawns under current practices.
- Cut grass to a four inch height to reflect the historic design and use of the park and to maintain ease of access throughout the park.

- Emphasize diversity, hardiness, and drought tolerance in selecting appropriate seed mixes for new lawn areas and lawn restoration.
- Establish a program for over seeding and aeration to maintain lawn health.

#### Shrubs

- Install shrubs and flower beds only when adequate long-term provisions have been made for maintenance.
- Limit the use of shrubs to special areas (see *Park Zones & Precincts* for specific recommendations), such as using shrubs to stabilize the slope north of the Boat Lake.
- Replace the foundation planting at the Casino and maintain the hedge at the Linwood Avenue and Baltimore Avenue Gate in its present condition.
- Upgrade/replace as needed the shrubs and hedges near the Pagoda.

#### Flower Beds

The reintroduction of flower beds in the Nineteenth Century Park is recommended only in certain limited areas. In certain locations, where historic precedent is indicated by postcards and other photographic views, flower beds would be appropriate. (See *Park Zones & Precincts* for specific recommendations).

- Utilize plant lists from Park Commission reports for flower bed design.

A MASTER PLAN FOR PATTERSON PARK IN BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

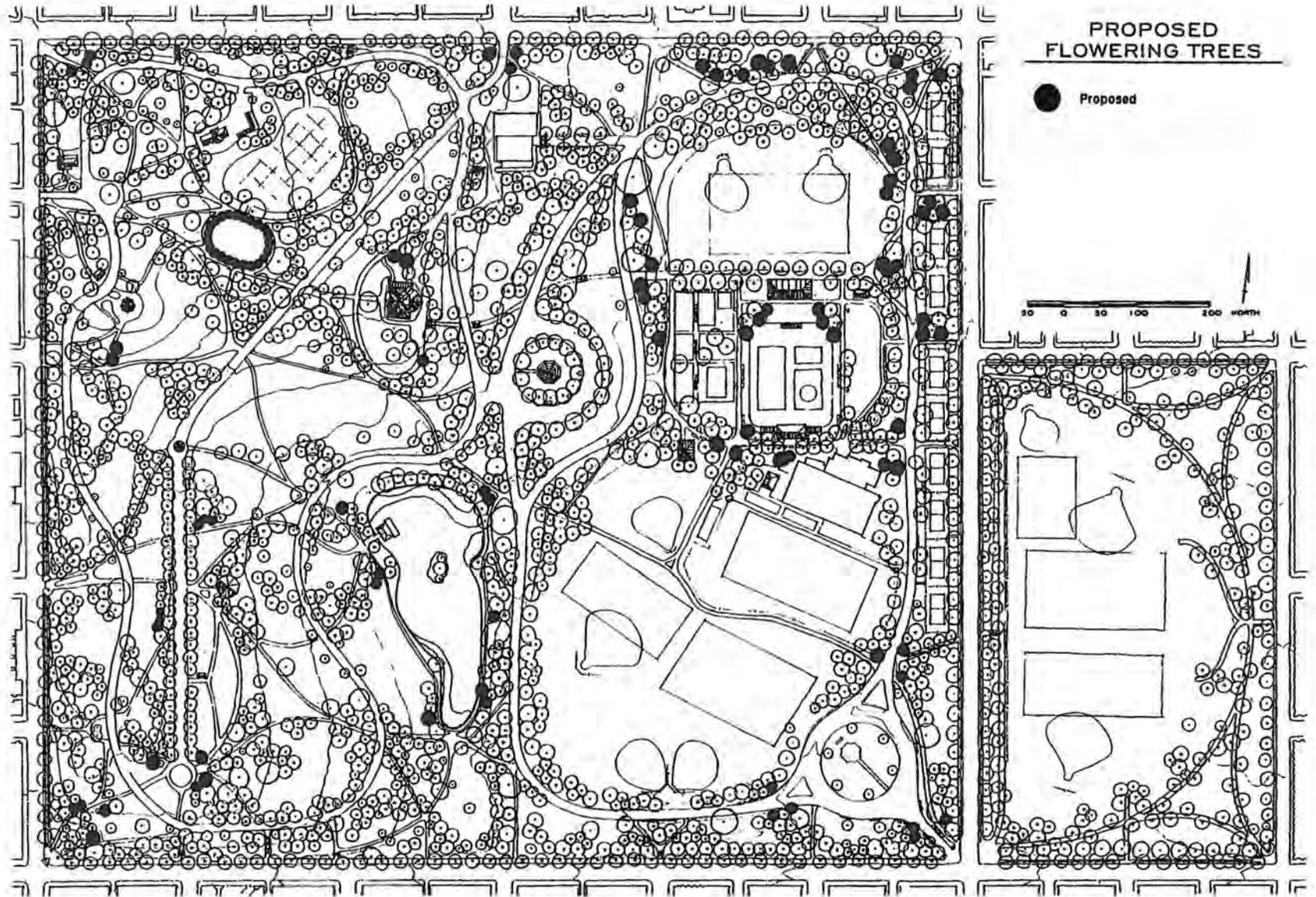
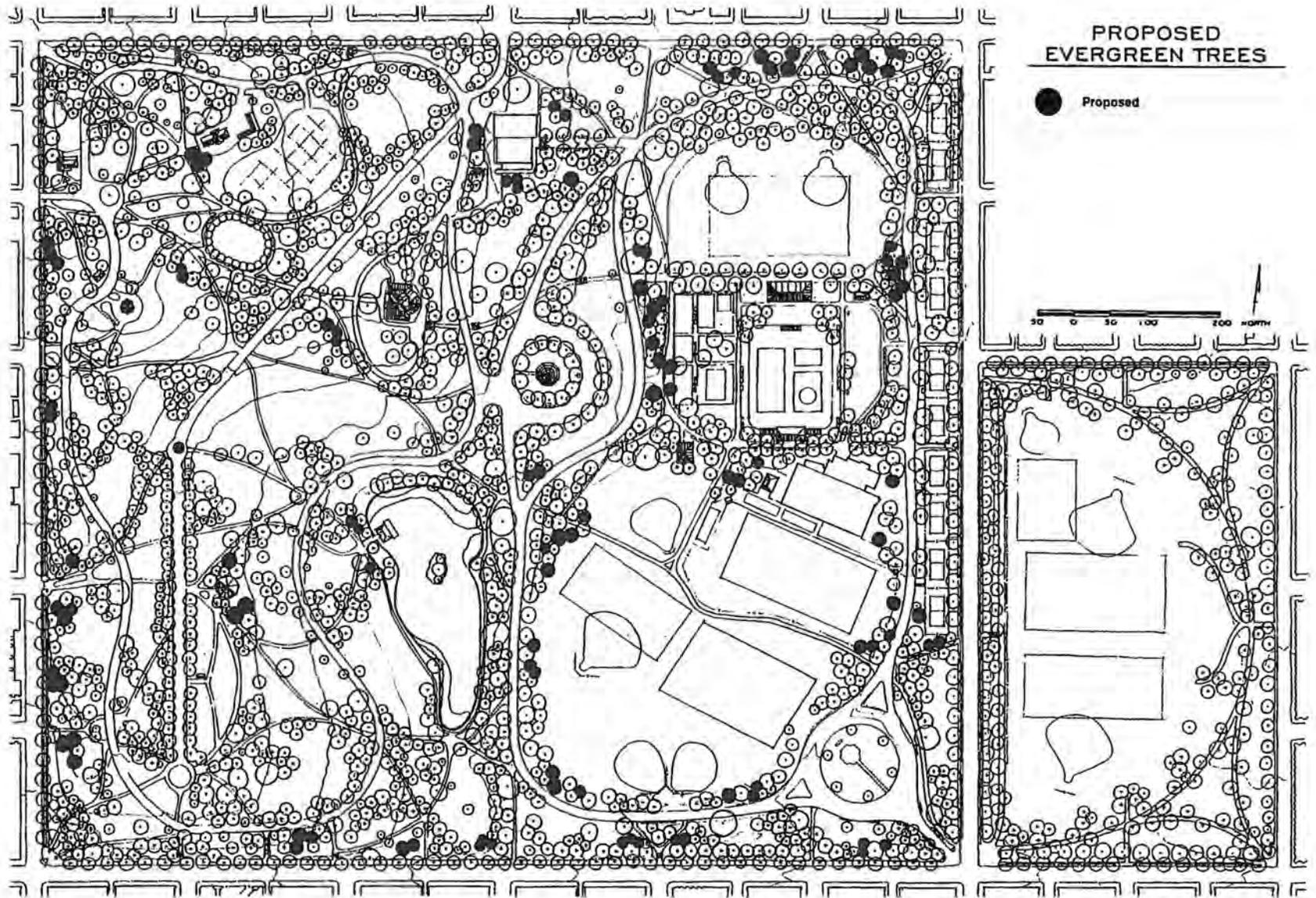


figure 16

A MASTER PLAN FOR PATTERSON PARK IN BALTIMORE, MARYLAND



PROPOSED EVERGREEN TREES

figure 17

- Establish a long-term commitment to careful maintenance of the flower beds.

### **Access & Circulation**

The historic path and carriageway system is one of the key elements that has established the overall spatial coherence of the park today.

#### *Pedestrian Paths*

- Preserve the existing path system, particularly in the Park's western half, except as shown on the Master Plan.
- Use asphalt or asphalt paving blocks to match historic pavement for new pedestrian path construction and replace existing concrete pavers with asphalt block.
- Improve areas that are not in conformance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Install ramps at path and carriageway intersections with existing curbs.
- Repair and reset existing path system as needed, and modify circulation where indicated.
- Remove existing brick or brick module asphalt paving block paths where they duplicate adjacent carriageways, and stockpile retrievable unit paver materials for use in making repairs elsewhere in the park.

- Preserve turn-of-the-century paving materials where feasible.
- Establish a program to preserve existing paving and repair with matching materials.

#### *Permit Vehicle Access*

- Allow vehicle access for service and emergency use, or by permit only.
- Establish the Luzerne Avenue Gate as the only gate open to vehicles and provide park access permits.
- Increase enforcement of permit rules.
- Ensure that service vehicles use pedestrian paths to access only those areas of the park not otherwise served by a carriageway; and that pedestrian paths are not used for general vehicular circulation. In particular, the pathway west of Ortman Field should not be used for vehicles.
- Install roll-over curbs to accommodate service and emergency vehicle access at the Pulaski Monument Gate and the Gough Street Gate. The Lombard Avenue Gates will be operable and several pedestrian paths along the perimeter are wide enough to provide access to the carriageways.
- Provide low, narrow (4" wide x 3" high) curbs along new carriageways, parking areas (such as at the Casino), and where drainage requires such treatment.

- Install curbs along carriageway entries at surrounding streets except where vehicle access is required.
- Perform a traffic study to investigate whether: 1) restricted parking can be eliminated on one side of Patterson Park Avenue; 2) the left turn lane on Patterson Park Avenue and Baltimore Street could be eliminated; and 3) Linwood Avenue could be made one-way to accommodate additional parking.

### **Infrastructure and Drainage**

#### *Prepare Study Plan to Fill Gaps and Deficiencies in Data*

Records for all existing utilities should be assembled into a central location for use in future planning and engineering design. The records should include:

- Plans and profiles for storm drains at the park and adjacent streets;
- Plans and profiles for sanitary sewers in the park and adjacent streets;
- Plans for water lines in the park and adjacent streets;
- Gas and electric distribution plans from Baltimore Gas and Electric Company;
- The 1915 topographic survey by the Department of Parks (available at the time of writing);
- The 1996 Aerial Survey (available at the time of writing);

- Utility plans and profiles from the following construction plans:
  - The 1961 playground construction,
  - The 1967 ice rink construction,
  - The 1969 Utz Twardowicz Stadium construction,
  - The 1981 UPARR work,
  - The 1985 Patterson Park Athletic Field Renovation, and
  - The 1987 ice rink addition construction; and
- Historic plans and reports of renovations, maintenance activities, demolition, and new construction between 1915 and the present not included above.

Obtain information required for detailed analysis and design. Recommended studies (in priority order) are:

- Dye testing—To confirm the location of outfalls of the sanitary sewer services from each building, dye testing is recommended. Dye would be placed into the sanitary sewer at each building and the direction of flow from manhole to manhole recorded. This will confirm that each building is connected to the sanitary system and not to the storm system.

- Lead in water—It is recommended that the water service in each building be tested for lead content, to determine if water service piping is leaking lead.
- Flow testing—To determine the capacity of the water system and to ascertain the level of fire safety in the park, flow testing from fire hydrants throughout the park should be conducted. The Department of Public Works conducts this testing. The testing also flushes the lines and removes rust, scale, etc. from the lines.
- Storm drain condition—The existing condition of the storm drains should be determined, so that collapsed and damaged pipes can be replaced. This would require TV inspection of the drain lines, including cleaning and/or repair of damaged pipes, manhole and inlet cleaning and repairs for all drains within the park, including those leading to the Boat Lake.
- Field survey—The location of manholes, inlets, hydrants, lights, storm drains, water lines, sanitary sewers, gas lines, and electric lines should be determined to include rim elevations and elevations in and out of each manhole and inlet. Record drawings should be used to initially define the location of services with field survey verifications; determine the location and size of electrical services to each building,

transformers, and services to street lighting including routing of wiring. This information should be added to the CADD drawing of the aerial survey.

- Storm drainage study—A detailed analysis of the entire storm drainage system should be conducted based upon the field survey. The objective would be a redesign of the storm drainage system to indicate where surface stormwater management could be utilized, numbers of inlets and drains could be reduced, inlets could be relocated, pipes renovated, and pipe capacity needs to be increased to prevent flooding. As improvements to the drainage system are made, the old clay pipe system should be upgraded.
- Fire service—Determine if water pressure and location of fire hydrants within the park is sufficient.

#### *Recommended Improvements*

- Area east of Linwood Avenue—Remove the concrete lining of the ditch around the athletic fields and install a vegetative stabilized ditch. To eliminate wet conditions on athletic fields created by underlying clay soils, an underdrain system with perforated piping should be installed. The spacing of the underdrains should not be less than 100 feet apart. New inlets should be installed, with the drain lines designed using current

standards. The size of the reinforced drain lines should not be less than 15 inches.

- Boat Lake improvements—Boat Lake improvement recommendations are found in the *Park Zones and Precincts: Boat Lake* section.
- Ice rink and pool complex renovations—Initial analysis based on limited data concerning existing conditions indicate that utilities are available to provide services to these buildings. The current services may be of sufficient capacity. The need for increased service size would be determined as part of the design of those facilities.
- Expanded community gardens—A new water service should be provided from Patterson Park Avenue to the community gardens. The service would provide water to a system of yard hydrants for use with hoses spaced at approximately 75 feet on center throughout the gardens.
- Improved access roads and paths—New inlets should be provided where needed based upon the revised configuration of paved surfaces and use of surface stormwater management techniques. Connections from any new inlets to the drainage system should use reinforced concrete pipe with a minimum diameter of 15 inches.

- Storm drains—Investigate potential to use surface (non-piped) stormwater management where possible to eliminate as much of underground system as feasible. Where an underground system is required, make repairs to the storm drain system with reinforced concrete pipe with a minimum diameter of 15 inches. Entire sections of pipe between structures should be replaced as required. Downstream sections of pipe would only be replaced when damaged.
- Sanitary condition—If any sanitary service is connected to the storm drain system, it should be replaced with a new PVC service that connects to the 27 inch sanitary sewer.
- Fire service—Undersized fire lines should be replaced with appropriately sized iron pipe lines.

### **Buildings & Structures**

#### *Recommendations for Buildings & Structures*

- Repair and renovate existing buildings, including the Superintendent's House, Casino, Pagoda, and bath house.
- Construct new buildings, including the Boat Lake Pavilion and concession stand, as indicated in the plan.
- Perform new construction and preservation and renovation of existing buildings and structures in

accordance with the US Secretary of the Interior's *Standards and Guidelines for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *Guidelines for the Treatment of Historic Landscapes*.

- Prepare a five-year and ten-year maintenance program for all buildings and structures. Incorporate into the park department's operating and CIP programs.
- Clean and repair piers, walls, and small structures in such a manner as to preserve historic character. Use historically appropriate methods where possible.
- Install bollards and curbs as traffic control devices where appropriate and retire inappropriate designed barriers.

### **Site Furnishings**

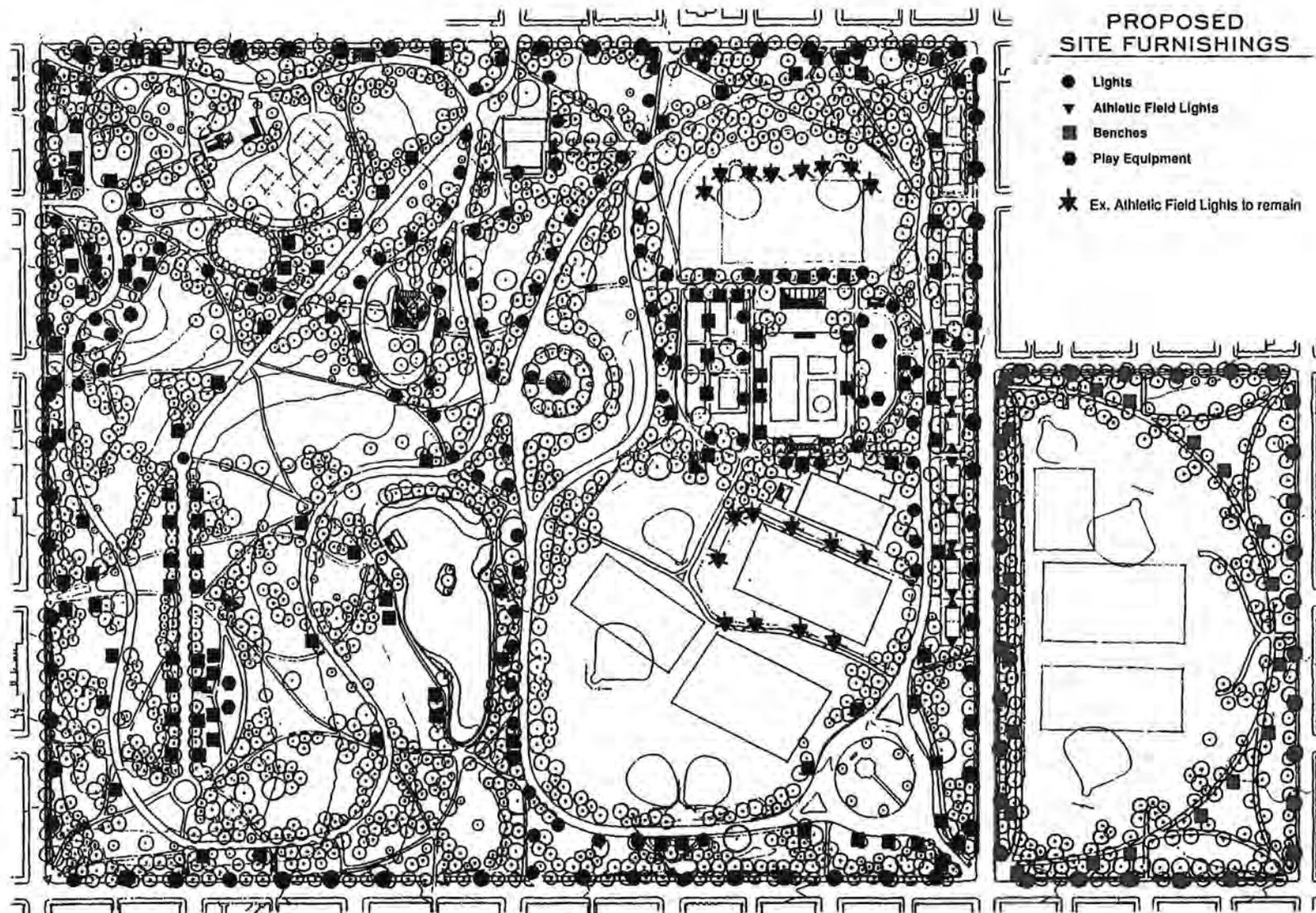
The proposed locations of site furnishings are illustrated in *Figure 18*.

### *Lighting*

Improvements to park lighting was a high priority for the community during discussions about the Master Plan.

- Replace the existing system of low-level lighting along the carriageways and selected paths with a selective, brighter system. New lighting, proposed under the Master Plan, will provide adequate light levels in the park's night use areas and along

A MASTER PLAN FOR PATTERSON PARK IN BALTIMORE, MARYLAND



LOCATIONS OF SITE FURNISHINGS

figure 18

major east-west and north-south paths.

- Use decorative lighting standards, 12 feet high, with a polycarbonate “acorn” globe and a painted aluminum base and pole; such as the lighting recently purchased for Federal Hill Park. The recommended globe and lamp are designed to provide adequate and even levels of light when installed approximately 100 feet apart (*Figure 19*). The aluminum pole and base are designed to resist vandalism. The Department of Recreation and Parks should work with the Department of Public Works to ensure that compatible light standards are used on surrounding streets.
- Mount security lights on each building, even though the park interior will remain dark under the recommended plan.
- Abandon the existing low-level system once the new system is in place and remove the lights.

#### *Benches and Trash Receptacles*

- Use the “Baltimore Bench” throughout the park (*Figure 20*).
- Fabricate and install a backless version of the “Baltimore Bench” for locations where there are attractive views in several directions.
- Increase number of benches significantly.

#### *Picnic Tables*

- Install modest, vandal-resistant picnic tables in areas designated for picnicking (see plan).
- Use picnic tables that meet the Americans with Disabilities Act requirements in locations adjacent to carriageways and paths.
- Group picnic tables in clusters in such a way as to minimize visual intrusion into park vistas.

#### *Fencing*

- Utilize historically appropriate fencing, such as iron picket and iron hairpin (modeled after the fencing added to the Boat Lake in the early 1900s) in the Nineteenth Century Park.
- Remove existing chain link in the Recreation Park and replace with heavier gauge chain link fencing with black vinyl coating.

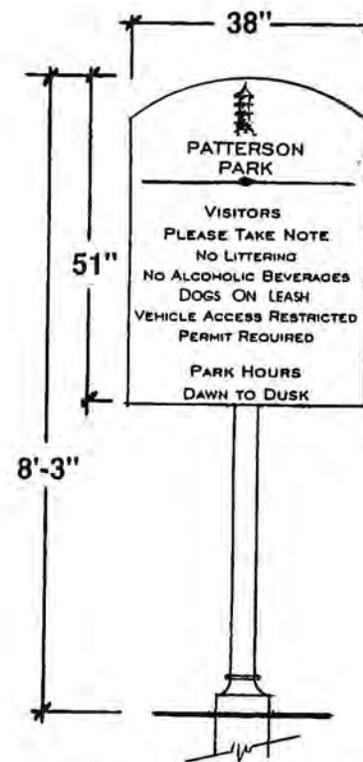
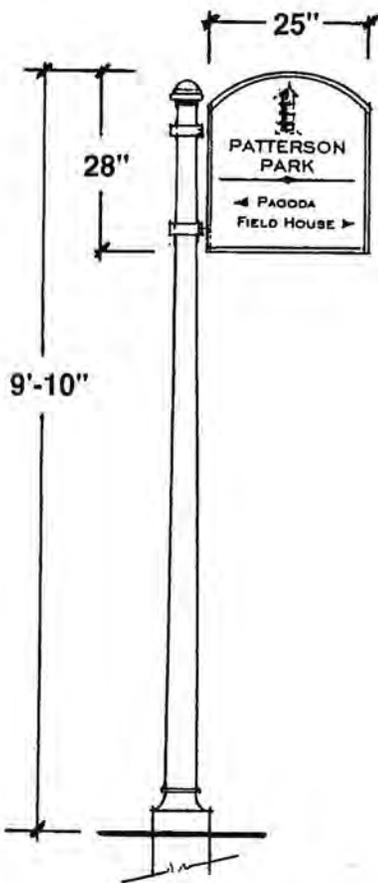
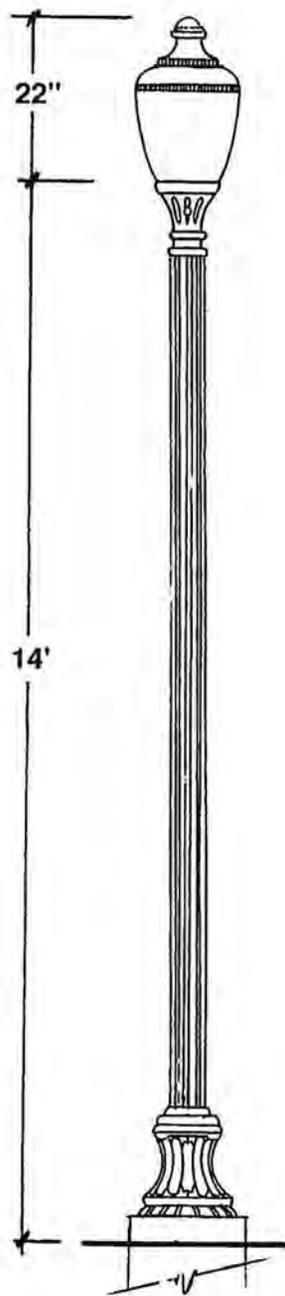
#### *Signage*

- Provide wayfinding and interpretive signage to clarify facility use, visitor access, and visitor education opportunities.
- Provide signs that are harmonious with the historic character of the park landscape and compatible with lighting, benches, and other site furnishings.

#### *Park Programming*

- Retain the location and distribution of uses in the park, which (with only a few exceptions) are generally in accordance with historic development of the park. Retain the existing park uses and locations, but avoid introduction of any additional uses that would be limited to a small specific user group. Encourage use of the park by the broadest public, as it was historically intended.
- Limit specific programmatic changes to the placement of restroom facilities near playgrounds, the creation of new picnic areas, and the installation of a beach volleyball facility. These changes should be carefully and sensitively designed to reflect the park’s period of significance (1827—1925).
- Minimize conflicts between park users (e.g., basketball and softball/soccer or dog walkers and young park users) through scheduling, community education, and enforcement.
- Enforce leash laws, including those that prohibit off-leash animals and require owners to pick up after their dogs.
- Encourage organizations using the recreation facilities to participate in volunteer improvement programs. (Refer to the *Park Zones & Precincts* section for details regarding proposed

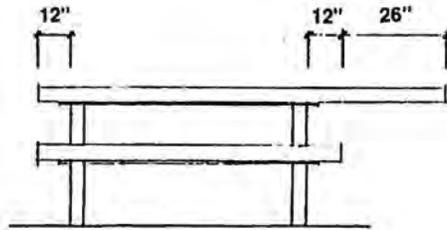
A MASTER PLAN FOR PATTERSON PARK IN BALTIMORE, MARYLAND



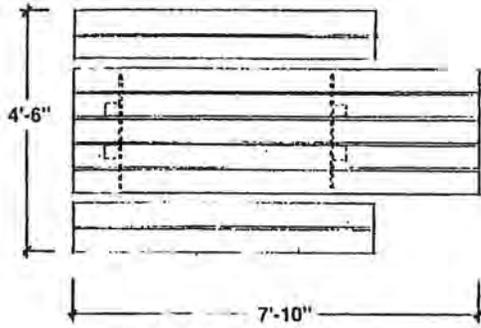
TYPICAL SITE FURNISHINGS

figure 19

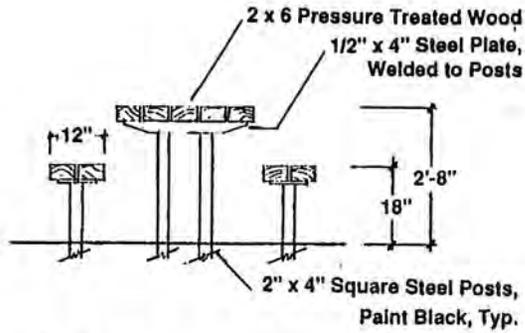
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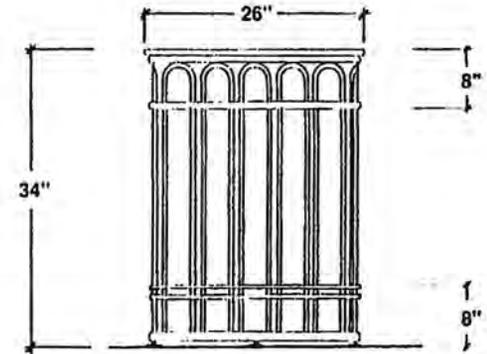
Accessible Picnic Table  
Elevation



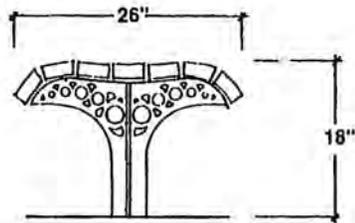
Plan



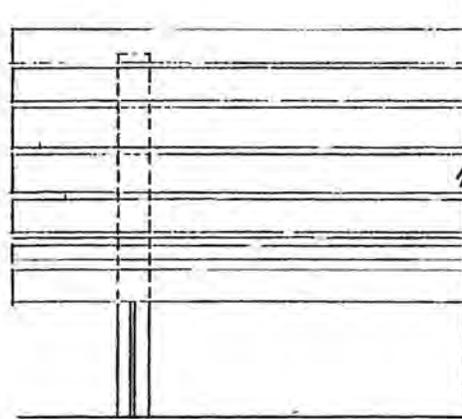
Section



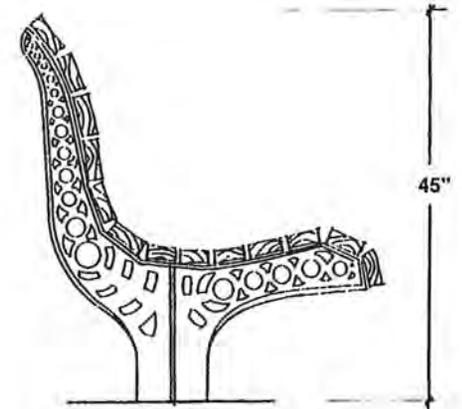
32 Gallon Trash Receptacle  
Elevation



Modified Baltimore Bench  
Section



Baltimore Bench  
Elevation



Section

TYPICAL SITE FURNISHINGS

figure 20

improvements to the park's fields and recreation facilities).

- Encourage volunteerism as appropriate to assist with implementation of Master Plan recommendations. An example would be the planting program undertaken during the "Hands on Baltimore" program in Spring 1997.

### **Maintenance & Management**

- Encourage regular mowing of lawns.
- Establish a new position of Park Superintendent with adequate staff dedicated to Patterson Park.
- Encourage 'controlled volunteerism' for maintenance of specific vegetation such as flower beds. Flower species and bed design should be provided by the park; maintenance practices should be overseen by the Park Superintendent or staff on a regular basis.
- Establish a public/private partnership to fund a special security program in the park and augment maintenance and capital funds.
- Contract with neighborhood residents to maintain shrub and perennial beds.

### **Preservation and Interpretation**

- Perform preservation treatment of various architectural and landscape elements in accordance with the time period for each element to reflect the

park's period of significance (1827—1925).

- Perform preservation, restoration, reconstruction and rehabilitation in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *Guidelines for the Treatment of Historic Landscapes*.
- Incorporate respect for historic elements (including views and vistas) in plans for new construction and screen non-historic elements (such as ballfield lighting) in order to restore historic views and vistas.
- Integrate a program of interpretation with the way finding signage system.
- Interpret significant historic elements, and label historic trees with small, discrete signage.
- Place (at a minimum) one sign in each of the park's precincts, describing its history, significant elements, and localized special ecology, where appropriate.
- Develop a brochure, including a map of the park and an outline of its history, to educate visitors about the park's significance.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PARK ZONES AND PRECINCTS**

The previous section delineates recommendations for the whole park. This section provides specific recommendations for each of the park's three zones—the Park

Perimeter, the Nineteenth Century Park, and the Recreation Park—and the precincts or distinct areas within each zone (*Figure 15*).

#### **The Park Perimeter**

The features of the park's perimeter—its grass slopes and trees; monumental gates and retaining walls; and sidewalks, stairs, and paths—are among its most visible assets, and as such, play an important role in shaping community perceptions. Perimeter conditions strongly influence the way the whole park is perceived; even modest changes for better or worse have a significant effect on the reputation of the park and surrounding community as a safe and inviting place.

The park's oldest entry gates are in relatively good condition, but in most cases, the area immediately surrounding them is in poor condition. Site furnishings, stairs, and entry paths—the small-scale physical features that require on-going maintenance—have not been well taken care of and trees lost to disease or damage have not been replaced in sufficient numbers. Benches have been removed rather than repaired or replaced, several of the cast-in-place concrete stairs have deteriorated, and virtually every path paved with asphalt block in the western section of the park has become partially overgrown.

In addition, past efforts to restrict vehicular access were not designed in a sensitive manner. Since the 1940s, when the city banned public vehicular access to the park, three of the park's six access drives have been removed or blocked. In these locations—

Eastern Avenue and Patterson Park Avenue, Patterson Park Avenue and Gough Street, and Baltimore Street and Linwood Avenue—park entrance drives were removed and replaced with asphalt paths and lawn. Curb cuts were also removed at the Eastern Avenue and Patterson Park Avenue entrance, but in the other locations, the curb cuts remain and wood or steel pipe bollards have been installed to block traffic.

Adequate access for disabled park users is also an issue at many of the entrances. Few of the pedestrian entries have curb cuts, and in many instances, paving is uneven and many of the entry stairs have deteriorated and do not meet current code requirements. Though cars with handicapped tags are permitted within the park, there are no signs indicating this policy nor are there signs that direct the disabled to accessible entries.

Currently, there is substantially less tree cover and fewer street trees exist along the park's perimeter than existed in previous periods of the park's history. As *Figures 9 and 10* indicate, there were at least twice the present number of trees on the park's edge 90 years ago. In addition, the Park Commission reports indicate that the sidewalks were planted with rows of street trees.

#### *Recommendations*

- Undertake preservation and improvement programs for each of the park's entries. Existing stone piers, walls, curbs, and decorative features should be preserved.

Improvements should include cleaning and repair of stone piers, gateways, installation of decorative lighting and park signage, path and stair repair or replacement, tree planting, and lawn restoration. Due to the very high cost of replicating iron gateways, the Master Plan does not recommend re-creating historic iron gates and fencing except at the Lombard Street entry.

- Add a new gate to complete the enclosure of the Pulaski monument.
- Replant the slopes along the southern and northern edges of the park with a variety of deciduous trees using the palette developed for the oldest portion of the park. To promote a sense of safety, eye-level views from the street to the top of slopes and carriageways should remain open.
- Coordinate with The Department of Recreation and Parks and the Department of Public Works to develop plans for the installation of pedestrian lights and street trees along the public sidewalks bordering the park.
- Remove entry drives and curb cuts from adjacent streets from each of the entrances proposed to be closed to vehicle traffic, and replace them with continuous sidewalks. At the Pulaski Gate and the Gough Street Gates, where service and emergency vehicle access is to be maintained, install mountable curbs and construct

sidewalks and paths to support intermittent vehicle use for emergencies, service, or by permit only.

- Complete perimeter improvements to increase the park's accessibility to the physically challenged. The most heavily used entries, including those at major intersections of Baltimore Street and Patterson Park Avenue, and Eastern Avenue and Patterson Park Avenue, and the two on Linwood Avenue east of the Pool Complex should be improved before others. In addition, the stairs along Eastern and Baltimore Avenues should be reconstructed to comply with current accessibility requirements for stairways in public places.

#### *The Nineteenth Century Park*

The Nineteenth Century Park, the oldest and western-most portion, reflects the actions of generations of Baltimore's citizens and public officials, as well as the influences of several important park design movements. From the Revolutionary War onward, the high ground in the park's western end has been shaped and adapted to serve a range of uses: a defensive battery and public promenade during the early eighteenth century, a hospital and encampment during the Civil War, a popular Country Park, and a place for community gatherings and celebrations.

The overall plan of the Nineteenth Century Park is remarkably coherent, especially with

regard to the carriageways and path alignments. In addition, several features introduced between the 1860s and the turn of the century remain and provide a sense of the park circa 1890. These structures, site furnishings and landscape features and their historic associations, in addition to the community's strong attachments to the place, provide a rich framework within which to plan for the park's future.

For the purposes of the plan, the Nineteenth Century Park zone is defined generally by the park's boundaries circa 1873 (i.e., west of Luzerne Street) plus the area surrounding the eastern-most Storm Shelter and the Virginia Baker Recreation Center. For several reasons, the small area to the east of 1873 boundary is included:

- Topographically, the land is up slope of the Harris Creek alignment and shares drainage and soils characteristics with the land to its west;
- Historically, the area was improved prior to the turn of the century—a city topographic survey indicates that the paths and carriageways were completed by 1896; and
- The Virginia Baker Recreation Center has similar use characteristics and vehicular access requirements to the Casino.

### ***The Heart of the Park—The Lombard Street Gate, White House & Pagoda***

The Heart of the Park is defined generally as the area surrounding the park's earliest structures—the Lombard Street Gate, the Superintendent's House (White House) and the Observatory (Pagoda)—and includes the old Kiddie Pool site (i.e., the oval walkway) and the landscape west of the Maintenance Yard (*Figure 21*).

Despite its problems, the Heart of the Park has the potential to provide visitors with an authentic experience of the park as it was at the turn-of-the-century. Though changes have occurred, much of the nineteenth century fabric remains intact and in relatively sound condition. Carriageway and path alignments have changed little and major architectural elements from the period remain and have undergone only modest alteration. Even the existing land forms—the rolling terrain with serpentine drives and slightly depressed pathways—express the nineteenth century designer's pastoral approach to landscape design.

The main architectural features of this precinct—the Superintendent's House (White House), Observatory (Pagoda), Fountain, and the Lombard Gate—exist in varying states of repair. The Superintendent's House (White House) has been relatively well-maintained, largely due to the efforts of its current tenant, the Banner Neighborhoods Association. The association completed a \$20,000 improvement program a few years ago and has assumed responsibility for minor maintenance and

repairs. Additional improvements, including repairs to the roof, windows, and roof drains, will be required in the next few years.

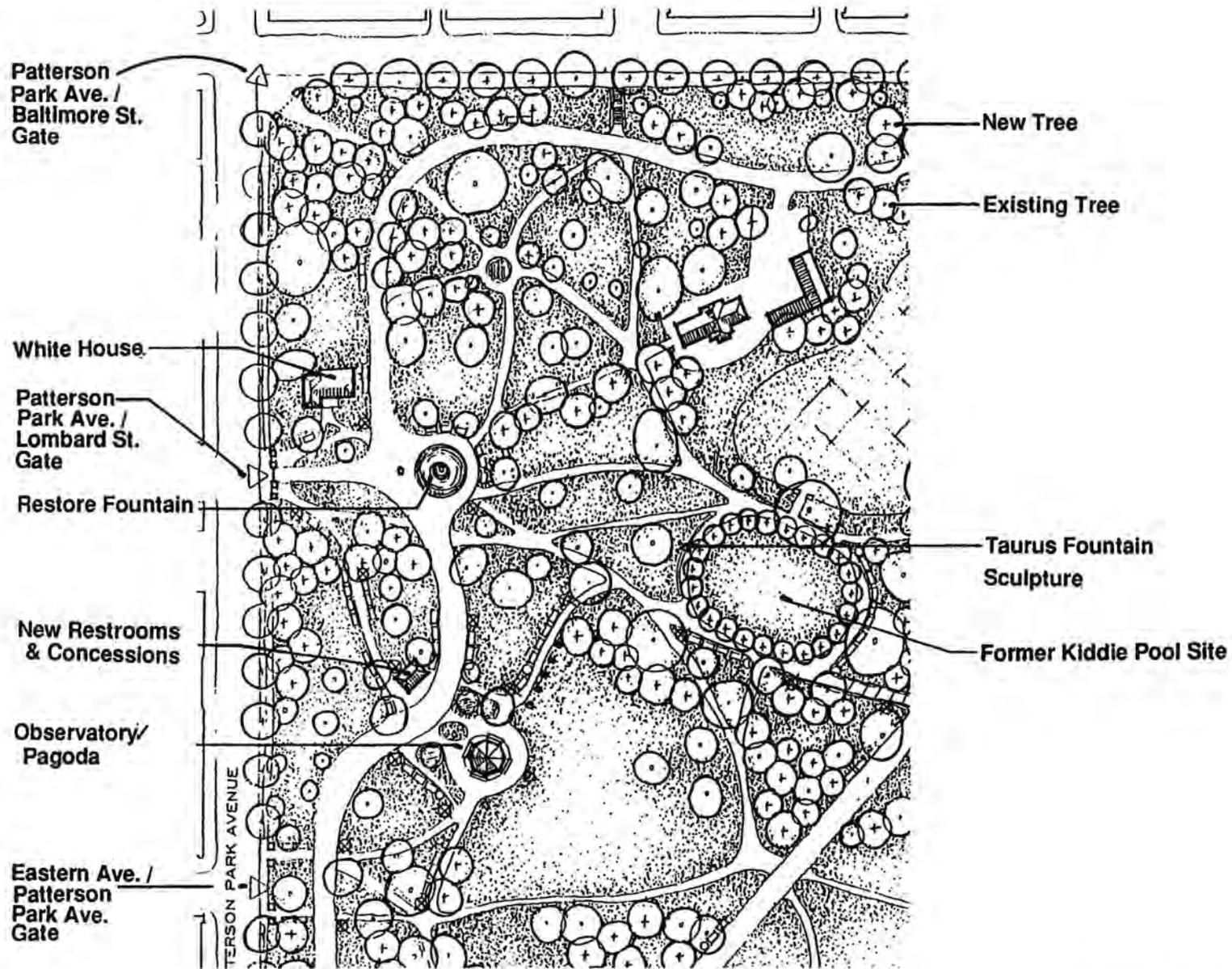
An additional concern relates to the rear garden created during the improvement program. Enclosing this area to create a garden, though it was a substantial improvement over previous conditions, obscured views to the building's rear facade and limits public access. The creation of this enclosed space is inconsistent with the park's heritage as a place open and accessible to the community.

A community-based restoration program led by the Butcher's Hill Neighborhood Association has been initiated for the Observatory (Pagoda) to protect the structure from further deterioration and ensure its restoration. In addition to the structure itself, features immediately surrounding the structure are also in disrepair. The concrete bases for the cannons are cracked and most of the plaques are missing. In addition, the Star Spangled Banner Memorial sculpture was placed facing in the wrong direction some years ago and the asphalt block paths are overgrown and uneven.

The iron picket fence is a contemporary addition in response to vandalism and should be removed and replaced with a system of lighting and security alarms, as well as a 24-hour security presence in the park.

The Marble Fountain near the Lombard Gate entrance, the first feature built specifically for park use, is also in poor condition. The

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THE HEART OF THE PARK

figure 21

plumbing system is inoperable because of clogged drain lines, the basin lining is cracked, the coping is chipped and stained, and the iron picket fencing is damaged and rusting. In addition, the Fountain's immediate context is compromised by its use for parking, the benches surrounding it have been removed, the drinking fountain is inoperable, and the shrubs to the east screen views to the fountain from the area near the community gardens and the Kiddie Pool site.

Though the decorative iron gates are no longer present, the Renaissance Revival style Lombard Gateway is in the best condition of any feature in the precinct. The marble pillars require cleaning but there are no signs of settlement or deterioration. As with the rest of the precinct, however, paths are in poor condition, few benches remain along the main entry paths; and recent improvements, such as the use of concrete unit pavers for a path replacement project, are inappropriate to the precinct's historic fabric.

The former Kiddie Pool site, with its oval lawn, benches, and low stone retaining walls, works well as a quiet seating area, but a few items require attention. The space itself lacks definition. Its central element, the sculpture from the Taurus Fountain, has been damaged by vandals; and the crown of the lawn is steeper than necessary, especially if the space is to be used for informal play. A contemporary sculpture in the center of the site that has been vandalized does not complement the quality of the space. As with most areas of the park, benches, retaining walls, paths, and stairs are in need of repair.

### *New Use Options*

Future uses and related accessibility issues were also evaluated during the planning process. Because of the number and close proximity of important features, the precinct, once improved, could attract greater use and become a desirable place to hold community celebrations, wedding receptions, and other events. Certain basic amenities, however, will be required to support increased use, and a number of alternatives have been explored.

An evaluation of the Superintendent's House (White House) suggests that, because of its historic importance and small size, alterations to accommodate more active uses may not be appropriate or cost-effective. If the building were open to large public functions or renovated to house support facilities like restrooms or a catering kitchen, architectural changes to comply with handicapped accessibility and health codes may prove either prohibitively expensive or inconsistent with sound preservation practices. Rehabilitation of the building for less intense use (e.g., to host small meetings or exhibitions or to act as a modest headquarters for a park-related organization or a police substation) may be more appropriate.

Potential uses for the Observatory (Pagoda) were also considered, but because of its small footprint and lack of heat or air conditioning, it cannot function as anything other than an observatory. Without the means to regulate temperature and humidity, its use even as a very small exhibit space is not recommended. Regardless of these limitations, this structure

is the park's best known feature and its preservation should remain a high priority. In addition, first floor access to the disabled should also be explored.

It is unlikely that either structure could house support facilities, and additions or modifications may compromise their historic integrity, so a new building option was also considered. At the turn of the century, the Little Casino served precisely the sort of role required to provide needed services to users and to sustain increased public use of the precinct and may provide a model for future action. Built in 1871, the Little Casino, also known as the Ice Cream Saloon, was designed to serve the needs of park visitors, including ice skaters, in the winter. The small Victorian structure, located adjacent to the carriageway across from the Observatory (Pagoda), housed a small refreshment stand and restrooms. Photographs suggest that the building, with its open porch and nearby benches, blended in well to its environment and was a popular gathering place. A new building, serving similar functions, could be located at this site.

### *Recommendations*

- Renovate the Superintendent's House (White House) to accommodate park-related uses such as a police substation; offices for Friends of Patterson Park or other community organizations; or a modest exhibition and meeting space. Improve its associated landscape (including removing nearby flower beds),

- remove the rear garden enclosure, and renovate the area for park use.
- Support the community's restoration initiative for the Observatory (Pagoda). Specific ways the Department of Recreation and Parks could help support this project include improving the condition of paving and landscape features at the base of the structure (including removing the iron fence and renovating the plantings) and assisting in on-going fundraising efforts.
- Restore the Lombard Gate and Fountain and reconstruct lost elements, such as the fountain head, iron gates, and stone bollards. Redesign the fountain system to be recirculating and remove existing iron fencing. As two of the park's oldest and most visible elements, restoration of these features would send a strong message to the community that the park is important and well cared for. A thorough understanding of each element's history, original condition, and context should guide the restoration and reconstruction effort.
- Construct a small building to house restrooms, a food concession, and a catering kitchen on the site of the Little Casino adjacent to the Observatory (Pagoda). The structure should be secure and vandal-proof and contain handicap accessible restrooms and a food service space with the equipment required to operate a small concession stand. Reconstruction of the Little Casino should be attempted only if historic design plans or photographs are available.
- Reinforce the former Kiddie Pool site's use as a contemplative space by repairing the damaged sculpture, regrading the lawn, and planting flowering trees. Remove concrete beneath the lawn to sustain vegetation. The existing lighting, particularly the fixture that blocks views to the Taurus Fountain remnant, should be removed, the paths should be repaired, the existing benches should be repaired, and new benches installed.
- Install planting beds containing flowers and shrubs of the size and character of those depicted in historic photographs for the lawn panels at the base of the Observatory (Pagoda) and in the small circular bed where paths converge northeast of the Superintendent's House (White House). Establishing flower beds in other locations, however, is inconsistent with historic evidence and is not recommended. Instead, flower beds should be established in the Mall area.
- Implement a precinct-wide path and site furnishing preservation and improvement program. Existing paving materials (asphalt, asphalt pavers, and brick) should be preserved and concrete pavers at the Lombard Street entry should be replaced with historically appropriate material.
- Preserve the small-scale features of the precinct, the elements that add richness and provide evidence of the park's history. The cannon bases should be rehabilitated and the plaques reinstalled, the Star Spangled Banner Statue should be cleaned and turned so that the children face outward as they did historically, and the War of 1812 cannon and plaque should be cleaned.
- Develop an interpretive program to share the history of the park precinct with visitors. For example, small signs or plaques could explain the history of the Battery and importance of the view to the harbor and to the east.

***The Maintenance Complex and Community Gardens***

The Maintenance Complex and Community Gardens precinct is located west of the Virginia Baker Recreation Center between the Kiddie Pool site and the northern-most carriageway. The precinct, though located within the park's boundaries circa 1860, has experienced a greater degree of physical change since its initial improvement than any area in the Nineteenth Century Park.

Community gardens have had a long history in the Park. In 1904, and again in 1913, the

dedication of land for community-tended garden plots is discussed in Park Commission reports and a 1935 map depicts a large children's garden. Photographs from the time confirm their existence and area residents have suggested that community-tended gardens or victory gardens have been in the park since World War II.

#### Recommendations

- Perform a major renovation of the existing Maintenance Complex once the Patterson Park Division's regional maintenance functions are relocated to new facilities outside of the park. The Stables should be restored, the concrete block storage building should be demolished, a small maintenance structure should be built, the outdoor storage area should be consolidated, and new fencing should be installed. Under the recommended design, the Stables will become more visible and more directly connected to the surrounding landscape (*Figures 22 and 23*). An iron picket fence will be used to enclose the south edge of the yard, outdoor storage will be screened by a new shelter attached to the small storage building, and a small parking area will be provided between the Stables and the carriageway.
- Enlarge the Community Gardens and install new fencing. The gardens should be physically separated from the Maintenance Complex through

new landscaping. An iron picket fence and small formal gate should be installed where the garden borders the Kiddie Pool site and black vinyl chain link fencing should be installed around the west, north, and east edges. An access drive for service vehicles should be constructed from the carriageway to the gardens.

- Construct a brick path that follows the historic alignment of Middle Drive. The new path will define the south and east edges of the community gardens and provide a more direct path between the Lombard Gate, the gardens, and the Virginia Baker Recreation Center.

#### The Mall

This precinct is generally defined as the area surrounding the Mall and the Storm Shelter and includes the former site of the Conservatory (*Figures 24, 25 and 26*).

The Mall area retains many of the elements installed in the late nineteenth century, including the walks, carriage drive, trees, and the Mall itself. Although the area retains integrity, its defining elements (such as the Conservatory and the vases) have been removed; and the area is generally in poor condition.

#### Recommendations

- Rehabilitate the Mall with careful restoration of extant elements and redevelopment of critical historical

features. The rehabilitation program includes conserving and resetting existing asphalt paver blocks; installing new asphalt pavers to match existing pavers in deteriorated areas; reconstructing the vases and planting them with floral displays; installing new "Baltimore Benches" and trash receptacles; and planting maple trees along the edges. Careful attention should be given to preserving existing trees along the Mall.

- Construct a pavilion at the Mall's northern terminus similar in form and scale to the former Taurus Fountain Pavilion. Demolish the existing drinking fountain and pad.
- Establish flower beds along the east side of the Mall and in the circular lawn panel at the Mall's southern terminus.
- Remove existing play equipment at the Conservatory site and construct a new, expanded, custom-designed children's playground on the east side of the Mall.
- Construct a small structure for restrooms on the east side of the Mall on a path connecting the Mall to the Playground.
- Develop a new picnic area on the grounds between the Mall and the carriageway.

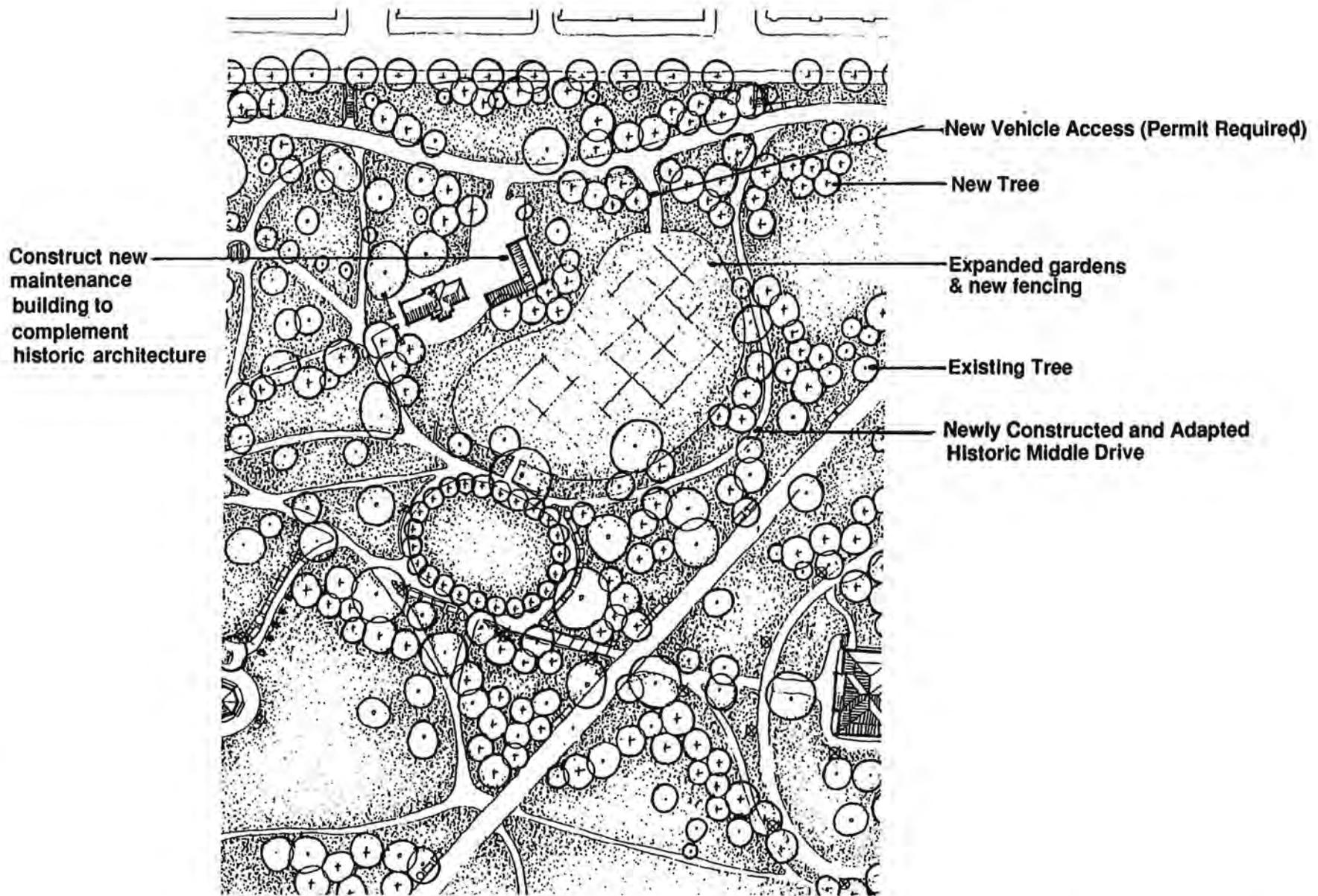
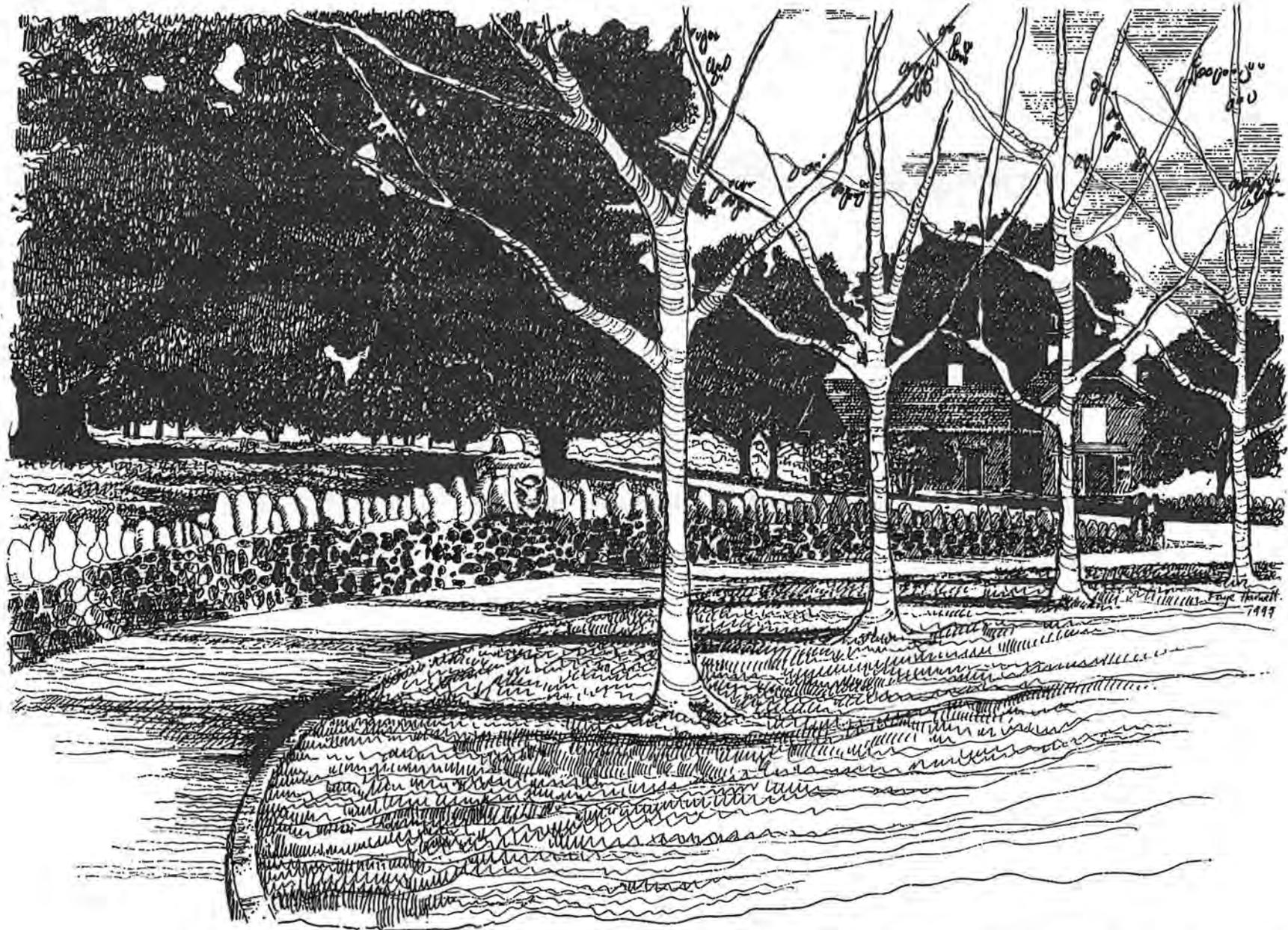


figure 22



VIEW OF REHABILITATION OF STABLES BUILDING AND TAURUS FOUNTAIN SCULPTURE FROM THE FORMER KIDDEE POOL

figure 23

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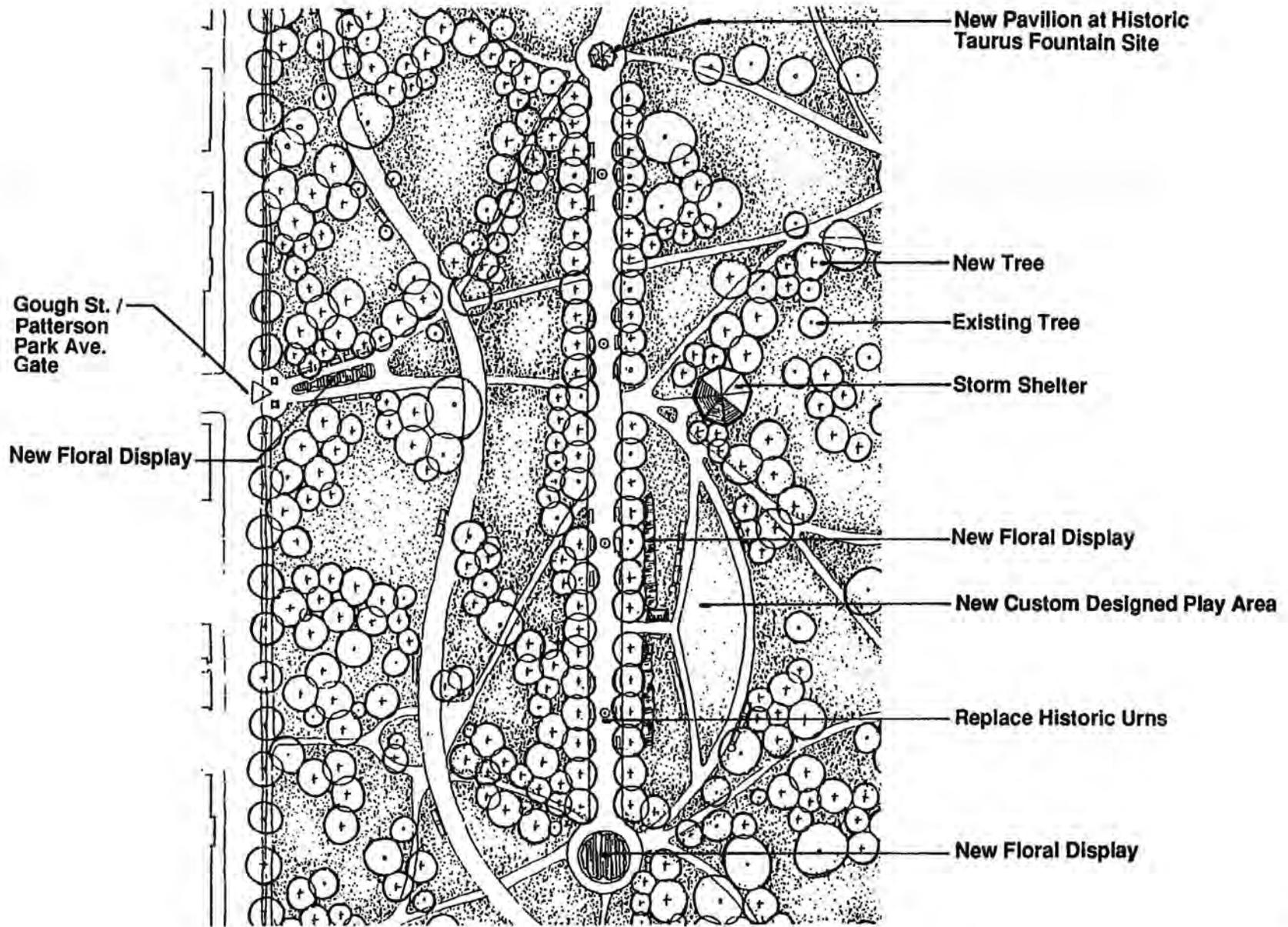
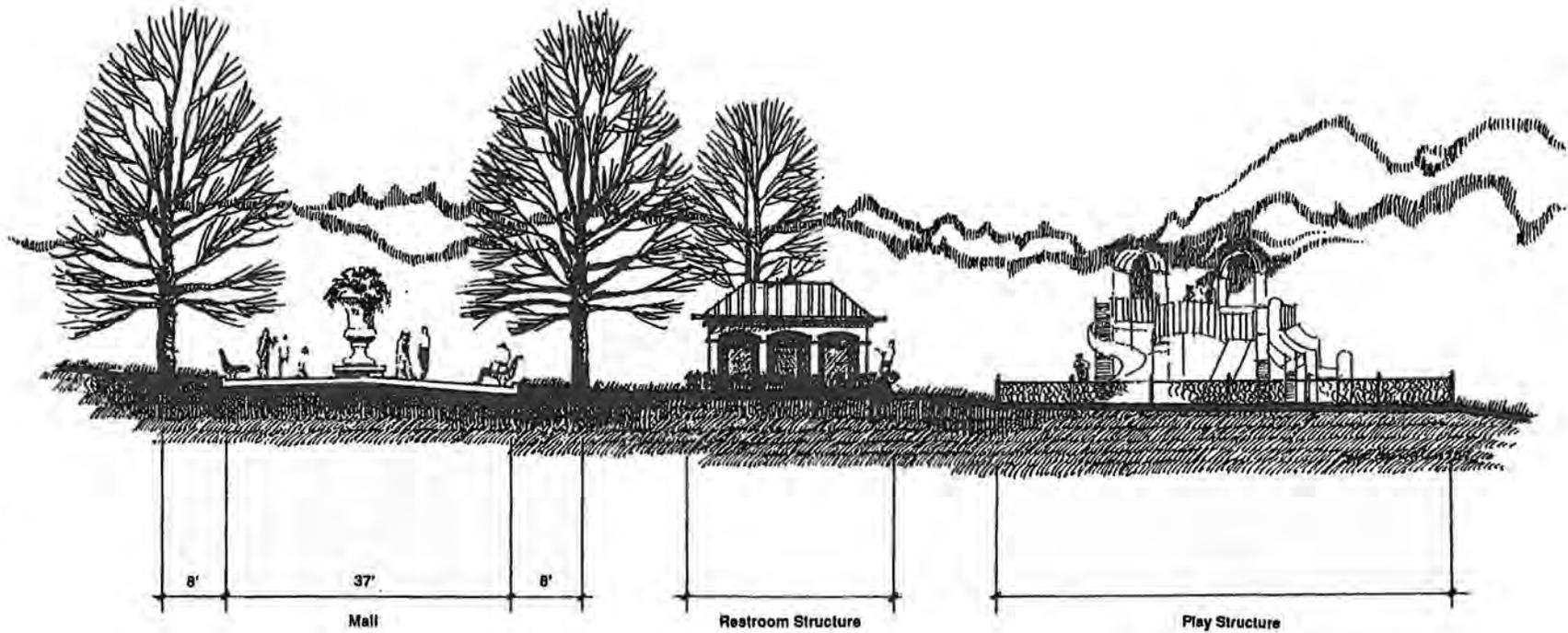


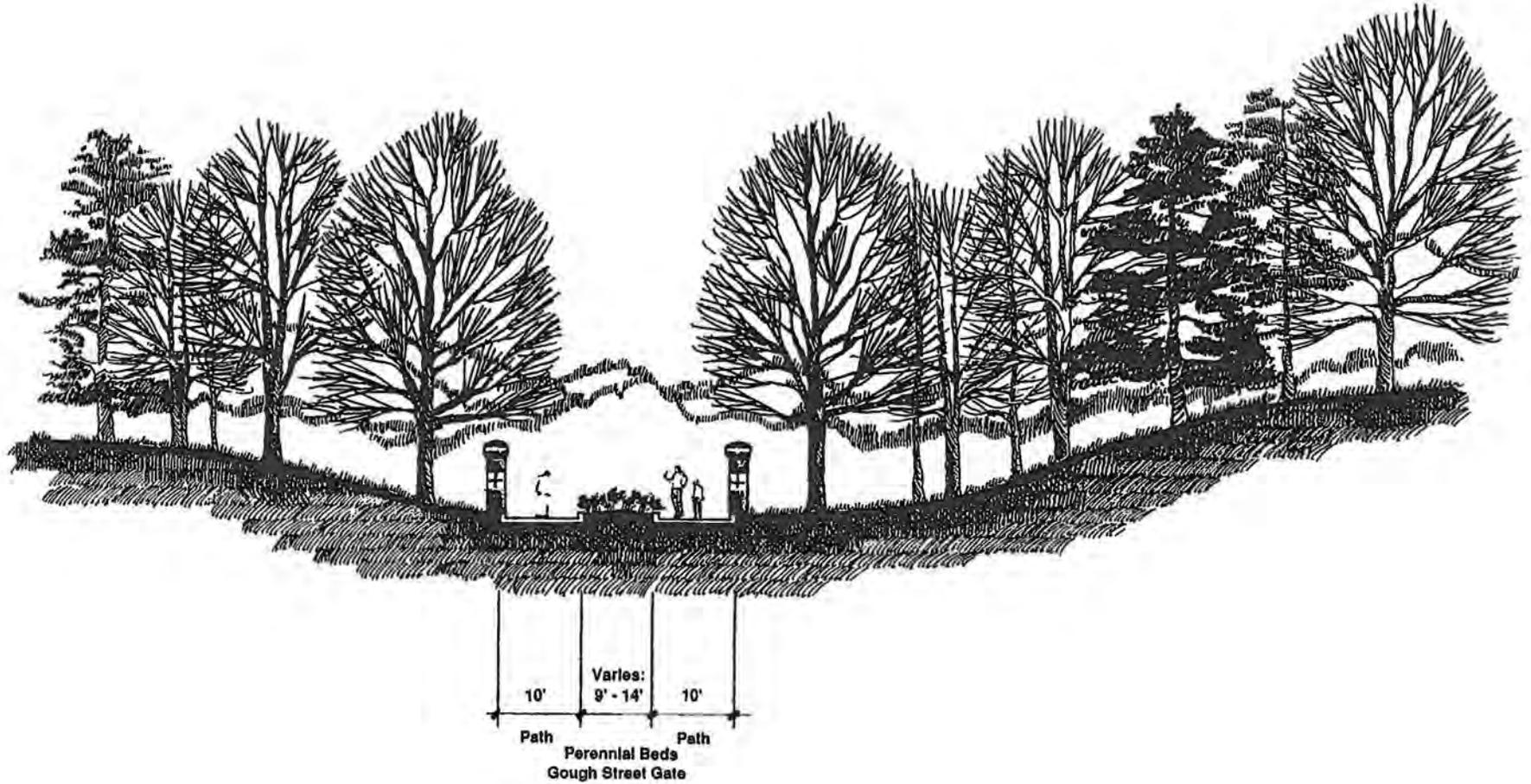
figure 24

A MASTER PLAN FOR PATTERSON PARK IN BALTIMORE, MARYLAND



SECTION THROUGH RESTORED MALL, LOOKING NORTH

figure 25



SECTION THROUGH GOUGH STREET GATE, LOOKING EAST

figure 26

- Rehabilitate the paths in the vicinity of the Mall utilizing historic alignments and asphalt paving.
- Preserve the storm shelter and establish tree plantings in its vicinity in accordance with tree density desired for the park.

### **The Boat Lake**

#### *Background*

The Patterson Park Boat Lake (*Figures 27, 28 and 29*) was created during grading operations in 1864 when extensive earthmoving work was performed to remove military emplacements and to fill ravines.

When Baltimoreans began spontaneously to use the Lake as a skating pond in 1865, the Board of the Public Park Commission acknowledged the worthiness of expanding the Lake to accommodate skating as well as boating. This work, completed in 1875, enlarged the Lake to its present size, reduced the depth to approximately three feet, and included a brick retaining wall around the Lake edge, an island, and plantings of trees and shrubs.

A system of trench drains, using oyster shells as the porous materials and earthen pipes to convey the water, was constructed to eliminate wet areas. Waste water from the marble fountain at the Lombard Street park entrance and numerous springs and seeps were also piped to the Lake. By 1884, a boat landing shelter was added.

Park Commission reports noted that by 1897 marine grass was removed twice annually. During this period, the growth of vegetation was sufficient to preclude boating. Available records do not indicate how the growth of vegetation problem was solved, other than through periodic harvesting, nor do they indicate what actions may have been taken during the period from the turn of the century to 1984.

In 1984, the Departments of Public Works and Recreation and Parks drained the Lake and removed between six inches and one foot of sediment that overlaid a clay bottom. At that time, it was recommended that the Lake be deepened and that the ground be treated with herbicides. The Lake has a winter surface of approximately 2.62 acres (114,250 square feet) and is fed by a drainage area of 34.65 acres. Field observation shows all 11 pipes discharging into the Lake area actively draining, although available test pit data suggest that feed pipes may in fact be clogged and not fully functional. The brick wall along the Lake's perimeter still remains and is presently covered with concrete and in considerable disrepair in numerous locations. The island, surrounded by a wall as well, also remains.

During the master plan, citizens expressed a desire to manage the pond to retain a combination of open water and wetland habitat for fish, waterfowl, and songbirds. The current conditions do not support these objectives. The Lake is shallow and cattails and water lilies are rapidly encroaching on the Lake as sediments continue to collect on

the bottom. The cattails have limited food value for waterfowl, however redwing black birds breed in the cattails to the delight of local bird watching enthusiasts. The Lake produces a prolific annual crop of algae, which causes noxious odors later in the season as the algae decays. Fish kills also occur due to poor water quality.

#### *Recommendations*

The design objectives for the lake are to (*Figures 30, 31 and 32*):

- Establish and maintain a combination of open water and emergent wetland habitat.
- Maintain water quality to support fish and an aesthetic environment, free from odors.
- Provide safe access to the water's edge for fishing and other recreational purposes.
- Provide amenities, which bring back the aesthetic character of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Several strategies will fulfill these objectives:

- Perform a feasibility study to assess the environmental quality of the pond and make design and management recommendations for the long-term maintenance of the pond to meet design objectives.





LAKE IN PATTERSON PARK  
SOURCE: ART WORK OF BALTIMORE, 1893  
CHICAGO: WH PARISH

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EARLY VIEWS OF PATTERSON PARK LAKE

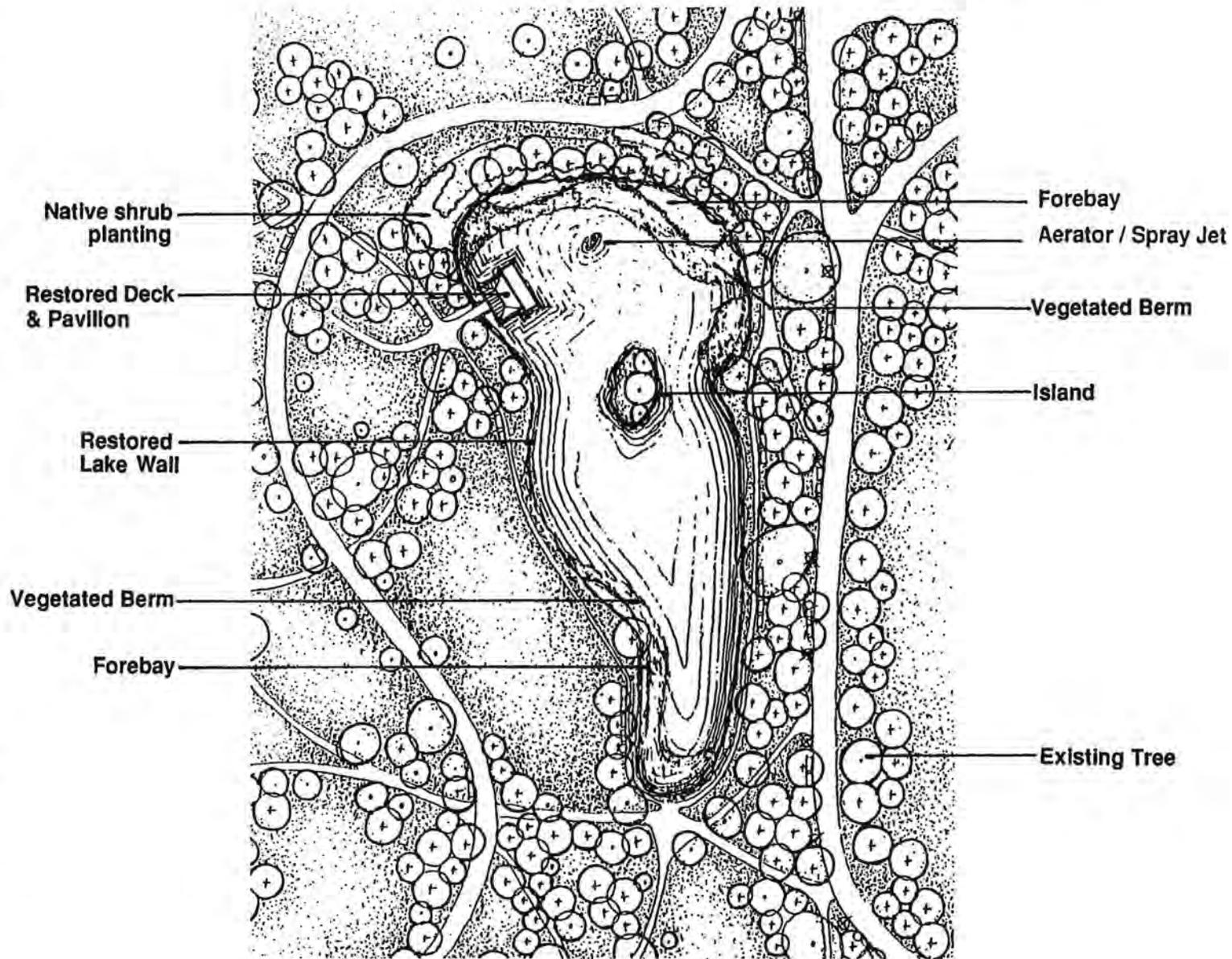
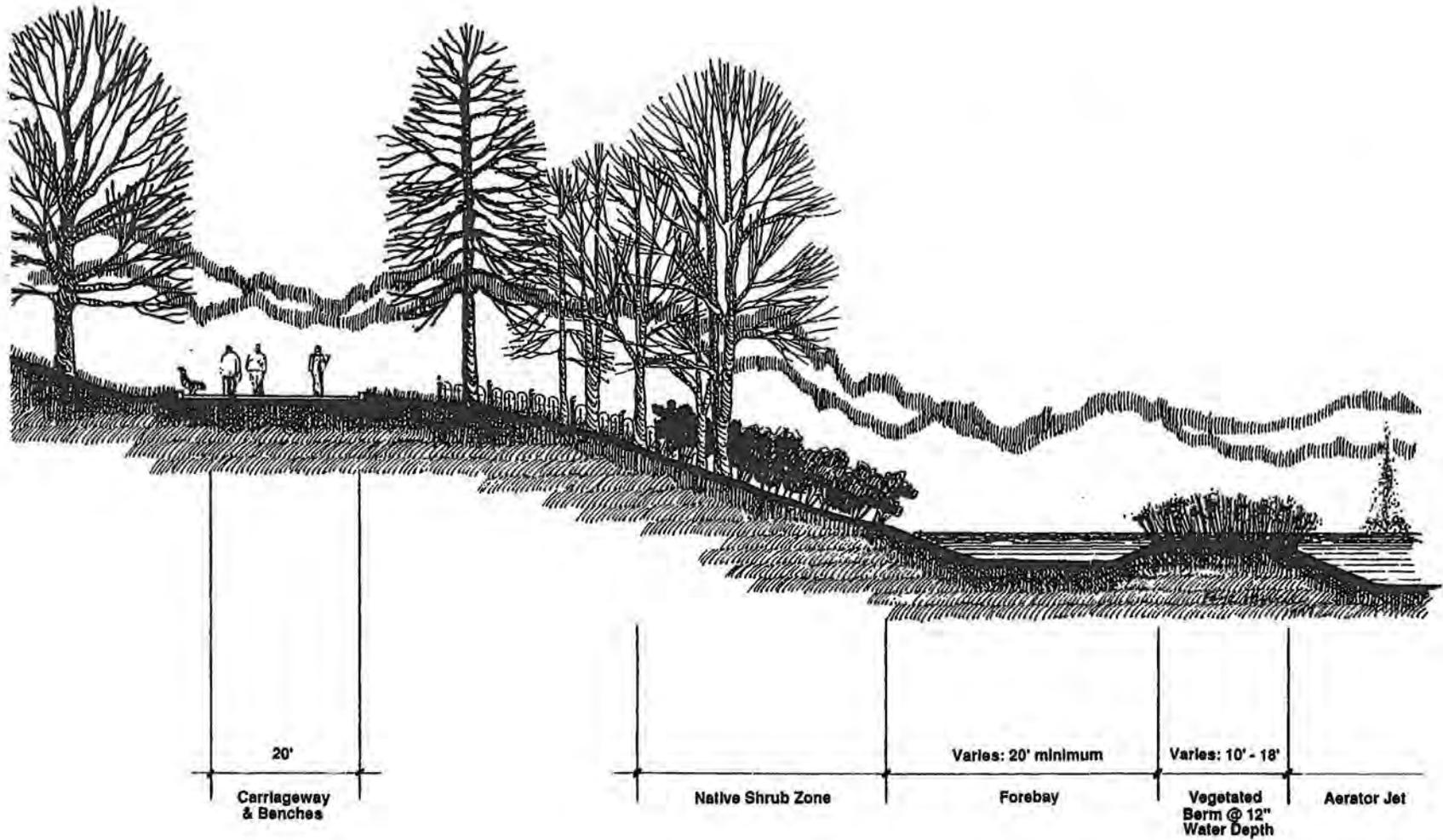


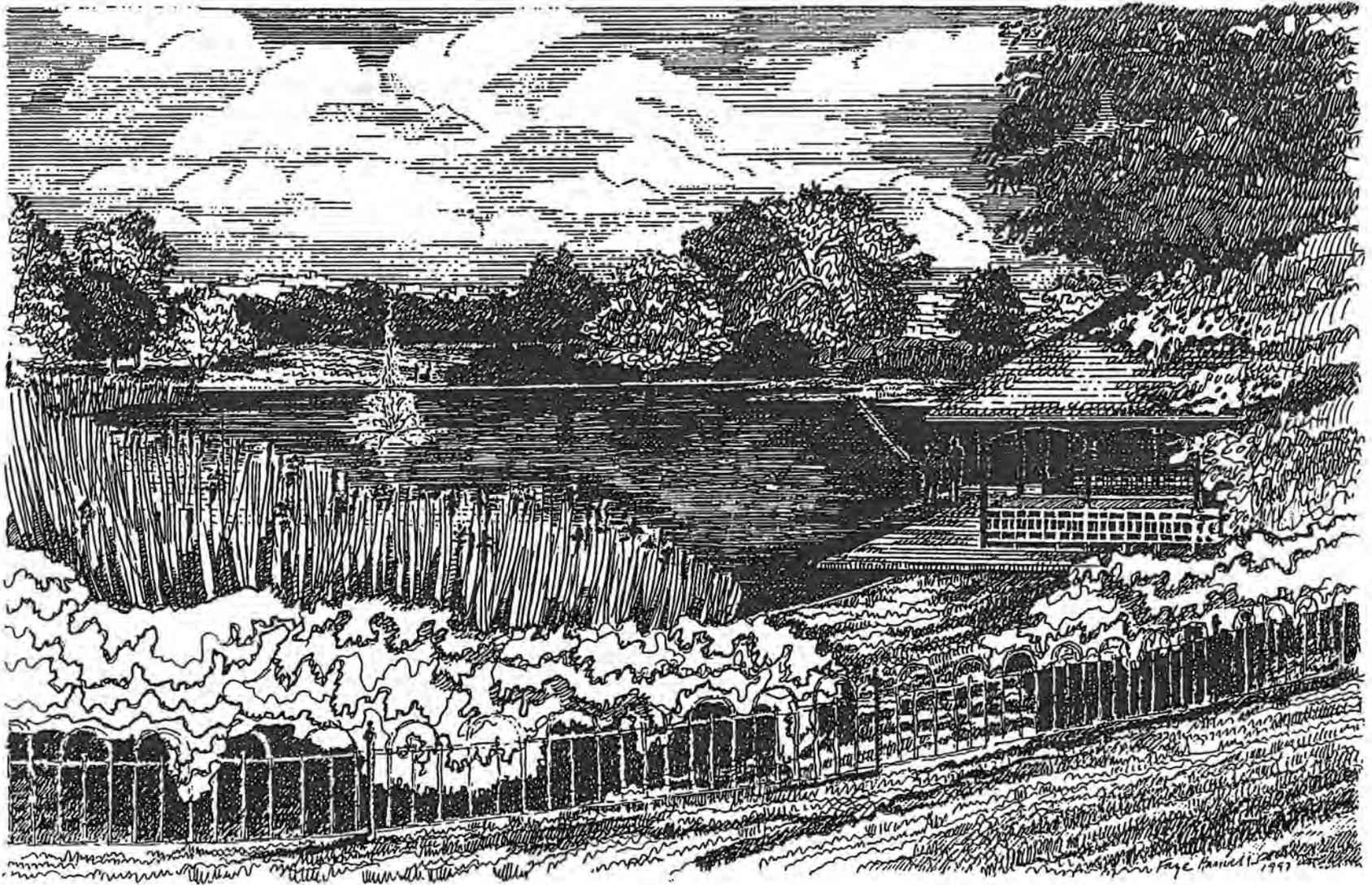
figure 30

A MASTER PLAN FOR PATTERSON PARK IN BALTIMORE, MARYLAND



SECTION THROUGH NORTH END C/ RESTORED BOAT LAKE, LOOKING EAST

figure 31



VIEW OF RESTORED BOAT LAKE AND PAVILION, LOOKING SOUTHWEST

figure 32

- Establish a diverse and easily managed plant community of emergent wetland vegetation on part of the fringes.
- Incorporate methods to intercept and/or reduce sediment and nutrient contributions to the Lake from the watershed.
- Deepen the pond if the feasibility study demonstrates this will significantly improve water quality and management considerations.
- Incorporate methods to reduce maintenance requirements.
- Provide a safety bench below water level around the portion of the Lake where there is direct access. The Lake bottom in the area of the bench and along the slope should be covered with a grouted stone lining to prevent growth of emergent vegetation.
- Add spray aerator to restore the water jet that appears in historic images of the park. This feature would also increase the dissolved oxygen content of the Lake.
- Rehabilitate the brick wall, parged with portland cement concrete. Consider revising portions of the lake edge treatment to facilitate access for maintenance dredging.
- Consider constructing a new low-level drain, depending upon the

location and the configuration of the existing drainage valve

- Inspect, clean, repair, and/or replace (as necessary) existing inlets, manholes, and drains within the Lake's draining areas.
- Add plantings of trees along the east edge of the Lake to screen ballfields and lightpoles from eastward vistas from the storm shelter and Mall area of the park.

Develop a routine maintenance program since the Lake acts as a "best management practice" wet pond. The maintenance program should be as follows:

- Minimize erosion throughout the drainage area through spot regrading and seeding or sodding eroding areas. Clean and repair broken inlets. When repaired to proper functioning, existing inlets will reduce surface runoff that creates erosion. Once the drainage system is restored to operable condition, the system must be inspected annually and maintenance performed as required.
- Remove debris, litter and floating material from the water surface on a monthly basis.
- Clean sediments from the lake approximately every ten years.

### ***The Casino and Virginia Baker Recreation Center***

The Casino (*Figures 33 and 34*) has seen various uses, from a refreshment stand to Park Commission offices. The building is currently leased to the Commission on Aging, which houses an adult day care program there and is scheduled to expand the program. Presently, parking at the front of the building intrudes on the park and is degrading the paving and landscape.

The Virginia Baker Recreation Center was constructed in 1974 in the north central section of the park on the site of the former Music Pavilion. Although this building lacks the architectural significance of many of the buildings in the park, the facility is an important magnet for active recreation and community events. The landscape surrounding these structures retains the original alignment of paths, steps, retaining walls, and a dense canopy of shade trees.

### ***Recommendations***

- Collaborate with the Commission on Aging during the renovation and restoration of the Casino building.
- Modify existing circulation in the vicinity of the Casino to eliminate vehicular use of the diagonal mall extension and move employee parking to the rear of the building. A new vehicular access road would begin at the existing carriageway northeast of the building. Pedestrian access should be up-graded to

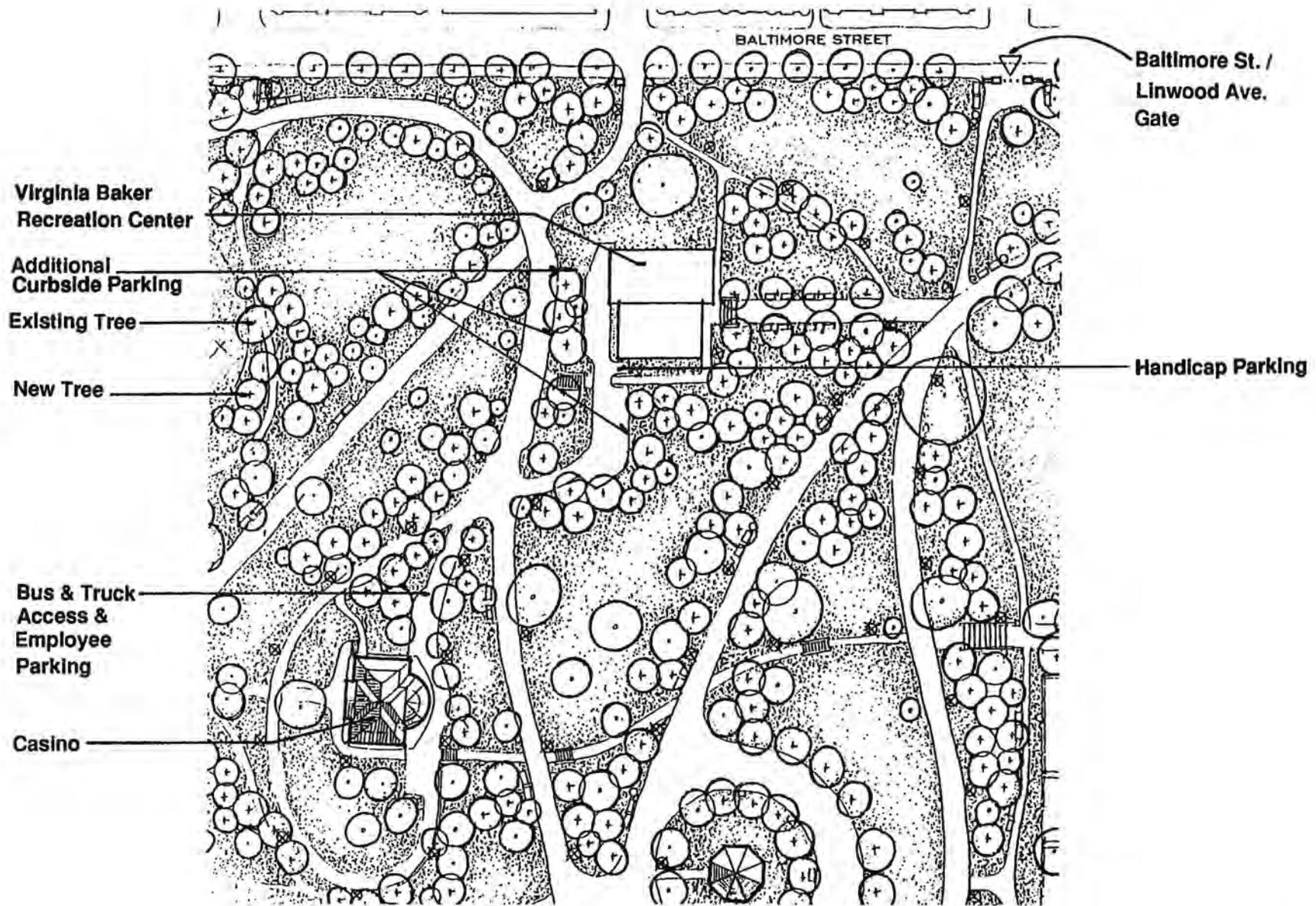
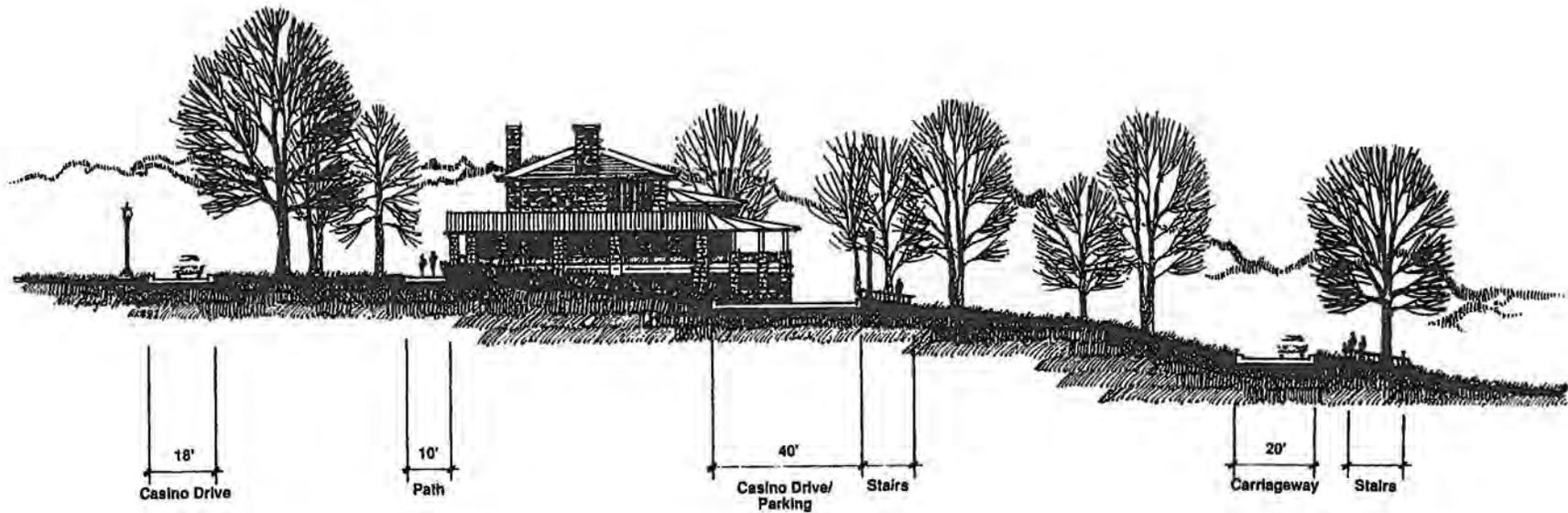


figure 33

A MASTER PLAN FOR PATTERSON PARK IN BALTIMORE, MARYLAND



SECTION THROUGH RENOVATED CASINO SITE, LOOKING NORTH

figure 34

provide an accessible path to the Casino and a more direct path between the Nineteenth Century Park to the west and the Recreation Park to the east. Both the vehicular and pedestrian improvement will resolve the casual parking and ill-defined paths on the east side of the building.

- Upgrade parking and pedestrian access at the Virginia Baker Recreation Center. Expand the existing parking area south of the building and create a small parking area on the carriageway west of the building. Install a new path that meets accessibility guidelines from the parking area to the main entrance to the building. Rehabilitate the path leading from the carriageway to the main entrance of the building and install shade trees and benches along the path. Install new shade trees in location similar to early twentieth century planting plans.

### **The Recreation Park**

The Recreation Park is the third zone of Patterson Park. This zone includes the portions of the park west of Linwood Avenue devoted to active recreation and the Park east of Linwood with play fields. Though the western portion of this zone became part of the park in 1883, its improvement as a recreation landscape was not completed until circa 1912 under the direction of the Olmsted Brothers. Its early use for active recreation and the initial high quality of improvements served as a model for the development of

recreation complexes in public parks throughout the United States.

Portions of the Olmsted plan for the western portion of the zone remain intact, but major changes over time have compromised its integrity. The Field House; the Linden tree planting along the promenade/mall; the children's play area; the location of open play fields along Linwood Avenue; and the general organization of structures along a north-south axis provide the framework within which change may occur while keeping the core design elements intact. The eastern portion was constructed as designed by the Olmsted Brothers and, despite the loss of trees, exhibits a high degree of integrity.

An improvement strategy that respects the Olmsted plan and reestablishes the Field House (*Figure 35*) as the central focus of activity is recommended. Of the entire park, the western portion of this zone is the most amenable to change; new development and redevelopment, as appropriate, can be accommodated within the existing development area. The balance of the zone, including the perimeter, the play fields, the Pulaski Monument, and the Olmsted Extension east of Linwood Avenue should be preserved or restored as appropriate.

Today, although numerous fields and facilities are dilapidated, much of the Recreation Park retains the spirit and character that dominated the park in the early twentieth century. The facilities requiring the greatest need for repair include the Field House, pool, and courts surrounding the

building. The landscape on the north side of the ice rink is one of the most unattractive areas in the park.

### **Recommendations**

- Stabilize the Field House from further deterioration and rehabilitate the building for future recreation or community use. Rehabilitate the east-west oriented Mall, including paving, site furnishings, and lighting. Possible uses of this facility include a health club; art center; youth center; or a day care center.
- Demolish the existing bath house and create a new bath house south of and on axis with the Field House.
- Redevelop the existing swimming pool and develop a new, separate, small pool for young children. When this area is redeveloped, the grade on the south side of the Field House should be raised from the basement level to the elevation of the first floor.
- Replace the bubble cover over the ice rink in the long term with a year-round facility sympathetic in design with the context of the area. Realign fencing in the vicinity of the ice rink to provide greater access to the park landscape while removing unnecessary fencing.
- Create a new sand volleyball court adjacent to the existing courts west of the Field House.

A MASTER PLAN FOR PATTERSON PARK IN BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

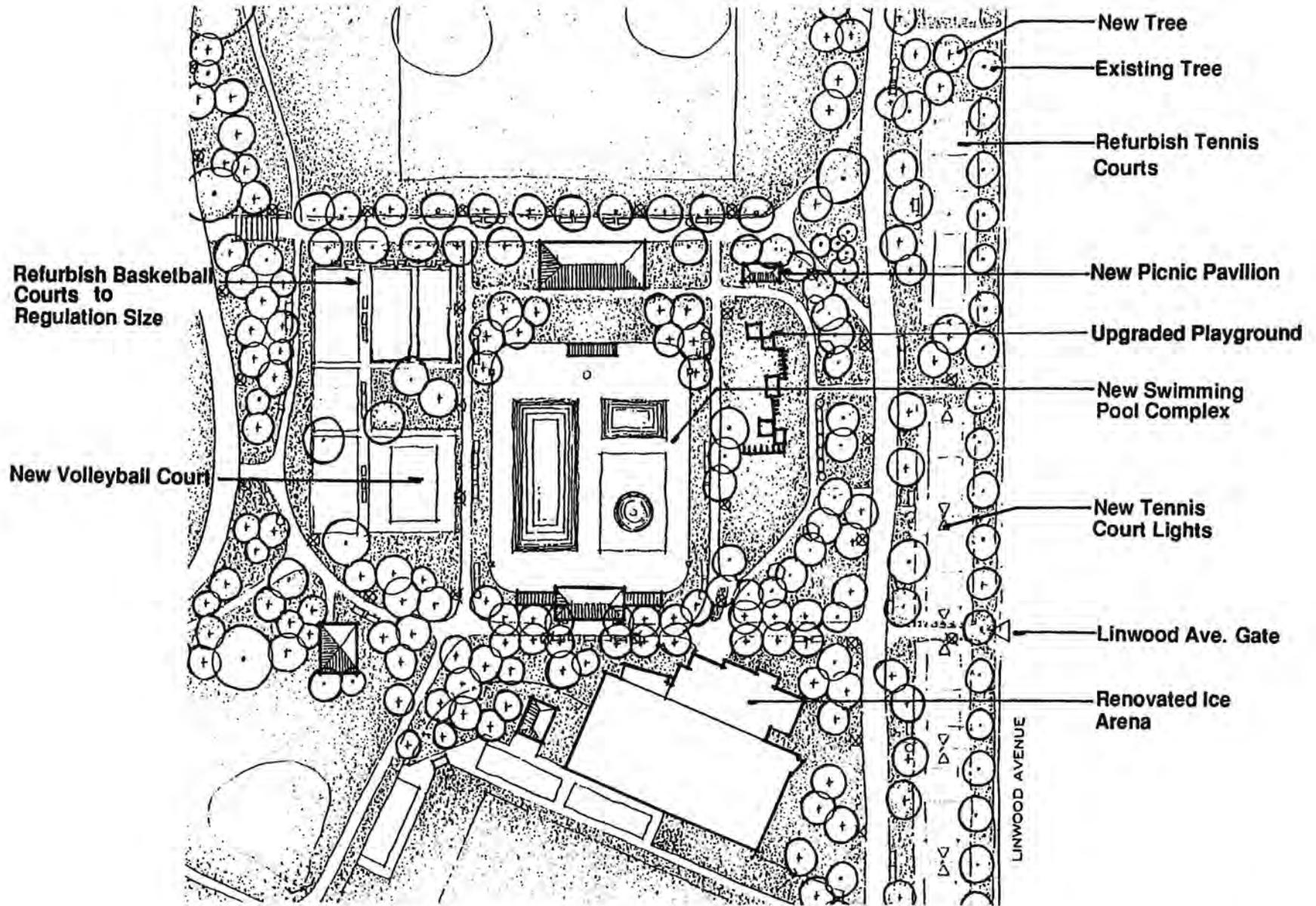


Figure 35

- Upgrade the existing tennis courts, including paving, lighting, and chain link fencing.
- Upgrade the basketball courts and reconfigure, where space is available, to regulation size.
- Repair Utz Twardowicz scoreboard and PA system.
- Provide hoods on back-stop.
- Renovate ball fields.
- Redevelop the existing children's playground east of the swimming pool.
- Upgrade the pedestrian path system in the vicinity of the Field House. Establish new paths east and west of the swimming pool. Upgrade the paths south of the proposed bath house and create a small mall that will provide direct access from Linwood Avenue to the tennis courts, the carriageway, the ice rink, the bath house, and the Quoit House. Refine the alignment of the paths north of the Quoit House. Preserve the carriageway and rehabilitate the asphalt paths throughout the zone.
- Protect the existing healthy trees in the zone. Develop a new planting program adapted from the early twentieth century Olmsted Brothers planting plan utilizing the location and species of that plan.
- Install a gate to complete the enclosure of the Pulaski Monument to

discourage dogs from entering the area. Preserve the Olmsted Extension east of Linwood Avenue. Utilize the promenade planting design attributed to the Olmsted Brothers as a basis for upgrading the planting along the crescent-shaped walk. On the slope, add masses of trees to hide the ungainly topography and provide shade as suggested by Olmsted Brothers. Remove the concrete gutter that is in poor condition and replace with a supported grass swale. Upgrade the lighting and install new "Baltimore Benches."

## Chapter 5: Implementation

### *A brief overview of priority implementation projects*

#### **BACKGROUND**

Following an identification of priority projects at the final Public Hearing, members of the Advisory Committee identified ten priority projects to be implemented as part of the Patterson Park Master Plan. These ten projects cost more than the funds immediately available from the \$1,000,000 bond bill.

A ballot was circulated, asking Advisory Committee members to consult their constituents and rank the ten projects, specify public or private funding, and provide comments. Sixteen of twenty-seven members of the Advisory Committee returned their ballots. The results of each ballot were analyzed, weighting each vote a value of 1–10, with the first priority project given a value of 10 and the last a value of 1. The weighted values from each ballot were added together for each project to determine the cumulative ranking. The relative ranking is listed in Table F.

In addition to the ten projects discussed above, other projects and policies were suggested by the public, including

enforcing leash laws; providing more police or ranger protection; improving circulation and access to the Virginia Baker Recreation Center and Casino; and improving the playgrounds.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The consensus from the Advisory Committee is that improvements to the perimeter of the park are the highest priority for the community. These improvements not only upgrade the park but will enhance the neighborhoods surrounding the park. The Boat Lake is also a high priority; however, the community would prefer to find additional funds to complete this project. Installing trash cans and repairing pathways and stairs are secondary priorities. While benches ranked only fifth on the list, comments suggested that benches may also be a secondary priority. New seating should be emphasized at the perimeter, tennis courts, and Boat Lake.

Athletic facilities are recognized as a great asset to the park and community; however, user funds and corporate contributions

along with public funds are viewed as an appropriate way to enhance these facilities. Upgrading the park's infrastructure is not a popular project, but is recognized as an inevitable need. Many considered that drainage improvements should happen simultaneously with Boat Lake improvements.

Restoration of the Lombard Street gate is viewed as a low priority, and appropriate when the whole park or the northwest section of the park is completely renovated.

The following projects fell within the mid-range of priorities, and were similar in importance to committee members: installing benches; improving perimeter lighting; renovating athletic fields; repairing drainage infrastructure; and repairing tennis courts.

Finally, the community recognizes and supports the need to examine private sources of funding for sustaining Patterson Park now and in the future.

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**Table F: Ten Priority Projects as Determined by Advisory Committee**

Rank & Project	Weighted Score	Percent of Possible Weighted Score
1. Improve perimeter	132	81%
2. Install stationary trash cans	101	63%
3. Repair pathways & stairs	100	62%
4. Renovate Boat Lake	98	61%
5. Install Benches	90	56%
6. Improve perimeter lighting	89	56%
7. Renovate ball fields	86	54%
8. Repair drainage Infrastructure	82	51%
9. Repair tennis courts	70	44%
10. Restore Lombard Street gate	42	26%

## Chapter 6: Cost Estimate

### Detailed cost estimate of improvements for the park

#### BACKGROUND

Following approval of the draft Master Plan, the planning team prepared a detailed cost estimate of improvements for Patterson Park. The cost estimate was reviewed at the final public meeting and Advisory Committee meeting. These cost estimates enabled the Advisory Committee members to better establish priority projects. Based upon comments from the public, Advisory Committee members and Department of Recreation and Park reviews, the final Master Plan cost estimate is as follows.

#### THE WHOLE PARK

##### *Circulation and Infrastructure (exclusive of precincts)*

Pedestrian circulation	\$215,000
Utility and infrastructure studies (park-wide)	\$130,000
Utility reconstruction (to be determined based on future study)	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$345,000</b>

##### *Site Furnishings (exclusive of precincts)*

Benches and trash receptacles	\$127,000
Lighting	\$377,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$504,000</b>

##### *Landscape Improvement and Restoration (exclusive of precincts)*

Lawn and trees	\$150,000
Annual and perennial bed preparation	\$5,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$155,000</b>

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**Interpretation**

Interpretive program design	\$10,000
Interpretive signs	\$12,000
Brochure/map	\$5,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$27,000</b>

**Total: The Whole Park**

Subtotal	\$1,031,000
plus 15% contingency	\$155,000
<b>TOTAL: THE WHOLE PARK</b>	<b>\$1,186,000</b>

**THE PARK PERIMETER**

**Gateways**

Entrance 1	Baltimore and Patterson Park Avenue Gate	\$29,000
Entrance 2	Luzerne Avenue Gate	\$2,500
Entrance 3	Lakewood Avenue Gate	\$49,000
Entrance 4	Kenwood Avenue Gate	\$4,000
Entrance 5	Baltimore Street and Linwood Avenue Gate	\$14,000
Entrance 6	Pulaski Monument Gate	\$47,000
Entrance 7	Eastern Avenue Entrance	\$27,000
Entrance 8	Gough Street Gate	\$35,000
Entrance 9	Pratt Street Gate	\$4,500
Entrance 10	Eastern Avenue and Ellwood Avenue Gate	\$13,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$225,000</b>

**Miscellaneous Elements**

Demolish and reconstruct stairs (5) and repair stairs (2)	\$250,000
Clean stone foundation wall and reset as required	\$10,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$260,000</b>

**Total: The Park Perimeter**

Subtotal	\$485,000
plus 15% contingency	\$72,750
<b>TOTAL: THE PARK PERIMETER</b>	<b>\$557,750</b>

**THE NINETEENTH CENTURY PARK**

**The Heart of the Park—The Lombard Gate/White House/Pagoda**

Precinct-wide	\$201,000
White House and Fountain	\$242,000
Pagoda (Observatory)	\$387,000
Music Pavilion Site	\$46,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$876,000</b>

**The Maintenance Complex and Garden**

Precinct-wide	\$77,000
Maintenance complex	\$180,000
Community garden	\$54,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$311,000</b>

**The Mall and Conservatory Site**

Precinct-wide	\$98,000
Mall restoration/rehabilitation	\$251,000
Conservatory site and picnic area	\$242,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$591,000</b>

**The Boat Lake**

Boat Lake reconstruction	\$755,000
Lake perimeter	\$258,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,013,000</b>

***The Casino and the Virginia Baker Recreation Center***

Precinct-wide	\$215,000
Casino	\$171,000
Virginia Baker Recreation Center	\$63,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$449,000</b>

***Total: The Nineteenth Century Park***

Subtotal	\$3,240,000
plus 15% contingency	\$486,000
<b>TOTAL: THE NINETEENTH CENTURY PARK</b>	<b>\$3,726,000</b>

**THE RECREATION PARK**

***The Field House and Pool Complex***

Precinct-wide	\$302,000
Field House and Pool Complex	\$3,069,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,371,000</b>

***Recreation and Play Equipment***

Play equipment and courts	\$223,000
Fields Renovation	\$37,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$260,000</b>

***Total: The Recreation Park***

Subtotal	\$3,631,000
plus 15% contingency	\$545,000
<b>TOTAL: THE RECREATION PARK</b>	<b>\$4,176,000</b>

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**PARK RESTORATION TOTAL**

**\$9,645,750 (excluding Drainage Infrastructure)**

## ***Patterson Park Bibliography***

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-

## ***Appendices***



## **1. Patterson Park Master Plan Phase I: Inventory and Analysis Committee Members**

### **Physical Features**

Sidney Brower  
Jim Creiman  
Rob Foster  
John Huppert  
Florence Kulbicki  
Dan Lipstein  
Clint Roby  
Mary Roby  
Kitty Thompson

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Ren Brenna  
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Paul Janigue  
Lisa Land  
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John Moulis  
Lori Nicolle  
Veronica Piskor  
Sandra Sales  
Claudia Saniszewski  
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Cheryl Jordon  
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### **Promotion and Marketing**

Mark Adams  
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Don Carver  
Jackie Carrera  
Ellen Casale  
Hubert de Montagen  
Helle DeSimone  
Dorothy Dobbyn  
John Johnson  
Tracey LeBonte  
Sally Loomis  
Sandy McCollum  
Susan Murray  
Mary Roby

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## 2. Patterson Park Chronology\*

### *Chronology of major events in the park's history*

- |      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |           |                                                                                                                                                                           |           |                                                                                                                |
|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1792 | William Patterson invested profits from his shipping business in a large tract of land in east Baltimore.                                                                                                              | 1864      | Walks constructed, lake excavated, and approx. 2,000 trees planted; Boat Lake completed (one-half the size of the present lake).                                          | 1875      | Flower beds established in park; Boat Lake expanded to present configuration.                                  |
| 1814 | Rodgers' Bastion established as a battery of cannon in preparation for attack by the British Army during the War of 1812.                                                                                              | 1865      | Drainage pipes and fire plugs installed; marble fountain constructed; Boat Lake depth reduced to 3' for skating pond use; fountain added.                                 | 1876      | Wood frame Conservatory constructed.                                                                           |
| 1827 | William Patterson's Public Walk, a 5.96 acre site, is dedicated for public use.                                                                                                                                        | 1866      | Superintendent's House/ Gatekeeper's House (White House) constructed.                                                                                                     | 1881      | Maintenance building rebuilt after fire damage.                                                                |
| 1860 | Expansion of Public Walk with capital improvements to 31 acres.                                                                                                                                                        | 1867-1870 | Lombard Gate completed; music stand and the "little Casino" built; shade trees and evergreens planted; iron fencing and settees (benches) installed; stables constructed. | c. 1881   | War of 1812 cannons (not original cannons on site) and Star Spangled Banner statue added.                      |
| 1861 | Grading and fencing installed.                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1869      | Skater's structure constructed.                                                                                                                                           | 1882-1883 | Boundary expanded; "Extension"- 57 acres; Baltimore Avenue/North Kenwood Street Gate is constructed.           |
| 1862 | George Aloysius Frederick appointed Park Architect by the Park Commission.                                                                                                                                             | 1873      | Boundary expanded; "Southern Edition of Park" addition-19.2 acres; beginning of Mall construction.                                                                        | 1887      | New boathouse completed.                                                                                       |
| 1863 | Construction of the serpentine carriageway begins, grading operations continued, ravines filled, and restoration/renovation plans made, including southeast corner of the park "contemplated for use as a small lake." | 1874      | Mall installed as a gravel path; planted with maples.                                                                                                                     | 1890      | Two storm shelters constructed.                                                                                |
|      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |           |                                                                                                                                                                           | 1891      | Observatory (Pagoda) completed; Mall paved with asphalt block.                                                 |
|      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |           |                                                                                                                                                                           | 1892      | Urns installed on Mall, placed from Druid Hill Park; Patterson Park Avenue & Eastern Avenue Gates constructed. |

\*Adapted from Strocks, 1995.

A MASTER PLAN FOR PATTERSON PARK IN BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

- |           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |       |                                                                                                                                        |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1893      | Mansion House (Casino) constructed; Gough Street Gate constructed.                                                                                                                                                                                         |       | from Taurus Fountain constructed at Music Pavilion site.                                                                               |
| 1895      | Baltimore Avenue/North Lakewood Street Gate constructed; end of Frederick's tenure as Park Architect.                                                                                                                                                      | 1944  | Conservatory removed.                                                                                                                  |
| 1896      | Wharf built and boathouse repaired.                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1948  | Playground near shelter reintroduced.                                                                                                  |
| 1897      | First children's playground (first active recreation use in park) located near storm shelter; marine grass removed twice annually from Boat Lake.                                                                                                          | 1951  | Pulaski Monument installed.                                                                                                            |
| 1904      | Land dedicated for community garden plots near service yard; iron and glass Conservatory constructed; outdoor gymnasium constructed in the 1882-1883 extension; Olmsted Brothers landscape architects hired to prepare a plan for the 1882-1883 extension. | 1952  | Board of Education built athletic fields at present site of Utz Twardowicz Field; outdoor skating center and changing house installed. |
| 1905      | Field House constructed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1953  | Swimming pools added; lake filled.                                                                                                     |
| 1908      | Mall repaved (material unknown, probably asphalt block); boundary expanded, "Patterson Park Extension," 22.5 acres acquired.                                                                                                                               | 1968  | Skating rink changing house expanded.                                                                                                  |
| 1915      | Olmsted Brothers Plan implemented and fields ready for use by public.                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1970  | Utz Twardowicz Field and viewing stand installed; Bath House installed.                                                                |
| 1916-1921 | Baltimore/Patterson Park Avenue Gates Constructed.                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1970s | Vietnam Memorial and two maintenance structures installed.                                                                             |
| 1923      | Gold Star Mothers Memorial Flagstaff installed.                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1974  | Virginia Baker Recreation Center constructed.                                                                                          |
| 1925      | Quoit House constructed, kiddie pool/roller skating rink constructed; stone retaining wall with Bull's Head                                                                                                                                                | 1986  | Mimi DiPietro Skating Rink enclosed with tension structure and changing/warming house expanded.                                        |

### 3. Patterson Park Bird Species

#### *Bird Species Observed in Patterson Park, Their Relative City-Wide Abundance, and Breeding Status (If Available)*

	Breeding	Abundant*	Common	Uncommon	Somewhat Rare	Rare
American Robin	✓	✓				
American Crow	✓	✓				
Blue Jay	✓	✓				
Chimney Swift		✓				
Common Grackle		✓				
European Starling	✓	✓				
House Sparrow		✓				
Mourning Dove	✓	✓				
Northern Cardinal	✓	✓				
Northern Mockingbird	✓	✓				
Rock Dove		✓				
Barn Swallow			✓			
Dark-eyed Junco			✓			
Downy Woodpecker			✓			
House Wren			✓			
Northern Flicker	✓		✓			
Red-winged Blackbird	✓		✓			
Mallard	✓		✓			
Eastern Kingbird				✓		
American Goldfinch				✓		
Killdeer				✓		
Wood Thrush				✓		
Chipping Sparrow				✓		
Black-Crowned Night Heron	✓				✓	
Black Duck					✓	
Canvasback Duck					✓	

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	Breeding	Abundant	Common	Uncommon	Somewhat Rare	Rare
Laughing Gull					✓	
Marsh Wren	✓				✓	
Purple Finch					✓	
Ring-billed Gull					✓	
Peregrine Falcon					✓	
Ruddy Duck					✓	
Wood Duck	✓				✓	
American Bittern						✓
American Coot						✓
Brown Creeper						✓
Canada Goose						✓
Swamp Sparrow	✓					✓
Chipping Sparrow						✓
Great Egret						✓
Marsh Hawk						✓
Great Blue Heron						✓
Green Backed Heron						✓
Little Blue Heron						✓
Ring-necked Duck						✓
Marsh Hen						✓
Pied-billed Grebe						✓

\*For the purposes of this study, "Abundant" is defined as occurring in greater than 85% of the city; "Common" is defined as occurring in 60—85% of the city; "Uncommon" is defined as occurring in 33—60% of the city; "Somewhat Rare" is defined as occurring in 10—33% of the city; and "Rare" is defined as occurring in less than 10% of the city.

Source: Bird Sightings by Charles C. Glass and Michael Hendrick, community residents; Breeding status by M. Hendrick; Analysis for relative abundance city-wide by Department of Recreation and Parks, adapted from Baltimore City Habitat Assessment Plan, Baltimore Department of Planning.

## 4. Results of 1996 Water Sampling in Patterson Park Lake

Analyte	May Water Sample (mg/l)	August Water Sample (mg/l)	Soil Sample (mg/kg)	Desired Water Quality Acceptable Range
Dissolved Oxygen	6.540	7.800	—	>5.00
Chlorophyll	3.140 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	0.003 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	—	—
Total Phosphorous	0.070	0.100	2.560	0.01–0.06
Nitrate/Nitrate as Nitrogen	21.000	0.080	0.240	0.10–0.40
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	0.217	0.240	6.450	0.20–0.60
Ammonia	0.070	0.050	ND	0.10–0.30
Ortho-phosphate	ND	ND	—	0.00025–0.001
Fecal Strep	ND	4/100 ml	—	—
Fecal Coliform	ND	Present	—	<200 mpn/ml
Total Coliform	ND	Present	—	—
Percent Moisture	—	—	57%	N/A

Source: Delon Hampton & Associates, Maryland.

## 5. Recommended Trees Adapted from Historical Lists

### HEART OF THE PARK

Latin Name	Common Name	Historical Presence	Origin
Acer	maple	1 2** 4	indigenous to Maryland
Aesculus hippocastanum	horse chestnut	1 4	S. Europe
Catalpa speciosa	northern catalpa	1 2	Midwest US
Celtis occidentalis	hackberry	4	indigenous to Maryland
Cercis canadensis	eastern redbud	3	indigenous to Maryland
Cornus florida	flowering dogwood	3	indigenous to Maryland
Liriodendron tulipifera	tulip poplar	1 3 4	indigenous to Maryland
*Pinus nigra	austrian pine	3	S. Europe
*Pinus strobus	eastern white pine	3 4	indigenous to Maryland
Quercus alba	white oak	1 3 4	indigenous to Maryland
Quercus macrocarpa	bur oak	1 2 3 4	indigenous to Maryland
Quercus prinus	chestnut oak	1 4	indigenous to Maryland
Quercus rubra	red oak	1 2 3 4	indigenous to Maryland
Tilia americana	American linden/basswood	1 2 3 4	indigenous to Maryland

*Key:*

- 1 Present in 1887
- 2 Present in 1915
- 3 Present in Olmsted Bros. Plan
- 4 Present Today
- \* Evergreen
- \*\* Maple Species in 1915 survey not specified

*Sources:*

City of Baltimore Department of Parks & Recreation,  
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 applicable to Planting Plan 2414-13, dated  
 13 March 1916.

**MALL AREA**

Latin Name	Common Name	Historical Presence	Origin
Acer	maple	1 2** 4	indigenous to Maryland
Aesculus hippocastanum	horse chestnut	1 4	S. Europe
Cercis canadensis	eastern redbud	3	indigenous to Maryland
Cornus florida	flowering dogwood	3	indigenous to Maryland
Fagus grandifolia	American beech	1 2 3 4	indigenous to Maryland
Gymnocladus dioicus	Kentucky coffee tree	2 4	Central US/naturalized in Maryland
*Ilex opaca	American holly	1 3	indigenous to Maryland
Liriodendron tulipifera	tulip poplar	1 3 4	indigenous to Maryland
Liquidambar styraciflua	American sweetgum	2 3 4	indigenous to Maryland
Quercus rubra	red oak	1 2 3 4	indigenous to Maryland
Tilia americana	American linden/basswood	1 2 3 4	indigenous to Maryland
Ulmus americana	American elm	1 2 3 4	indigenous to Maryland

**POND AND SPRINGS AREA**

Latin Name	Common Name	Historical Presence	Origin
Carpinus caroliniana	American honbeam/musclewood	1 3	indigenous to Maryland
Cercis canadensis	eastern redbud	3	indigenous to Maryland
Fraxinus pennsylvanica	green ash	1 4	indigenous to Maryland
Gleditsia triacanthos	common honey locust	1 2 4	indigenous to Maryland
Platanusacerifolia (hybrid)	London planetree	2 4	indigenous to Maryland
Quercus palustris	pin oak	3	indigenous to Maryland
Quercus phellos	willow oak	2 4	indigenous to Maryland
Salix babylonica	Babylon weeping willow	1 2 3 4	S. Europe
Taxodium distichum	common bald cypress	4	indigenous to Maryland

*Key:*

- 1 Present in 1887
- 2 Present in 1915
- 3 Present in Olmsted Bros. Plan
- 4 Present Today
- \* Evergreen
- \*\* Maple Species in 1915 survey not specified

*Sources:*

City of Baltimore Department of Parks & Recreation,  
 "Patterson Park Tree Inventory."  
 Olmsted Brothers, Plant List, dated to 20 March 1916,  
 applicable to Planting Plan 2414-13, dated  
 13 March 1916.

## RECREATION FIELDS

Latin Name	Common Name	Historical Presence	Origin
<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	American hornbeam/musclewood	1 3	indigenous to Maryland
<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	eastern redbud	3	indigenous to Maryland
<i>Cornus florida</i>	flowering dogwood	3	indigenous to Maryland
<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	American beech	1 2 3 4	indigenous to Maryland
* <i>Ilex opaca</i>	American holly	1 3	indigenous to Maryland
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	tulip poplar	1 3 4	indigenous to Maryland
<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	American sweetgum	2 3 4	indigenous to Maryland
* <i>Pinus strobus</i>	eastern white pine	3 4	indigenous to Maryland
<i>Platanus acerifolia</i>	London plane tree/sycamore	2 4	indigenous to Maryland
<i>Quercus palustris</i>	pin oak	3	indigenous to Maryland
<i>Quercus phellos</i>	willow oak	2 4	indigenous to Maryland
<i>Quercus rubra</i>	red oak	1 2 3 4	indigenous to Maryland
<i>Tilia americana</i>	American linden/basswood	1 2 3 4	indigenous to Maryland
<i>Ulmus americana</i>	American elm	1 2 3 4	indigenous to Maryland

**Key:**

- 1 Present in 1887
- 2 Present in 1915
- 3 Present in Olmsted Bros. Plan
- 4 Present Today
- \* Evergreen

**Sources:**

City of Baltimore Department of Parks & Recreation,  
 "Patterson Park Tree Inventory."  
 Olmsted Brothers, Plant List, dated to 20 March 1916,  
 applicable to Planting Plan 2414-13, dated  
 13 March 1916.

## 6. Ranking of Tree Species by Numbers Present

### Numbers of Trees and Species West of Linwood Avenue only

1887

Species	Number	Percent Total
Silver Maple ( <i>A. dasycarpum</i> )	265	15%
Norway Maple	189	11%
Box Elder	169	9%
American Linden	117	6%
Carolina Poplar ( <i>Populus augulata</i> )	110	6%
Horse Chestnut	109	6%
European Linden	96	5%
European Beech	61	3%
American Elm	54	3%
Catalpa	47	2%
Sugar Maple	43	2%
Basket Willow	43	2%
Tulip Tree	38	2%
European Ash	37	2%
White Birch	28	1%
Honey Locust	27	1%
Silver Poplar	26	1%
Deciduous Cypress ( <i>Cupressus serotina</i> )	25	1%
Red Maple	23	1%
Chestnut Oak	23	1%
English Corked-bark Maple	19	1%
Bur Oak	16	1%
Maiden Hair Tree ( <i>Salisburia adiantifolia</i> )	13	1%
American Ash	12	1%
Mountain Willow ( <i>Salix laurifolia</i> )	12	1%
Double Flowering Cherry ( <i>Cerasus rubra</i> )	12	1%

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Sweet Gum	11	1%
Balsam Poplar	11	1%
Sycamore	10	<.5%
English Oak	10	<.5%
Paper Mulberry (Morus Sp.)	9	<.5%
Kentucky Coffee Tree	9	<.5%
Common Scrub Oak (Q. ilicifolia)	9	<.5%
White Oak	8	<.5%
European Hornbeam	7	<.5%
Japan Tree (Paulownia Imperialiis)	6	<.5%
Wild American Cherry (Cerasus serotina)	4	<.5%
Weeping Willow	3	<.5%
Purple-leaved Beech	3	<.5%
Red Oak	3	<.5%
European Larch	2	<.5%
American Bird Cherry (Cerasus padus)	2	<.5%
Sensitive Tree (Mimosa prostrata)	1	<.5%
American Holly	1	<.5%
Sassafras	1	<.5%
Total Trees	1714	100%
Total Number of Species	45	

1915

Species	Number	Percent Total
Maple (species unknown)	451	39%
Linden	258	25%
Elm	71	7%
Hickory	40	6%
Poplar	43	4%
Sycamore	43	4%
Willow Oak	35	3%
Beech	24	2%
Catalpa	18	2%
Cedar	16	2%
Locust	11	1%
Willow	10	1%
S. Bean (Kentucky Coffee Tree?)	10	1%

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Pine	9	1%
Red Oak	9	1%
Bur Oak	7	1%
Birch	5	<.5%
Gum	4	<.5%
Ash	2	<.5%
Oak	2	<.5%
Mulberry	2	<.5%
<b>Total Trees</b>	<b>1041</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Total Number of Species</b>	<b>22</b>	

1995

Species	Number	Percent Total
Linden	270	29%
Red Oak	94	10%
Red Maple	55	6%
White Ash	47	5%
White Pine	26	3%
Mulberry	22	2%
Hawthorn	22	2%
Norway Maple	21	2%
American Elm	21	2%
Sycamore	19	2%
Unknown	19	2%
Cherry	18	2%
Sweet Gum	17	2%
Scholar Tree	16	2%
Honey Locust	16	2%
Hackberry	15	2%
Horse Chestnut	15	2%
English Oak	14	2%
Willow Oak	12	1%
Tulip Poplar	11	1%
Ginkgo	10	1%
Sugar Maple	9	1%
Silver Maple	9	1%
English Elm	9	1%
Bur Oak	8	1%

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Black Locust	7	1%
Pear	7	1%
Green Ash	7	1%
Sycamore Leaf Maple	6	1%
Saucer Magnolia	6	1%
Bald Cypress	6	1%
White Oak	5	1%
Southern Magnolia	5	1%
Holly	5	1%
Crabapple	5	1%
Golden Rain	5	1%
Amur Cork	4	<.5%
Basswood	4	<.5%
Yellow Wood	4	<.5%
Beech	4	<.5%
Weeping Willow	3	<.5%
Shingle Oak	3	<.5%
Eastern Cottonwood	3	<.5%
Calespur Thorn	3	<.5%
Osage Orange	3	<.5%
Cottonwood	2	<.5%
Zelkova	2	<.5%
Kentucky Coffee	2	<.5%
White Fir	2	<.5%
Weeping Cherry	1	<.5%
White Wingnut	1	<.5%
Locust	1	<.5%
Hop Hornbeam	1	<.5%
Chestnut Oak	1	<.5%
Weeping Mulberry	1	<.5%
Juniper	1	<.5%
Amur Maple	1	<.5%
Poplar Hybrid	1	<.5%
Oak	1	<.5%
<b>Total Trees</b>	<b>920</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Total Number of Species</b>	<b>59</b>	
<b>Total Trees West of Linwood Avenue</b>	<b>808 = 77% of 1915 47% of 1887</b>	

## ***7. Historical Trend of Trees in Patterson Park***

### ***Numbers of Trees and Species West of Linwood Avenue***

Year	1835	1887	1915	1995
# Trees	200	1,714	1,070	808 = 75% of 1915 total & 47% of 1887 total
Trees/Acre	33	12	7	6
No. Species	?	45	21	59

