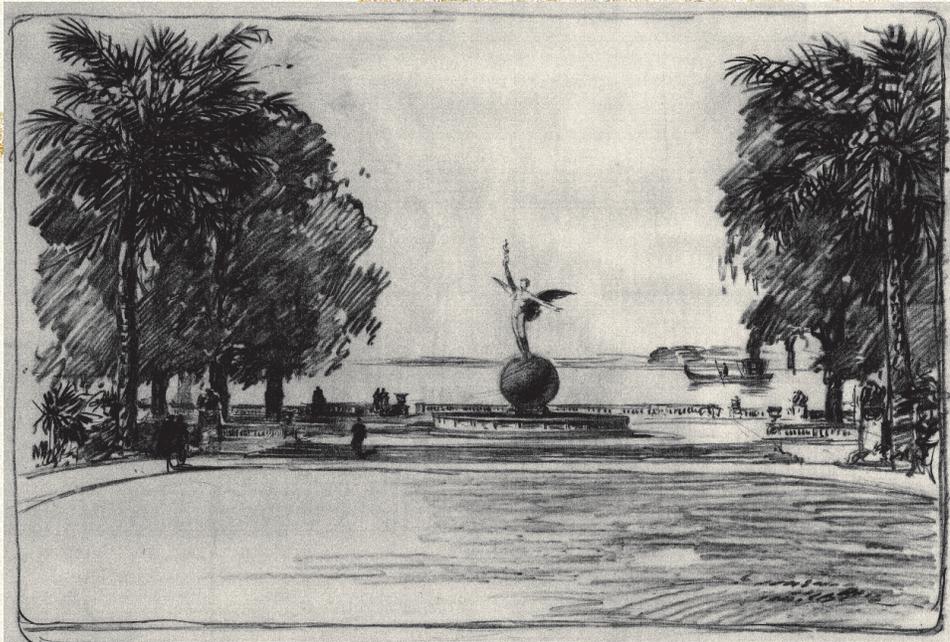


MEMORIAL PARK MASTER PLAN

MARCH 2013



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THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, FREDERICK LAW OLMSTED NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

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The Memorial Park Association was founded in 1986 by Mrs. Judson (Ann Wright) Freeman as a Not-for-Profit 501(C)3 corporation, for the purpose of preserving, restoring and beautifying Memorial Park, keeping as closely as possible to the original 1922 design by Olmsted Brothers Landscape Architects. This Master Plan was funded in its entirety by the Memorial Park Association.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Memorial Park was born out of Jacksonville citizens' deep gratitude to those who served in The Great War (World War I). The park honors 1,220 Floridians, men and women, white and black, who died in the conflict, and whose names are inscribed on a parchment sealed in a lead box buried beneath the memorial plaza. Tribute is paid by the striking figure known as *Life*, sculpted by the renowned artist Charles Adrian Pillars of St. Augustine in 1923. It is the only memorial of that era that honors the sacrifices of citizens from the entire State of Florida. Development was funded entirely by private contributions, on land provided by the City of Jacksonville.

The park itself was designed by the nationally pre-eminent firm of Olmsted Brothers Landscape Architects to serve as a welcoming urban oasis, as well as an appropriate setting for the memorial. Considered one of their very best small parks that still exists in this country, Memorial Park is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, as a key component of the Riverside-Avondale Historic District.

Since its dedication on Christmas day, 1924, Memorial Park has served as a landmark for the city and as a much-loved beauty spot for relaxation and informal recreation. Now nearing a century in age, this elegant park shows the inevitable signs of wear and tear. It has had its ups and downs in the past, with plantings sometimes getting overgrown, making law-abiding citizens wary of entering, and frequent challenges in keeping up with maintenance and repair.

For the past twenty-five years, the park has benefitted from the stewardship of the Memorial Park Association (MPA), which seeks to preserve, restore and beautify Memorial Park keeping as closely as possible to the original Olmsted Brothers design. The MPA raises private funds for maintenance, to try to supplement City resources, and has worked with the City to complete a number of improvement projects within the park. These have been funded through a variety of public and private sources and have ranged from conservation work on the sculpture to replacement of dead or aging landscaping and trees, additions to the irrigation system, repair or replacement of cast stone work, and the addition of benches, fencing and lights. MPA volunteers also assist with landscape care.

Security in the park has improved significantly in recent years, as has maintenance. However, with its continued high usage and popularity, aging infrastructure and a history of limited maintenance funding, Memorial Park faces challenges for the restoration and repair of important historic elements, and for updating its landscape and infrastructure to adapt to modern standards. Among these are ease of maintenance and associated costs, water use, energy use, reducing chemical inputs, care for aging trees, landscape adaptation to increasing shade, responding to salt water intrusion, and maintaining good visibility and illumination for the sake of visitor security and psychological comfort.

MASTER PLAN GOALS

The Master Plan for Memorial Park is designed to restore the luster of the park, enhance its appeal to today's visitors, and pass along intact to future generations the unique beauty and character of this spot. The Master Plan is a guideline for protecting, enhancing and restoring as much as possible of the park's historically important and highly successful design, even while adapting it to contemporary circumstances and needs. Specific restoration goals include:

- Addressing the condition of critical infrastructure such as the bulkhead, park drainage and utility services (electricity, water) as needed to protect the site and support the way the park is used today.
- Reducing the need for future maintenance and renovations by updating and improving site utilities (such as irrigation), fixtures (such as lights), soil conditions, plant selections and other park elements to types or materials that are more durable, longer-lived, lower-maintenance, more efficient and/or better suited to site conditions.

- Supporting an increased day-to-day presence of park management (MPA and community volunteers and/or other personnel) that will enhance maintenance capabilities and deter vandalism and crime. The Plan proposes a small park office to support operations.
- Reaching out to the community, to increase awareness and enjoyment of the park, and encourage participation in its support. Increased participation will be vital for the sustainability of the restored park.
- Providing for ongoing maintenance and conservation of the memorial *Life* sculpture, and restoring and maintaining operation of the swirl fountain associated with it.
- Repairing or replacing damaged and degraded park elements such as fencing, entrances and balustrades.
- Removing modern elements that significantly impact the park's historic resources and visual quality, such as overhead wiring, utility poles in walkways, or the sculpture lighting surface-mounted in the fountain.
- Restoring damaged park furnishings such as benches and adapting their design and/or placement to minimize future vandalism or damage.
- Minimizing future conflicts of trees' roots at park walkways by renovating the walks to a permeable, flexible paving system.
- Further improving lighting levels and lighting aesthetics in the park, including restoration of the original lighting scheme along the riverfront balustrade, and replacing the sculpture lighting.
- Improving the aesthetics of park signage by developing a custom style, consolidating signage and adjusting its locations to better function with park vistas and circulation patterns.
- Restoring the landscape design more closely to its original intent, reflecting as much as possible the Olmsted Brothers' design concepts of horticultural and spatial variety within a harmonious whole; carefully composed vistas and views; and a strong visual focus on the memorial sculpture.
- Diversifying plantings to enhance year-round interest, while gearing selections towards well-suited, low-maintenance plant types.
- Restoring and/or preserving open spaces that help the park provide a variety of opportunities for use and enjoyment, as well as visual variety in the landscape.
- Restoring important vistas and sightlines in the park, for aesthetics and security, and providing guidelines for their maintenance over time.
- Building on the successes of previous renovations and additions, incorporating later (non-historic) plantings that work with the overall design intent.
- Removing trees and plants that are hazardous, invasive, in declining health or otherwise not well suited to the site.
- Rebuilding and improving the soil's structure and ecosystem health, to enhance landscape performance while reducing the need for chemical inputs.

PARK OVERVIEW & SIGNIFICANCE

Memorial Park was born out of Jacksonville citizens' deep gratitude to those who served in The Great War (World War I). The park honors 1,220 Floridians, men and women, white and black, who died in the conflict, and whose names are inscribed on a parchment sealed in a lead box buried beneath the memorial plaza. The idea for the park was first put forward by George Hardee, President of the Jacksonville Rotary Club, on November 12, 1918, the day after the Armistice that ended the war.

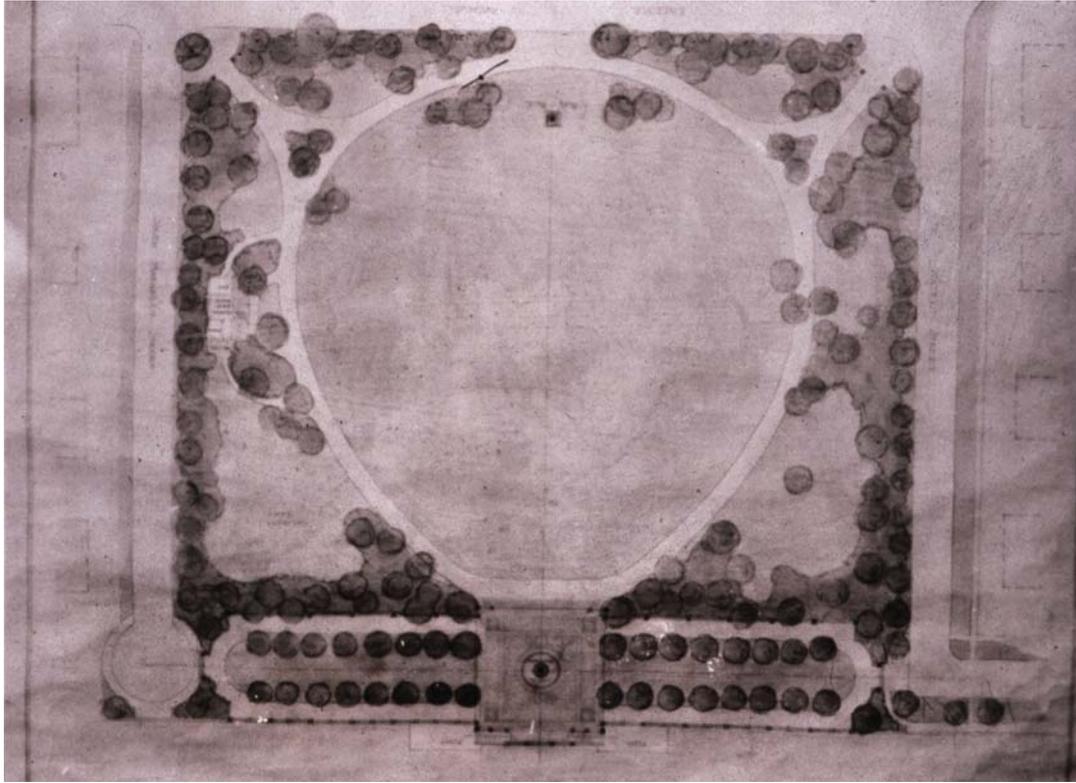
A Citizens Committee in Jacksonville, led by Hardee and philanthropists Morgan V. Gress and Ninah Cummer, raised the money to commission the park's bronze sculpture and to build the park. The first World War had been an unexpectedly horrific, grueling five-year fight, with many millions of lives lost, and it deeply affected those who lived through it. The sculptor of the memorial, Charles Adrian Pillars of St. Augustine, was moved and inspired by what he saw as "the typical spirit of the boys who went overseas," sacrificing comfort, well-being or life itself to try to bring peace to a world full of strife, greed and hate. He described his monument to them like this:

Spiritualized Life, symbolized by the winged figure of youth, rises triumphant from the swirl of wars' chaos which engulfs humanity, and faces the future courageously.

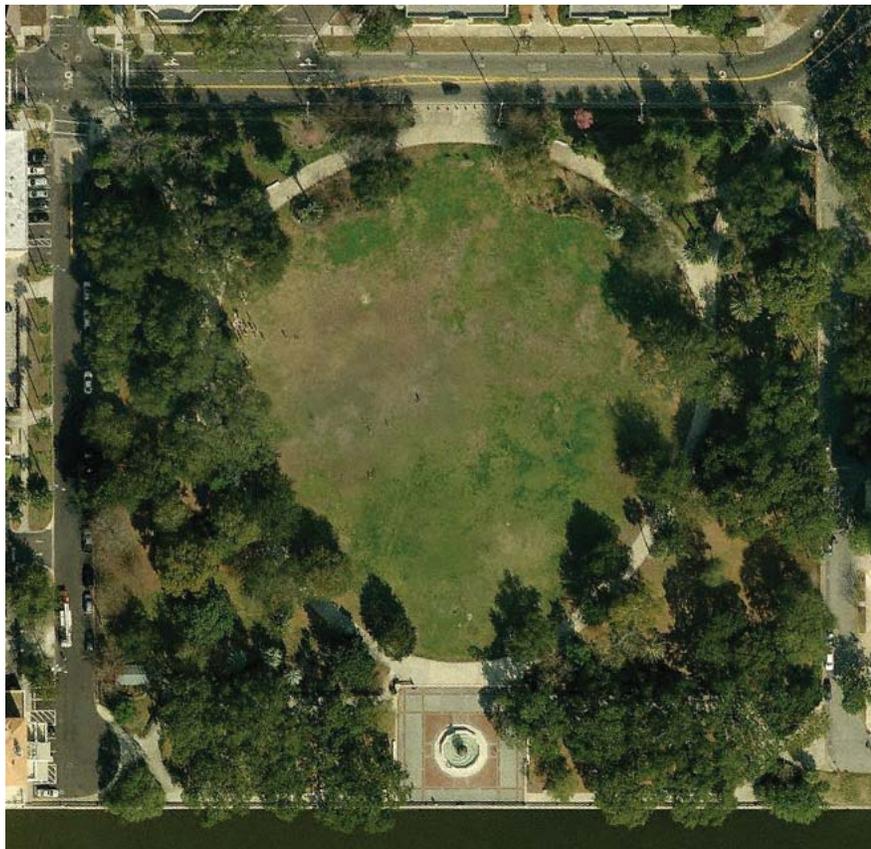


Memorial Park, c. 1940-45 (COJ Planning Department)

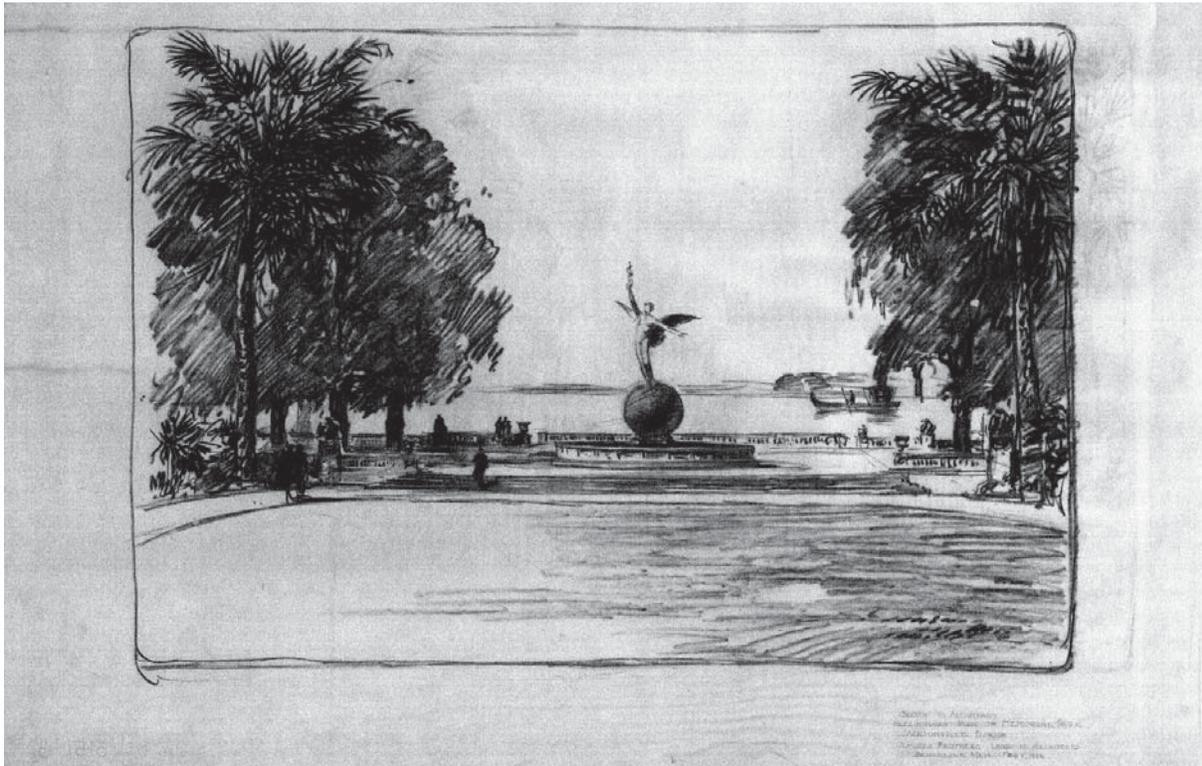
For the layout of the park the Committee hired the nation's pre-eminent design firm, Olmsted Brothers Landscape Architects, of Brookline, Massachusetts. Along with providing an appropriate, emotionally powerful setting that would show the sculpture to best advantage, the firm sought to create an inviting and beautiful space for the use and enjoyment of all of Jacksonville's citizens. The park was designed to be "as simple as possible... to provide a place for the public to come and seek as much rest and peace of body and mind as is possible in an area so small and so close to streets and traffic."



The initial sketch for the park shows the simple layout of a large central oval of lawn bordered by a promenade, with entry walks leading in from five key points, all focused strongly on the sculpture set in a formal plaza (bottom center). The tree-lined “esplanade” lines the river’s edge, and other plantings around the park provide variety, shade and a sense of enclosure, and frame views to the memorial. (Prentiss French for Principal J. F. Dawson, Olmsted Brothers Plan #5151-2, February 1922. Courtesy Olmsted National Historic Site, National Park Service [Olmsted NHS].)



Memorial Park, 2011 (COJ Parks Department)



Plan #5151-3, Olmsted Brothers, February 1922 (Courtesy Olmsted NHS). "The figure and the globe, in the setting we have suggested, will dominate the whole park in a dignified way and will be seen in pleasing silhouette against the distant sky line, not only from within the park but from at least one stretch of [the] main road..." (Olmsted Brothers Correspondence, Library of Congress)



Under the guidance of the Citizens Committee and with support from the City of Jacksonville, Memorial Park was completed and dedicated on Christmas day, 1924. It has been a landmark for the city ever since. It has had its ups and downs, with periods where the plantings were overgrown and law-abiding citizens were wary of entering, and frequent challenges in keeping up with maintenance and repair, yet today Memorial Park remains a much-loved and peaceful oasis, where Jacksonvillians from all walks of life feel welcomed and refreshed by visits to this very special place.

Memorial Park was listed on the National Register of Historic Places as a key part of the Riverside-Avondale Historic District in 1985. Since 1987, it has been tended and improved by the Memorial Park Association (MPA), a non-profit citizens group, under an Adopt-A-Park agreement with the City of Jacksonville. The MPA seeks to preserve, restore and beautify Memorial Park keeping as closely as possible to the original Olmsted Brothers design. The MPA has raised private funds and secured grants for numerous improvements and has provided guidance to City projects to help ensure consistency with the park's historic design.

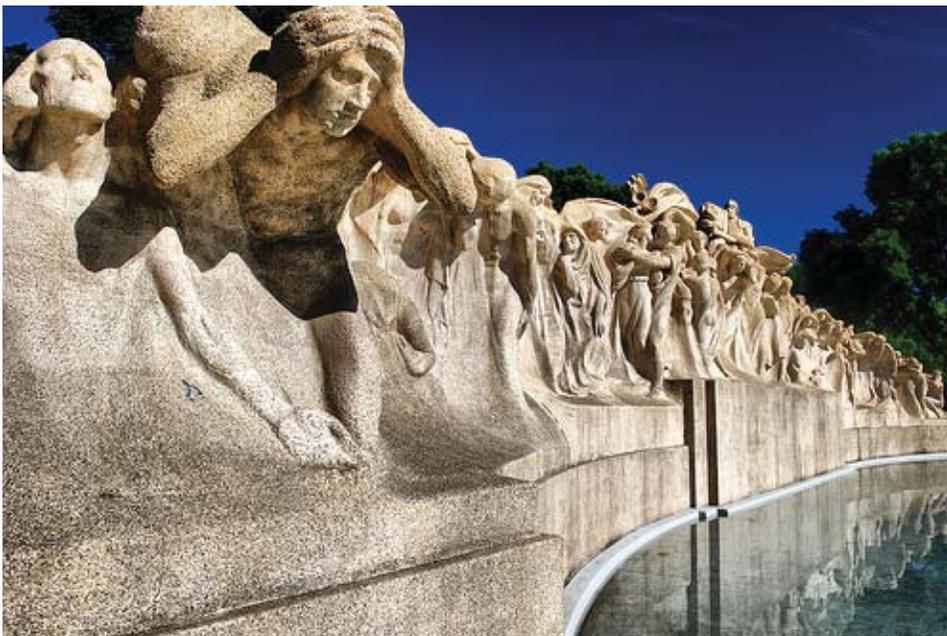
SIGNIFICANCE

Memorial Park stands as a moving tribute to those who serve, as well as a much-loved oasis of beauty in the city, welcoming all comers. It also represents a master work of park design by nationally significant figures, one that showcases the best-known work of an important sculptor of the time, and adds value, in tangible and intangible ways, to both the immediate neighborhood and the larger Jacksonville community.

THE MEMORIAL AND C. A. PILLARS

The first World War devastated a generation and inspired countless memorials in Europe, the United States and elsewhere around the world. A number of communities around Florida, then a relatively sparsely settled state, erected markers and monuments to their local heroes. The memorial conceived by the citizens of Jacksonville was not only the largest and most powerfully expressive of these; it is also the only Great War memorial that honors all of the Floridians who died in service. The Citizens Committee formed in 1919 went to great lengths to find the names of all those who fell – no small task, considering the incompleteness of records and the bureaucracy of the War Department – and to find an artist whom they felt suited this important work.

Charles Adrian Pillars (1870-1937) was an accomplished and highly successful sculptor, born and trained in the Midwest, who had settled in northeast Florida in 1894. Pillars was a student of the *Beaux Arts* tradition of dramatic, romantic, classically-inspired and often allegorical sculpture that had dominated much civic art in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. He studied under renowned Chicago sculptor Lorado Taft, creator of the monumental Columbus Fountain at Washington's Union Station and a number of famous works in Chicago and elsewhere.



Lorado Taft's 126-foot long Fountain of Time (1910-22) in Washington Park, Chicago, IL.

Pillars had also helped Daniel Chester French (who would later sculpt the Lincoln Memorial) create *The Statue of the Republic* and other monumental figures at the 1893 Chicago World's Columbian Exposition, and he had won both competitions to create Florida's two donations to the National Statuary Hall at the Capitol in Washington, D.C. Pillars was thus nationally known and a mature, established artist when the Jacksonville committee selected him in 1920.



The Statue of the Republic by Daniel Chester French, assisted by E.C. Potter, C. A. Pillars and others; 1893 original (left), 65 feet tall; 1918 replica (right), 24 feet tall. Chicago, IL.



Heroic figures of Floridians in the National Statuary Hall, Washington, DC, by C. A. Pillars: left, John Gorrie, 1914: a physician, scientist, inventor and humanitarian; considered the father of refrigeration and air-conditioning. Right, Edmund Kirby Smith, 1922, a Mexican War veteran, Confederate general, professor of mathematics and University chancellor.





In his *Life* composition for Memorial Park Pillars made powerful use of the grand, theatrical style of *Beaux Arts* sculpture, which by the 1920s was perhaps already becoming a bit old-fashioned, to tell a moving story of the true spirit of those who served. He wrote that he “desired this memorial to present the idea of life, its struggle and its victory:”

While striving to make a composition visualizing this, I found a poem by Alan Seeger, a soldier-victim of the war. At once I saw the typical spirit of the boys who went overseas – saw with their eyes a world in the insane grip of greed and ambition, caught in the ceaseless swirl of selfishness, hate and covetousness, ever struggling against submergence. I saw these boys giving up their homes, sweethearts, wives and mothers to go overseas and through the supreme sacrifice make secure the happiness and safety of their loved ones. With this vivid picture in mind, I constructed a sphere to represent the world, engirdled with masses of swirling water typifying the chaotic earth forces. In this surging mass of waters, I shaped human figures, all striving to rise above this flood, struggling for mere existence. Last, surmounting these swirling waters, with their human freight, I placed the winged figure of Youth, representative of spiritual life, the spirit of these boys which was the spirit of victory. Immortality attained not through death, but deeds; not a victory of brute force, but of spirit. This figure of Youth Sacrificed wears his crown of laurels won. He holds aloft an olive branch, the emblem of peace.

Pillars went on to complete a number of commissions before his death in 1937. (Among these was a bronze figure of William Boyd Barnett, founder of Barnett Bank, completed for the bank’s 50th anniversary in 1931; coincidentally, the Barnett family donated the restoration of Memorial Park’s twin entry gates on



Riverside Avenue in 1994, in memory of William Boyd's great-grandson William Randle Barnett.) *Life* is probably C. A. Pillars' best-known surviving work and is certainly the most evocative and expressive – a heartfelt and important testament to the sacrifices of those who served.

OLMSTED BROTHERS LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

Memorial Park holds national significance as an outstanding work of the most important park design firm in the history of the profession. It has been called the finest small urban park by the Olmsted Brothers that exists in the nation today.

Olmsted Brothers Landscape Architects was far and away the premier design firm in the country for parks, park systems, city planning and private estates throughout the first half of the twentieth century. It was one of several generations of the Olmsted firms, which originated with Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. in the 1850s, and were a seminal influence on the professions that shape our communities and our common landscape.

Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr., created the widely influential design for New York's Central Park in 1858. It was a new prototype of urban park, combining a picturesque style of created landscape scenery, inherited from English landscape-gardening styles, with new theories about strengthening democracy, developing a uniquely American identity, and using nature to improve both individual and public health. Olmsted, Sr. brought to bear the new theories of social scientists who had studied the beneficial effects on mood and health of exposure to natural scenery – theories once again being borne out by empirical studies, today – and a commitment to building a strong democracy by encouraging peaceful social mingling and by providing equal access for all citizens to the benefits of parks. He designed major parks and park systems around

the country based on these motives of providing beautiful, accessible outdoor spaces where city dwellers could experience the restorative touch of “nature,” and a sense of “communitiveness” inspired by safe, cordial interactions among people of all walks of life.

Olmsted, Sr. coined the term “landscape architect” to describe this new, socially concerned, comprehensive design practice that encompassed the entire outdoor environment, and he is credited with founding the first such firm in the country. On his retirement in 1898, his sons J.C. Olmsted and F.L. Olmsted, Jr. took up the mantle as Olmsted Brothers Landscape Architects.

Olmsted Brothers further modernized the practice, introducing more sophisticated, science-based understandings of natural systems – alongside concerns for aesthetics and beauty, vistas and views and human experience – into the planning process for park systems, preserves and the layouts of communities. The brothers helped found the American Society of Landscape Architects, and the first program of professional training, at Harvard. Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. was a leading figure in the first National Conference on City Planning, in 1909, and helped establish this new profession.

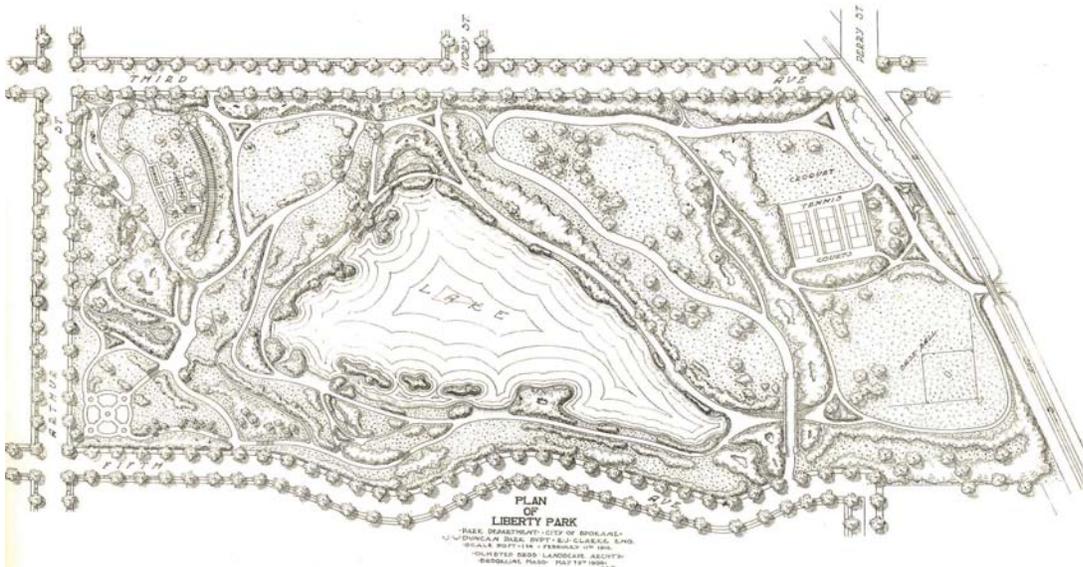
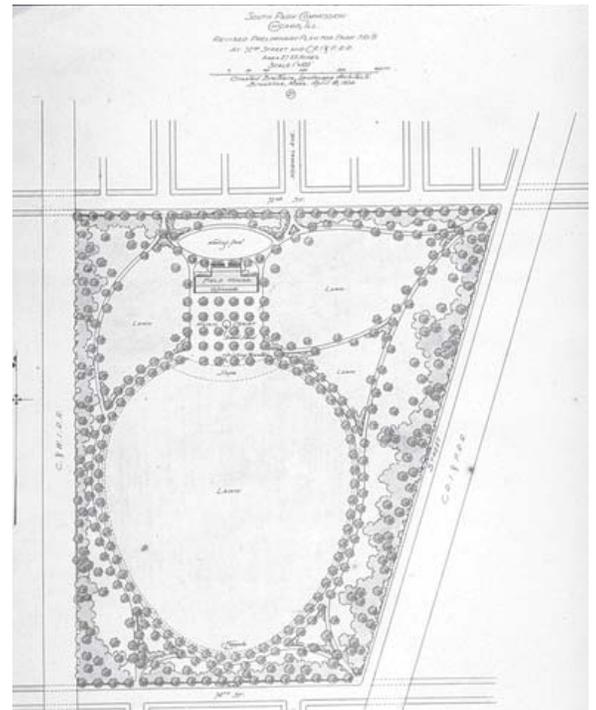
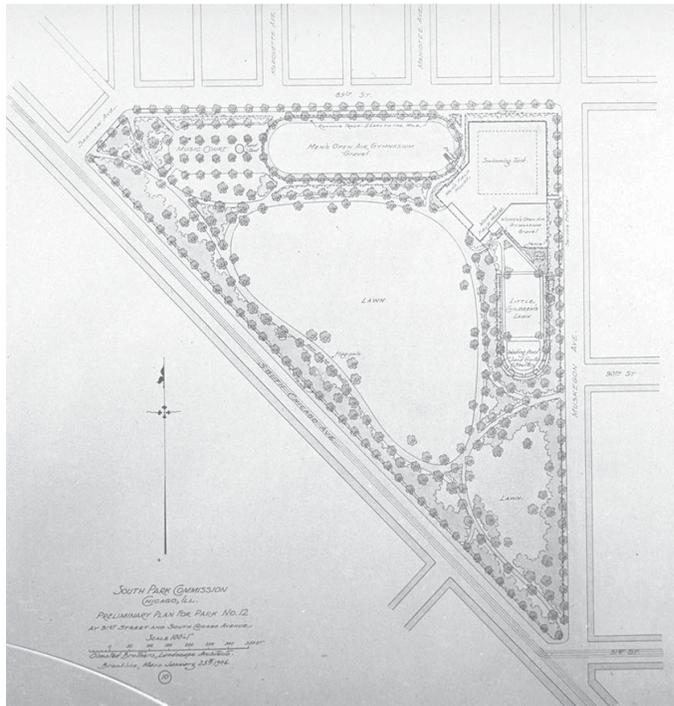
The firms’ legacy includes many of the nation’s most recognizable places: Central Park; Prospect Park (Brooklyn), Belle Isle (Detroit); the “Emerald Necklace” of parks throughout Boston; the grounds of the U.S. Capitol; the Biltmore estate in Asheville; the Jefferson Memorial; Acadia and Yosemite National Parks; Bok Tower Gardens in Florida; and the planned communities of Riverside (Chicago), Druid Hills (Atlanta) and Forest Hills (New York).

Perhaps the firm’s greatest contribution was its legacy of park planning and design, seen in individual parks and in comprehensive park systems all over the United States. From Baltimore to Seattle, and from Louis-



Iconic designs by the Olmsted firms include Central Park (top), the Biltmore Estate (bottom) and Bok Tower Gardens (right).

ville to the State of California, the Olmsteds made recommendations for well-thought-out systems of public space, and provided specific designs for many hundreds of sites. In their Reports they wrote eloquently of the purposes and benefits of parks: providing fresh air and visual beauty for stressed and crowded city dwellers; exercise for people ever more engaged in “confining occupations;” structured and unstructured play, both physical and mental, for children, youth and adults; and the “social recreation” of meeting up, people-watching, seeing and being seen.



Three of the hundreds of park plans developed by the Olmsteds for cities as diverse as Chicago (top row), Spokane (bottom), Louisville, Buffalo and Seattle.

Always of key concern were the aesthetics of good design, pleasing compositions, and fitting into the sense of place that is unique to each locale. They applied their theories and principles, with clarity of each park’s or each space’s purpose, with functionality and with elegance, in countless designs. Memorial Park is one of their gems.

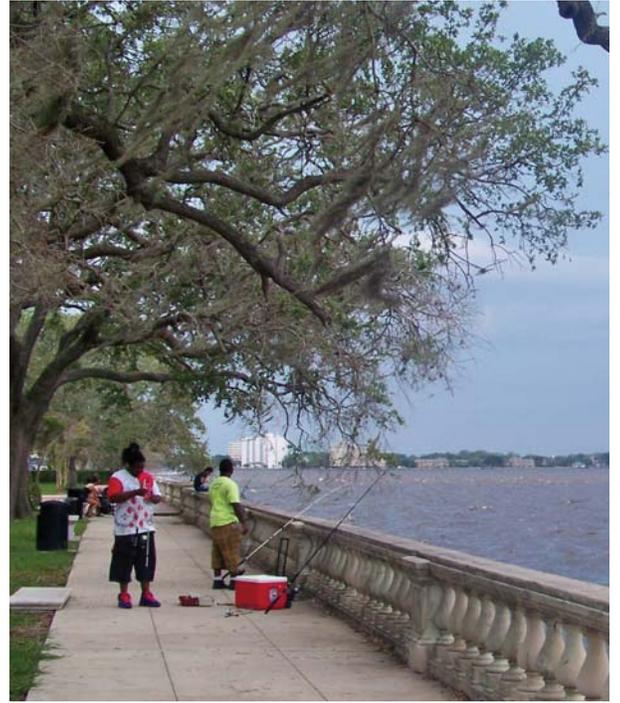
MEMORIAL PARK AND THE JACKSONVILLE COMMUNITY

When it opened in 1924, the solemn, memorial purpose of the park would have been fresher in citizens' minds than it is today, but it also served from the start – as intended – as a beauty spot for public enjoyment, a gathering space and a point of civic pride for the city. In its early years it served often for ceremonies such as Easter Sunrise Services, Decoration Day and Armistice Day. (Santa Claus landed at the park via water plane or motorboat on more than one holiday occasion in the 1940s.) Images of the park and especially the sculpture were featured on postcards, in magazine and newspaper articles, and in City publications such as the *Municipal Yearbook*.



Since the beginning it has also been a prime spot for a picnic, some pickup football or soccer on the big lawn, a quiet lunch on a bench, some peaceful fishing, or an outing with the baby. Memorial Park has a welcoming feel to it. It exemplifies the Olmsted ideal of a park for all: young or old, black or white, wealthy or modest, brown hair or pink, people from the immediate neighborhood or across the city all seem to feel at home here, that the park is “theirs.”

In part this derives from the physical design: the broad paths, with logical and direct flow towards inviting spaces, draw the visitor in, as do the long vistas toward the irresistible water; the extensive tree cover and other plantings provide shade, beauty and a softening of the surrounding environment; and the river's presence is calming and exciting at once, a powerful draw.



It probably derives also from the civic spirit that initially conceived of, funded, and built the park, an affection for this place, and a sense that it belongs to all of us, that have somehow been transmitted through generations of Jacksonville citizens.

There have been periods in the park's past in which people did not always feel welcomed or safe. At several points in time, the park's vegetation became overgrown, damage and deterioration became highly visible, and/or illicit activities ranging from vagrancy to drug use to muggings became too common. In recent years, the park has regained more of its welcoming feel. Improved maintenance and repairs, better lighting and visibility, more attractive landscaping and an increased presence of law-abiding park users

have all helped, results of sustained efforts by the MPA and the City's Parks Department, as has a trend of redevelopment in the surrounding commercial district. While security, safety and vandalism are all ongoing concerns, Memorial Park continues to attract a great diversity of park users, from walkers and fishers to wedding parties, pet parades and charity fund-raisers.

Beyond the boundaries of the park itself, Memorial Park enriches and supports the surrounding community and the wider City of Jacksonville. The tangible benefits of quality parks to a community are well documented: these include increased property values, enhanced competitiveness in attracting residents and businesses, and synergy with local restaurants, businesses and cultural institutions in creating a destination. As venues for events, attractive parks facilitate success for charities, community organizations, artists, food sellers and other entrepreneurs, and can generate revenue for the managing agencies. Memorial Park's role as a historic landmark only adds to its effectiveness in this regard.

The intangible benefits of a park like Memorial are equally important. Cities that provide places of beauty and meaning for their citizens foster a sense of community and belonging. Initiatives like the rescue of New York's Central Park or the renovation of its Conservatory Garden, often undertaken by public-private partnerships, transform not only the spaces themselves, but also the perceptions and behaviors of the people who come there – how they use the place, interact with each other, and feel about their city. Memorial Park, long an icon for the City, offers powerful potential to connect Jacksonville's many diverse communities through shared enjoyment of this unique space; to unite in the enjoyment of a city oasis.



HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

This chronology traces Memorial Park's evolution through nearly a century of Jacksonville history.

1918

November 12: Upon learning of the signing of the Armistice ending the World War on November 11th, the Jacksonville Rotary Club, led by George Hardee, puts forth a proposal for a memorial to Florida's war dead, to be paid for by the citizens of the region and erected in a new park in Jacksonville.

1919

A Citizens Committee is formed to plan the park, led by George Hardee of Rotary (Vice Chairman); civic leaders and philanthropists Morgan V. Gress (Chairman) and Ninah (Mrs. Arthur) Cummer (Treasurer); and Edith Gray and Mary B. (Mrs. McGarvey) Cline (Secretaries). By 1920 they raise \$52,000.

The City of Jacksonville purchases 6.1 acres of land along the river for the park, for \$125,000. The land had previously been bulkheaded and filled by private parties.

1920

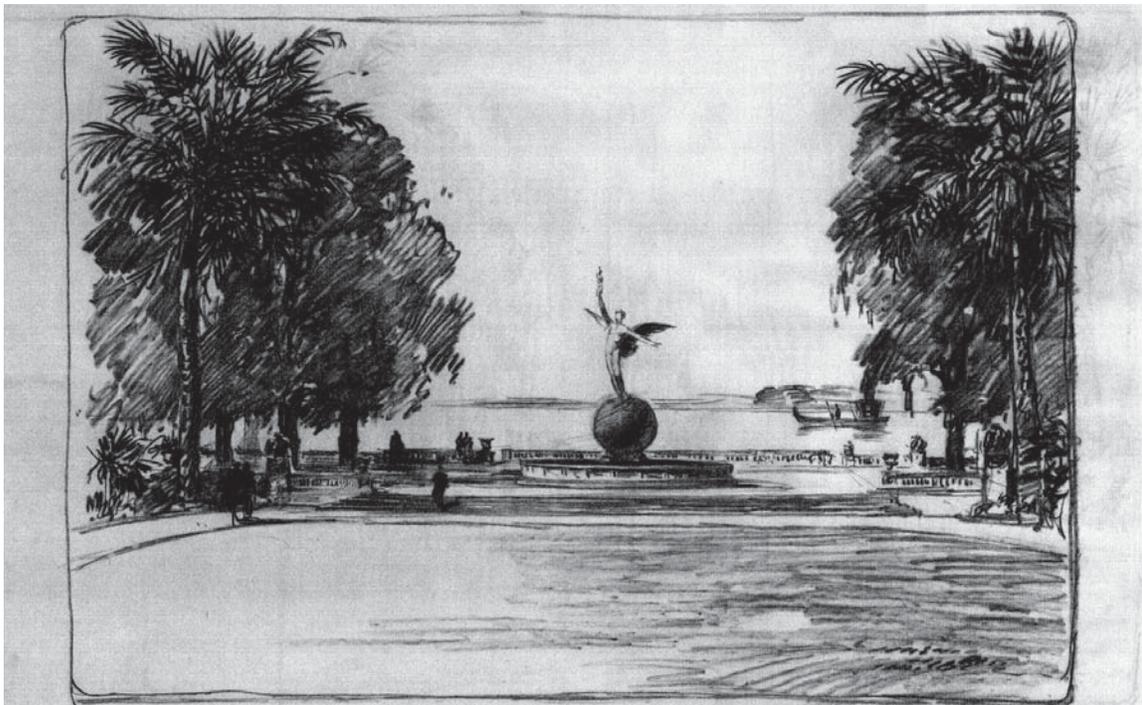
The Committee selects sculptor Charles Adrian Pillars to create the "bronze group" to commemorate the fallen.

1921

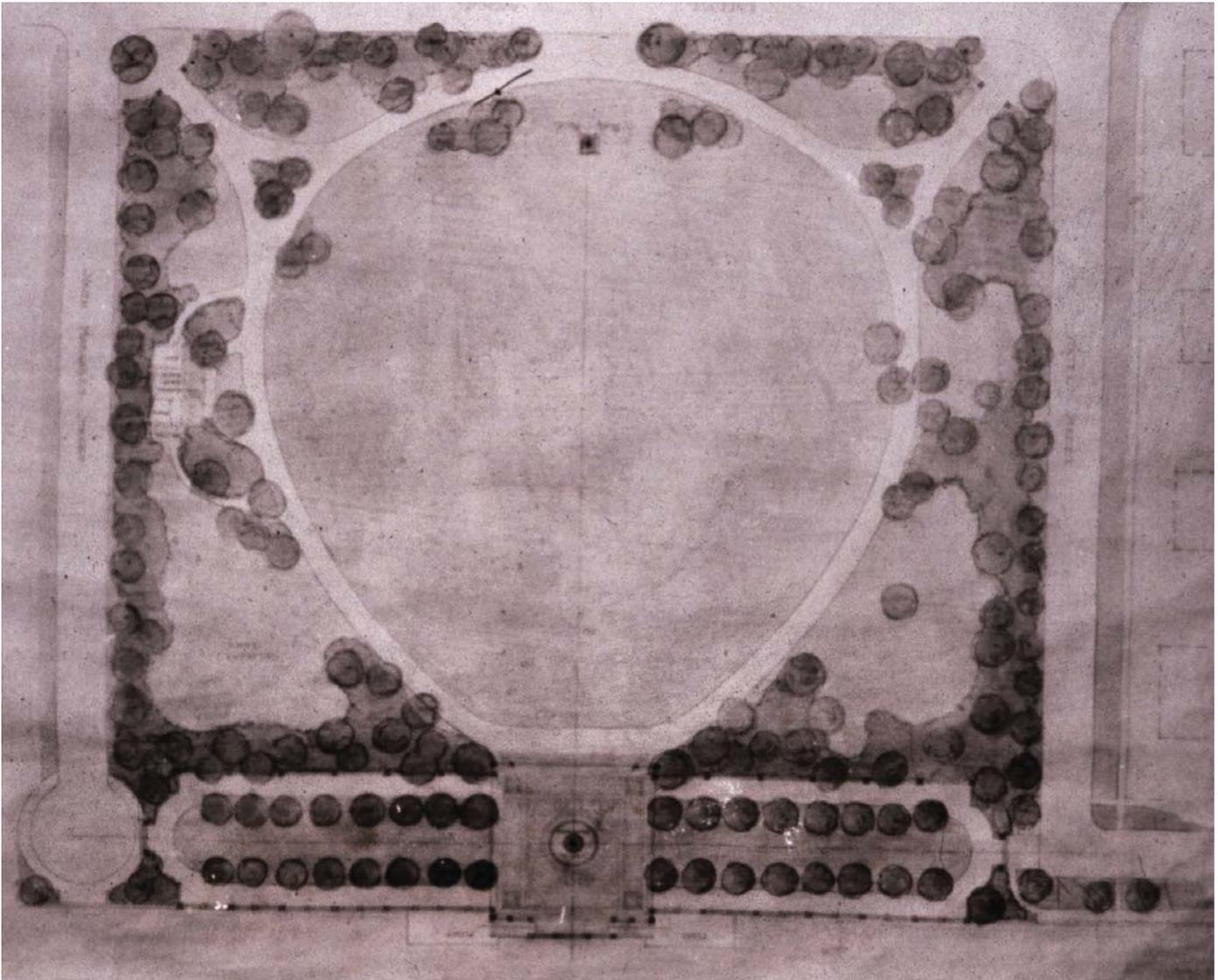
The Committee asks noted horticulturist Dr. Harold Hume, of Glen St. Mary Nursery (Florida's oldest nursery, established 1881), for suggestions for park designers. Hume contacts Olmsted Brothers and recommends them to the Committee.

1922

January: Ninah Cummer invites Olmsted Brothers to have their representative stop in Jacksonville to discuss the park. Olmsted Brothers principal J. F. Dawson meets with the Committee, learns of Pillars' design concept for the Memorial, and develops an initial plan and sketch (February 3, 1922 correspondence).



Olmsted Brothers Plan #5151-3, 1922 (Olmsted NHS). One of the prime views of the memorial, framed by planting masses accentuated with palms.



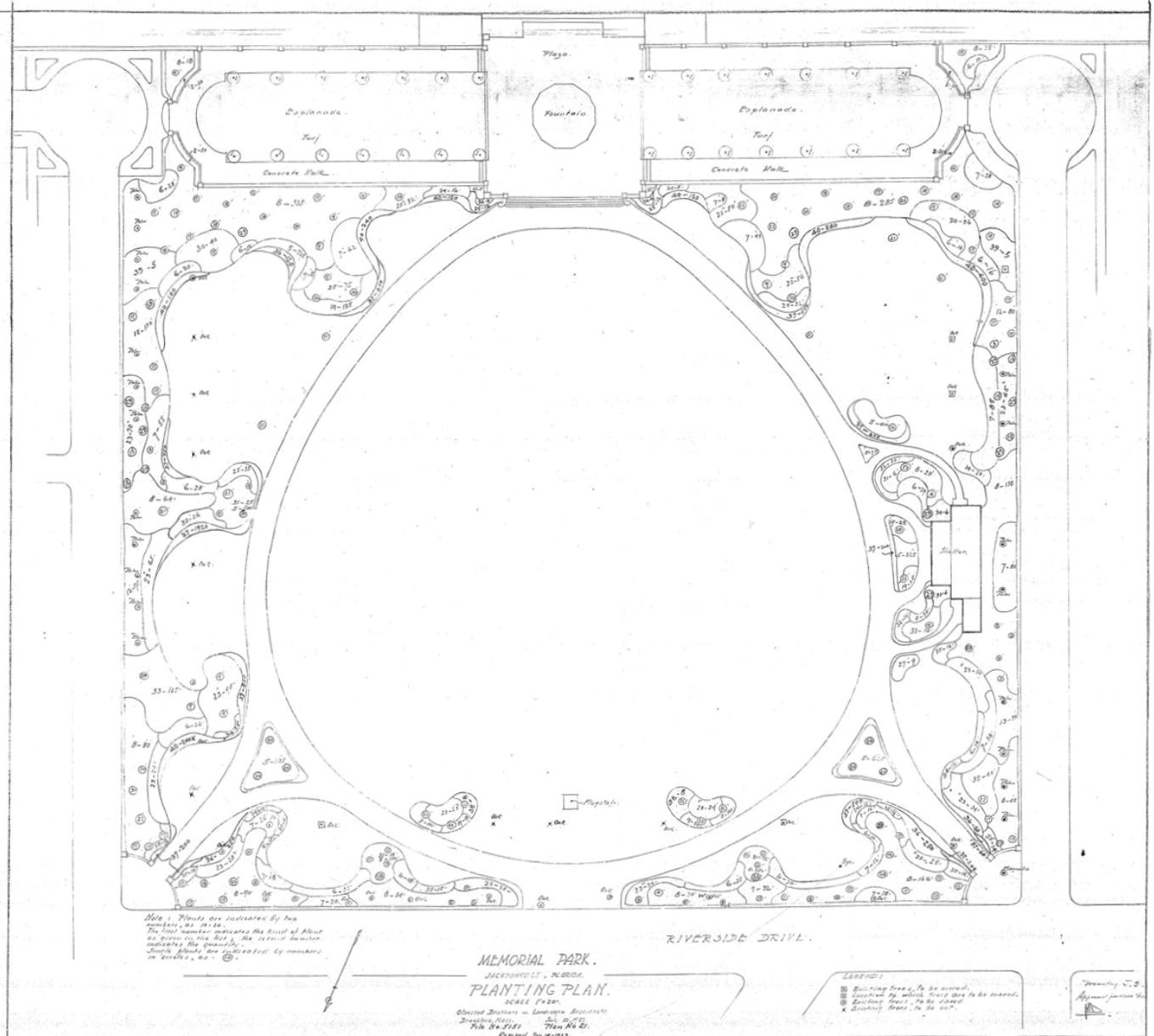
Olmsted Brothers Plan #5151-2, 1922 (Olmsted NHS). Note extensive open areas, limited tree planting and strong emphasis on views to the Memorial, achieved through alignment of walks and openness of vistas.

March 1922: The Committee, having endorsed the design, meets with Dawson and negotiates Olmsted Brothers' continuing on the project, through design and construction, at a reduced fee. Local architects Benjamin & Greeley will provide some of the construction detailing, as well as construction oversight, to reduce cost, and the City will provide some of the construction.

Spring: Pillars and Olmsted Brothers correspond, with some disagreement, regarding the design of the plaza and basin. Pillars wants the basin height lowered, so as to not block views of the sculpture, even suggesting it be an in-ground water feature. The Committee backs the Olmsted's position, with Dawson insisting Pillars' suggestions would greatly drive up cost.

Summer: Olmsted Brothers provides grading plans for the City to begin work; sends architectural details for the balustrades, fountain, walls, bronze tablets, etc.; and begins work on the planting design.

Throughout 1922, the Committee tries to get the names of the fallen from the War Department, for inclusion on 12 bronze tablets to be mounted to the outside wall of the fountain basin. Initially thought to be 768 in number, by early 1923 the list grows to over 1,000 names, at which point the Committee abandons the idea of fitting them onto the bronze tablets. With Olmsted Brothers, they determine an alternate approach of sealing a parchment with all of the names in a lead box, inside a bronze box, which will then be placed in the monument.



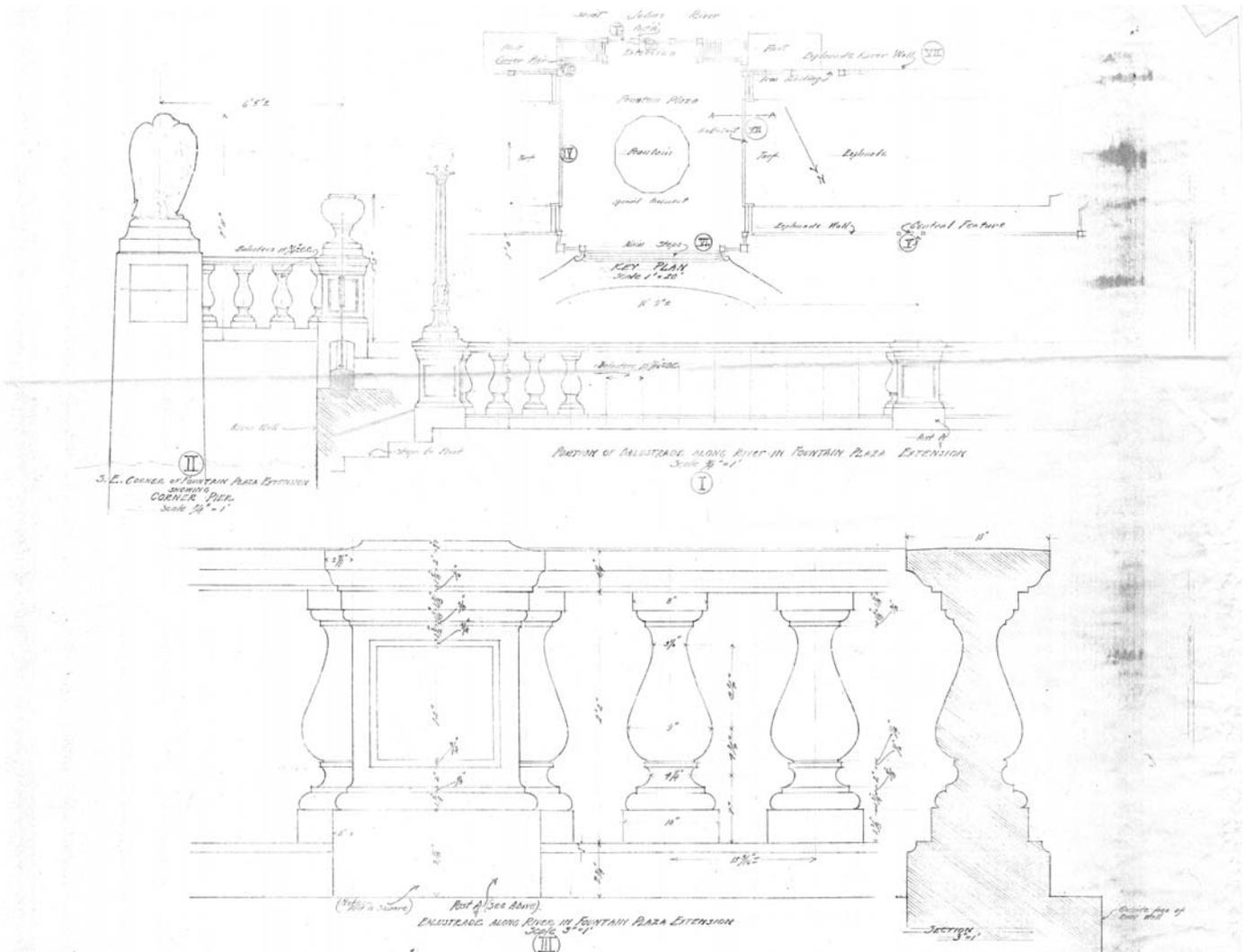
Olmsted Brothers Plan #5151-21, Planting Plan, Revised January 1923. The small circles represent trees or palms; the very small circles with x's or squares over them, existing trees to be removed or relocated. (Olmsted NHS). See also the Landscape Recommendations section of this report.

1923

January: Ninah Cummer works with Dr. Hume of Glen St. Mary Nursery to review Dawson's planting design; Dawson and Mrs. Cummer correspond regarding plant selections and design intent; and Olmsted Brothers revises and re-issues the Planting Plan.

March – June: Benjamin & Greeley produces revised and supplemental details, working from the Olmsted Brothers' 1922 drawings, for the balustrades, walls, plaza paving and other "architectural" details. Olmsted Brothers' and Roy Benjamin's plans both show a distinct change of grade from the plaza down into the park, with steps and cheekwalls; this change in elevation was eliminated from the design at some point prior to construction. Plans for a low wall and/or rail along the north edge of the "Esplanade," separating it from the park, were also never implemented.

Summer: During final construction, the height of the basin wall is revised to be one foot lower, over the Olmsteds' strenuous objections. They reluctantly agree to re-study the design of the bronze tablets to fit the lower wall.



Portion of Olmsted Brothers Plan #5151-20, Architectural Details for Fountain Plaza and Esplanade, July 1922 (Olmsted NHS).

December: A decision is made to change the design of the river edge. The “esplanade” sections east and west of the plaza, originally planned to have iron rail, are changed to balustrade to match the river edge of the central plaza. Benjamin & Greeley issues a new drawing.

1924

Construction is sufficiently completed for the sculpture to be set and the park dedicated, which occurs on Christmas Day. Two small girls unveil the sculpture: Mary Burrows, niece of Edward DeSaussure, killed in action in the Argonne; and Mary Bedell, niece of Bessie Gale, a YMCA nurse who died in France in early 1919.

1927

Parks Commissioner St. Elmo Acosta states in his year-end report on the City’s park system, “In Memorial Park we have kept things in good shape and built an extension of the bulkhead, foot of Margaret Street. This park is 99 per cent finished.”

1928

The Garden Club of Jacksonville’s Parks Advisory Committee, led by Ninah Cummer, includes the following in its Report:

Memorial Park: This is the one park in our city which is entirely, or supposedly so, an evergreen park. It was designed by Olmstead [sic] Brothers of Brookline, Mass., and we feel it has grown



MEMORIAL PARK, OVERLOOKING ST. JOHN'S RIVER, JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA



Earliest photographs of the completed park show newly planted oaks on the esplanade, standard park benches along the river and the stone eagles still atop the plaza balustrades. (Courtesy Jacksonville Historical Society [JHS], top; Florida State Archive "Florida Memory" Project [FA], bottom.)

remarkably well, considering the many ups and downs, lack of fertilization at certain periods, the long dry summers, and so on. The Citizens' Memorial committee will within the next month do some transplanting and re-adjusting. The committee does not approve of the small beds that have been put inside of this grass area. They are not on the plan and are not wanted. It is hoped that they may be abandoned as soon as possible.

1929

Mrs. Cummer's April 8th *Annual Report of Park Advisory Committee* states as follows:

MEMORIAL PARK: Unfortunately, the wall around this park was made of hollow tile, which has been found unsatisfactory because so easily broken. At present, several feet upon Riverside Avenue have been damaged badly. This has already been ordered repaired. Another spot on East Memorial Drive needs repairing, while along the river a section of the balustrade has been broken and one post seems missing. Presumably, it lies in the river.

The whole park is in sorry need of fertilization. The underground watering system would be wonderful here.

Along the beautiful esplanade upon the river, cherry laurel trees have been planted. These are growing very straggly and irregular. In spots, replacing of plants is needed and the whole thing should be trimmed down to the height of the lowest hedge plants – 2 or 3 feet at the most. There can never be a beautiful, well-kept hedge unless prompt and repeated trimming are done.

That the benches along the riverfront are enjoyed is evidenced by the use that has been given them. One, however, has had abuse as well, and should be removed and replaced by a better one.

The Committee was pleased indeed to see provision made whereby our American flag could float over Memorial Park, but had a feeling of regret that the flag-staff should have been placed in the exact center, breaking the beautiful line of the statue when seen in passing along Riverside Avenue. They are hopeful that at some future time the staff might be placed at one of the corners near the river.

We realize that the planting in this park needs quite a bit of re-arranging for the good of the material, the effect of the landscaping, and in order to provide vistas and glimpses of the river through the trees to the esplanade.

A heavy iron pipe lies in the street-way at the Park Lane corner and the remains of a telegraph pole among the shrubbery on this same side. The Committee hopes that these will soon be removed.

In several places just inside the wall, trimmings and an accumulation of weeds, leaves and branches are stacked. These should be removed by the city and collection of such debris should be made at least once a week, as it is very unsightly.

Again the Committee begs leave to record their disapproval of the twenty flower-beds which have been placed along sidewalks and in open grass spaces in this park. These annuals and roses, if planted here and there along the shrubbery borders, would be bright, attractive spots and would not detract from the landscaping plan nor would they be noticeable bare spots of earth when tiny plants were placed in them at any time of the year.

This park was designed by one of the best landscape architects in the United States – Frederick Law Olmsted, of Brookline, Mass. – and our city should be proud to have such a park. Therefore, we believe that Mr. Olmsted's decision to use trees along the river front and here and there along the outer edge of the park should be carried out. His reason for so placing the trees was that always there should be from the two corner entrances and from the large front entrance a perfect view of the beautiful Memorial Statue. We, therefore, feel that no trees should be planted along the main walk where they would, as they grew larger, entirely efface the statue.



Memorial Park views, ca. 1925-30 (FA). Note the added planting beds and trees along the inside of the oval path, and flower-beds cut into the lawn areas of the esplanade and park. The esplanade hedges (lower photograph) were also not part of the Olmsteds' plan. Also note the disappearance of the cast stone eagles by the time of the lower photograph. The present Ninah Cummer Memorial tree, a magnolia, is also visible nearest the lower left corner of the bottom picture.



The fact that Memorial Park has been used for community gatherings, such as the Easter Sunrise Services, for Decoration Day and Armistice Day exercises, is very gratifying indeed and we hope that this park may become more and more beautiful and more and more used as time goes on.

Mrs. Cummer's report, above, provides some of the few written details available about the park in the years following its completion – up until the 1980s. Worth noting are several key details that are reminiscent of current concerns :

- The Committee objects that the Olmsteds plan was not as closely followed as it should have been: flowerbeds were added, inconsistent with the simplicity and elegance of the design; and trees were added, internal to the oval walkway, in ways that would ultimately spoil important views to the Memorial. "Straggly" cherry laurel trees, not part of the original design, have also started to crowd the esplanade.
- Lack of maintenance is already a concern. A fallen telegraph pole, an iron pipe and stacks of landscape trimmings and debris are all noted laying about the park.

- Repairs are not keeping up with demand caused by poor construction, wear and tear and/or overuse and abuse of park elements: the hollow tile perimeter wall along Riverside Avenue, the bench along the river and a broken, missing piece of balustrade.

1930S – 1950S

The park continues to be used for community gatherings; the original plantings grow and mature.



Easter 1941 (Courtesy JHS).



Enlargement of previous picture showing shrub masses and trees in background, part of the original design / installation. Note the shearing of the shrubs to contain their size, a practice the Olmsted designers typically railed against unless a hedge was the intent.



Enlargement of previous picture showing a spotlight (far right) installed on a pole for illuminating the sculpture.

1935

Morgan Gress writes Olmsted Brothers seeking advice on methods for lighting the sculpture, perhaps from below by lights mounted within the fountain basin. No reply was recorded.

Late 1950s

The park's original landscape has become densely overgrown. A 1957 newspaper article about minor bulk-head repairs at the park mentions clearing away "a number of oleanders and other shrubs" in order to get space in which to work.



Aerial photograph, 1943. Trees inside the oval walkway have matured on the east side of the park (right side of photograph) but either have remained small, or failed and been replaced, on the west.



Circa 1950-52. Note size of oaks on far edge of oval; two large date palms in lower left (one remains today); Ninah Cummer magnolia to right of palms. Photograph by Robert E. Fisher (Courtesy FA).



Circa 1950-55. Photograph by Robert E. Fisher (Courtesy FA).



MEMORIAL PARK FROM THE AIR—This unusual view of the famed Winged monument and surrounding grounds along Riverside Avenue, overlooking the beautiful St. Johns River, emphasizes the spacious center piece of grass, encircled by a ribbon of concrete sidewalk, which is flanked by trees and shrubs and plantings, making this

Circa 1945-51 (Jacksonville Municipal Yearbook [JMY], 1951). Note continued poor performance of oaks on west (right) side of oval.



Aerial photograph, 1959. By this period, some considered the park overgrown, uninviting and possibly unsafe.



Garden Club President Mrs. Wesley Coleman with overgrown plantings, 1960. (Florida Times-Union.)

1960

Lobbied heavily by the Garden Club, many members of which are now afraid to venture into the park alone, the Parks Department undertakes a renovation of the park, clearing out extensive “dense, scraggly growth” to be replaced with lower-growing shrubs. “Park area and monument will soon be seen from the street,” promises the *Times-Union*.

The cleared-out park as seen in the JMY of 1962.



1981 - 1985

With the park once again seeming overgrown, rundown and rife with crime, neighborhood residents work with the City to enact a curfew and to better monitor the park. New efforts are made to learn its history and to consider options for its improvement and preservation.

1985

Memorial Park is listed on the National Register Of Historic Places as part of the Riverside [now the Riverside—Avondale] National Historic District.

1986

The Memorial Park Association, Inc. (MPA) is organized for the purpose of promoting the preservation and restoration of the park.



1971 (left) and 1975 (below) aerial photographs.



1987

The MPA enters into an Adopt-a-Park Agreement with the City Jacksonville, enabling the MPA to provide management and maintenance, as well as physical improvements, to the park, subject to City concurrence.

1988

Initial restoration plans are prepared for the park landscape.

1992

Conservation/restoration work is performed on the Pillars *Life* sculpture for the first time since its 1924 installation.

Ornamental metal fence is added to the east and west edges of the park to control pedestrian and animal traffic and protect the park's landscape.

1993-94

Phase 1 of the landscape restoration plans, planting renovations along the north side of the park, is installed; additional oak trees are planted by the City.

The park entrance piers are reconstructed; the entrance restoration is a gift from the Barnett family in honor of William R. Barnett.

Fence is added to the park's north edge (Riverside Avenue).

Park wiring and lighting is upgraded by the City and JEA.

Lighting is added at the *Life* sculpture.

Repairs and additions are made to the irrigation system.

Additional plantings of various native trees and shrubs are added to the park.

1995

New marble benches are donated as memorials by various friends of the park.

1997

A tornado destroys nine large trees in the park. Several are replaced with new trees planted by the City.

Two additional oaks are donated in 1998 as memorials to A.D. Davis

New trash receptacles are placed in the park.

1999

Flagpoles are donated by Dr. G. Dekle Taylor.

2001 - 2002

Concrete walkways are replaced and curbing repaired / replaced throughout the park.

The maintenance building is renovated.

Phase 2 of the landscape restoration, planting renovation along the south edge of the park (abutting the esplanade) is installed.

2003 - 2004

The plaza and fountain basin are repaired / renovated. The plaza concrete is removed and replaced; original bricks are salvaged and re-used in the original pattern, supplemented by new bricks to match, only as necessary. As part of this project, settlement / stability of fill behind the bulkhead is evaluated and addressed in areas as needed.

2004

Conservation work is again performed on the Pillars *Life* sculpture.

2004 – 2012

Additional marble memorial benches are donated.

c. 1993 - 2006

Balustrade repairs performed; numerous portions replaced.

2011

Bronze eagle sculptures are added to the plaza.

MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

MASTER PLAN GOALS

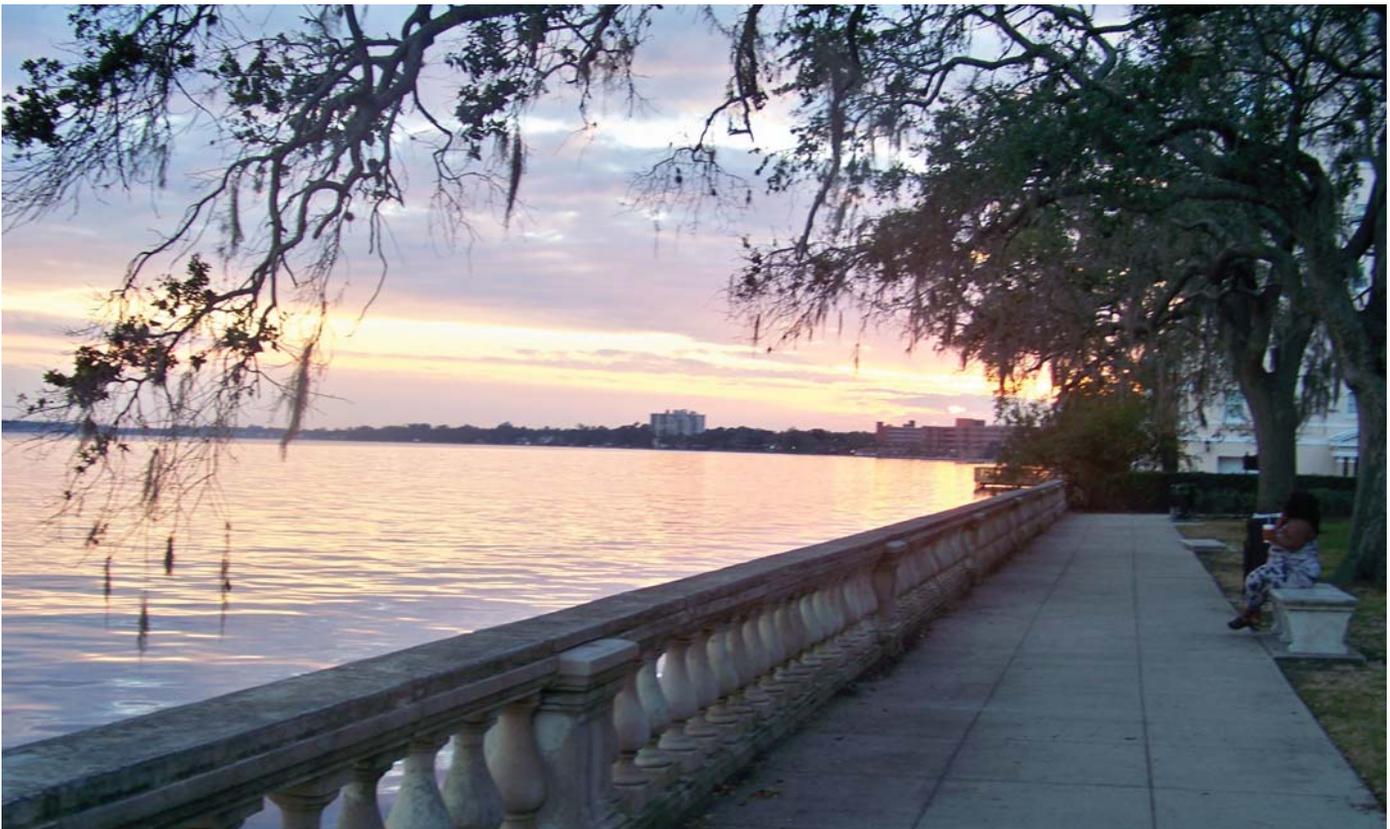
The Master Plan for Memorial Park is designed to restore the luster of the park, enhance its appeal to today's visitors, and pass along intact to future generations the unique beauty and character of this spot. The Master Plan is a guideline for protecting, enhancing and restoring as much as possible of the park's historically important and highly successful design, even while adapting it to contemporary circumstances and needs. Specific restoration goals include:

- Addressing the condition of critical infrastructure such as the bulkhead, park drainage and utility services (electricity, water) as needed to protect the site and support the way the park is used today.
- Reducing the need for future maintenance and renovations by updating and improving site utilities (such as irrigation), fixtures (such as lights), soil conditions, plant selections and other park elements to types or materials that are more durable, longer-lived, lower-maintenance, more efficient and/or better suited to site conditions.
- Supporting an increased day-to-day presence of park management (MPA and community volunteers and/or other personnel) that will enhance maintenance capabilities and deter vandalism and crime. The Plan proposes a small park office to support operations.
- Reaching out to the community, to increase awareness and enjoyment of the park, and encourage participation in its support. Increased participation will be vital for the sustainability of the restored park.
- Providing for ongoing maintenance and conservation of the memorial *Life* sculpture, and restoring and maintaining operation of the swirl fountain associated with it.
- Repairing or replacing damaged and degraded park elements such as fencing, entrances and balustrades.
- Removing modern elements that significantly impact the park's historic resources and visual quality, such as overhead wiring, utility poles in walkways, or the sculpture lighting surface-mounted in the fountain.
- Restoring damaged park furnishings such as benches and adapting their design and/or placement to minimize future vandalism or damage.
- Minimizing future conflicts of trees' roots at park walkways by renovating the walks to a permeable, flexible paving system.
- Further improving lighting levels and lighting aesthetics in the park, including restoration of the original lighting scheme along the riverfront balustrade, and replacing the sculpture lighting.
- Improving the aesthetics of park signage by developing a custom style, consolidating regulatory signage and adjusting sign locations to better function with park vistas and circulation patterns.
- Restoring the landscape design more closely to its original intent, reflecting as much as possible the Olmsted Brothers' design concepts of horticultural and spatial variety within a harmonious whole; carefully composed vistas and views; and a strong visual focus on the memorial sculpture.
- Diversifying plantings to enhance year-round interest, while gearing selections towards well-suited, lower-maintenance plant types.
- Restoring and/or preserving open spaces that help the park provide a variety of opportunities for use and enjoyment, as well as visual variety in the landscape.

- Restoring important vistas and sightlines in the park, for aesthetics and security, and providing guidelines for their maintenance over time.
- Building on the successes of previous renovations and additions, incorporating later (non-historic) plantings that work with the overall design intent.
- Removing trees and plants that are hazardous, invasive, in declining health or otherwise not well suited to the site.
- Rebuilding and improving the soil's structure and ecosystem health, to enhance landscape performance while reducing the need for chemical inputs.

The Master Plan, and the specific projects that follow from it, will comprise a *rehabilitation* treatment of this historic property, as defined in *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes*. *Rehabilitation* means "making possible a compatible use for a property through repair, alterations and additions while preserving those portions or features that convey its historical, cultural or architectural values." *Rehabilitation* allows for changes or upgrades to meet current needs, so long as they are sensitively done, are compatible with the historic design, avoid impacting important historic features or qualities, and otherwise comply with the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards*.

Memorial Park is a much-loved civic space, but is also a relatively small site; those important "portions or features that convey its historical, cultural or architectural values" constitute most of the park. Therefore all of the proposed improvements and upgrades to the park will be undertaken with the greatest sensitivity to retaining the established, historic design character of the park. The overall picture of the park will not much change; but the many and important components will be restored, refurbished, revitalized, and made more sustainable for the park's future. This jewel of a park will shine more brightly than ever, a lasting legacy for future Jacksonvillians.



HISTORICAL INTEGRITY AND CURRENT CONDITIONS

A nationally significant work of design, Memorial Park’s historical integrity is of vital concern in the park’s maintenance and planned improvements. Integrity in a historic designed landscape means the degree to which it retains and expresses the visual character and overall feel that come from its original design intent. This is judged not only in terms of its physical details and the retention, intact, of original features, but also by the compatibility (or lack thereof) of later additions – and of the inevitable changes that occur in any landscape – with the original design. Also important is the compatibility of less tangible elements: for example, site usage and circulation patterns – the ways people move through and use the site; or whether key views and vistas, important aspects of the designed experience, still exist or have become blocked.

Memorial Park has strong integrity in terms of its setting, nestled on the river; its striking views and vistas; its simple, graceful and inviting circulation system; its landscape composition of broad lawn, framing trees and shady esplanade; its simple, classical detailing and of course, its grand memorial, *Life*. The role in the community and the overall feel of the park as, at once, a peaceful oasis, a flexible, welcoming space for all kinds of park users, and a moving tribute to our fallen servicemen and women, is its defining character. But Memorial Park also faces significant challenges for its continued sustenance, integrity and continued successful role. The following *Recommendations for Key Elements* summarize current conditions and the needs that Memorial Park faces in terms of its infrastructure and utilities; its architectural features and constructed hardscape elements; and its landscape. The *Master Plan* site plan shows the sum total of these recommendations and their locations within the park.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR KEY ELEMENTS: GENERAL / INFRASTRUCTURE

CIRCULATION

The circulation pattern of Memorial Park will remain unchanged. It was a carefully planned component of the original design, and the reasoning behind it still holds today. The main park walkway around the central oval lawn works beautifully as a promenade, a meeting place, an informal exercise path, or a place to relax and enjoy the views. The absence of perimeter sidewalks along the adjoining streets was a deliberate move to encourage movement through, and enjoyment of, the park, rather than hurrying by to simply get to one’s destination, while having plantings along the perimeter instead adds to the sense of peaceful enclosure. The entrance points were all designed to give a dramatic introduction to the memorial sculpture.

Two modern conditions call for minor adjustments. One is the need to provide full accessibility for people limited mobility, or parents with young children in strollers. Existing conditions in the park are generally good in this regard, with the exception of the southeast entrance (Memorial Park Drive near the river), where an existing ramp is substandard – with excessive slope and no connecting crosswalk – and should be rebuilt.



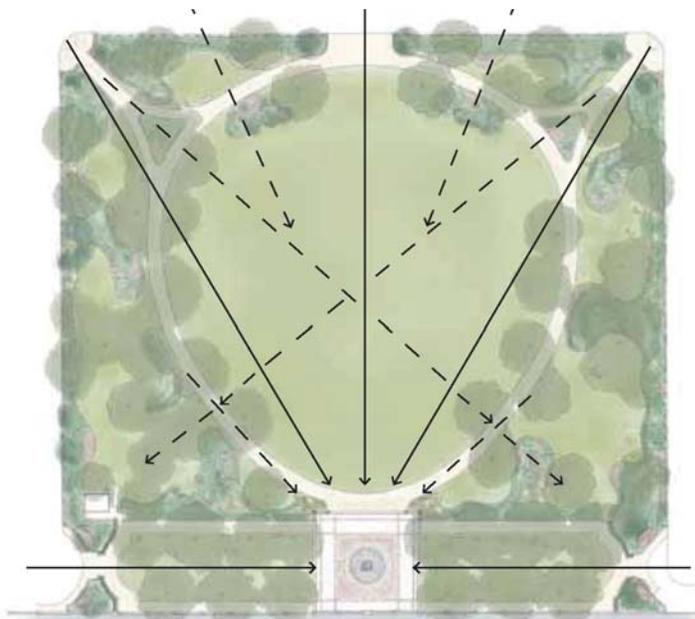


The second issue is the central opening onto Riverside Avenue. While this is an important visual opening into the park, as a pedestrian entrance it is essentially unusable, given its mid-block location, lack of a crosswalk and the nature of traffic on Riverside Avenue. Currently blocked to vehicles by large, modern concrete bollards, this entrance should be cordoned off, for safety, with a less intrusive, more visually compatible solution. A slender metal bollard and chain in black finish, for example, would not greatly detract from the park's aesthetics and historic feel, as the current bollards do.



VIEW AND VISTAS

Views into and through the park greatly concerned the original designers as a matter of aesthetics and of intensifying the emotional impact of the memorial. As Ninah Cummer pointed out to the City Commission in her 1929 Annual Report of the Garden Club's Park Advisory Committee, Olmsted Brothers laid out the park so that "always there should be from the two corner entrances and from the large front entrance a perfect view of the beautiful Memorial Statue." Olmsted's lead designer J.F. Dawson had also emphasized the importance of giving glimpses of the sculpture to people passing by the park on Riverside Avenue. Views to the sculpture from each entrance are also emphasized in the original layout, as are views across the park, through layers of open spaces and intervening plantings.





Lack of visibility along the Riverside Avenue edge (left); views from the park entrances, originally intended to feature the memorial, largely blocked by vegetation, signs and light poles (below).



Today the concern for views and visibility also extends to issues of safety and security: the ability to gauge the presence of others when in the park, the ease of surveillance from outside, the preclusion of hiding places and the enhancement of the visitor's perception of security. While visibility in Memorial Park has been considerably improved in recent years, much of the Riverside Avenue edge is visually blocked, as are a number of other important sightlines within the park. Recommendations for addressing these conditions are included in the sections on *Perimeter Walls and Fences*, *Signage* and *Planting*, below.

PARK INFRASTRUCTURE



THE BULKHEAD

Bulkheads on public property are the purview of the City's Public Works Department. As such, any improvements needed to the bulkhead itself are outside the scope of this Master Plan, which addresses park improvements that will be undertaken by the Memorial Park Association and/or the Parks and Recreation Department. Nevertheless the bulkhead is a critical item for the success of the park's renovation. A professional engineering evaluation of its condition was apparently last done – at least in selected areas – in 2002, in conjunction with design work for the plaza's renovation.

- *A complete evaluation of the bulkhead must be completed before any affected work in the park moves forward.*

Affected work may include the balustrades, lighting / electrical upgrades, and the esplanade/south entrances portion of any walkway, fencing, turf, landscape, soil and irrigation improvements.

The bulkhead needs to be evaluated not only for its condition and the integrity of the subgrade behind it, but for any increase in height that may be called for due to anticipated rises in sea level in this region. This may be coordinated with a city-wide or regional effort; at the very least any potential re-setting of its elevation must be coordinated with adjacent property owners. Planning / design for any bulkhead renovations must precede design of affected work in the park.

SITE DRAINAGE

Currently, drainage within the park is handled mainly by one catch basin in the central lawn, near the memorial plaza, with outfall via a 15 inch pipe through the bulkhead east of the plaza. Surface flow is divided by the walkway circling the main lawn, with drainage inside the walk going to the catch basin, and outside the walk going to the street edges. The park also generally slopes north to south, toward the river. The plaza and esplanade are slightly higher than the main portion of the park, by design, and block water flow from the rest of the park – hence the location of the catch basin just to their north. The plaza and esplanade drain to the river through weepholes at the base of the balustrade.

Historically, heavy rains or storm surges, especially at times of high water table and high tide, have resulted in standing water in the low (southern) portion of the central lawn; one recent storm (2012) reportedly left water in that area for nearly two weeks. The existing drainage system functions properly, according to City personnel; the problem is due to the naturally low elevation, and the drainage barrier created by the esplanade; the high water table; and possibly poor percolation or hardpan in the soil layer. Other areas in the park are not especially prone to problems of poor drainage, although the high water table has always presented challenges and limitations for planting (see also the section on *Planting*, below).

Drainage at the park's perimeter is handled by the street drainage system, which includes one catch basin prominently located in the northwest entrance plaza.



- *Park drainage should be evaluated, including the functionality of the existing system; soil conditions in the lower lawn area; and height of water table throughout the year. Upgrades could involve:*
 - *Renovation or replacement of, or supplemental additions to, the existing internal park system;*
 - *Removal of hardpan or other soil mitigation measures; and/or*
 - *Renovation of the northwest plaza drainage structure for improved aesthetics of the entrance.*

PARK UTILITIES

Park utilities may require upgrades to support the improvements shown in the Master Plan. Water and sewer service exist for the storage shed and may need upgrading to support a park office, depending on its final design. Electrical services will need to be evaluated by an engineer during the design phase to determine the upgrades needed for new park lighting, fountain equipment, the park office, and/or the provision of site power outlets, which should be made available for park events. Communications (modem and/or phone) may be desirable for the park office depending on its final program and design.

- *Utility systems upgrades will be necessary to support the park's future usage.*

OFFSITE UTILITIES

Overhead lines and associated poles along Riverside Avenue greatly detract from the park's overall appearance and the impression it gives at this important "front door." Visual intrusion and a hodgepodge appearance, in general, make the park seem less well cared for, and work against efforts to minimize damage and vandalism and instill a greater sense of security and ownership in park visitors. Placing utilities underground will be one factor in improving this, and will make the park's streetscape consistent with The Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens' newly renovated frontage and other developments further up Riverside Avenue. (Olmsted Brothers also recommended, in 1922, placing all wiring underground.)



In conjunction with burying overhead lines and removing unnecessary poles, the entry plazas should be renovated. In addition, required streetlights along Riverside should be replaced with more aesthetic fixtures, as has been done at The Cummer and elsewhere.

- *Burial of overhead lines should be done in conjunction with entry plaza renovations and upgraded street lighting.*

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR KEY ELEMENTS: ARCHITECTURAL & HARDSCAPE

PARK OFFICE

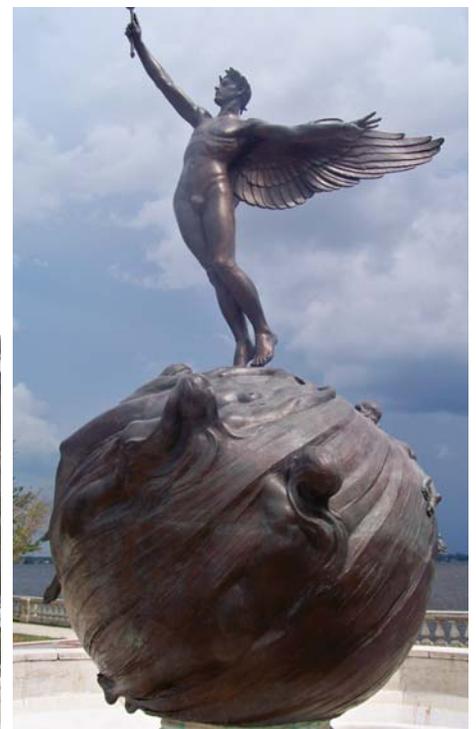
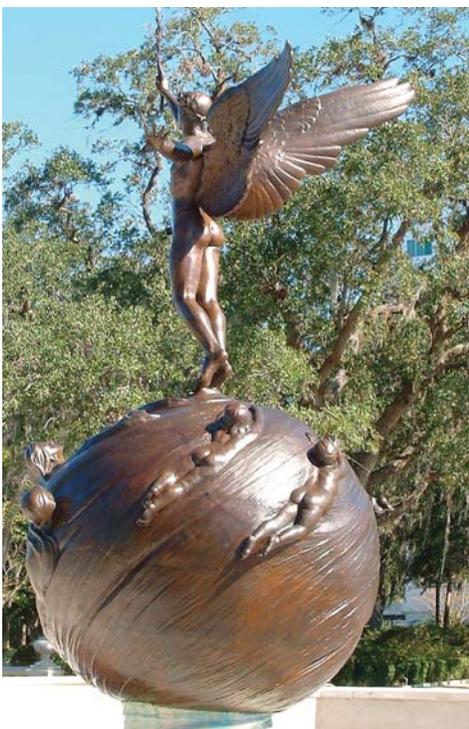
The existing storage shed, approximately 12 by 24 feet, provides a minimum of storage and support for park maintenance. This building is proposed to be replaced with a small Park Office that can serve several functions, in addition to storage, that are crucial to the success and endurance of Memorial Park. A small office space for a park staff person or volunteer / docent will allow the park to be “staffed” on at least a part time basis; ideally, a daily presence of MPA volunteers (or paid staff), other community volunteers or City staff will give the park a basic level of monitoring, and also provide an opportunity for interaction with park visitors: giving information about the park, answering questions, addressing concerns, encouraging community support. A break room and storage for personal effects for volunteers will be essential if the volunteer corps is to grow and increase its role – a critical component of the future sustainability of park maintenance. Even when closed the office can be a location where useful and interesting information about the park and the MPA is available

The size of the building will likely need to be increased, although this should be done with sensitivity to its scale and “fit” on the site. Easy visibility for security surveillance will also be an important consideration in the design phase, for both the office and its immediate surroundings.

- *A new Park Office will support visitor outreach as well as park security and maintenance.*

SCULPTURE CONSERVATION & MAINTENANCE

The *Life* sculpture is a nationally significant work (see the *History* section). It should be evaluated by a professional conservator, and based on his or her findings, treated as necessary for any internal corrosion, drainage problems, or surface soiling or damage. As was done in 2004 (the last such treatment), it may be necessary to completely clean the bronze and apply a new patina and protective coatings. This will be determined by the conservator. The bronze memorial tablets of course form a part of this work as well.



Life immediately after conservation treatment in 2004 (left, photo by Patrick Rice) and in 2013.

A follow-up regimen of regular inspection and maintenance is needed. This will prevent a pattern of recurrence of more extensive and costly conservation treatments. Recommendations for monthly, quarterly, semi-annual and/or annual inspection and maintenance activities are contained in the 2004 *Conservation Treatment Report* prepared by conservator Patrick Rice.

- *Conservation and care of the important memorial sculpture Life is an ongoing commitment.*

FOUNTAIN RESTORATION

The basin fountain surrounding the sculpture is an integral part of the memorial, and a centrally important element of the Olmsted Brothers design (possibly with the active collaboration of the sculptor Pillars). It deserves to be restored and maintained to its original condition, when water swirled in the basin's spiraling channels, to echo the swirling form of the sculpture's globe.

This will likely require replacing the plumbing and controls with up to date, more durable and reliable equipment, able to sustain operation with a modest amount of maintenance. (A dual pump system may be advisable, allowing alternating usage and providing a backup when one pump is in repair.) Ease of repair and ready availability of replacement parts are also important considerations.

The entire system should be evaluated by a fountain specialist. Other aspects that should be reviewed include automating makeup water; a strategy for surcharge storage (if any), e.g., adding a reservoir; and the controller's durability, ease of use and repair and access control (security). If possible a non-potable source



of makeup water, such as a rainwater cistern, should be developed, so that the fountain is not affected by watering restrictions.

Restoration will also include removal of intrusive equipment (see the *Lighting* section), the repair of any damage to the basin wall, re-waterproofing if required, and restoration of the cast stone work to a high degree of integrity.

- *The fountain will be fully restored, and its systems and technology updated to reduce maintenance.*



Old electrical work mars some of the fountain's cast stone cladding (left); the current pump vault is undersized and the pump out of commission (right). Fountain restoration must address plumbing systems, controls, the basin lining and full restoration / repair of all of the cast stone work.

BALUSTRADES

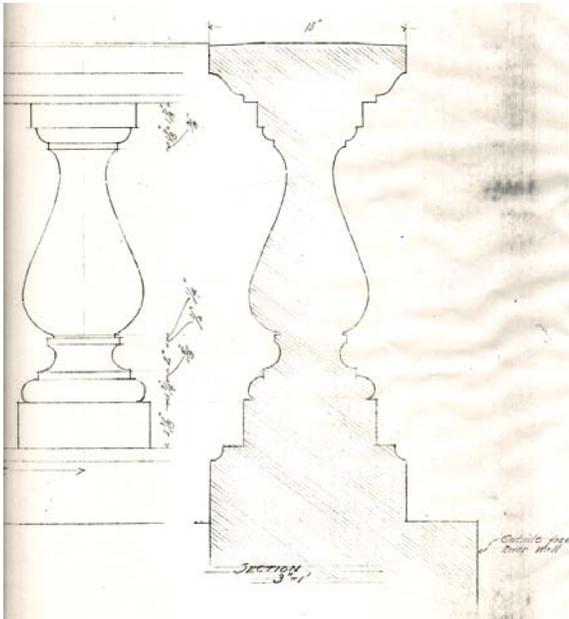
After the sculpture and fountain, Memorial Park's balustrades are its most important architectural element. The simple yet substantive elegance of their neo-classical forms is an iconic image of the park's riverfront, and reflects the *Beaux Arts* styles of the memorial and the park layout itself. They also represent the first use in Jacksonville of a design element that was used in a number of important parks of the era, including Confederate and Springfield Parks.

The balustrades have suffered extensive damage, wear and degradation over the years, with many – perhaps most – of the original pieces having been repaired, patched, painted or replaced, at one time or another; this apparently began as early as 1929 (see the *History* section) and has continued throughout the park's history, with major efforts in 1960 and again at several points in the 1990s-2000s.

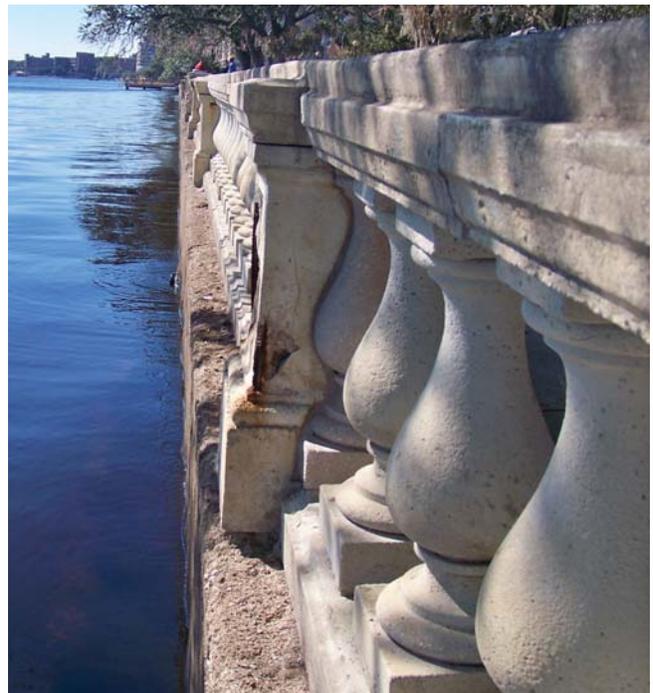
Originally made of dry tamped cast stone, the balustrades have been patched or partially replaced over the years with newer materials and techniques. In many cases the appearance has been reasonably close to the original, but in others the match is poorer. The entire top rail along the riverfront, for example, has had added on top of it a new layer of poured-in-place concrete, which serves as a patch to help hold together the underlying original material. This addition changes the profile altogether, to a heavier, thicker look,

losing the original proportions. Some of the ornamental urns are damaged, and two along the river have disappeared. The balustrades also suffer from spalling, cracks, missing pieces, exposed and rusting reinforcing, and the visual remnants of earlier repairs that left a coating of epoxy paint on some portions. Even some of the newer work shows cracking, which may indicate settling of the bulkhead, or problems with the installation.

Memorial Park's balustrades will be fully restored. This should include sampling and evaluation of the original material to determine its makeup, and the development of a contemporary material and reinforcing design that will match the original, while enduring for decades to come in this harsh environment and eliminating the need for frequent, piecemeal future repairs.



Above, original design detail of balustrade (courtesy Olmsted NHS) and circa 1949 appearance (courtesy JHS); below, current profile with added cap layer. Note also exposed, rusting reinforcing steel.



Detailed evaluation by a professional restoration / conservation contractor will be needed to determine the extent to which repairing original pieces of balustrade is feasible. Certain less impacted portions, especially plinth pieces and piers, may be salvageable; however it is also possible that complete removal and reconstruction will be the most sensible and economical option. In that case original elements should be accurately replicated, using thorough documentation of the historic design and molds made to match existing original elements.

- *The Park's balustrades are a key architectural feature and will be completely restored, using durable, upgraded materials that are appropriately matched to the original appearance.*



Right: Northwest (Margaret Street, top) and northeast (Memorial Park Drive) entries: note differing wall finishes and color.



Below: Northwest entry, cracks appearing in wall (left) and discoloration (right).



ENTRY PIERS & WALLS

Memorial Park's entry piers were reconstructed in 1994, a gift of the Barnett family in honor of William Randle Barnett. They remain in generally good condition, although some damage has occurred at the northeast entrance and all are in need of cleaning. The curved walls that connect them may need more extensive restoration. The finish coats of the northeast and northwest entry walls no longer match (the northeast having been extensively repaired and refinished after an auto accident), and in both places are showing cracks, peeling and/or moldy. They should be stripped and refinished with a climatically suitable stucco or cementitious coating. The wall structures themselves are of uncertain material and condition and should be evaluated when the finishes are removed.

- *The entrance piers and walls will be cleaned and, as needed, refinished and repaired.*



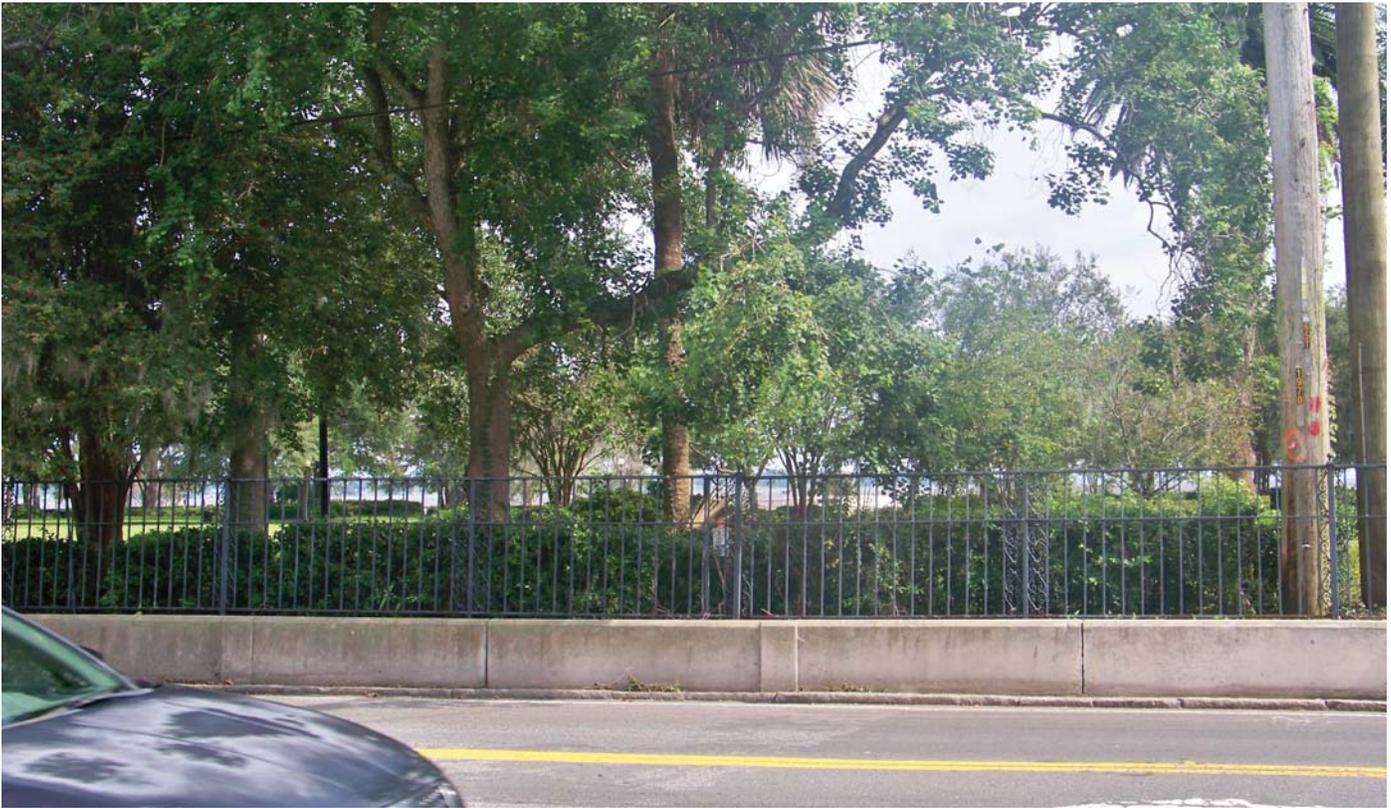
Northeast entry (left to right): damaged pier; peeling paint; damaged pier.

PERIMETER WALLS & FENCES

The low retaining walls that separate the park landscape from the three surrounding streets, and the iron fences set just behind them in the park, prevent people and animals from cutting into the park all along its perimeter. This reinforces the intended circulation pattern and protects landscape and lawn from trampling and wear.

The fence was added to the park in the 1990s, and although no fence was on the original plans, there was a recommendation made by Olmsted Brothers that a low wall, about 4 feet high, be considered for addition to the park's perimeter, to serve this same purpose. They had also issued drawings at various times showing metal picket fence at certain locations along the esplanade, although these were never implemented. Given 21st-century requirements for safety and visibility, having this type of fence is an appropriate adaptation of the original solid wall concept. The existing fence is severely corroded to the point where many of its posts are no longer connected to their footings, having worn completely through, or to connecting rails. The entire fence needs to be replaced.





Replacing the rusted existing fence with a slightly lower, less ornamented one would improve visibility into the park, for both security and aesthetic reasons.



The retaining walls are likely not original. The 1929 Park Advisory Committee report, written by Ninah Cummer, describes the “wall around this park” as having been made of hollow tile, and prone to breakage (see the *History* section). The existing retaining walls are apparently formed of precast concrete sections. Unless Mrs. Cummer was referring to the entry walls, presumably these are replacements for the originals, although no records of such a project have been found. They are in mostly good condition, except one accident-damaged section on Riverside Avenue, and minor wear or breakage at several points along the side streets.

- *Perimeter fences, badly rusted, will be replaced, and perimeter walls repaired as needed.*
- *Improved traffic warnings of some form, for southbound Riverside Avenue, may help reduce future damage to the walls near the curve.*

WALKWAYS

Memorial Park's existing walkways date from 2001 when a renovation project to replace the original concrete walks was completed. The layout is essentially the same. The majority of the walks are in fairly good condition, with the exception of some extensively cracked paving at the southwest entrance, and a poorly patched-in utility box in the Riverside Avenue entrance. However, numerous places are also gradually lifting due to the encroachment of the roots of large trees. This creates the potential for trip hazards, excessive slopes for purposes of ADA compliance, or cracking.

The long-term, successful coexistence of large trees and adjacent walkways is a challenge inherent in the design and as-built condition of the park. (The Olmsted Brothers design only included trees on one side of the main walk, to the outside of the oval, so the condition might have been lessened if the design had been followed more closely; but there would still be conflicts. Nevertheless the park "as built" has more of them.) In the last renovation, semicircular cut-outs were left in the layout of the walks, around each tree, to try to address the problem. This may have helped somewhat, but does not solve the problem, as lifting of the walks is still occurring.

Ultimately, the walks should be restored to the original, smooth-edged configuration, as the cutouts work against the intended design character of the park (in the words of J. F. Dawson of Olmsted Brothers, "as simple as possible"), and a more lasting solution implemented for the root problem.



Original smooth-edged, curving walk layout (left) is visually quiet and elegant compared to walk with cut-outs (right).



Walkway starting to lift, despite presence of cutout.

To establish a sustainable relationship with the park's trees, an adaptive new design strategy will be needed. Consideration should be given to replacing the concrete with a flexible system, using one of a number of proprietary, semi-permeable crushed stone systems. This would accommodate root movement without the cracking or differential uplift (resulting in potential trip hazards) of concrete. Such systems, if chosen carefully for color and appearance of the aggregate (stone), will blend visually with the park and may recall the gravel walks used in some Olmsted projects of that era; at the same time, they represent an emerging technology of best practices for stormwater management by reducing impervious area. The park's trees will also benefit from increased flow of water and oxygen into the root zone.

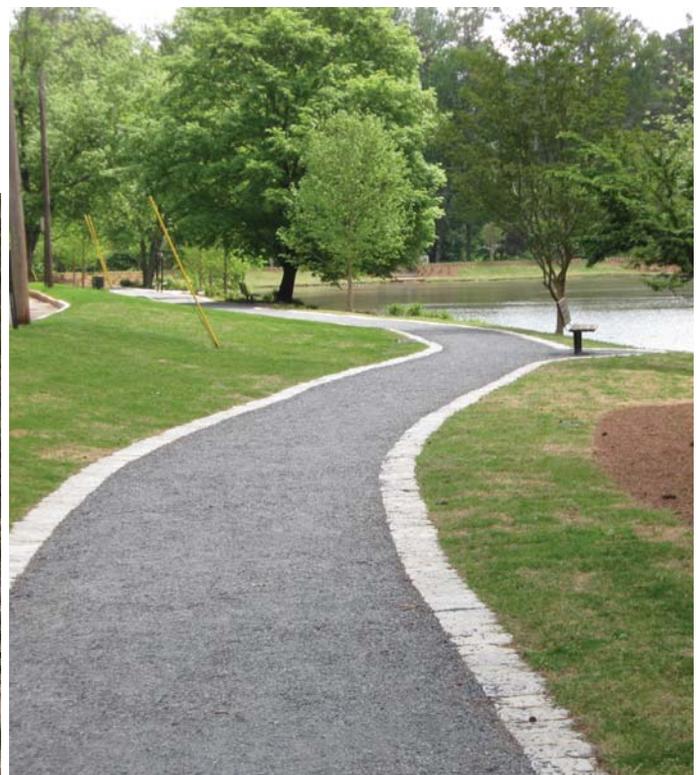
Crushed stone or aggregate systems should be vetted for universal accessibility as well as for demonstrated durability in public settings before construction specifications are finalized. Ideally, the surface will be firm and stationary enough to provide wheelchair access and minimize maintenance requirements, yet not be "skateboard-friendly." This would help protect the park's benches.

As an alternative, pervious concrete can be considered. While less optimal for tree preservation, if installed carefully and with proper supervision, pervious concrete can coexist fairly well with trees; this is especially true if the elevation of the walk can be raised, to accommodate the latest "root bridging" construction techniques. This material may be a good alternative in the esplanade area, if it is determined that the bulkhead elevation is to be raised. The esplanade is also the portion of the park most likely to experience storm surge.

In the interim, any trees (adjacent to walks) that die should be replaced with new trees set farther from the walkway, e.g., 12 to 14 feet; or such trees might not be replaced at all, depending on location (see Planting, below).

- *When next renovated, walkways will be restored to the original configuration, and constructed with state of the art techniques to eliminate conflicts with adjacent trees' roots.*

Flexible, semi-permeable paving examples: left, Gravelpaver (NDS), an engineered plastic matrix filled with crushed stone; right, Slatescape Trail Mix (Erth Products), a graded, angular stone product that is formulated to compact to a stable surface.



BENCHES

The existing marble benches are also not original to the park but the design, which is custom, was introduced sometime prior to 1941. Historical records indicate that Ninah Cummer asked Olmsted Brothers' Dawson for a design, but no copy of it has been found; it is unknown whether these benches are that design. Many of the current benches are gifts and memorials placed in the park since 1993. The simple backless design works well visually in the park and the benches are well used by park visitors, but have suffered significant damage due to skateboarding, graffiti, vandalism and other wear and tear. As memorials, it would be most appropriate to retain them, cleaning and repairing damage to the greatest extent feasible. Some pieces may need to be replaced.



Skateboarders damage benches around the oval (above left) far more than those on the esplanade.



Benches also suffer from graffiti, breakage, discoloration, occasional spalling and other wear and tear.

To minimize future damage, potential strategies include: revising the design of future benches to discourage skateboarders; modifying existing benches; and/or setting the benches further away from the path, beyond the distance skateboarders can easily jump and return to the pavement.

- *Benches throughout the park will be refurbished, and measures put in place to prevent skateboarding damage.*
- *Increased maintenance such as rapid removal of graffiti, along with increased security, will help discourage vandalism and graffiti.*



Setting benches a short distance off of the path edge would make them less attainable and attractive to skateboarders. Setting them off the path with a backdrop of plantings would be following one of J.F. Dawson's (Olmsted Brothers) original suggestions.

OTHER SITE FURNISHINGS



The existing receptacles were installed in 1994. Several no longer stay reliably closed or are missing the side door panel.

Site furnishings should be improved to better serve park users and to facilitate ease of maintenance. A consistent style or harmonious palette of furnishings should be adopted that reflects Memorial Park's identity and its particular aesthetic. In general these furnishings should be simple, durable and attractive, yet visually unobtrusive, in keeping with the original design motif of the park's being "as simple as possible, unbroken by walks and other objects any more than is necessary." They should also be consistent with products

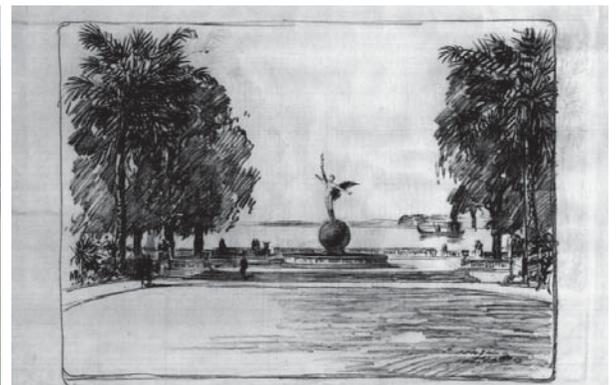
avored by the Parks and Recreation Department for ease of use, maintenance and replacement / repair.

In addition to upgrading existing litter receptacles, other types of furnishings that should be considered for adding to the park include scoop-bag dispensers for dog walkers, drinking fountains, an information board (perhaps associated with the Park Office) and, subject to availability of pickup service, receptacles for recycling. Bike racks should be located in visually unobtrusive locations, such as at the street ends or Margaret Street and Memorial Park Drive just outside the park.

- *Site furnishings / amenities will be upgraded and increased, taking care to avoid visual clutter in the park and to maintain a consistent look that reflects Memorial Park's identity and aesthetics.*

SIGNAGE & DONOR RECOGNITION

Existing signage at Memorial Park has been placed in ways that visually disrupt a number of important views and vistas, and that create something of a hodge-podge appearance. It also lacks a cohesive style or any customization to make it fit the character and aesthetic of this unique site. Placement of traffic signs could also be better coordinated with the park's layout.



As recommended for Site Furnishings, above, signage should also be designed as part of a harmonious palette of site elements. It should also be as visually unobtrusive as possible, within the context of its role – a certain degree of visibility being necessary for signs to be effective.

Several distinct types of signs are necessary, and each may follow a distinct yet related set of design parameters: main and secondary identity signs that simply identify Memorial Park, and possibly specific features within it (e.g., Park Office); administrative signs that state rules and regulations, and other necessary information such as park hours and MPA / City contact information; interpretive signs that can give information about the park’s history, significance, design, artworks, etc.; and donor recognition. Space should also be identified for temporary posting of City, MPA and/or community information. Digital technology such as the use of QR codes can take the place of, or supplement, many of these “hard” signs, helping to reduce their visual impact on the park.

Donor recognition should be appropriately impressive, without necessarily being large or visually intrusive, and should be displayed in one centralized location to preserve the historical integrity of the park landscape. A creative and thematic design motif that fits the park’s unique identity and aesthetic can strengthen the appeal.

- *A consistent style of park signage will be developed, appropriate to this unique place and coordinated with the design of MPA web pages, logo(s) and other elements of branding.*
- *Signs will be consolidated and placed to minimize visual clutter and respect important park views and vistas.*
- *Donor recognition will be provided in a single, appropriate location, with a suitably tasteful and elegant design character that is aesthetically compatible with the park.*



Examples of contemporary identity, informational and interpretive signs in Olmsted landscapes.

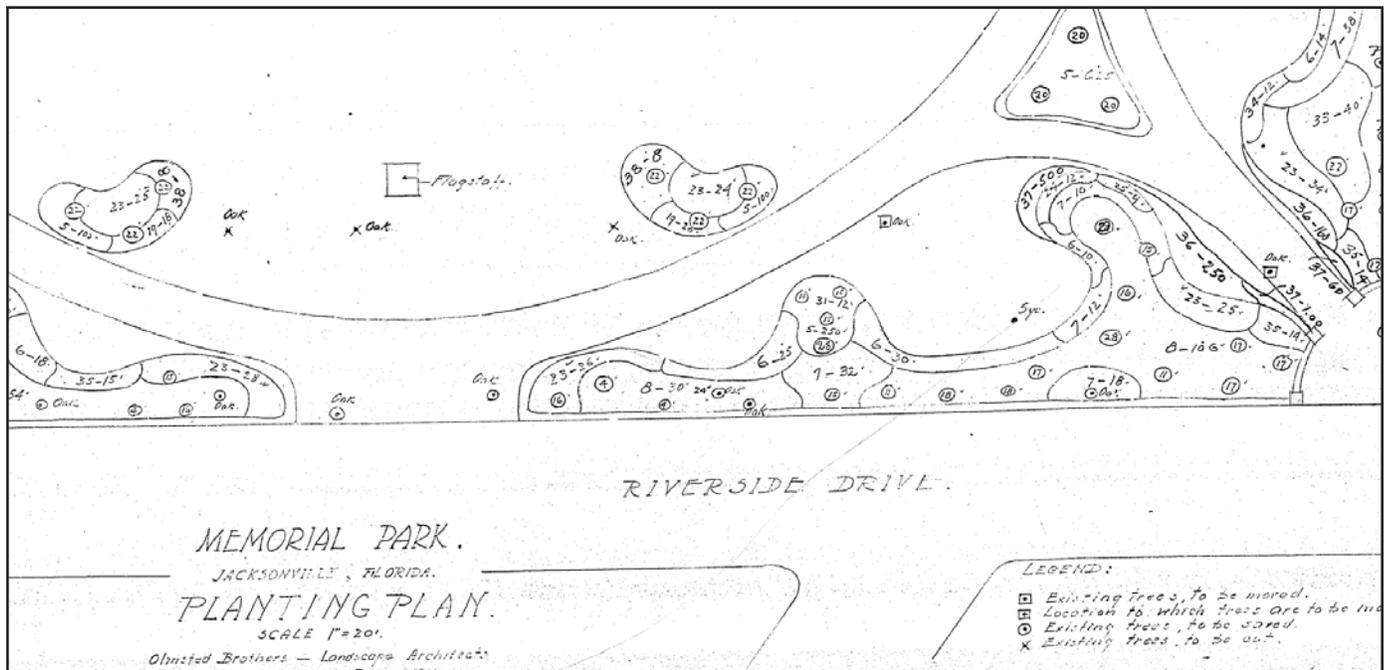


Donor recognition features can take a variety of forms to suit the character of the place.

FLAGPOLE

The location for a flagpole was shown on the original design plans; its axial relationship across the lawn from the sculpture would work well to highlight the memorial, accentuating the park layout's focus on it. The two existing flagpoles should be consolidated into two flags on one pole at the originally specified location.

- The originally designed flagpole location will be installed.



LIGHTING & SITE POWER

Lighting was originally provided in the park through pole mounted globe fixtures with half basket ornamentation. These were incorporated into the balustrade and placed along the oval walk. This lighting system has been replaced at least twice, changing the style and some of the locations of the lights, most noticeably on the esplanade where they were removed from the balustrade and replaced down the center of the

lawn. The present globe fixtures and poles are a much simplified version of the original, which in turn was very similar to, but not an exact match for, the type suggested by the Olmsteds.



From left to right: light style suggested by Olmsted Brothers; lights as installed on the balustrade, c. 1925; current fixture with simple faceted (as opposed to more classical fluted) pole.



Fixtures moved from the balustrade to the middle of the esplanade impact key views to the memorial from both adjacent park entrances (left); a floodlight was previously used to illuminate the sculpture, visible at far left in 1941 photograph (right).

Illumination in most of the park is moderately good today; some portions along the Margaret Street and Memorial Park Drive sides of the park seem less “readable” at night. The deferred maintenance visible in some of the fixtures, such as dirt or debris in the globes, or lamps that are overdue for replacement giving off lower, yellower illumination, can add to a perception that the park is unsafe.

Lighting for the memorial has also been replaced at least twice. The current fixtures are mounted inside the fountain basin. Their presence and the surface mounted conduit that feeds them greatly detract from the appearance and integrity of the memorial fountain.



The installation of lights and electrical conduit in the fountain basin wall has damaged the interior surface and is visually intrusive.

The recommendations for overhauling the park's lighting system include the following (see the *Lighting Concept* diagram, below):

Restore the lighting in the balustrade, using environmentally suitable materials such as fiberglass composite to endure harsh conditions while matching the look of the original fixtures; remove the existing esplanade poles.

Upgrade all fixtures to higher efficiency, longer lifespan lighting such as Color Corrected LED, to reduce maintenance burden and energy consumption.

Replace existing poles with longer lasting, more maintenance-free poles such as composite poles, again, to match the look of the originals.

Add fixtures as needed to eliminate darker zones on the park's east and west edges, and to compensate for the relocation of the esplanade lighting.

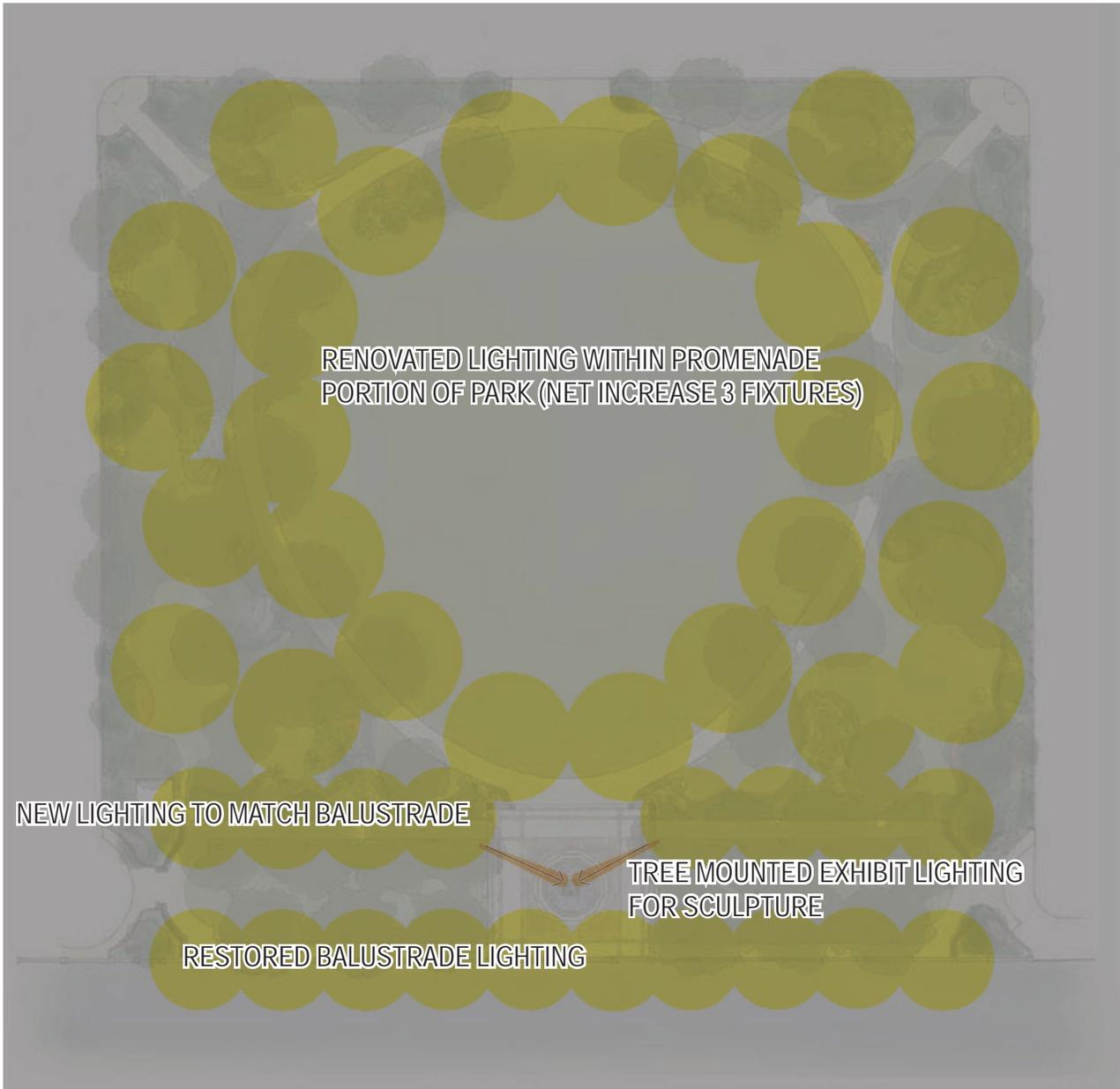
Upgrade the Riverside Avenue streetlights to a type with better aesthetics and compatibility with the park (to be coordinated with the City and JEA).

Remove the existing lighting within the fountain and replace it with tree-mounted fixtures specialized for longer distance exhibit lighting. The color range of the lighting should be warmer for the sculpture, and cooler – perhaps in a range between what is typical for incandescent and for metal halide lighting – for the overall site.

This upgrade to park lighting will likely require upgrading the electrical service and, possibly, site distribution as well; this will need to be confirmed in the design phase. This service upgrade should also include

the provision of site power outlets in lockable boxes, in case needed to support special events, weddings or other gatherings in the park.

- *Upgrades to park lighting and site power will enhance the uniformity and illumination level of site lighting, reduce energy and maintenance requirements, help restore the original balustrade design, improve lighting for the sculpture and provide better support for events in the park.*



Lighting Concept

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR KEY ELEMENTS: LANDSCAPE

Landscapes change; this is inevitable. Planting designs are composed of dynamic living things that grow, struggle, thrive, change, die – frequently doing these things at times, or in ways, that were not quite what was expected. In an important historic landscape such as Memorial Park it is very rarely, if ever, feasible – or even desirable – to take things back to a particular moment in time and then keep them there.

Rather, in stewarding such landscapes, their spirit, character and intentions must be understood, and then used to guide how we shape the landscape for the future. The planting details of historic designs, while important, can never be replicated exactly: some of the plants used in the original plan of this park, for example, ultimately proved not all that well suited to this site, or are no longer seen as smart choices for this region; others proved too well suited, and too hard to keep in check, overrunning their neighbors and the integrity of the design; and some are now termed invasive exotics, officially discouraged or even banned from use in the landscape.

And while some of the designers' original intentions are usually waylaid by their own plants, to greater or lesser degrees, there are also other, inevitable changes to deal with through time. Generations of caretakers, faced with having to make adaptations, may act based on differing interpretations or sometimes limited knowledge of the intent and spirit of the design, and each leaves its mark. Environmental conditions change: salt water encroaches as growing populations use up the fresh; new insects and diseases arrive, taking certain plant species out of use; soils compact or wear out. Society changes, as well. The cost of today's maintenance, the scarcity of well-trained landscape personnel and the cuts in most cities' parks budgets make ours a very different world from that of the Olmstedes – to say nothing of the *Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design* principles that now must inform most public landscapes.

The landscape renovation concept of the Master Plan seeks to preserve and strengthen what remains of the original design intent (which has been closely studied in the process): both the details (plants), and the larger landscape structure and organization, that persist from the original plan are given great priority and respect.

The landscape concept also seeks to incorporate the subsequent changes and additions that work well with the original design intent, or that have acquired such great intrinsic value – even if somewhat independent of the original plan – that to undo them would make no sense. (A beautiful, wide-spreading, 60-inch caliper live oak that is not really quite in the right place is an example.)

The original design and these non-reversible changes are to be carefully blended, along with compatible new elements – generally, close adaptations of things in the original design – to reflect the original design more clearly, and make stronger – for current and future visitors – the experience of Memorial Park as a unique, welcoming, peaceful place of beauty that truly belongs to everyone.

The landscape parts and pieces that make up this whole include the overall layout – the spatial organization, or how the various areas of the park are understood – and then the landscape layers of canopy (large trees), understory, mid layer (shrubs) and ground plane (low plantings or lawn). Patterns to keep in mind include sun, shade and dappled light; spaces that open to long views, versus those that are more intimate and contained; and where to strategically use more visually intensive plantings – the focal points as opposed to the quieter background.

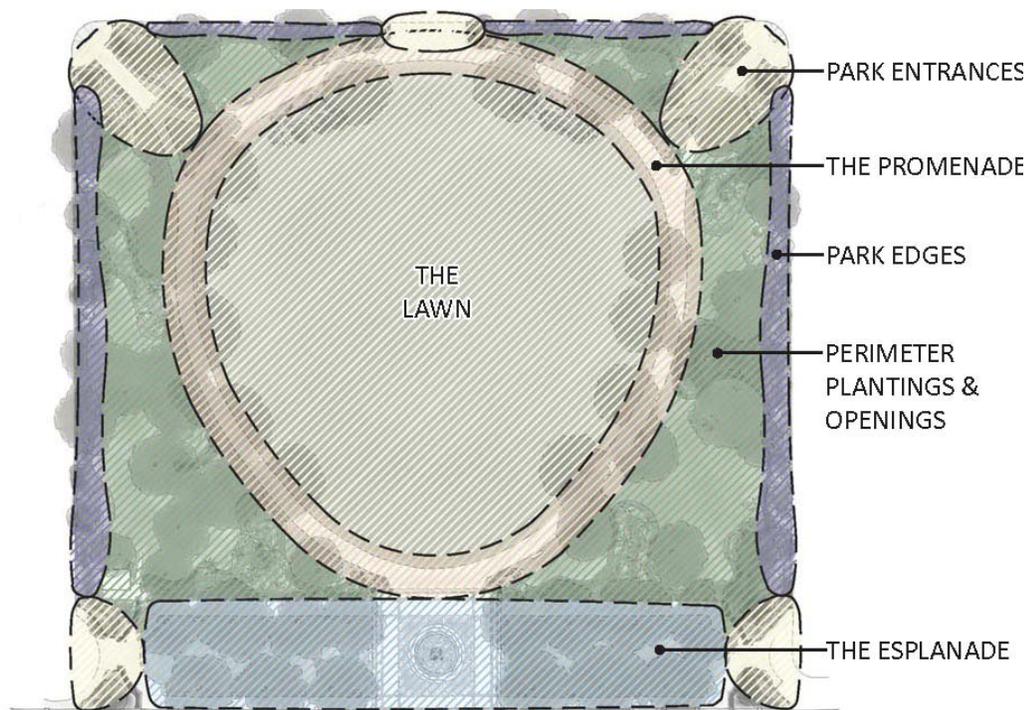
The spirit and intent of the original design that strongly inform the landscape concept are simplicity; harmony of foliage (e.g., pleasingly blending and contrasting greens, no variegation, no purple foliage); variety (both in plantings and in the feel of the spaces one encounters); carefully arranged visual compositions; and carefully planned sightlines and sequences of views and vistas – the choreography of the experience. In all, the original primary goals must always be kept in view: giving the memorial even more emotional

power, and making a truly public space of quiet beauty that welcomes all comers, and allows them to enjoy the park in a great variety of ways.

SPATIAL ORGANIZATION

One important way to understand the park landscape is its organization into various areas of distinct visual character, environmental conditions, palettes of materials, and/or uses and roles in the design. Memorial Park is composed of the following areas (see *Site Organization* diagram, below):

- The *Entrances* are meant to provide a formal sense of a threshold and inviting glimpses of the landscape beauty just beyond, as well as dramatic long views to the memorial *Life* sculpture
- The *Esplanade* provides a shady allee leading along the river, from the two southerly park entrances, to the memorial; its simple treatment of large live oaks and lawn creates an open, inviting space for strolling, sitting, enjoying river views or fishing, and focuses views strongly on the memorial.
- The *Lawn* is meant to ensure the visibility of the sculpture from countless vantage points around the park, including some beyond its edge (on Riverside Avenue), while also inviting a very wide variety of informal uses.
- The *Promenade* rings the lawn, defining it spatially, and with its large canopy trees provides a semi-shaded walking path that is the park's most active feature. It was meant to have continuous views to the memorial, and to offer interest and beauty in the changing sequences of spaces, plantings and views as one passes along the park's perimeter landscapes.
- The *Perimeter Plantings and Openings* create the greatest variety in the park landscape, both horticulturally and spatially. This zone alternates between smaller open lawns, that maintain open views and provide a variety of usable spaces, and planted beds that separate and define these spaces, with layered masses of different ground covers and low and tall shrubs.



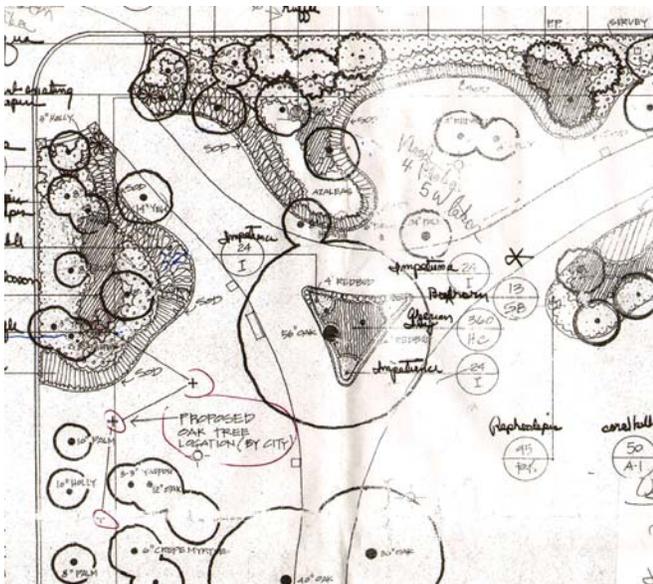
- The *Park Edge* was intended to frame and enclose the park; viewed from inside the park, a more or less continuous, deep green backdrop to everything in front of it; from the outside, a semi-permeable edge that allows glimpses of the park and the sculpture. Contemporary concerns for security require that this concept be adapted to allow greater visibility into and out of the park, especially in the critical zone between 2-3 and 6-8 feet above grade.

PLANTINGS

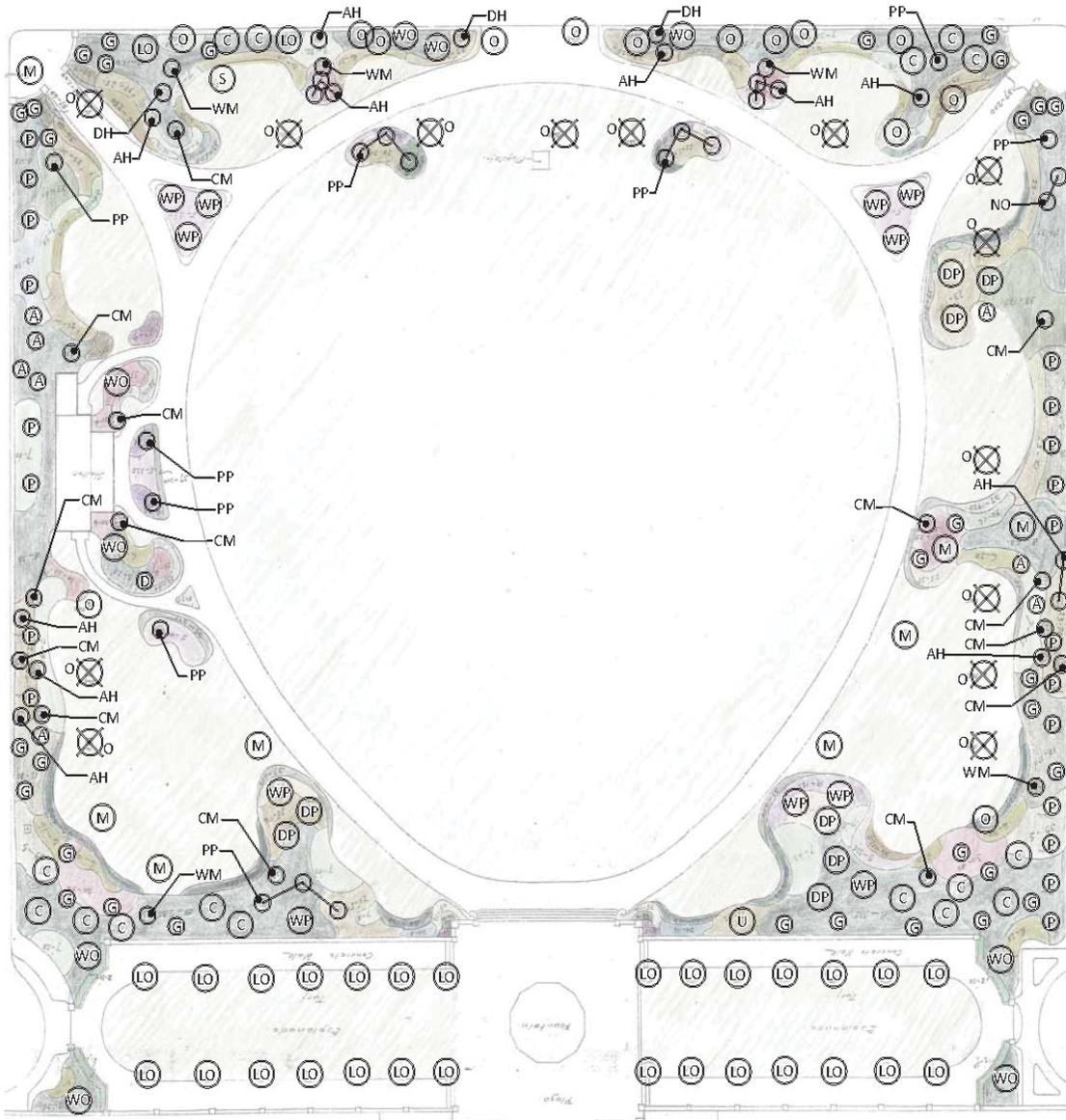
Tree Canopy

Magnificent large trees, especially live oaks, are icons of Memorial Park. This layer of the park's planting has evolved considerably from its initial design: as noted in the *History* section, trees to the inside of the promenade walk were added when the park was built, contrary to the design plans. In addition to being more open, the original plans also made more of a species differentiation between the esplanade (oaks) and the promenade (magnolias); today oaks predominate. Available historic aerial photographs (see *History*, above) suggest one or more interim replacements of oaks that failed in the lower portion of the lawn, especially along the west side. In the 1990s, a number of oaks and East Palatka hollies were added throughout the north half of the park. The original tree plan and current conditions are compared in the diagrams on the following page.

The park today is too densely planted in certain areas, creating excessively deep shade in places. While shade is essential for human comfort in the Florida landscape – arguably more essential than the Olmsteds, who were perhaps thinking mostly of winter visitors, appreciated, and thus perhaps justifying some adjustment to the plan – and while a good deal of transition from sun to shade is to be expected in any landscape, the current shade condition in some places far exceeds these expected or desirable adjustments.



In conjunction with the first phase of the 1990s landscape renovations (excerpt of plan, above), extra oak trees were field-located and installed by the City. These now form a tight bunch of medium-sized trees that impact plantings below and views to and from the park.

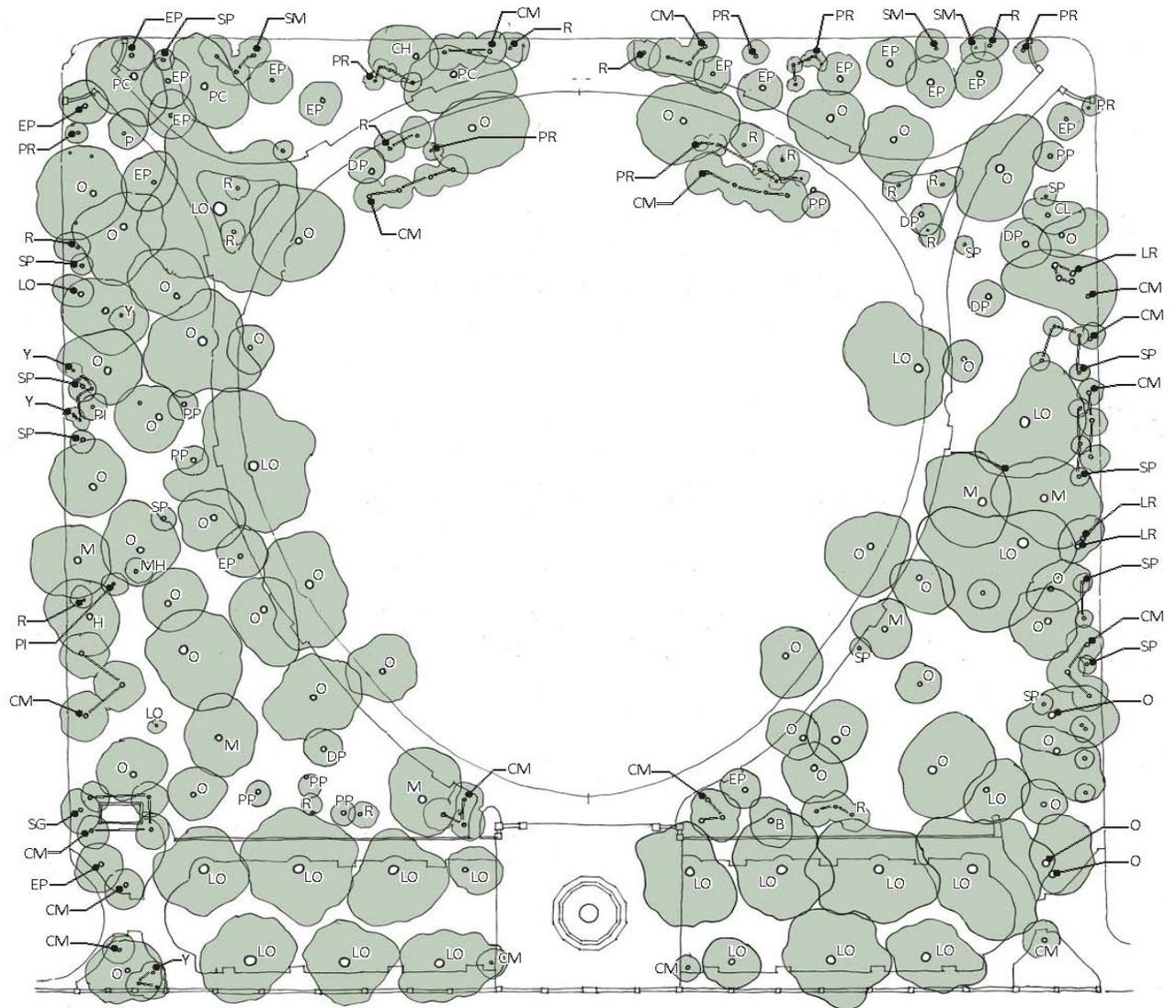


TREE KEY

- | | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|--|
| ○ A. Acacia | ○ DP. Date Palm | ○ NO. Nerium Oleander | ○ U. Unidentified |
| ○ AH. American Holly | ○ D. Duranta | ○ O. Oak (unspecified) | ○ WP. Washingtonia Palm |
| ○ C. Camphor | ○ G. Gordonia | ○ P. Palm (unspecified) | ○ WM. Wax Myrtle |
| ○ CM. Crape Myrtle | ○ LO. Live Oak | ○ PP. Pindo Palm | ○ WO. Willow Oak |
| ○ DH. Dahoon Holly | ○ M. Magnolia | ○ S. Sycamore | ⊗ Existing tree to be relocated or removed |

It significantly affects the horticultural options, leading to greater monotony as well as a less healthy and attractive landscape. It creates a vague perception of danger, especially at dusky times when the contrast with open areas is greatest. The excess, crowded trees also obliterate some of the original design's intended open spaces that provided visual variety, landscape vistas and usable spaces.

The Master Plan shows a general restoration of selected open spaces, to restore variety, vistas and usable spaces, improve the perception of park safety and increase light levels for plantings below the canopy layer. This will require a detailed inventory and evaluation of the existing trees, to identify structural defects, health issues and other factors, from which a plan can be developed identifying trees to be preserved, re-located or removed. Removal will obviously be a difficult and perhaps controversial decision for trees of any significant size, however, it will be the best option for trees that are or may become hazards due to structure or health issues, as well as for trees that are in such crowded placement that healthy growth will



TREE KEY

- | | | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|---|---------------------|
| B. Tough Bumelia | EP. East Palatka Holly | MH. Mayhaw | R. Redbud |
| CL. Cherry Laurel | H. Hackberry | O. Oak (unspecified) | SP. Sabal Palm |
| CH. Chinaberry | LR. Laurel Oak | PR. Pindo Palm | SM. Saucer Magnolia |
| CM. Crape Myrtle | LO. Live Oak | P. Podocarpus | SG. Sweetgum |
| DP. Date Palm | M. Magnolia | PR. Flowering Cherry, Plum, Peach (Prunus spp.) | Y. Yaupon Holly |

become impossible. Canopy management (i.e., semi-annual inspection and thinning, for both tree health and aesthetic purposes) will also be essential and will help maintain landscape vistas and light levels.

Therapeutic Tree Care

The body of knowledge and methods for nurturing trees is growing significantly, as leading arborists and landscape maintenance professionals develop sophisticated techniques such as soil de-compaction, the injection of nutrients and beneficial microorganisms, organic land management and tree protection during construction. This is especially valuable for large, mature trees and/or those facing challenging or changing site conditions. The many mature oaks and magnolias in the park, many of which are original, should be a priority to nurture and retain. Qualified professionals with this type of state-of-the-art expertise should be involved in the planning, design and construction phases of proj-

ects as the Master Plan is implemented, and in ongoing tree care and management afterward.

Understory / Shrub / Groundcover Layers

A comparison of the original planting plan for the park (below) and the existing ground-plane landscape (opposite page) shows several key differences:

- Horticultural variety has been greatly reduced;
- More complex compositions of plant groupings and massings have been simplified into larger, often more linear groupings;
- Along the east and west sides of the park, the undulating pattern of curving planted beds that define and separate the open spaces in the perimeter landscape, has largely been lost;

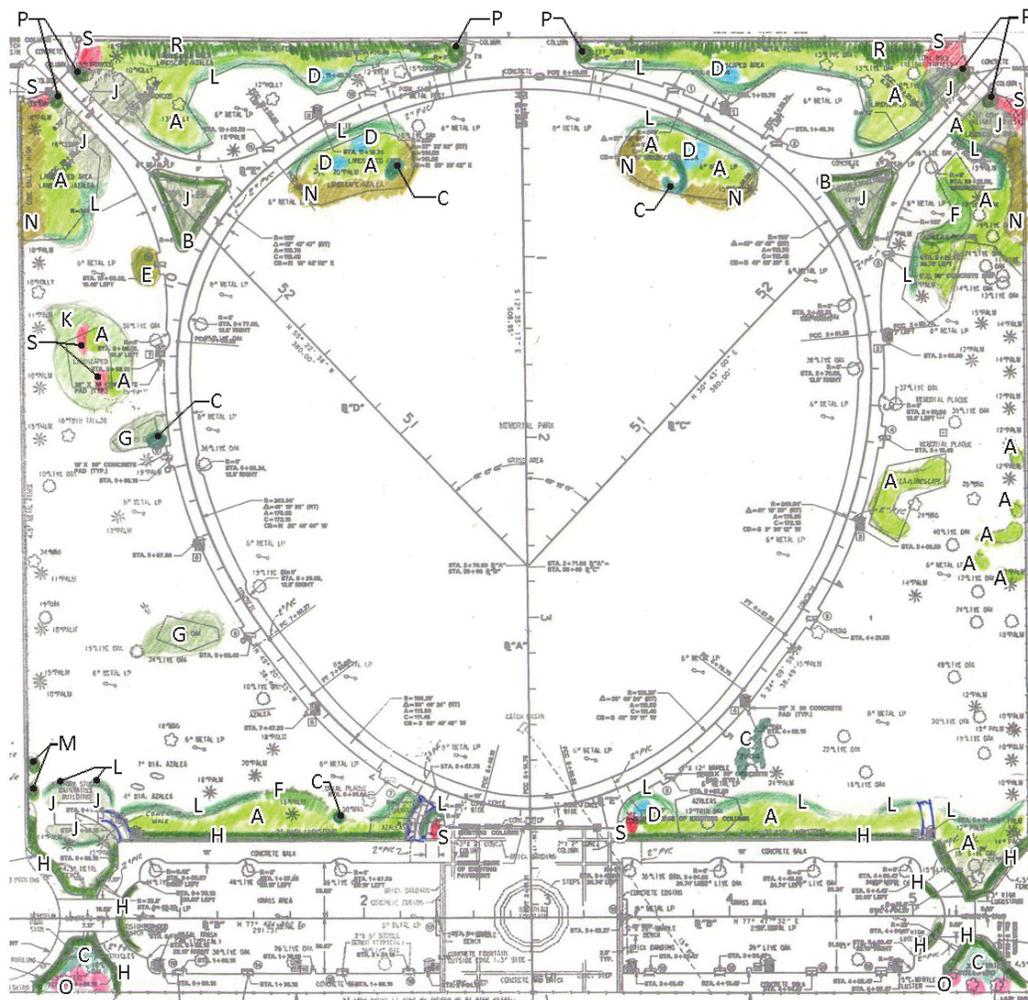


PLANT KEY

2. Pittosporum (hedge)	8. Oleander Tea Olive Japanese Anise Ligustrum Sweet Viburnum Larustinus (Viburnum)	24. Plumbago	34. Heavenly Bamboo (Nandina)
5. Plumbago Yellow Jasmine Trailing Lantana English Ivy	12. Pittosporum	25. Primrose Jasmine	35. Downy Jasmine Abelia Yaupon Holly
6. Serissa Yellow Lantana Lantana camara	13. Golden Dewdrop (Duranta)	27. Hibiscus	36. Flax Lily
7. Yaupon Holly Bridal Wreath Spiraea Spiraea cantoniensis Boxthorn (Severinia)	14. Turk's Cap	30. Oleander	37. Mondo Grass
	19. Lantana montevidensis	31. Camellia japonica	38. Plum Yew
	23. Larustinus (Viburnum) Downy Jasmine Abelia	32. Downy Jasmine	39. Bamboo
		33. Banana Shrub Camellia thea Larustinus (Viburnum) Mimosa	40. Cardamom (Amorium) Coontie

- Also along the east and west sides, much of the park edge planting is gone; and
- Beds extending north from the esplanade, that originally framed the memorial plaza, have also disappeared.

Many of these changes are logical responses to changed conditions: when original plantings failed, or proved unmanageable (given the staff and funding resources available), the plant palette was simplified and plantings reduced; and as crime and safety became concerns, lower and fewer plantings became preferred. In some other cases, changes have been accidents of history: shrubs planted as parts of hedges survived as sole specimens and were allowed to grow huge; or patches of isolated plantings remain from an otherwise vanished original bed. Nature plays a role as well, as wind and wildlife disperse seeds in the



PLANT KEY

 A. Azalea	 F. Holly Fern	 K. Ivy	 O. Oleander
 B. Boxthorn Hedge	 G. Pineapple Guava	 L. Liriope	 P. Podocarpus
 C. Coontie	 H. Hedge, typ. (Boxthorn or Yaupon)	 M. Wax Myrtle	 R. Holly Hedge
 D. Plumbago	 J. Asiatic Jasmine	 N. Indian Hawthorn	 S. Sasanqua Camellia
 E. Saw Palmetto			

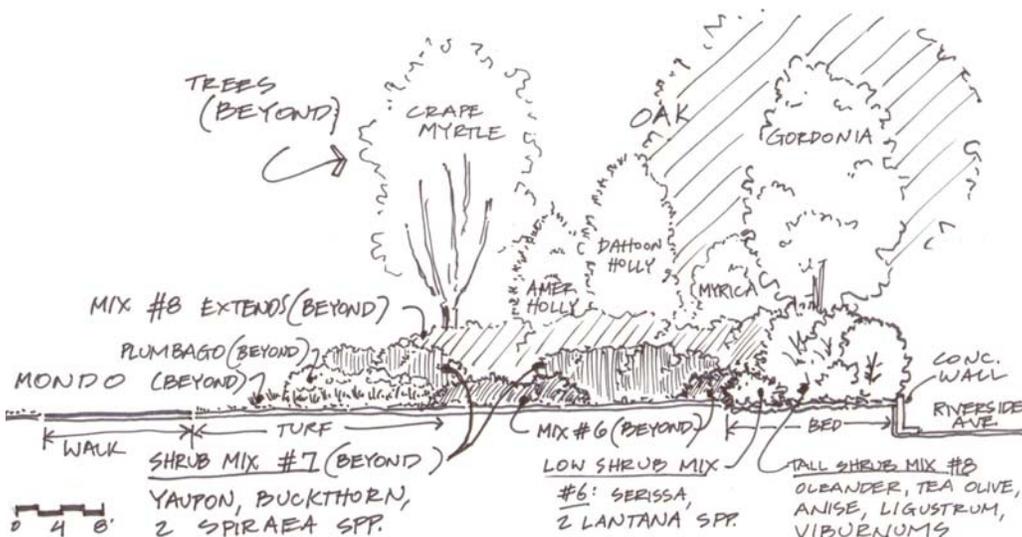
park, and plants such as greenbrier and Virginia creeper, as well as laurel oak, pecan, hackberry, cherry laurel, camphor tree and many others, continually appear. Such aggressive volunteers will always be a challenge to design integrity and an added maintenance burden.



Remnant shrubs: now isolated in lawn, a coontie clump (left) may well be a survivor of an original planting bed in that portion of the park (center); a Japanese yew probably once planted as a hedge or shrub is now a small tree (right).

The Master Plan envisions a sensitive *rehabilitation* of the park’s historic planting design, which is an important work of that time and an integral part of the way the whole park should be experienced. It seeks to restore elements and characteristics of the original plan that are feasible in today’s – and tomorrow’s – conditions. These include:

- Reintroducing more horticultural variety;
- Reintroducing a degree of more layering, grouping and detail of composition;
- Restoring the east and west park edge landscaping, adapted to meet current security considerations (i.e., lower growing, less dense plantings);
- Restoring the sinuous bed “islands” and better defined open spaces in the perimeter landscape around the promenade;
- Selectively removing over-mature shrubs and other plants that are badly located and strongly detract from the goals and integrity of the overall plan, block critically important views and/or create safety concerns;
- Removing overly aggressive groundcovers that obliterate bed boundaries and overtake neighboring plants;
- Removing plants that are in very poor condition or appearance due to incompatibility with site conditions, damage or disease; and
- Developing administrative and funding systems that will increase maintenance resources, commensurate with the above.



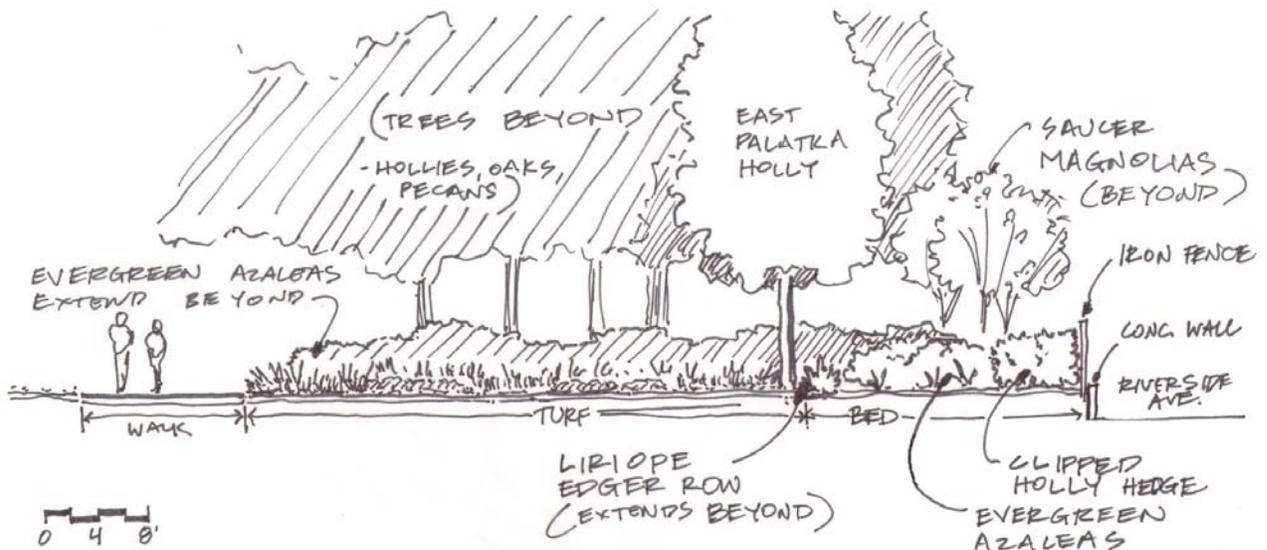
Layers of plant materials provided more contrast in heights, textures, habit and color in the original planting scheme (shown in conceptual cross section, left); the existing condition has far less variety (opposite).



Concept sketch (right) for restoration of some of the original design's approach to groupings, layering and massings, composition, contrast (within a harmonious whole) and variety.



Concept sketch (right) for removing blockages to key views (such as the hedge in the above photo), selectively thinning canopy to increase light levels, adding layering and variety in the bed plantings, and using strategically placed color. Also note the signage consolidation.





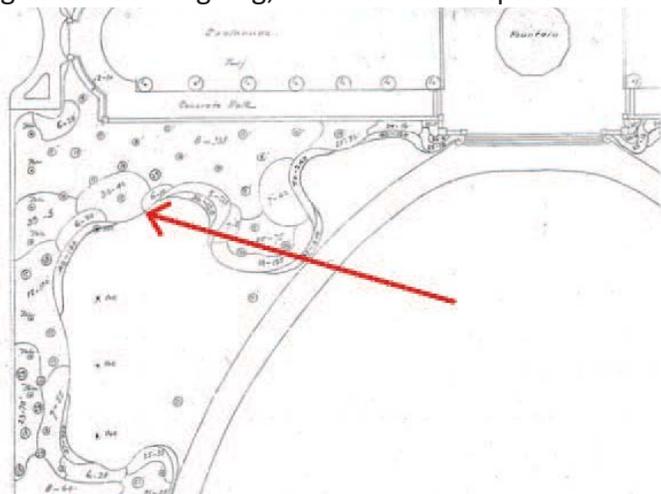
Horticultural Intensification / Accents

The Master Plan landscape concept is strategic and selective in the use of horticultural accents – spots where more intensive compositions of flowering shrubs, perennials and other plants create a strong focal point in the landscape. (A possible pattern is represented by the pink highlights on the plan, left.) This is in keeping with the original Olmsted Brothers design approach that carefully staged the sequences of views and the layering of landscape features seen across a site. This also keeps the maintenance requirements for the park from overwhelming the available resources, as only some areas are horticulturally intensive while others are allowed to be background.

The landscape concept also suggests using groupings of palms as accent features. This was a distinct component of the original palette; a number of these palms survive as mature specimens today and should be given more prominence, such as by opening up vistas to these specimens, adding more of the same type to restore lost groupings, and/or adding other compatible palm varieties.

Plant Palette

The following are general recommendations for potential additional plant selections that will best “fit,” preserve and restore the historic design intent and character of the park, while also responding to contemporary needs for safety, maintainability and environmental responsibility. They are meant to complement, not replace, existing species and varieties that are thriving and appropriate in the park’s landscape, thereby expanding the overall palette and restoring landscape variety and richness. These recommendations are intended to guide both a significant renovation as contemplated in this Master Plan, and day-to-day management and ongoing, smaller-scale improvements that will inevitably have to be made as plantings are



Original planting and vista composition (left) in southeast corner of park and similar treatment suggested in the Master Plan (right). Typical of the care that went into the design, J.F. Dawson wrote to Ninah Cumer (1/9/23) explaining the intent that views to a color accent, in this case a mass of oleanders, would be seen between the trunks of tall palms, and backed by “a round-headed, broad-leaved evergreen tree, which could attain a sufficient height but would contrast desirably in height and character with the palms.”

lost to age, attrition and other environmental factors.

As a Master Plan-level set of recommendations, these do not constitute specific and detailed planting design. Full design plans should be developed after a thorough inventory and evaluation of existing trees, a complete evaluation of the parks' soil conditions and hydrology and an analysis of the water available for irrigation have all been completed. Planting design must also be coordinated with anticipated maintenance funding and resources, information which is not known at this time.

The plant palette is discussed below with reference to the various design roles that the plantings play, in the various parts of the site described in the *Spatial Organization* diagram, above.

Park Edges: Perimeter Enclosure Shrubs

Shrubs and small trees originally created a green frame around the entire park. The Olmsteds used a large variety and large quantities of medium to tall evergreens, several of which also flowered, including oleander, ligustrum, osmanthus, anise, laurustinus, sweet viburnum, abelia, yaupon, two kinds of spireas (*cantonensis*, *prunifolium*), boxthorn, etc. As noted above, the Olmsted Brothers loved creating careful, elegant compositions of diverse greens – looking at texture, color, plant habit, height, density/transparency, etc. (“Harmony in the foliage effects...”) They never used variegated plants unless forced to. They also tended to emphasize bloom much less than their clients sometimes wanted, although there was a lot of it in this palette. Typically, they also strongly preferred that plants be allowed to grow to their natural form, a maintenance-related aesthetic concept which also affects plant selection.

Presently, the shrub layer throughout the park is dominated by evergreen azaleas. A clipped holly hedge and some sasanqua camellias line the Riverside Avenue edge, while the perimeters along the side streets are largely bare.

In order to restore the sense of oasis and enclosure, enhance plant diversity, and provide opportunities for pleasing contrasts and compositions the following should be considered. Many of these are dwarf varieties, which reduces the need for pruning and promotes security; larger-growing shrubs should be used sparingly, and carefully placed so as to avoid creating hiding places or blocking important sight lines.

Camellia species: *japonica** varieties (generally tougher here than *sasanqua*), plus other species.

Spiraea species: *cantonensis** (medium/large shrub), *japonica* (smaller), possibly others.

Viburnum * species and varieties - *V. obovatum*, *suspensum*, possibly others Inkberry holly (*Ilex glabra*), especially dwarf cultivars like ‘Shamrock.’

Illicium (anise) ‘Aztec Fire’ (smaller growing variety)

Dwarf Wax Myrtle

Dwarf Yaupon Holly*

Coontie*

* = plants included in original OB design



Harmonious foliage effects: sweet viburnum; Don's Dwarf wax myrtle; inkberry holly.

Perimeter Planting Beds - Shrub and Perennial Masses and Layering

Currently, this intermediate zone is composed largely of azaleas and liriopse, with occasional plumbago, lily of the Nile (*Agapanthus*), Indian hawthorn and a few other plants. This part of Memorial Park originally had the greatest intensity of display with spiraeas, plumbago, jasmines, *Duranta*, Rose of Sharon, several lantanas, Turk's cap and many others (a number of which are now classified as invasive pest plants).

Shrubs and perennials in a variety of sizes, textures, habits and shades of green should be utilized to create beautiful compositions in the important landscape zone just outside the promenade. Striking beauty does not necessarily have to be fussy or difficult to maintain; with good plant choices and design, cities such as New York and Chicago have created moments of green urban beauty in some extremely tough environments.

In addition to the shrubs listed in the previous section, some of which may also be used here, the following, generally smaller plants may be worth incorporating into this important landscape. These would generally "face down" the beds, with medium-sized plants behind, and the shortest ground covers at the front edges of the beds:

Very Low:

Mondo grass*
Lily of the Nile
Beach sunflower (sun only)
Crocsmia
Dutch Iris cultivars (*Iris xilphium*)

Low (generally <24"):

Alpinia japonica (ginger)
Cast iron plant (shade only)
Darrow's blueberry
Habranthus (Rain lily)
*Lantana montevidensis**
Paperwhite narcissus
Dwarf Pittosporum
Ruscus aculeatus

Medium:

African Iris (*Dietes*)
Alpinia nutans (Ginger)
Blood lily (*Scaedoxus*)
Crinum lily
Flax lily *
Georgia calamint
Gopher apple
Tropical Giant spider lily (*Hymenocallis*)
Red spider lily (*Lycoris*)
Rosemary



Rugged beauty: 97th Street pocket park, New York (Lynden Miller, publicgardendesign.com)



Darrow's blueberry (top) and Ruscus aculeatus (Charles Hubbuch, southeastgarden.com)

Color / Horticultural Intensification

As noted above, the recommended strategy for the use of intensive color in the park landscape is to concentrate these efforts at selected spots within the park that contribute to an interesting visual sequence and variety, rather than attempt to fill the entire park. A useful cue can be taken from the original design and corresponding writings (see the *Appendix*) that show a great concern for the overall, harmonious look of the landscape, within which variety provides contrast and interest.

Currently, seasonal color is achieved primarily through spring azaleas, spring flowering trees, a few other flowering shrubs and bulbs, and rotations of annuals that are lined out along edges of beds. It would be more consistent with the Olmsted's design intent to rely more on flowering shrubs, perennials and even bulbs, and to limit or eliminate the use of annuals, which the firm generally avoided except in highly formalized applications. If annuals remain part of the palette, they should be used in a more integrated manner, blended in to mixed borders with perennials and shrubs rather than as stand-alone bedding plantings and edgers.

Another lost aspect of the original planting design that the Master Plan seeks to restore is the use of palms, especially in groups, as accentuating landscape features at key focal points. This was originally done flanking the memorial as well as at the north corner entrances and elsewhere. Species selections will need to be updated to reflect changes in taste, a better understanding of some species' hardiness, and concerns over invasiveness.



From left: Rain lily; Winter-flowering azalea (*R. x. 'Koromo Shikibu'*), needle palm, mule palm. (Charles Hubbuch, southeastgarden.com)

LAWNS

The park's lawns are a well used and much loved feature, but suffer from infestations of weeds, ants, and in some areas, excessive shading. Adjustments to bedlines and tree canopy, as proposed in the Master Plan, will somewhat address shading issues, and renovation of the park's lawns should also be undertaken, using the toughest and least water- and input-demanding variety that is available at that time. Given the steady usage of the park's lawn areas, whatever grass is selected will need to be one that regenerates quickly.

Recent, more rugged varieties of Bermuda grass such as 'Celebration' or 'Tifgrand,' which reportedly have some increased shade tolerance, may be good options; nearer the river, a Zoysia may stand up to salt influence better. These two varieties can co-exist fairly well. While they do tend to turn brown in winter, they are both more likely to stand up well with the usage here than is St. Augustine grass, which would stay green. Winter overseeding with rye might be an option if a green winter appearance is considered important. Bahiagrass is to be avoided due to its rapid seed production, requiring very frequent mowing in rainy summer months, and its relative lack of longevity as a solid cover that can out-compete weeds.

Soil improvement (see *Soils*, below) will also help to reduce the need for chemical inputs to maintain turf health, a critical consideration in such close proximity to the river.

IRRIGATION

A complete overhaul of the park's irrigation system is needed. The existing system (really a collection of several systems and extensive additions and renovations, all patched together) functions moderately well today, but also frequently needs to be supplemented with hand watering. Much of it is aged; it will not have the flexibility required to adapt and expand as the park's landscape is restored, and its efficiency falls below that of current systems and equipment. A more detailed investigation might be done in the design stage, to determine if some portions of the existing main are worth incorporating into the new system. The new system should include weather and soil moisture sensors, flow monitors tied to a computer-accessible controller to monitor for leaks, and up-to-date, efficient heads and other distribution equipment.

SOILS

Existing soils are a major challenge to successful horticulture and maintenance in Memorial Park. Thorough testing of soils for pH, nutrients, salts, pollutants and percolation rates, as well as depth to water table, is needed, addressing all areas of the park. Available information and observations to date suggest that the soil here is sandy, nutrient-poor, highly alkaline, and possibly affected by salt as well as areas of subsurface hardpan. These are among the worst criteria possible for two of the park's most prevalent and historically popular plants, azaleas and camellias.

An aggressive program of soil revitalization is needed. This was recommended to the City by the Olmsteds in 1922; whether completed or not is unknown. In any case present conditions require a substantial effort, if the renovation of the landscape and the goal of maintaining it economically in the years ahead are to succeed, and another need for renovation in the not too distant future avoided.. Emerging technologies of building a healthy soil ecosystem, by introducing beneficial microorganisms, fungi and insects along with organic matter into the soil, should be used in this effort; these organic land care techniques will be the standard in decades to come, and are already gaining attention in places where impacts to water quality are of concern. Memorial Park is certainly one of these.

- ***In summary, the Master Plan Landscape Renovation will:***
 - *Restore key open spaces in the plan, providing greater variety of experience, improved visibility and landscape vistas, and improved light conditions for planting;*
 - *Enhance horticultural variety and a layered, more complex composition, in concert with establishing a stronger resource base for park maintenance;*
 - *Restore key planting elements that have been lost, such as sinuous curved beds and a framing edge along the east and west edges of the park, and distinctive beds framing the main views to the memorial;*
 - *Remove unhealthy, potentially hazardous or overly aggressive plants, as well as selectively remove those that block critically important views or severely degrade the integrity of the historic design;*
 - *Strategically use spots of horticultural intensification and emphasis, including flowering plants and palms, in selected locations to reinforce the desired visual effect of the design and the choreography of experience;*
 - *Restore the park's lawns;*
 - *Replace the park's irrigation system with efficient, up-to-date equipment and controls; and*
 - *Revitalize and build the park's soil, through state of the art organic land-care techniques.*

IMPLEMENTATION & PHASING

IMPLEMENTATION

The Memorial Park Master Plan is the overall framework for the improvements that will further restore the park's special, historic beauty, and bring it into a modern condition, on sound footing for long-term sustainability. The Master Plan is not a detailed design plan, from which these improvements will be directly implemented, but rather a set of principles, overall goals and design concepts that will guide each specific project or phase of implementation.

Estimates of the total capital cost of improvements described in this Master Plan total some \$2.8 million. At the Master Plan stage, budgeting is preliminary. Many of the Plan's elements will require more detailed investigation of existing conditions than is included at this stage, for example, engineering assessments of existing utilities, drainage and other park systems, or analysis of soils throughout the park, or detailed evaluation of the condition of the sculpture by a professional conservator. Also, many decisions about materials selection and other details of design and construction are normally made during the Design Development and Construction Documents stages, rather than in master planning; or decisions or assumptions made now may be revisited in those later stages, based on new information, budget considerations or other factors.

Using the Master Plan as a guide, the comprehensive restoration of the park may very well be undertaken in phases, based on budgets, logistics or coordination with external agencies (e.g., bulkhead work, or putting utilities underground). Each phase or discrete project would involve a sequence of implementation steps: establishing funding for construction and the associated "soft" costs of design services, project management, permitting, contingencies, etc.; identifying funding for maintenance; gathering any necessary additional information such as updated survey, or more detailed evaluations of certain existing conditions; preparing design and construction documents, and securing the necessary approvals and permits; bidding and contracting the work, and completing construction.

Some of these tasks, such as surveys and assessments, design and the preparation of construction documents can certainly be combined and done at one time for the park as a whole, if funding allows, even if the final implementation steps (permits, bidding, construction) are phased. Of course if funding is available and no coordination issues prevent it, the Plan's entire program of improvements could be completed in a single phase, park-wide.

PHASING

Phasing or the sequence of improvements should be carefully planned so that early work is not unduly impacted or destroyed by construction activities of later projects, e.g., finish work of planting or walkway installation should not precede significant underground work for utilities. However, within certain practical limits, ideas of phasing must also be flexible. This will allow the MPA to take advantage of funding opportunities that may arise, unforeseen, and that may only be available to apply to certain projects or types of improvements.

The following are issues to consider in the phasing of improvements. This is not an exhaustive list of all of the possible influences and factors, but is intended to point out certain critical path items, and to help guide the decision-making process as implementation moves forward.

Information Needed for Detailed Design

- Engineering evaluation of the bulkhead: determine scope of needed bulkhead improvements, including potential new top elevation (by City)
- Inventory and evaluation of existing trees by a specialty arborist (contract); arborist input should also be integral to the design and construction oversight stages.

- Evaluation of existing drainage infrastructure (by City or through contract).
- Water table elevation measurements, identification of hardpan areas and water quality testing (data can be collected in-house [by auguring]; samples sent out for testing).
- Comprehensive soil testing (same as above).
- Irrigation water quality testing (same as above).
- Conservation evaluation of cast stone elements -- balustrades and fountain (contract).

Early Improvements

The following generally should occur first:

- Relocation underground of overhead utilities; especially, prior to fencing, wall repairs, or landscape/irrigation along the Riverside Avenue edge.
- Bulkhead work must precede balustrade work, or renovations of adjacent walks; balustrade work must precede or be concurrent with park lighting renovation.
- Underground electric improvements (park site service and distribution), water service upgrades, drainage work and irrigation main installation should precede walkway renovations or landscape improvements, unless routing can be coordinated to avoid impacts (note that sleeves can be installed during any renovation of walkways, to facilitate future work).
- Replacement of existing fountain lights should precede or be concurrent with fountain restoration.
- Soil regeneration and amending – addition of organics, introduction of beneficial organisms, composting/mulching, etc. – should begin early and be continued for as long as possible prior to landscape work, as well as continuing thereafter.
- Irrigation area improvements (zone lines and heads or other distribution equipment) should precede or be concurrent with plantings.
- Bench repairs / replacements should probably occur early, as their current condition issues, graffiti, etc. present a poor image to the general community and, being previous donations, may discourage future donors if not well kept up.
- Park lighting and lighting for the sculpture are highly visible improvements and may provide a boost in community perception of the park if completed early.
- Balustrade repair is also a highly visible issue.

Flexible Timing

The following improvements may be chosen for early, mid or late phasing (subject to the caveats noted above), depending on funding, perceived public-relations/community impact value, or other factors:

- New park office.
- Sculpture conservation.
- Fence replacement and wall repairs.
- Fountain restoration.
- Site furnishings upgrades (litter receptacles, etc.).
- Signage improvements.
- Flagpole relocation.
- Walkway renovations; this element's timing may be determined by condition issues, as uplifting gradually continues.

Landscape, Turf and Irrigation

Generally, these are “finish work” items that come last, in new construction. However, Memorial Park has much landscape that is established and will need to be worked around in any case; some of these areas might be enhanced early, because the landscape is such a highly visible and much-loved feature of the park.

If it is determined that landscape improvements can and should begin early in the process, it may be helpful to think of the park’s landscape in terms of discrete packages or areas that can be worked as a coherent whole, perhaps with donor sponsorship. The attached diagram of potential *Landscape Project Sub-Areas* suggests some logical phasing. However, it will be critically important to manage the design of each area to fit cohesively within the park’s overall landscape; i.e., some degree of detailed design for the whole must be done, and used to guide the final design and implementation of individual areas, if these are phased.



KEY

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| A. MARGARET ST. ENTRANCE | F. PARK CENTER |
| B. MEMORIAL PARK DR. ENTRANCE | G. PARK EDGE AT ESPLANADE |
| C. RIVERSIDE AVE. EDGE | H. ESPLANADE ENTRANCES |
| D. MARGARET ST. EDGE | I. PARK OFFICE / NEW MEMORIAL GARDEN |
| E. MEMORIAL PARK DR. EDGE | J. ESPLANADE |

Landscape Project Sub-Areas

MAINTENANCE

Enhancing the MPA’s and City’s maintenance resources and capabilities is essential to implementing the Master Plan. Current capacities for maintenance do not quite keep up with current demand, let alone that of a renovated and improved landscape; the park generally looks good, thanks in large part to the additional funding and volunteer work force that the MPA provides, but shortfalls still occur. Such things as rapid removal of graffiti, regular upkeep of lighting and site furnishings, regular trash pickup and grounds kept

clear of landscape trimmings or other debris are critically important because they give the impression that the park is well managed, well watched and cared for; this discourages behaviors such as vandalism and graffiti. Lack of consistency in these areas, by contrast, only invites more of these undesirable behaviors, resulting in even greater challenges to maintaining a strong appearance.

Several strategies have been identified for building maintenance capabilities for the park. These include:

- Building an endowment fund as part of any capital fund-raising efforts;
- Soliciting annual support specifically for maintenance;
- Establishing a neighborhood- or district-wide voluntary funding source, supported by area businesses, restaurants, and/or property owners, which would represent a dedicated funding stream; and
- Increasing the size and capabilities of the volunteer corps, through community outreach, an improved physical base of operations, and a more formalized organizational structure.

These strategies will be further developed as the Master Plan’s concepts are funded, designed and constructed.

SECURITY

Security has greatly improved in recent years, but of course is always a concern in a public park. Security and maintenance reinforce each other and are equally essential for the success of the Master Plan’s implementation and the park’s future. While increased direct funding for security is always a possibility, within either the JSO or MPA’s purview (or both), creative strategies for enhancing security may help address this need more cost-effectively.

One potential strategy might be joint agreements where security resources and their associated costs are shared with neighboring properties. Having nearby nighttime security include occasional checks on the park in their schedule might be a cost-effective way to increase security.

During the daytime, volunteers could be signed up for specific roles, such as stationing in the Park Office, or otherwise monitoring the site. This is a strategy used at a number of other city parks, where park restrooms are unlocked and locked by regular volunteers.

MPA or community “docents” or volunteers, whenever present, will also provide “eyes on the park.” Just as a more formalized and expanded organization will help with maintenance, it will help with security. Increasing the sense of community presence, of responsible people being in the park, greatly reduces risks of vandalism and crime. Ongoing, energetic community outreach and engagement, in conjunction with making the park cleaner, with improving visibility, and simply making it more attractive, more beautiful, will populate the park with visitors and continue the trend of making Memorial Park safer.



Neighborhood volunteers are key to the ongoing success of the restored Conservatory Garden in New York. (Lynden Miller, publicgardendesign.com)

MEMORIAL PARK MASTER PLAN -- APPENDIX A: LIST OF DRAWINGS IN ARCHIVAL COLLECTIONS

1. FREDERICK LAW OLNSTED NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE (ONHS), BROOKLINE, MA
2. JACKSONVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY ARCHIVES (JHS), JACKSONVILLE, FL

1. DRAWINGS HELD AT ONHS

As listed in the Olmsted Research Guide Online (<http://ww3.rediscover.com/olmsted>). Refer to ORGO for additional information including size and media of drawings and artist/creator (where known).

<i>Item Number:</i>	5151- 1
<i>Document Title:</i>	DRAIN AND IRRIGATION SYSTEM/ PLAN BY JOHN CLEMENS, L.A./ ; SCALE 1"= 20'
<i>Dates:</i>	OCT-1920
<i>Notes:</i>	(Plan is identified as # 1 but only has a slight resemblance to the copies of plan # 1. It does match the material called for in the P/I Card.)/ Rec'd 26-Jan-1921, P/I/
<i>Ed. Note:</i> "Dates" of Oct-1920 and January 1921 may be in error; record correspondence indicates initial contacts regarding this project did not occur until December 1921.	
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151--1-pt1 * [<i>indicates plan with copy in MPA files</i>]
<i>Document Title:</i>	PLAN BY JOHN CLEMENS, L.A./ ; SCALE 1"= 20'
<i>Dates:</i>	25-JAN-1922
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-z1
<i>Document Title:</i>	PHOTO OF CLAY MODEL OF MEMORIAL FOUNTIAN/
<i>Dates:</i>	02-JAN-1922
<i>Notes:</i>	(Blueprint of a photograph of an architectural drawing.)
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-2-pt1 ** [<i>indicates plan with copy in MPA files, and included herein in Appendix B</i>]
<i>Document Title:</i>	PRELIMINARY SKETCH PLAN/ ; SCALE 1"= 20'
<i>Dates:</i>	FEB-1922
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-3 **
<i>Document Title:</i>	SKETCH TO ACCOMPANY/ PRELIMINARY PLAN OF MEMORIAL PARK/ ; SCALE PERSPECTIVE
<i>Dates:</i>	01-FEB-1922
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-3-pt1
<i>Document Title:</i>	SKETCH TO ACCOMPANY/ PRELIMINARY PLAN OF MEMORIAL PARK/ ; SCALE PERSPECTIVE
<i>Dates:</i>	01-FEB-1922
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-3-pt2
<i>Document Title:</i>	SKETCH TO ACCOMPANY PRELIMINARY PLAN / ; SCALE PERSPECTIVE
<i>Dates:</i>	01-FEB-1922
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-3-pt3
<i>Document Title:</i>	SKETCH TO ACCOMPANY/ PRELIMINARY PLAN OF MEMORIAL PARK/ ; SCALE PERSPECTIVE
<i>Dates:</i>	01-FEB-1922
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-4
<i>Document Title:</i>	STUDY FOR FOUNTAIN/ ; SCALE 3/8"= 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	07-MAR-1922
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-4-pt1
<i>Document Title:</i>	STUDY FOR FOUNTAIN/ ; SCALE 3/8"= 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	07-MAR-1922

DRAWINGS AT ONHS, CONT.

<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-4-pt2
<i>Document Title:</i>	STUDY FOR FOUNTAIN/ ; SCALE 3/8"= 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	07-MAR-1922

<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-6
<i>Document Title:</i>	PLAN OF MEMORIAL PARK/ ; SCALE 1"= 20'
<i>Dates:</i>	01-MAR-1922
<i>Notes:</i>	Engineer Department, City of Jacksonville, Florida, recto/ Rec'd OB. 17-Mar-1922, st. recto/

<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-6-pt1
<i>Document Title:</i>	PLAN OF MEMORIAL PARK/ ; SCALE 1"= 20'
<i>Purpose:</i>	TOPO (Topographical)
<i>Dates:</i>	01-MAR-1922

<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-7
<i>Document Title:</i>	MEMORIAL FOUNTIAN/ ; SCALE VARIOUS
<i>Dates:</i>	17-APR-1922

<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-7-pt1
<i>Document Title:</i>	MEMORIAL FOUNTIAN/ ; SCALE VARIOUS
<i>Dates:</i>	17-APR-1922

<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-7-pt2
<i>Document Title:</i>	MEMORIAL FOUNTIAN/ ; SCALE VARIOUS
<i>Dates:</i>	17-APR-1922

<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-7-pt3
<i>Document Title:</i>	MEMORIAL FOUNTIAN/ ; SCALE VARIOUS
<i>Dates:</i>	17-APR-1922

<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-7-pt4
<i>Document Title:</i>	MEMORIAL FOUNTAIN/ ; SCALE 3/8"= 1' & 3/4"= 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	17-APR-1922

<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-7-pt5
<i>Document Title:</i>	MEMORIAL FOUNTAIN/ ; SCALE VARIOUS
<i>Dates:</i>	17-APR-1922

<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-8
<i>Document Title:</i>	BRONZE TABLET FOR FOUNTIAN/ ; SCALE 1 1/2" = 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	18-APR-1922

<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-8-pt1
<i>Document Title:</i>	BRONZE TABLET FOR FOUNTIAN/ ; SCALE 1 1/2" = 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	18-APR-1922

<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-8-pt2
<i>Document Title:</i>	BRONZE TABLET FOR FOUNTIAN/ ; SCALE 1 1/2" = 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	18-APR-1922

<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-8-pt3
<i>Document Title:</i>	BRONZE TABLET FOR FOUNTIAN/ ; SCALE 1 1/2" = 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	18-APR-1922

<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-9
<i>Document Title:</i>	MEMORIAL FOUNTIAN/ NOTES BY MR. BRYANT ON REINFORCEMENT/ ; SCALE VARIOUS
<i>Dates:</i>	17-APR-1922

DRAWINGS AT ONHS, CONT.

<i>Item Number:</i>	5151- 10
<i>Document Title:</i>	PORTION OF BRONZE TABLET/ PORTION OF NAMES/ ; SCALE 1"= 1' & FSD
<i>Dates:</i>	25-APR-1922
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151- 11
<i>Document Title:</i>	THREE METHODS OF SECURING BRONZE TABLETS TO WALLS OF BUILDINGS/ ; SCALE 1"= 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	28-APR-1922
<i>Notes:</i>	Rec'd from Gorham Mfg. Co. P/I/ (Includes engineering details.)
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151- 12 * *
<i>Document Title:</i>	GRADING PLAN/ ; SCALE 1"= 20'
<i>Dates:</i>	19-MAY-1922
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-12-pt1
<i>Document Title:</i>	GRADING PLAN/ ; SCALE 1"= 20'
<i>Dates:</i>	19-MAY-1922
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151- 13 * *
<i>Document Title:</i>	SUGGESTIONS FOR RIVERSIDE AVENUE GATES/ ; SCALE 1/8"= 1' & 1/4"= 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	24-MAY-1922
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151- 13 - pt1
<i>Document Title:</i>	SUGGESTIONS FOR RIVERSIDE AVE. GATES/ ; SCALE 1/4" = 1' & 1/8"= 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	24-MAY-1922
<i>Notes:</i>	OBLA,orig/ For Revision See # 17, P/I/ (Lists materials.)
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151- 14 - sh1 * *
<i>Document Title:</i>	SKETCHES, ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS FOR PLAZA/ ; SCALE 1/8"= 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	29-MAY-1922
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-14-sh1-pt1
<i>Document Title:</i>	SKETCHES ARCHITECTURAL DETAIL FOR PLAZA/ ; SCALE 1/8"= 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	29-MAY-1922
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-14-sh2
<i>Document Title:</i>	PAVEMENT AT FOUNTAIN PLAZA/ ; SCALE 1/8"= 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	29-MAY-1922
<i>Notes:</i>	OBLA, recto/ Superseded by Plan No. 18, recto/
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-14-sh2-pt1
<i>Document Title:</i>	PAVEMENT OF FOUNTIAN PLAZA/ ; SCALE 1/8"= 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	29-MAY-1922
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151- 15
<i>Document Title:</i>	SUGGESTION FOR LIGHT FIXTURE/ ; SCALE 1"= 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	31-MAY-1922
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-15-pt1
<i>Document Title:</i>	SUGGESTIONS FOR LIGHT FIXTURE/ ; SCALE 1"= 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	31-MAY-1922
<i>Notes:</i>	OBLA,orig/ Copy of Washington D.C. Light Fixture, filed under Standard Detail.
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-15-pt2
<i>Document Title:</i>	SUGGESTION FOR LIGHT FIXTURE/ ; SCALE 1"= 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	31-MAY-1922
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-16-sh1
<i>Document Title:</i>	MEMORIAL PARK CENTRAL TABLET/ ; SCALE 1 1/2" = 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	09-JUN-1922

DRAWINGS AT ONHS, CONT.

<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-16-sh1-pt1
<i>Document Title:</i>	STUDY FOR CENTRAL TABLET/ ; SCALE 1/2"= 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	10-JUN-1922
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-16-sh1-tp1
<i>Document Title:</i>	STUDY FOR CENTRAL TABLET/ ; SCALE 1 1/2"= 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	10-JUN-1922
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-16-sh2
<i>Document Title:</i>	MEMORIAL PARK CENTRAL TABLET/ ; SCALE 1 1/2" = 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	09-JUN-1922
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-16-sh2-pt1
<i>Document Title:</i>	STUDY FOR CENTRAL TABLET/ ; SCALE 1/2"= 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	12-JUN-1922
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-16-sh2-tp1
<i>Document Title:</i>	STUDY FOR CENTRAL TABLET/ ; SCALE 1 1/2"= 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	12-JUN-1922
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-17
<i>Document Title:</i>	RIVERSIDE AVE. GATES/ ; SCALE 1/8" = 1' & 1/4"= 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	12-JUN-1922
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-17-pt1
<i>Document Title:</i>	RIVERSIDE AVE. GATES/ ; SCALE 1/8"= 1 & 1/4"= 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	12-JUN-1922
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-18
<i>Document Title:</i>	PAVEMENT OF FOUNTAIN PLAZA/ ; SCALE 1/8"= 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	13-JUN-1922
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-18-pt1
<i>Document Title:</i>	PAVEMENT OF FOUNTIAN PLAZA/ ; SCALE 1/8"= 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	13-JAN-1922
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-19
<i>Document Title:</i>	PLANTING STUDY/
<i>Dates:</i>	14-JUN-1922
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-19-pt1
<i>Document Title:</i>	PLANTING STUDY/ ; SCALE 1"= 20'
<i>Dates:</i>	14-JUN-1922
<i>Notes:</i>	OBLA,orig/ Revised 18-Jan-1923, orig/
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-19-pt2
<i>Document Title:</i>	PLANTING STUDY/ ; SCALE 1"= 20'
<i>Dates:</i>	14-JUN-1922
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151- 20 **
<i>Document Title:</i>	ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS FOR FOUNTAIN PLAZA AND ESPLANADE/ ; SCALE VARIOUS
<i>Dates:</i>	07-JUL-1922
<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-20-pt1
<i>Document Title:</i>	ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS FOR FOUNTIAN PLAZA AND ESPLANADE/ ; SCALE 3/4"= 1' & 3"= 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	07-JUL-1922

DRAWINGS AT ONHS, CONT.

<i>Item Number:</i>	5151- 21 * *
<i>Document Title:</i>	PLANTING PLAN/ ; SCALE 1"= 20'
<i>Dates:</i>	10-JUL-1922
<i>Notes:</i>	OBLA,recto/ Revised 18-Jan-1923, recto/ Approved for Issue by D. recto

<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-21-pt1
<i>Document Title:</i>	PLANTING PLAN/ ; SCALE 1"= 20'
<i>Dates:</i>	10-JUL-1922

<i>Item Number:</i>	5151- 22 * *
<i>Document Title:</i>	PARAPET WALL FOR ESPLANADE/ ALTERNATIVE FOR IRON RAILING SHOWN ON PLAN NO. 20/ ; SCALE 3/4"= 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	10-JUL-1922

<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-22-pt1
<i>Document Title:</i>	PARAPET WALL FOR ESPLANADE/ ALTERNATIVE FOR IRON RAILING SHOWN ON PLAN NO. 20/ ; SCALE 3/4"= 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	10-JUL-1922

<i>Item Number:</i>	5151- 23
<i>Document Title:</i>	STUDY FOR LETTERING ON TABLET/ ; SCALE F.S.D.
<i>Dates:</i>	1922

<i>Item Number:</i>	5151 24-pt1
<i>Document Title:</i>	PLANTING PLAN/ PLANTING NOTES BY DAWSON, JAN-1923/ ; SCALE 1"= 20'
<i>Dates:</i>	10-JUL-1922

<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-24-pt2 * *
<i>Document Title:</i>	PLANTING PLAN/ PLANTING NOTES BY DAWSON, JAN-1923/ ; SCALE 1"= 20'
<i>Dates:</i>	10-JUL-1922

<i>Item Number:</i>	5151- 25
<i>Document Title:</i>	REVISED SKETCH OF BASIN OF FOUNTIAN SHOWING PROPOSED TREATMENT OF BRONZE PANELS/ ; SCALE 3/4" = 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	24-FEB-1923

<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-26-pt1
<i>Document Title:</i>	SUPPLEMENTARY DETAILS OF MEMORIAL PARK/ ; SCALE VARIOUS
<i>Dates:</i>	26-MAR-1923
<i>Notes:</i>	Greeley & Benjamin Architects, Bisbee Bldg. Jacksonville, FL. orig/ Comm. 325, Sheet 5, orig/

<i>Item Number:</i>	5151- 26 - pt2
<i>Document Title:</i>	SUPPLEMENTARY DETAILS OF MEMORIAL PARK/ ; SCALE 3/4"= 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	26-MAR-1923
<i>Notes:</i>	Greeley & Benjamin Architects, orig/ Comm. 325, Sheet 5, orig/ R.A. Benjamin Registered Architect, State of Florida,(embossed stamp), recto/ Rec'd OB. 06-Aug-1923, st. verso/

<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-27-sh1
<i>Document Title:</i>	REVISED SKETCH OF BASIN OF FOUNTIAN SHOWING PROPOSED TREATMENT OF BRONZE PANELS/ ; SCALE 3/4" = 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	13-AUG-1923

<i>Item Number:</i>	5151-27-sh2
<i>Document Title:</i>	STUDY FOR BRONZE TABLET/ ; SCALE 3/4"= 1'
<i>Dates:</i>	27-AUG-1923

DRAWINGS AT ONHS, CONT.

Item Number: 5151-27-sh2-pt1
Document Title: STUDY FOR BRONZE TABLET/ ; SCALE 3/4"= 1'
Dates: 27-AUG-1923

Item Number: 5151-28
Document Title: STUDY FOR LETTERING BRONZE TABLET/ ; SCALE FULL SIZE
Dates: 13-AUG-1923

2. DRAWINGS HELD AT JHS

Reviewed at the archive at 814 Palmetto St., Jacksonville, FL, September-October 2012. The following drawings of Greeley and Benjamin Architects are available for review at JHS. These are cyano negative (white on blue background)prints and/or hand-drawings on trace paper or on top of cyano prints and in fragile condition. Copies were not obtained.

Note: According to JHS inventories, copies of many of the above listed Olmsted Brothers drawings are in JHS archives, however, many of these were not located or reviewed during this time. Drawings available for review were duplicates of plans already in MPA possession, with the exception of #5151-24, a copy of which was obtained and is included in Appendix B.

Drawing Number: 1
Description: Ink notes and markups of blueprint of Olmsted Plan 5151-22 (20-May-1922), site details (see above)
Dates: 26-Mar-1923 / rev. 18-Jun-1923

Drawing Number: 3
Description: Ink notes and markups of blueprint of Olmsted Plan 5151-14-1 (28-Jul-1922), plaza details (see above)
Dates: 26-Mar-1923 / rev. 18-Jun-1923

Drawing Number: 4
Description: Ink notes and markups of blueprint of Olmsted Plan 5151-7 (rev. 20-Apr-1922), "Memorial Fountain"
Dates: 26-Mar-1923 / rev. 18-Jun-1923

Drawing Number: 5
Description: Hand drawn on trace paper, Plaza Plan with paving pattern, details of balustrade showing eagle and urn
Dates:

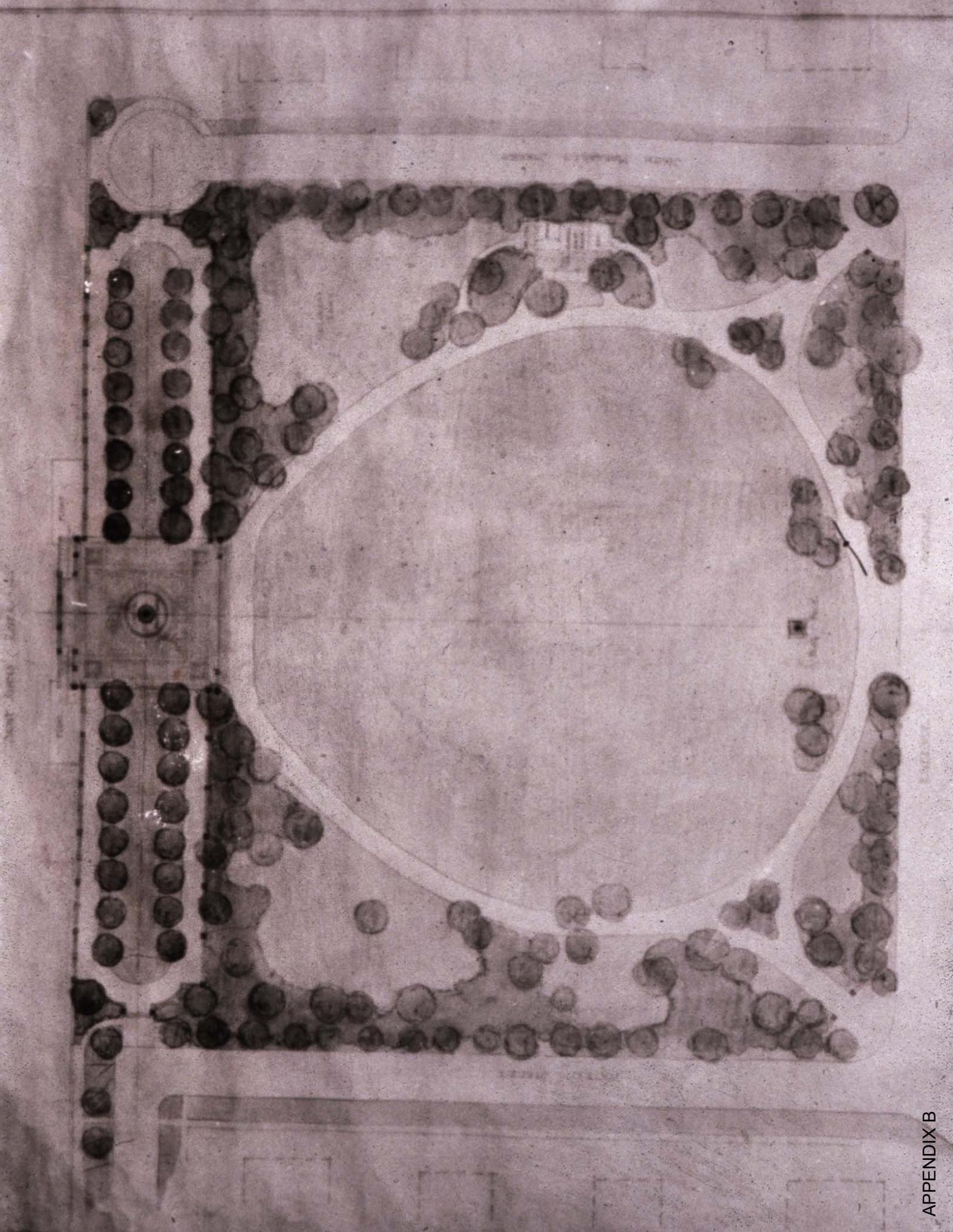
Drawing Number: 6
Description: Ink notes and markups of blueprint of Olmsted Plan 5151-20 (7-Jul-1922), site details (see above)
Dates: 26-Mar-1923 / rev. 18-Jun-1923

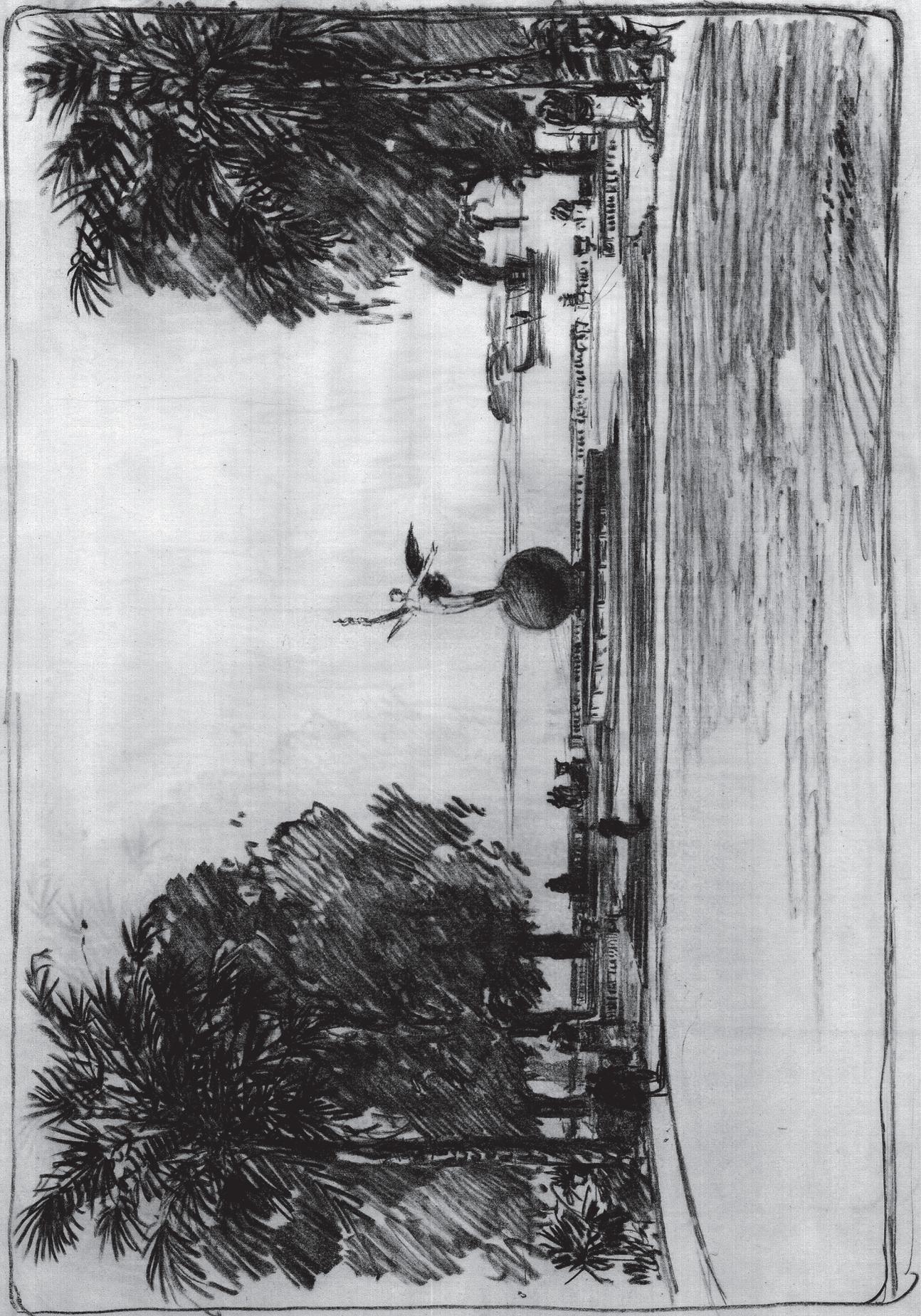
Drawing Number: no number
Description: New Balustrades - Memorial Park: shows addition of \pm 175 feet of balustrade along esplanade on each side of plaza, to match "existing balustrade" at plaza
Dates: 24-Dec-1923

MEMORIAL PARK MASTER PLAN -- APPENDIX PART B

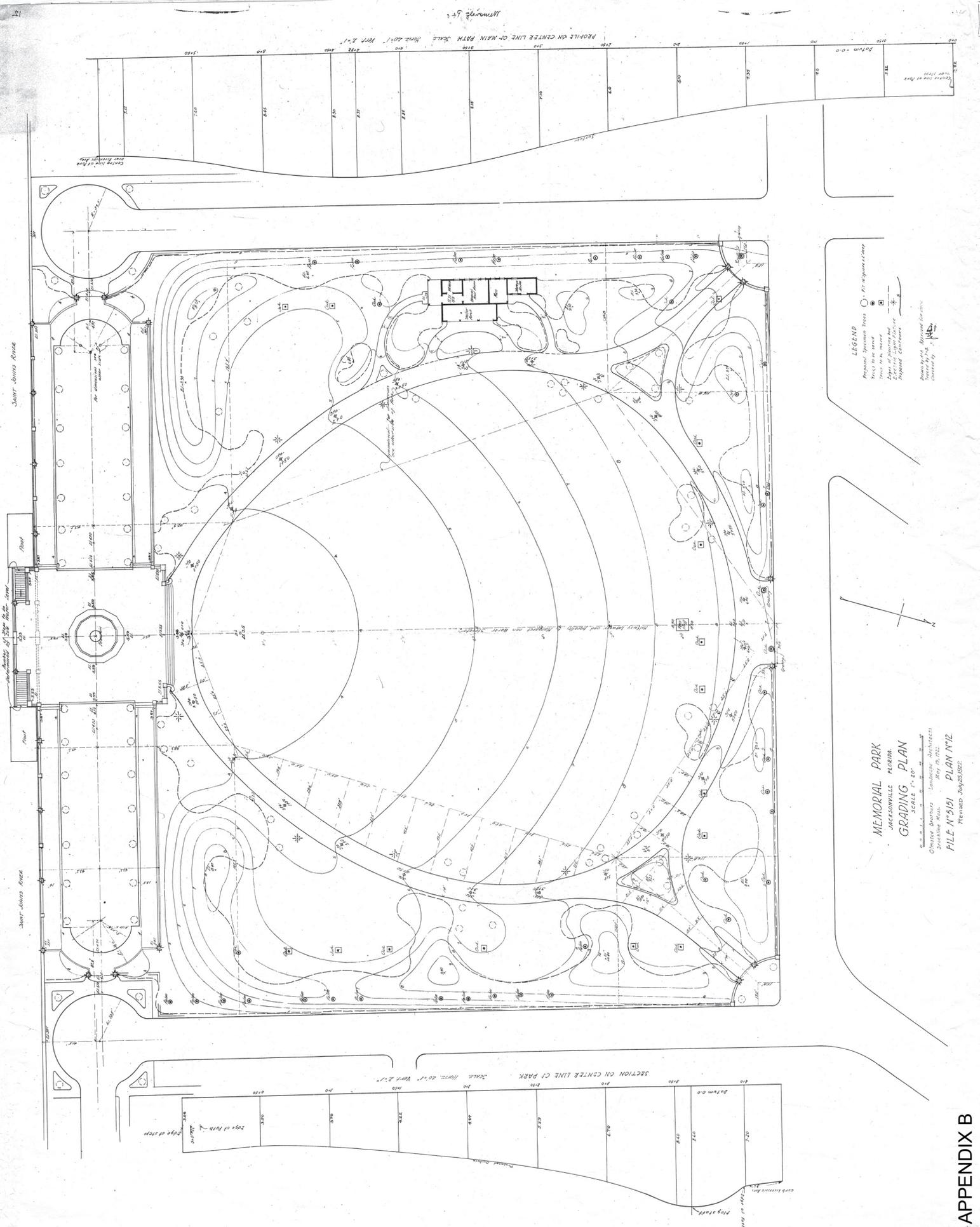
OLMSTED BROTHERS DRAWINGS - COPIES IN MPA FILES

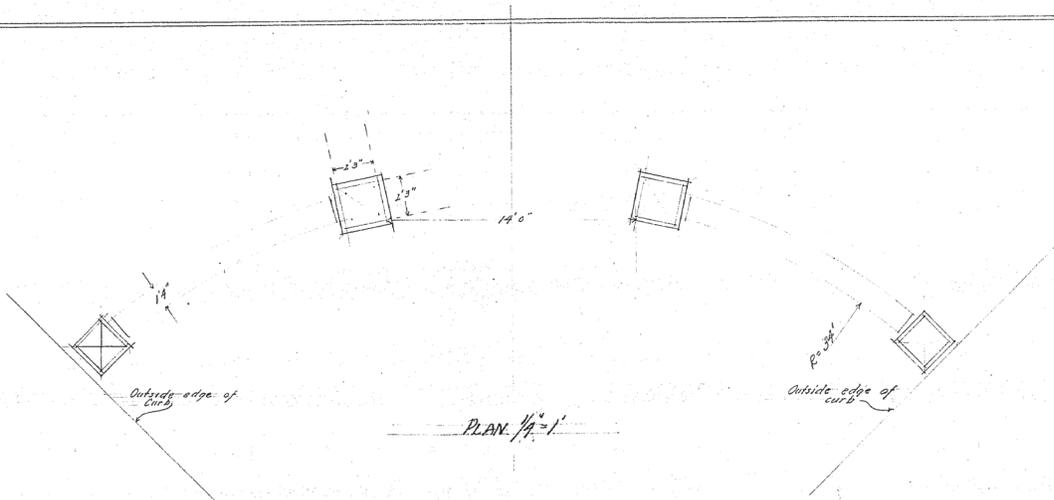
1. Plan 5151--1-pt1: PLAN BY JOHN CLEMENS, L.A./ ; SCALE 1"= 20' [base drawing/tree survey], 25-JAN-1922 [*not included herein*]
2. Plan 5151-2-pt1: PRELIMINARY SKETCH PLAN/ ; SCALE 1"= 20', FEB-1922 (digital copy provided by COJ Planning Dept.)
3. Plan 5151-3: SKETCH TO ACCOMPANY/ PRELIMINARY PLAN OF MEMORIAL PARK/ ; SCALE PERSPECTIVE [i.e., not to scale], 01-FEB-1922
4. Plan 5151- 12: GRADING PLAN/ ; SCALE 1"= 20', 19-MAY-1922
5. Plan 5151- 13: SUGGESTIONS FOR RIVERSIDE AVENUE GATES/ ; SCALE 1/8"= 1' & 1/4"= 1', 24-MAY-1922
6. Plan 5151- 14 - sh1: SKETCHES, ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS FOR PLAZA/ ; SCALE 1/8"= 1', 29-MAY-1922
7. Plan 5151- 20: ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS FOR FOUNTAIN PLAZA AND ESPLANADE/ ; SCALE VARIOUS, 07-JUL-1922
8. Plan 5151- 21: PLANTING PLAN/ ; SCALE 1"= 20', 10-JUL-1922
9. Plan 5151- 22: PARAPET WALL FOR ESPLANADE/ ALTERNATIVE FOR IRON RAILING SHOWN ON PLAN NO. 20/ ; SCALE 3/4"= 1', 10-JUL-1922
10. Plan 5151-24-pt2: PLANTING PLAN/ PLANTING NOTES BY DAWSON, JAN-1923/ ; SCALE 1"= 20', 10-JUL-1922



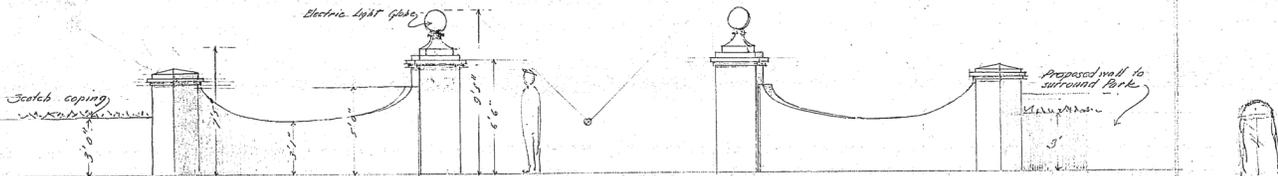


SKETCH TO ACCOMPANY
PRELIMINARY PLAN OF MEMORIAL PARK
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA
OLIVER PEOTTERS, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS
BROOKLINE, MASS., FEB. 1, 1912.





MATERIAL - STUCCO OVER BRICK



CORNER GATES
ELEVATION 1/4"=1'

Drawn by: P.F.
Checked by: [signature]

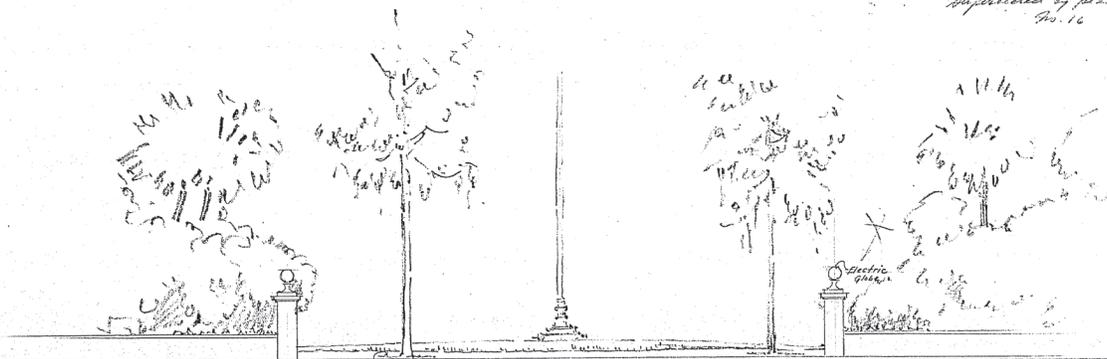
Approved for issue by: [signature]

MEMORIAL PARK-JACKSONVILLE
SUGGESTION FOR RIVERSIDE AVENUE GATES

Olmsted Brothers
Brookline Mass.
Landscape Architects
May 24, 1922

FILE No. 5151 PLAN No. 13

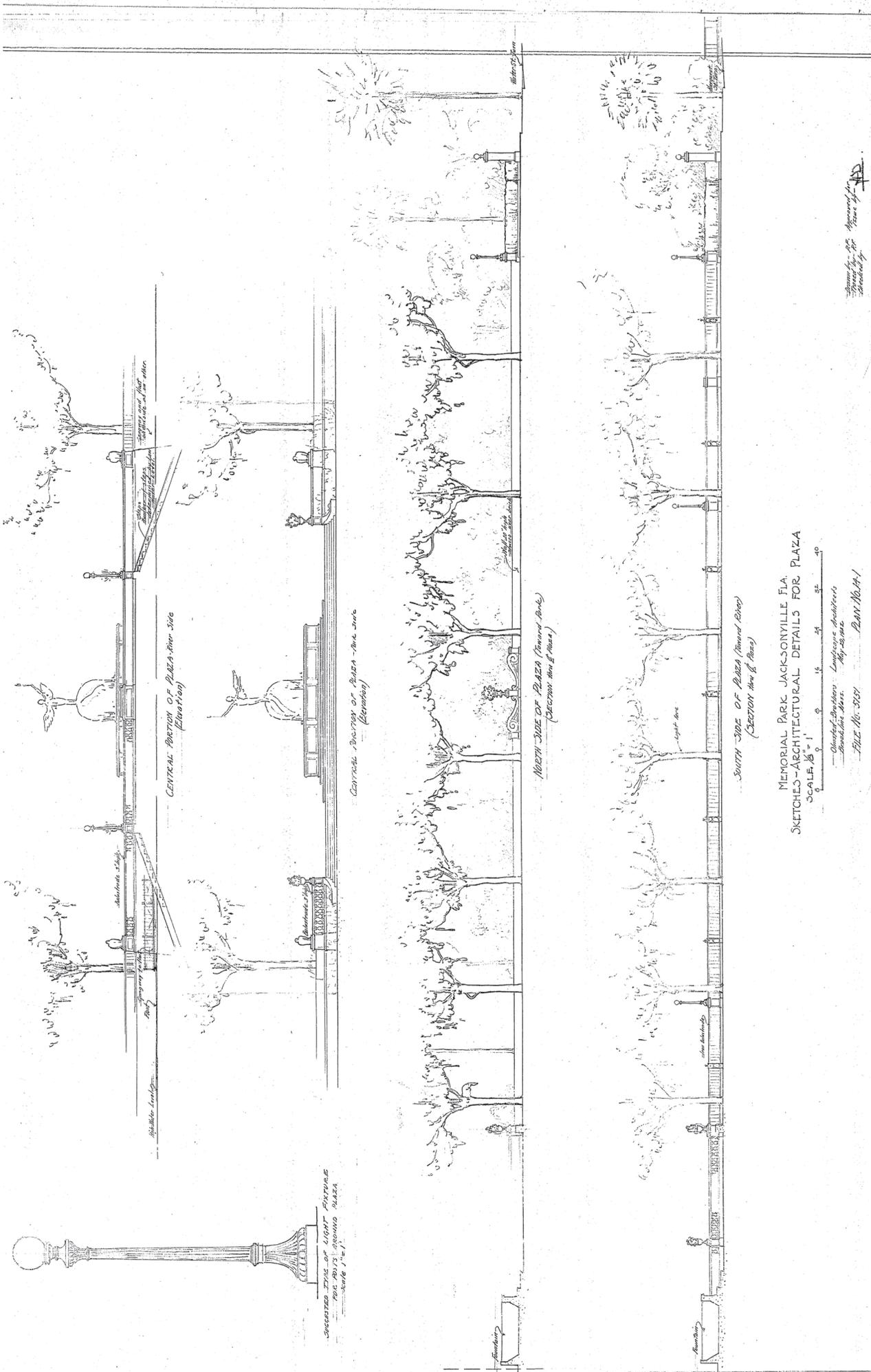
Supervised by plan No. 16



CENTRAL GATE - RIVERSIDE AVE.
1/8"=1'

OLMSTED PLANS + DRAWINGS COLLECTION
JOB # 5151 MEMORIAL PARK
JACKSONVILLE, FLA
PLAN # 5151-13
SUGGESTIONS FOR RIVERSIDE AVENUE GATES
MAY 24, 1922

Credit: Courtesy of the National Park Service, Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site

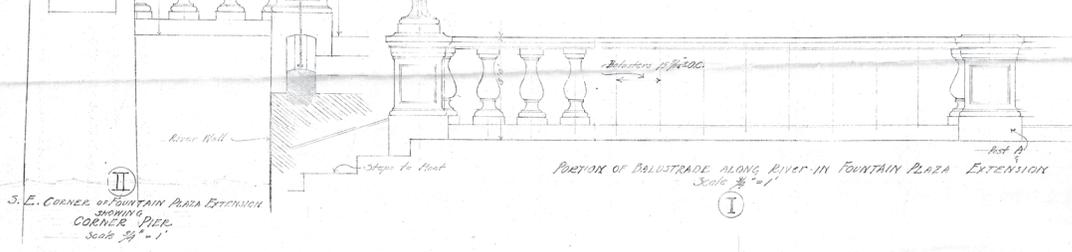
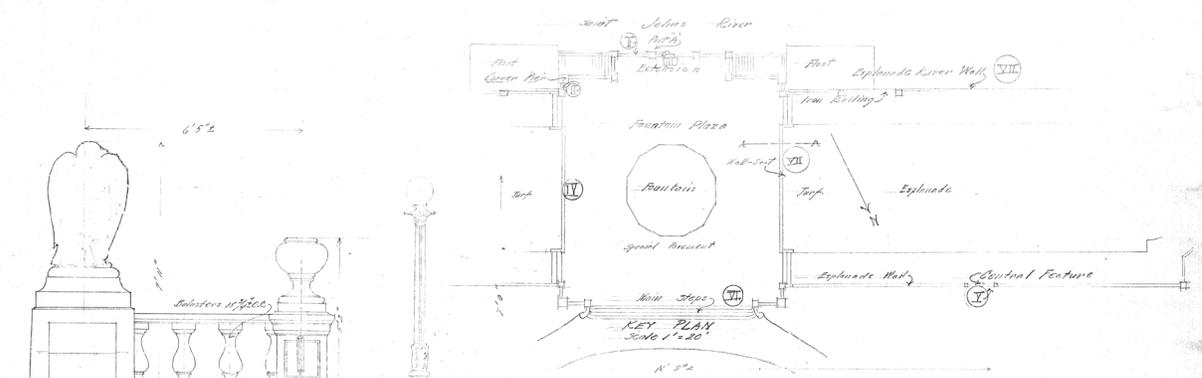


MEMORIAL PARK JACKSONVILLE, FLA.
 SKETCHES - ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS FOR PLAZA

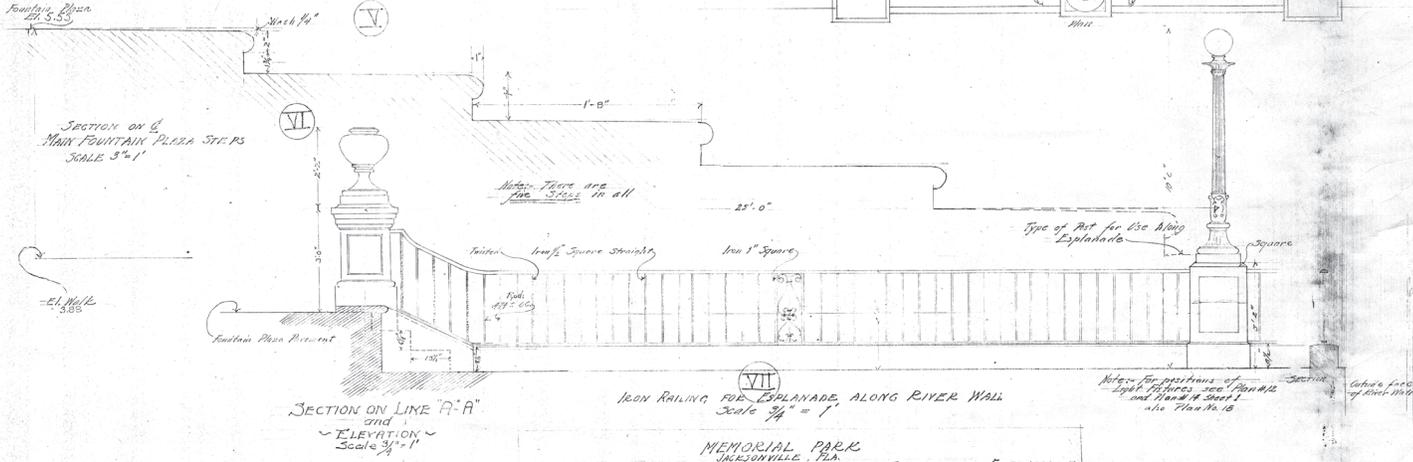
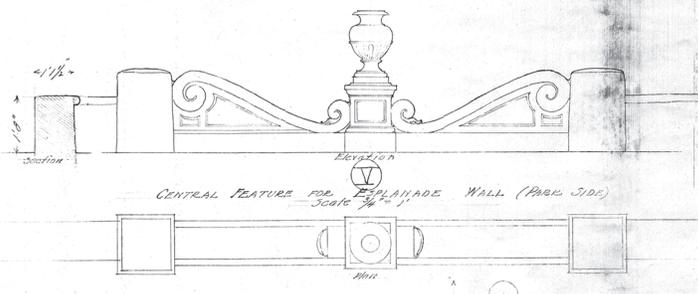
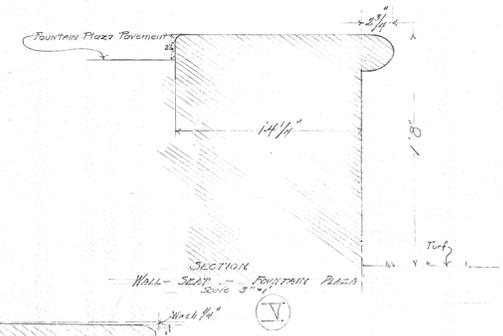
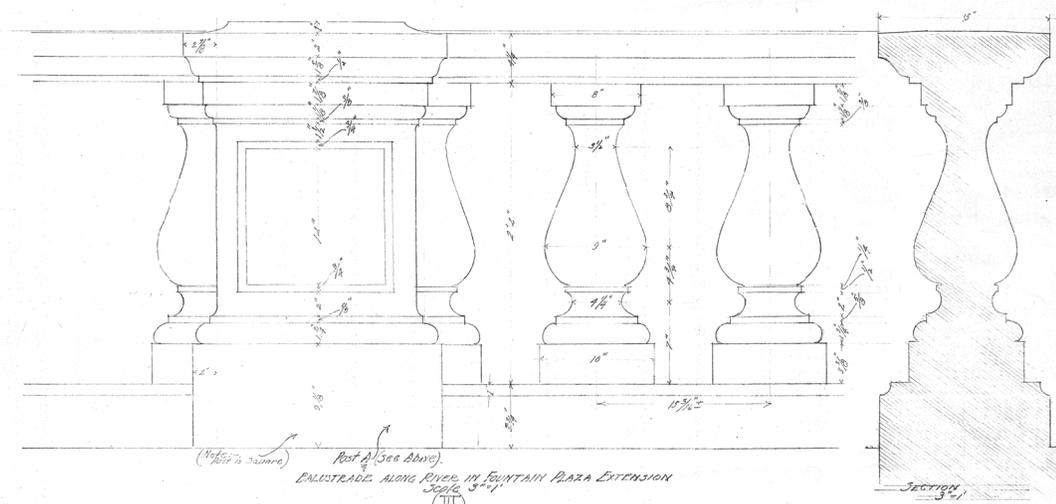
SCALE 1/8" = 1' 0 5 10 15 20 25 30 35 40

Designed by: Landscape Architects
 Associated with: City of Jacksonville
 FILE NO. 3151 PLAN NO. 1A-1

OSWALD REAS & ASSOCIATES ARCHITECTS
 306 S. GUY WALK, JACKSONVILLE, FLA.
 PHONE 2-5151 - 44-5151
 PLANS ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS FOR

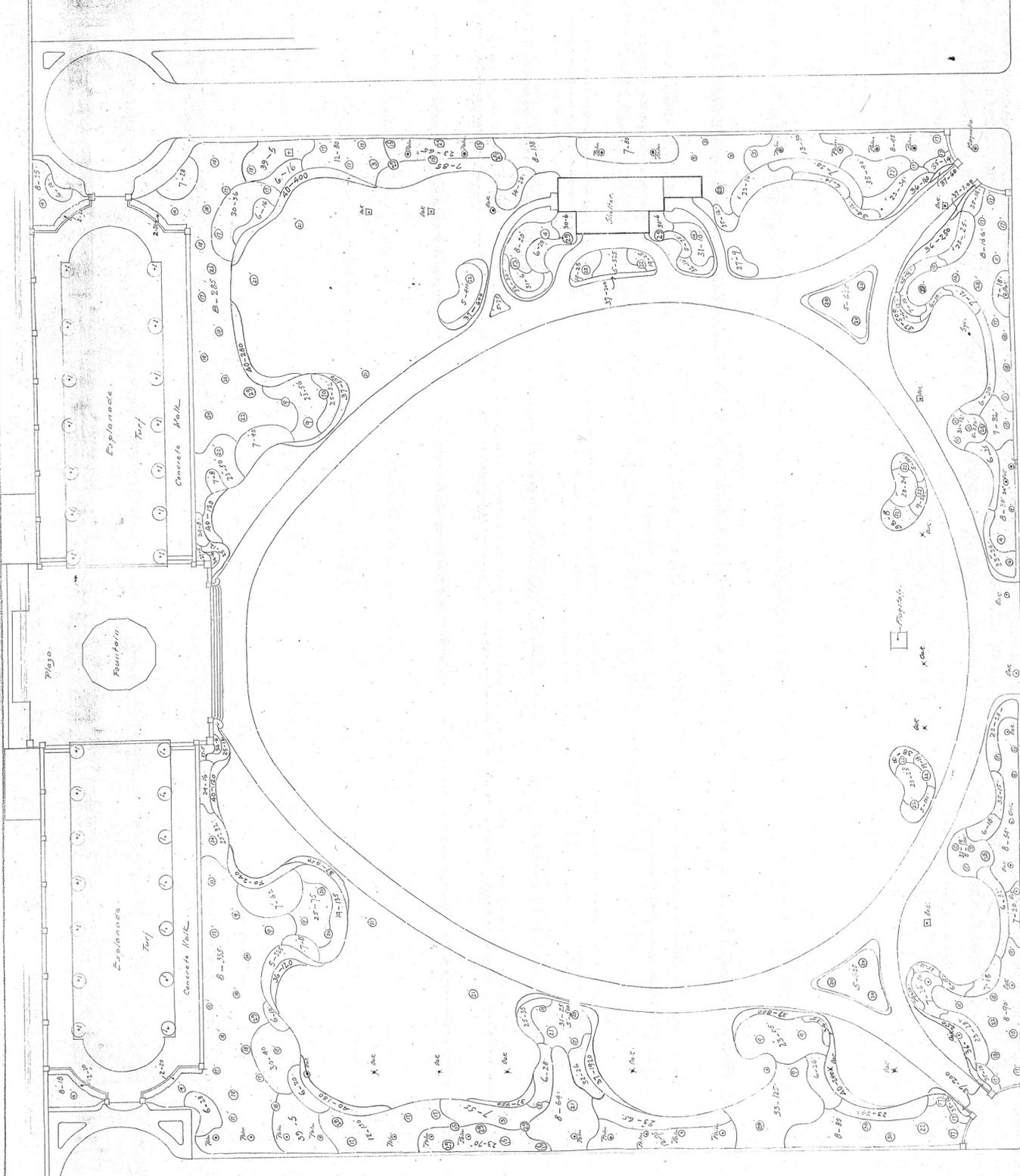


SECTION II
S. E. CORNER OF FOUNTAIN PLAZA EXTENSION SHOWING CORNER PIER.
Scale 3/4" = 1'



MEMORIAL PARK
JACKSONVILLE, FLA.
ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS FOR FOUNTAIN PLAZA AND ESPLANADE
Ousted Brothers Landscape Architects
Brooklyn, N.Y. July 7, 1922
FILE NO. 5151 PLAN NO. 20
REVISED JULY 1922

APPENDIX B



Note: Plants are indicated by No. numbers as 1-10, 11-20, etc. as shown on the plan. A letter indicates the quantity. The letter number in circles and X's are noted by numbers.

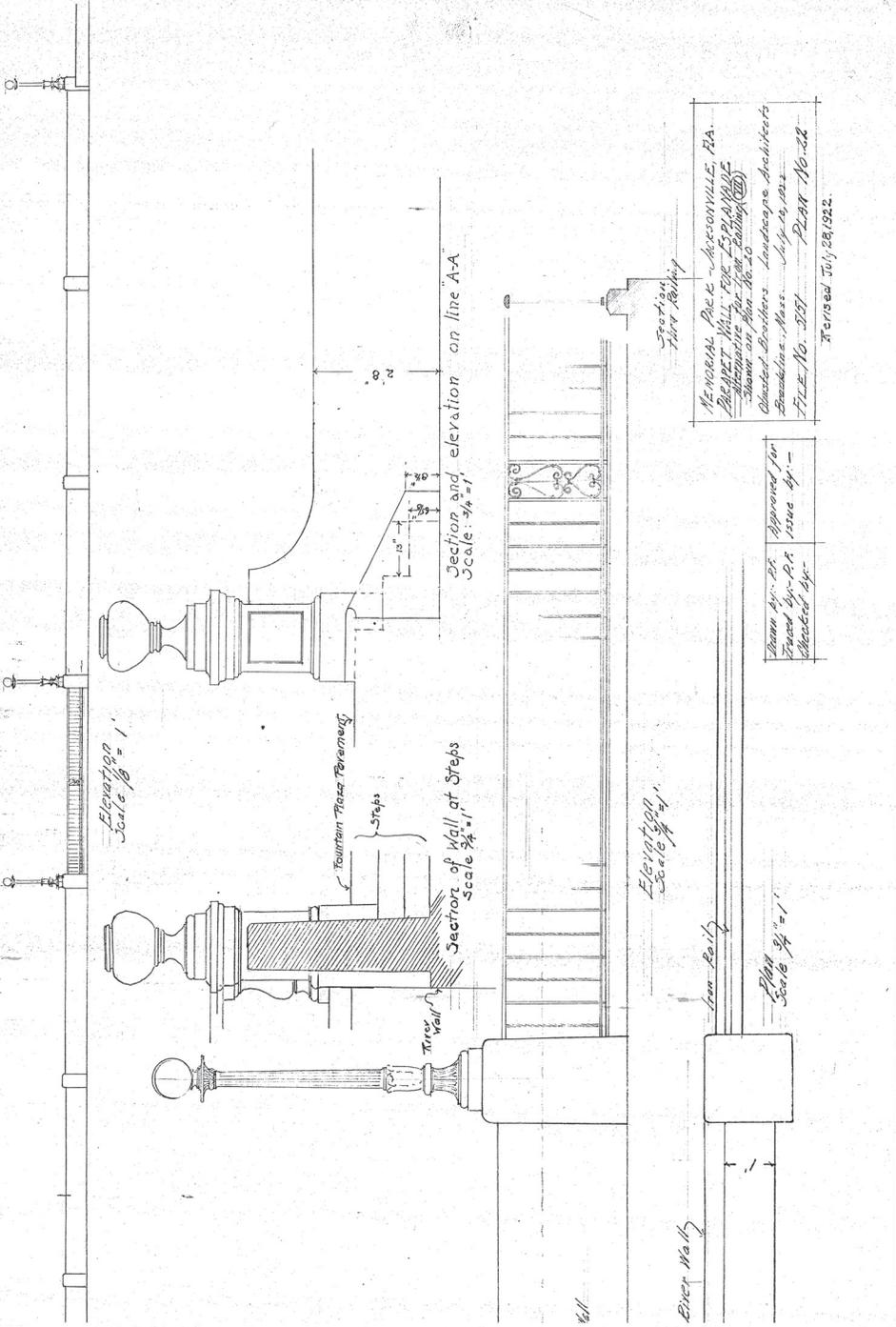
RIVERSIDE DRIVE

MEMORIAL PARK,
 JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA
 PLANTING PLAN.
 SCALE 1"=20'

Oliver Brothers - Landscape Architects
 Jacksonville, Fla.
 Plans No. 21
 Revised Jan. 18, 1923.

- LEGEND:
- Existing trees to be removed.
 - Existing trees to be retained.
 - Existing trees to be removed.
 - X Existing trees to be retained.

Approved by
 City of Jacksonville



Memorial Park - Jacksonville, Fla.
 Parquet Wall, for Esplanade
 Alternative for the Balling (20)
 shown on plan No. 20
 Checked by: *Wendell* Architects
 Jacksonville, Mass. July 25, 1922.
 FILE NO. 357 PLAN No. 28

Revised July 28, 1922.

Drawn by: *W. H.*
 Traced by: *W. H.*
 Checked by: *W. H.*

Plan 3/4" = 1'
 Scale 3/4" = 1'

OLINSTEAD PLANS + DRAWINGS COLLECTION
 308 # 5151 MEMORIAL PARK
 JACKSONVILLE, FLA
 PLAN # 5151 - 22 PARQUET WALL FOR
 ESPLANADE
 JULY 28 1922

Credit: Courtesy of the National Park
 Service, Frederick Law Olmsted National
 Historic Site

MEMORIAL PARK MASTER PLAN -- APPENDIX C

LIST OF SELECTED CORRESPONDENCE AND RECORDS (FOLLOWING PAGE 2)

Copies provided courtesy of the Jacksonville Historical Society (where so marked), from the Anne Wright Freeman and Richard Burroughs donations; by the City of Jacksonville, Parks & Recreation Department (items 1, 17, 18 and 19); by the MPA (item 16); and by David Sacks Landscape Architecture from microfilms obtained from the Library of Congress, *Olmsted Associates Records* (Manuscripts Division, LOC, Washington, DC).

1. May 6, 1920 Donation Solicitation Letter from Citizens Memorial Committee
2. Jan. 23, 1922 OB (J. F. Dawson's) notebook pages, including an initial sketch of the park layout concept, from his meeting in Jacksonville. (Compare to Plan 5151-2 in Appendix B). "We are to make plan for fountains - want walks - grdg - basin - plaza - etc. - to open Nov 11th 1922. Tablets to be in bronze...Bronze sphere 8' diam with figures in relief - Figure on top with out stretched arm - 12' high...set in middle of 28' water basin with tablets incldg 800 names from all over state"
3. Feb. 3, 1922 OB (Dawson) to NC explaining the whole design intent for the park. Attached were Plans 5151-2 and 5151-3 (see Appendix B).
4. Feb. 8, 1922 OB (Dawson) to NC. On page 2 he explains that the design does not include "straight parallel walks along the boundaries of the park" so as to encourage people to walk through, rather than along, the park, and to provide more park space given the small acreage.
5. Mar. 2, 1922 Report to File by Dawson of meeting with the Citizens Committee. Describes how Morgan Gress of the Committee negotiated with Dawson in the car, before meeting with the full Committee ("most of whom were women"), a reduced fee for construction drawings. The Committee had been shocked at the price of the proposal but felt it would be a "great pity...to attempt to go with anybody else in carrying out Olmsted Brothers plans." Dawson agreed to a cut fee with the understanding that certain plans, like planting, would be developed in less detail, letting a local nurseryman work out finalizing the quantities and final selections of plants; and that Benjamin & Greeley, Jacksonville architects, would prepare details and specifications and oversee bidding and construction.
6. May 9, 1922 OB (Hubbard) to Charles Adrian Pillars. In response to Pillars' objections to the raised basin and the height at which the sculpture would be placed, this letter describes OB's design intent for the sculpture's setting: "[The] figure and the globe, in the setting which we have suggested, will dominate the whole park in a dignified way and will be seen in pleasing silhouette against the distant sky line...." OB also argues Pillars' suggestion for a sunken basin would be prohibitively expensive.
7. May 9, 1922 OB (Hubbard) to NC reiterating OB's objections to Pillars' suggestions.
8. July 11, 1922 OB (Dawson) to NC. Cover letter for the planting plan, explaining the intent for the whole park landscape. Dawson notes "we have gone into it a little more in detail" than originally planned, feeling that this would be "a little more helpful to you and to whoever planted the plants and...criticized the plan." OB still expects that a nurseryman will use the plan as a basis for substituting other, more readily available or horticulturally suited plants; but Dawson cautions, "be sure that they substitute plants that have a similar character and habits."
9. July 12, 1922 OB (Dawson) to NC confidentially asking her help in heading off a suggestion by the local architect overseeing the contracting, Roy Benjamin, to change the esplanade trees to Lombardy poplars.
10. [probably mid-late July, 1922] NC to Dawson. Requests a design for a bench, as "simple, dignified and as inexpensive in construction as possible," to use in lieu of the City standard type which she judges "a monstrosity;" and assures Dawson she will "control that matter" of the esplanade trees. Also mentions the extreme difficulty of getting the names of the war dead.

11. July 21, 1922 W. Harold Hume [Glen St. Mary Nursery] to NC critiquing the plant list and offering suggestions.
12. Dec. 19th, 1922 NC to Dawson with suggestions for the planting based on "several sessions" reviewing the plan with Dr. Hume.
13. Jan. 9, 1923 Dawson to NC with responses to her suggestions on planting. While OB incorporated many of them, Dawson resisted any introduction of variegated plants: "I wish to say that in our plantings we have never used to any extent the variegated forms of plants, unless absolutely requested to do so. It is not only that the variegated form indicates a weakened physical condition of the plant, but we have always felt that it causes a lack of harmony in the foliage effects."
14. Jan. 19, 1923 OB (Marchand) to NC transmitting the revised planting plan (see Appendix B, drawing 5151-21) and noting the changes that have been made.
15. Jan. 1923 Plant List for Plan 5151-21 (transcribed by Jake Ingram, MPA)
16. Apr. 1940 OB internal document recognizing Dawson as "Employee of the Month." Dawson was one of the "plantsmen" of the firm; his father was a distinguished horticulturist who helped found the Arnold Arboretum; Dawson was born in the family's home on the Arboretum grounds.
17. May 30, 1950 "Sculptor's Vision in Creating Memorial Statue is Related; Description Written by C. Adrian Pillars of Youths' Sacrifice Printed as Dead Honored," *Florida Times-Union* [typewritten transcript; digital copy at City of Jacksonville Parks & Recreation Department]
18. 1933 - 1945 C. Adrian Pillars biographical information excerpted from the *American Art Annual*, *Who's Who in America* and the *Dictionary of American Painters, Sculptors and Engravers* [typewritten transcripts; digital copy at City of Jacksonville Parks & Recreation Department].

CITIZENS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

*Movement Inaugurated by The Rotary Club. Endorsed by The Kiwanis Club, The American Legion
and Other Organizations Whose Names Appear On the Reverse Side*

To erect a Memorial to the 768 Soldiers, Sailors and Marines of the State of Florida, who lost their lives in the Service during the World War. To be located in the beautiful City Park on the water front in Riverside. To be of permanent character and to have inscribed upon it the names of these dead. To cost approximately \$150,000.00 and to be paid for through Voluntary Public Subscription by the Citizens of Duval County.

MORGAN V. GRESS, Chairman GEO. W. HARDEE, V-Chairman MRS. A. G. CUMMER, Treasurer MISS EDITH GRAY, Secretary

HEADQUARTERS 6TH FLOOR TELEPHONE BUILDING

TELEPHONE 258

May 6, 1920.

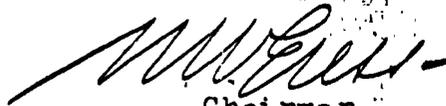
Dear Mr. Lanson:-

If your subscription to the Memorial fund has already been sent, destroy this letter.

Otherwise, please let us have it by return mail.

You are the sole judge as to the amount you should give.

Sincerely yours,


Chairman.

MVG:AC
Blank enclosed.

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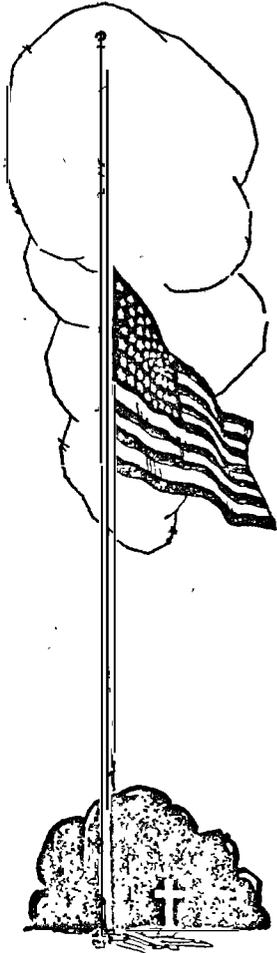
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John Stephens
R. L. Stringfellow
Geo. W. Thames
S. F. Williams
Loren H. Green
R. T. Arnold
Harry Hoyt

*Stars denote members composing the Executive Committee.

Lest We Forget



Jacksonville, Fla. _____ 1920

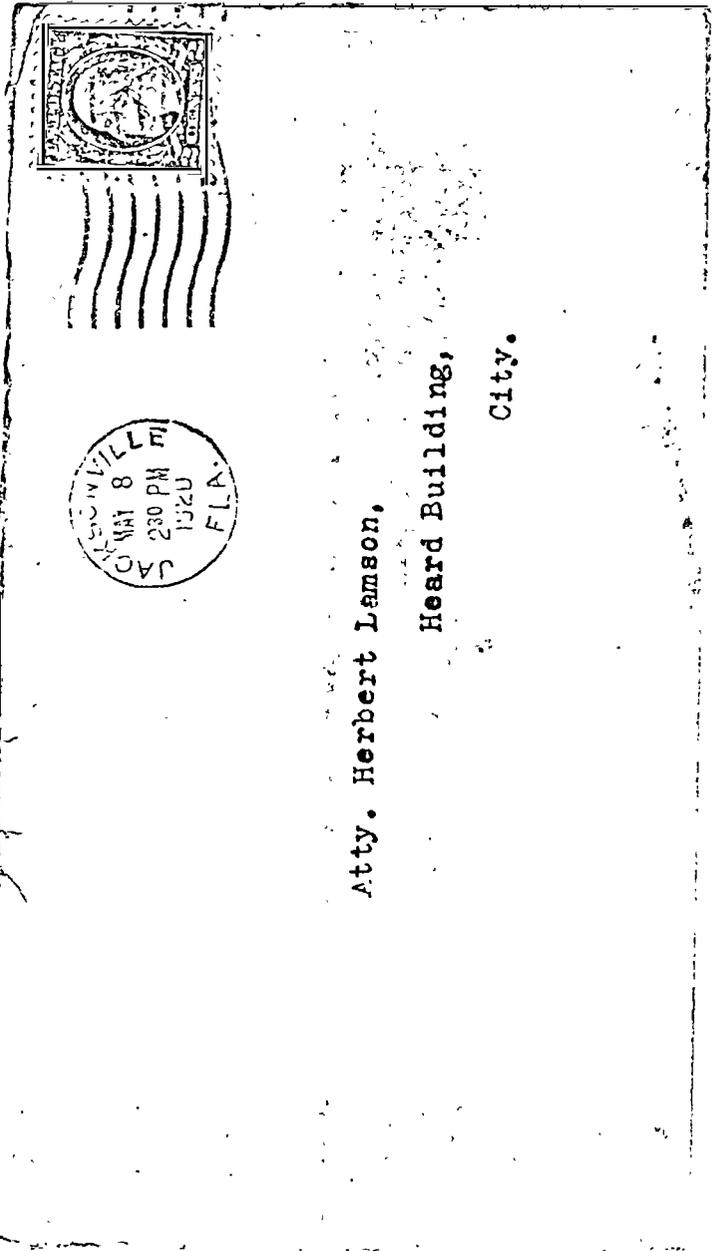
MRS. ARTHUR G. CUMMER, Treasurer:
Bell Telephone Bldg., Jacksonville, Fla.

In consideration of the subscriptions by others, I hereby agree to pay to the order of Citizens' Memorial Committee on demand

_____ Dollars (\$ _____)
and a like amount November 1st, 1920, and a like amount May 1st, 1921.

(Signed) _____

Address _____

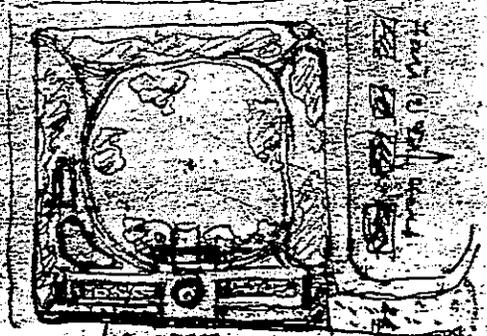


land now all open. ②
 nearly level sloping to
 River Range grass - now 40
 was wanted lights good looking
 some benches -
 to need of play ground -
 or swimming pool -
 \$40,000 in the bank -
 \$26,000 for Bronze figure -
 \$14,000 left for fountain etc
 we are to make plan for
 fountains -
 want walkway - grade - etc
 basin plaza - etc
 to open - Nov 11th 1922
 Tablets to be in bronze -
 City to maintain this Park
 City will get back water

Wm. C. Cummings. Jan 23/22
 Tallahassee Fla. Secretary
 Memorial Park - Parkers
 Co. Andrew Pillars sculpture St. Auguste Fla.

Bronze sphere - 8' diam
 with figures in relief -
 Figure on top circle
 out stretched arm - 12 high
 all of bronze - set in
 middle of 28' water basins
 with tablet in dd of 800 names
 from all over Fla.

Paula land - good looking
 picture
 effort made



3700 names
 Feb 22

~~7073~~
5131

3rd. February, 1922

Directed

Mrs. Arthur C. Cummer,
Chairman Memorial Park Committee,
1018 Riverside Ave.,
Jacksonville, Fla.

Dear Madam:-

As a result of the visit of Mr. Dawson to Jacksonville on the 23rd of January we beg to report to you as follows in regard to the landscape development of the park and the soldiers' memorial:

We understand that the block of land on Riverside Avenue between Water Street and South Margaret Street has been set aside by the Park Department for development as a soldiers' memorial; that the Park Department will permit your Committee to adopt such plans as they see fit; and that the Park Department will construct such walks, develop such lawn areas, plant such trees and shrubs, and make other developments according to the plan that you adopt, at their expense, and will maintain the park after the development has been completed. We also understand that your Committee has raised certain sums of money to be spent on a soldiers' memorial, and has already approved and contracted for a bronze sphere with a figure surmounting it; and that it is your intention to provide a suitable base for this portion of the memorial. We further understand

Read and checked by	Signed by <i>[Signature]</i>
Carbon checked with signed original by <i>[Signature]</i>	
Show carbon to	

Item C.3

Mrs. Cummer - 2

that it is the desire of your Committee to have this sphere surrounded by water in the form of a basin, and that it is necessary to provide for certain bronze tablets on which between seven and eight hundred names are to be placed.

Assuming that our understanding as above stated is correct, we believe that the most attractive development of this park would be as indicated by the sketch plan (No. 2), which we have sent you under separate cover, and which we describe herein as follows:

In general, our conception of the development of this park is that the park be made as simple as possible, unbroken by walks and other objects any more than is absolutely necessary, and to provide a place for the public to come to seek as much rest and peace of body and mind as is possible in an area so small and so close to streets and traffic. We, therefore, propose to have one circulating walk on gracefully curving lines, continuing as near to the outer borders of the park as seems to be good design and to be practical, and to have this walk connected at certain points with entrances to the surrounding streets. We feel that the approach to the park going south along Riverside Drive from the City should be marked by some noticeable and attractive entrance. We seriously considered the question of placing the proposed statue and sphere in the vicinity of this corner of the property. We concluded not to, however, as we felt that the location nearer the waterfront and about in the central portion of the property was much more important for an architectural feature of this sort. We have indicated entrances at the various corners of the property and one opposite the large yellow apartment house on Riverside Avenue.

Along the eastern border of the property we believe it would be advisable and good design to provide for a formal so-called esplanade in the center of which could be located the statue and water basin which you have decided to build. We believe that such treatment along

Mrs. Cummer - 3

the River will allow a great number of people to find enjoyment and pleasure in being able to be near and to look out across the river, and at the same time be in the vicinity of the shade of trees which we propose to plant along this river front. The central portion of this esplanade we propose to ~~be treated~~ as a large open plaza which would be paved with an attractive stone, possibly the coquina stone or limestone, and we propose that the statue and sphere be placed in the center of a circular basin, the side ~~walls~~ walls of which would be raised approximately 3 or 3½ feet above this plaza, and that the water be allowed to fill the basin to within a few inches of the top. We propose that the bronze plates bearing the names of 700 soldiers be attached to the outer wall of this basin. This basin would be somewhere in the vicinity of 30 feet wide. We have not attempted to make an exhaustive study of the exact proportions of the basin in relation to the sphere and the statue, as before this basin is actually built considerable thought and study should be given to the proportions and the details of construction. We have merely shown the location of this part of the memorial as it relates to other portions of the park or plaza.

The plaza as proposed is about 95 feet wide and about 90 feet deep with an additional projection which would provide for steps leading from the plaza to proposed boat landings on the river below. You will notice that we have made a projection of this plaza outside of the present sea wall. The plaza and the esplanade on either side of it can, we think, be slightly raised from the circulating walk and the more informal portion of the park. We are not sure that this can be done, but we believe that owing to the fact that the park slopes toward the river that with proper modeling of the grades this can be accomplished in a very

Mrs. Cummer - 4

satisfactory manner, and as it is quite important as a matter of design that at least the central plaza be elevated from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet above the walk at the east end of the park, we hope that this can be accomplished.

We propose a low wall continuing around both sides of the esplanade, and this wall only needs to be about $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet high along the water front and only needs to be about 18 inches high along the west side of the esplanade. If the money available will not permit, the wall on the west side of the esplanade can be omitted until some future time. We do believe, however, that it is quite essential as a matter of design that there be built some steps and entrance piers and side walls at the north and south ends of this esplanade.

You will notice that we have shown considerable planting along the borders of the three streets surrounding the park. This may seem somewhat objectionable to the people living in houses bordering on these streets, but we believe that the planting could be done in such a way as to create a feeling of privacy for the people using the park, which would be much more important than permitting the people in the houses to have the "grandstand" view across the park. It is possible, however, that small glimpses can be provided between the planting so that the houses on the outer edge of the park proper on the north and south sides will not be shut out entirely.

Our idea in making the park as simple in character as we have is because we feel that this park will be much more attractive in the fine open uninterrupted stretches of green field or lawn surrounded with well modified

Mrs. Cummer - 5

groupings of plants, and at the same time would permit people to use the field, particularly the soldiers, on certain occasions for gatherings they may wish to have.

On the south side of the park we have provided a shelter with toilet accommodations. In connection with the east end of this shelter building we have indicated an area where little children might have the exclusive right to play and romps as they see fit. This area might eventually be enclosed with a low fence if it seems necessary, and sand courts could be provided close to the shelter on the east end. On the north side of this building we have indicated a rather large shelter which we believe would be quite essential on hot days or rainy days. We have provided a small walk leading from the main walk to the shelter, but it is quite possible that this walk is unnecessary and could be omitted. A second shelter could be provided in a similar location on the north side of the park if it was found to be necessary, but we have not indicated such a shelter because we feel that it would be better to wait until we could see how much this park was used by the public.

We have located a flag pole on the east and west axis of the park near the Riverside Avenue entrance. Such a location is practical and is in good relation to the memorial statue and does not interrupt the free use of the large open field in the center of the park. We have shown walls in connection with the entrance piers at the northwest and the southwest corners of the park, but we believe that eventually it would be quite advisable to continue these low walls, which might be 4 feet high, along the borders of the three streets surrounding the park. It would give the park a stronger sense of enclosure and it would prevent the promiscuous running of animals through the plantations.

In addition to the preliminary plan which we are sending you we are sending a rough

Mrs. Cummer - 6

perspective sketch showing how the proposed sphere and statue would relate to the basin, and the plaza, and the silhouette of the sky line.

We have not attempted to go into any details as to the grading or construction or the planting of this park as we have received no authority to do so. If, however, this report and the plans that accompany it meet with your approval and you so desire, we should be very glad to enter into an arrangement whereby we would prepare the plans for the construction work and planting work, as well as the basin and the bronze tablets which are to bear the names of the soldiers. We might say in connection with these tablets that we have in our employ two well trained men of high standing who do this sort of work for us, as we are continually called upon to design just this sort of detail.

Respectfully submitted,

JFD/Mx

Sent separately - Plan No. 2
Plan No. 3

8th February, 1922.

Mrs. A. G. Cummer,
1018 Riverside Ave.,
Jacksonville, Fla.

Dear Mrs. Cummer:-

I just received your letter of 4th February in reply to my letter of 26th January.

X ^{ed} I find that the blueprint which you loan me and which I stated would be returned to you tomorrow, for some reason or other was not returned, therefore, I am sending it to you today.

I note what you say in regard to the drainage of the land. These pipes, as I understand it, are for sub-surface irrigation, as at the upper end they are connected with the water pipe. Of course, the pipes where they run under plantations would naturally be clogged up in a short time by the roots of the trees and shrubs above them.

In regard to the topographical survey. It is wrong to attempt to do any such work, particularly in the portion of the park near the riverway, where the difference of a few inches one way or the other, makes a good deal of difference. If you propose to go on with the execution of the plans, we would suggest that, if the Park Department does not see fit to have this information taken, your committee have a survey made by an independent engineer. If you conclude to do this and let us know, we will give the engineer such instructions as would give us the information at the least expense.

Read and checked by	HED
Carbon checked with signed original by	JR
Show carbon to	

CREDIT
JACKSONVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Item C.4

*Noted letter
from Pillars*

Mrs. A. G. Cummer - 2

As a matter of fact, we cannot determine whether the steps which we propose, entering from the park to the plaza are possible until we have elevations all over this section.

Our idea was to omit the straight parallel walks along the boundaries of the park and then one approaching the park from the river side of the park, would go through, and not along the upper edge of it. This gives you that much more land for the park, and it is quite customary all over the country to eliminate straight side-walks along the edges of such parks, especially when they are as small as the one you have.

We have just received a letter from Mr. C. A. Pillars, stating that he will be glad to cooperate with us in any way possible and will send us some sketches or photographs within a few days.

Very truly yours,

JFD/EAG
Under separate cover: ✓
Blueprint #1

5151

*Committee accepted.
Olmsted's fee
\$1,500.*

*#13
Alm 12*

Report by JFD MEMORIAL PARK Jacksonville, Fla. 3-2-22

Arrived at Jacksonville at 10:30 in the morning and telephoned to Mrs. Cummer. She stated that Mr. Morgan Gress, a member of their Committee, would come to the Seminole Hotel to meet me and take me out to her house in his machine. She would telephone other members of the Committee and have them meet me at her house.

On the way out Mr. Gress stated that he would like to talk about our charges before we met with the other members of the Committee, most of whom were women. He stated that he had had a little experience in employing professional experts, and when he employed Donald Ross to lay out their golf course he came there for 6 days at \$100 a day. He also stated that he had a small place of his own of about three acres which he had landscaped by some people whose name he forgot, and that their charges were also about \$600, so that when we made our proposition to Mrs. Cummer for about \$600 he was under the impression, and told Mrs. Cummer, that that \$600 would include any necessary plans and reports. Therefore, he naturally felt shocked when he received our second proposition stating that we would require about \$1500 additional to make such additional plans as would be necessary to carry our suggestions into execution. Mr. Gress said in a very pleasant and friendly way that they did not have the money to pay for such plans and services. He also said that he did not like the idea of having us make the preliminary plan and then turning it over to somebody else cheaper. He felt that it was a great pity that, having once obtained the services of Olmsted Brothers, to attempt to go on with anybody else in carrying out Olmsted Brothers plans. He wondered if there was not some way that I could figure out whereby we could

CREDIT JACKSONVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Memorial Park - 2

reduce the cost of plans.

I stated that in the first report we had anticipated not sending any sketch but we had practically thrown the plan in together with the perspective sketch, realizing that it would be much easier for various members of the Committee to interpret what we advised. I also said that we had to allow a considerable proportion of our proposed charges for the expenses of assistants in perfecting and drafting our various plans. I stated that I thought that perhaps the charges for the plans for the development of the park were a little high and I also felt that the plans for the development of the plaza and the fountain were a little low, and when I had returned to the office I so expressed myself to Mr. Olmsted and others who had compiled our proposition. I realized that our proposition had stunned them so I stated to Mr. Gress that we would be very glad to have them name the amount of money that they could spend and we would cut our cloth accordingly. I stated that, for instance, instead of making a detailed planting plan we could make an outline planting plan and suggest in various places the kinds of plants that could be used in different parts of the planting. This would indicate in a general way that plants of a low-growing habit could be planted in certain places, medium and tall growing plants could be planted in other places, and that they could then take this plan and turn it over to a local nurseryman like the Glen Saint Mary and have them indicate in a more detailed fashion just where certain plants would be and give the price of the plants and planting.

I said that we would have to give them certain detailed grading information, particularly in the vicinity of the water front, for this was extremely important. I said that we would have

Memorial Park - 3

to depend upon somebody else for writing specifications and letting contracts for the architectural features on the water front side of the park and other things of that sort. He said that they would be agreeable to this, that there was a concern of architects by the name of Benjamin & Greeley who would be glad to do that, and would help us in getting information as to the use of materials, etc. compared with other materials. Mr. Gress then suggested that we accept as a total fee, including our preliminary report and plan (amounting to \$600), the amount of \$1500. I said that was perfectly agreeable to us. It was entirely up to him to tell us what they could spend and we would give them as much as we possibly could for the amount that they could spend. Mr. Gress then said that he thought that our traveling expenses could be considered extra and that he was very anxious to have us make one or two visits at times that we were in the vicinity, similar to the visit that I was making now on my way North.

We then went into the meeting and after a discussion of a plan with the other members of the Committee the Committee went into executive session, after which they called me in and notified me that they had accepted the suggestion, that they were very gratified that they were going to have the benefit of Olmsted Brothers' services, etc. etc.

5151

DESIGN WORK

Copy of this letter sent to Mrs. Cumber

9th May, 1922.

Mr. C. Adrian Billars,
43 Rhode Avenue,
St. Augustine, Fla.

Add to card Parker

Dear Sir:-

We have your letter of May 5th. We are very sorry that you were not kept in the closest possible touch with our sketches as received by the committee. We had assumed that such plans as we sent to the committee, and as received their tentative approval, would be brought to your attention by them. We received the three photos and the letter to which you refer. We thought that they had been immediately acknowledged, and are sorry to find that they were not.

We believe that we understand exactly your feeling in regard to point of view from which the statue and globe should ideally be seen, and we sympathize heartily with it. The idea of some kind of a sunken basin of large size, which would present the globe and figure in its best relation to the observer and prevent too close an approach, was seriously considered by us, but it seemed to us inevitable that such a design, particularly since it would necessitate some other structure to carry the names, would be prohibitively expensive. We, therefore, chose, as the best alternative we could think of, the design which we presented to the committee. We believe, however, that this design has some good points in its relation to the sculpture. It seems to us

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JACKSONVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Parker

Mr. C. Adrian Pillars - 2

that the figure and the globe, in the setting which we have suggested, will dominate the whole park in a dignified way and will be seen in pleasing silhouette against the distant sky line, not only from within the park but from at least one chosen stretch of main road passing by the park. Any scheme which we have been able to think of, which dropped the globe and figure very considerably in their relation to their surroundings, was open not only to the objection of greater cost, which we mentioned above, but also, it seemed to us, had the objection that the more distant views of the sculpture were much less good than in our present scheme; and we believe that since these distant views are open to so many people, they are worth very serious consideration in the choice of a design. We believe, too, that it is fair to say that when the people in the park are standing actually on the terrace which forms the immediate setting of the monument, they will be more interested in the water basin, and particularly in the names, and will not feel that it is a fault in the design that the figure surmounting the globe is not seen at its best from this close standpoint.

We submit to you herewith a photograph of the drawing which we made to accompany the plan. It shows with approximate accuracy the appearance which we had in mind for the monument as seen across the great greenward from the other side of the park, a viewpoint which would, we believe, be occupied by more people looking at the statue than any other viewpoint. The sketch is inaccurate in that the horizon line falls slightly too high on the globe and, of course, in that the gondola-like boat is out of scale and not the type of vessel likely to be seen in Jacksonville waters.

We wish to assure you that we are eager to do everything we can to make this whole design

CREDIT
JACKSONVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Mr. C. Adrian Pillars - 3

a success, and we would welcome any suggestion which would make the setting of the monument better than it is shown in our present plan, without running up prohibitive expense, and without sacrificing the general dominance of the monument to the greater excellence of a selected view from a particular point which, as we now see the problem, we believe would be a mistake.

Very truly yours,

HVH/EAG

Enclosure: Photograph. 

CREDIT
JACKSONVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Item C.6

5.151

9th May, 1922.

*Remember to Pillars
concern about setting
for his statue*

Parker CD

Mrs. A. G. Cumber,
1018 Riverside Ave.,
Jacksonville, Fla.

Dear Mrs. Cumber:-

We are enclosing herewith a portion of a letter which we have received from Mr. Pillars, together with our reply to it. As we say in our letter to Mr. Pillars, we understand and sympathize with the point of view which he holds in this matter, and after thorough study of the whole situation, we are unable to see how such a setting for the monument can be produced without very much greater expense than your committee feels able to meet, and furthermore, we have been unable to evolve any scheme embodying a low setting for the monument, which from the point of view of the park itself, and from the point of view of the broad relation of the monument to the whole park is as good as the scheme which is now before your committee. We are, of course, still ready, if such a scheme can be found, to revise our plans in accordance, but we are really pretty thoroughly convinced, that as circumstances have shaped themselves, no scheme which would satisfactorily produce the excellent effect desired by Mr. Pillars, could be constructed except for a very much greater sum than any appropriation which we understand now to be in sight.

Sincerely yours,

HVH/MAG

Enclosure:

Extract from letter
Copy of letter

CREDIT
JACKSONVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

*Paules
French*

11th July, 1922

Mrs. Arthur W. Hoover,
1015 Riverside Ave.,
Jacksonville, Fla.

Dear Mrs. Hoover:-

We are sending you under separate cover a mounted white print and two blueprints of a plan suggesting the planting for Memorial Park. We have gone into it a little more in detail than merely giving suggestions of different plants for different general localities according to their sides, as we have felt it would be a little more helpful to you and to whoever planted the plants and to whoever criticized the plan if it was a little more in detail. The numbers enclosed in circles indicate individual trees or plants. The numbers shown in a bed with a dash and a second number indicate (first) the bed number which corresponds to a number on the planting list, and (second) the approximate number of plants that would be planted in each bed. In other words, 31-7 refers to the corresponding number 31 on the planting list, which gives the names of the plants, and number 7 indicates the number of plants estimated to go in that particular bed. I want to make special mention of the fact that the number of plants estimated to go in each bed is only approximate and depends entirely upon the size of the plants that are planted. My understanding is that this planting plan would be turned over to one of your local nurserymen, such as the Royal

FD

Mrs. Cummer - 2

Palm Nurseries or the Glen Saint Mary Nurseries, and would be criticized and modified according to their judgement and according to the plants they had available to meet the best conditions of Jacksonville.

The planting plan in general is as follows: We have called for the live oak trees to be planted in the Esplanade. Whether this tree is used or whether some other tree is used we would like to place ourselves on record as recommending a broad-spreading tree that would eventually have its branches come together and canopy the entire Esplanade, which would mean that the grass area of the Esplanade would eventually become entirely covered by the branches of the trees, and probably so much so that the grass would not grow and the central portion of the Esplanade would be used by the people as well as the walk. Personally I would have liked to use Magnolia grandiflora on account of its dark foliage and on account of its beautiful flowers, but some of the comments at the last meeting led me to think that the flowering magnolia was not particularly in good favor. The rest of the planting consists in general of a group of palms either side of the entrance on the projecting points indicated on the plan, another group of cocos palms in the two small beds either side of the flag pole, also a few palms either side of the corner entrances from Riverside Drive. Where the beds are narrow along the two side streets the planting is lower growing, and we have omitted the taller growing trees. We have, however, used some medium sized growing trees like the Gordonia, which we thought would not have the effect of shutting out the houses now existing but would eventually pretty well screen them. In these medium sized beds we have used shrubs such as the Pittosporum and where the shrubs are to project out over the lawn we have used stronger planting such as magnolias, camphor tree, a few eucalyptus, etc.

Mrs. Cramer - 3

The planting list together with the planting plan will permit you to ascertain in detail just what we have suggested. In sending this to the nurserymen to supply the plants we wish to see that the kind of plants we have shown on the plan are the type of plants that we would like to have used, and if they want to substitute anything be sure that they substitute plants that have a similar character and habits.

Very truly yours,

JJD/EX

Sent separately - 3 prints Plan No. 21
Enclosed - Planting list to accompany Plan No. 21

2 copies

12th July, 1922

Joseph P. ...

Mrs. Arthur G. Cummer,
1018 Riverside Ave.,
Jacksonville, Fla.

Dear Mrs. Cummer:-

I am writing this letter to you with the hope that you will not make it public. I was very much distressed when Mr. Benjamin seriously suggested at the last meeting, and continued to suggest, that the trees to be planted on the Esplanade should be Lombardy poplars. I argued in behalf of the Magnolia grandiflora, or as an alternative, I said to use the live oak. I then went on to say that whatever they used I hoped that they would use a broad-spreading tree that would eventually canopy over the Esplanade.

I hope that you will agree with me and will use your influence in preventing the Lombardy poplar from ever being planted on this Esplanade.

I have been intending to write you to say that I have visited your place and made some notes for the suggested well fountain, and in the near future I hope to send you some suggestions in the form of a sketch.

Very truly yours,

JPD/lx

JPD

COPY

FROM THE OFFICE OF OLMSTED BROTHERS

1018 Riverside Ave.
Jacksonville, Fla.

Olmsted Brothers,
Brookline, Mass.

My dear Mr. Dawson:

At last I am again in the South and have gone very carefully over all of your blue prints and drawings. I like your idea very much. Just one thing I miss which I am anxious to have in your contract(?) and that is some suggestion for the benches that are to be used in Memorial Park. The design used elsewhere in the city is the same as you saw along the river front. A monstrosity as I judge them, and I feel sure that unless we have some simple dignified and as inexpensive in construction design as possible to offer, we shall have the present incumbent thrust upon us.

Regarding your recent letter about the trees, I am very certain that I can control that matter. Just why Mr. Benedict, who is consulting architect (Constructional) should have felt privileged to offer any such objections in the landscaping department, I do not comprehend, but I agree with you entirely.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) Mrs. Arthur W. Cummer

P.S. The difficulties we are meeting in regard to names, both from the Government, State, and American Legion is appalling.

File 5151

COPY

FROM THE OFFICE OF OLMSTED BROTHERS

MOUNT EVERETT INN
South Egremont, Mass.

July 21, 1922.

Mrs. A. G. Cummer,
Jacksonville, Fla.

My dear Mrs. Cummer;

Your letter 17th inst. with Mr. Dawson's letter, blueprint and key are all in hand today. I am returning Mr. Dawson's letter, blueprint and key as requested. In answering your letter and criticizing the plan and key, I am somewhat at a disadvantage as I have at hand my memory, pen and paper only.

There are many limiting factors in plant growth. Usually we think of these as moisture, soil and temperature. But in Florida we have to think of some others and one of these viz:- the nematode which causes Rootknot will make it impossible to several of the plants indicated in the planting key. To the key, I have attached a list of comments indicating which plants are doubtful or worthless and the reasons for so classing them. I have not said anything about Pyracantha (in 7 and 35) but it seems to me except for the sake of variety that it would be better to use Holly (Ilex vomitoria). Pyracantha is subject to attacks of a number of scales which do not add to its appearance. Poorly developed, insect infested plants are never desirable though they may be very rare or very valuable and plants in public places are none too well looked after.

Mr. Dawson's suggestion that the plans be criticized and substitutes be made (by me for instance) relieves him of some responsibility, and while the final decision must rest with you or some one else who knows, yet if I were you I would ask Mr. Dawson to pass upon or revise the planting list to its final makeup. He doubtless has in mind certain foliage effects and composition results. The changing of a single plant in the combination might spoil the effect whereas a whole group might be recomposed from other materials with much more satisfactory results. I must confess, for instance, that I have in mind no satisfactory substitute for Cocos plumosa and the same may be said of other plants as well.

To the planting list, I have added a list of materials but without indicating substitutes. This added list consists of materials which I believe can be grown satisfactorily.

Mrs. A. G. Cimmer - 2.

It is difficult to suggest substitutes for the Hypericums. They are low growing, very beautiful and very satisfactory where they are at home but for your planting they are simply impossible.

I can appreciate the reasons for speed but your plan should be complete to the smallest detail before submitting it for planting estimates or perhaps to Mr. Acesta for his approval. There is much work to be done on the ground and by all means try to have your planting done between Dec. 1 and Feb. 1.

Just as it stands, I could have an estimate made covering the plants and planting but as this would have to come from the office the thought comes that it might be best to wait until the list is finally complete. If however it will help it made up roughly as it now is, I will have it done.

I am very glad to help you in so far as I can for I am very much interested in having this particular piece of planting well done. Write me here for the present. I shall probably not get back to Florida before Sept. 22.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) W. Harold Hume.

File 5151

COPY

FROM THE OFFICE OF OLMSTED BROTHERS.

MOUNT EVERETT INN

South Egremont, Mass.

14.

3. At times the water table in Memorial Park is, without doubt, very close to the surface and probably remains there for some time. If this be true, Cornus florida will be killed out. Before using it this should be looked into, but at high tide and a north-east wind sometimes raises the river a matter of 2 to 3 feet.

19.

22.

25.

5. Hypericum calycium } I am not sure of the first of these
Hypericum moserianum } because I have not grown it but Hypericum moserianum is subject to Root Knot and frequently killed out by it. Because of this I could not recommend it.

26.

34.

Vinca Minor has not given satisfaction. It is a poor grower especially under open or sunny conditions. I believe that Lantana delicatissima or even English Ivy will make a better ground cover though the latter is also better suited to shady conditions which you will not have at first.

mater here piece

6. Hypericum patulum Henryi is attacked by Root Knot (nematodes).

7. Spiraea van houttei is good but Spiraea Cautoniensis double is better. Its flowering period is longer, it flowers through the bush instead of on the outside only and is less subject to frost burn when in bloom.

What palms needle for effect the Co austr group. bamboo exclud

Cotoneaster acuminata. I have not tried this but have grown frigida and pannosa. Whether it is adapted to the soil or moisture conditions, I do not know.

10. Phoenix reclinata. This will grow well. In the winter of 1917 nearly every plant of this in Jacksonville was cut back by frost. If sylvestris or Canariensis or tennis will of instead, they will be found much hardier. Perhaps cocosaustralis or one of its relatives will do.

14. Berberis thunbergii. This will not give satisfaction. My experience with it indicates that it will not stand the combination of much water and hot summer.
19. Lantana delicatissima white. I know this only in lilac.
22. Coccoloba. I do not believe this is hardy enough. There is no hardy palm of this type of growth.
25. Hydrangea hortensis not likely to give satisfactory results except when grown in shade or partial shade.
26. Buddleia variabilis magnifica is attacked by Root Knot (nematodes) and will not do.
34. Jacaranda mimosaeifolia is not likely to prove hardy enough.

I have not tried to indicate substitutes in every case, where material is either doubtful or known to be unsatisfactory. But here is a list that may be used and all of which will grow on the piece of land in question.

What of good palms like needle palm for low effects and the Cocos australis group. Are bamboos excluded

- Acacia latifolia or longifolia. acacia
- Callistemon or Metrosideros. Bottle Brush
- Cephalotaxus or Podocarpus. Japanese Yew
- Nandina domestica. Sacred Bamboo
- Malva viscus grandiflorus
- Myrtus communis. myrtle
- Myrica. Bayberry
- Ilex vomitoria
- Duranta plumieri. golden dewdrop
- Guphea hyscopifolia
- Jasminum humile
- Jasminum primulinum
- Pittosporum tokira variegata
- Schinus terekentheifolius Elaeagnus

Inf. **COPY** ment,

FROM THE OFFICE OF OLMSTED BROTHERS

[Handwritten signature]

CITIZENS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE, (INCORPORATED)
Jacksonville, Florida.

December 19th, 1922.

Olmsted Brothers,
Brookline, Mass.

My dear Mr. Dawson:

After the receipt of the last planting plan #21 under the date of August 29th I wrote to your firm asking the privilege of deferring definite action until I might have an opportunity to confer personally with Mr. H. H. Hume, whose advice I value highly. We were both somewhat late in reaching Jacksonville after the summer's outings, but have now had several sessions at which times we have studied the choice of plants and their groupings most painstakingly and below I submit our suggestions for additional material, which might safely and attractively be added to the specimens already incorporated in the key--also mention a few changes that we feel would possibly be an improvement.

The arrangement and choice generally seems delightful and I am most impatient for the verdict of time on the whole planting plan.

When you have gone over this plan again, utilizing what ones of these additional subjects that you can, will you not send to us the bed detail planting? And could you not in working out this detail undertake the judicious placing of a few variegated Pittosporums?

Ligustrum in the variegated variety also is most attractive, has soft shadings, and is most free from scale etc. and can be used, not only for shadings in foliage but in groups.

Why not make use of more Phoenix Canariensis? They do exceedingly well here and can be easily obtained.

COPY

FROM THE OFFICE OF OLMSTED BROTHERS.

- 2 -

The beds in the angles of walks directly opposite the corner entrances show the use of #30 (oleanders). We would suggest #20 (*Washingtonia robusta*) as preferable for this prominent location.

Would suggest in grouping of #35, the planting of *Nandina domestica* in the place of *Abelia grandiflora*, which has a decided tendency to grow woody and unattractive in the course of a few years.

Please compare plan of July 11th and August 29th. The former omits No. 13 entirely and the latter mentions 14 *Durantia* for #13, when, in reality, we check up 30 plants on the plan.

We feel that spaces marked #30--36 and #30---40 might be most advantageously changed to groups of palms--each grouping distinct from type used in the other.

There has been some error--typographical or otherwise--as regards #29--Crape Myrtle or (*Lagerstroemia indica*) 106 plants are designated to be placed 4 inches apart. This could not possibly be done, since this is in reality such a large shrub that it might almost be termed a tree. Furthermore it is deciduous and if used at all should be scattered, and so placed as to give a bit of color when in bloom (which would be very nice) but be inconspicuous during the dormant season. For large material in that space or elsewhere, Bamboo *Arundinaria Falcata*, Holly (which can be secured, being sure of its bearing berries, and certainly belongs to us) and Pampas grass would all serve you well.

Lower materials are more plentiful; suggest employing the following if you can utilize them to advantage; all are non-deciduous, hardy, in this climate, and good;

Eranthemum 5'--delightful blue flower
Olea Fragrans 5'---most fragrant
Cestrum Noctornum 5'--"
Callistomen Rigidus 4'---5' red blossom
Cephalotaxus 4'---5' deep green foliage
Ligustrum Japonicum 3'---4' glossy green foliage
Alpina Nutans 4'--6' sort of lily, called "sh ll-flower", very large bold leaves, unattacked by scale etc.--excellent subject.

Item C.12

COPY

FROM THE OFFICE OF OLMSTED BROTHERS.

- 3 -

Nandina Domestica 3'--4' dainty, needs strong sun for best color effect of foliage.

Pampas Grass,
Bamboo 7'--8' Arundinaria Falcata.

Ground Covering or Edging.

Anomum 12"--18" grows in dense shade, common name "ginger"

Coontie 15"--18" (Zamia Integrifolia) this is indigenous here; deep green, tough fronds--resembles a large fern, and would be most attractive.

Dianella (revoluta?) 12"--15" exceedingly hardy broad leaf grassy clumps (uncertain where to procure it--but good.)

Ophio Pongans 6" border plant--finer grass leaves.

Morea Iridoides an African Iris--does well here--clumps here and there might add interest to the planting.

Zepheranthus lilies, pink variety. Very low, not much foliage, but live over from year to year and would give touch of color.

Amaryllis, very satisfactory here--if put in strong sun; would also add color.

Snow drops, excellent, but can they be procured?

Only too well do I appreciate that you will quickly grasp the fact that this list has been given you by an amateur. I have not been able to group and systematize briefly as one accustomed to this could have done--but I can assure you that what I have said regarding these various plants can positively be depended upon.

All is moving on now satisfactorily, and there seems no reason why our planting can not be made between the middle and last of January.

Yours truly,

(Signed) Mrs. Arthur G. Olmsted

COPY

NBM

FROM THE OFFICE OF GUESTS SERVICES

Redondo Beach, California
January 25, 1943.

Mrs. Sumner,
Jacksonville,
Florida.

Dear Mrs. Sumner:

I have received your letter, forwarded from Brookline with the planting list and plan, and have gone over them all together. Your criticisms are all quite plausible, but some of your suggestions do not coincide with what I think would make the best composition of the planting. If, after reading my explanation, you think I am wrong, then I am quite willing to have you make the changes you suggest, and the result would not be particularly bad. I will reply to your letter in the order of your comments.

2. Starting with the third paragraph on the first page, in regard to variegated Pittosporums, I wish to say that in our plantings we have never used to any extent the variegated forms of plants, unless absolutely requested to do so. It is not only that the variegated form indicates a weakened physical condition of the plant, but we have always felt that it causes a lack of harmony in the foliage effects. If you are quite sure that you want some, I would suggest introducing a few in the corners of # 12, the green forms of *P. tobira*, and clamp them together, from three to five plants. The same thing is true of the *Ligustrum*. I am surprised that we neglected to use the green form of *Ligustrum japonicum*; it is only by accident that it was omitted, as I had intended to use it in Bed # 6, and I have asked our office to add it to the list in that bed.

3. In regard to why we did not use more *Phoenix canariensis*, I felt that further planting of this would not leave much room for other things it seemed desirable to use, and would make the *Phoenix* predominate in the part. I used

Mr. C. C. C. 2.

then sparingly realizing that they grow fast and large. I considered their position as you enter the park from the northeast; there is one group of three on the left, and a group in the most prominent points of planting, either side of the approach to the fountain plaza. These groups of Phoenix are backed up by Cocos, which are taller growing, and on the east side of the approach to the fountain plaza, they have some Washingtonias in front of them which we expected would grow taller than the Phoenix, and through the stems of which you would see the foliage of the Phoenix in the background.

4. You will notice that we have used these tall-growing palms on the projecting points of the planting for the sake of making the frame of the fountain and plaza as strong as possible. In the bays of the planting, beds #30-40 and #30-36, we purposely used a decidedly smaller growing plant; because of its foliage and flowers, we thought the Oleander would be an admirable thing to use here, and would be in proper contrast with the taller palms in the more prominent position. If you replace this Oleander by palms, you will defeat the composition of planting that we had in mind. Back of these beds, we purposely used a round-headed, broad-leaved evergreen tree, which would attain a sufficient height but would contrast desirably in height and character with the palms, placed in the stronger position. Because of this, I hope you will not use Washingtonia robusta in the beds #30-36, and #30-40.

5. If you insist upon using the Washingtonia in this vicinity, then I regretfully suggest that you substitute them for the camphor trees in the background, leaving the Oleanders in these two beds.

6. In regard to the grouping of #35 at either side of the northwest and northeast entrances, we particularly used them in this locality for the sake of edging down the planting. I had always thought Abelia grandiflora was pretty hard to beat. It may be that the use of Abelia rupestris would be preferable, as that is not quite so strong growing, and has the habit of tumbling over on the ground like Spiraea Van Houttei. Nantina domestica is a decidedly erect plant, through the stems of which you can see into the adjacent planting, and I had never thought of using it in a place where I would use Abelia rupestris. If you do not

Mrs. Sumner, 3.

care to use the Abelia, then I suggest that you replace it with some low, compact plant such as Spiraea Van Houttei or Viburnum tinus. If you particularly want to use Nandina domestica, I would put it in place of #26-12 and #26-10, which have a prominent position at a projecting point. Or I would use it on the point of the small triangles in the walk, or in place of bed 32 or bed 25, in some way, on either side of the entrance steps flanking the fountain plaza.

It is due to a clerical error that only fourteen plants of # 13 were shown on the list, as the thirty plants called for on the plan seem to be the correct quantity.

Your next paragraph, concerning the two beds #30-36 and #39-40, I think I have answered above.

9 As to #29, I realize that crape myrtle blooms only in the summer, and therefore placed it carefully. It is one of the things, with jasmine, which the tourist appreciates the most of anything he sees, especially the tourist from the North. I realize that they are deciduous and likely to be leggy, and for that reason we had put a bed #7, of smaller plants, in front of them, to hide their bare stems when they get older; and we had purposely made #7 a mixture of mostly deciduous plants, thinking it would be interesting in some portion of the plantation to have a decided break from the solid evergreen of the rest of the planting. Therefore, if you could persuade yourself to leave at least some of the crape myrtles, I for one would appreciate it. If you think the beds are too large, then let the adjacent beds crowd them out a little on each side, and if you dislike the idea of Spiraea in front of them, then by all means use such things as Callistema and Alpina.

10 I hoped that you would not use many bamboos, although I think that a few clumps of them are always attractive. I thought that we had used some in the lower corners back of bed # 6, and if it is not too late I would like to use some in a bed 33, which I have indicated on a plan which I have asked the office to send you. (I am surprised to find, as you remind me, that we have not used Ligustrum japonica; I am asking the office to have it included in the mixture of plants in bed #8, as I had

Mrs. Cramer, 4.

intended to use it over fairly large areas of the park.

11 I am afraid that we misled you in regard to *Olea fragrans*, by calling it *Cassia*, which is used in considerable quantity in bed # 8.

12 I have indicated on the plan the possible locations of additional plants, such as *Impatiens*, *Coccoloba*, *Dianella* and *Opilio*. I think it is risky to plant such things as lilies, *Amaryllis* or *Snowdrops* at this time, or before the planting has matured for a year or two, and then I question whether it would be a good plan to plant these attractive flowering lilies where they would be so tempting to people who felt like taking them. It is a little different from a private garden, or a formal garden in a park. If you do not agree with me, however, there is no reason why they should not be used, but I suggest a delay in planting them until the planting has actually developed for a year or two.

13 You will notice that we have located some beds of the shade-loving things on the north sides of the plantations, and that I have shown some additional beds where the grass-like plants can be used.

14 I am asking the office to make these changes in pencil, and send you a print with the revised list, for further comment, which I hope you will be able to give us, so that the planting may be perfected to the highest degree possible.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) James Frank Lawson.

5151

TABULAR
ENDING

Copy sent Mr. Dawson ✓

HP

19th January, 1923.

Mrs. A. G. Cumber,
1018 Riverside Avenue,
Jacksonville, Fla.

Dear Madam:

Your letter of December 19, 1922 was forwarded to Mr. Dawson in California with the print of plan No. 21. Mr. Dawson has revised the plan and made notes on the suggestions which were made in your letter and has returned both to us so that we might revise the original plan and list and send to you. He has sent us also a copy of his letter of January 9th to you.

We are enclosing a print of plan No. 21 revised and a copy of the revised list to accompany the plan.

In reviewing your letter and Mr. Dawson's letter it appears that he did not understand the comment made in the sixth paragraph of your letter, namely, the question of using Washingtonia palms in place of oleanders in the triangular spaces just opposite the north-east and northwest entrances. The comments concerning planting design which he made in the fourth paragraph of his letter we believe refer to the plantings of oleanders which are in the planting bays at the southeast and southwest corners of the Park. We have therefore not changed the oleander planting in the latter situations but since your suggestion regarding the planting of No. 30 in the triangular spaces appears reasonable we have made the changes in those places.

2nd of January 1923
AMC

CREDIT
JACKSONVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Mrs. A. G. Cumner - 2

The reference to No. 33 in the tenth paragraph of Mr. Dawson's letter you will find is No. 39 on plan.

Mr. Dawson has commented on our neglect of *Ligustrum japonicum*. In the last previous revision of the plan and list we omitted this plant because we have been informed that in some places in your part of the country it is considered undesirable because it is a harbor plant for the white fly pest. Down at Mountain Lake, where we have planned considerable planting, we have been requested not to use *Ligustrum japonicum*. If, however, this difficulty is not found at Jacksonville we certainly would recommend using this very handsome plant.

In revising the plan we have used Crepe Myrtle as specimens instead of in a mass and have added some American Holly as you requested.

You will find that Mr. Dawson has added a number of beds of the ground covering or edging plants which you suggested. We have endeavored to estimate the number of plants which would be required to fill these beds but we believe that you may find that the quantity you will require will vary considerably depending on the size of plants which you can obtain.

We trust that you will now find this plan and list satisfactory so that you can proceed with your work of planting very soon.

Very truly yours,

Enclosure: Print of plan #21, ✓
Planting list. ✓

WBM:GB

CREDIT
JACKSONVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Item C.14

April 27, 2012

Plants Listed by The Olmsted Brothers for Memorial Park, proj 5151

1. *Quercus virginiana* Live Oak 28
2. *Pittosporum tobira* (hedge) 80
3. *Acacia longifolia* 7 'Golden Wattle' (invasive in California)
4. *Quercus phellos* Willow Oak 9
5. 14 beds of 3700 plants including:
 - Plumbago capensis* 910 (now *P. auriculata*)
 - Jasminum humile* Yellow Jasmine 980 (a vine-like shrub to 12' w/yellow flower)
 - Lantana delicatissima* 910 (now *L. montevidensis*; Trailing Lantana)
 - Hedera helix* English Ivy 900
6. 16 beds of 317 plants
 - Serissa foetida* 96
 - Lantana, yellow 111
 - Lantana camara* 111 (now a listed Florida Invasive Exotic)
7. 16 beds of 547 plants including
 - Ilex vomitoria* Yaupon Holly 147
 - Spirea prunifolium* Bridal Wreath 100
 - Spirea cantoniensis*, double 150
 - Severinia buxifolia* Boxthorn or Box Orange 150
8. 12 beds of 1,295 plants including
 - Nerium oleander* 215
 - Olea fragrans* 215 (Now *Osmanthus fragrans*) Tea Olive
 - Illicium anisatum* 215 Japanese Anise tree
 - Ligustrum japonicum* 215
 - Viburnum odoratissimum* 220 Sweet Viburnum
 - Viburnum tinus* 220 Laurustinus
9. *Phoenix canariensis* Canary Island Date Palm 7
10. NOT USED
11. *Quercus virginiana* Live Oak
12. *Pittosporum tobira* 305
13. *Duranta plumieri* Golden Dewdrop 30 (Now *D. erecta*)
14. *Malaviscus arboreus* 20 Turk's cap
15. *Ilex opaca* 16 American Holly
16. *Ilex cassine* 3 Dahoon Holly
17. *Gordonia lasianthus* 31 Loblolly Bay
18. *Cinnamomum camphora* 16 Camphor Tree (a Cat. #1 Invasive Exotic)
19. *Lantana delicatissima* 223 (now *L. montevidensis*)
20. *Washingtonia robusta* 10 Mexican Fan Palm
21. *Magnolia grandiflora* 7 Southern Magnolia
22. *Cocos australis* 15 Pindo Palm (Now *Butia capitata*)
23. 15 beds of 693 plants including:
 - Viburnum tinus* 185
 - Jasminum pubescens* 254 Downy Jasmine (Now *J. multiflorum*)
 - Abelia rupestris* 254 (Now *A. grandiflora*)

Plant List, Cont'

24. *Plumbago capensis* 46 S. African Leadwort (Now: *P. auriculata*)
25. *Jasminum primulinum* 187 Primrose Jasmine (Now: *P. mesnyi*)
26. NOT USED
27. *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* 19
28. *Myrica cerifera* 3 Wax Myrtle
29. *Lagerstroemia indica* 14 Crape Myrtle
30. *Nerium oleander* 90
31. *Camellia japonica* 71
32. *Jasminum pubescens* 56 Downy Jasmine (Now: *J. multiflorum*)
33. 12 beds of 165 plants incl:
 - Magnolia fuscata* 65 Banana Shrub (Now *Michelia figo*)
 - Camellia thea* 50
 - Viburnum tinus* 50
 - Albizzia julibrissin* 5 Mimosa Tree (Now a Cat #1 Invasive Exotic)
34. *Nandina domestica* 40 Heavenly Bamboo (Now a Cat #1 Invasive Exotic)
35. 6 beds of 77 Plants incl:
 - Jasminum pubescens* 26 Downy Jasmine (Now; *J. multiflorum*)
 - Abelia rupestris* 26 Glossy Abelia (Now *A. grandiflora*)
 - Ilex vomitoria* 25 Yaupon Holly
36. *Dianella* sp 780 plants Flax Lily
37. *Ophiopogon* sp 6,480
38. *Cephalotaxus fortunei* 16 Fortune's Plum Yew
39. *Arundunaria falcata* 10 Bamboo
40. 7 beds of 1580 plants
 - Amomum* 790 possibly Black Cardamom, *A. subulatum*, a ginger
 - Zamia integrifolia* 790 Coontie Palm(Now *Z. pumila*)

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH APRIL 1940

Our employee of the month is James Frederick Dawson, (Fred).

Our current and former employees will want to join in honoring Mr. Dawson who has been with the firm of Olmsted Brothers since 1906.

Fred was born into a respected local family. His distinguished father, Jackson Thornton Dawson became the Head Gardner at the Bussey Institution in 1871. He and Charles Sprague Sargent developed the institution into the Arnold Arboretum, one of the most important botanical institutions in the world. Dawson had an exceptional knowledge of plants and their propagation. By 1917, he had raised a large part of the Arboretum's plants from seeds as well as grown all of the Chinese and Japanese plants. He hybridized several important roses, including the "Sargent" and during the last sixteen years of his life to 1916, he raised seedlings of over 3300 American hawthorns. While at the Arboretum he raised 450,718 plants and distributed 47,993 packets of seed throughout the world. He was legendary for his skills in plant propagation and clearly had the "ultimate green thumb". A modest, generous, and kind genius, Jackson and his wife, Minnie, had several children which included James and his brother, Walter, an accomplished painter.

Professor Dawson's courses were an essential element in the education of anyone wishing to become a part of the growing profession of landscape architecture. When Arthur Shurcliff asked for advice from Charles Eliot in 1894 about entering the field, Eliot advised him to take Dawson's Botany classes.

Fred was actually born at the Arnold Arboretum on January 13, 1874. The family was living at that time in an apartment at the headhouse at the greenhouses (since torn down). He attended West Roxbury High School, graduating in 1893. Afterward, he studied at the Bussey Institution of Harvard and at the Arboretum until he joined us in 1896 in our office, then named, Olmsted, Olmsted and Eliot. In 1906 he became an associate member and a full partner in 1922 of our firm, then, Olmsted Brothers.

In his early work he concentrated on designing gardens and pleasure grounds which would give esthetic pleasure to their owners and users. He entered into landscape problems applying his fertile imagination and technical skills enthusiastically creating gardens of immense beauty. When Arthur Shurcliff later described the early days of the firm he referred to Dawson as "...the natural born plantsman", clearly a reference to his upbringing and acquired skills.

As he worked with clients his special skill was to enable clients with creative urges to develop their *own* gardens. Instead of attempting his own self expression, as an artist, he was able to assist his clients in expressing their own creative impulses and by his own

modesty, persistence, and skills bring about his clients delight in their own gardening creations.

As time went on he was able to apply his concentration, driving energy, and ability to handle tremendous pressure, to large "magnificent garden" landscape designs. Early on he collaborated with John Charles Olmsted on the San Diego and the Seattle Expositions.

Fred was involved in a good number of residential developments. He contributed to community planning in which there was a high priority placed upon siting the residences to the topography and the surroundings. He was not interested in providing assistance to developers who merely planned to maximize their subdivision lots. Nor was he particularly interested in long range municipal and regional planning projects with their unpredictability of results.

Among the many types of design work in which he was involved, the following examples are ones in which he was the principal designer or played a significant role.

Private Gardens: McDuffie, Berkeley, CA. Coe, Oyster Bay, L.I., NY. Jennings, Cold Spring Harbor, L.I., NY. Penrose, Colorado Springs, CO. Woodward, Chestnut Hill, PA. *Parks:* Seattle, WA. Louisville, KY. Fort Tryon Park, NY. *Arboretum:* University of Washington, WA. *Residential:* Broadmoor Heights, Colorado Springs, CO. Palos Verdes Estates, CA. *Educational:* Alabama State Colleges. Grove City College, PA. *State Capitols:* Olympia, WA. Montgomery, AL. *Resort:* Broadmoor Hotel, Colorado Springs, Co. *Industrial:* New York Air Brake, Watertown, NY.

Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. says about him "...his life (is) filled to the brim with creating beauty for others and with the friendships his lovable character inspire(s)".

He became a member of the American Society of Landscape Architects in 1905 and was elected a Fellow in the organization in 1914.

He lives in Brookline and is married to Hazel (Lease) and they have four children; Jackson Thornton, James Frederick, Robert Fletcher, and Jane Lease.

(James Frederick Dawson died one year after this Profile on April 23, 1941 at the age of 67 years.)

SCULPTOR'S VISION IN CREATING MEMORIAL STATUE IS RELATED. DESCRIPTION WRITTEN BY C. ADRIAN PILLARS OF YOUTHS' SACRIFICE PRINTED AS DEAD HONORED.

City-wide observance of Memorial Day today again focuses attention on the well-known monument in Memorial Park here. The monument representing a winged figure standing atop a globe is one of the city's most famous landmarks. - little-known fact about the monument however is the hitherto unpublished account of the vision which inspired the monument's creator, C. Adrian Pillars, a noted St. Augustine sculptor. In two vivid paragraphs Pillars related the dream which he cast into a reality when he designed the winged figure.

The bronze group Life was conceived in an effort to create some form of memorial which would be an eternal reminder of the boys who sacrificed themselves in the World War. Pillars wrote when he began work in ~~19~~20:

"I desire this memorial to present the idea of life, its struggles and victory. While striving to make a composition, visualizing this, I found a poem by Alan Seeger, a soldier - victim of the War. At once I saw the typical spirit of the boys who went overseas - saw with their eyes a world in the insane grip of greed and ambition, caught in the ceaseless swirl of selfishness ever struggling against submergence. I saw these boys giving up their homes, sweethearts, wives and mothers to go overseas and through the supreme sacrifice make secure the happiness and safety of their loved ones. With this vivid picture in mind I constructed a sphere to represent the world engiraled with masses of swirling water typifying the chaotic earth forces. In this surging mass of waters, I shaped human figures, all striving to rise above this flood struggling for mere existence. Last surrounding these swirling waters with their human freight, I placed the winged figure of youth, representative of spiritual life, the spirit of these boys which was the spirit of victory. Immortality attained not through death, but deeds; not a victory of brute force but spirit. The figure of youth sacrificed wears his crown of laurels won. He holds an olive branch, the emblem of peace."

The description of the eminent sculptor's dream does not appear anywhere on the masterpiece he created. So far as is known, Pillar's descriptive paragraphs have not been published before. The memorial was unveiled on Christmas Day 1924. Its creation was the result of a movement started by the Jacksonville Rotary Club the day after the Armistice ending World War I was signed. A total of \$52,000 was raised to finance the memorial and the names of nearly 1200 Floridans who died in the first world conflict are sealed into the monument's cornerstone.

(Times-Union May 30, 1950)

RESEARCH SERVICES
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Item C.17

Pillars' sketch

FILLARS, Charles Adrian, Ringling School of Art, Sarasota, Fla.
 S.— Born Fantoul, Ill., July 4, 1870. Pupil of Taft,
 French and Potter; AIC. Work: Memorial group to Florida's
 dead in the World War, Jacksonville; Bryan Memorial, Battleship
 Florida; Memorial Flag Staff Standard, St. Augustine; statue of
 Gen. Kirby Smith and statue of Dr. John Gorrie, United States
 Capitol, Washington, D. C.; Statue, W. B. Barnett, Barnett
 National Bank, Jacksonville, Fla.

American Art Annual vol XXX 1933

FILLARS, Charles Adrian, sculptor; bio.— Fantoul, Ill, July 4, 1870:
 s. John Adrian and Ella Lee (Kore) P.; student University of
 Illinois; served as pupil and assistant of Lorado Taft 9 yrs.
 student life classes of Art Inst. Chicago; m. Ruth Elizabeth - 1915.
 Zaring, of Jacksonville, Fla.; Ella Antoinette. Engaged upon
 colossal sculpture, "The Republic" and equestrian group of
 Columbus Quadrigae, Chicago Expn., 18 mos., 1891-92, under
 Daniel French and E. C. Potter. Winner in open competition
 for \$10,000 each, heroic statue in Greek marble of Dr. John
 Gorrie and heroic bronze statue of Edmund Kirby Smith, C. S. A.
 for State of Fla., both in Hall of Fame, Washington, D. C.
 executed memorial flag-staff standard (bronze), St. Augustine, 1920;
 Bronze Group, "Citizens Memorial" for Jacksonville, 1924; heroic
 statue of W. B. Barnett, Jacksonville, 1929; Spivey Memorial,
 Ladeland Fla. Mason Instr. in sculpture Ringling Sch. of Art.
 Sarasota, Fla. Home; "Sylvan Shores," Sarasota, Fla.

Who's Who in America 1924-1935 vol 18

FILLARS, Charles Adrian. Sculptor.

Born in Fantoul, Ill., in 1870. Pupil and assistant of
 Lorado Taft for 9 years; student life classes, Art Institute of
 Chicago. Engaged upon colossal sculpture for 15 months, 1891-92
 under Daniel French and E. C. Potter — "The Republic,"
 60 feet in height, which stood in the Grand Basin, and the
 equestrian group of Columbus Quadrigae surmounting the arch
 of the Peristyle. Executed bronze doors for Leland Stanford Muse-
 um, Cal.; Bryan memorial, in bronze for battleship Florida;
 replica Renaissance Fountain in bronze and marble, for
 Dillon memorial, Jacksonville, Fla.; also numerous portrait
 bust and medallions. Settled in Jacksonville, 1894.
 Address, Herkimer Building, Jacksonville, Fla.

Fillars, Charles Adrian

*Died in Jacksonville, Fl.
 June 21, 1937. age 67
 Buried in Evergreen Cemetery*

Dictionary of American Painters,
 Sculptors and engravers
 1945

1987

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*St. Augustine Studio
 16 May Street*

Adrian Pillars Daughter

Ruth Zimmerman

5639 Floral Ave - Apt

Mrs. C. M. Durham

Northburg Drive Item C.18

*Pillars married Ruth Zaring,
 Jacksonville in 1915. Her mother was*



BURY RIVERSIDE AVE UTILITIES
RESTORE ENTRY PLAZAS

RIVERSIDE AVE.

REPLACE MODERN CONCRETE BOLLARDS
WITH VISUALLY UNOBTUSIVE
BOLLARD & CHAIN SYSTEM

MARGARET ST.

MEMORIAL PARK DR.

UPGRADE AND CONSOLIDATE SIGNAGE
(THROUGHOUT) - REDUCE VISUAL
CLUTTER, RESTORE KEY VIEWS,
REINFORCE PARK IDENTITY

RESTORE ORIGINAL DESIGNED
FLAGPOLE LOCATION

INCREASE LIGHT LEVELS IN
SELECTED AREAS
CREATE AND/OR PRESERVE OPEN SPACES
CONSISTENT WITH ORIGINAL DESIGN
• VISUAL CONTRAST
• HORTICULTURAL VARIETY
• VISITOR USE
• SECURITY

REPLACE ALL PERIMETER FENCING
REPAIR WALLS

RESTORE PERIMETER PLANTINGS ALONG
EAST AND WEST SIDES OF PARK

RENOVATED / EXPANDED BED WITH
PALM ACCENTS

RENOVATE ALL TURF AREAS

HORTICULTURAL INTENSIFICATION (TYP.)
- AT STRATEGIC LOCATIONS

ADDRESS PARK INFRASTRUCTURE
• BULKHEAD
• DRAINAGE
• IRRIGATION
• IRRIGATION
• SOIL REGENERATION
• TREE/WALKWAY CONFLICTS

RESTORE LANDSCAPE ACCENTS
FRAMING VIEW TO SCULPTURE PLAZA
(BEDS/PALMS/PLANTINGS)

RESTORE FOUNTAIN
• RESTORE/ REPLACE PLUMBING
• RESTORE BASIN / CAST STONE WORK
• REMOVE LIGHTS (PROVIDE TREE MOUNTED
LIGHTING)

NEW PARK OFFICE
• STAFF/DOCENTS
• VOLUNTEERS HQ
• INFORMATION
• SECURITY
• MAINTENANCE

CONSERVE AND MAINTAIN SCULPTURE

RELOCATED MEMORIAL GARDEN/
"HISTORY GARDEN"
& DONOR RECOGNITION

REPAIR / REPLACE BENCHES AS NEEDED

RENOVATE PARK LIGHTING
REMOVE ESPLANADE POLES/
RESTORE ORIGINAL LIGHTING
(BALUSTRADE MOUNTED)

RESTORE OR REPLACE ALL CAST STONE
WORK AS DEEMED NECESSARY
BASED ON DETAILED EVALUATION

ST. JOHNS RIVER



MEMORIAL PARK MASTER PLAN

MASTER SITE PLAN

