

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
THE CITY OF NEW YORK
ANNUAL REPORT—1908

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK
FOR THE YEAR
1908

MARTIN B. BROWN
PRESS



THE PARK BOARD :

HENRY SMITH, *President,*

Commissioner of Parks for the Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond.

JOSEPH I. BERRY,

Commissioner of Parks for the Borough of The Bronx.

MICHAEL J. KENNEDY,

Commissioner of Parks for the Boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens.

W. J. FRANSIOLI, *Secretary.*

THE CITY OF NEW YORK, DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, }
THE ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK, }
December 31, 1908.

Hon. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN, Mayor, The City of New York:

SIR—I have the honor to submit herewith, in compliance with the provisions of the Charter, report of the work of this Department during the year ending December 31, 1908.

Respectfully,

HENRY SMITH, President, Park Board.

The Park Board.

The value of the public lands entrusted to the care of the Department of Parks and the respective Commissioners composing the Park Board is estimated to be \$501,604,188. Of this sum, \$409,080,100 represents the value of the park territory in the Borough of Manhattan alone, the balance being divided among the other four Boroughs comprised in Greater New York, as follows:

Manhattan	\$409,080,100
Brooklyn	56,318,358
The Bronx.....	33,453,805
Queens	2,522,300
Richmond	229,625
Total.....	<u><u>\$501,604,188</u></u>

Central Park has the greatest aggregate value, being estimated at \$236,500,000. Next in point of value are Prospect Park, \$33,600,000, and City Hall Park, \$31,196,000.

This sum represents the actual value of the land and buildings, computed on the basis of the assessed valuations of adjoining private property, as determined by the Department of Taxes and Assessments of the City for purposes of taxation. It does not, however, truly represent the value of the parks to the City, as no cognizance is taken in its computation of the cost of the magnificent plantations, drives, etc., which, together, give to the parks a value which cannot be measured in monetary terms and which, in the benefits of increased health and happiness inuring therefrom to its citizens, is equally immeasurable.

This value is dependent, to a great degree, upon the care that is given the property. The responsibility for maintaining this standard of value rests directly upon the three Commissioners of Parks composing the Park Board, and indirectly upon the Mayor, Comptroller and other officials composing the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, which controls the City's finances and through which body all appropriations for the care, maintenance and improvement of parks must be obtained.

The accompanying table shows in detail the area of the parks and parkways under the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks, together with the estimated value of each:

TABLE
OF
AREAS OF PARKS AND PARKWAYS
WITH THEIR
ESTIMATED VALUATIONS.

BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN AND RICHMOND.

BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN.

Improved Parks.

	Total Area, in Acres.	Estimated Value on Basis of As- sessed Valuation of Adjacent Property.
Abingdon Square, Eighth avenue and Hudson street.....	0.202	\$110,000 00
Battery Park, foot of Broadway.....	21.199	16,527,500 00
Beach Street Park, Beach street and West Broadway.....	0.038	55,000 00
Bowling Green, Broadway and Whitehall street.....	0.517	1,925,000 00
Bryant Park, Sixth avenue and Forty-second street.....	4.775	22,550,000 00
Canal Street Park, Canal and West streets.....	0.318	88,000 00
Central Park, Fifth to Eighth avenue, Fifty-ninth to One Hundred and Tenth street.....	843.019	236,500,000 00
Christopher Street Park, Christopher and West Fourth street.....	0.139	44,000 00
City Hall Park, Broadway and Chambers street.....	8.239	31,196,000 00
Cooper Park, Third avenue and Seventh street.....	0.229	77,000 00
Corlear's Hook Park, Corlears and South streets.....	8.300	660,000 00
DeWitt Clinton Park, Fifty-second to Fifty-fourth street, North River	7.377	1,595,000 00
Duane Street Park, Duane and Hudson streets.....	0.108	110,000 00
East River Park, Eighty-fourth to Eighty-ninth street, East River...	12.546	1,826,000 00
Empire Park, Broadway and Sixty-third street.....	0.344	357,500 00
Grand Street Park, Grand street and East Broadway.....	0.630	82,500 00
Greeley Square, Sixth avenue and Thirty-second street.....	0.144	440,000 00
Hamilton Fish Park, Houston and Willett streets.....	3.673	1,430,000 00
Hancock Square, St. Nicholas avenue and One Hundred and Twenty- third street	0.072	38,500 00
Harlem Lane Park, Seventh avenue and One Hundred and Fifty- second street	1.270	181,500 00

	Total Area, in Acres.	Estimated Value on Basis of As- sessed Valuation of Adjacent Property.
Hudson Park, Hudson and Leroy streets.....	1.700	660,000 00
Jackson Square, Eighth avenue and Horatio street.....	0.227	110,000 00
Jeannette Park, Coenties slip and South street.....	0.728	412,500 00
Thomas Jefferson Park, One Hundred and Eleventh street, First avenue, One Hundred and Fourteenth street and Harlem River.	15.529	1,254,000 00
Lincoln Square, Broadway and Sixty-sixth street.....	0.069	121,000 00
Madison Square, Broadway and Twenty-third street.....	6.840	7,700,000 00
Manhattan Square, Central Park West, Seventy-seventh to Eighty- first street	17.582	11,275,000 00
Morningside Park, One Hundred and Tenth to One Hundred and Twenty-third street, between Columbus and Amsterdam avenues.	31.238	4,400,000 00
Mount Morris Park, Mount Morris to Madison avenue, One Hun- dred and Twentieth to One Hundred and Twenty-fourth street.	20.174	8,250,000 00
Roger Morris Park, Jumel terrace, Edgecombe road, One Hundred and Sixtieth and One Hundred and Sixty-second streets.....	1.546	143,000 00
Mulberry Bend Park, Mulberry and Bayard streets.....	2.750	1,237,500 00
Paradise Park, Mission place and Worth street.....	0.114	143,000 00
Park Avenue Parks—		
Park avenue, Thirty-fourth to Fortieth street..... }	8.118	{ 2,002,000 00
Park avenue, Fifty-sixth to Ninety-sixth street..... }		{ 4,840,000 00
Riverside Park, North River, Seventy-second to One Hundred and Twenty-ninth street	140.037	14,575,000 00
Rutger's Park, Rutgers slip and South street.....	0.478	66,000 00
Ryan Park, Second avenue and Forty-second street.....	0.180	27,500 00
St. Gabriel's Park, Thirty-fifth to Thirty-sixth street, First to Sec- ond avenue	2.947	660,000 00
St. Nicholas Park, One Hundred and Thirtieth to One Hundred and Forty-first street, St. Nicholas to Tenth avenue.....	26.604	1,441,000 00
St Nicholas Park addition at One Hundred and Forty-first street...	1.072	58,065 00
Schuyler Square, Broadway and One Hundred and Sixth street.....	0.072	38,500 00
William H. Seward Park, Canal and Jefferson streets.....	3.315	1,155,000 00
Sherman Square, Broadway and Seventieth street.....	0.001	1,925 00
Stuyvesant Square, Rutherford place and Sixteenth street.....	4.229	1,595,000 00
Tompkins Square, Avenue A and Seventh street.....	10.508	3,300,000 00
Union Square, Broadway and Fourteenth street.....	3.483	4,400,000 00
Washington Square, Fifth avenue and Waverly place.....	8.115	3,300,000 00

Unimproved Parks.

	Total Area, in Acres.	Estimated Value on Basis of As- sessed Valuation of Adjacent Property.
Chelsea Park, Twenty-seventh to Twenty-eighth street, Ninth to Tenth avenue	3.117	\$775,500 00
Colonial Park, One Hundred and Forty-fifth to One Hundred and Fifty-fifth street, Bradhurst avenue to Edgecombe avenue.....	12.790	1,001,000 00
Fort Washington Park, Fort Washington Point, Hudson River.....	40.810	1,023,000 00
High Bridge Park, One Hundred and Fifty-fifth street to Washington Bridge, west of Speedway.....	73.255	1,943,700 00
John Jay Park, Seventy-sixth to Seventy-eighth street, East River..	3.004	264,000 00
Park at Broadway and One Hundred and Thirty-eighth street.....	0.340	176,000 00
Park bounded by Seventeenth and Eighteenth streets, Avenue C and East River	1.037	132,000 00
Triangle at Broadway and Seventy-third street.....	0.095	137,500 00
Triangle at St. Nicholas avenue and One Hundred and Fiftieth street	0.024	275 00
Triangle at Manhattan avenue and One Hundred and Fourteenth street	0.018	22,000 00
Triangle at Seventh avenue and One Hundred and Seventeenth street	0.074	38,500 00
Triangle at Sixth avenue and Thirty-fifth street.....	0.042	192,500 00
Parks, centre of Broadway, Sixtieth to One Hundred and Twenty-second street	7.543	6,468,000 00
Parks, centre of Broadway, One Hundred and Thirty-seventh to One Hundred and Sixty-eighth street.....	3.621	1,232,000 00
South approach to Third Avenue Bridge.....	0.298	275,000 00

Unimproved Unnamed Parks.

	Total Area, in Acres.	Estimated Value on Basis of As- sessed Valuation of Adjacent Property.
Addition to Riverside Park, One Hundred and Twenty-second street to Claremont place, Riverside avenue to Claremont avenue.....	2.064	\$577,500 00
Extension of Riverside Park, New York Central and Hudson River Railroad to the bulkhead line of Hudson River, Seventy-second street to One Hundred and Twenty-ninth street.....	48.215	110,000 00
Extension of High Bridge Park, One Hundred and Fifty-fifth to One Hundred and Fifty-ninth street, east of Speedway.....	2.511	33,000 00

	Total Area, in Acres.	Estimated Value on Basis of As- sessed Valuation of Adjacent Property.
West of Harlem River driveway and north of Washington Bridge..	23.013	324,500 00
Corner of Worth and Baxter streets.....	0.187	99,000 00
Extension of Corlear's Hook Park, and extension southerly to the pierhead line	2.343	82,500 00
Park between One Hundred and Fifty-first and One Hundred and Fifty-second streets, east of Amsterdam avenue.....	0.142	158,400 00
Playgrounds, Fifty-ninth to Sixtieth street, west of Amsterdam avenue	0.519	64,900 00
Playgrounds, Nos. 180 to 184 Cherry street.....	0.392	22,000 00
Playgrounds, south side of One Hundred and First street, between Second and Third avenues.....	0.846	158,400 00

Park Plazas.

	Total Area, in Acres.	Estimated Value on Basis of As- sessed Valuation of Adjacent Property.
Circle at Fifth avenue and Fifty-ninth street.....	1.495	\$1,650,000 00
Circle at Eighth avenue and Fifty-ninth street.....	2.234	*.....
Circle at Fifth avenue and One Hundred and Tenth street.....	1.005	*.....
Circle at Eighth avenue and One Hundred and Tenth street.....	1.182	*.....

* Not acquired as parkways—originally public highways and later placed under the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks.

BOROUGH OF RICHMOND.

Improved Parks.

	Total Area, in Acres.	Estimated Value on Basis of As- sessed Valuation of Adjacent Property.
Washington Square, Bay, Water and Canal streets, Stapleton.....	1.46	\$110,000 00
Improved unnamed park, Broadway, Bennett street, Heberton ave- nue and Vreeland street, Port Richmond.....	1.28	27,500 00

Unimproved Parks.

	Total Area, in Acres.	Estimated Value on Basis of As- sessed Valuation of Adjacent Property.
Silver Lake Park, Richmond turnpike and Silver Lake, Brighton Heights, about	57.90	\$80,575 00
Park at Westerleigh, Maine and Willard avenues.....	2.92	11,550 00

BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN.

Parkways.

	Length in Feet.	Estimated Value on Basis of As- sessed Valuation of Adjacent Property.
Cathedral parkway, One Hundred and Tenth street, west of Seventh avenue	4,061	*
Eighty-sixth street, west of Central Park West.....	3,435	*
Fifth avenue, Fifty-ninth to One Hundred and Tenth street.....	13,661	*
Harlem River driveway.....	11,562	\$1,017,500 00
Morningside Avenue West.....	3,538	*
Ninety-sixth street, west of West End avenue.....	802	*
One Hundred and Tenth street, Fifth to Seventh avenue.....	2,045	*
One Hundred and Twenty-second street, west of Tenth avenue....	1,450	*
One Hundred and Twenty-third street, west of Morningside Park..	819	*
Riverside drive	17,000	*
Riverside drive extension, One Hundred and Thirty-fifth to One Hundred and Forty-fifth street.....	2,600	2,200,000 00
Seventy-second street, west of Central Park West.....	3,025	*
† West End avenue, north of Seventieth street.....	9,860	*
Mail street	335	*

* Not acquired as parkways—originally public highways and later placed under the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks.

† West End avenue was under the jurisdiction of the Highways Department for many years before being placed under the care of the Department of Parks.

BOROUGH OF THE BRONX.

Parks.

	Total Area, in Acres.	Estimated Value on Basis of As- sessed Valuation of Adjacent Property.
Bronx Park	719.12	\$8,611,900 00
Franz Sigel Park.....	17.47	423,500 00
Crotona Park.....	154.60	6,297,500 00
Claremont Park.....	38.00	742,500 00
Echo Park.....	4.00	142,670 00
Devoe Park.....	5.87	225,500 00
Macomb's Dam Park.....	27.00	447,700 00
McIrose Park.....	.83	38,500 00
Pelham Bay Park.....	1,756.00	5,775,000 00
Poe Park.....	2.33	135,300 00
Rose Hill Park.....	.42	44,000 00
St. James Park.....	11.83	366,850 00
St. Mary's Park.....	28.70	587,950 00
University Park.....	2.75	66,000 00
Van Cortlandt Park.....	1,132.35	5,775 000 00
Washington Bridge Park.....	8.45	79,200 00

Unnamed Parks.

	Total Area, in Acres.	Estimated Value on Basis of As- sessed Valuation of Adjacent Property.
One Hundred and Thirty-seventh street and Third avenue.....	.04	\$4,400 00
Bergen avenue, One Hundred and Forty-ninth street and Gerard avenue .....	.05	7,700 00
Austin place and One Hundred and Forty-ninth street.....	.04	1,100 00
Hall place, Roger place and One Hundred and Sixty-sixth street....	.38	27,500 00
Bay avenue, Graven street and Edgewater road.....	.04	4,400 00
Hunts Point road, Randall avenue and Whittier street.....	.12	605 00
Hunts Point road, Bacon street and Ryawa avenue.....	.02	440 00
Hunts Point road, Spofford avenue and Faile street.....	.07	2,200 00

	Total Area, in Acres.	Estimated Value on Basis of As- sessed Valuation of Adjacent Property.
Hunts Point road, Whittier street and Eastern boulevard.....	2.80	770 00
Washington avenue, One Hundred and Sixty-third street and Brook avenue .....	.06	11,000 00
Washington avenue and One Hundred and Sixty-first street.....	.28	71,500 00
Washington avenue, One Hundred and Sixty-first street and Brook avenue .....	.35	55,000 00
One Hundred and Forty-second street, Morris avenue and College avenue .....	.06	8,800 00
Third avenue, One Hundred and Eighty-eighth street and Washing- ton avenue.....	1.15	13,200 00
Aqueduct avenue and Boscobel avenue.....	.62	22,000 00
Aqueduct avenue and Featherbed lane.....	.53	29,700 00
Van Cortlandt avenue, Mosholu Parkway South and Grand boulevard	.67	27,500 00
Two Hundred and Forty-second street, Waldo avenue, Fieldstone road and Two Hundred and Forty-fourth street.....	4.31	16,500 00
Two Hundred and Forty-second street and Waldo avenue.....	.31	1,760 00
One Hundred and Sixty-ninth street and Boston avenue.....	.16	11,880 00
One Hundred and Sixty-ninth street and Franklin avenue.....	.15	9,900 00
One Hundred and Forty-third street and Morris avenue.....	.06	11,000 00
Fulton and Franklin avenues and One Hundred and Sixty-seventh street .....	.20	29,150 00
Boston road, Third avenue and One Hundred and Sixty-fourth street	.06	13,200 00
Fulton avenue, between One Hundred and Sixty-ninth and One Hun- dred and Seventieth streets.....	.95	44,000 00
Throggs Neck, Fort Schuyler road and Eastern boulevard.....	.45	1,980 00
Webster, Clay and Wendover avenues.....	.28	16,500 00
Jerome avenue, One Hundred and Seventieth street and Macombs Dam road.....	.50	33,000 00
Webster avenue, Parkside place, Two Hundred and Fifth to Two Hundred and Tenth street.....	.80	12,100 00
Aqueduct avenue, One Hundred and Eighty-first street and Old Aqueduct	1.00	58,300 00
Hunts Point road, Edgewater road and Farragut street.....	5.32	38,500 00
Bailey avenue, Sedgwick avenue and One Hundred and Eighty-ninth street .....	.09	5,500 00

Parkways.

	Length in Feet.	Estimated Value on Basis of As- sessed Valuation of Adjacent Property.
Crotona parkway.....	3,816	\$383,350 00
Spuyten Duyvil parkway.....	11,500	506,000 00
Mosholu parkway.....	6,033	775,500 00
Bronx and Pelham parkway.....	11,861	1,438,800 00

BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN AND QUEENS.

BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN.

	Total Area, in Acres.	Estimated Value on Basis of As- sessed Valuation of Adjacent Property.
Amersfort Park.....	3.50	\$47,768 00
Bedford Park.....	4.00	287,100 00
Bensonhurst Park.....	13.00	115,500 00
Bushwick Park.....	7.00	343,200 00
Brooklyn Heights Parks.....	1.00	123,420 00
Concourse and Seaside Park at Coney Island.....	70.00	513,700 00
Canarsie Beach Park.....	30.50	110,000 00
City Park.....	7.50	1,100 00
Cooper Park.....	6.00	121,000 00
Cooper Gore.....	0.13	6,600 00
Cuyler square.....	0.184	29,700 00
Carroll Park.....	2.00	137,500 00
City Hall Park.....	1.75	1,925,000 00
Dyker Beach Park.....	140.00	539,080 00
Fort Greene Park.....	29.00	3,408,350 00
Fort Hamilton Park.....	4.50	100,980 00
Fulton Park.....	2.00	137,500 00
Greenpoint Park.....	43.00	1,035,100 00
Highland Park and addition.....	60.00	341,000 00
Institute Park.....	69.00	3,850,000 00
Irving Square Park.....	3.00	113,300 00
Lincoln Terrace Park.....	7.50	165,000 00
Linton Park.....	2.25	89,100 00

	Total Area, in Acres.	Estimated Value on Basis of As- sessed Valuation of Adjacent Property.
McKinley Park.....	11.00	116,171 00
McLaughlin Park.....	3.50	165,000 00
New Lots Playground.....	2.25	77,000 00
Prospect Park.....	526.00	33,660,000 00
Parade Ground.....	40.00	935,000 00
Red Hook Park.....	5.25	198,000 00
Sunset Park and addition.....	24.50	509,300 00
Saratoga square.....	3.25	165,000 00
Stuyvesant square.....	0.082	5,500 00
Tompkins Park.....	8.00	456,500 00
Winthrop Park.....	9.00	434,500 00
Williamsburg Bridge Park.....	4.25	302,500 00
Woodpoint Park.....	0.050	1,100 00
Unnamed gore at Pitkin avenue.....	0.15	11,000 00
Underhill Park.....	0.2	11,000 00
Plot bounded by Eastern parkway, Washington avenue and Classon avenue	1.36	15,000 00
Playground at Seigel, McKibbin and White streets.....	2.00	55,000 00
Playground at Richard, Dwight, King and Pioneer streets.....	2.50	50,380 00
Playground at Irving avenue, between Woodbine and Putnam avenues	2.50	154,000 00

BOROUGH OF QUEENS.

	Total Area, in Acres.	Estimated Value on Basis of As- sessed Valuation of Adjacent Property.
Ashmead Park.....	0.25	\$3,080 00
College Point Park.....	1.00	11,550 00
Forest Park.....	536.00	1,741,300 00
Flushing Park.....	1.00	13,200 00
Kissena Park.....	65.00	149,600 00
Kings Park.....	11.50	359,700 00
Linden Park.....	3.00	11,000 00
Poppenhaussen Park.....	0.25	1,100 00
Rainey Park.....	4.00	195,800 00
Five small parks in Long Island City.....	0.30	8,800 00

BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN.

Parkways.

	Length in Feet.	Estimated Value on Basis of As- sessed Valuation of Adjacent Property.
Bay parkway.....	13,500	*
Bay Ridge parkway or Shore road.....	21,415	\$2,160,840 00
Bushwick avenue.....	2,200	*
Buffalo avenue.....	660	*
Eastern parkway.....	13,200	1,639,990 00
Eastern parkway extension.....	7,344	220,880 00
Fort Hamilton avenue.....	22,500	*
Glenmore avenue.....	12,200	*
Highland boulevard.....	3,562	19,800 00
Miller avenue.....	528	*
Ocean parkway.....	29,040	1,210,000 00
Ocean avenue.....	3,200	*
Penn avenue.....	13,200	*
Pitkin avenue.....	3,700	*
Rockaway avenue.....	16,500	*
Stone avenue.....	5,280	*
Total.....	168,029	

* Not acquired as parkways—originally public highways and later placed under the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks.

BOROUGH OF QUEENS.

	Length in Feet.	Estimated Value on Basis of As- sessed Valuation of Adjacent Property.
Forest parkway.....	1,320	\$27,500 00
Total.....	1,320	

RECAPITULATION.

	Total Area, in Acres.	Estimated Value on Basis of As- sessed Valuation of Adjacent Property.	
Parks.			
Borough of Manhattan.....	1,453.011	\$405,862,600 00	
Borough of Richmond.....	63.560	229,625 00	
Borough of The Bronx.....	3,931.640	30,350,155 00	
Borough of Brooklyn.....	1,152.656	51,051,848 00	
Borough of Queens.....	622.300	2,494,800 00	
Total.....	7,223.167	\$489,989,028 00	\$489,989,028 00
Parkways.			
	Length in Feet.		
Borough of Manhattan.....	74,193	\$3,217,500 00	
Borough of Richmond.....	.....	.....
Borough of The Bronx.....	33,210	3,103,650 00	
Borough of Brooklyn.....	168,029	5,251,510 00	
Borough of Queens.....	1,320	27,500 00	
Total.....	276,752	\$11,600,160 00	11,600,160 00
Grand total value of park lands.....			\$501,589,188 00

During the year just ended the policy of the Department has been one of reconstruction and restoration of the existing parks and the improvement of newly acquired park territory. Soil and plantations have been renewed, roadways, walks and fences rebuilt and every effort has been made to bring the parks and parkways up to the high standard of excellence which is befitting the Metropolis of the Western Hemisphere. Particular attention has been given to the condition of the roadways under control of the Department, and during the year contracts have been entered into for the repaving of existing roadways and walks aggregating over \$300,000 while large sums have been spent for material used by the Department labor force in the work of resurfacing and reconstructing the gravel roadways throughout the parks and parkways. The matter of roadway construction and maintenance has assumed enormous proportions during the year owing to the vast increased use of automobiles.

Great damage was done to the gravel roadways of the parks and parkways by the heavy automobiles now in general use. The suction created by the heavy rubber

tires destroys the surface of the road and the use of chains on the wheels causes an unravelling of the structure that is destructive in the extreme.

The ordinance adopted by the Park Board in 1907 prohibiting the use of chains on automobile tires having been declared invalid by the courts early in the present year the damage to the roadways from this source continued throughout the year.

On July 23, 1908, the following ordinance, designed to curb the growing carelessness of chauffeurs by which the air in the parks was being polluted with the odoriferous smoke from automobiles to the great inconvenience and discomfort of visitors was adopted by the Park Board and has resulted in keeping the air of the Parks comparatively free from the noxious fumes to the comfort and pleasure of the people:

"No person shall be permitted to run a motor vehicle in the parks or parkways of this City under the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks, which emits from the exhaust or muffler thereof offensive quantities of smoke or gas or disagreeable odors."

The following ordinance was adopted by the Park Board on May 7, 1908:

"No person or persons shall throw, cast or lay, or direct, suffer or permit any servant, agent, employee or persons in his or her charge to throw, cast or lay any ashes, offal, vegetables, garbage, dross, cinders, shells, straw, shavings, paper, dirt, filth or rubbish of any kind whatsoever in any park or parkway or on any lake, lawn, path, walk, road or drive thereof in the Boroughs of Manhattan, Brooklyn and The Bronx, except that in the morning, before 8 o'clock, or before the first sweeping of the roadway of any parkway by the Department of Street Cleaning in those Boroughs, dust from the sidewalk may be swept into the gutter, if there piled, but not otherwise, and at no other time."

Contracts Entered Into by the Park Board.

The contracts entered into by the Park Board during the year amounted to \$1,733,086.93, the largest single item being \$523,000 for the completion of the approach to the New York Public Library. Following is the complete list in detail:

Contracts Entered Into by

Date.	Contractor.
Jan. 4, 1908	Fred Loges, No. 17 West Second street, Coney Island.....
Jan. 13, 1908	Frank J. Lennon Company, No. 143 East Thirty-first street.....
Jan. 14, 1908	Strauss Bros., No. 619 Pacific street, Brooklyn, N. Y.....
Jan. 15, 1908	John M. Fox, No. 270 Herkimer street, Brooklyn, N. Y.....
Jan. 15, 1908	John H. Meyer, No. 18 Beekman place.....
Jan. 16, 1908	Aaron Buchsbaum Company, No. 165 Amsterdam avenue.....
Feb. 7, 1908	George J. Kuhn, No. 452 East One Hundred and Eighty-first street.....
Feb. 11, 1908	Olin J. Stephens, No. 220 East One Hundred and Thirty-eighth street.....
Feb. 11, 1908	Wm. Nungasser, Third street and Third avenue, Brooklyn.....
Feb. 24, 1908	Ruwe Bros., No. 765 Atlantic avenue, Brooklyn.....
Feb. 25, 1908	F. J. P. Tommins Company, No. 259 Bowery.....
Mar. 2, 1908	The Manhattan Supply Company, No. 127 Franklin street.....
Mar. 2, 1908	The Manhattan Supply Company, No. 127 Franklin street.....
Mar. 2, 1908	The Manhattan Supply Company, No. 127 Franklin street.....
Mar. 4, 1908	George N. Reinhardt, No. 943 Brook avenue, The Bronx.....
Mar. 7, 1908	Thomas C. Dunham, Inc., No. 68 Murray street.....
Mar. 11, 1908	Fiss, Doerr & Carroll Horse Company, No. 153 East Twenty-fourth street.....
Mar. 10, 1908	East River Mill and Lumber Company, No. 425 East Ninety-second street.....
Mar. 12, 1908	John Fleming, Nos. 109 and 111 Broad street.....
Mar. 13, 1908	F. Donovan & Son, No. 540 Union street, Brooklyn.....
Mar. 16, 1908	Arthur C. Jacobson & Sons, Nos. 81 to 87 Bridge street, Brooklyn.....
Mar. 16, 1908	W. H. Danby, No. 110 East One Hundred and Twenty-fifth street.....
Mar. 16, 1908	The Manhattan Supply Company, No. 127 Franklin street.....
Mar. 18, 1908	G. B. Raymond & Co., No. 484 East One Hundred and Thirty-eighth street.....
Mar. 18, 1908	Vulcan Rail and Construction Company, No. 175 North Ninth street, Brooklyn....
Mar. 19, 1908	United and Globe Rubber Manufacturing Companies, No. 26 Broadway.....
Mar. 16, 1908	Thomas C. Dunham, Inc., No. 68 Murray street.....
Mar. 23, 1908	J. F. Walsh & Bro., No. 351 Park avenue.....
Mar. 23, 1908	Harry Harper, No. 2698 Third avenue.....
Mar. 23, 1908	The Manhattan Supply Company, No. 127 Franklin street.....
Mar. 25, 1908	Coldwell Lawn Mower Company, Newburg, N. Y.....
Mar. 26, 1908	Benisch Bros., Jamaica avenue and Crescent street, Brooklyn.....

the Park Board During 1908.

Contract.	Amount.
3,000 cubic yards fine bank gravel on bridle path, Ocean parkway.....	\$2,100 00
Forage, Manhattan	16,705 70
Meat and fish, Brooklyn.....	1,171 65
Garden mould, parks and parkways, Brooklyn and Queens.....	6,052 00
Coal for parks, Manhattan.....	9,757 30
Beef, Central Park Menagerie.....	1,923 48
Coal, Botanical Garden, The Bronx.....	3,933 00
Coal, The Bronx.....	1,220 00
Coal, Brooklyn and Queens.....	14,633 90
Wheelwright supplies, Brooklyn and Queens.....	749 68
Oils, Brooklyn and Queens.....	2,005 00
Plumbing supplies, Brooklyn and Queens.....	2,325 42
Blacksmith supplies, Brooklyn and Queens.....	3,033 13
Tools and implements, Brooklyn and Queens.....	1,405 69
Forage, The Bronx.....	1,446 00
Paint, Brooklyn and Queens.....	2,117 22
Horses, Manhattan	4,200 00
Lumber, Manhattan	10,604 25
Road gravel, parks and parkways, Manhattan.....	41,300 00
Forage, Brooklyn and Queens.....	6,811 05
Lumber, Brooklyn and Queens.....	6,070 50
Three-rail post and pipe wire mesh fence, McLaughlin Park, Brooklyn.....	2,090 00
Hardware supplies, Brooklyn and Queens.....	1,804 57
Masons' supplies, Brooklyn.....	2,604 00
Three-rail pipe fence around grass plots in City Hall Park, Manhattan.....	4,224 00
Rubber goods for parks, Brooklyn and Queens.....	2,197 48
Painters' supplies, Manhattan and Richmond.....	2,610 43
Addition G, Library wing, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Manhattan.....	71,544 00
Paints and oils, The Bronx.....	689 94
Hardware, iron and tools, The Bronx.....	2,027 11
Repairs to lawn mowers, Brooklyn and Queens.....	1,200 00
Repairs and alterations to ornamental stone entrance to Prospect Park, Brooklyn....	2,430 00

Date.	Contractor.
Mar. 25, 1908	The Macey Company, No. 343 Broadway.....
Mar. 26, 1908	Wlady Konop, Nos. 316 and 318 East Ninety-eighth street.....
Mar. 26, 1908	LeBaron B. Johnson, No. 136 Liberty street.....
Mar. 30, 1908	John A. McCarthy, foot of Third street, East River.....
Mar. 30, 1908	Wm. H. Masterson, No. 1849 Anthony avenue.....
April 3, 1908	Jacob E. Conklin, No. 299 Broadway.....
April 3, 1908	Edward Theriault, No. 898 Quincy street, Brooklyn, N. Y.....
April 6, 1908	John F. O'Heir, No. 3052 Perry avenue, The Bronx.....
April 6, 1908	Frederic A. Morny, No. 79 East One Hundred and Thirtieth street.....
April 7, 1908	John P. Kane Company, No. 287 Fourth avenue.....
April 7, 1908	John P. Kane Company, No. 287 Fourth avenue.....
April 8, 1908	Church E. Gates & Co., No. 227 Mott avenue.....
April 8, 1908	Church E. Gates & Co., No. 227 Mott avenue.....
April 9, 1908	Atlanta Contracting Company, No. 434 East Ninety-first street.....
April 13, 1908	M. Reid & Co., No. 114 West Thirty-ninth street.....
April 20, 1908	Stumpp & Walter Company, No. 50 Barclay street.....
April 20, 1908	Stumpp & Walter Company, No. 50 Barclay street.....
April 22, 1908	Frank Falk, No. 543 West One Hundred and Twenty-ninth street.....
April 23, 1908	Clinton Point Stone Company, No. 115 Broadway.....
April 23, 1908	Clinton Point Stone Company, No. 115 Broadway.....
April 23, 1908	J. K. Larkin, No. 34 Reade street.....
April 24, 1908	Coldwell Lawn Mower Company, Newburgh, N. Y.....
April 24, 1908	P. J. Langler, No. 91 Grand avenue, Brooklyn.....
April 25, 1908	Bart Dunn, No. 444 East Sixty-eighth street.....
May 2, 1908	Joseph K. Larkin, No. 34 Reade street.....
May 9, 1908	M. F. Hickey, Second avenue and Sixth street, Brooklyn.....
May 8, 1908	The Manhattan Supply Company, No. 127 Franklin street.....
May 9, 1908	Murtha & Schmohl Company, foot East One Hundred and Ninth street.....
May 14, 1908	Fiss, Doerr & Carroll Horse Company, No. 153 East Twenty-fourth street.....
May 15, 1908	J. Edward Ogden Company, No. 149 Cedar street.....
May 23, 1908	Harlem Contracting Company, No. 2 Rector street.....
May 27, 1908	Schoverling, Daly & Gales, No. 302 Broadway.....
June 1, 1908	Rudolph Rosenberg, No. 95 Wilbur avenue, Long Island City.....
June 5, 1908	Uvalde Asphalt Paving Company, No. 1 Broadway.....
June 12, 1908	Gulf Refining Company, No. 815 Battery Park Building.....

Contract.	Amount.
Cases for exhibits in Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, Brooklyn.....	7,245 00
Iron gates and fences on playgrounds, various parks, Manhattan.....	2,733 00
Repairs, etc., Soldiers and Sailors' Memorial Arch, Prospect Park plaza, Brooklyn...	2,961 00
Masons' supplies, Manhattan and Richmond.....	1,444 70
Water pipe and appurtenances, Harlem River driveway, between One Hundred and Fifty-fifth street and One Hundred and Seventy-seventh street, Manhattan.....	19,777 50
Broken stone and trap rock screenings, The Bronx.....	3,375 00
Repairs and alterations to, and painting, fences around parks and parkways, Brooklyn and Queens	6,430 00
Constructing retaining wall on Spuyten Duyvil parkway, The Bronx.....	1,462 00
Waste receptacles, The Bronx.....	450 00
Cement, The Bronx.....	162 00
Cement, The Bronx.....	324 00
Timber, The Bronx.....	937 28
Timber, The Bronx.....	2,449 48
Regulating, grading, etc., site of old engine house, City Hall Park, Manhattan.....	3,833 00
Modification of contract, dated October 3, 1907, for erecting Addition F, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Central Park. Deduction of.....	11,900 00
Grass seed, Prospect Park, Brooklyn, N. Y.....	1,220 00
Grass sod, parks and parkways, Brooklyn.....	4,185 00
Mould for parks in Manhattan.....	11,700 00
Limestone and limestone screenings, Brooklyn.....	8,652 30
Trap rock and screenings, Brooklyn.....	18,967 50
Machinists' and Blacksmiths' supplies, Manhattan.....	2,174 76
Lawn mowers, The Bronx.....	1,790 00
Wheelwrights' supplies, Manhattan.....	979 70
Grass sod, Manhattan.....	6,325 00
Tools and hardware, for Manhattan.....	2,188 74
Hudson River road gravel for parks and parkways, Brooklyn.....	17,284 30
Plumbers' supplies, Manhattan.....	523 89
White beach sand, Manhattan.....	1,338 00
Three driving horses, for The Bronx.....	960 00
Rope, Manhattan	486 91
Asphalt paving blocks, Riverside drive, Manhattan.....	7,833 00
Playground supplies, flags, etc., Manhattan.....	540 16
Painting Menagerie buildings, Central Park, Manhattan.....	1,023 00
Repairing asphalt roadway pavements, Manhattan.....	11,370 00
Crude oil, Manhattan.....	2,125 00

Date.	Contractor.
June 18, 1908	Charles Cochar, No. 571 Fifty-seventh street, Brooklyn, N. Y.....
June 22, 1908	Olin J. Stephens, No. 220 East One Hundred and Thirty-eighth street.....
June 19, 1908	The Barber Asphalt Paving Company, No. 30 Church street.....
June 30, 1908	Bart Dunn, No. 253 East Sixty-eighth street.....
July 13, 1908	Barrett Manufacturing Company, No. 17 Battery place.....
July 16, 1908	The Sicilian Asphalt Paving Company, No. 41 Park row.....
July 28, 1908	Schoverling, Daly & Gales, No. 302 Broadway.....
July 28, 1908	George J. Kuhn, One Hundred and Seventy-second street and Webster avenue....
July 30, 1908	Frank J. Lennon Company, No. 143 East Thirty-first street.....
July 31, 1908	Aaron Buchsbaum Company, No. 165 Amsterdam avenue.....
July 30, 1908	Standard Oil Company, of New York.....
Aug. 1, 1908	Clinton Point Stone Company, No. 115 Broadway.....
Aug. 4, 1908	The Kelly-Springfield Road Roller Company, Springfield, Ohio.....
Aug. 13, 1908	Wm. H. Luth Company, No. 640 Sterling place, Brooklyn, N. Y.....
Aug. 13, 1908	Wm. H. Luth Company, No. 640 Sterling place, Brooklyn, N. Y.....
Aug. 13, 1908	The Hastings Pavement Company, No. 25 Broad street.....
Aug. 13, 1908	The Hastings Pavement Company, No. 25 Broad street.....
Aug. 13, 1908	Harlem Contracting Company, No. 2 Rector street.....
Aug. 14, 1908	Manhattan Trap Rock Company, No. 30 Church street.....
Aug. 12, 1908	The Standard Scale and Supply Company, No. 136 West Broadway.....
Aug. 12, 1908	The Republic Rubber Company, No. 47 Warren street.....
Aug. 13, 1908	Mailloux & Knox, No. 76 William street.....
Aug. 17, 1908	Brooklyn Alcatraz Asphalt Company, No. 407 Hamilton avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y...
Aug. 18, 1908	Thomas M. Hart, No. 160 Fifth avenue.....
Aug. 25, 1908	John H. Meyer, No. 452 East One Hundred and Seventh street.....
Aug. 24, 1908	John B. Malatesta, No. 3169 Jerome avenue.....
Aug. 25, 1908	Joseph J. Fogarty, No. 66 Prospect place.....
Aug. 31, 1908	John B. Malatesta, No. 3169 Jerome avenue.....
Aug. 31, 1908	The J. L. Mott Iron Works, No. 120 Fifth avenue.....
Sept. 1, 1908	Guidone & Galardi Company, No. 162 East Twenty-third street.....
Sept. 2, 1908	Norton & Gorman Contracting Company, No. 303 Douglass street, Brooklyn.....
Sept. 2, 1908	Norton & Gorman Contracting Company, No. 303 Douglass street, Brooklyn.....
Sept. 2, 1908	Geo. N. Reinhardt, No. 943 Brook avenue.....
Sept. 8, 1908	McHarg-Barton Company, No. 165 Broadway.....

Contract.	Amount.
Erecting milk booth, Tompkins square, Manhattan.....	4,470 00
Coal for parks in The Bronx (Botanical Garden).....	2,962 50
Repairs, asphalt roadways, Glenmore avenue and Eastern Parkway Extension; also walk in Prospect Park, Brooklyn.....	12,081 00
Raising grade of loop in Riverside drive at One Hundred and Twenty-seventh street, etc., Manhattan	9,275 00
Refined coal tar for parks, The Bronx.....	450 00
Reconstructing roadway, Eastern boulevard, in Pelham Bay Park, etc., The Bronx...	34,000 00
Playground supplies, Brooklyn.....	801 08
White ash coal, The Bronx.....	2,895 00
Forage, Manhattan	11,299 10
Beef for Menagerie, Manhattan.....	2,218 32
Crude oil for roads, Manhattan.....	1,968 75
Blue limestone screenings, Harlem River driveway.....	825 00
Steam road roller, The Bronx.....	1,975 00
Erecting shelter house, Fulton Park, Brooklyn.....	11,000 00
Erecting shelter and tennis house, Prospect Park, Brooklyn, N. Y.....	58,550 00
Paving with asphalt tiles walks in Prospect Park, Brooklyn, N. Y.....	83,325 00
Paving, etc., the roadway of Prospect Park plaza, etc., Brooklyn.....	30,307 43
Asphalt paving blocks for Riverside drive, Manhattan.....	5,152 00
Broken trap rock and screenings, The Bronx.....	13,380 00
Two mounted tree spraying outfits for parks in The Bronx.....	690 00
Water hose for parks in Manhattan.....	1,900 00
Electrical architects for Metropolitan Museum of Art, Manhattan.....	2,000 00
Paving with asphalt, etc., traffic road of Ocean parkway, between Park circle and Eighteenth avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y.....	63,134 20
Erecting concrete wall, etc., surmounted by wire fence, on easterly extension, Bronx Park.....	13,995 00
Coal for parks in Manhattan.....	7,126 14
Erecting rustic masonry boundary wall around Sunset Park, Brooklyn.....	27,943 00
Furnishing crude oil mixture for parks in The Bronx.....	1,175 00
Granolithic and brick sidewalks, etc., of concourse and approach to Baird court, New York Zoological Garden, Bronx Park.....	13,699 00
Furnishing model, mold, etc., and casting bronze drinking fountain, The Bronx.....	1,998 00
Erecting comfort station in the Ramble, Central Park.....	22,756 00
Top soil for Prospect Park, Brooklyn.....	2,040 00
Top soil for Sunset Park, Brooklyn.....	6,800 00
Oats and hay, The Bronx.....	1,764 00
Erecting boundary and partition fences for Elephant House Yards, New York Zoological Park, The Bronx.....	13,700 00

Date.	Contractor.
Sept. 9, 1908	John Spence, Jr., No. 11 West Twenty-eighth street.....
Sept. 9, 1908	Barrett Manufacturing Company, No. 17 Battery place.....
Sept. 14, 1908	John V. Schaefer, Jr., & Co., No. 11 East Fifty-ninth street.....
Sept. 25, 1908	Edward Theriault, No. 244 Clarkson street, Brooklyn, N. Y.....
Sept. 25, 1908	Edward Theriault.....
Sept. 23, 1908	McHarg-Barton Company, No. 165 Broadway.....
Sept. 24, 1908	Jeremiah F. O'Connor, No. 13 Park row, Room 2419.....
Oct. 1, 1908	Thomas Carlin, West New Brighton, S. I.....
Oct. 10, 1908	The Hastings Pavement Company, No. 25 Broad street.....
Oct. 13, 1908	The Sicilian Asphalt Paving Company, No. 41 Park row.....
Oct. 13, 1908	George F. Driscoll, No. 550 Union street.....
Oct. 9, 1908	John Fleming, No. 109 Broad street.....
Oct. 14, 1908	Wm. Messer Company, No. 159 Suffolk street.....
Oct. 20, 1908	Reis & O'Donovan, Inc., No. 1123 Broadway.....
Oct. 21, 1908	The Manhattan Supply Company, No. 127 Franklin street.....
Oct. 24, 1908	Jacob E. Conklin, No. 299 Broadway.....
Oct. 26, 1908	Frederick A. Morny, No. 79 East One Hundred and Thirtieth street.....
Oct. 30, 1908	Hanover Contracting Company, No. 215 West One Hundred and Twenty-fifth street.....
Sept. 26, 1908	Church E. Gates & Co, No. 227 Mott avenue, The Bronx.....
Nov. 2, 1908	The Manhattan Supply Company, No. 127 Franklin street.....
Nov. 5, 1908	The Norcross Brothers Company, No. 160 Fifth avenue.....
Nov. 10, 1908	G. M. Roden, Spuyten Duyvil.....
Nov. 13, 1908	The Hastings Pavement Company, No. 25 Broad street.....
Nov. 17, 1908	N. J. Foundry and Machine Company, No. 90 West street.....
Nov. 17, 1908	N. J. Foundry and Machine Company, No. 90 West street.....
Nov. 17, 1908	W. J. Fitzgerald, No. 547 West Forty-fifth street.....
Nov. 18, 1908	Standard Oil Company of New York, No. 26 Broadway.....
Nov. 19, 1908	The Texas Company, No. 17 Battery place.....
Nov. 19, 1908	John Fox & Co., No. 253 Broadway.....
Nov. 18, 1908	John B. Malatesta, No. 3169 Jerome avenue.....

Contract.	Amount.
Installing new steam supply, etc., in Menagerie buildings in Central Park.....	3,385 00
Refined coal tar for parks in The Bronx.....	475 00
Erecting Administration Building in New York Zoological Park in Bronx Park, The Bronx.....	73,328 00
Painting iron fences around Stuyvesant and other parks, Manhattan.....	3,830 00
Repairing iron fences around Stuyvesant and other parks, Manhattan.....	2,600 00
Laying water mains in the Ramble, in vicinity of Fifth avenue, between Sixty-sixth and Sixty-ninth streets, Central Park Manhattan.....	26,271 00
Underpinning masonry retaining wall at Highland boulevard and New Jersey avenue, Brooklyn.....	3,580 76
Constructing cement curb and sidewalks around park at Westerleigh, Richmond.....	1,666 00
Laying hexagon asphalt block walks in Pelham Bay and Van Cortlandt parks, The Bronx.....	29,371 50
Rock asphalt walks in Central and other parks, Manhattan.....	14,175 00
Erecting shelter house in New Lots Park, Brooklyn.....	6,890 00
Furnishing gravel for parks and parkways, Manhattan.....	14,455 00
Installation of plumbing and laying tile floor in new toilet room in basement of Metropolitan Museum of Art.....	2,348 00
Changes in electric circuit work, fire alarm and watchman's detector system, etc., etc., Metropolitan Museum of Art.....	32,460 00
Twisted iron chain, Manhattan.....	112 84
Broken stone of trap rock and screenings for parks in The Bronx (Botanical Garden).	2,700 00
Expended metal tree guards for The Bronx.....	745 00
Laying water mains in Central Park, between Eighty-first and One Hundredth streets, Manhattan.....	30,513 50
Timber for parks in The Bronx.....	2,712 68
Horse blankets and horse covers, Manhattan.....	913 92
Approach work, exterior to New York Public Library.....	523,000 00
Portland cement, The Bronx.....	140 00
Paving with asphalt tiles ends of parks in Broadway, between Sixtieth and Eightieth streets, Manhattan.....	3,575 00
Furnishing 1,000 linear feet 3-pipe iron fence, The Bronx.....	495 00
Erecting iron fences around portions of St. Mary's Park, The Bronx.....	2,790 00
Furnishing bluestone curbstones on Broadway, between Sixty-fifth and Eightieth streets, Manhattan.....	3,710 10
Furnishing crude petroleum oil for parks in The Bronx.....	375 00
Furnishing Texas road oil for parks in The Bronx.....	1,425 00
Cast-iron water pipe and street washers for parks in The Bronx.....	1,525 00
Laying water pipe in Bronx, Claremont, Crotona, St. Mary's and Van Cortlandt Parks, The Bronx.....	17,009 00

Date.	Contractor.
Oct. 22, 1908	S. Frank Milleti, No. 19 Zerega avenue, The Bronx.....
Oct. 30, 1908	John A. McCarthy, foot of Rivington street, East River.....
Nov. 24, 1908	Reedy Elevator Company, No. 202 Ninth avenue.....
Dec. 3, 1908	William Young, No. 448 West Thirty-sixth street.....
Dec. 3, 1908	Stumpp & Walter Company, No. 50 Barclay street.....
Dec. 3, 1908	Stumpp & Walter Company, No. 50 Barclay street.....
Dec. 3, 1908	Stumpp & Walter Company, No. 50 Barclay street.....
Dec. 4, 1908	Robert Carter & Co., No. 551 Prospect place, Brooklyn.....
Dec. 16, 1908	Stumpp & Walter Company, No. 50 Barclay street.....
Dec. 16, 1908	Philip Bologh & Co., No. 2572 Park avenue.....
Dec. 17, 1908	The Hastings Pavement Company, No. 25 Broad street.....
Dec. 17, 1908	The Hastings Pavement Company, No. 25 Broad street.....
Dec. 21, 1908	Robert L. Christie, No. 21 Park row.....
Dec. 21, 1908	New Jersey Foundry and Machine Company, No. 90 West street.....
Dec. 23, 1908	Bart Dunn, No. 247 East Seventy-first street.....
Nov. 16, 1908	John E. Monahan Contracting Company, No. 496 Manhattan avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y.....
Dec. 22, 1908	Norton & Gorman Contracting Company, No. 733 Douglass street, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Dec. 24, 1908	Charles L. Doran Contracting Company, No. 1015 Walton avenue.....
Dec. 29, 1908	Strauss Brothers, No. 619 Pacific street, Brooklyn, N. Y.....

Contract.	Amount.
Painting iron railing along Harlem River driveway, from One Hundred and Fifty-fifth street to Dyckman street, Manhattan.....	2,560 00
Portland cement and Cow Bay sand for parks, Manhattan.....	1,025 00
Electric passenger elevator in Addition E, to Metropolitan Museum of Art, Central Park	5,500 00
Top soil for Kings Park, Jamaica, Queens.....	1,460 00
Deciduous plants and shrubs, Prospect Park, Brooklyn.....	2,775 00
Collected evergreen shrubs, Prospect Park, Brooklyn.....	5,475 00
Hybrid rhododendrons, etc., Prospect Park, Brooklyn.....	2,675 00
Hudson River road gravel for Ocean parkway, Brooklyn.....	8,070 00
Fertilizers, peat, etc., for parks in Brooklyn.....	4,000 00
Slag roofing, etc., stables and shops, Central Park, and tile roofing, comfort station, Morningside Park.....	6,502 00
Paving with asphalt tiles the ends of parks in Broadway, between Eightieth and Ninety-fifth streets, Manhattan.....	2,565 00
Paving with asphalt tiles the ends of parks in Broadway, between Ninety-fifth and One Hundred and Tenth streets, Manhattan.....	2,700 00
20,000 gallons crude oil mixture, having asphaltic base, for parks in The Bronx.....	1,800 00
Erecting iron railing around grass plot in Broadway, between Sixtieth and Sixty-first streets, Manhattan.....	1,998 00
Furnishing new straight 5-inch bluestone curbstones along Broadway, between Sixty-fifth and Eightieth streets, Manhattan.....	1,890 00
Grading Greenpoint Park, Brooklyn, N. Y.....	9,625 00
Stable manure for parks in Brooklyn, N. Y.....	3,800 00
Excavating, etc., and depositing good garden mould in parks on Broadway, between Seventy-third and Eighty-sixth streets, Manhattan.....	4,893 75
Fresh beef and fish for Menagerie in Prospect Park, Brooklyn.....	1,302 14
	<hr/>
	\$1,733,086 93

The expenditure for General Administration of the Park Board during the year was as follows:

<i>Salaries of Commissioners, Secretary and Employees.</i>	
Appropriation	\$29,650 00
Expenditures	27,829 41
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Balance transferred to General Fund for the redemption of the City debt	\$1,820 59
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The total Budget appropriation and Revenue Bond issues were as follows:

Park Board	\$29,650 00
Manhattan and Richmond appropriation.....	\$1,349,690 00
Manhattan and Richmond Revenue Bonds.....	150,000 00
	<hr/>
	1,499,690 00
The Bronx appropriation.....	672,477 00
Brooklyn and Queens appropriation.....	1,026,435 00
	<hr/>
Total.....	\$3,228,252 00
	<hr/>

The details of the work of improvement and maintenance are contained in the individual reports of the respective Commissioners for each Borough, which follow:

**BOROUGHS OF MANHATTAN AND
RICHMOND.**

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS,
MANHATTAN AND RICHMOND, }
THE ARSENAL, CENTRAL PARK, }
NEW YORK, December 31, 1908. }

Hon. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN, Mayor, The City of
New York:

SIR—In compliance with the provisions of the Charter, I send you herewith a report of the work undertaken and accomplished in this Department for the year ending December 31, 1908.

Respectfully,

HENRY SMITH, Commissioner.

Revenues.

Prior to 1908, with the exception of a few months during 1907, practically no systematic records were kept of the Department revenues, and the methods of keeping account of the indebtedness of the various persons under agreement with the Department were crude and unreliable. Money deposited as security to be held by the Department, subject to refund, was received by an official and held by him personally until refunded. Both details are now properly systematized and made part of the general bookkeeping system of the Department.

Deposits are now made daily of all moneys received. The moneys received from revenues is promptly remitted to the City Chamberlain each month, and refunds of security deposits are promptly made by the Commissioner upon due certification of the responsible official having charge of the work covered by the permit that the conditions imposed by the Department have been complied with.

The total revenue derived from all sources during the year 1908 amounted to \$58,324.66. Of this amount \$46,982.38 represents actual income, the balance, \$11,342.28, being money deposited as security for the proper restoration of roadways, walks, grass plots, etc., in connection with the work of erection of buildings on streets under the jurisdiction of the Department, permits for which have been issued by the Department.

Of the amount of revenue accruing, \$43,341.87 was paid in cash. Rents and license fees to the amount of \$1,227.35 were charged against outstanding allowances for repairs, etc., to buildings, in pursuance of agreements made by former Commissioners. During the past year no new allowances of any character were made and the licensees were required in every case to make all repairs necessary, subject to the approval of the Department. There is \$100 uncollected on one account. There was received \$150 paid in advance for license fee, 1909, making the total amount turned over to the City Chamberlain, in cash, \$43,491.87.

In some instances where under the former lack of system an indebtedness was allowed to accrue, after repeated ineffectual attempts at collection had been made, the matter was referred to the Corporation Counsel and upon his advice the indebtedness was cancelled; it appearing that there was no chance of recovering the amount upon a judgment, as the debtor had no property upon which to levy. The amount so cancelled was \$1,160.33. Overcharges to the amount of \$1,152.83 due to the same lack of proper accounting system were cancelled.

The policy of awarding all privileges of any consequence, for the sale of refreshments, etc., in the parks, to the highest bidder was strictly adhered to, due notice of the date set for receiving bids having been inserted in the official publication.

A comparison of the amounts received for various privileges let under this system during 1908, with the amounts received for the same privileges under the last previous

agreement made without public letting, shows the practical benefit to the City of the new system:

Privilege.	Compensation.	
	1908.	Under Last Private Agreement.
Refreshment stand, City Hall (under bridge approach)....	\$8,400 00	\$5,000 00
Sale of refreshments at the Terrace, Central Park.....	2,500 00	364 38
Letting of skates and chairs on the lakes, Central Park, during the winter season	155 00	122 67
Sale of refreshments at the Pavilion, Battery Park.....	912 00	425 00
To maintain a floating bath moored to the sea wall at Battery Park	1,200 00	1,200 00
Flower stand, Greeley square.....	1,260 00	900 00
Total	\$14,427 00	\$8,012 05

Increase under system of public letting, \$6,414.95.

Security Deposits.

Receipts for security deposits upon permits amounted to \$9,682.32 for the year. In addition to this amount, \$1,660 was turned over by the official who formerly had this item in charge, this sum representing the balance on hand January 1, 1908, of deposits prior to that date, making the total receipts \$11,342.32. \$99.65 received as interest on the daily balances in the bank was turned over to the City Chamberlain for deposit in the City Treasury. There was refunded to depositors the sum of \$5,003, leaving a balance on hand, December 31, 1908, of \$6,339.32.

STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND SECURITY DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS.

Revenue.

Dr.	
To arrears of licenses and rents, January 1, 1908.....	\$2,746 80
Licenses and Rentals.....	\$35,617 36
Permits for building projections.....	5,226 18
Vault permits	1,797 00
Auction sales of surplus animals.....	825 30
Auction sales of old iron, etc.....	670 05
Interest on Security Deposit Account.....	99 69
	44,235 58
	<u>\$46,982 38</u>

Cr.

By Cash Deposited in City Treasury—

General Fund for Redemption of the City		
Debt	\$42,666 57	
Zoological Garden Fund for Purchase of		
New Animals	825 30	
	<hr/>	\$43,491 87
Balance January 1, 1908, outstanding allowances on account		
of agreements previously made for repairs, etc.....		3,349 31
Cancellations of arrears, uncollectible (by advice		
of Corporation Counsel).....	\$1,160 33	
Overcharges	1,152 83	
	<hr/>	2,313 16
Licenses and rentals due and uncollected, December 31, 1908.		100 00
	<hr/>	<hr/> \$49,254 34

	Dr.	Cr.
Totals.....	\$46,982 38	\$49,254 34
Balance December 31, 1908—		
Allowances due.....	\$2,121 96	
Prepayment, 1909 license.....	150 00	
	<hr/>	2,271 96
	<hr/>	<hr/> \$49,254 34
	<hr/>	<hr/> \$49,254 34

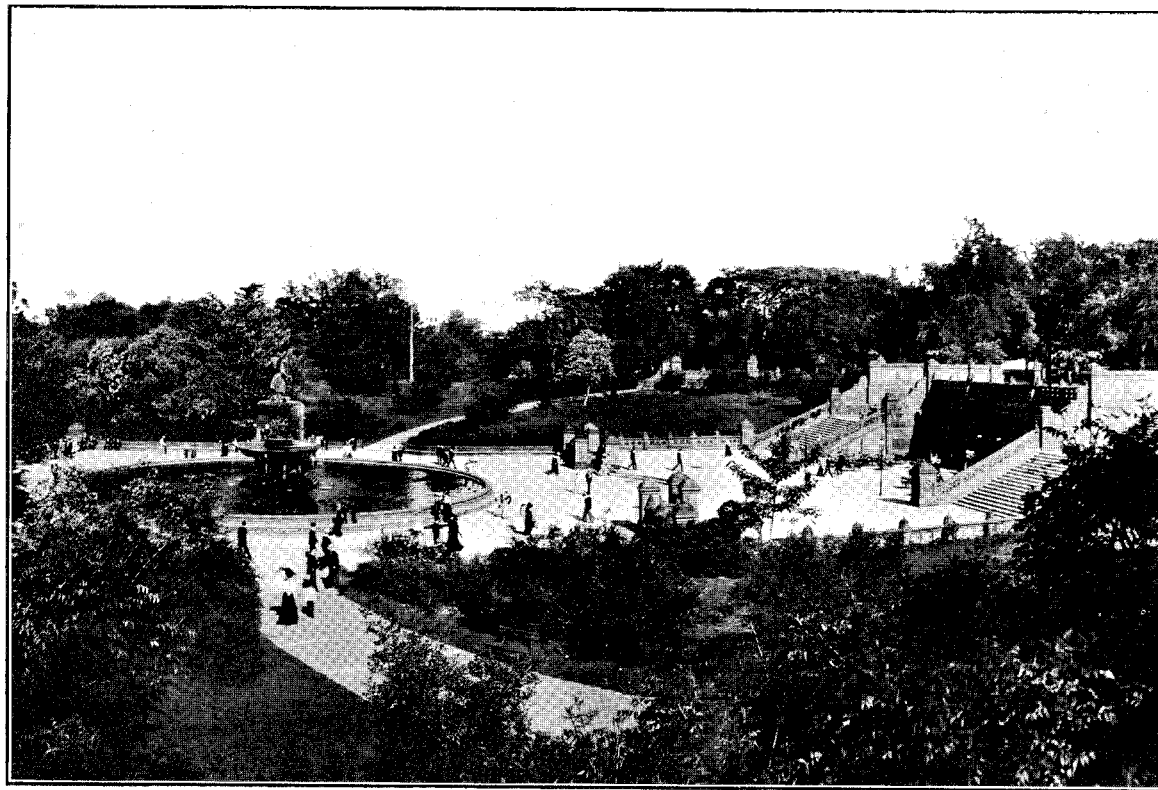
Security Deposits, 1908.

Receipts—

Balance of old deposits to January 1, 1908.....	\$1,660 00
Receipts, 1908	9,682 32
	<hr/>
Total.....	\$11,342 32

Disbursements—

Refunds to depositors.....	5,003 00
	<hr/>
Balance on hand, January 1, 1908.....	\$6,339 32
	<hr/>



CENTRAL PARK—"THE TERRACE."

Appropriation and Revenue Bond Issues and Expenditures for Maintenance of Parks, etc., 1908.

The Budget appropriation and Revenue Bond issues for the year for the maintenance of parks and the various institutions within the parks, amounted to \$1,499,690. The amounts for the various divisions of the Department are shown in the following statement:

	Appropriations.	Expenditures.	Unexpended Balance.
Administration	\$57,410 00	\$56,609 03	\$800 97
Maintenance of Parks and Boulevards	730,700 00	727,409 55	3,290 45
Zoological Department	32,080 00	32,001 07	78 93
Playgrounds, Baths and Comfort Stations	73,000 00	72,022 77	977 23
Music	30,000 00	29,894 00	106 00
Care of Trees on City Streets.....	45,000 00	39,375 09	5,624 91
Children's School Farm, DeWitt Clinton Park.....	5,000 00	4,963 66	36 34
Jumel Mansion and Grounds	6,500 00	6,066 51	433 49
Maintenance of Institutions—			
Metropolitan Museum of Art.....	160,000 00	160,000 00	.....
American Museum of Natural History.....	160,000 00	160,000 00	.....
Aquarium	45,000 00	45,000 00	.....
Care of Grant's Tomb.....	5,000 00	5,000 00	.....
Total Budget appropriation.....	\$1,349,690 00	\$1,338,341 68	\$11,348 32
Revenue Bonds—			
Revenue Bond Fund for Deficiency in Maintenance Appropriations	100,000 00	100,000 00	.....
Revenue Bond Fund for Care and Improvement of Broadway Parks, between Fifty-ninth and Manhattan Streets	50,000 00	49,205 30	794 70
Total amount, Budget appropriations and Revenue Bond issues	\$1,499,690 00	\$1,487,546 98	\$12,143 02

Owing to the change in the method of segregating the various expenditures authorized for each Department in the Budget for 1908, a true comparison of the figures for the year with those for previous years is impracticable.

It is proper to call attention at this point to the fact that although the above figures when compared with those of 1907 show an apparent large increase, it must be noted that heretofore it has been the practice of the Department to partially offset any deficit in the maintenance fund provided by the annual Budget (or tax levy) by

charging against Corporate Stock Funds (provided for permanent improvements and betterments) items of labor, material, etc., which should have been properly charged against the annual maintenance fund. The result of this practice was to increase the bonded debt of the City without adding to the permanent valuation of the City's property, and to show figures for the annual maintenance of the parks below its actual cost.

During the year changes were instituted in the methods of making up these charges, particular attention being given to items for departmental labor, and the figures for 1908 represent, in consequence, an accurate basis of actual maintenance cost.

For years it has been impossible to arrive at an approximate estimate of the cost of maintenance of any of the parks, as no accounts of this nature were kept by the Department. Beginning January 1, 1908, a system of records was installed to provide this information and the results were published February 10, 1909, in pamphlet form, copy of which is included in this report.

The improvements recited in the accounting methods of the Department in the matter of revenue and security deposits; of recording and checking its time returns for the working force, and of ascertaining the annual maintenance cost of each park, square or place within the jurisdiction of the Department, were accomplished entirely within the Department, and were the direct result of the efforts and ideas of the Department officials and employees alone. The results obtained are shown in increased revenues; increased efficiency among the working force and the dissemination of information among taxpayers as to the expenditure of the public funds, entrusted to the care of the Commissioner.

These results have been obtained without any assistance or suggestion from the Bureau of Municipal Research, which conducted various investigations in this Department. On the contrary the work of the Bureau of Municipal Research in this Department was an interference with the efficiency of administration, and its reports, in part, misleading, unfair and untrue in spirit, if not in fact, and of no service whatever to this Department, the Department itself having corrected and improved by its own initiative the details referred to above.

Further improvements and changes in the accounting system of the Department will be instituted during the coming year, by which the various expenditures will be properly checked and much valuable data supplied as to the purposes for which the City's funds are expended, in addition to a new system of time reporting and payroll checking designed by the Department.

A detailed statement of the work done under each of the appropriations in the foregoing statement of expenditures is unnecessary, as many of the items in the statement are self-explanatory. The following account is given of the work accomplished in the various subdivisions of the Department, as outlined by the general titles of the accounts into which the Department Budget is divided.

New York Meteorological Observatory.

The year 1908 completes the fortieth year of this observatory. During that time the daily work has been uninterruptedly kept up; not a day's record, including Sundays and holidays, has been lost. The observatory was authorized by an act of the New York Legislature May 5, 1869, and was reaffirmed in 1897, and has been in continuous service for forty years.

During the year 1908 a new and portable recording rain and snow gauge has been designed and made by the director. The advantage of this new gauge is that it melts the snow as it falls and does not allow the water to freeze, even in the coldest weather.

In the past year several lawsuits have been decided in favor of the City, by the hourly weather records of this observatory, thereby saving the City a large sum of money. This is the only observatory in this country that prints hourly observations, not even excepting the United States weather bureau.

During 1908 there was 93 days on which rain or snow fell. The first snow storm of the year fell on January 23, the last on December 22. The first snow of the winter of 1908-1909 fell November 1. The total amount of snow falling during the year was 31.99 inches; total rainfall 41.05 inches; the highest temperature recorded during the year was 96 degrees on July 12; the lowest, 1 degree below zero on February 5.

Hourly records were taken of the temperature in shade and sun, direction, velocity and force of wind and atmospheric pressure.

Over two hundred reports are sent out each month to home and foreign observatories and libraries.

Zoological Department.

The Zoological collection at the close of the year consisted of 744 specimens divided as follows:

Mammals.....	292
Birds.....	427
Reptiles.....	25
Total.....	<hr/> 744 <hr/>

This is an increase of 101 over the previous year. The entire collection is owned by the Department, and represents in value, an amount approximating \$50,000. Fifteen years ago almost the entire collection then on exhibition consisted of specimens owned by private individuals or firms and loaned to the Department for exhibition purposes, one firm alone owning 39 animals then on exhibition.

The present condition of the collection has been brought about by a policy of judicious trading of the surplus stock bred from animals owned by the Department. The births during the year numbered 19, comprising the following:

One male hippopotamus, 2 American buffalo, 1 aoudad, 1 lion cub, 2 leopard cubs, 1 elk, 4 fallow deer, 1 axis deer, 3 nyghau antelope, 1 zebu, 1 camel, 1 angora goat.

Fifty-six lambs were born in the flock of dorset horned sheep which this Department maintains in Central Park. Of this number 38 (23 rams, 15 ewes), were sold at the annual auction sale of surplus animals.

There were also 15 old ewes sold at the same time, together with 2 zebu, 2 Angora goats, 2 elk, 2 red deer, 2 fallow deer. The proceeds of the sale of animals amounted to \$655.20. One thousand one hundred and seventy-five pounds of sheep's wool (from the Department flock), and 47 pounds of camel's hair brought \$170.10, bringing the total receipts from the sale, less auctioneer's fees, to \$825.30, which was added to the fund for the purchase of new specimens for the collection.

One thousand three hundred and sixty dollars and sixty cents were spent for new specimens, the following having been added by purchase during the year:

One polar bear, 1 llama, 1 South American tapir, 12 monkeys, 5 pythons, 2 white pheasants, 3 silver pheasants, 2 Egyptian geese, 12 white swans, 6 Mexican parrots, 2 toucans, 48 canaries, 48 miscellaneous songbirds.

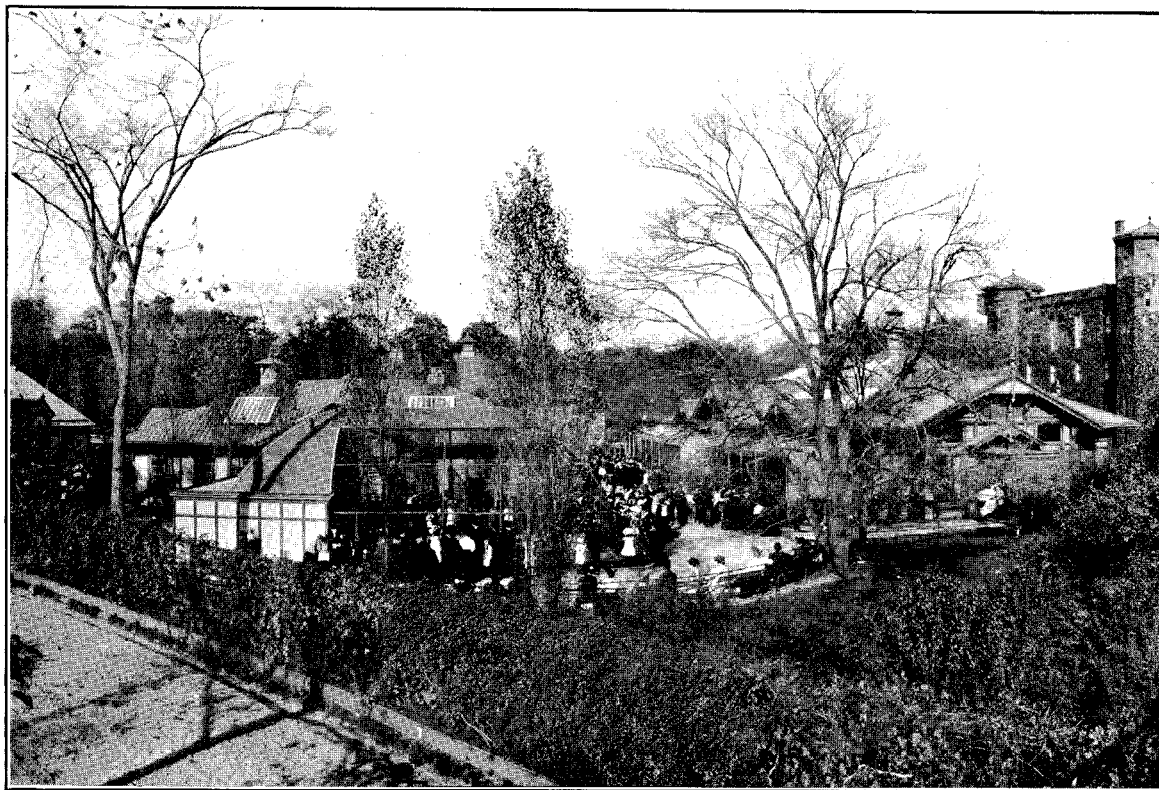
Deaths during the year numbered 98, principally among the monkeys, 31 of which died during the year. Caliph, the male hippopotamus, one of the pair on exhibition in the collection, the largest specimen of his kind in captivity and famed throughout the United States, died January 10, of intestinal disorders due to inability to properly masticate his food on account of defective teeth. His age, so far as is known, was thirty-eight years, having been brought to Central Park in 1885. In 1888 a mate was purchased for him and the proceeds of the sale and exchange of the numerous offspring of the pair have gone far toward enabling the City to acquire its present valuable collection. Caliph was valued at \$12,000. The body was taken to the American Museum of Natural History, where it has since been mounted and placed upon exhibition. Since the death of Caliph, his former mate gave birth to a fine male specimen which at the present time is thriving.

Other deaths have been as follows:

One lion cub, 2 leopard cubs, 2 aoudad, 2 elk, 3 deer, 2 nyghau, 1 taper, 1 raccoon, 19 swans, 10 parrots, 4 eagles, 5 pythons, 2 storks, 1 Egyptian goose, 1 crane, 1 buzzard, 3 toucans, 3 cockatoo.

Donations to the collection have been as follows:

One cinnamon bear, 1 Chinese wild cat, 2 covotes, 3 alligators, 2 opossum, 1 ferret, 8 monkeys, 1 parakeet, 60 canary birds, 3 owls, 5 parrots, 1 rhesus pheasant, 1 sea gull, 1 blackbird, 2 goldfinches, 1 nightingale, 4 ducks.



CENTRAL PARK—THE MENAGERIE.

That the Central Park Zoo still maintains its popularity with the people of the City is evidenced by the immense crowds visiting it throughout the year.

The zoo elephants, Alice and Jewell, have been taught tricks, and many impromptu exhibitions have been given to the great delight of the children, as well as the grown folks, who witnessed them, and in many cases parties of children came from places remote from New York, where the fame of the elephants had spread.

The exteriors of all the buildings which house the collection were painted during the year, the work being by contract at a cost of \$1,023.

During the early fall a new steam heating system was installed in the menagerie buildings. This system is constructed so as to prevent the loss of heat in the passage of the steam through the pipes which conduct it from building to building, and a more uniform and better regulated system results. The work was done by contract at a cost of \$3,385.

All the buildings were connected with the new high pressure water supply by the Department Plumbers, and two reels of 250 feet each of 2-inch fire hose were purchased and placed in hose sheds, specially built for the purpose, on the westerly side of the lion house where they are available for immediate use in case of fire in any of the buildings.

A "time detector" has been placed in each house, which the Night Watchman is required to ring once every hour, the record being automatically taken on a special chart in the main office of the Department.

With these improvements the escape of any of the wild animals has been rendered well nigh impossible, even in the case of fire, and the danger from fire itself has been reduced to a minimum.

Minor repairs and alterations have been made by the Department labor force and all the buildings have been maintained in first class condition.

The swans and ducks were removed from the Seventy-second street pond to the pond at Fifty-ninth street, where they were kept until their removal to winter quarters.

Maintenance of Parks and Boulevards.

BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN.

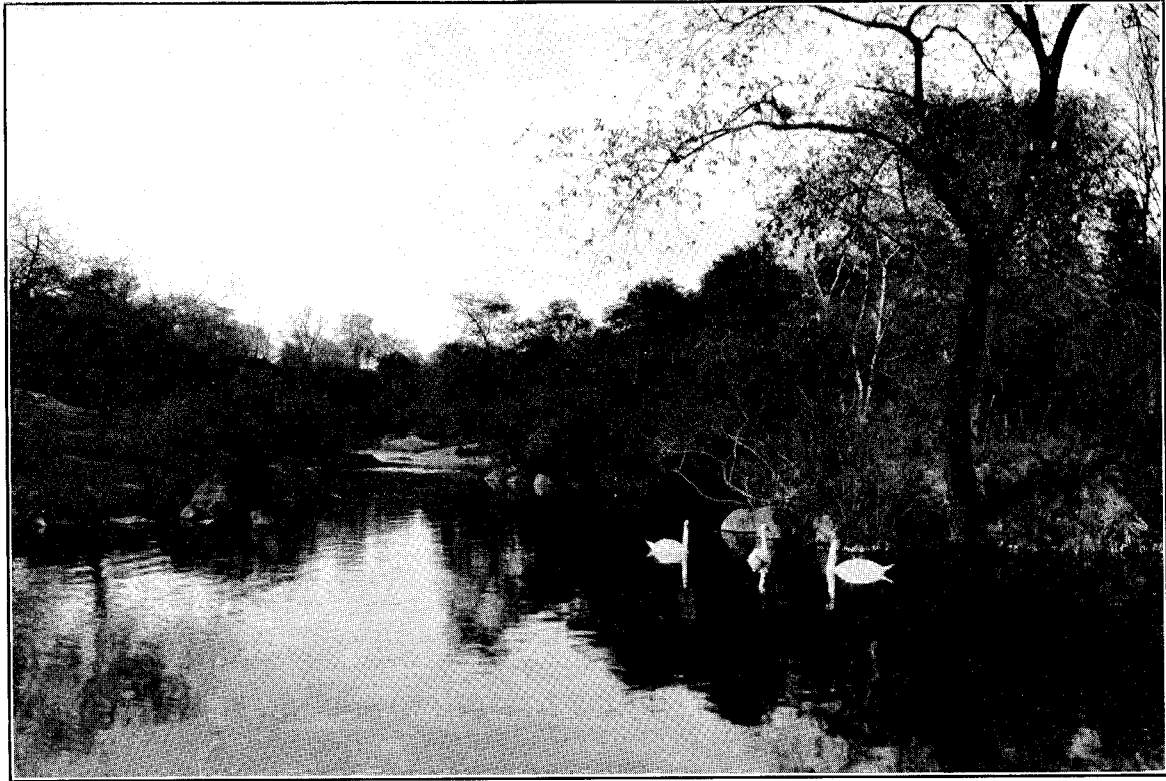
During the year 1908 the area of territory which the Department is required to maintain was increased by the addition of the following parks, the construction of which was completed during that period:

	Acres.
St. Nicholas Park, One Hundred and Thirty-fifth to One Hundred and Forty-first street, One Hundred and Thirtieth street to One Hundred and Thirty-fifth street	26.604
Colonial Park, north of One Hundred and Fiftieth street.....	7.62
Triangle, One Hundred and Thirty-seventh street and St. Nicholas avenue....	.038
Triangle, One Hundred and Thirty-seventh to One Hundred and Thirty-eighth street, Broadway .....	.340
Playground Plots—	
Fifty-ninth street, Tenth and Eleventh avenues.....	.519
One Hundred and First street, Second and Third avenues.....	.846
Centre plots on Broadway, Sixtieth to One Hundred and Twenty-second street	7.543
Centre plots on Broadway, One Hundred and Thirty-seventh to One Hundred and Sixty-eighth street.....	3.621
<hr/>	
Extension of Riverside drive, One Hundred and Thirty-fifth to One Hundred and Forty-fifth street.....	8.000
<hr/>	
Total additional area, 1908.....	55.131

The total park area under maintenance at the close of the year was 1,367 acres of parks, 13½ miles of parkways of an average width of about 100 feet.

In addition to the routine work of keeping in repair and cleaning walks, lawns, drives, bridle paths, sewer and silt basins, etc., many extraordinary items of repair and improvement were made by the labor force. The principal items of this character are given under the respective park headings which follow. During the winter, in order to facilitate the prompt removal of snow from City Hall Park and other important parks in the downtown business portion of the City, arrangements were made to stable the Department horses in the vicinity of these parks. In this way the long haul from the Department stables at Eighty-sixth street and return was avoided, and the removal of the snow was accomplished in a shorter time than heretofore.

The labor force was employed largely on routine work of cleaning walks, drives, basins, etc., and mowing the lawns. The mechanical force during this period was



CENTRAL PARK—A CORNER OF THE LAKE.

engaged in repairing buildings, fences, etc., and putting in order the trucks, sprinklers and other rolling stock, tools and apparatus of the Department. The gardening and arboricultural forces were cutting out dead wood and thinning out overcrowded plantations in the parks, removing dead and dangerous trees, trimming trees, shrubs, vines, etc., the excavation, filling and preparation of tree holes and the planting of new trees and shrubs.

Insufficient police protection, owing to a shortage of men in the Police Department, resulted in damage to trees, lawns and plantations by vandalism, which necessitated constant replacement and added greatly to the cost of maintenance. In the spring, during the planting season, hundreds of bedding plants were stolen from the flower beds at Riverside and Mount Morris Parks.

The force of Parkkeepers and uniformed Laborers assigned by the Department as Watchmen is not sufficient to prevent all damage, as they are without authority to make arrests, and have to depend upon the police in the event of any violation of the rules.

Gardening Work.

Central Park.

Wistaria, virginia creeper, dolichos and clematis vines were planted around the base of the large rustic summer house at the Kinderberg, to replace the vines which had been destroyed in repairing the summer house a few years previous. Vines were also planted around the arbors near Fifty-ninth street, between Sixth and Seventh avenues, the small arbor near the Kinderberg and the arbor near the Mineral Spring.

All herbaceous beds on the east drive, from Eighty-fifth to Ninety-fifth street were removed to make room for the rhododendron plantation, the plants being set out in the beds at McGown's Pass Tavern, the Mineral Spring and the Dairy instead of the usual bedding plants.

New beds of phlox and sedum were planted on the east drive, near Seventy-eighth and Eightieth streets; also at the rocks along the west drive, near Eighty-first and Ninety-fourth streets.

The old herbaceous plantations at the foot of Bolivar Hill on the west drive and along the stream in the Ramble were taken out and replaced with azaleas and andromeda floribunda.

The old shrubbery around the Casino was taken out and replaced with a new plantation of rhododendrons.

Riverside and Other Parks.

The flower beds at Seventy-second street and at the Claremont and Grant's Tomb, also at Mount Morris Park, were planted and given the usual care and atten-

tion. At One Hundred and Sixth street in Riverside Park an unsightly group of fifteen ailanthus trees were removed, the ground graded and sodded and 1,500 honeysuckle planted along the rocks at that point. Bare spots in lawns and borders in these parks were sodded in the spring, over 100,000 square feet of sod being used for that purpose.

At the stairway approach to the statue of General Sigel, unsightly paths were worn into the grass slope at each side by persons who apparently preferred to climb the steep bank instead of using the stairway. To check this practice a plantation of berberis was set out at each side of the stairway. This not only accomplished the purpose for which it was designed, but greatly improved the appearance of the slope at that point. At One Hundred and Eighth street, a group plantation of ornamental shrubs (*viburnum nepilensis*) was set out at the ends of the grass plots separating the driveway from the bridle path and sidewalks.

Parks Below Fifty-ninth Street.

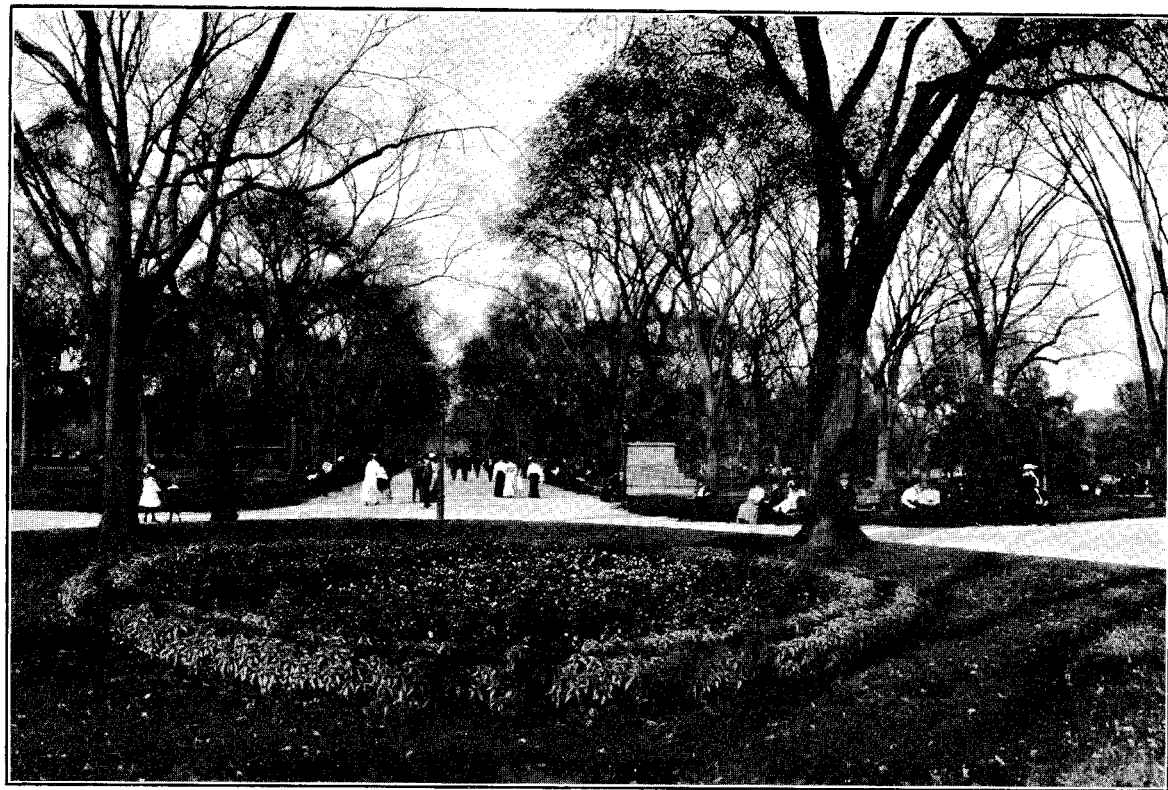
In the parks below Fifty-ninth street the gardening force planted, cultivated and otherwise cared for seventy-seven flower beds situated in those parks. These beds contained over 40,000 plants. The tulips and other spring flowering bulbs were replaced in May with geraniums, coleus, etc. In the fall the beds were spaded up and manured and the bulbs planted for the next spring flowering.

Twenty thousand square feet of sod were laid in Madison Square Park; 10,000 square feet in Stuyvesant Park; in Cooper square, 5,000 square feet; Union square, 7,000 square feet; Herald square, 1,000 square feet; Bowling Green, 3,000 square feet; Battery Park (in front of Aquarium), 1,500 square feet; William H. Seward Park, 17,000 square feet; Mulberry Bend, 2,000 square feet; City Hall Park, 30,000 square feet; Canal Street Park, 500 square feet; all bare spots in lawns and grass plots being covered.

A special floral display was made in the beds in City Hall Park during the summer, effective use being made of large palms to form a background for the smaller plants. A most pleasing effect was obtained in the winter by planting these beds with spruce, juniper and arbor vitae and other evergreens.

Fifteen tons of pulverized sheep manure fertilizer was spread on the lawns in these parks during the spring.

The usual display of water lilies was set out in the fountains at Union square, Washington square, Stuyvesant Park, Tompkins square and Bowling Green.



CENTRAL PARK—"THE MALL."

Arboriculture.

Central Park.

In Central Park 637 trees were removed during the year. A small percentage of this number were healthy trees which had to be removed from overcrowded plantations, in order to provide room for the proper growth of adjacent trees. The great mass of those removed were dead and decaying trees, and there still remain some hundreds more to be removed during the coming year.

Hundreds of shrubs were removed. All isolated specimens along the drives and walks were taken out and new groups established at selected points.

During the summer the arboricultural force was put on the work of cleaning trees of caterpillars, which were more numerous than for some years past.

The new plantations of trees and shrubs were watered and cultivated and a mulch of manure placed around them to hold the moisture in hot weather and prevent the soil from drying out.

In the nurseries at Sixty-sixth street in Central Park and at St. Nicholas Park, the plants and shrubs received from time to time were heeled in and given the ordinary care pending planting.

In Riverside Park fifty-three dead trees were removed; in Mount Morris, nineteen; in East River Park, fourteen; in Manhattan square, twenty, and all other trees in those parks were pruned and trimmed of dead wood.

Parks Below Fifty-ninth Street.

The new trees set out in Washington square, City Hall, DeWitt Clinton and St. Gabriel's Parks were cultivated and watered through the season, and all other trees in these parks were pruned and trimmed of dead wood.

The trees in Madison square, Union square, Tompkins square, Battery, Stuyvesant, Hudson, William H. Seward, Rutgers, Corlear's Hook and Hamilton Fish Parks, as well as the small parks on Park avenue, from Thirty-fourth to Fortieth streets were pruned and trimmed of dead wood.

One Hundred and twenty-nine dead trees were removed from the downtown parks as follows:

Battery Park twenty-one; Mulberry Bend, eleven; City Hall, two; Grand Street Park, three. Tompkins square, nineteen; Stuyvesant Park, four; Hudson Park, six; Washington square, three; St. Gabriel's Park, seven; Chelsea Park, one; Union square, five; Madison square, eight; Park Avenue Parks, Thirty-fourth to Fortieth street, twelve; DeWitt Clinton Park, twenty-seven. In all 882 dead or decaying trees were removed from the parks during the year.

Elms and maples constituted a majority of the trees removed. The balance consisted of planes, lindens, horse-chestnut, pin oak, silver poplar, Lombardy poplars, pine, spruce, elegans, hickory and a few other varieties.

Entomological Work.

About 1,900 varieties of noxious insects feed upon the leaves of trees and shrubs in the parks. Of this number the most troublesome, because most numerous and destructive of foliage, is the tussock moth, or common caterpillar, familiar to all, which preys upon all trees. Next in numbers and destructive ability are the aphids, found in all varieties of trees and shrubs; elm scale insect, the oyster shell bark louse, found in the ash, maple, lilac, etc.; Reilly's eriosomer, which attacks elms, maples, etc.; datanes, found in hickory, butternut and similar woods; vanessas, found in willows and soft woods, and the wood leopard moth or elm borer, which inflicts great damage upon elms by boring through the branches, weakening them so that they are easily broken off by a strong wind.

To keep these pests under subject a force of from ten to twenty men, under the direction of the Entomologist, was kept busy throughout the year. During the winter the trees were cleaned with heavy steel wire brushes, the trunks and branches being scraped to remove all cocoons and egg masses, which are then collected and destroyed. Where scale is found the trees are sprayed with a solution of whale oil soap.

In the downtown parks all the trees received this treatment. In Central Park it is possible only to care for the trees bordering the walks and drives.

In the spring, before the leaves emerge, the maples and other trees of that class are sprayed with a kerosene emulsion, the formula for which, prepared by the Department Entomologist, is as follows: Eight pounds of soft soap, 8 quarts of kerosene, 1 quart of crude carbolic acid, boiled in 4 gallons of water; add water to make 100 gallons of solution. This solution is found to be very effective against the pulvinaria innumerabilis, pleurococcus, aceris, aphids, etc.

Spraying for the tussock moth is taken up as soon as warm weather sets in, a solution of 15 pounds of arsenate of lead in 100 gallons of water being used.

For the elm borer the treatment is as follows: Inject bisulphuret of carbon into the burrows made by the borer and plug the opening with soap or putty.

During the past summer the crop of caterpillars was unusually large, and in addition to the regular force assigned to this work under the Entomologist, the entire arboriculture force had to be put on the work to effect their removal.

Four new spraying machines, purchased in the latter part of 1907, were put in commission, and a complete outfit of extension ladders, brushes, etc., was added.

Department Stables and Workshops.

For proper protection against fire a direct fire alarm signal box was installed at a convenient point on the wall in the stable yard, and a fire hydrant connecting with the Croton main in the street was also put in; 200 feet of 2½-inch fire hose was placed on a reel, ready for immediate use in case of fire, where upwards of one hundred horses are nightly stabled.



CENTRAL PARK—"PEACOCK LAWN," IN THE RAMBLE.

A contract was let under date of December 17 for the installation of an electric lighting and power system to cost \$3,000, to displace the old gas light system with which the stables are lighted, and to dispose of the old steam power plant in the workshops. Besides eliminating from the stables and shops the dangerous gas flame in such surroundings, a material saving will be effected in the matter of power and greater efficiency in shop work. Work under this contract is now well under way, most of the wiring having been installed.

Extensive repairs were made to the roof of the stable building, which was found to be in a leaky condition throughout on account of the gradual rotting of the timbers. New gutters and ventilators were also put in and new skylights, ventilators and gutters were put in the roof of the workshops, the work being done by contract at a cost of \$6,500, the balance of the work being done by the mechanical force of the Department.

During the year the Department purchased twelve (12) additional horses. Nine (9) old horses died and seven (7) were sold at public auction, being unfit for further use in the work of the Department. There were in the stables on December 31, 1908, ninety-one (91) horses, all the property of the Department.

Greenhouses.

One hundred and fifteen thousand bedding plants, consisting of geraniums, coleus, begonias, alternantheras, arbutilon, etc., were propagated at the Department greenhouses in Central Park. These were distributed for planting in the flower beds in the various parks during the summer season.

There were also raised 20,000 greenhouse plants—lilies, daisies, calceolaria, roses, chrysanthemums, primroses, etc. These were used in the regular floral display in the greenhouses, which were kept open to the public every day during the season, from November to June, when flowers are a rarity.

At Easter a special display was given of lilies, azaleas, hyacinths, tulips and other plants appropriate to that season, in all about 15,000 plants being used.

In November a special chrysanthemum show was prepared, over 6,000 varieties being on view.

A large banana plant in the main greenhouse bore two bunches of bananas during the season.

The greenhouses contain at the present time about 800 palms, 800 exotic plants, 750 orchids, 1,400 cactus, 2,500 cool house plants, besides the large palms, bamboo, etc., in the main house.

Storage Sheds, etc., Ninety-seventh Street Yard.

The work of constructing the storage sheds and incinerator was completed early in the year. The manure pit has proven of great value, about 4,000 cubic yards of well-rotted manure fertilizer, representing a cash value of about \$8,000, being taken out in the fall for use on the lawns and flower beds in Central Park.

The capacity of both sheds and pit is taxed to the utmost at all times, and more storage facilities are urgently needed within the enclosure, and another manure pit should be built, one pit being inadequate to provide all the manure needed for the lawns, etc.

Baths and Comfort Stations.

The Department maintained during the year thirty-three comfort stations and three baths for women, thirty comfort stations and three baths for men. To properly care for these requires the services of 122 Attendants, male and female, throughout the year.

Baths for men and women are maintained at William H. Seward, DeWitt Clinton and Thomas Jefferson Parks, the capacity of each being as follows:

William H. Seward Park, 30 men, 21 women.

DeWitt Clinton Park, 21 men, 21 women.

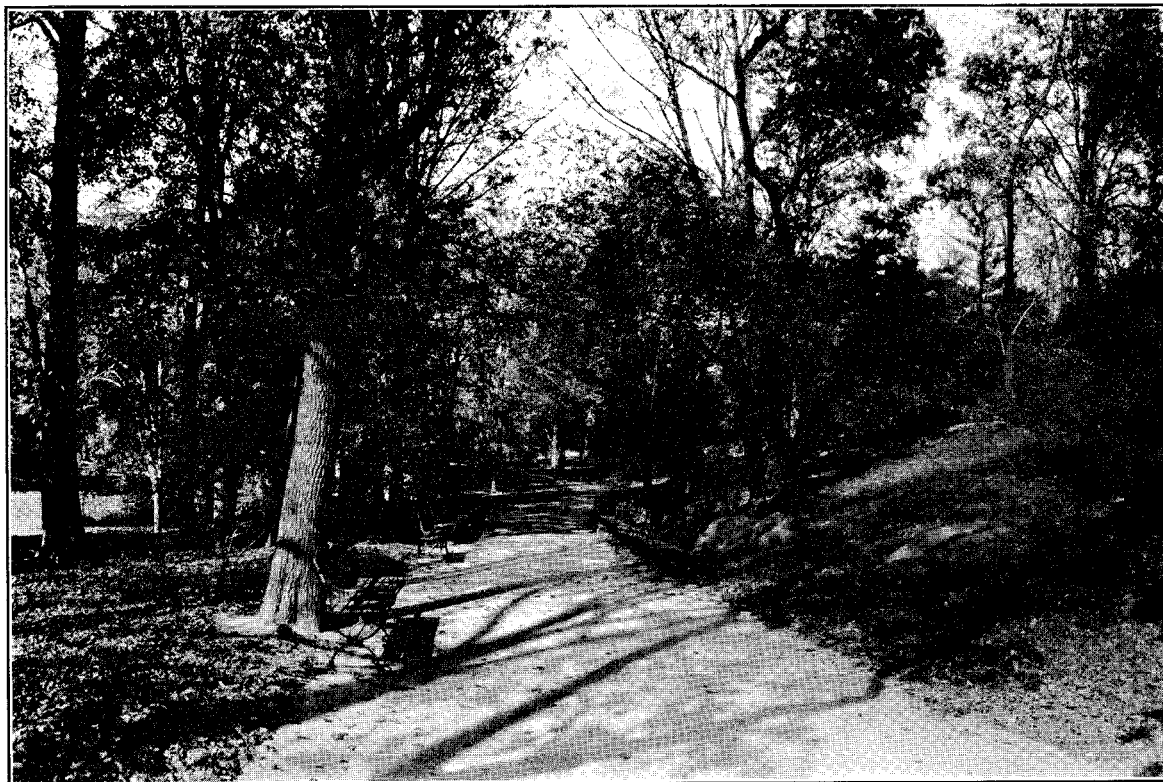
Thomas Jefferson Park, 11 men, 11 women.

The baths are open to the public every day in the year, from 6 a. m. to 10 p. m., children and adults bathing on alternate days. During the summer season the attendance on children's days is so large that it is necessary to allow four or five of the younger children in a bath at once in order to give all a chance to bathe.

The Baths are open to the public every day in the year, from 6 a. m. to 10 p. m. They are well patronized by the adult working class in the morning before going to work, as well as in the evening after working hours. On children's days the evenings are reserved for working boys and girls, school children being barred after 6 o'clock.

The average daily attendance throughout the year was as follows:

	Summer.				Winter.			
	Male.		Female.		Male.		Female.	
	Children. Adults.		Children. Adults.		Children. Adults.		Children. Adults.	
Wm. H. Seward.....	819	441	481	322	209	143	178	120
DeWitt Clinton	232	156	195	105	158	106	120	66
Thos. Jefferson	315	211	348	232	151	101	136	91



CENTRAL PARK--A SHADY WALK.

The low attendance in winter at DeWitt Clinton and Thomas Jefferson Parks is due to their location near the river-front, where they are exposed to the full force of the winter winds.

The need of additional baths in connection with the playgrounds, and running tracks, becomes more pressing with the recent great increase in the number of men and boys devoted to athletics who avail themselves of the opportunities for physical exercise afforded them in the Department playgrounds. The greater use made of those grounds, in connection with which baths are maintained, serves only to emphasize the lack of these facilities at the other grounds. Provision was made for baths in the gymnasium building at Hamilton Fish Park, and the baths were installed at the time the building was erected, but serious defects in the drainage system caused their abandonment. The matter has been placed in the hands of the Department Architect to prepare plans for the necessary alterations to enable the Department to again put these baths in operation.

The comfort stations in Central and Riverside Parks are open to the public from 8 a. m. to 7 p. m. in summer, and from 8 a. m. to 5 p. m. in winter, except certain stations adjacent to the entrances, which are open from 6 a. m. to 10 p. m. for the convenience of persons passing along the street.

Those in the smaller parks throughout the city are open from 6 a. m. to 10 p. m., with the exception of those at Union Square, Madison Square and Mulberry Bend Park, which are kept open continually twenty-four hours a day. All are open daily throughout the entire year, and are kept in repair at all times. The repairs required are extensive and continuous, especially in the baths and comfort stations.

The comfort stations in the parks are for the greater part contained in old frame structures erected many years ago, and the equipment is in general of the same type as the buildings. In Morningside Park, Riverside, and in the more recently constructed parks downtown—Seward, Hamilton Fish, Corlear's Hook, DeWitt Clinton—modern appliances have been provided; also in Thomas Jefferson Park. Only in two instances in Central Park where the buildings have been erected within the past few years do the comfort stations contain modern, up to date equipment. Of the forty-five buildings maintained by the Department fully one-half are inadequate for the public need in the parks in which they are situated, and many of them, notably those at Union Square, Madison Square and Tompkins Square, are taxed far beyond their capacity, making it exceedingly difficult to maintain them in proper sanitary condition. The replacement of these buildings is a matter of necessity to the health as well as the convenience of the public, and in the case of the three parks last mentioned the imperative need of such an improvement is apparent to even the casual visitor to them.

At City Hall Park the Department of Public Buildings maintains, under the street sidewalk, comfort stations with modern equipment for men and women, and at Battery

Park a new comfort station building was opened by the same Department, fitted with modern appliances.

The opening of these stations rendered unnecessary the obsolete and unsightly iron urinals in both these parks and they were removed during the year.

In the Ramble section of Central Park two others of the same type were taken out. Work is now under way on a new stone building in this portion of the park, to cost \$30,000, containing accommodations for sixteen males and twenty-three females. The building should be completed about May 1, 1909, and the present antiquated wooden buildings adjacent will then be torn down.

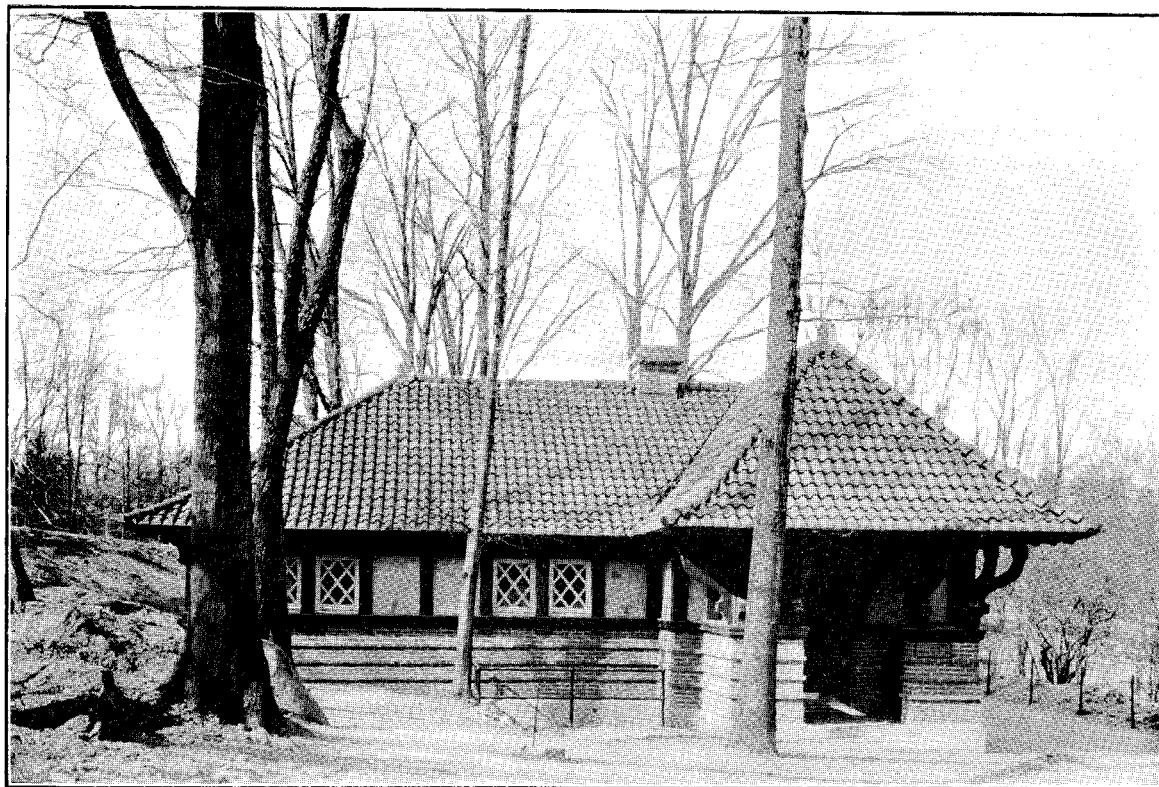
Plans are also under preparation for a new stone comfort station in Riverside Park, below the Riverside drive, near Grant's Tomb, replacing the temporary and unsightly frame structure now in use there. The new building is to be of handsome design, to harmonize with the surroundings, and will cost approximately \$45,000.

In 1904 the Board of Estimate and Apportionment appropriated \$18,000 for the erection of a new comfort station in Madison Square, but it was found impracticable to erect a suitable building for less than \$30,000. The plans for the building have already been prepared and the Board of Estimate has been requested to provide the additional funds required for the erection of the building.

During the past year the Department has abandoned the practice of purchasing disinfectant fluids formerly used in the baths and comfort stations, and has used a solution of chlorinated lime which serves all the requirements of the Department most satisfactorily, and which can be prepared at a merely nominal cost. The saving to the City by the new plan is shown in the following comparison of the amounts spent previous to its adoption:

Expenditures for Disinfectant.

1904.....	\$1,848 96	1907.....	1,245 00
1905.....	1,080 68	1908 (to July 1).....	611 45
1906.....	2,090 60	(July 1 to December 31)...	49 99



COMFORT STATION—NORTH MEADOWS, CENTRAL PARK.

Music.

Appropriation.....	\$30,000 00
Expenditures.....	29,894 00
Balance transferred to General Fund, etc.....	<u>\$106 00</u>

Concerts.

The usual Saturday afternoon and Sunday concerts were given in Central Park during the season, beginning June 13. In all, thirty concerts were given, the last on September 20.

The programmes comprised musical compositions of a high standard, partly orchestral and partly band concerts, consisting of forty-seven instruments in each case. The concerts were well attended throughout by appreciative audiences, and it is the purpose of the Department to continue this feature during the season of 1909.

In the other parks the usual concerts were given through the season, the bands consisting of twenty-three pieces. The number of concerts given in each park with the cost, including the extra lighting for evening concerts, is as follows:

Park.	Number of Concerts.	Calcium Lights Per Park.	Cost Per Park.
Abingdon Square	13	\$58 50	\$1,495 00
Battery	13	58 50	1,495 00
Bryant	3	9 00	345 00
Central	30	.....	7,560 00
Corlears Hook	13	58 50	1,495 00
DeWitt Clinton	2	.....	230 00
East River	13	58 50	1,495 00
Hamilton Fish	13	58 50	1,495 00
Hudson	13	58 50	1,495 00
Madison Square	13	58 50	1,495 00
Morningside	13	.....	1,495 00
Mount Morris	13	58 50	1,495 00
Mulberry Bend	14	63 00	1,610 00
Port Richmond	5	22 50	575 00
William H. Seward.....	13	58 50	1,495 00
Stapleton	7	31 50	805 00
Tompkins Square	13	58 50	1,495 00
Washington Square	14	63 00	1,610 00
	<u>218</u>	<u>\$774 00</u>	<u>\$29,180 00</u>
Total cost			\$29,954 00
Deduct for non-attendance.....			60 00
			<u>\$29,894 00</u>

Children's School Farm, DeWitt Clinton Park.

The favorable weather conditions which prevailed during the spring and fall permitted the use of the grounds from the 1st of March to the 1st of December, a much longer period than usual. Six attendants, under the personal supervision of the Director of the School Farm, were engaged to direct the children in their work.

Four hundred and thirty-two individual plots were prepared, planted and cultivated by the children, nearly 400 boys and a like number of girls taking active part in the work. Each plot contained radishes, beans, beets, carrots, onions, lettuce and corn. Two crops were raised; the first from seed, planted during the first week in May, was harvested about the middle of July; the second, planted the week following the harvesting of the first, was gathered during the latter part of November. The total yield was:

	Total.	
	First Crop.	Second Crop.
Radishes	43,200	65,400
Beans, quarts	436	216
Beets	8,640	10,900
Carrots	8,640	13,080
Lettuce	4,320	4,360
Onions	8,640	8,720
Beet tops, pecks.....	436	.....
Corn, ears	*.....	872

*Distributed as Nature material.

The average daily attendance of children to whom plots had been assigned was 50 per cent. Assignments were revoked for irregular attendance, bad behavior, loss of identification tag, etc., and the care of the plot assigned to another child.

The garden was visited by large numbers of Teachers and others interested in the education and development of children. These visitors represented nearly every State in the Union, as well as Canada, Turkey, Argentine Republic, Ireland, Sweden and British Guiana. In September the grounds were visited and inspected by the delegates to the Playground Congress.

The observation plots maintained in previous years were enlarged and special features of interest to adults as well as children were added. In one plot the seeds sown were obtained from the home of Shakespeare, at Stratford-on-Avon, and the plot excited particular interest on that account.

In another plot an attempt was made to give an object lesson on the baneful effects which wasteful destruction of the forests has upon the waterways of the country. To



DEWITT CLINTON PARK FARM GARDEN--PLANTING SEED.

accomplish this a plot 8 by 8 was constructed to represent a hillside, one-half of which was covered with forest growth, the other half being bare. Over this plot water was allowed to flow, the deep gullies formed in the soil of the bare portion showing in marked contrast to the regular formation of that part protected by the interlacing roots of the trees and undergrowth.

In the other plots were planted specimens of over 100 different varieties of vegetables, flowers, grasses, weeds, etc., all of which the children were made more or less familiar with through the season.

The personnel of the children using the garden has become so diversified that it is worthy of note. The number of crippled children working in the plots increased from 50 in 1907 to 150 in the past year, the children being brought twice a week by stage provided by the Crippled Children's Driving Fund, maintained by private subscription. Special plots on each side of the wide walk running north and south through the centre of the garden were given up to these children, who ranged in age from 3 to 20, and who seemed to be delighted with the work of caring for their plots, the produce of which they were allowed to take home with them.

On election day the garden was visited by the parents of the children who had plots in charge, and vegetables from the plots were prepared and served to them by the children in the pavilion, to the great delight of parents and children.

The flag which is awarded each season to the neatest section was given to the boys' section for the first time since the establishment of the garden. The award is made by a committee of children selected from among those having plots and the members of the committee become very much impressed with the importance of their positions.

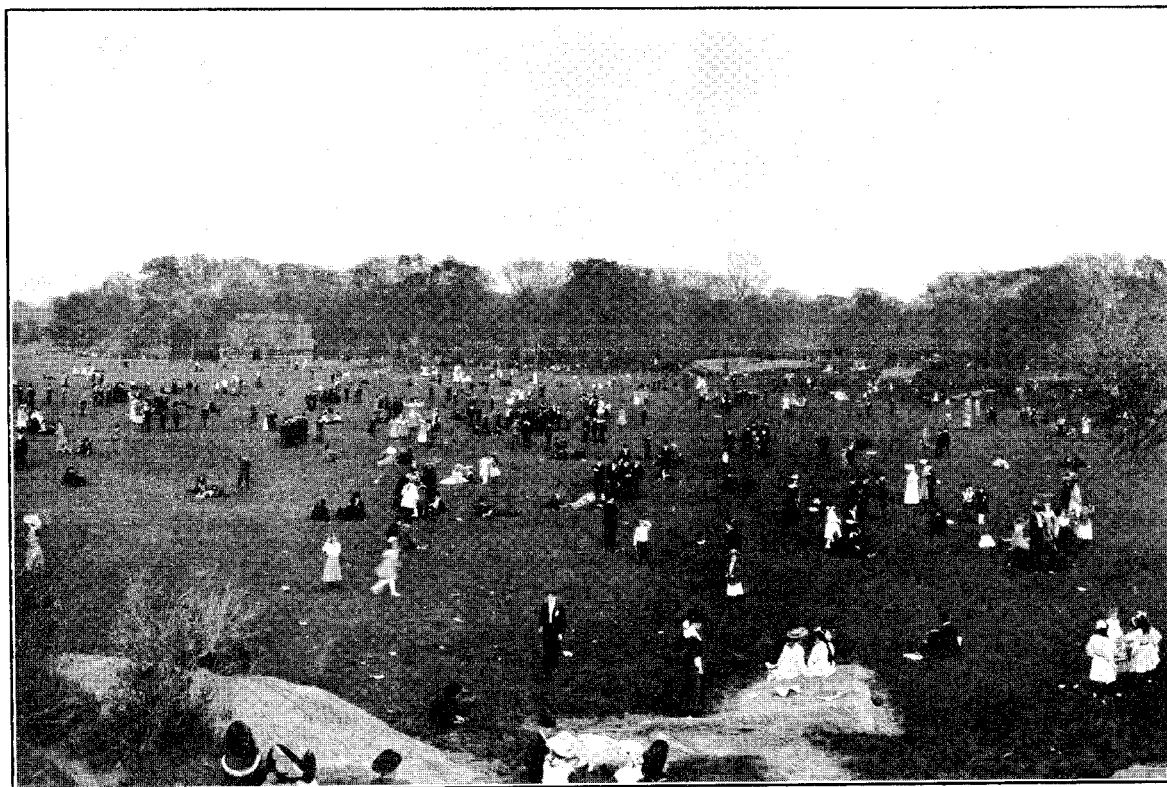
Great care has been taken to teach the children proper care for public property. They are taught to have a general care for the grass borders, paths and flower beds in the garden and not to confine their attention to or interest on the particular plot assigned to them, in that way uniting individual ownership with a responsibility for the appearance of the whole and thus laying a foundation for good citizenship.

Public Recreation and Amusement in the Parks.

Playgrounds.

The Department maintains eleven completed playgrounds in the parks under its jurisdiction in the Borough of Manhattan, located in the densely populated districts on the extreme east and west sides of the City, and four unimproved grounds, the location of each, with its area, being as follows. A list of lawns in Central Park on which tennis, base ball, foot ball and croquet are allowed under certain conditions at different times of the year is also given below. Croquet is also allowed in Mount Morris Park.

	Area, Acres.
Lower East Side—	
William H. Seward Park, Hester, Essex and Canal streets and East Broadway	1.00
Hamilton Fish Park, Willett, Pitt, Sheriff and Stanton streets.....	1.83
Corlears Hook Park, Jackson street.....	.50
Tompkins Square, Seventh and Tenth streets, Avenues A and B.....	1.24
Seventeenth Street Park, Seventeenth street and East River.....	.11
Lower West Side—	
Hudson Park, Hudson, Leroy and Clarkson streets.....	.12
Upper East Side—	
St. Gabriel's Park, Thirty-fifth and Thirty-sixth streets, First to Second avenue.....	.83
John Jay Park, Seventy-sixth to Seventy-seventh street, East River....	1.46
East River Park, Eighty-sixth to Eighty-ninth street, East River.....	.24
Thomas Jefferson Park, One Hundred and Eleventh to One Hundred and Fourteenth street, First avenue to East River.....	4.17
Upper West Side—	
DeWitt Clinton Park, Fifty-third to Fifty-fourth street, Twelfth avenue to Hudson River.....	1.76
Total.....	13.26
Unimproved Playgrounds—	
Chelsea Park, Twenty-seventh and Twenty-eighth streets, Ninth and Tenth avenues.....	3.11
Plot East One Hundred and First street, Second and Third avenues .....	.84
Plot West Fifty-ninth to Sixtieth street, west of Tenth avenue.....	.51
Jasper Field, One Hundred and Thirty-eighth street and Amsterdam avenue.....	1.8
Total area	6.26



CENTRAL PARK—"A MAY DAY."

Lawns.

Central Park—

Croquet Ground Sixty-fourth Street West.....	13.55
The Green (baseball ground) Sixty-sixth Street West.....	21.10
North Meadow (tennis and football) One Hundred and Second Street West.....	30.45
South Meadow (tennis and football) Ninety-eighth Street West....	9.86
Circle Lawn (croquet) One Hundred and Sixth Street West.....	1.10

Mount Morris Park—

West Lawn (croquet)	2.50
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Total area	77.56
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97.08

At Seward Park, Hamilton Fish Park, Tompkins Square, St. Gabriel's, DeWitt Clinton and Thomas Jefferson Parks, running tracks have been established within the gymnasium enclosures. These tracks are of the following dimensions:

	Laps to a Mile.	Measurement of One Lap. Feet.
Seward Park	9	586.67
Hamilton Fish	9	586.67
Tompkins Square	12	440.00
St. Gabriel's	10	528.00
DeWitt Clinton	9	586.67
Thomas Jefferson	7	754.29

All the above measurements are taken 16 inches from the inner rail, as provided by the rules of the Amateur Athletic Union of America.

As will be seen by the foregoing table, the greatest playground area is set aside in the lower east side districts, among the overcrowded tenements, far removed from the larger parks in the upper end of the city. The apparently small area allotted for playground purposes on the lower west side is accounted for by the fact that that portion of the city is almost entirely given up to manufacturing and commercial houses. The same condition is largely true of the upper west side, although there is a large residential district between Fourteenth street and Forty-second street, for which a

temporary playground has been established during the past year at Chelsea Park. This park will be improved as a park playground during the coming year at a cost of approximately \$100,000. No playgrounds have thus far been established in the upper west side districts, the needs of the inhabitants in this section being amply provided for in Riverside and Central parks. In the extreme northern portion of the city the many vacant fields and the excellent transit facilities to the large playgrounds at Van Cortlandt Park render unnecessary, for the present, at least, any special playgrounds.

The upper east side is well provided with playgrounds, as, in addition to those shown in the table, the large areas in Central Park are within easy reach of any point in the district.

The aim of the department during the year has been to encourage the natural spirit of play among the children and to eliminate from the conduct of the playgrounds all class-work "organized play" or other methods of "teaching" children to play, which in fact serve nearly to keep the children under the same restraint to which they are subject during their school hours, and from which they seek relief in the playgrounds. Attendants have been given to understand that their duties are those of guardians primarily, entrusted with the moral and physical welfare of the children while on the grounds. They are to demonstrate to the children, as occasion may require, the correct use of the apparatus, and so regulate its use as to allow all equal opportunity for its enjoyment. This is particularly necessary in the use of the swings, slides and seesaws, which would be monopolized by a few of the older and stronger children were no supervision exercised. That this policy has proven its worth is apparent to a disinterested visitor to any of the Department playgrounds in the keen enjoyment depicted upon the features of the children and denoted by their every action while on the grounds.

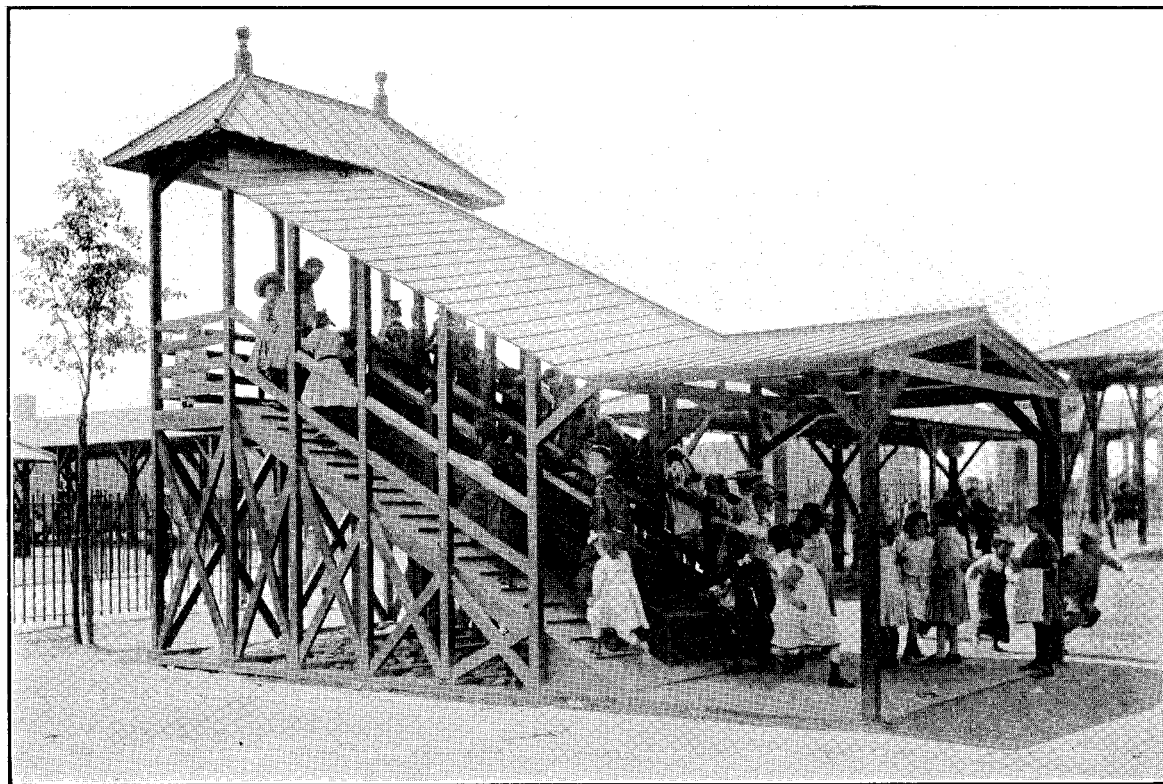
Only such playground supplies are distributed as are not adapted for use outside the playgrounds, and which are properly included on the ordinary equipment of a playground. Among these are basketballs, tennis nets, medicine balls, tether balls and volley balls.

Sewing, raffia and reed work has been continued among the smaller girls under the direction of the women attendants, the requisite material having been supplied by the Department from the large stock on hand.

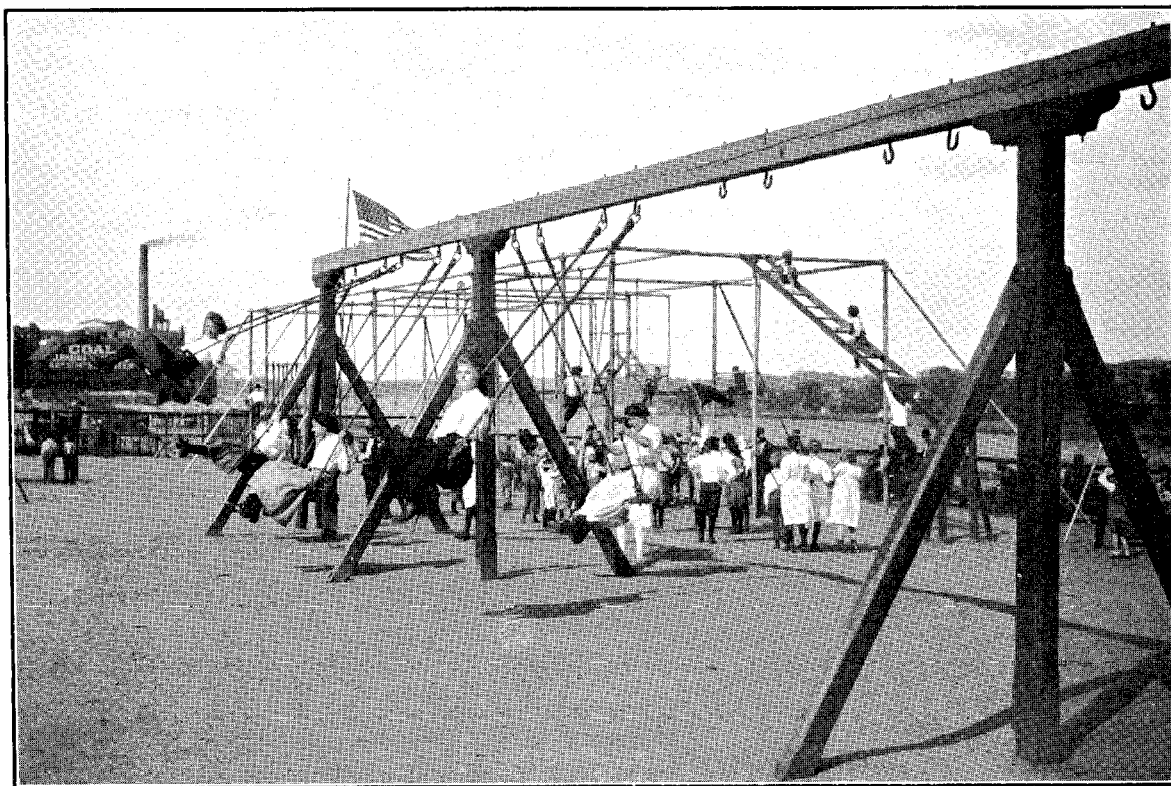
The total material supplied to the playgrounds during the year was as follows:

Statement of Material Supplied to Playgrounds, 1908.

Basket balls.....	41	Association football.....	1
Volley balls.....	51	Indoor baseball.....	1
Basket ball and volley ball bladders.	79	Vaulting poles.....	5
Medicine balls.....	3	Tennis racquets.....	67
Tether balls.....	163	Basketball goal net.....	1



DEWITT CLINTON PARK—THE SLIDE.



JOHN JAY PARK—THE SWINGS.

Jump ropes.....	—	Seine cord, lbs.....	7
Rope rings.....	466	Colored wood splints, pkgs.....	1,000
Toy brooms.....	72	Bean bags.....	124
Rubber quoits.....	4	Colored papers, pkgs.....	100
Croquet sets.....	3	Sewing cards.....	5,700
Sword sticks.....	50	Absorbent cotton, lbs.....	25
Worsted, lbs.....	12	Bandages, doz.....	26
Tether cord, hanks.....	52	Adhesive tape, rolls.....	7
Scissors, pairs.....	71	Small American flags.....	120
Reed, lbs.....	95	Needles, doz.....	920
Raffia, lbs.....	150		

The expenditure for material and supplies of this character during the past year amounted to \$670.56, as against a total of \$2,588.74 in 1907, \$1,758.20 in 1906, \$3,699.25 in 1905, and like amounts in previous years since the establishment of the playground system in the parks in 1902.

Sand boxes for the smaller children are maintained in all the playgrounds. During the summer season the boxes are supplied with clean white beach sand. The sand is inspected and turned daily, and is removed when soiled from use and replaced with a fresh supply. During the past season 500 cubic yards of sand was supplied to the boxes. Daily inspection and frequent changes are absolute necessities in order to prevent unsanitary conditions.

Iron folding gates were erected at the entrances to the playground enclosures at Seward Park, Hamilton Fish Park, St. Gabriels, DeWitt Clinton and Thomas Jefferson Parks, in order to give the attendants greater control and power of regulation over the children, and also to further safeguard the permanent apparatus in the grounds at night. The work was done by contract at a cost of \$1,300.

The baby swings, lawn swings, slides, seesaws, tether ball and giant strides proved very popular with the children on all the grounds, and these items of the equipment were given particular attention and necessary repairs promptly made.

The other apparatus—horses, bucks, horizontal bars, parallel bars, horizontal and inclined ladders, etc., were repaired as required and kept in good order. The small number of boys using this class of apparatus and the limited use given this class of apparatus generally on all the grounds makes the practical value of such expensive equipment in public playgrounds questionable. The number of boys making use of it is exceedingly limited and constitutes a very small percentage of those using the grounds.

The skill necessary to a proper use of the flying rings, trapeze, bars and other apparatus can be acquired only after long, persistent and systematic training under special instructors, a course which it is not possible to give under the peculiar conditions governing attendance at the Department playgrounds. Numerous accidents have

occurred in the past to boys, unskilled in the uses of the various appliances who have attempted to make use of them, despite the vigilance of the attendants, and who have fallen from trapeze or rings to the hard gravel surface of the playground.

The revival of interest in athletics generally attendant upon the preparation of candidates for places on the American Olympic Team, and the subsequent enthusiasm aroused by the splendid achievements of the members of the team in the Olympic Games at London, was reflected in the increased numbers using the grounds, in particular those grounds where running tracks are maintained.

In furtherance of this interest, the Department opened the running tracks for use of athletes from 6 a. m. to 10 p. m. instead of from 9 a. m. to 7 p. m., as formerly done, the extra hours giving the opportunity for much needed relaxation of a healthful nature to working men and boys, and which they were not allowed under the old regulation.

To further encourage this use of the playgrounds, metal lockers were installed at Seward Park and at DeWitt Clinton—fifty in each—and the room in which they were erected was set aside as a dressing room for the convenience of those wishing to use the running track or gymnasium. A check system for the protection of those using the lockers was also put in operation. The dressing room adjoined the baths, and arrangements were made so as to permit the athletes to take a bath before dressing. This innovation has proved immensely popular, and it is contemplated extending the system to the other parks where there are running tracks, and adding additional lockers to those now in operation, which are already taxed to their utmost capacity at all times.

Twenty-two athletic meets were held in the playgrounds during the year, under permits issued by the Department. During these games the track enclosure is reserved for the exclusive use of the school or club holding the permit. At some of the school games held in Seward Park the attendance numbered nearly 5,000 competitors and spectators.

The complete list of dates on which games were held is as follows:

DeWitt Clinton Park—May 8, June 6, June 13.

Hamilton Fish Park—April 24, May 22,

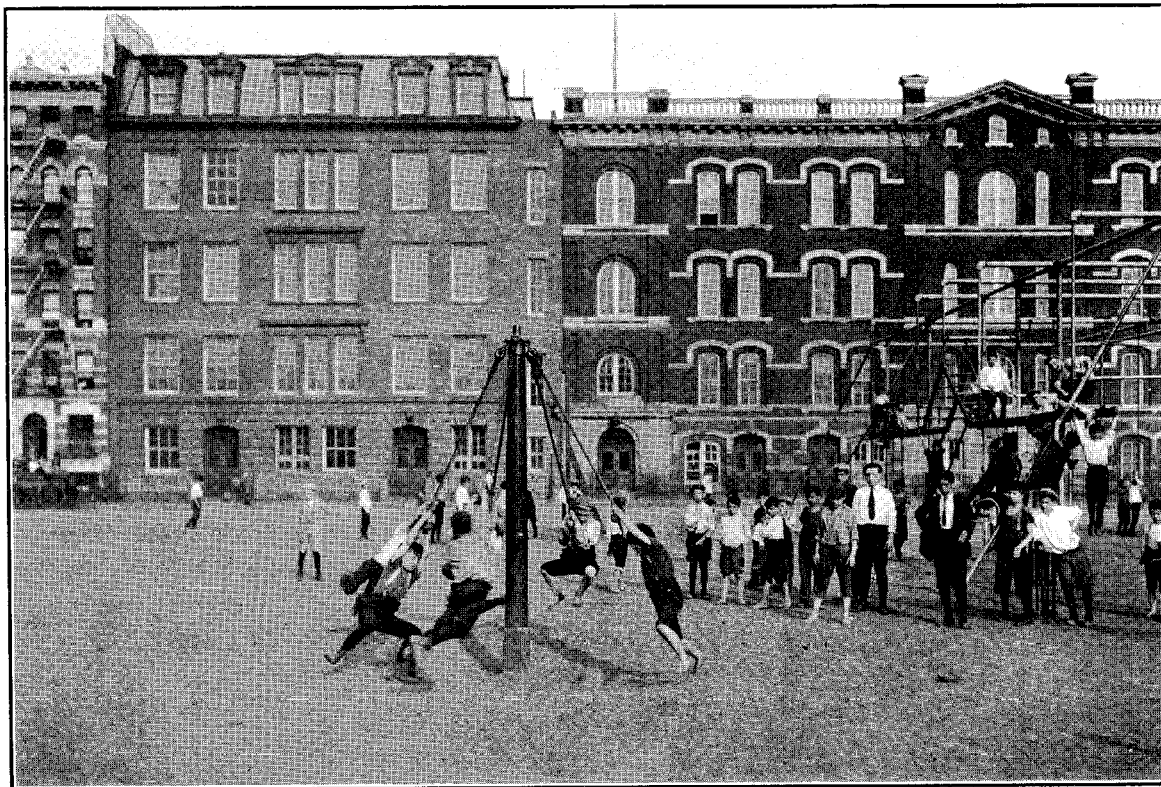
William H. Seward Park—April 24, 28, 29, 30. May 6, 12, 19, 28, 29. June 2, 3, 16.

St. Gabriels Park—June 19.

Tompkins Square Park—June 4.

Chelsea Park—June 20.

The two indoor gymnasiums and basketball courts at Hamilton Fish Park were opened for use during the winter months. The use of the courts is regulated by permits issued by the Department only to responsible organizations or clubs. This regula-



HAMILTON FISH PARK—"THE GIANT STRIDE."



WILLIAM H. SEWARD PARK PLAYGROUND—TEX-PIN PURSUIT RACE.

tion is necessary to prevent damage to the walls and fixtures, which in the past has been a considerable item.

Thirteen such permits were issued to as many different organizations during the year.

The average daily attendance at the various grounds during the year is given in the accompanying table. These figures are taken by the attendants twice a day, morning and afternoon, and an average struck for the day.

Table of Average Daily Attendance at Playgrounds, 1908.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Thomas Jefferson—												
Boys.....	145	105	250	1,135	814	1,029	1,196	1,187	931	750	377	470
Girls.....	185	125	240	250	366	411	495	445	374	266	220	244
East River—												
Boys.....	284	200	319	439	626	578	741	706	571	450	280	335
Girls.....	248	173	288	378	538	523	638	614	527	385	255	310
John Jay—												
Boys.....	425	250	500	802	805	1,124	1,502	1,615	1,428	781	936	776
Girls.....	500	150	165	744	834	1,245	1,397	1,714	1,205	826	872	900
De Witt Clinton—												
Boys.....	337	278	477	1,118	1,330	1,368	1,089	951	874	534	452	431
Girls.....	477	229	492	605	694	736	863	673	538	391	413	426
St. Gabriel's—												
Boys.....	610	325	825	770	875	889	1,090	945	1,175	530	505	365
Girls.....	590	390	670	761	709	760	671	1,087	809	539	459	522
Tompkins—												
Boys.....	750	325	1,125	995	835	1,105	1,349	1,327	1,083	1,006	878	....
Girls.....	1,101	833	1,352	1,506	1,378	1,489	2,032	1,885	1,285	1,366	1,483	1,360
Hamilton Fish—												
Boys.....	390	325	330	650	485	610	897	919	997	535	435	385
Girls.....	840	675	1,055	1,687	1,485	1,552	1,231	1,250	1,257	1,127	1,162	1,031
Seward—												
Boys.....	688	699	913	850	855	920	1,225	1,250	1,075	695	720	710
Girls.....	1,335	1,375	1,475	1,570	1,475	1,550	1,225	1,435	1,335	925	875	780
Corlears	272	150	331	415	429	488	573	598	581	380	228	277
Hudson	680	665	970	415	365	477	666	636	750	654	797	942

In addition to the finished playgrounds and gymnasiums, previously outlined, the following unimproved plots were filled in, levelled and graded and opened for use as temporary playgrounds:

	Area, Acres.
Chelsea Park.....	3.11
Plot in East One Hundred and First street, between Second and Third avenues .....	.84
Plot west of Tenth avenue, running from Fifty-ninth to Sixtieth street....	.51
Jasper Field	1.8

The large open field at Chelsea Park has afforded a splendid opportunity to the boys of that vicinity to indulge their natural instinct to play baseball and every afternoon the ground is crowded with hundreds of small boys engaged in the practice of our great national game. On Sundays the ground is given up to the older class of young men, and regular match games are played between organized uniformed teams. These games are witnessed by thousands of spectators, yet there has not been a single complaint as to disorder on the grounds.

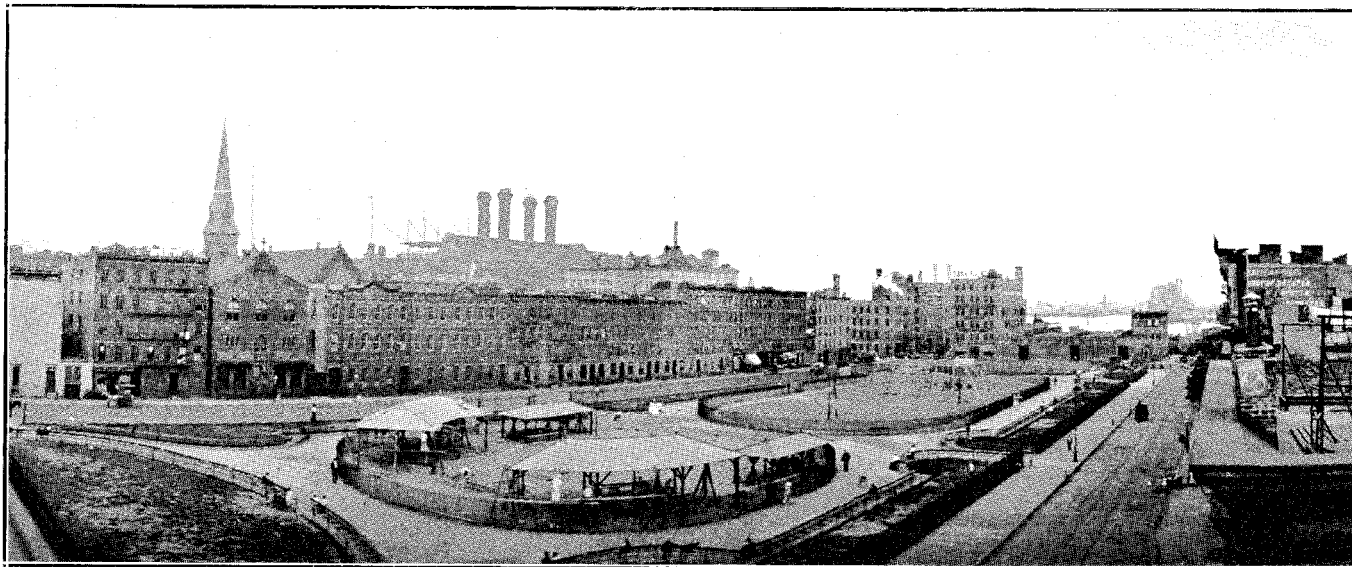
The plans for the completed park will, however, eliminate this popular feature, but gymnasiums, running tracks, etc., are provided which will meet the objections of the surrounding residents and owners of property in the neighborhood of the park, from whom numerous complaints have been received as to broken glass, resulting from the ball playing, while at the same time ample opportunity is afforded for physical exercise. The old baseball ground known as Jasper Field (area 1.8 acres), acquired by the City as part of the St. Nicholas Park was cleaned up and made available for use. The old dilapidated fence surrounding the field was torn down and the grand stand repaired and put in safe condition.

In Central Park, the Department maintained the following special fields, for playground purposes:

Croquet Grounds—Area, $13\frac{1}{2}$ acres; location, Sixty-third to Sixty-sixth street, centre drive to west drive; open for croquet playing summer season, daily except Sunday; open as a "Common" on Sundays.

The Green (Ball Ground)—Area, 21.10 acres; location, Sixty-sixth to Seventy-second street, centre drive to west drive; open for baseball, Wednesday, Saturdays and holidays during summer; restricted to boys under 16; open as a "Common" on Sundays.

North Meadow (Upper Tennis Ground)—Area, 30.45 acres; location, Ninety-seventh to One Hundred and Fourth street, east and west drive; contains 153 tennis courts; open during summer season from 6 a. m., to 7 p. m., daily except Sunday; open as a "Common" on Sundays; open for football during the fall.



ST. GABRIEL'S PARK PLAYGROUND—GENERAL VIEW.

South Meadow (Lower Tennis Ground)—Area, 9.86 acres; location, Ninety-third to Ninety-seventh street, east and west drive; contains 36 tennis courts; open during summer season, daily except Sundays; open as a "Common" on Sundays; open for football during the fall.

Circle Lawn—Area, 1.10 acres; location, One Hundred and Sixth street, west drive; open for croquet during summer season, daily except Sundays.

West Lawn, Mount Morris Park—Area, 2.50 acres; open for croquet during summer season, daily except Sundays; open as a "Common" on Sundays.

The total area of grounds set apart for sports and athletic exercises in the parks approximates 100 acres (see appendix).

The widely scattered locations of the various grounds afford the youth of the entire city ample opportunity for healthful enjoyment. In order to properly regulate the use of the grounds in Central Park, permits are required for tennis, croquet and football. Baseball is restricted to boys under 16, no permit being required.

Permits are issued by the Commissioner upon application at the office of the Department.

During the year the following permits were issued:

Two thousand nine hundred and fifty to play tennis (includes four persons), 350 to play football (includes full team), 357 to play croquet (includes eight persons).

Permits for tennis and croquet give the holder the privilege of storing nets, rackets, croquet sets, etc., in the houses provided for the purposes on the grounds. The present storage facilities at both tennis grounds are inadequate and the buildings unsightly and new buildings with proper facilities are urgently needed.

All the grounds in Central and Mount Morris Parks, as well as the East Green, Cherry Hill, Cedar Hill and the ramble lawns were opened during May and June for children's parties, for which 1,200 permits were issued, providing for about 125,000 children. The decrease in numbers from the previous year was due to the inclement weather conditions, the heavy rain and chilly weather which prevailed all through the month of May precluding the use of any of the lawns until the last week in the month.

At the Conservatory Lake, an artificial pond, some acres in area, situated opposite Seventy-fourth street, near Fifth avenue, a small house is provided for the storage of model boats, the sailing of which is permitted on the lake. There is usually an interested crowd of boys to be found around the shore of the lake, either watching the boats or sailing their own, and every type of boat is represented, from the crude home-made nondescript to the costly model racing yacht.

During the winter season the lakes are opened for skating as soon as the ice is thick enough to be safe. Owing to the enormous crowds which the ice is called upon to hold, a minimum thickness of $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches is required by the Department. During the early part of the year past, the weather was sufficiently cold to form the required thickness and the lakes were open to skaters on February 3, 4, 5, 9 and 10, five days in all. Owing to the extremely mild weather during November and December, practically no ice was formed on the lakes, and there was, consequently, no skating. The skate houses or shelters were erected at all the lakes, however, on the approach of cold weather so as to be available for the use of the public, should there be skating.

Olympic Parade.

On the occasion of the parade, held August 29, 1908, in connection with the official reception given by The City of New York in honor of the victorious American Olympic team, a regiment of twelve companies composed of boys from the Department playgrounds attracted much attention by their generally good appearance and their splendid marching. Each company was officered by boys selected by the attendant in charge of the ground, and the boys were drilled in the various military formations by the attendants under the direction of one of their number.

Each company carried silk guidons bearing the name of the playground from which it came and each boy wore a badge of the National color, bearing the inscription:

" Playgrounds
of the
Department of Parks
Boroughs of
Manhattan and Richmond
In Honor of the
American Olympic Team,
1908 "

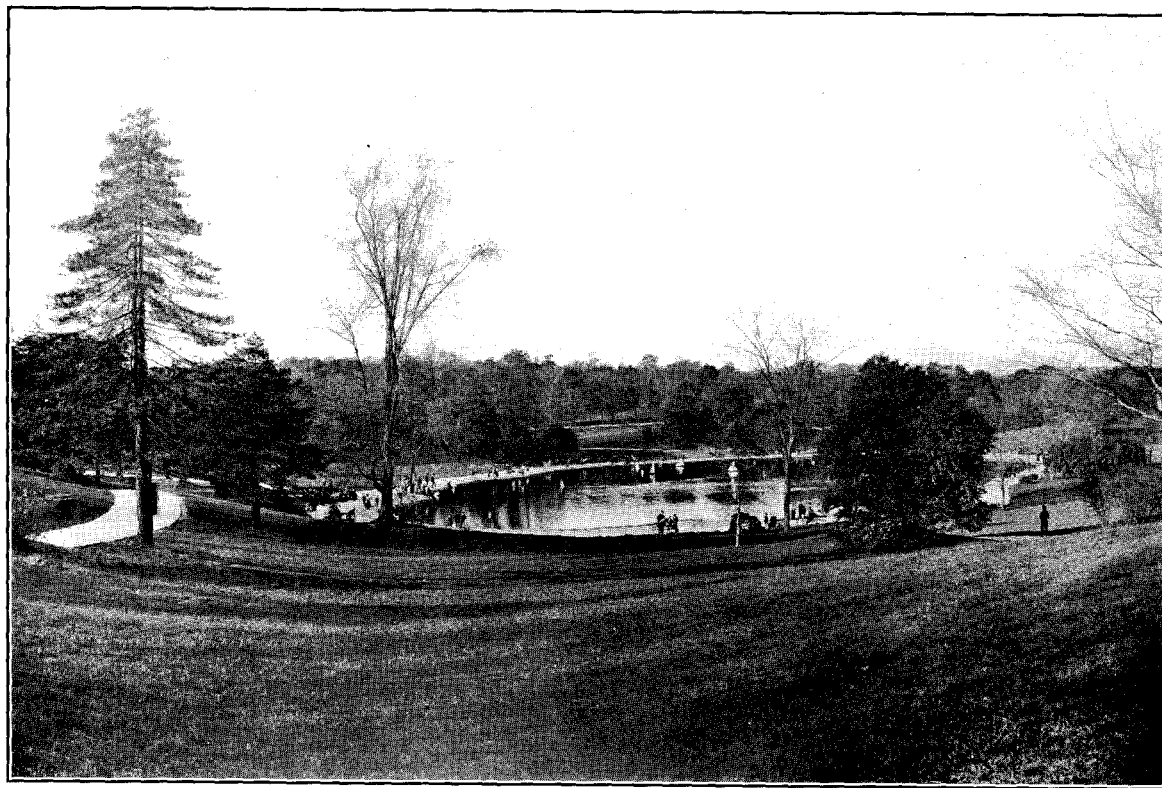
The line of march was from Madison Square Park down Fifth avenue to Union square, thence along Broadway to the City Hall where the parade was reviewed by the Mayor and the members of the Olympic team. The boys who ranged in age from ten to eighteen years, stood the long march exceeding well and no ill effects were reported as a result. The regiment disbanded at City Hall Park and the boys were taken back to the playgrounds on the cars by the attendants.

The expense in connection with the parade, badges, carfare, etc., were borne by the official reception committee appointed by the City.

In the following pages, under the name of each park, is given an outline of the extraordinary features of the maintenance work accomplished during the past year.



CENTRAL PARK—SKATING ON THE LARGE LAKE.



CENTRAL PARK—CONSERVATORY LAKE FOR MINIATURE BOATS.

Drives and Bridle Paths—Central Park and Riverside Parks.

Drives.

Forty experienced laborers, drivers, etc., divided into two sections, each under a competent foreman, together with six steam rollers, only two of which are department property, the others being hired, constituted the repair force on the drives.

Nearly 30,000 cubic yards of gravel was spread on the drives, every drive in the park being resurfaced during the summer. Some portions of the main drives, on which the automobile traffic was exceedingly heavy, had to be gone over a second time. The increased use of automobiles necessitates a greatly increased cost for maintenance of the drives, the suction from the heavy rubber-tired wheels revolving at a high rate of speed and the use of chains greatly damaging the roads. The quantity of gravel used on the repair of the drives during the past year is twice as much as was used during any previous year although the total area of drives in the parks has not been increased, this being the first year the entire area of drives has been treated.

Use of Oil on the Drives.

Following out the test made during the latter part of 1907, the drives were treated with an oil preparation to keep down the dust and to preserve the road. The first application was made during April, but rain falling on several successive days washed the solution away. Later applications met with success, however, and the park during the balance of the year was practically free from dust. The emulsion used was composed of crude oil having an asphalt base, combined with chip soap, in the proportion of ten pounds of soap to fifty gallons of oil, to this was added one hundred gallons of water, the whole being boiled together in a mixing tank into which live steam was turned. When thoroughly mixed the solution was drawn off into the ordinary 600 gallon water sprinkler, enough cold water being added to fill the wagon. It was found necessary to put a second application on the drives shortly after the first lot had been applied, but after that, a single wagon spraying the bare spots in the drives sufficed to keep them in continuous good order for several weeks.

The unpleasant odor which accompanied the first applications made, was almost neutralized in the later preparations, the boiling of the oil and soap together instead of boiling each separately seeming to lessen this disagreeable feature. The preparation now in use gives off only a slight odor when first applied, and this disappears within a short time, usually in an hour or two. A complete outfit for the convenient handling of the oil and the preparation of the emulsion was installed by the Department mechanical force at the repair shops in Central Park. The outfit consisted of a set of five mixing tanks in the main building, a storage tank outside the building and above the tanks so as to allow the oil to flow by gravity. This tank has a capacity of twelve barrels and is connected with the mixing tanks by a 3-inch (3) iron feed pipe, each

tank having independent connections, with the feed pipe and with the steam supply, the 3-inch steam pipe being placed well down towards the bottom of the tank so as to thoroughly agitate the mass in boiling. The emulsion was drawn off through a 3-inch pipe running through the wall to the outside of the building at a convenient height for filling the sprinklers. While this system is the best known to date it is not altogether satisfactory and with further experiment something better may be devised that will be an improvement.

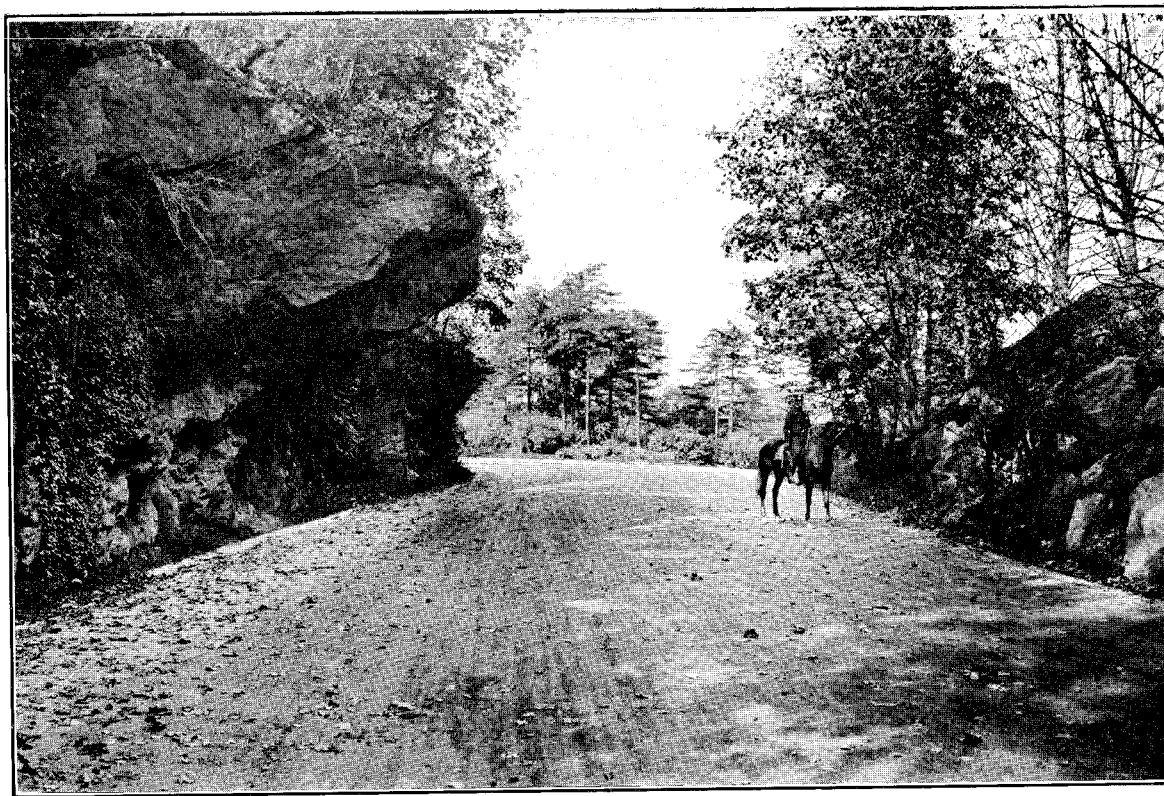
The prepared mixture costs the Department considerably less than one cent a gallon on the drive as will be seen from the following table:

Fifty gallons of oil, at 4 cents.....	\$2 00
Ten pounds chip soap, at 6 cents.....	60
Time of Laborer preparing mixture, thirty minutes, at \$2 per day.....	13
Time of team and driver sprinkling, two hours, at \$4.50 per day.....	1 12
Five hundred and fifty gallons water.....	....
<hr/>	
Total cost of 600 gallons.....	\$3 85
<hr/>	

There is a considerable saving over sprinkling with water which requires constant attendance of men and teams in dry weather.



EAST DRIVE—CENTRAL PARK.



CENTRAL PARK—OVERHANGING ROCKS, WEST DRIVE, ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH STREET.

Bridle Paths.

A new policy was adopted during the year regarding the care of the bridle paths in the park. The paths are now harrowed and levelled in the evening after the riding is over, thus putting them in good condition for use in the early morning hours. During the summer the paths were watered at 6 o'clock in the morning to lay the dust. As the result of this extra work the paths are in their best condition during the cool hours from 6 to 9 o'clock and the number of riders during those hours has greatly increased. The condition of the paths generally elicited much favorable comment from equestrian visitors, and many communications were received commending the work of the Department in that regard. The following is a copy of one such communication, which explains itself:

The Metropolitan Riding Association, }
 No. 5 West Sixty-sixth Street, }
 New York, March 15, 1908. }

Hon. HENRY SMITH, Park Commissioner, Arsenal, New York:

Dear Sir—The winter season having now passed, it has seemed to the members of this association that their continued expression of pleasure amongst themselves at the admirable way in which the bridle path in the park has been maintained during the entire season, might well be expressed to the Commissioner.

Never in our experience of many years of riding in the park has the bridle path approached the excellent shape in which we have found it during the past winter, and we feel that our thanks are due to the Commissioner and the men under him for the work they have done.

(Signed)

F. L. RODEWALD,
 R. H. HALSTEAD,
 DANIEL APPLETON,
 A. M. JUDSON,
 HUGH J. GRANT,
 C. K. G. BILLINGS,
 ROBERT STARK,
 A. H. SMITH,
 LEWIS G. YOUNG,
 JOHN L. WILKIE,
 W. C. TETER,
 GEO. O. KNAPP,
 S. OAKLEY VANDERPOEL,
 S. B. CHAPIN.

A copy of this letter was forwarded to the Superintendent and through him to the various Foremen and men having the work in charge and the recognition of the result of their labor was highly appreciated and served as an incentive to continue their good work.

Central Park.

Four rustic pavilions in the Ramble which had fallen into decay were rebuilt, as were also the rustic fences which surrounded them and bordered the approaching walks.

The obsolete and unsanitary iron urinals on the shore of the large lake were removed and the sites filled in with mold, graded and improved by the planting of shrubs, etc.

The surfaces of the lakes were cleared of green scum (algae) by the use of sulphate of copper, the method of application being to tie a gunnysack containing about twenty pounds to the stern of a rowboat and drag it through the water until dissolved. The application was renewed each time the algae collected.

At the Mere a large section of the bottom was cleared of the subaqueous growths during the fall. The mud to a depth of about 3 feet was removed and carted to the City dump; and the shore was cleaned and graded. In all some 300 cubic yards of mud, etc., were removed up to the close of the year. The benefit of the work should be apparent the coming summer in the increased clear surface area of the lake.

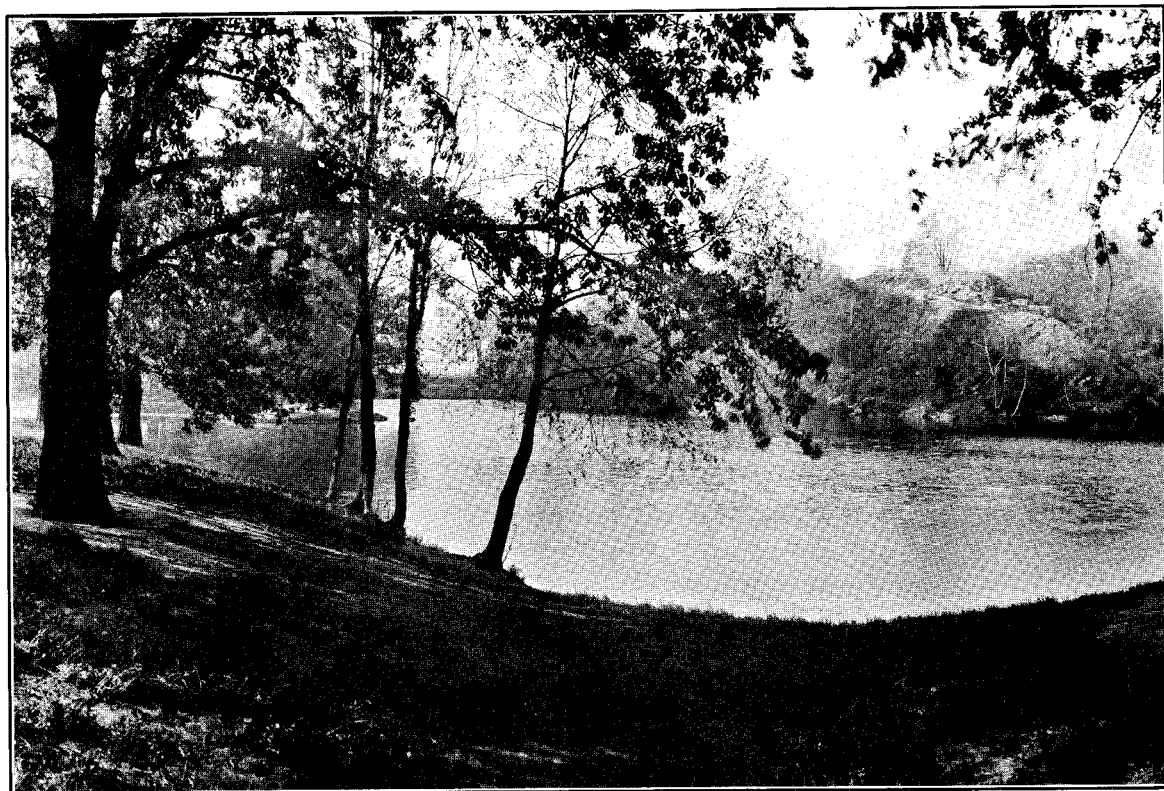
Repairs and Alterations at Department Stables—Alterations to Department Workshops.

Lack of proper drainage at the Department workshops which adjoin the large reservoir in the park caused the seepage from the reservoir to collect and lodge under the floor of the building, creating an unsanitary condition, dangerous to the health of the workmen. To correct this condition the cement floor was taken up and a system of subsurface drainage was put in. Agricultural tile drain was laid in trenches filled with broken stone. A large receiving basin was built to take the drainage, also a surface basin to take the surface drainage, and the floor was relaid. The work was done by the Department labor force.

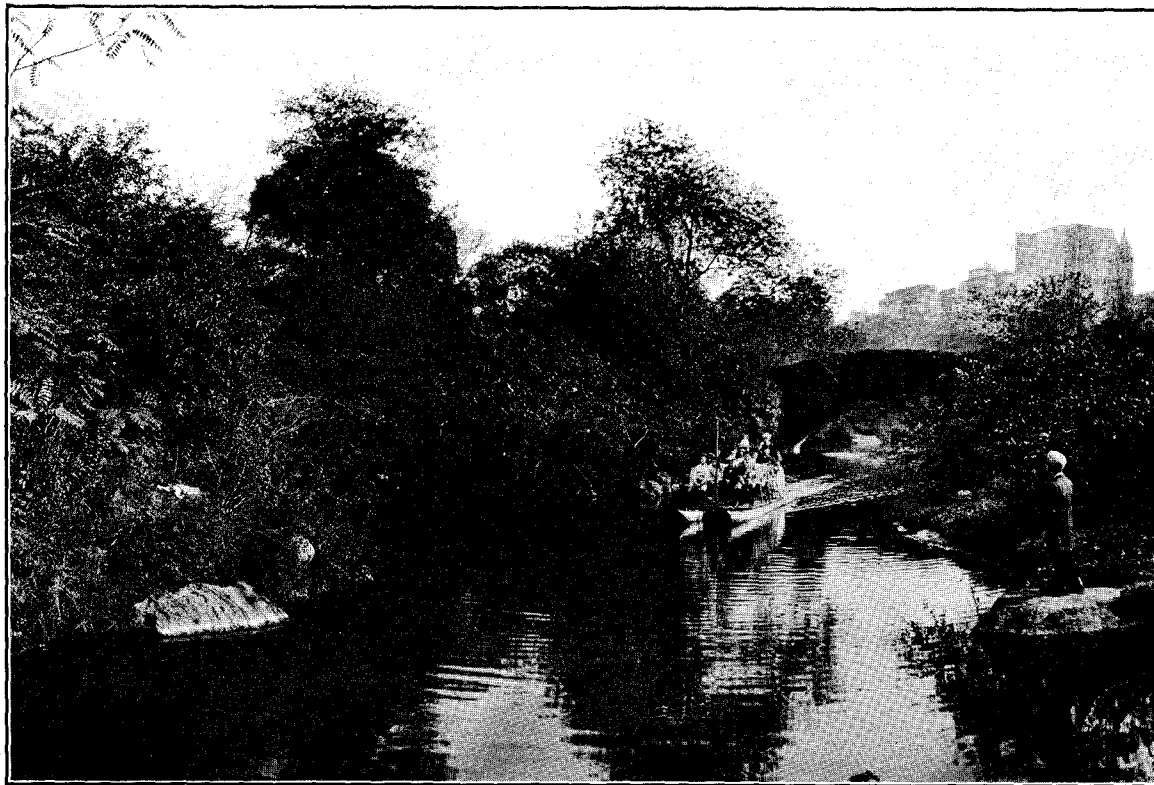
The dilapidated condition of the stable roof and the roof of the shop building necessitated such extensive repairs and alterations that a contract was let for the work to be done by outside labor and work started. The contract embraced the erection of additional skylights to give better condition of light and air in the workshops as well as the repair of the roof. This improvement was urgently needed.

New Concrete Seats at the Obelisk.

Forty-four new concrete seats were set up on the walk surrounding the obelisk, replacing the old wood and iron benches formerly used there. The new seats are similar in color to the base of the obelisk and are of artistic design in harmony with the surroundings.



THE HARLEM MERE AND FORT FISIL.



CENTRAL PARK—THE POND AND GAPSTOW BRIDGE.

Repairs to Bow Bridge.

The old worn out floor of the bow bridge was taken up and replaced with a new floor of white oak at a cost of \$477, the work being done by contract.

The sheepfold yard was resurfaced with gravel and graded, about 80 yards of gravel being used.

A manure distributing machine purchased in the spring was used to spread the manure on the Central Park lawns. By its use the manure is spread much more quickly and more evenly than is possible by hand. The results obtained were so satisfactory that two additional machines have since been purchased for future use.

Manhattan Square.

The plot bounded by Seventy-seventh street, Eighth avenue, Eighty-first street and Columbus avenue, is the site of the American Museum of Natural History. The building occupies the entire frontage along Seventy-seventh street and the plot in the rear has heretofore not been given the same minute care and attention as other parks. The grass on the lawns and slopes instead of being cut with the lawn mowers and kept trim was allowed to grow long in order to furnish forage for certain of the animals in the zoo. During the past year this plot has been given the same degree of maintenance as other parks. Lawns were kept trimmed and neat, additional benches were set out along the walks, and everything put in first class condition. The great improvement in the appearance of the park was the source of much favorable comment especially upon the part of residents of the vicinity.

City Hall Park.

The old fences surrounding the lawns and grass plots in City Hall Park presented no uniformity, being of various materials and designs, some of wire, others of iron pipe, etc., and they gave to the park an ill-kept and neglected appearance. A contract was therefore executed for the erection of new 3-rail pipe fences around all the plots at a cost of \$4,200, and the work was fully completed before the fall. In all, 6,576 linear feet of fence was furnished and erected by the contractor. The old fence posts, wire, etc., were taken by the Department for use in the work of repair throughout the parks.

As ample toilet facilities are provided in this part by the new comfort stations maintained by the Department of Public Buildings on the south side of the park, the three iron urinals of an obsolete type were removed from the park. The old sites were filled in with earth, a top layer of good mold added and the plots sodded.

To relieve the congested condition of traffic on the main walk between the City Hall and the Court House, the walk was widened by resetting the curb along new lines which added about 1,500 square feet of area to the existing walk. Four hundred and

fifty feet of curb was taken up and cut to the new lines and reset by the Department force. The added walk surface was paved with asphalt.

These changes, together with the improvements made at the site of the old engine house at the northeast corner; the removal of the old wooden refreshment stands, and the erection of a new one of artistic design at an inconspicuous point under the approach to the Brooklyn Bridge; as well as the regulation of all other business being done under permit or license from the Department; the planting of additional trees and the removal of many dead trees, have greatly improved the appearance of the Park and added to the convenience of the public.

Battery Park.

Two old iron urinals of the same type as those removed from City Hall Park were removed, the sites being filled in, graded and sodded.

Ample facilities for the comfort and convenience of visitors to the park are provided by the new comfort station maintained by the Department of Public Buildings near the main walk leading to the Aquarium.

The general condition of the sea wall and the adjoining walk was found upon inspection made by the Chief Engineer to be such that very extensive repairs would be necessary to repair the damage done by the action of wave and tide. The estimated cost of the work is \$15,000, which sum the Board of Estimate and Apportionment will be requested to set aside for the purpose. Plans and specifications are now in course of preparation for the completion of the work by contract. In the meantime temporary repairs have been made by the Department force.

A large portion of the park which had been occupied by the contractors in the course of the work in building the new rapid transit tunnel to Brooklyn was cleared of rubbish, etc., fresh top soil was spread, the ground sodded; new trees planted to replace those taken out in the course of the work, and the chain railing restored around the lawns. A thorough inspection of the grounds was made and the certificate issued that Park property had been properly restored.

A fire occurred in the women's toilet building on November 3, which necessitated closing the building for some time. The loss was about \$300, the damage being repaired for that sum. The cause of the fire is unknown.

Mulberry Bend Park.

A new iron folding gate was erected at the entrance to the pavilion in order that the building might be properly closed at night.

The old wooden booth in the park for the sale of refreshments was removed and the unimproved plot at the corner of Worth and Baxter streets opposite the park, was cleared of rubbish, etc., and the sidewalk graded and reset.

Cooper Park.

At the request of the Department the old toilet room beneath the sidewalk was examined and condemned by the Health Department on account of its unsanitary condition, which had caused many complaints. This condition was due to lack of proper ventilation and drainage, and as the lack of space and the peculiar situation of the room precluded the possibility of remedying these conditions it was decided to remove it entirely. Accordingly the fixtures were taken out, the enclosure demolished and the site filled in with earth. A layer of good top soil was then added and the plot sodded.

Park Avenue Parks.

A large quantity of privet removed from the overcrowded plantations in Central Park. The damage was repaired at a cost of \$95.

Bryant Park.

The lawns were resodded and the walks repaired and the park generally improved.

St. Gabriel's Park.

One hundred and seventy-five privet removed from the crowded sections of Central Park were planted, so as to form a hedge inside the fence enclosing the park.

A large plot at the easterly end of the park which had been set aside as a site for the proposed pavilion had been left unimproved and was surrounded by a solid wooden fence, pending the preparation of plans, etc., for the construction of the building. The cutting off of this plot took a considerable portion from the already very limited park area of this section of the city. There being no particular reason why this plot should not be made available at once, the fence was taken down, the old tool house removed and the ground levelled and graded. A wooden rail fence was then erected and the plot thrown open and has since been used as a baseball ground for the smaller boys.

William H. Seward Park.

The terra cotta and stone work of the exterior of the pavilion and shelter at Seward Park was cleaned and the joints repointed. The cost of the work, which was done by outside labor, on open market order, was \$792. A new entrance was made on the north side of the park, opposite the public school, for the greater of the children and the public generally.

St. Nicholas Park.

The dilapidated wooden fence surrounding Jasper (baseball) Field was removed and necessary repairs made to the grand stand to put it in safe condition.

The unimproved park plots below grade from One Hundred and Thirty-sixth street to One Hundred and Thirty-eighth street, from Convent avenue to St. Nicholas terrace was cleaned up and wooden rail fences erected along the sidewalks in front of the plots, where required.

The flagging on the surrounding walks was reset and the washouts on walk on the hill above the park were properly filled in.

Colonial Park.

Renewed the stairway at One Hundred and Forty-eighth street leading from Bradhurst avenue, at the bottom of the hill, to Edgcombe avenue, at the top.

Cleaned all refuse from the unimproved portion of the park from One Hundred and Forty-fifth to One Hundred and Fiftieth street, and erected for the protection of the public 250 feet of wooden rail fence on Edgcombe avenue, and 80 feet on One Hundred and Forty-fifth street, where the park was considerably below grade.

High Bridge Park.

In the course of the investigation following the establishment of the new system of accounts as to revenues, several houses were found to be occupied in High Bridge, Colonial and St. Nicholas Parks. In many cases it was found that the occupants were paying rent to the Bureau of Revenues of the Finance Department of the City, but in a few cases the occupants proved to be merely squatters.

Two such cases were encountered in the northern part of High Bridge Park, near Washington Bridge. One of the buildings proved to be in fair condition and was taken over by the Department for use as a tool house. The other was in a dilapidated condition and was demolished by the Department.

The rhododendron plantations, at the entrance to Washington Bridge, were filled out by the addition of fifty or more hybrid specimens to replace those lost. This plantation is a most beautiful sight when in bloom, and is viewed by many thousands, many of whom visit the park specially for that purpose.

The poison ivy vines along the park walk near High Bridge were removed by the Department gardeners.

Harlem River Driveway.

The new water supply installed by contract under the direction of the Chief Engineer proved of great benefit in the work of maintaining the driveway in good condition.

The driveway as a popular resort retains its popularity, and the spirited brushes on Sundays were witnessed by the usual crowd of visitors.

An inter-city matinee trotting meet was held October 21. The races were conducted on the upper course, and fast time was made in every event.

The roadway leading from Amsterdam avenue down the hill to the Speedway was repeatedly washed out by storms and necessitated frequent filling in with broken stone and ashes.

The approach to the Speedway from One Hundred and Fifty-fifth street was resurfaced with limestone screenings, as were also the walks, and two old wooden refreshment stands were removed.

The condition of the retaining wall and bulkhead of the Speedway gave cause for much concern. An examination developed the fact that the crib supporting the bulkhead had settled some, taking the bulkhead with it, and it will be necessary to rebuild both. Following the report of the Chief Engineer, request was made to the Board of Estimate for \$500,000, the estimated cost of rebuilding the crib work and replacing the wooden bulkhead with stone construction of a permanent character. This sum was authorized on June 26, and plans and specifications are now in course of preparation to have the work done by contract.

A contract was let October 22 for the painting of the iron railing along the bulkhead.

Fort Washington Park.

There being no water supply in this park for the accommodation of visitors, permission was obtained from the Department of Water Supply to tap the City main in Depot lane, which runs through the park. A connection was then made and about 800 feet of galvanized iron water pipe laid. Two drinking hydrants were put in, one near the entrance at Depot lane, the other on the path leading to Fort Washington Point.

The beach at "The Point" was kept free of driftwood and refuse during the summer and the park kept in as good condition as any unimproved can be. The population in the vicinity of this park has increased enormously in the past year, and plans are being prepared for the improvement of the same. Application will be made to the Board of Estimate for an issue of Corporate Stock for this purpose.

Riverside Drive.

The old type of pipe rail fence which separated the walk from the drive was replaced by a new fence of rustic cement posts with heavy iron chain strung in loops between. The posts are made at the Department workshops and are reinforced by iron rods cast in the cement. Only a portion of the drive has been covered during the year, but it is the intention to extend the new fence where necessary during the coming year.

Repairs to Monuments.

Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument, Riverside Drive.

The stonework of this monument, which had been neglected and in need of repair for some two or three years past, was thoroughly cleaned and the joints pointed up by Department workmen under the supervision of the Architect of the Department. The cost of the work was \$2,976.18.

Franklin Statue, Printing House Square.

The iron railing around the statue, which had become broken and which was in a generally dilapidated condition, was restored to its original condition.

Sherman Statue, The Plaza, Central Park.

A crack about a foot in length developed in the bronze casting of one of the legs of the horse. The damage was repaired at a cost of \$95.

Statue of President Arthur.

The bronze spectacles which were held in the right hand when the statue was erected were stolen by some miscreant. They were replaced at a cost of \$30.

Water Supply, John Jay Park.

Pending the construction of John Jay Park the portion south of Seventy-seventh street was equipped for use as a playground and gymnasium.

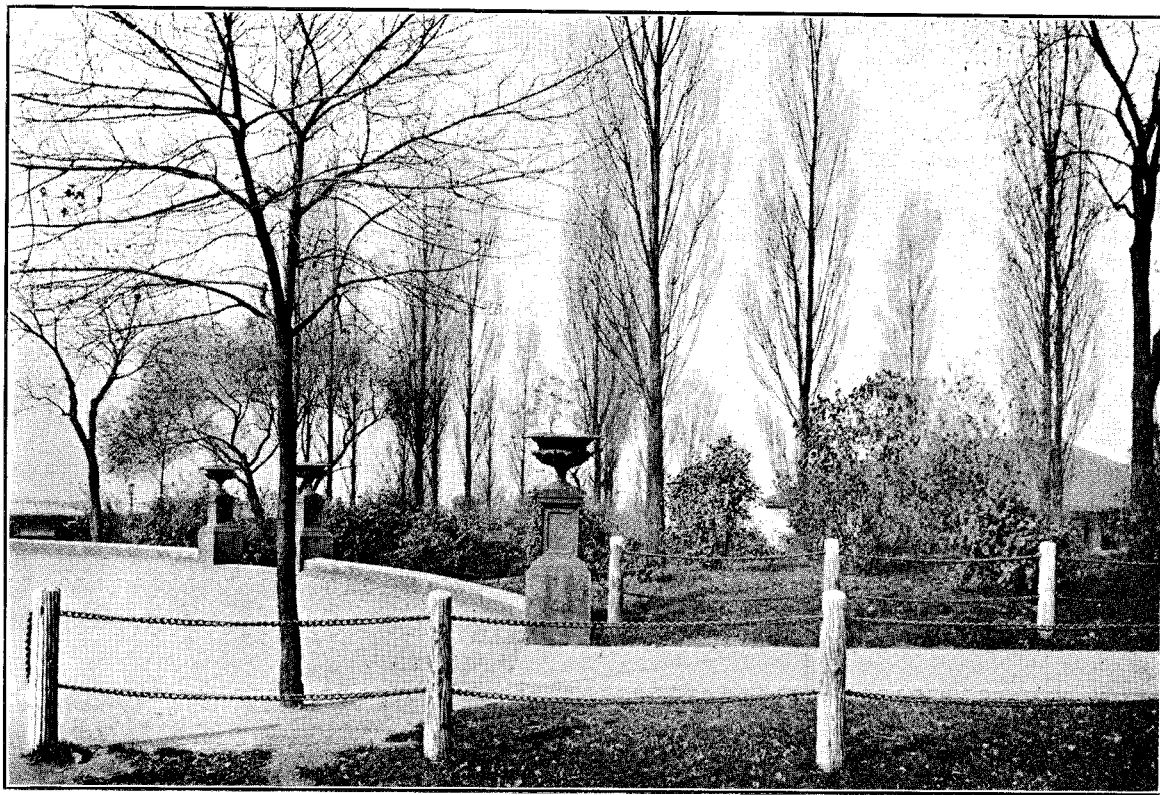
No water supply was put in and the children suffered great inconvenience in consequence. This condition has been corrected during the past year by the installation of a drinking hydrant on the grounds connected with the water main supplying the public bath building adjoining the park.

Miscellaneous.

Two additional drinking hydrants were installed on the playgrounds at Seward Park for the convenience of the children.

The iron fences around Stuyvesant Park, Bryant Park and the small parks on Park avenue, from Thirty-fourth to Fortieth street, and from Fifty-sixth to Ninety-sixth street, were repaired and painted, the work being done by contract at a cost of \$6,430.

A contract was executed, amounting to \$4,598, for rebuilding of 2,000 park settees, to supply the increased demand in the different parks and parkways throughout Manhattan.



RIVERSIDE PARK, AT SEVENTY-SECOND STREET.
Showing New Concrete Rustic Fence-posts. Designed and Made in Department.

Restoration of Pavements of Streets and Avenues Under the Jurisdiction of This Department.

The pavements of roadways, plazas and streets under the jurisdiction of this Department were kept in proper repair. The total amount of work done on the maintenance of same for the year was:

Square yards of roadway pavements restored.....	8,634
Cubic yards of concrete foundations laid.....	22

Central Park.

Ambulance Service.

The expensive ambulance service formerly maintained by the Department for some years past was abolished January 1 as being an unnecessary expense. The many public hospitals within a few minutes' reach of any portion of the park, and the admirable ambulance service maintained by them have proved ample for all emergencies during the year.

During the skating season a licensed physician is retained for duty in the skate house at each lake for the prompt treatment of persons injured on the ice, and the Red Cross flag is prominently displayed on the buildings on skating days.

Central Park.

Police Service.

Acting under the provisions of section 313 of the Greater New York Charter, requisition was made by this Department on the Police Department to place the immediate command of the Thirty-third Precinct, in Central Park, under the Commissioner of Parks, and on February 22, 1908, the Police Commissioner turned over the command to this Department in connection with Police duty within the Park.

The change has been a very desirable one, for the reason that it enables the Commissioner of Parks to issue direct to the commanding officer of the Precinct in Central Park all orders in relation to police duty within the park, and has greatly improved the efficiency of the service within the park. The police force is not as large as it should be to properly man the park, and the Police Department has been unable to increase the number of men.

BOROUGH OF RICHMOND.

During the year the amount of territory under the jurisdiction of the Department in the Borough of Richmond was increased by the addition of Westerleigh Park, comprising about three acres of natural park land, deeded to the City for use as a park by the National Prohibition Company of Richmond, for the consideration of \$1. This brings the City's holdings for park purposes in this Borough up to 63.56 acres, as follows:

	Acres.
Washington Park, Stapleton.....	1.46
Small park (unnamed) at Port Richmond.....	1.28
Silver Lake Park.....	57.90
Westerleigh Park	2.92
Total.....	<u>63.56</u>

The last two are still in a rough, unimproved state, but, being natural parks, are popular places for rest and recreation. Both parks were well patronized throughout the summer. Although unimproved, these parks are kept in proper condition by the labor force of the Department. Arrangements were made for the protection of the public at the lake in Silver Lake Park during the skating season, the same rules being observed in regard to the required thickness of the ice, etc., as in the other parks under the Department control. Danger signs were placed in conspicuous places around the lake and Laborers detailed as watchmen to prevent accidents.

At Washington Park, Stapleton and the small park at Port Richmond the routine work of cleaning, mowing, etc., was attended to and both parks were kept in proper condition throughout the year. The trees in both parks were pruned and trimmed of dead wood.

At Westerleigh Park the arboricultural force removed six (6) dead trees which were in dangerous condition and ten (10) dead trees in a more or less dangerous condition along the shore of the lake at Silver Lake Park were removed by the arboricultural force.

Care of Street Trees.

BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN.

In the Borough of Manhattan between the Battery and One Hundred and Fifty-fifth street, there are nearly 12,000 trees on the streets. Above One Hundred and Fifty-fifth street no record has been made, but the number is estimated to be from 4,000 to 5,000. Of this number all below Two Hundred and Eighteenth street were pruned, trimmed of dead wood and cleaned of caterpillars, etc. A force of twenty to thirty men under the direction of an Arboriculturist was regularly employed on this work practically all through the year. During the summer and fall this force was doubled in order to check the damage from caterpillars which last year were more numerous on the trees than for some years past, and also to trim out the dead wood along the streets which the regular force had been unable to cover.

Three hundred and fifty dead and dangerous trees were taken out, and thousands of loads of dead wood and brush removed and hauled to the Department storage yard at Ninety-seventh street, where it was burned. Except in the outlying districts where the wood was readily taken away by residents of the neighborhood, no other disposition of the wood is possible, as the Department of Street Cleaning does not allow it to be dumped on its scows.

Where decayed or broken limbs are removed from the trees the wound is filled with cement and painted, in order to prevent water gaining access to the interior of the tree trunk, causing decay.

Streets South of Fifty-ninth Street.

Forty dead trees, principally ailanthus, were removed from the streets below Fifty-ninth street. The remaining trees were pruned, trimmed of dead wood and cleaned of caterpillars, etc.

Streets North of Fifty-Ninth Street.

In the portion of the city north of Fifty-ninth street, some 310 dead and dangerous trees were removed during the year, the remaining trees being pruned, trimmed of dead wood and cleaned of caterpillars, etc.

All tight guards were removed and replaced by new guards; 134 new guards were set out for the protection of trees along the streets at various points throughout the Borough.

Twenty-three trees, situated at various points along Fort Washington avenue above One Hundred and Sixty-eighth street, some of which, owing to the change in grade at the time of opening the street, had been left with the roots exposed some distance above the level of the street, while others that were considerably below grade, were

brought to the street level where possible. Trenches were dug into which those above grade were lowered, while those below grade were raised and mold filled in underneath and around the roots. Although all were large trees of good growth, they were successfully moved, and are to-day in excellent condition. One large tree in West One Hundred and Forty-seventh street was raised over five feet.

All communications and requests for information, etc., regarding the care of the street trees received prompt attention.

As the result of the year's work by the Department it may be said that the trees in the streets of Manhattan are in better condition than ever before. It is a matter of regret that the Department had no funds available for the purchase of trees to replace those removed from the streets, the present appropriation covering merely the care of existing trees.

BOROUGH OF RICHMOND.

The arboricultural force in the Borough of Richmond, consisting of about twenty men under an experienced Arboriculturist were employed continually throughout the year on the care of street trees, the work done covering the following districts in that Borough:

Westerleigh, Clifton, West Brighton, New Brighton, Port Richmond, Livingston, Tompkinsville, Tottenville, Stapleton, Mariners Harbor, Concord, Rosebank, Fort Wadsworth, Grant City, Arrochar, St. George, New Dorp.

Seven hundred and four dead, decaying or dangerous trees were removed by the Department force, and over 12,000 trees covering the principal streets of the above named districts were pruned, trimmed of dead wood and given such other attention as was required to put them in good condition.

One hundred and eighteen trees were removed by property owners upon permits issued by the Department, inspection being made in each case before the permit was granted.

Many of the trees removed were healthy specimens in good condition, but which had to be removed to enable the City to proceed with the work of laying sidewalks, sewers, etc. In a few cases where the tree to be removed was young and a good specimen, rather than remove it entirely, it was transplanted or moved a short distance away where it might have a chance to re-establish growth.

In every case the rule governing the Department officials has been to encourage the planting of ornamental shade trees, such as the Norway maples, elms, planes, lindens and horse-chestnuts, and not to permit any healthy trees of those varieties to be removed unless unavoidable.

Sixty-two trees were planted under authority of Department permits, the planting in every case being supervised by the Department Arboriculturist.



SECTION OF WEST END AVENUE, SHOWING PROPOSED PLAN OF
TREE-PLANTING THROUGHOUT THE AVENUE.

All requests received during the year for the removal, trimming, etc., of trees were given prompt attention.

In connection with the new street lighting system installed during the year, it became necessary to string additional wires. As the wires in this Borough are all carried on poles through the streets, they must necessarily pass through the trees, and much damage has resulted in the past to the trees on account of defective insulation of the wires, etc. To correct this, a permit was issued to the lighting company to trim the trees, the work to be under the supervision of the Department Arboriculturist. Complaints were received, however, that the work was being improperly done, and the Department recalled the permit and arranged to have the work done by Department employees, the company to reimburse the City for the expenditure. This plan has given general satisfaction.

A noticeable improvement is evident in the condition of the trees as the result of the Department's work during the year.

Roger Morris Park.

Jumel Mansion.

(West One Hundred and Sixtieth Street, Borough of Manhattan.)

The numerous inquiries which are received from time to time regarding the history of the building known as the Jumel Mansion, formerly the Roger Morris House, make it advisable to insert in this report a brief description of the building and the events leading up to its acquisition by The City of New York. The following data has been carefully compiled from authentic sources and is believed to be historically correct.

The Roger Morris House of the revolutionary period, better known as the Jumel Mansion, stands in Roger Morris Park, between One Hundred and Sixtieth and One Hundred and Sixty-second streets, Edgecombe road and Jumel terrace. It is famous as having been the headquarters of General Washington during the early period of the American Revolution in the struggle between the British and American armies for the possession of New York, and it derives added interest from the fact that many of the chief figures of the early history of our nation have been harbored within its walls. Here the Marquis de Lafayette was received in state after the revolution. Its massive walls have witnessed the stirring scenes of the great struggle for independence, and its history awakens reminiscences of those early heroes who made possible the splendid achievements of the American Nation.

The mansion is maintained by the Park Department as a historical museum, and contains an extensive and interesting exhibit of old colonial furniture, prints, etc., of historic value; also a collection of uniforms, firearms and other relics of the revolutionary period.

From the best information obtainable, it would seem that the construction of the house was begun in 1763, completed in 1764, and the house occupied by the Morris family the same year, Roger Morris having at that time sold his Lieutenant-Colonelcy in the Forty-seventh Foot Regiment and accepted a seat in the King's Council, which was a sort of upper house in the Legislature of the Colony.

Washington established his headquarters at the Morris House on Saturday evening, September 14, 1776, remaining until about the 19th of October, when the army began its movement toward White Plains. The southeast chamber is said to have been used by Washington as his bedroom, and the small north chamber as his office. The room now known as the Council Chamber was probably used as a court-martial room, and the room at the left of the entrance, as the Adjutant-General's office.

After Washington left the house it was occupied by Colonel Robert Magaw, Commandant of Fort Mifflin, and other officers until the capture of the fort by the British. It was probably occupied during the winter by the British Commandant of the fort.

During the summer of 1777, the house was the headquarters of the British army under the command of Lieutenant-General Sir Henry Clinton, who took possession on the 14th of July, and remained until the 9th of November. On the 6th of October, during his occupancy of the house, General Clinton captured Forts Clinton and Montgomery in a vain attempt to push his troops north to meet Burgoyne.

In the summer of 1778, the house was the headquarters of Lieutenant-General Baron von Knyphausen, from July 23 until October 9.

From entries found in the diary of a German soldier, John Philip von Kraft, serving with the British forces in New York, describing the events which took place around Harlem Heights, it would appear that from March, 1778, to about November, 1783, the house was occupied as the headquarters of Lieutenant-General Carl von Losberg as Commandant of the British forces in that vicinity.

The Commissioners of Forfeiture sold the house on the 9th of July, 1784, together with 115 acres of ground—which the Morris farm contained at the close of the revolution—to John Berrian and Isaac Ledyard for the sum of £1,000. In the same year the half belonging to Isaac Ledyard passed to Theodore Hopkins and Michael Foy of London.

On February 1, 1792, Hopkins and Foy sold their half to Anthony L. Bleecker of New York for £1,000. A few years later, however (the time and the consideration not mentioned), he sold it to one William Kenyon.

On August 29, 1799, William Kenyon, in turn, sold the farm to Leonard Parkinson of England for £3,000.

On March 9, 1810, Stephen Jumel bought the mansion and 36 acres of land from Parkinson for the sum of \$9,927.50.

From the close of the revolution to the purchase of the property by Stephen Jumel, the house was by turns tavern and farm house for nearly thirty years. For a time it was "Calumet Hall," a road house kept by one Talmadge Hall, where the stages from New York to Albany made their first stop to change horses.

On the 10th day of July, 1790, when Washington, then President, was in New York, he gave a dinner in the house to the members of his cabinet and their ladies.

Stephen Jumel, who was an ardent admirer of Washington, restored the house to its original condition. After occupying it for five years he went to France, remaining there for more than ten years, during which time the mansion was rented. In 1828 the Jumel family returned again to the house. Stephen Jumel died in 1832, and in the following year Madam Jumel married Aaron Burr, the ceremony taking place in the room to the left of the front entrance. For more than thirty years following, the house was a famous resort of French emigres, Louis Napoleon, Joseph and Jerome Bonaparte being guests. Madam Jumel died in 1865, and after a long period of litigation the house became the property of Mrs. Julius Henry Caryl, a grand niece of Madam Jumel, and the daughter of Nelson Chase.

In 1887 Mrs. Caryl sold the house, with the original door yard (less the double row of wooden houses) bounded by One Hundred and Fifty-ninth street, St. Nicholas avenue, One Hundred and Sixty-second street and the park lands on the east to Seth Milliken for \$90,000.

Mr. Milliken sold the present park holding to General Ferdinand F. Earle for \$100,000 on the 7th of May, 1894. The Earles occupied the house until May, 1903, when it was purchased from them by The City of New York for \$235,000.

The mansion was opened as a public museum in 1907. It contains a valuable and highly interesting collection of relics of the revolutionary period.

Four rooms are furnished by Chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Council Chamber by the Mary Washington Colonial Chapter, the dining room by the Manhattan Chapter, the tea room by the Washington Heights Chapter, and the Washington bedroom by the Knickerbocker Chapter. The guard room is filled with the Reginald Pelham Bolton collection of revolutionary relics, dug up on the battle fields and camp grounds of Washington Heights. The Lafayette room contains the Bennett collection of colonial furniture, once the property of the Custis family, including the carved bed and couch made for the entertainment of Lafayette at the Charleston Hotel in the city of Charleston, loaned by Mrs. Louis Bennett of West Virginia.

The Burr room is used as a meeting room by the association, and this room, with the Washington office, has thus far only been used for the display of prints.

The large upper and lower halls are lined with nine wall cases filled with a collection of relics.

Over fifty prints, lithographs and framed photographs have been added to the collection during the year. A very few of these are loans. Included in the collection are two large photographs of portraits of Roger Morris and Mary (Philipse) Morris the one painted by Benjamin West, and the other by Copley.

The door fixtures have been carefully restored as nearly as possible to their original condition. Two large mirrors imbedded in the wall of the upper hall in the Earle period have been removed and a door restored which had been plastered over.

The modern brass hinges, with which the shutters had been fitted, were removed and the old Colonial strap hinges restored. Each doorway is faced with a framed list of the exhibits within, so that visitors can study the collection as intelligently as possible from without the gate.

In the old dining room there have been placed on the wall the portraits in old prints of the famous hosts and hostesses of the house, with their equally famous guests. The Morrisises, looking from the alcove, represent the first period; Washington above the mantel piece, the second period; and Madam Jumel between the front windows, the third period. The Washington guests are in Colonial frames under black

glass, and the French emigres, guests of Madam Jumel, are in gold frames with gray mats.

Many notable exhibits were received during the year and placed on view.

The number of visitors registered during the year was 16,465, which was probably something more than one-half of the actual attendance. The average daily attendance is about fifty persons, but as many as 200 have been registered on a Sunday or holiday.

Department Engineering.

The engineering force was employed during the year on the laying out and supervision of the work in connection with the various contracts for construction and improvement described in the report; the preparation of surveys, plans, specifications and estimates of cost for new and contemplated work, and the measurement of road gravel and other supplies purchased on contract or order for the Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond, as well as the tabulating of all bids received upon contracts by the Park Board.

Investigations were made in the matter of defective drainage in Mount Morris Park, at the greenhouses, Central Park, and also at the playgrounds in Tompkins square and Hamilton Fish Park, and recommendations submitted as to proper treatment of the grounds in each instance.

Plans of the new playground plots at West Sixtieth street, between Tenth and Eleventh avenue; East One Hundred and First street, between Second and Third avenues and Cherry street, near Market street, acquired during the year, were prepared and reports made as to their present condition, with recommendations as to the treatment of the buildings found upon them.

Specifications were prepared during the year as follows:

For the construction and improvement of Colonial Park south of One Hundred and Fiftieth street.

For repairing asphalt roadway pavements under the jurisdiction of the Department in the Borough of Manhattan.

For furnishing and erecting three-rail pipe fences around the grass plots in City Hall Park.

For furnishing and laying new water mains in Central Park, between Eighty-first and One Hundredth streets.

For paving with asphalt tiles certain walks of Central and other parks.

For paving with asphalt tiles the ends of the centre plots in Broadway, between Sixtieth and Eightieth streets.

For paving with rock asphalt mastic the ends of the centre plots in Broadway, between Sixtieth and Eightieth streets.

For furnishing and delivering new 5-inch curbstones where required on the centre plots on Broadway, between Sixty-fifth and Eightieth streets.

For excavating and disposing of earth and other materials, and furnishing in place thereof garden mold in the parks on Broadway between Seventy-fourth and Eighty-seventh streets.

General specification for furnishing and erecting three-rail pipe fences.

For regulating and grading the northerly half of John Jay Park.

For excavating and disposing of earth and rock from the new walk entrance to Central Park at Eighth avenue and One Hundred and Sixth street.

For paving where directed the cement walks of the small parks in the Borough of Manhattan.

For furnishing and setting curbstones and constructing walks in the addition to Riverside Park at One Hundred and Twenty-second street.

For excavating and disposing of earth and other materials and furnishing in place thereof garden mold in the centre plots on Broadway, between Eighty-seventh and One Hundred and Tenth streets.

Paving with asphalt tiles the ends of the centre plots on Broadway, between Ninety-fifth and One Hundred and Tenth streets.

For filling two depressions in Riverside Park in the vicinity of One Hundred and Twenty-seventh street.

For furnishing and setting curbstones around the centre plots in Broadway, between Eightieth and Ninety-fifth streets.

For furnishing and erecting a pipe fence along the east drive in Central Park, between Fifty-ninth street and the marble arch.

For paving the walk and roadway entrances from Seventy-seventh street to the American Museum of Natural History.

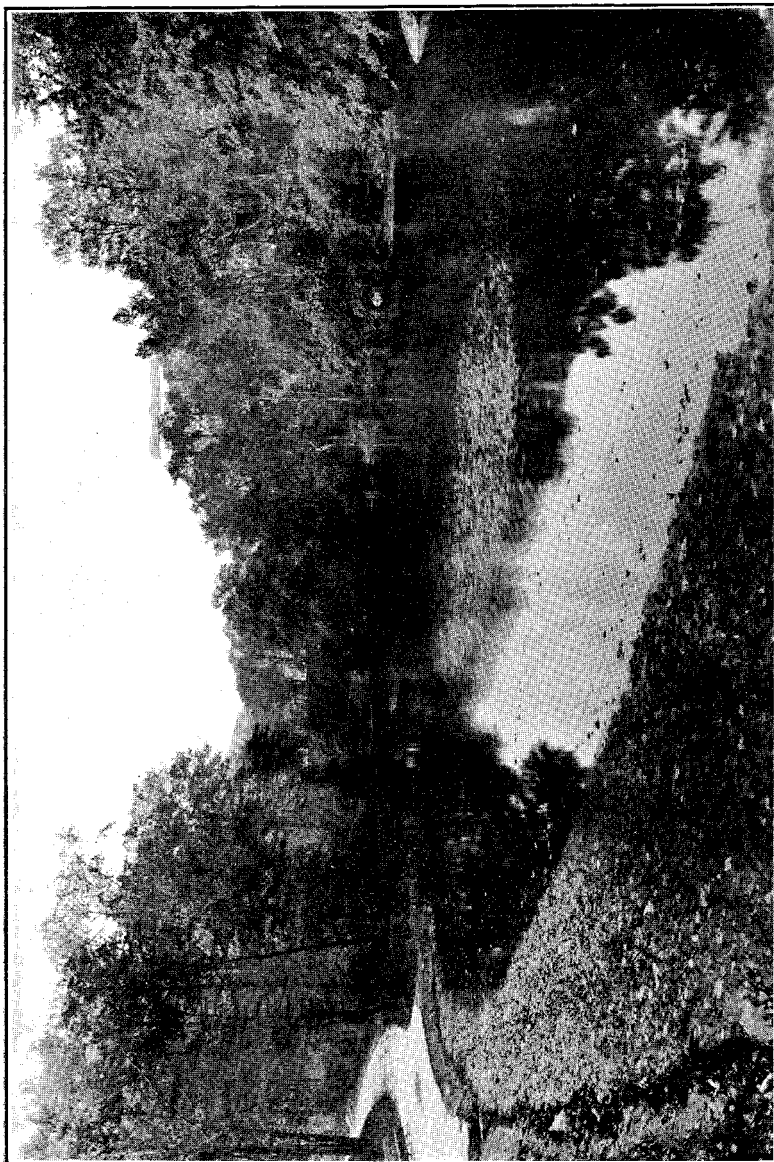
For furnishing and erecting pipe fences around the grass plots in Tompkins square.

For excavating and removing mud from the bottom of the Conservatory Lake, laying a cement floor over same, etc.

For furnishing and erecting iron picket fences around the playgrounds in Tompkins square.

There were also prepared several schedules of all the parks and parkways under the jurisdiction of the Commissioner of Parks for Manhattan and Richmond, together with lithograph maps showing the boundaries of each park and the arrangement of walks, lawns, buildings, etc.

The exact location of the northerly boundary of Fort Washington Park was ascertained by calculation, and the line established.



CENTRAL PARK—"THE POOL," ONE HUNDREDTH STREET, WEST.

An examination and report of the present condition of the newly acquired park at Westerleigh, Staten Island, were made.

A survey and map were prepared showing the streets and the grades thereof in the vicinity of the Ninety-sixth street viaduct.

A survey and map of the space occupied under the terrace bridge in Central Park by the lessee of the restaurant privilege were made.

Lines and grades were laid out defining the entrances to the new Public Library at Fifth avenue and Forty-second street.

Grades were set to determine the height of the filling deposited in Chelsea Park.

Lines were run establishing the alignment of the curbs, etc., in the centre plots on Broadway, between Sixtieth and One Hundred and Tenth streets.

An investigation was made to determine the source of water which was discharging over the sidewalk of the Speedway at One Hundred and Seventy-first street and report submitted with recommendations.

Calculations were made to determine the length of water frontage of parks on Manhattan Island and report submitted.

Plans were prepared as follows: :

Three lithographs of Central Park were colored.

A plan of the plot at Thirty-fifth street and Broadway was made.

A plan of a portion of Mount Morris Park opposite One Hundred and Twenty-second street.

A plan of a portion of Hamilton Fish Park, showing repairs needed to the walk pavement.

A plan of St. Nicholas Park south of One Hundred and Thirty-fifth street.

A plan of City Hall Park.

Construction plan of Hamilton Fish Park.

A plan of the extension of Riverside Park.

Plans showing changes proposed in City Hall Park, between the Court House and the City Hall.

A plan showing the existing and proposed water supply systems in Central Park.

A plan showing the brick smokestack on the new playground, Fifty-ninth street to Sixtieth street, between Tenth and Eleventh avenues.

Construction plan of Thomas Jefferson Park.

A plan showing the new drainage in the blacksmith shop of the Eighty-sixth street transverse road.

A plan showing the west side of Central Park, between Fifty-ninth and Sixty-fourth streets, and proposed positions of the new bridle road entrance.

A plan showing the approved layout of the proposed bridle road at Sixty-second street and Eighth avenue.

A plan of St. Nicholas Park north of One Hundred and Thirty-fifth street.

Contract drawings for furnishing, delivering and laying water mains and appurtenances in the Ramble, etc.

Construction plan of Battery Park.

Contract drawings for new curbstone on Broadway, between Sixtieth and Sixty-fifth streets.

Contract drawings for new water mains in Central Park, between Eighty-first and One Hundred and Tenth streets.

Topographical map of Fort Washington Park.

Contract drawings for excavating and disposing of earth and rock from the new entrance at Central Park and One Hundred and Sixth street.

Plan of proposed surface drainage and retaining wall in the playground between Fifty-ninth and Sixtieth streets, west of Amsterdam avenue.

Contract drawings for furnishing and delivering curbstones on Broadway, between Sixty-fifth and Eightieth streets.

Topographical survey to be used in connection with the erection of bays in St. Nicholas Park, at One Hundred and Thirty-fifth, One Hundred and Thirty-seventh and One Hundred and Fortieth streets.

Plan and profile for proposed sewer from public comfort station at One Hundred and Thirty-fifth street and St. Nicholas terrace, St. Nicholas Park.

Surveys and maps for contract work, paving certain walks in the City parks with asphalt tile.

Surveys and contract drawings for paving certain walks in the City parks with cement on concrete base.

Surveys and estimates for the extension of the new water supply system in Central Park, in the Ramble and between One Hundred and Second and One Hundred and Tenth streets.

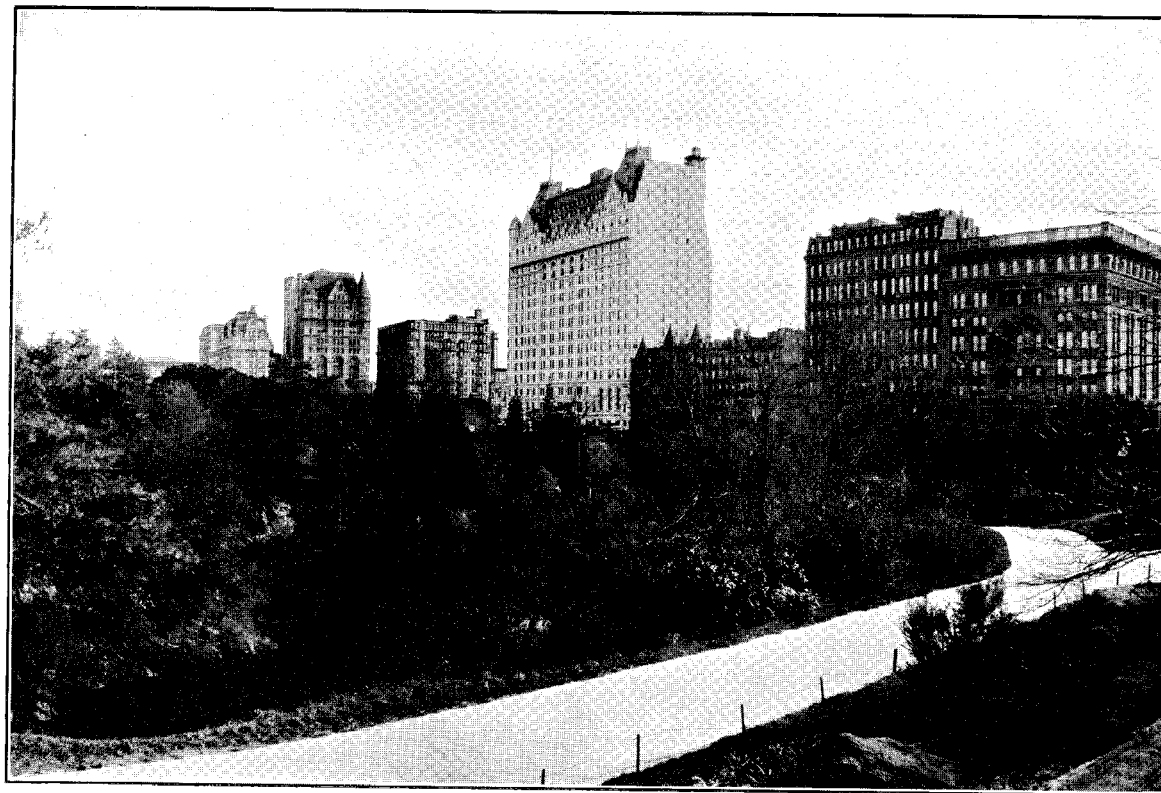
Surveys for the improvement of Chelsea Park.

Surveys for the construction of the new bridle path entrance at Sixty-second street and Central Park West.

Surveys in the matter of improving the walk systems adjacent to the propagating houses in Central Park.

Surveys for the installation of the new water supply system on the public driveway, between One Hundred and Fifty-fifth and One Hundred and Seventy-seventh streets.

Surveys of John Jay Park.



A CORNER OF CENTRAL PARK.

Surveys and topographical maps in connection with improvements to be made at Bridge K, East drive, Central Park.

Surveys for improving the entrance to the Museum of Natural History, Seventy-seventh street, Manhattan Square.

Surveys in the matter of improving the entrance to Central Park at One Hundred and Sixth street and Central Park West.

Survey showing the location of the temporary wooden steps at One Hundred and Fifty-fourth street, Colonial Park.

Survey of slopes between drive and railroad wall opposite to the tomb of General Grant, as a site for proposed comfort station.

Locations and surveys of the flower plots in various parks south of Fifty-ninth street and the preparation of maps of same.

Contract drawings for paving with asphalt tiles the ends of the Broadway centre plots, between Sixtieth and Eightieth streets.

Contract drawings for furnishing and erecting three-rail pipe fence, East drive, Central Park, from Fifty-ninth street to the marble arch.

Contract drawings for paving with asphalt tiles the ends of the small parks on Broadway, between Eightieth and Ninety-fifth streets.

Plan of Mulberry Bend Park.

Contract drawing for furnishing and setting new curbstones in the parks on Broadway, between Ninety-fifth and One Hundred and Tenth streets.

Contract drawing for furnishing and setting new curbstones in the parks on Broadway, between Eightieth and Ninety-fifth streets.

Plan and details showing proposed fences around the grassplots in the small park at St. Nicholas avenue and One Hundred and Seventeenth street.

Contract drawings for fences around the grassplots in Tompkins Square.

Contract drawings for regulating and grading the northerly half of John Jay Park.

Plans for erecting two-rail pipe fence around the grassplots in the small park at One Hundred and Thirty-seventh street and Edgecombe avenue.

Topographical map of a portion of Riverside Park west of Grant's Tomb.

Contract drawings for furnishing and erecting wrought iron picket fences around the two playgrounds in Tompkins Square.

Contract drawings for repaving the Seventy-seventh street roadway and walk entrances, American Museum of Natural History.

A topographical survey was made of the grounds in Central Park adjacent to the new bridle path from Sixty-second street to Sixty-fourth street, on the west side.

Surveys for construction map, St. Nicholas Park, One Hundred and Thirtieth to One Hundred and Forty-first street.

Surveys defining the line and general conditions of the wooden bulkhead of the public driveway, data to be used in contract for erecting stone wall in place of the wooden bulkhead.

Estimate for the construction of the playground at East One Hundred and First street.

Contract drawings, specifications, form of contract, etc., for laying cement curb and sidewalks around the park at Westerleigh, Staten Island.

Survey defining the property line between Riverside Park and the Hudson River Railroad Company, extending from Seventy-ninth to Ninety-sixth street.

Construction map of Washington Square, Stapleton, Borough of Richmond.

Plan of proposed entrance from Hester street to Seward Park.

Plan of a portion of Riverside Park west of the Soldiers and Sailors' Monument.

A sketch for the proposed sheet iron cover for the waste water outlet from the pond in Central Park.

Plan showing that portion of St. Nicholas Park west of St. Nicholas terrace.

Contract plans for furnishing, delivering and laying water mains and appurtenances in Central Park, between Seventy-second and One Hundredth streets.

Plans for furnishing and installing a high pressure water service in Central Park, between Eighty-sixth and Ninety-seventh streets.

Plan of Manhattan Square.

Estimates were prepared of the cost of construction of Chelsea Park, Colonial Park (One Hundred and Forty-fifth to One Hundred and Fiftieth street), and for the playground at East One Hundred and First street, between Second and Third avenues.

The usual routine office work of tabulation of bids, inspection of materials and work, cement testing, as well as the measuring of supplies, such as gravel, sand, mold, etc., and the general field work on construction and on contracts in force, and of surveys for new work, was carried on during the year.

Mechanical Force.

The ordinary repairs to buildings, bridges, fences, walks, etc., required the services of a large force of mechanics throughout the year.

The average force employed was as follows:

Twenty-three carpenters, 3 wheelwrights, 17 painters, 6 plumbers, 7 masons.

In the department workshops a force of engineers, machinists, blacksmiths, iron-workers, etc., numbering about 25, was employed constantly on the repair of rolling stock, tools, implements, etc.

The principal items of work done by the mechanical force during the year, not including the mass of small repairs of daily occurrence, were as follows:

Extensive alterations made in the department offices at the Arsenal Building, also at the greenhouses, workshops, stables, Jumel Mansion, and the toilet building adjoining the Croquet Ground in Central Park. Overhauled, repaired and painted all the police shelters at the entrances to Central Park, and made necessary repairs to the following buildings and structures:

Central Park.

Menagerie buildings.

Swedish schoolhouse, Eighty-fifth street, west drive.

Cottage, One Hundred and Tenth street and Lenox avenue.

Toilet building, Sixty-fifth street, near Fifth avenue.

Men's cottage in the Ramble.

Storage house, tennis ground.

Women's cottage in the Ramble.

Women's cottage, Seventy-seventh street, west drive.

Toilet building, tennis ground.

Section toolhouse, Sixty-sixth street, west drive.

Women's cottage, Seventy-fourth street, east drive.

Erected temporary cleaning runs and platforms for use in the work of cleaning the various lakes.

Repairs to Bridges.

Repaired, refloored and painted the following bridges:

Rustice bridge in the Ramble.

Rustic bridge on the shore walk east of the lake.

Rustic bridge, One Hundred and Third street, west drive.

Bridge No. 27, west drive.

Bridge over bridle road near north gatehouse.

Large reservoir.

Bridge over bridle road southwest of reservoir.

Bridge over railroad, Fort Washington Park.

Reconstructed the following rustic structures:

Octagon summerhouse in Ramble, south of Belvidere.

Oblong summerhouse, west side of Ramble, near women's cottage.

Octagon summerhouse, south end of Ramble.

Umbrella summerhouse, south end of Ramble, overlooking the lake.

Two rustic arbors, Seventy-second street, west drive.

Two rustic arbors, Seventy-second street, Eighth avenue.

Also erected 350 linear feet of rustic fence in connection with the above.

Rustic arbor, near Fifty-ninth street and Seventh avenue.

Removed the skate buildings from the various lakes in the spring and erected them in the fall for the next skating season.

Repaired the music stand at the mall and erected temporary additions to enlarge it.

Erected temporary stands and platforms for vocal concerts on the mall, June 28, August 23, and September 13 and 20.

Repaired the stationary wooden benches in the vicinity of the music stand.

Erected and removed temporary scaffolding for repairs to Sherman statue.

Made necessary alterations and repairs to tool house and office at Ninety-seventh street storage yard and to sheds at Seventy-ninth street storage yard.

Built three new baby-carriage runs—about 100 linear feet—at the steps approaching the entrance at Seventy-second street and Fifth avenue, and under the bridge near the boathouse.

Also built two at the steps approaching the pergolas, Ninety-fifth and Ninety-sixth streets, Riverside Park.

Repaired baby-carriage run at Eighty-fifth street and east drive, and at Eighty-third and One Hundred and Eleventh street.

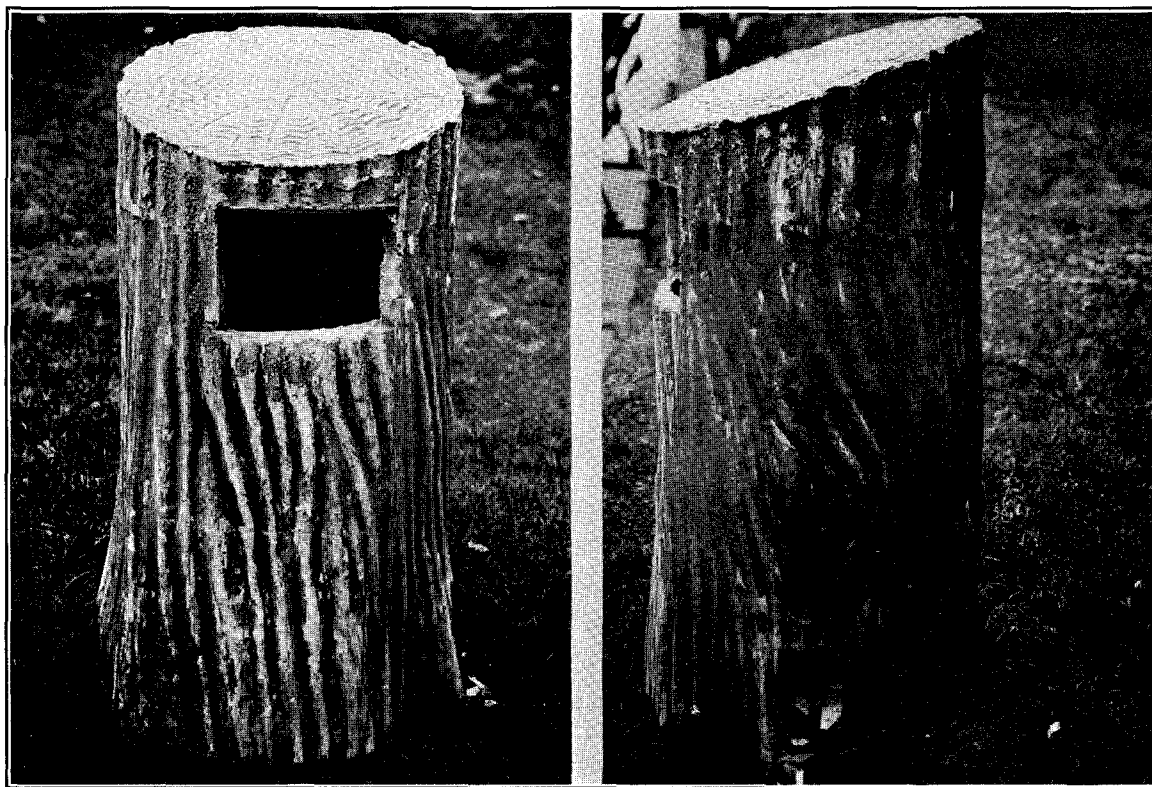
Made molds for the construction of concrete mounting blocks, rubbish receptacles and rustic fence posts.

Constructed wooden runs for wagons on walks leading from the Terrace.

Laid plank flooring for the protection of walks in connection with the construction of the new bridle path, etc., at Sixty-second street and Eighth avenue.

Put in sheet piling in sewer trench south of Museum of Art in connection with construction of new drainage.

Overhauled and repaired plank walk bordering the Conservatory lake, and replaced about 75 per cent. of it with new timber.



CONCRETE RUBBISH RECEPTACLE AND INCINERATOR IN USE IN CENTRAL AND RIVERSIDE PARKS—
(DESIGNED AND MADE IN DEPARTMENT).

Overhauled and repaired the steps leading from the greenhouse to McGown's Pass Tavern.

The following buildings and structures outside Central Park were repaired :

Comfort station, Morningside Park.

Comfort stations, Mount Morris Park and East River Park.

Music stands, Mount Morris Park and Abingdon Square.

Men's comfort station, Seventy-second street, Riverside Park.

Baths and toilet rooms, DeWitt Clinton Park and Seward Park.

Cottages at Bryant Park, Madison square, Stuyvesant and Union square.

Lavatory, Cooper Park.

Toilet rooms, Mulberry Bend, Seward Park, Hudson Park, Hamilton Fish Park.

Women's cottage, Washington square.

Music stand, Tompkins square.

Cottage, Battery park

Toilet buildings, Riverside Park, Seventy-ninth, Ninety-sixth and One Hundred and Eighth streets.

Removed old stairway at One Hundred and Sixth street, from Eighth avenue to the top of the hill in Central Park, and erected a new one in its place.

Built new flight of steps from sidewalk to playground, John Jay Park.

Built new flight of steps from Bradhurst avenue, at the foot of the hill, near One Hundred and Fifty-fifth street and Colonial Park, to Edgewood avenue at the top, a total length of about 250 feet.

Repaired stairways, One Hundred and Thirty-fifth street, St. Nicholas Park.

Put in 600 linear feet heavy sheet piling in terraces along the steep bank in Riverside Park, west of Grant's Tomb, as a protection against washouts.

Razed tool house and engineer's office at One Hundred and Forty-fourth street and Broadway, and re-erected it in St. Nicholas Park.

Built new stairway entrance to St. Nicholas Park from Convent avenue at One Hundred and Thirty-seventh street.

Overhauled and rebuilt stairway at One Hundred and Forty-eighth street, Colonial Park.

Rebuilt fence at Washington Park, Stapleton.

Rebuilt stairways at One Hundred and Forty-eighth street, Colonial Park and Eighty-sixth street, Riverside Park.

Overhauled and repaired tool house at One Hundred and Seventy-ninth street, High Bridge Park; tool house and office, Silver Lake Park; reviewing stand, Harlem River driveway; engineer's office buildings, Colonial Park, Ninety-sixth street and Riverside Park and the Harlem River Driveway.

Erected additional fences as follows:

	Feet.
New picket fence on the westerly boundary of St. Nicholas Park, at One Hundred and Thirty-seventh street.....	40
Three-rail fence on One Hundred and Forty-fifth street side of Colonial Park..	250
Three-rail fence at playground, East One Hundred and First street.....	365
Three-rail fence along Edgecombe avenue, High Bridge Park.....	600
Rough spruce fence around the unimproved plots, One Hundred and Thirty-sixth to One Hundred and Thirty-seventh street, and One Hundred and Thirty-seventh to One Hundred and Thirty-eighth street, between Edgecombe avenue and Amsterdam avenue.....	1,800
Rough spruce fence around Jasper Baseball Field.....	250
Three-rail fence, East River Park.....	300
Picket fence along Edgecombe avenue, Colonial Park.....	200
Three-rail fence along water front, Corlears Hook Park.....	600
Solid board fence at sheds, McGowns Pass, Central Park.....	54

Repairs at Playgrounds.

In addition to the constant daily repair and renewal of playground equipment, etc., the following work was performed:

Erected new frames and platforms for swings at East River, John Jay, Corlears Hook, Hamilton Fish and Hudson Parks.

Repaired sand houses, slides and other structures as required from time to time in all the playgrounds.

The following new rolling stock, supplies, etc., were made at the Department workshops during the year:

Box wheelbarrows	28	Ice plane	1
Road hand carts.....	14	Snow scrapers for walks (hand)...	50
Dirt carts	7	Horse road scrapers.....	22
Dumping trucks	5	Cold frames for nursery.....	40
Platform spring wagon.....	1	Lily boxes for fountains.....	40
Grass carts	6	Rifle cases for lion house.....	2
Wheelbarrows	3	Flower boxes for roof of Seward	
Settees	2,084	Park pavilion	50
Concrete fence posts	505	Stopcock boxes	18
Concrete rubbish receptacles.....	166	Small music stands.....	38
Large windlass derrick.....	1	Ladders (18 feet A.).....	5
Turned fence posts (special pattern)	27	Sod tampers	26
Gutter snow plows.....	4	Brush handles (18 feet).....	12
Walk snow plows	3	Engineer's stakes	8,750

Large tool boxes.....	15	Double whiffletrees.....	28
Greenhouse flats.....	200	Truck poles	7
Barricade horses	120	Wagon shafts (pairs).....	10
Sign boards	260	Neck yoke	1
Filing boxes for office use.....	14		
Single whiffletrees	38		

Model of Children's Farm School, buildings, grounds, etc., for exhibition purposes:

Playground Apparatus.

Large swing seats.....	50	Chest poles	30
Baby swing seats.....	200	Basketball goal stands.....	9
Baby swing arms and backs (sets) ..	230	Teeter ladders and frames.....	5
Ring toss boards.....	26	Doll house.....	1
Buck covers	18	Approach boards.....	6
Horse covers	21	Running boards	5
Parallel bar handles, pairs.....	40	Kindergarten tables	2
Jumping standards	12	Wooden benches (12 feet).....	8
Scaling ladders	9	Slides	4
Swing frames	11	Horizontal ladders	2
Assorted blocks	500	Tether ball pole.....	1
Pinwheel sticks	72		
Block boxes	5		

Repaired and painted the following rolling stock:

Dirt carts.....	3	Grass carts.....	5
Platform wagons	10	Spring trucks	2
Dumping trucks	6	Small sprinkling carts.....	8
Dirt carts	11	Road carts	4
Buggies	2	Sand sprinkling wagon.....	1
Surrey	1	Towing gig	1
Water trucks (single).....	14	Disc road harrow	1
Water trucks (monitors).....	22	Long reach truck.....	1
Tennis court markers.....	3		
Box barrows	16		

Playground Apparatus Repaired.

Lawn swings	61	Paba Baga boards.....	4
Teeter ladders	7	Giant stride pole.....	1
Bucks	23	Teeter ladder frame.....	1
Horses	27	Doll house	1
Basketball goal stands.....	2		

Miscellaneous Articles Repaired.

Settees	1,433	Snow plows	47
Ladders	7	Gutter plows.....	8
Music stands	23	Snow scrapers (horse).....	30
Water coolers	2	Ice planes	4
Bookcase	1	Snow scrapers (hand).....	41
Sign boards	70		

The following buildings and structures were painted during the year:

Cottage, Madison square.

Toilet building, Morningside Park.

Department offices on the second and third floors of the Arsenal building.

Foreman's office and Attendant's rooms at pavilion at Hamilton Fish Park; also the toilet rooms inside the building and all leaders, doors, windows, etc., on the outside of the building.

Walls, ceiling, fixtures, etc., of men's toilet and Attendant's rooms at the cottage on the croquet ground.

Ceiling of the men's toilet room, Morningside Park comfort station.

Seventy-five shutters at Jumel mansion.

Exterior of police gate boxes, Central Park.

Walls, ceilings, etc., of men's toilet room and bathroom at DeWitt Clinton Park.

At the greenhouses, Central Park, painted the ceilings, walls and woodwork of the Foreman's office, storeroom and the Gardeners' room; the exterior of the orchid house, the propagating houses, palm house and the main show houses, and all the benches and tables in the main show houses; also painted thirty hand barrows used in the greenhouses and glazed and painted seventy-six bed sash.

Fifty-seven window screens, twenty-two window frames and sash at stables, exterior of toilet building, Speedway; toolhouse, High Bridge Park; new offices, third floor, Arsenal; exterior of Union square cottage; roof of bird house, menagerie; roof of cottage, Tompkins square; roof of Arsenal building; also exterior of towers and observatory enclosure, same building; interior and exterior of toolhouse near Museum of Art and toolhouse, St. Nicholas Park; interior of Attendant's room, pavilion, Hamilton Fish Park.

Linear feet, 2-rail pipe fence....	13,129	Square feet, solid wood fence...	5,500
Linear feet, 3-rail pipe fence....	7,268	Hydrants	83
Linear feet, 3-rail wooden fence.	720	Signs for direction of visitors to	
Square feet, iron and wire mesh		the parks.....	893
fence	5,300	Iron fence posts.....	106
Feet, iron chain fence.....	6,460	Tree guards	230
Square feet, iron picket fence....	16,324		
Square feet, iron guides.....	208		

Lettered the Department initials upon the following:

Cart covers	25	Rubbish cans.....	144
Horse covers	50	Ladders	20
Blankets	84		
Feed bags.....	70		

Mason Work.

Set 600 feet new bluestone curb, set 2,211 feet old curb, repaired and pointed up fountains in City Hall Park, Hudson, Union squares, Stuyvesant and Roger Morris Parks; laid 10,280 feet cement walk pavement in repairs, built 22 brick sewer and drain basins, laid 1,300 feet 6-inch and 406 feet 8-inch sewer pipe, laid 1,250 feet concrete walk foundation, pointed up 1,800 square feet stone wall, 400 square feet brick wall; laid 1,000 asphalt blocks in gutters, reset 9,105 square feet bluestone flag pavement, laid 820 feet 3-inch and 4-inch agricultural tile drain pipe, repaired 9 sewer basins, relaid 415 square feet tile, built 675 feet rubble masonry retaining wall, relaid 183 feet brick gutter, built concrete foundation for and set marble benches at Jumel mansion ground, set 34 feet granite coping, relaid 400 square feet cobblestone gutter, cleaned and repaired 500 feet 8-inch sewer, relaid 2,295 square feet Belgian block pavement, rebuilt 8 stone dams in Ramble, plastered walls and ceilings of toilet rooms at comfort station, Morningside Park; set 30 new concrete benches at obelisk, set new slate steps at pavilion, Hamilton Fish Park.

Plumbing Force.

The work of the plumbing force and of the iron workers being mainly small items of repair as required from day to day cannot well be tabulated.

The annual reports of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, American Museum of Natural History, New York Aquarium and Grant's Monument Association are published separately by the trustees of these institutions.

Revenue Bond Fund, for Care of Broadway Plots.

By an act of Legislature the improvement, as well as the care and maintenance of the small plots known as the Broadway Parks, between Fifty-ninth and Manhattan streets, was vested in the Park Department.

Upon the completion of the work of constructing the subway, the restoration of the plots above referred to was undertaken by the various contractors in conformity with the terms of their contract, to wit: To restore the same to their original condition.

The Park Department found, upon making a careful inspection of the general conditions, after the parks had been turned over to it, that the soil was not of sufficient depth to guarantee the growth of the vegetation, shrubbery, trees, etc. The curb had settled, the pavements adjacent were undermined in places, out of grade, and, generally speaking, defective.

Fifty thousand dollars was appropriated by the Board of Estimate from the sale of Revenue Bonds, 1908, for the care and improvement of the plots from Sixtieth to One Hundred and Twenty-second streets, and a section of the labor force of the Department was at once placed at work on the plots from Fifty-ninth street to Seventy-first street. The top soil was first removed and placed to one side. The earth was then removed to a depth of 18 inches and the top soil replaced in the excavation. The old curbs were dressed and reset and new curb put in where required, and the plot was then filled to grade with new top soil. The soil around the trees was not disturbed and great care was taken not to injure the roots during the progress of the work. Iron guards consisting of a flat 2-inch band of $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch iron were placed on the fences of all corner curbs to prevent clipping by wagons.

Contracts were executed covering the work of improvement of the plots from Seventy-third street to One Hundred and Tenth street, and for the completion of the unfinished portions of the plots from Fifty-ninth to Seventy-first streets.

The work done on the latter by the Department force during the year is as follows:

Linear feet of straight and circular curb, 5-inch, furnished and delivered....	5,772
Linear feet of old curb taken up.....	4,500
Linear feet of old curb redressed to 4-inch and set.....	785
Linear feet of new 5-inch curb set.....	3,700
Linear feet of old curb redressed but not set.....	200
Cubic yards of concrete foundations for curbs.....	105
Cubic yards of excavation of all kinds and removal of same from plots.....	3,305
Cubic yards of mold furnished and delivered in place.....	3,000

Cubic yards of corner curb, chamfered for iron curb guards.....	....
Cubic yards of curb guards of $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch iron, 2-inch wide, set in place.....	48

Work under the various contracts was ordered on at once, but the early approach of winter prevented the actual beginning. Quantities of the new curb have been delivered, however, and with the advent of favorable weather in the spring the work will be prosecuted with vigor, in order to insure the completion of the improvement of all the plots below One Hundred and Tenth street.

Improvement and Construction.

Statement of Expenditures from Corporate Stock Funds, 1908.

Two million two hundred and ninety-seven thousand four hundred and twenty-six dollars and eighty-four cents were expended by the Department during the year 1908 for permanent improvements in existing parks and construction of new parks, buildings, etc., from funds secured by the sale of Corporate Stock of the City and authorized in each case for the particular purpose outlined in the title of the fund. Following is a detailed statement of the expenditures included in the above amount:

Metropolitan Museum of Art in Central Park—Construction of an extension	\$419,580 21
American Museum of Natural History—Equipping, finishing and construction of additions thereto.....	143,539 88
Riverside Park and Drive—Completion of construction; construction of a viaduct over West Ninety-sixth street.....	120 28
Cathedral parkway, between Fifth and Seventh avenues, Borough of Manhattan, Widening and Improvement of.....	2,389 27
New York Public Library Fund.....	1,214,684 77
Department of Parks, Manhattan and Richmond, Chelsea Park, Sub-title 1.....	6,145 96
Improvement and Construction of Parks, Parkways, Playgrounds, Boulevards and Driveways, Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond.	169,972 59
Improvement and Construction of Parks, Parkways, Playgrounds, Boulevards and Driveways, Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond—Construction of repair yard, storage sheds, manure pits and refuse incinerating plant in the north meadow, Central Park..	5,157 70
Improvement and Construction of Parks, Parkways, Playgrounds, Boulevards and Driveways, Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond—Construction and improvement of St. Nicholas Park, between One Hundred and Thirtieth street and One Hundred and Thirty-fifth street	61,381 21
Improvement and Construction of Parks, Parkways, Playgrounds, Boulevards and Driveways, Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond—Extension of high pressure water supply and irrigation system in Central Park	21,273 90
Improvement and Construction of Parks, Parkways, Playgrounds, Boulevards and Driveways, Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond—Improving the drainage system of Central Park on the west side, between Ninetieth and Ninety-fifth streets, and on the drives and lands adjacent thereto and Central Park generally.....	2,422 51

Improvement and Construction of Parks, Parkways, Playgrounds, Boulevards and Driveways, Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond—Construction of additional greenhouses in Central Park for use in propagation of plants, shrubs, etc.....	2,998 91
Improvement and Construction of Parks, Parkways, Playgrounds, Boulevards and Driveways, Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond—Concreting bottom and sides Central Park lakes and filling in where depth is too great.....	1,120 74
Improvement and Construction of Parks, Parkways, Playgrounds, Boulevards and Driveways, Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond—Construction of Colonial Park.....	54,625 92
Construction and Improvement of Small Parks in the Borough of Manhattan, to wit: John Jay Park, DeWitt Clinton Park, Thomas Jefferson Park and the small park at Thirty-fifth street and First avenue	962 24
Improvement and Construction of Parks, Parkways, Playgrounds, Boulevards and Driveways, Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond—Installation of an improved water supply for the Harlem River driveway	1,142 10
Improvement and Construction of Parks, Parkways, Playgrounds, Boulevards and Driveways, Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond—Construction of new concrete and asphalt gutters on the driveways and bridle roads of Central Park and Riverside drive..	32,287 27
Improvement and Construction of Parks, Parkways, Playgrounds, Boulevards and Driveways, Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond—Subtitle 1, construction of bays, entrances and comfort station in St. Nicholas Park.....	1,183 36
Improvement and Construction of Parks, Parkways, Playgrounds, Boulevards and Driveways, Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond—Subtitle 2, completion of the work of installing a water supply for the Harlem River driveway.....	25,536 82
Improvement and Construction of Parks, Parkways, Playgrounds, Boulevards and Driveways, Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond—Subtitle 3, regrading and installing new drainage and water supply on Riverside Park Loop drive.....	12,259 62
Improvement and Construction of Parks, Parkways, Playgrounds, Boulevards and Driveways, Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond—Subtitle 5, construction and equipment of a comfort station in the Ramble, near Seventy-seventh street transverse road, Central Park	12,152 92

Improvement and Construction of Parks, Parkways, Playgrounds, Boulevards and Driveways, Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond—Subtitle 6, completion of the improvement and construction of Colonial Park	2,718 49
Cathedral Parkway, Improvement and Completion of, etc. (chapter 45, Laws of 1894)	4,706 28
Metropolitan Museum of Art in Central Park—Constructing and completing extensions	64,419 53
Jefferson Park—Improvement of	944 63
Aquarium Building in Battery Park—Improvement of	5,480 83
Improvement of Parks, Parkways, and Drives, Borough of Manhattan—Restoration and improvement of Jumel Mansion and grounds	332 35
Revenue Bond Fund—For milk stations in public parks, erection of	3,694 24
Parks, Department of—Construction and repaving of drives, etc., under contract, Manhattan and Richmond	21,708 75
Parks, Department of—Manhattan and Richmond, reconstruction of bulkhead, easterly wall of the Speedway, between One Hundred and Fifty-fifth street and Dyckman street	1,198 79
Parks, Department of—Manhattan and Richmond, DeWitt Clinton Park, alterations and improvements to Pergola Building	157 26
Parks, Department of—Manhattan and Richmond, Broadway parkways, Fifty-ninth to Manhattan streets, constructing iron fences	100 00
Improvement of Parks, Parkways and Drives, Borough of Manhattan—Repaving with asphalt, roads from Eighty-sixth street, Central Park West to Riverside Drive	439 41
Improvement of Parks, Parkways, Drives, Borough of Manhattan—Widening roadway, Fifty-ninth street, between Fifth and Sixth avenues	314 23
Improvement of Parks, Parkways, Drives, Borough of Manhattan—Battery Park roadway and repairs to sea wall	103 05
Construction of a Comfort Station in Madison Square Park, Borough of Manhattan	170 82
Total	<u>\$2,297,426 84</u>

The above figures represent expenditures for work done partly in 1907 and 1908 which was paid in 1908.

Details of the work done in 1908 exclusively and chargeable to above Corporate Stock accounts are as follows:

Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Construction of an Extension, Constructing and Completing Extensions.

Work upon the new wing known as Addition F has progressed almost to completion during the year. The completion of Addition E has been somewhat delayed by the financial failure of the contractors for its construction.

A contract was executed March 23 for the erection of the new library extension, known as Addition G. The work of construction was carried on briskly and was completed early in December. The cost of this addition, including the architects' fees, approximates \$100,000.

A contract for alterations in the electrical equipment of the new extensions, amounting to \$32,460 was executed October 20, and the work pushed forward during the remainder of the year.

American Museum of Natural History.

Equipping, finishing and construction of additions.

The new south wing, the erection of which was begun in May, 1906, was completed by the contractor and accepted by the City April 25, 1908. The erection of this wing completes the plan of construction for the Seventy-seventh street front of the Museum, and makes the total length of the building on that side 750 feet.

New York Public Library.

Work done at the New York Public Library Building during the year ending December 31, 1908:

Contract No. 4.

Stack Work—The iron work in the main stack room is now completed except the lift enclosures, and has been painted two coats of white. The marble floors are now being laid, and when they are finished the iron work will be given the two remaining coats of paint.

The stack work in all of the second and third floor rooms has been erected during the year, and the shop drawings for the stack work in the first floor and basement rooms are nearly finished.

Contract No. 5.

Heating and Ventilating—The duct work and steam piping is now practically completed throughout the entire building, and all of the steam boilers are in place. The heating plant is being operated for heating the building.

In rooms where the interior finish is completed the radiators have been installed in their permanent position, but in unfinished rooms they are on temporary connections.

The piping and machinery for the vacuum cleaning system have been installed.

Contract No. 6.

Plumbing—The rough plumbing is completed and the fixtures have been installed in nearly all of the toilet rooms. There is very little left to do under this contract.

Contract No. 7.

Interior Finish—During the year very rapid progress has been made on the interior finish. The structural iron for the ceiling support in all of the third floor rooms has been finished.

The furring, lathing and plastering is now practically completed in all stories except the basement.

The walls of the main stack room have been furred and the walls and ceiling have been plastered.

The marble walls in all corridors have been completed.

The marble floor borders, base and trim have been completed in twenty-one third floor rooms, and the floors of all of the third floor and two of the second floor corridors have been laid; also the floors in the rotunda, portico and exhibition room.

The marble work has been completed in the fifteen toilet rooms.

The marble floor in the second floor corridors and floor borders in the second floor rooms are now being laid.

The structural iron in the landing delivery room has been completed and the roofing is now being put on.

The cabinet work, except doors, has been finished in about twenty of the second and third floor rooms, and the material for twenty more rooms has been delivered at the building.

The stack work in this contract is nearly finished except in the art and architectural room, which is about half done.

The three bronze grilles at the main entrance have been erected and glazed, and the windows and frames for about 160 openings have been delivered. They are now being erected and glazed.

The painting and decorating of the reading room and third floor central hall is well under way.

Cork floors have been laid in five rooms on the third floor.

Contract No. 8.

Electric Wiring—The conduit for the electric wiring is completed except in part of the first and basement stories.

The guides and sheaves for the book lifts, freight lifts and passenger elevators have been installed.

Part of the tubes for the pneumatic delivery system has been installed and the exhausters have been set up in place.

The drawings for the book conveyors have been made.

Contract No. 9

Approaches—The Contract for the approach work has been awarded.

The principal sub-contracts have been let, and work is now under way on the working drawings, plaster models and also at the granite quarries.

Contract No. 10.

Electric Power Plant—This contract was passed by the Corporation Counsel and has been submitted to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment.

Widening Fifth Avenue.

During the year the City widened Fifth avenue between Fortieth and Forty-second streets, making it necessary to modify the drawings for the approach work to meet the new conditions.

It is hoped that, barring unforeseen delays, the building will be completed and ready for occupancy some time towards the latter part of the year 1910.

Improvement of Cathedral Parkway.

A contract for erecting tree guards and furnishing and erecting 2-rail pipe fences with malleable iron cresting and iron wire mesh screen facing around the tree plots in Cathedral parkway, between Fifth avenue and Riverside drive, was executed in 1907, and the work was begun, but had to be suspended owing to the fact that extensive building operations were in progress along the line. The work was resumed in 1908 and prosecuted to completion.

One hundred and seventy-two tree guards were set in place; 910 linear feet of pipe fence and 8,200 linear feet of iron wire mesh were erected and all properly painted.

The tree guards used were the regular stock pattern made for the City by the State Prison Department.

Chelsea Park.

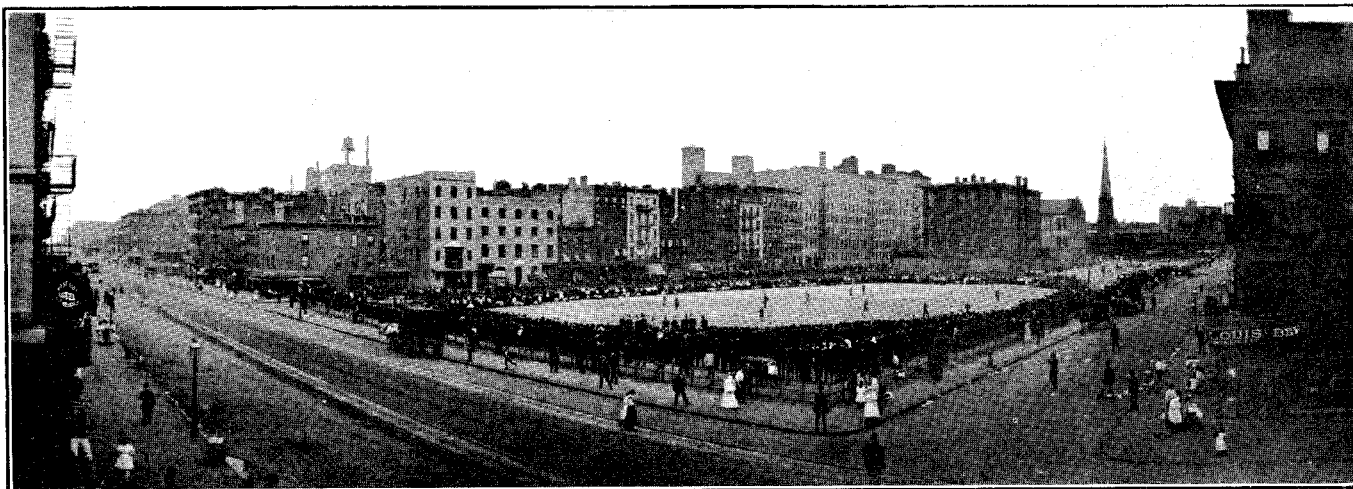
The constant and insistent demands of the people for more playgrounds during the last few years resulted in the acquisition by the City for that purpose of the plot bounded by Twenty-seventh and Twenty-eighth streets, Tenth and Eleventh avenues, with the exception of a small plot on the north (Twenty-eighth street) side, on which a public school is located. The plot is located in the centre of the crowded tenement

district of the lower west side, and at the time of its acquisition, in 1905, was completely occupied, with the exception of the school site, by old-fashioned tenement houses. These buildings were razed by the City and the plot turned over to the Park Department in November, 1907. The sum of \$30,000 was made available for the regulating and grading of the grounds, but the funds necessary for the finished construction were not provided.

In order that the park might be of some practical use meanwhile, it was deemed advisable to convert it into an open playground until such time as the necessary funds would be made available for its final improvement. The rubbish and crude material were removed where necessary, the sections above grade were excavated and the material was deposited in the cellars.

Permits were issued to contractors to furnish and deliver clean, wholesome earth filling in place, and in addition to this, considerable of the material excavated by the Department force engaged on the Broadway parks was filled in the depressions of Chelsea Park. The entire territory has been practically brought to grade ready for final construction, and the park is used as a general playground for the children in the vicinity.

It is impossible to accurately determine the amount of excavation and fill, as no record was kept in the matter, the fill being delivered free of cost to the City. An approximate estimate of the amount of filling deposited is about 15,000 cubic yards.



CHELSEA PARK PLAYGROUND—A BALL GAME.

Improvement and Construction of Parks, Parkways, Playgrounds, Boulevards and Driveways, Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond.

Resoiling and Restoration—Central Park.

The work of restoring the wornout soil and plantations in Central Park was continued throughout the year. Over 8,000 cubic yards of fertile mold (top soil) were spread at the various localities treated, varying in depth from 6 inches to 2 feet; many young trees were set out, the tree holes being specially prepared with fresh mold, five to six cubic yards being placed in each hole; numerous shrubs of all varieties were planted and large quantities of vines and ground covers were set out in the shaded portions of the park where the dense foliage of the trees made it impracticable to maintain a lawn. The old plantations of trees and shrubs were thinned out by the removal of selected trees so as to permit of a better development of the individual specimens; isolated specimens of shrubs on the lawns and borders were removed and replanted in groups for better effect. The work covered various localities all over the park, the most important of which and in which the greater portion of the work was done being as follows.

Along Fifty-ninth Street Wall, from Fifth to Eighth Avenue.

Slope opposite the pond between Fifth and Sixth avenues resoiled and planted with young willows.

Lawn between Sixth and Seventh avenues, resoiled, old privet removed, new shrubbery plantation established, and 25 young trees planted.

Between Seventh and Eighth avenues, lawns and slopes resoiled, old shrubs north of the walk removed and new plantation established along the walls and between the walk and drive.

Along New Bridlepath, Sixty-second to Sixty-fourth Street.

Banks on each side of the bridlepath, resoiled and graded, and new shrubbery groups set out, also planted 15 young trees in the vicinity of the new entrance at Sixty-second street.

Slopes on each side of west drive arch opposite Sixty-second street resoiled and planted with flowering shrubs.

Along East Walk, from Sixty-second to Sixty-eighth Street.

New mold spread where required on lawns and slopes in the vicinity of the rustic summer house on the hill; hillside cleared of scrubby undergrowth and vines planted to cover rocks and bare spots. Old shrub groups remodeled and new groups planted.

Terrace Bridge.

On the walks approaching the upper plaza of the terrace the isolated shrubs along the borders were removed, the old shrubbery plantations north of the walk were removed and new groups, containing azaleas, indica and mollis, enonymous alatus and kindred varieties were planted.

The adjoining hill, between the terrace and the boat house was spaded up and fresh mold added. The pine plantation which forms the principal landscape feature of the hill was enlarged by the addition of new specimens of the pinus mugho and Austrian pine.

Ramble.

About 2,000 rhododendrons were planted in groups at various points in the ramble. The lawns in the vicinity of the stream which flows through the lower section were spaded up and resoiled with fresh mold; the stream itself was widened at various points and groups of azaleas, rhododendrons and other flowering shrubs were planted along the banks.

The western slope of the hill facing the lake in the vicinity of the rustic summer house, near Bow Bridge, was planted with rhododendrons; on top of the hill around the summer house an evergreen plantation of small pines and spruce was set out, and the southern and eastern slopes were planted with large specimens of boxus semper-virens and ilex crinata.

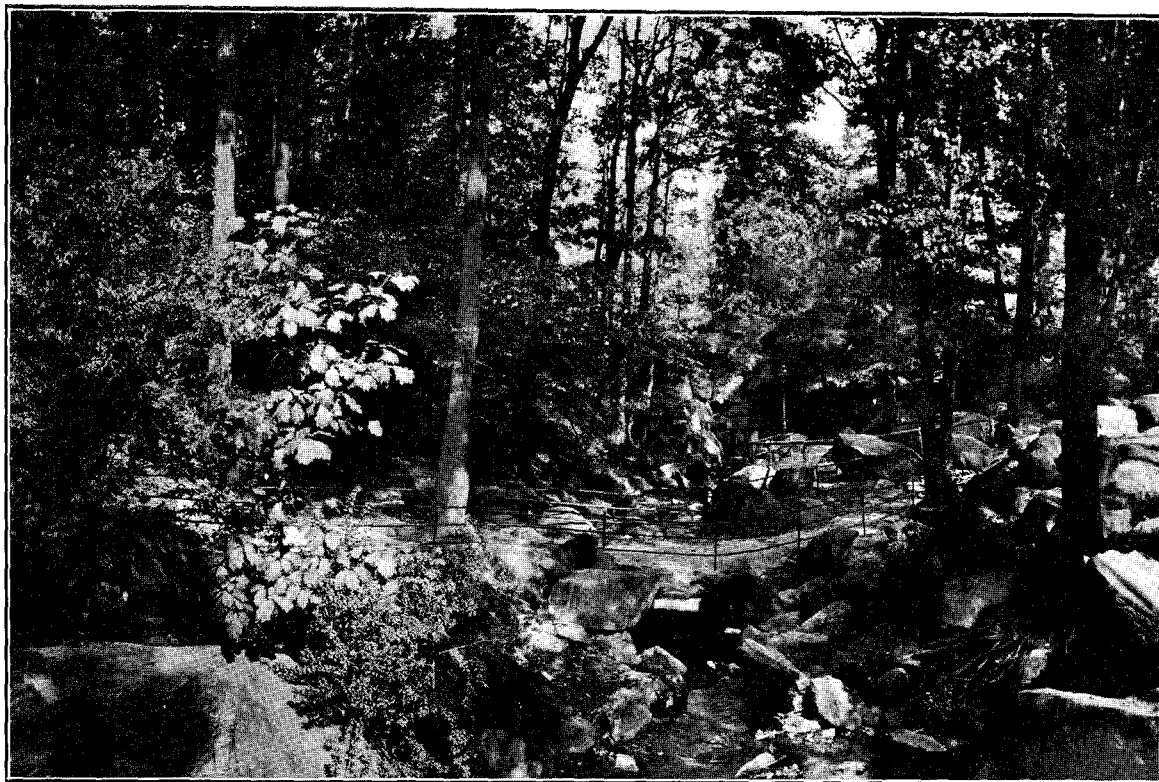
In the upper section, near Seventy-ninth street, over 9,000 vines (lonicera fragrantissima) were set out as ground covers on the bare portions of the lawns under the trees.

Lawn North of Swedish Schoolhouse.

The large lawn north of the Swedish schoolhouse was ploughed up, lime phosphate added to the soil, and the entire lawn resoiled with fresh mold. The surplus mold from the Sage plantation was used on the lower portion, ordinary top soil on the upper. The lawn was then graded and seeded.

West Side, Seventy-ninth to Ninety-sixth Street.

The old wornout plantations of evergreen and deciduous trees and shrubs scattered throughout the west side of the park from Seventy-ninth street north to Ninety-sixth street, about 200 trees in all, were removed, their depleted condition being such as to make them seem incongruous in the general landscape effect. The plantations removed included the old privet plantation west of the lower reservoir and also on the southern slope of Bolivar Hill. These latter were replaced by smaller plantations of azaleas including the varieties, indica, mollis and narcissifolia. New specimens of pines and other evergreens have been ordered, to be used in the formation of new groups in this section during the coming year.



CENTRAL PARK—A BROOK THROUGH WOODLAND AND ROCK.

East Side, Near Seventy-ninth Street Entrance.

On the south side of the walk leading to the entrance at Fifth avenue and Seventy-ninth street, a new plantation of azaleas and rhododendrons was set out.

Honeysuckle vines were planted to cover the bare portion of the lawn, underneath the beech group, on the walk on the north side of the entrance leading to the west side of the park.

East Side, Near Ninety-sixth Street.

In the vicinity of the entrance at Fifth avenue and Ninety-sixth street, 24 European lindens were planted, new shrubbery plantations were established around the Thorwaldsen statue, and honeysuckle vines used as ground covers on the bare spots under the trees. Under the beech grove north of Ninety-sixth street, east of the east drive, a large quantity of *xanthoxylon appifolia* was planted as a ground cover, the dense foliage making it impracticable to maintain a grassy lawn.

East Side, Near McGown's Pass Tavern.

The slope between McGown's Pass Tavern and the greenhouses was cleared of polygamun, resoiled, graded and sodded, and a plantation of *enonymus alatus*, *pirus arbutifolia* and kindred shrubs set out.

One Hundred and Sixth Street, North of Circle Drive.

A plantation of about 2,000 rhododendrons and 1,300 kalmia (mountain laurel) was set out on the slope of the hill facing the west drive north of One Hundred and Sixth street.

On the park sidewalk along One Hundred and Tenth street 64 young Norway maples were planted.

Throughout the park young trees were planted at various points where the old trees had been removed or showed signs of decay, the quantity planted in each section being as follows:

	Trees.	Shrubs.	Vines.
Fifty-ninth to Sixty-sixth street.....	46	475	....
Sixty-sixth to Seventy-second street.....	37	1,163	175
Seventy-second to Seventy-ninth street.....	322	3,498	10,880
Manhattan square.....	20	....	....
Seventy-ninth to Eighty-sixth street.....	24	642	18,000
Eighty-sixth to Ninety-seventh street.....	17	....	....
Ninety-seventh to One Hundred and Second street.....	27	187	6,885
One Hundred and Second to One Hundred and Tenth street....	25	3,415	3,300
One Hundred and Tenth street.....	64	....	....
Total.....	582	9,380	39,240

Miscellaneous.

Twelve oriental planes and one European linden were planted at various points in Morningside Park.

Small plantations of viburnum were set out at One Hundred and Eighth street and Riverside drive and groups of berberis thunbergii were planted on the slopes bordering the stairway at the Sigel monument.

Two thousand honeysuckle vines were planted to cover the rocks bordering the drive in the vicinity of One Hundred and Twenty-seventh street and Riverside Park.

At Washington Bridge, 44 hybrid rhododendrons were planted to fill out vacant spaces in the large plantations there.

The small park, Thirty-fourth street and Park avenue, was filled with mold, graded and planted with shrubs.

At DeWitt Clinton Park seven young trees and a number of shrubs were planted.

At St. Gabriel's ten trees were set out, and on West Seventy-second street three.

New Bridle Road Entrance and Connections Walk at Sixty-second Street and Central Park West.

One of the important improvements in Central Park was the construction of a new branch bridle road on the west side of the park with an entrance at Sixty-second street and Central Park West. Many requests had been received for such entrance, especially as the traffic regulations at the Circle at Fifty-ninth street made it impossible for equestrians to reach the park unless by a circuitous route.

The new road enters at Sixty-second street and winds its way north in a series of gentle curves to a point above Sixty-fourth street, where it joins the main bridle path with a wide sweep in either direction. At the point of entry the lawn was originally some fifteen feet below the desired grade, and it was necessary to fill in with earth to the required height. As the ground to the north sloped upward to a height of some five to six feet above the grade the material excavated from this portion was used in filling in the lower section. The road is constructed of fine North River gravel on a broken stone base, laid upon a telford foundation. Asphalt block gutters line the sides of the road connecting with receiving basins to take the drainage.

A new walk entrance was constructed adjoining the bridle path entrance and leading to the low ground to the south of the embankment by a flight of rustic blue-stone steps. The embankment, as well as the slopes along the line of the bridle path were graded and sodded. On the top of the embankment large rustic stones have been set to divide the path and the road. These stones have been placed so as to give the impression that they form part of a ridge of rock, upon which the road has been built, and this impression is heightened by the judicious placing of other large stones in the face of the embankments on each side of the steps and walk adjoining. A plantation

of forsythia viridissima relieves any suggestion of bareness in the approach to the entrance from within the park.

Ampelopsis has been planted among the rocks on the top of the embankment, which in time will cover them and add to their picturesqueness.

The slopes adjacent to the line of the bridle path were graded to conform to the new line, being filled in at some points and excavated at others, and the existing shrubs were rearranged and new ones planted.

The old entrance at Sixty-fourth street and the walk connecting it with the drive were closed, the steep grade of the bridle path at this point making this crossing rather dangerous. The walk was taken out, the entrance was walled up and the grounds were filled with mold, graded and planted.

In connection with the above work, the slopes on each side of the bridge on the west drive, opposite the entrance, were resoiled with good mold, gravel and planted with flowering shrubs.

All the work with the exception of laying the asphalt walk, was done by the Department labor force. The details of the work are as follows:

Linear feet of 3-block asphalt gutters laid.....	1,260
Cubic yards of rubble masonry step foundations built.....	30
Linear feet of bluestone steps set.....	156
Road basins built complete.....	4
Surface basin built complete.....	1
Linear feet of 6-inch vitrified drain pipe laid.....	100
Cubic yards of rubblestone foundation for bridle path.....	311
Cubic yards of bridle road gravel spread and rolled.....	222
Square yards of completed bridle path constructed.....	1,333
Cubic yards of concrete.....	11
Square feet of asphalt pavement in walk.....	1,200
Cubic yards of excavation of all kinds.....	2,150
Cubic yards of mold furnished in lawns and slopes.....	300
Cubic yards of filling deposited in place.....	200
Square feet of sod laid.....	2,500
Trees planted	12
Shrubs, in variety, planted.....	750

New Mounting Recess on the Bridle Path.

Fifty-ninth Street and Seventh Avenue.

The convenience afforded to riders by the mounting recess erected during the latter part of 1907 caused a demand from riders entering the park on the south side for a similar recess on that side of the park.

Accordingly its construction was undertaken by the Department force and the work completed the latter part of April.

The quantity of work done was as follows:

Cubic yards of excavation removed.....	50
Cubic yards of rubble stone foundation laid.	25
Cubic yards of broken stone spread.....	5
Cubic yards of gravel.....	20
Running feet of asphalt block gutter, three blocks wide, laid.....	80

Sixty-sixth Street and West Drive.

The mounting recess on the west bridle path at Sixty-sixth street, begun late in 1907, was completed early in April of the present year. A short walk was constructed to give access to the concourse from the main walk, and the concourse itself was deepened by continuing the excavation further into the bank.

The amount of work done was as follows:

Cubic yards of excavation.....	275
Square feet of rubble stone walk foundation laid.....	360
Square feet of asphalt wearing surface laid on concrete base.....	360
Large rustic rocks planted in embankments.....	2
Square feet of new bridle path road concourse constructed on rubble foundation.....	1,230

All the work, except the laying of the asphalt walk, was done by the Department force.

New Bridle Road Concourse Near the Entrance to Central Park at Fifty-ninth Street and Seventh Avenue.

A new bridle road recess or concourse was constructed at the above named entrance by the Park Department force. The amount of work follows:

Cubic yards of excavation.....	50
Cubic yards of rubble stone foundation.....	25
Cubic yards of broken stone.....	5
Cubic yards of gravel.....	20
Running feet of asphalt block gutter, three blocks wide (in all, 540 blocks)....	80

New Walk Connecting Main Walk West of Lake.

Owing to the fact that pedestrians were compelled to cross the main junction drive at a point immediately south of Webster statue and recross the same at the point in the vicinity of the music stand, in order to reach the walks on the easterly side of the park, it was deemed advisable to construct a connecting walk from the lake to the

terrace walk. This was done by the Department force, and the pedestrians now have a direct connection from the west side to the east side of the park without crossing and recrossing the main drives. The new walk does not interfere with the former plantations, nor does it change to any extent the general appearance of the park at this point.

The work, with the exception of the asphalt pavement, was done by the Department labor force, the various quantities being as follows:

Cubic yards of excavation of all kinds.....	300
Cubic yards of mold furnished and spread in lawns.....	1,000
Square feet of sod furnished and laid.....	10,000
Square feet of rubble stone foundation for asphalt walk.....	3,200
Square feet of asphalt walk pavement on concrete base and rubble stone foundation laid	<u>3,335</u>

Extension of High Pressure Water Supply and Irrigation System, Central Park.

When Central Park was constructed (over fifty years ago) it was equipped with a water supply system the greater part of which was of cement pipe lined with sheet iron, some portions being of the antiquated wooden pipe.

This old system proved unequal to the strain of the constantly increased demands upon it and gradually broke down, so that in many places it was almost impossible to get sufficient water to fill the road sprinklers or to water the lawns.

In 1899 a new system of cast iron pipe was installed in that portion of the park between Fifty-ninth and Seventy-second streets, west of the center drive, at a cost of approximately \$23,000. This sum was part of the appropriation made in the Annual Budget of that year for "Irrigation, Central Park," the total amount of the appropriation being \$25,000.

No further appropriations were made in the Budgets for succeeding years, and nothing was done in the matter of the extension of the water supply system until 1906, when the Board of Estimate set aside \$100,000 of Corporate Stock for that purpose.

In 1907 work was begun on the installation of the new system in the section below Seventy-second street, east of the centre drive, and also in that portion from Ninety-seventh street north, both of which were practically completed in that year. During the past year contracts have been entered into for the further extension of the system, one for the Ramble section executed September 23, the other for that portion between Eighty-first and One Hundredth streets, executed October 30. Work was begun on the former and is now well advanced, but owing to the lateness of the season the actual work of installation was not commenced. Orders have been placed by the contractors, however, for the cast iron pipe and appurtenances so as to have everything ready to start work as soon as possible the following spring:

The actual work done by the contractors during the year is as follows:

Tons of straight cast iron water pipe furnished and delivered.....	150
Tons of cast iron branches and special castings furnished and delivered.....	10
Linear feet of 4-inch cast iron water pipe laid.....	2,769
Linear feet of 6-inch cast iron water pipe laid.....	1,832
Linear feet of 10-inch cast iron water pipe laid.....	700
Four-inch stop-cocks furnished and set in brick vaults.....	12
Six-inch stop-cocks furnished and set in brick vaults.....	8
Ten-inch stop-cocks furnished and set in cast iron boxes.....	1
Street washers furnished and set.....	28
Flush hydrants furnished and set.....	2
Fire hydrants furnished and set.....	3
Linear feet of 2½-inch galvanized wrought iron pipe furnished and laid.....	2,000
Cubic yards of excavation.....	3,300

A new drinking hydrant with four outlets was installed by the Department force on the East Meadow opposite about One Hundred and Second street, an independent connection being made from the Croton water main near Fifth avenue at Ninety-ninth street, necessitating the laying of 300 feet of 2-inch galvanized water pipe. This hydrant supplies a much needed requirement of this section of the park, there being no provision for quenching the thirst of the crowds who use this ground, especially during the spring, when it is crowded with children's parties, and in the fall, when it is used as a football ground. Formerly it was necessary to cross the drive to the North Meadow, some distance away, to obtain water, making it rather dangerous, particularly for children.

The contractor for the new system was not required by his contract to carry his pipes beyond the outer walls of the various buildings in the Menagerie, the necessary connections being made by the department force to bring the water into the buildings.

A new 2-inch connection was put in from the new main to supply the comfort station north of the Arsenal, replacing the old ¾-inch connection, which proved inadequate to the requirements during the summer season. Owing to the lack of water for flushing purposes, only about one-half of the equipment of the buildings could be opened for public use. The new connection furnished a splendid supply, adequate for all needs, and there has been no trouble since its installation.

Improving Drainage System.

Defective drainage at various points in Central Park was corrected by the installation of agricultural drain tile by the Department labor force. The locations and quantities of work done are as follows:

Along the west drive, north of Eighty-fifth street, 450 linear feet of 3-inch agricultural tile laid, 1 silt basin built.

West of new propagating house in Central Park, at One Hundred and Fifth street and Fifth avenue, 80 linear feet of 6-inch vitrified pipe laid, 150 linear feet of agricultural tile laid.

At west drive in the vicinity of Seventy-fourth street, 250 linear feet of 10-inch vitrified pipe laid, 85 linear feet of 8-inch vitrified pipe laid, 1 surface basin built, 2 walk basins built.

In Central Park, near Fifth avenue, just north of the Seventy-ninth street transverse road, 200 linear feet of 4-inch agricultural tile pipe laid.

In the transverse road in connection with the above, 50 linear feet of 6-inch vitrified pipe laid, 25 linear feet of agricultural tiles laid, 1 basin constructed.

Construction of Additional Greenhouses.

The work of erecting the two additions to the greenhouses, for use as propagating houses, begun in August, 1907, was completed during the present year, the buildings being accepted by the Department and final payment made to the contractors on January 20. The cost of the new houses was approximately \$25,000.

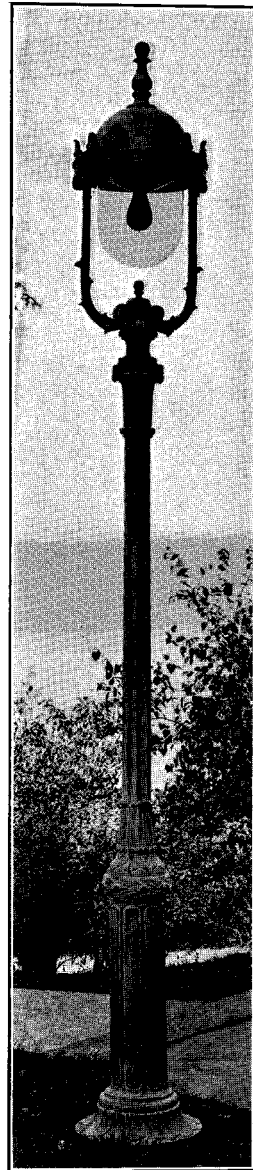
Electric Lighting.

A new system of electric lighting will be installed throughout Central Park during the year 1909 by the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity, to replace the gasoline lamps now in use. A new and artistic lamp-post will be used, as shown in accompanying cut.

Improvement of Triangle, St. Nicholas Avenue and One Hundred and Thirty-seventh Street.

The small triangle at One Hundred and Thirty-seventh street and St. Nicholas avenue, the condition of which had been the source of continued complaint, was improved by the Park Department with its own working force, and the work was prosecuted to completion.

The plan of improvement consists of a centre walk bordered on each side by a long grassplot, and dividing at the wider end of the park into two branch walks which enclose a smaller grassplot. Low pipe rail fences are erected on each side of the walk, but the plot is not



LAMP POST FOR NEW
ELECTRIC LIGHTING
SYSTEM IN CENTRAL
PARK.

enclosed on its outer sides. Trees are planted in the plots and the walk is of sufficient width to allow the placing of benches. This treatment varies from the old plan of providing a central grassplot surrounded by asphalt or cement walks and enclosed by high pipe fences, and the results obtained from an artistic as well as a practical point of view are much more satisfactory.

The details of the work done are as follows:

Cubic yards of earth excavation removed.....	455
Cubic yards of mold deposited in lawns.....	275
Square feet of rubble stone foundation and 3-inch concrete base for asphalt walk pavement laid.....	4,000
Square feet of rock asphalt mastic wearing surface laid.....	4,600
Feet of 2-inch rail pipe fence erected.....	330
Tree holes dug and filled with mold.....	7
Trees planted	7

Triangle at One Hundred and Seventeenth Street and Seventh Avenue.

The triangle plot bounded by St. Nicholas avenue, Seventh avenue and One Hundred and Seventeenth street, had been improved upon the old plan of a central grassplot surrounded by cement walks and enclosed by a high pipe fence. The centre plot proved just large enough to entice the boys of the adjacent public school to use it as a playground, and, in consequence, the grass was trampled and killed and the plot always presented a dilapidated condition, despite the efforts of the Department, and complaints as to its condition were being constantly received by the Department. It was finally decided to change the plan of the plot and adopt the new plan of treatment as applied to the triangle at One Hundred and Thirty-seventh street and St. Nicholas avenue. Accordingly, the Department force was set to work removing the old fence and excavating for the new walks and tree holes. The centre walk was constructed of cement to correspond with the old walks surrounding the plot, additional mold was deposited in the new grassplots and trees planted in the plots and along the sidewalks outside the park. The entire work was completed within the year, the amount of work done being as follows:

Cubic yards of earth excavation removed.....	270
Cubic yards of mold delivered and spread in plots.....	150
Square feet cement walk laid with 3-inch concrete base on telford stone foundation	2,250
Tree holes dug and filled with mold.....	14
Trees planted	14



ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SEVENTH STREET AND ST. NICHOLAS AVENUE TRIANGLE.

Riverside Park.

Improving Defective Conditions at Cottage at Seventy-second Street.

Owing to the general settlement of the ground in the cellar of the cottage, the entire plumbing work had become separated from the outlets to the City sewers. Through the leakage, from the toilets and from the roof leaders, breaks had occurred in the slopes to the west of the cottage, the walks had become undermined and had failed. The restoration was undertaken by day's work, by the Department force, under the supervision of the Chief Engineer. The entire floor of the building was taken up, new drainage connections were made with the City sewers, piers were built for the support of the iron outlets, and the entire floor was relaid. The slopes were reconstructed, the edging reset and new walks were laid. The work done follows:

The general excavation in the cellar, refilling of same and relaying of tile floor on 6 inches of concrete.	
Walk basin built.....	1
Linear feet of bluestone edging set.....	90
Cubic yards of concrete in walk foundations laid.....	20
Linear feet of 6-inch drain pipe laid.....	20
Square feet of asphalt walk laid.....	880
Cubic yards of mold in embankments.....	300
Square feet of sod laid.....	1,500

Repaving Roadway, Seventy-ninth Street and Riverside Drive.

In connection with the installation of the new asphalt block gutters on Riverside drive, the roadway of the crossing at Seventy-ninth street and for some distance north and south was repaved by the Department force with asphalt block pavement upon a concrete foundation. The irregular contour of the grounds adjacent to the crossing made the laying of this pavement a matter of considerable skill to obtain proper drainage for the roadway.

City Hall Park.

Improvement of Site of Old Engine House.

Upon the completion of the work of constructing the Subway, and the consequent demolition of the old fire-engine house in City Hall Park, the park territory in that vicinity was left in an unfinished condition. The filling had been roughly deposited over the tunnel and the adjacent territory, but inasmuch as the site of the engine house was exterior to the rapid transit construction, nothing had been done to improve or restore it. A plan covering the improvement was prepared, a contract executed, and the work prosecuted to completion during the year. A small plot was laid out in the centre of the plaza, new edging was set, mold was spread and the plot sodded. The balance of the plaza was laid in cement walk.

A detailed statement of the work done follows :

Cubic yards of excavation of all kinds.....	425
Square feet of rubblestone walk foundation furnished and laid (this was to supply a deficiency in the foundation, the balance having been constructed of old cement pavement broken up).....	1,785
Linear feet of edging reset.....	430
Square feet of cement walk pavement laid.....	13,700
Square feet of sod furnished and laid.....	<u>4,100</u>

Widening of Walk Between the City Hall and County Court House.

To relieve the congested condition of traffic on the main walk through the park, the lines of the walk were altered so as to eliminate the sharp curves and add some 450 square feet of space to the walk. This necessitated the cutting and laying of new curb to conform to the reduced radius of the curves, and the laying of asphalt wearing surface on the added portion of the walk.

The details of the work are as follows:

Linear feet of old edging taken up.....	450
Linear feet of new edging set.....	405
Cubic yards of excavation removed.....	50
Square feet of new asphalt walk laid.....	<u>1,500</u>

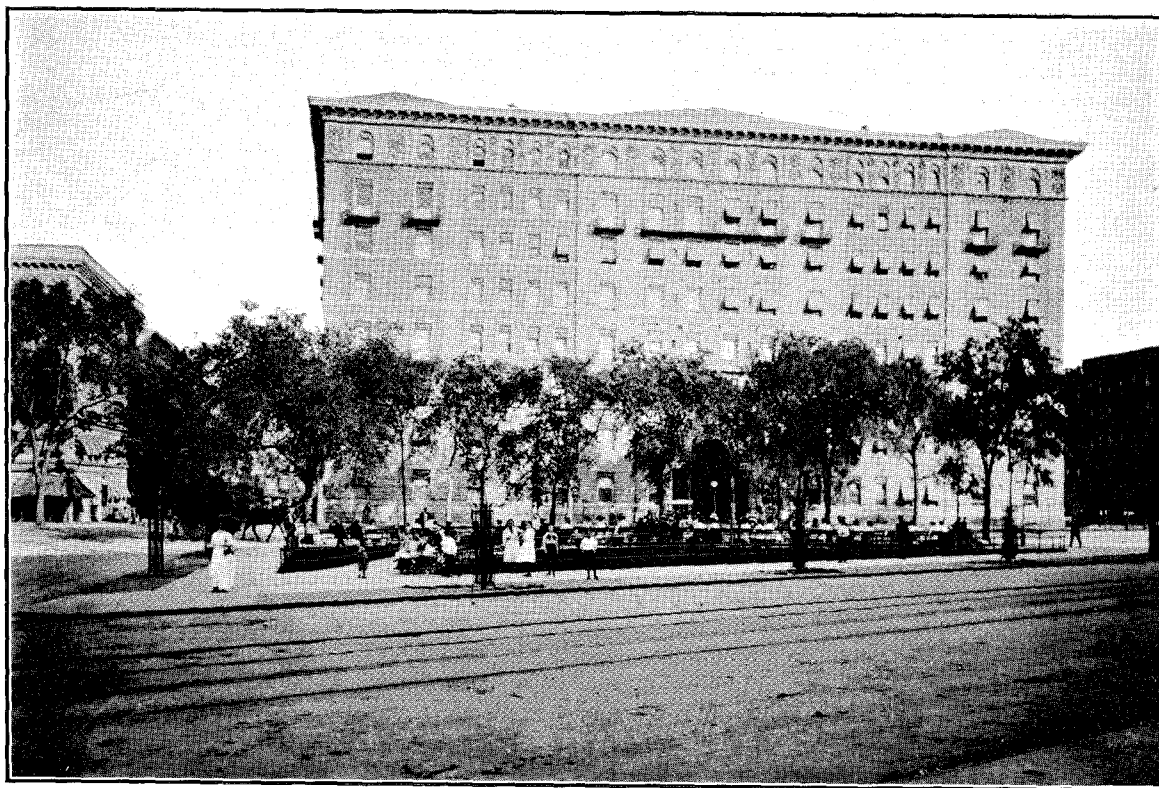
Fourteen silver linden trees were set out in specially prepared holes, five to six cubic yards of fertile mould being placed in each hole.

Three iron urinals of obsolete type condemned as unsanitary were removed by the department force and the sites filled with mould and sodded. In connection with this work about 300 square feet of asphalt walks were taken up and carted away.

Washington Square.

Eighty-one young trees were set out in this park during the year, the tree holes being specially prepared with fertile mould, five to six cubic yards being deposited in each hole. The varieties planted are as follows:

Silver lindens.....	30	Norway maples.....	15
American elms.....	18	European elms.....	3
Oriental planes.....	15		<u> </u>



KILPATRICK PARK TRIANGLE—ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTEENTH STREET AND
ST. NICHOLAS AVENUE.

Temporary Improvement of Playground Sites, Fifty-ninth Street and One Hundred and Tenth Street.

The work of improving the new playgrounds, the one at Fifty-ninth street, near Amsterdam avenue, the other at One Hundred and First street, near First avenue, turned over to this Department in 1908, was begun during the summer. It consisted of the depositing of clean earth filling where required over the area, free of cost to the City. The work has been practically brought to grade, and the playgrounds are now ready for final improvement.

It is impossible to state accurately the amount of work done, as the filling was deposited from time to time, and inasmuch as it was furnished without cost to the City no measurements were taken.

In connection with the playground between Fifty-ninth and Sixtieth streets, west of Tenth avenue, a retaining wall was constructed along the westerly boundary for a distance of about 35 feet, which defines the line between public and private property. The wall was constructed to hold the filling and to prevent it from washing into the yards of the houses adjacent. An iron picket fence was erected on the top of this retaining wall. The work done follows:

Cubic yards of rubble wall constructed.....	55
Running feet of wrought-iron picket fence erected.....	40

William H. Seward Park.

New Entrance Constructed.

A new entrance and walk were constructed in front of the public school building on the Hester street side of the park for the convenience of the school children principally.

The necessary excavation and the laying of the concrete foundation was done by the department force, the wearing surface of the walk being of asphalt. The quantities of the work are as follows:

Cubic yards of excavation removed.....	30
Cubic yards of concrete foundation laid for walk.....	12
Square feet of asphalt wearing surface laid.....	600

Harlem River Driveway.

Additional Drainage.

Defective drainage in the vicinity of One Hundred and Sixty-ninth street, in High Bridge Park, caused the water to flow over the sidewalk of the driveway at that point. In cold weather this water froze, making the passage of the walk a matter of serious inconvenience and possible danger to visitors. This condition was corrected by the installation of vitrified drain to conduct the water across the drive into the river. The details of the work done are as follows:

Linear feet of 10-inch vitrified drain pipe laid.....	200
Manhole built.....	1
Linear feet of tile drain laid.....	25
Cubic yards of concrete foundation laid.....	1
Cubic yards of excavation removed.....	100

Tompkins Square Park.

Improvement of the Girls' Playground.

In Tompkins square the girls' playground, which was never properly constructed, and has been a source of constant trouble owing to improper drainage, is in the course of construction by the Park Department force.

Although not wholly completed, the quantities submitted below represent approximately what will be required in connection with the reconstruction, which consists of excavating the present surface to a depth of from 8 to 12 inches, laying agricultural drainage, spreading over the whole area of the playground a layer of broken stone 4 inches in depth, and surfacing the same with a 4-inch layer of gravel and steam cinders.

Up to the end of the year three-quarters of the area of the playground had been excavated. All the tile pipe had been laid, and the broken stone had been delivered on the site of the work.

The quantities of work to be done in the restoration of this playground follow:

Cubic yards of excavation.....	530
Linear feet of 3-inch tile pipe laid.....	1,000
Cubic yards of broken stone furnished (this includes stone required to surround the agricultural drain pipes).....	275
Cubic yards of gravel.....	235

Miscellaneous.

Iron folding gates were erected at the entrances to the several playground enclosures at William H. Seward and Hamilton Fish Parks, and at the entrance to the pavilion at Mulberry Bend Park.

Fifty expanded metal lockers were set up in each of the pavilions at DeWitt Clinton and William H. Seward Parks for the convenience of athletes using the gymnasium and running tracks in those parks.

Nine hundred and five linear feet of pipe fence was erected around the plot at West End avenue and One Hundred and Sixth street and Broadway and painted.

Completed the work of widening the bridle path at Ninety-third to Ninety-fourth street and the West Drive. The banks were graded and about 3,000 square feet of sod laid.

Completed construction of walks at the small park, One Hundred and Thirty-eighth street and Broadway, changes in the grades necessitating the taking up and relaying of the telford walk foundation put in the previous fall.

Central Park.

Construction of Repair Yards, Storage Sheds, etc., North Meadow.

The work of construction under the contract executed April 15, 1907, was completed, with the erection of the incinerator, and the manure pit and buildings accepted by the Department, February 17.

A large force of Department teams and carts was put on the work of removing the material excavated by the contractor in the course of the work, no provision having been made in the contract for its removal.

The amount of material removed was about 950 cubic yards.

An automatic pump was installed with a hose connection running to the bottom of the pit. The liquid which gathers in the bottom of the manure pit is pumped out and spread over the top of the pile to hasten the rotting process.

St. Nicholas Park.

Proceedings in the matter of acquiring title to lands to be set aside for park purposes, between One Hundred and Thirtieth and One Hundred and Forty-first streets, St. Nicholas avenue and St. Nicholas terrace, and four small parcels, between One Hundred and Thirty-sixth and One Hundred and Thirty-eighth streets, St. Nicholas terrace and Amsterdam avenue, were begun in the late nineties, and the final action confirming said titles as to the last parcels was taken in 1903.

The work of construction was divided into two contracts, one for the portion from One Hundred and Thirty-fifth street to the northern boundary of One Hundred and Forty-first street and the other for the southern portion from One Hundred and Thirtieth to One Hundred and Thirty-fifth street.

Work was begun on the upper section during the latter part of 1906 and upon the lower in the spring of 1907. Both sections were completed within the past year, and the work accepted by the Department, the upper section on May 13, and the lower on October 19.

As much of the planting as possible was done by the Department force before the cold weather set in. In all 680 trees, 3,377 shrubs and 2,883 vines were planted.

There remains, however, a considerable portion of the planting still to be done and this work will be resumed as early in the spring as possible.

The great difference in grade between the easterly and westerly boundaries of the park and the generally unfavorable topography of the territory made its conversion into a park a most difficult feat of landscape architecture. The westerly side of the park is formed of a rocky ridge ranging in height from 30 to 60 feet, and sloping abruptly down to the easterly side, level with the street. The general width of the plot

ranges from 250 to 300 feet wide. By following out a plan of treatment similar to that introduced in the construction of Morningside Park, which is situated on a portion of the same ridge of rock farther downtown, very satisfactory results have been obtained. In fact the park taken in connection with the magnificent buildings of the City College, situated on the top of the ridge to the west of the park, furnishes a most pleasing picture.

The amount of work necessary in the conversion of such a rock pile into a finished park is enormous. Excrescences of rock had to be removed and voids in the slopes filled with earth to obtain slopes of proper grade. Walks had to be cut through solid rock in places and care exercised to preserve the peculiarities in the topography of the park to obtain the desired landscape effects. After the slopes were properly shaped, they were covered with a layer of top soil mixed with manure, from eighteen inches to two feet deep. Modern water supply and irrigating systems were installed to properly care for the lawns and plantations during the dry season, and asphalt walks with concrete base laid upon stone foundations were laid throughout the park. The details of the work are given below:

Cubic yards of earth filling in place.....	24,593
Cubic yards of earth excavation	19,880
Cubic yards of rock excavation.....	3,452
Cubic yards of large loose rock removed.....	204
Rustic rock doweled	256
Cubic yards of manure furnished and spread.....	9,534
Cubic yards of mold furnished and spread.....	37,331
Square feet of sod furnished and laid.....	724,186
Walk basins built	124
Surface basins built	37
Receiving basins built	2
Linear feet of 6-inch vitrified drain pipe laid in concrete casing.....	3,504
Linear feet of 8-inch vitrified drain pipe laid in concrete casing.....	3,375
Linear feet of 10-inch vitrified drain pipe laid in concrete casing.....	838
Linear feet of 12-inch vitrified drain pipe laid in concrete casing.....	1,467
Manholes built	37
Linear feet of 3-inch porous tile drain furnished and laid.....	9,909
Linear feet of 4-inch cast iron water pipe laid.....	6,850
Linear feet of 2-inch galvanized iron water pipe laid.....	3,152
Linear feet of 1-inch lead pipe laid.....	300
Four-inch gates set	27
Two-inch gates set	68
Street washers furnished and set	42
Drinking hydrants set and vaults built.....	12
Gate vaults built	16

Linear feet of 6-inch vitrified drain pipe laid in concrete casing.....	946
Linear feet of 5-inch bluestone curb set on concrete base.....	394
Linear feet of 2½-inch bluestone edging set on concrete base.....	3,135
Square feet of asphalt walk pavement with 8-inch rubble and 3-inch concrete foundation	174,541
Cubic yards of rubblestone masonry built.....	2,091
Linear feet of bluestone steps furnished and set.....	9,835
Linear feet of bluestone cheekstones furnished and set.....	1,824
Linear feet of old steps reset.....	225
Linear feet of new (4 feet 6 inches high) picket fence erected and painted.	720
Linear feet of old (4 feet 6 inches high) picket fence repaired and painted..	2,090
Linear feet of 3-rail pipe fence with mesh furnished and erected.....	3,602
Linear feet of 2-rail pipe fence with mesh furnished and erected.....	3,496

Cost of constructing park proper, \$235,780.64.

Plans, specifications and form of contract in the matter of constructing bays, approaches, steps, comfort stations, etc., in order to form proper approaches to the park from St. Nicholas terrace, which in places is over 30 feet above the park, were prepared, and the work will be advertised as soon as the financial condition of the City will permit.

In connection with the installation of the water supply system the following work was done by the Department force:

Brick basins built to receive water meters.....	4
Water meters set and connected	4

The park is lighted by a system of electric arc lamps installed by the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity in accordance with plans furnished by this Department.

Two flights of wooden steps were erected leading from the upper walk of the park to St. Nicholas terrace above, one at One Hundred and Thirty-fifth street for the convenience of the general public, the other at One Hundred and Thirty-sixth street for the more particular use of the faculty and students of the College of The City of New York.

Colonial Park.

The work of improving, laying out and parking the portion of Colonial Park north of One Hundred and Forty-ninth street, which was begun in 1907, was prosecuted to completion during the year. The work was accepted by the Department, November 7.

Colonial Park is bounded by One Hundred and Forty-fifth street on the south, One Hundred and Fifty-fifth street on the north, Bradhurst avenue on the east, and Edgcombe avenue on the west.

Owing to the steep slopes and the high retaining wall which form the westerly boundary of park, it was necessary to have the park treatment similar to that of Morningside and St. Nicholas Parks. The width of the park varies, but, generally speaking, is about 225 feet, whereas the difference in elevation between the lower walk and the upper one, is from 30 to 70 feet.

The park is situated on the continuation of the rocky ridge upon which St. Nicholas Park has been built, and the same difficulties were encountered in preparing suitable plans for its conversion to park purposes. Many old trees were standing on the hillside and these were incorporated into the general scheme of treatment. The general results obtained are very satisfactory, and upon the completion of the planting this park will be fully up to the standard maintained in the other parks of the city.

Plans, contract drawings, form of contract and specifications were prepared covering the work of improving the park between One Hundred and Forty-fifth and One Hundred and Fiftieth streets, and bids for the same will be received during the early part of 1909. The construction of proper approaches, bays, entrances and steps, so that connecting links might be established between Edgecombe avenue and the park, was considered, and plans covering the work are now being prepared.

The amount of work performed in 1908, on completion of contract, follows:

Cubic yards of excavation of earth.....	1,630
Cubic yards of rock excavation.....	185
Cubic yards of filling.....	9,955
Cubic yards of large rock removed.....	9
Rustic rocks placed.....	50
Cubic yards of manure deposited in lawns, etc.....	1,620
Cubic yards of mold deposited on lawns and slopes.....	5,680
Square feet of sod laid.....	222,000
Walk basins built.....	3
Surface basin built.....	1
Linear feet of 6-inch drain pipe laid.....	580
Manhole built	1
Water supply constructed.....	5%
Square feet of asphalt walk laid.....	193,000
Cubic yards of rubble masonry constructed.....	11
Linear feet of 3-rail pipe fence erected.....	100
Linear feet of 2-rail pipe fence erected.....	150
Linear feet of 3-rail fence given final coat of paint.....	1,198
Linear feet of 2-rail fence given final coat of paint.....	2,648

A temporary wooden stairway has been erected at One Hundred and Forty-eighth street to give access to the park from Edgecombe avenue.

Two thousand two hundred feet of iron picket fence surmounting the retaining wall on the westerly boundary was painted by the Department force and about 150 feet of wooden picket fence erected to complete the enclosure of the park at its northerly extremity on Edgecombe avenue.

In connection with the installation of the water supply, a brick basin for a water meter was built and the meter set and connected by the Department force.

Construction and Improvement of Small Parks, Borough of Manhattan, to Wit: John Jay Park, DeWitt Clinton, Thomas Jefferson Park and the Small Park at First Avenue and Thirty-fifth Street (St. Gabriel's Park).

Iron folding gates were erected at the entrances to the various playground enclosures in Thomas Jefferson, DeWitt Clinton and St. Gabriel's Parks, the work being done by contract.

Reconstruction of Bulkhead, Harlem River Driveway.

The old wooden bulkhead which serves as a retaining wall for the greater portion of the Harlem River driveway (Speedway) having shown signs of decay, an examination was made by the Chief Engineer to determine its condition. It was found that the front timbers above the water line, as well as the cribwork below had decayed and rotted to such an extent that there is considerable danger that a section or more might fail at any time and allow a portion of the sidewalk and roadway to slide toward the river or sink to depths sufficient to cause the closing of the driveway for a considerable time, to say nothing of the possible injury and loss of life in the event of any portion failing during a time when the roadway is crowded with drivers and the walks with people enjoying the sport.

Request was made upon the Board of Estimate for the necessary funds to reconstruct the bulkhead, and on June 26 that body set aside \$550,000 Corporate Stock to be used for that purpose.

It is proposed to remove the face work of the existing bulkhead and as much of the crib as will be necessary and to construct on the existing cribwork, from the mean low water line to grade, a retaining wall of stone, similar to the lower section of the present retaining wall.

The necessary surveys were made, but nothing further has been done, owing to the order of estoppel which the Board of Estimate has placed on all expenditures of Corporate Stock Funds.

The reauthorization of the funds by the Board of Estimate is therefore necessary before the work can be proceeded with.

Riverside Drive and Property Road, Improvement of.

Construction of New Asphalt Gutters, etc.

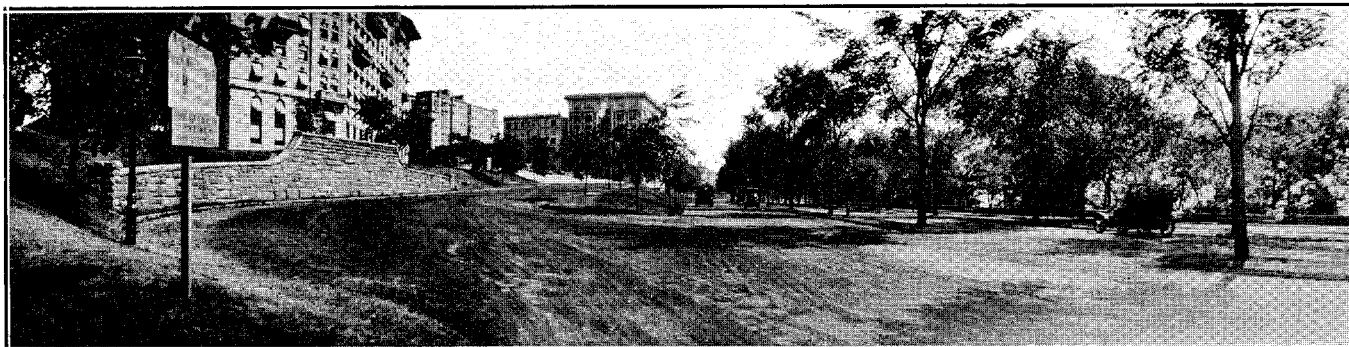
At the time Riverside Drive was constructed the grade established for the easterly side was considerably above that of the weseterly side. Through the lack of proper drainage at the corners or intersections of the streets with the drive, the watershed from the streets found its way across the drive causing washouts and making deep ruts. Without taking into consideration the unsightly appearance of the drive after heavy storms through this washing away of the superstructure the consequent cost of maintaining and repairing was considerable.

In order to remedy these defective conditions it became necessary to lower the grade of the drive on the easterly side 6 to 8 inches, and raise the grade on the west-erly side the same amount. This lessened the list to the west considerably and brought it practically to a minimum. Where the drive is subdivided north of One Hundred and Fourth street the same treatment was carried out, and in these sections the drives are now practically level.

In order to take care of the drainage from the side streets and the Drive itself new basins were constructed on the easterly side of the drive and at other points where necessary. Asphalt gutters were laid along the main drive and the property road; the main gutters five blocks wide, while those on the property road were constructed three blocks wide. The entire drive from Seventy-second street to One Hundred and Twenty-ninth street was spiked, reggraded to proper crowns, new gravel was spread and rolled, and the drive was placed in first class condition. Since the new construction all trouble as to washouts has been avoided, and the water shed from the side streets finds its way through proper channels into the receiving basins. The property road north of One Hundred and Fourth street has not been improved, owing to lack of time, but this work will be proceeded with in the spring of 1909.

In connection with the above improvement considerable work was done, and for reference the following detailed statement is submitted:

Iron gratings set at straight and corner basins.....	25
Road basins built complete.....	58
Road basins brought to grade.....	31
Linear feet of 8-inch vitrified drain pipe laid.....	520
Linear feet of 6-inch vitrified drain pipe laid.....	600
Linear feet of 10-inch vitrified drain pipe laid.....	30
Linear feet of 5-block asphalt gutters laid in concrete.....	17,276
Linear feet of 3-block asphalt gutters laid in concrete.....	8,215
Linear feet of 5-block asphalt gutters not laid in concrete.....	3,630
Linear feet of 3-block asphalt gutters not laid in concrete.....	450
Linear feet of curb reset.....	4,000
Cubic yards of excavation.....	10,000



RIVERSIDE DRIVE—SOUTH FROM ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH STREET.

Cubic yards of concrete foundation under asphalt block gutters.....	757
Square yards of gravel roadway resurfaced.....	84,500
Square yards of asphalt block pavement on concrete foundation laid.....	615
Cubic yards of concrete as foundation.....	100
Cubic yards of excavation.....	150

The lawns, adjacent to the gutters were reshaped and sodded. The entire work was done by the Department labor force under the supervision of the Superintendent of Parks and the Chief Engineer.

A new system of electric lighting was installed on Riverside Drive and in Riverside Park, between Seventy-second and One Hundred and Twenty-ninth streets, by the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity, replacing the gasoline lamps formerly used there.

Extension of Water Supply System in the Harlem River Driveway, Between One Hundred and Fifty-fifth and One Hundred and Seventy-seventh Streets.

The work of installing a proper water supply system for the Harlem River driveway, to take the place of the absolutely inadequate one led from Amsterdam avenue through a 1½-inch wrought iron pipe and feeding but few hydrants, was prosecuted from High Bridge to Dyckman street in 1907.

On June 7, 1907, an additional appropriation of \$26,000 was made by the Board of Estimate with which to complete the system between High Bridge and One Hundred and Fifty-fifth street. A contract was executed March 30 and the work begun in July of the present year and carried to completion. Road hydrants were set in place every 500 feet, drinking fountains, watering troughs, street washers, lawn sprinklers, blow-offs and other appurtenances were installed. The entire system is now in working order between One Hundred and Fifty-fifth and Dyckman streets, a distance of about two and one-fourth miles. The installation of this system saves considerable time and labor, as well as money, to the Department. Under the old system the time required for filling a water barrel varied from twenty to thirty-five minutes, whereas under the present system they can be filled ready for sprinkling in less than five minutes. The amount of work done follows:

By Contract.

Tons of straight cast iron pipe furnished and delivered.....	106
Tons of cast iron branches and special castings.....	6.5
Linear feet of 6-inch cast iron water pipe laid.....	6,101
Linear feet of 2-inch galvanized wrought iron pipe furnished and laid.....	1,168
Six-inch stop-cocks furnished and set in brick vaults.....	9
Two-inch stop-cocks furnished and set in brick vaults.....	50
Street washers furnished and set.....	24
Horse trough furnished and set.....	1
Road hydrants furnished and set.....	9
Air cocks furnished and set.....	5
Cubic yards of rubble masonry built.....	1.12
Cubic yards of mold furnished and deposited over trenches.....	132
Square feet of sod furnished and laid.....	7,144
Cubic yards of concrete furnished and deposited where required.....	10.64
Cubic yards of excavation of all kinds.....	3,230

By Department Labor.

Brick basin for water meter built.....	1
Water meter set.....	1

Riverside Drive.

New Grading, Drainage and Water Supply on Loop Drive

At the time that the viaduct was built carrying Riverside drive over Manhattanville, in connection with the extension of Riverside drive, the plaza or approach to the viaduct was built practically level, whereas the existing Riverside drive, known as the Loop, at One Hundred and Twenty-seventh street, was originally built with a fall running to the west. The work of raising the grade of Riverside drive was made necessary by the defective conditions of the approach at the westerly end, which approach was about 5 feet higher than the drive. The line of the drive was shifted to the east and raised in grade to meet the approach. The slopes were constructed, a new water supply, as well as a drainage system, was installed, and the entire drive rebuilt. The slopes in the vicinity of this improvement, where they had failed through heavy wash-outs, were reshaped by the depositing of clean earth filling, and were then covered with mold and sodded. The work was done by contract and was completed within the year. The details of the work are submitted below:

Cubic yards of earth filling deposited in place.....	1,600
Road basins built	4
Linear feet of 20-inch vitrified pipe laid.....	475
Linear feet of 10-inch vitrified pipe laid.....	175
Linear feet of 8-inch vitrified pipe laid.....	9
Linear feet of 3-inch porous tile pipe laid.....	380

Water Supply System—

Linear feet of 4-inch cast iron pipe laid.....	450
Linear feet of 2-inch galvanized iron pipe laid.....	80
Linear feet of 1-inch lead pipe laid.....	30
Four-inch gates set.....	2
Two-inch stop-cocks set.....	8
Street washers set.....	4
Gate vault built	1
Square yards of road pavement (telford macadam gravel).....	2,876
Square feet of asphalt walk pavement laid.....	9,318
Cubic yards of mold furnished in place.....	798
Square feet of sod furnished and laid.....	13,729
Linear feet of 5-inch bluestone curb set.....	896

The work in connection with restoration of adjacent slopes is as follows:

Cubic yards of earth filling in place.....	380
Cubic yards of mold in place.....	382
Square feet of sod furnished and laid.....	9,691

Construction and Equipment of a Comfort Station in the Ramble, Near Seventy-ninth Street Transverse Road, Central Park.

The generally inadequate toilet facilities in Central Park, particularly in the section around the Ramble, led to the preparation of plans for a new stone structure containing ample accommodations for visitors.

An appropriation of \$30,000 Corporate Stock was obtained from the Board of Estimate June 7, 1907. On September 1, 1908, the contract for the erection of the building was executed and the work begun immediately. It is now one-third completed and will be ready for use by May 1, 1909. The old frame buildings now in use will then be razed and the sites graded and planted.

The new building is of gray stone and is most substantial in character. The main entrance is set apart for women, that for men being on the easterly end of the building. The equipment is all of the latest, most approved type, and includes a steam heating plant. The cost of the building is \$22,756.

Improvement of Jefferson Park.

Iron folding gates were erected at the entrances to the playground enclosures, and the iron picket fence on the One Hundred and Fourteenth street side of the park was extended to the river bulkhead.

Thirty-eight trees and 829 shrubs were planted by the Department force. The varieties used comprise elm, ash, horse chestnut and linden among the trees, while among the shrubs are found the following: Dogwood, ligustrum, philadelphus, berberis, tonicera, viburnum, chiananthus and enonymous. This work practically completes the planting of the park as originally planned.

Improvement of Aquarium Building, Battery Park.

The work of installing the new system of lead-lined pipe for the salt water supply to the tanks in the Aquarium was completed by the contractor and accepted by the Department June 22, 1909.

Work on this contract was begun in November, 1906, but was delayed on account of litigation.

The cost of the new system was \$7,441, exclusive of architect's fees, etc.

Restoration and Improvement of Jumel Mansion and Grounds.

The modern hardware on all the doors was replaced by specially made knobs, escutcheons, etc., of the type and pattern with which they were equipped during the Washington period.

In all nineteen doors were restored and other work of restoration, at a cost of \$332.35.

The east walls of the hall and stairway were repapered to match the portion already done.

Revenue Bond Fund for Milk Buildings.

New Milk Booth, Tompkins Square.

On May 28 a contract was executed for the erection of a new brick building for the distribution of pasteurized milk in Tompkins square by Nathan Straus laboratories. Actual work was started June 23 and the building completed and accepted by the City December 28. The necessary funds for the erection of the building were authorized by the Board of Estimate June 7, 1907, upon the recommendation of the Board of Aldermen. The cost of the building proper was \$5,500. The old frame building erected for the purpose some years ago will be razed and the site graded and planted.

Constructing and Repairing Drives Under Contract.

Repairing Fifth Avenue.

During the late fall of 1907 a contract was executed in the matter of laying asphalt roadway pavement on Fifth avenue (one of the avenues under the jurisdiction of this Department), between Fifty-ninth and Sixtieth, and Ninetieth and One Hundred and Tenth streets, and a beginning was made, but the greater part of the work was completed in 1908.

The pavement, which had outlived its usefulness and was beyond repair, was taken up, as was the underlying macadam stone, and a new concrete foundation, varying from 4 to 6 inches, was laid, upon which the asphalt superstructure was placed, consisting of 1 inch of binder and 2 inches of wearing surface.

In addition to this work, the entire curb on the park side was replaced with new 5-inch fine axed curb, while the easterly curb was redressed and rejointed and reset on a concrete base. New receiving basins were built, and the general drainage of the avenue readjusted. The amount of work done during 1908 follows:

Cubic yards of excavation of all kinds.....	2,500
Cubic yards of concrete furnished and deposited in place.....	1,769
Noiseless manhole heads furnished and set.....	36
Square yards of asphalt pavement furnished and laid.....	16,552
Linear feet of new 5-inch bluestone curb furnished and set.....	2,798
Linear feet of old curb taken up, redressed and reset.....	2,210
Receiving basins built complete.....	3

Constructing and Repairing Drives Under Contract.

The walks of many of the City parks had become dangerous to travel, and it was necessary to resurface them and in some cases to reconstruct the walks with proper foundation. In 1908 a further contract was entered into continuing the work begun

in 1907. It consisted of paving and repaving with rock asphalt mastic where directed the walks in Central and other parks in the Borough of Manhattan. In addition to this new curb was set where required.

The work done included various walks in the following parks and squares:

Bryant Park, Empire Park North, Empire Park South, Sherman Square, triangle, One Hundred and Thirty-seventh street and St. Nicholas avenue; Riverside Park (walk surrounding comfort station, Seventy-second street), Hamilton Fish Park, William H. Seward Park, Grove Street, Abingdon Square, triangle, One Hundred and Thirty-seventh street and Broadway; Morningside Park, Central Park.

The total pavement laid was 210,073 square feet.

In connection with this work 700 cubic yards of concrete foundation was laid and 179 cubic feet of new bluestone curb.

At Westerleigh Park, in the Borough of Richmond, a cement walk was constructed around the outside of the park and new curb set. The amount of this contract was \$1,666.

Alterations and Improvements to Pergola Building, DeWitt Clinton Park.

At DeWitt Clinton Park the leaky condition of the floor and roof of the pergola building damaged the building to a very considerable extent, necessitating extensive repairs and alterations. An appropriation of \$18,000 Corporate Stock was obtained from the Board of Estimate on June 26, covering the work to be done, and plans and specifications were prepared. It is proposed to lay a new tile floor instead of the present concrete floor, set new stone coping, with new stone bases under the present columns; waterproof the entire roof and erect an enclosed shelter roof to replace the present pergola beam construction. The contract will be advertised during the coming year.

Broadway Centre Plots.

Revenue Bond Fund for Erection of Iron Fences.

Sample panels of two proposed designs of fence for the Broadway plots were made and submitted for inspection to the Municipal Art Commission. Plans were then prepared for the erection of fences, of the design approved by the Commission, around the plots, and a contract was executed for the erection of the fence around the plot between Sixtieth and Sixty-first streets as a sample plot, at a cost of \$1,998. The amount of the appropriation by the Board of Estimate for the purpose (\$55,000), it is estimated, will provide for the fencing of the plots as far as Ninety-fifth street.

Construction of Comfort Station, Madison Square.

New plans were prepared for the proposed building and a request made upon the Board of Estimate for the additional funds necessary to provide for its erection, the amount of the present appropriation (\$12,000) being some \$18,000 short of the estimated cost of the building.

Central Park.

Improvement and Construction Work.

In addition to the improvements outlined in the foregoing statement, a new rhododendron plantation was added in Central Park, through the generosity of Mrs. Russell Sage. It occupies the slope facing the East drive, from Eighty-fifth street north to Ninety-seventh street, a distance of nearly three-quarters of a mile. It contains approximately 10,000 rhododendrons, all of the first quality, the greatest part of them having been specially imported from England for this plantation.

The varieties used comprise the following:

In the foreground, General Grant, Kettledrum, Golden Age, H. W. Sargent, H. H. Hunnewell, Album Grandiflorum, Everestianum, Lady Armstrong, Charles Dickens, Abraham Lincoln, President Roosevelt, Rosa Elegans, Delicatissimum, Purpura Elegans, Alexander Dautzer, Old Port, Sappho, Purple Crispum, Mrs. Milner, Dr. Lang, R. S. Fields.

The background is formed of Rhododendron Maximum (native plants).

Interspersed through the plantation at advantageous points are small groups of English thorns.

The slope which the plantation occupies was formerly planted with herbaceous beds and a few shrubs. These were removed, the entire slope was spaded and new soil added to an average depth of two feet for its entire length. The new soil was composed of rich peat mold, containing the necessary chemical ingredients to insure good growth and mixed with a special clayey loam to give it body.

This unique gift constitutes a most pleasing addition to the beauty of the park. The rhododendron is one of the showiest of flowering shrubs, the flowers being borne in great profusion in infinite variety of color tints and shades upon a background of deep green leaves, which resemble the leaf of the laurel. The blooms reach perfection early in June, the flowers holding well for about two weeks, during which time they present a gorgeous picture.

A special water supply running the entire length of the plantation was put in by the Department plumbing force, and all through the summer the plants were constantly watered in order that their growth might not be checked by the heat.

List of Statuary, Monuments, etc., in the Public Parks.

BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN.

Central Park—

Schiller (bust), on Shore walk, east side of large lake, opposite Seventy-seventh street.

Beethoven (bust), on the Mall, opposite music stand.

Eagles. The (group). on east side of Centre drive. on walk leading to music stand.

Daniel Webster (standing figure), at junction of West and Cross drives, opposite Seventy-second street.

Indian Hunter (group), at south end of Mall.

Columbus (standing figure), at south end of Mall.

Shakespeare (standing figure), at south end of Mall.

Robert Burns (sitting figure), on the Mall.

Walter Scott (sitting figure), on the Mall.

Fitz Greene Halleck (sitting figure), on the Mall.

Humboldt (bust), East drive, near entrance, Fifty-ninth street and Fifth avenue.

Thorwaldsen (standing figure), at entrance, Ninety-sixth street and Fifth avenue.

Commerce, West drive, near entrance at Fifty-ninth street and Eighth avenue.

Seventh Regiment Memorial (standing figure), West drive, opposite Sixty-eighth street.

Mazzini (bust), West drive, opposite Sixty-seventh street.

Morse (standing figure), at entrance, Seventy-second street and Fifth avenue.

The Pilgrim (standing figure), north side of Cross drive, near entrance, Seventy-second street and Fifth avenue.

Panther (still hunt), west side of East drive, opposite Seventy-seventh street.

Falconer (standing figure), south side of Cross drive, near Webster statue.

Tigress and Cubs, Cherry Hill, north of the Mall, facing large lake.

Moore (bust), west of East drive, opposite Sixty-first street.

Hamilton (standing figure), west of East drive, opposite Eighty-third street.

Bolivar (equestrian), pedestal only, opposite West Eighty-first street. Statue removed for remodeling.

The Alexandrian Obelisk, East drive, opposite Eighty-first street.

Richard Morris Hunt (exedra), Fifth avenue sidewalk, between Seventieth street and Seventy-first street.

Shepard Fountain, in the Ramble, near East drive, opposite Seventy-ninth street.

General W. T. Sherman (equestrian), Plaza, Fifty-ninth street and Fifth avenue.

Columbus Monument, Plaza, Fifty-ninth street and Eighth avenue.



SHERMAN EQUESTRIAN STATUE.
The Plaza—Fifty-ninth Street and Fifth Avenue.

Riverside Park—

Soldiers' and Sailors' Memorial Monument, Eighty-ninth street.
 Tomb of General U. S. Grant, One Hundred and Twenty-fourth street.
 Franz Sigel, One Hundred and Sixth street and Riverside Drive.

Madison Square Park—

Chester A. Arthur.
 Admiral Farragut.
 Roscoe Conkling.
 William H. Seward.

Washington Square Park—

Washington Arch.
 Garibaldi.
 Alexander L. Holly.

Bryant Park—

Dr. J. Marion Sims.
 Washington Irving.

Union Square Park—

Lafayette.
 Washington.
 Lincoln.

City Hall Park—

Nathan Hale.

Morningside Park—

Washington-Lafayette.

Hancock Square—

General Winfield Scott Hancock

Greeley Square—

Horace Greeley.

Cooper Park—

Peter Cooper.

Battery Park—

Ericsson.

Broadway and Thirty-fifth Street—

William Earl Dodge.

Printing House Square—

Franklin.

Broadway and Twenty-fifth Street—

Worth Monument.

Bowling Green Park—

Abraham DePeyster.