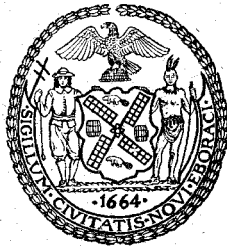


CITY OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

1914



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

A N N U A L
R E P O R T

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CITY OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

BOROUGHS OF MANHATTAN AND RICHMOND

MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 10TH FLOOR

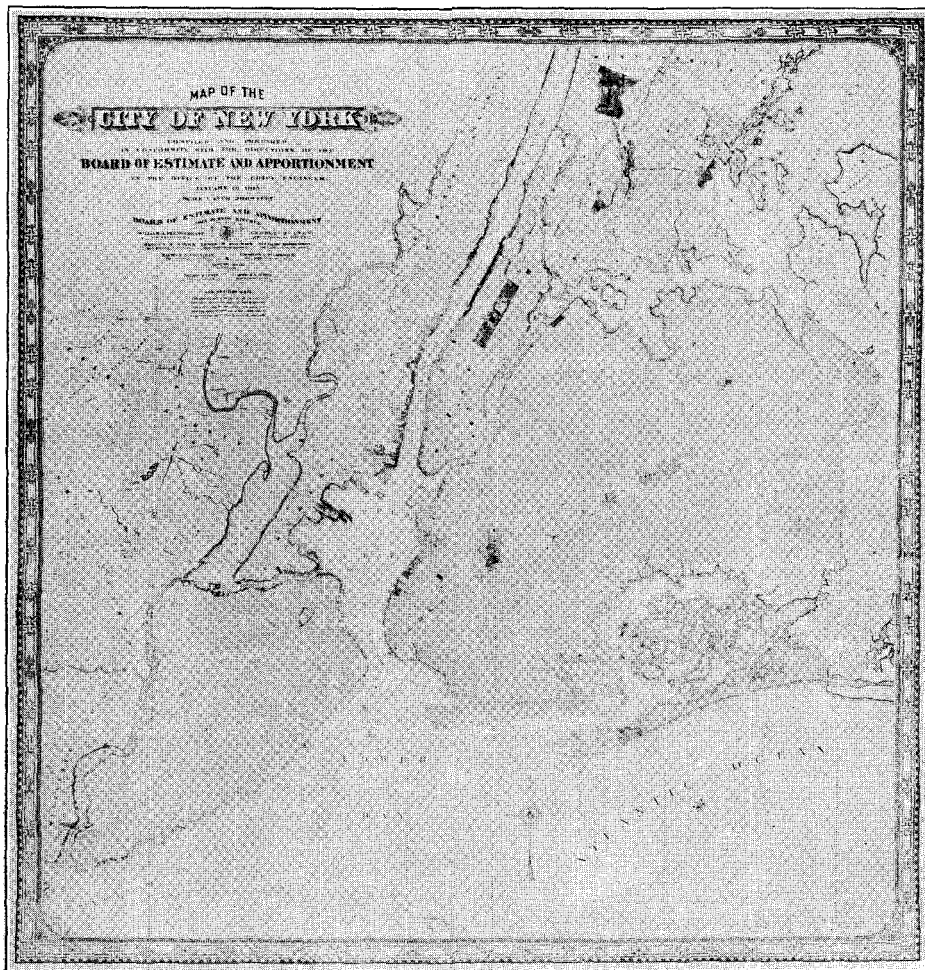
Oct. 14, 1915.

HON. JOHN PURROY MITCHEL,
Mayor, City of New York,
City Hall, N. Y. City.

SIR:

In accordance with Section 1544 of the Greater New York Charter, I herewith present the Annual Report of the Department of Parks, Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond, for the year ending December 31st, 1914.

Respectfully yours,
CABOT WARD,
Commissioner of Parks, Manhattan and Richmond.



MAP OF GREATER NEW YORK—PARK AREA SHOWN IN BLACK

GENERAL DATA, CITY OF NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

	Manhattan	Richmond	Bronx	Brooklyn	Queens	Total
Population.....	2,538,606	99,186	641,980	1,916,655	387,444	5,583,871
Tax Rate.....	1.78	1.90	1.77	1.85	1.80
Parks, Area.....	1,485.125	63.56	4,200	1,037.48	1,177.60	7,963.765
Area of Parks to Area of Borough.....	1 to 9	1 to 576	1 to 6	1 to 50	1 to 64
Number of People Served by One Acre of Park.....	1,709	1,560	152	1,847	329	5,597
Number of Play- grounds.....	52	2	7	8	4	73
Baths Under Control of Park Department	3	3
Baths Under Control of Borough President	10	1	8	19
Libraries, Public.....	35	4	5	38	33	115
Schools, Public.....	211	36	55	186	95	583
Schools, Private.....	152	12	20	106	22	312

Number of Railroads.....	8
Number of Steamship Companies.....	123
Number of Ferries.....	31

Character of Industries, Manufacturing and Commerce.

Form of Government-Semi-Commission Department Established:

Commissioners of Central Park.....	1856
Department of Public Parks, Five Commissioners.....	1870
Park Board, Three Commissioners.....	1897
Park Board, Four Commissioners.....	1910

THE PARK BOARD

The administration of the Park System of New York City is directed by a Park Board of four Commissioners. The Mayor designates one of the Commissioners as President of the Board, and in accordance with such designation the Presidency is now held by the Commissioner of the Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond. The other three Commissioners are respectively the Commissioners of The Bronx, Brooklyn and Queens Boroughs. The Park Board passes on all contracts, including construction and supplies, makes all general regulations for the administration of the Park system of the City, and establishes, subject to the ordinances of the Board of Aldermen, rules and regulations for the government and protection of public parks and all property under its jurisdiction. Through the Park Board the general standards of park management are secured and questions of general policy determined.

The Park Board employs a Landscape Architect, a Secretary and other clerical help.

Under the Charter, each Commissioner is responsible for the management of affairs in his own Borough. He has exclusive charge of parks and park property within said limits,

and of the entire force employed for that purpose. Furthermore, each Commissioner serves as ex-officio member of the Municipal Art Commission when considering any matters affecting his Borough. The President of the Park Board is ex officio the City representative in the Boards of Trustees of such institutions as the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Museum of Natural History, Botanical Gardens, Zoological Park, the Aquarium, etc. He is also member of the Recreation Commission of the City.

Further information regarding the Park Board and the work conducted by its staff for the year 1914, including revision of park ordinances, will be found on Page 126 in Part 2 of this report.

ANNUAL REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN AND RICHMOND

Hon. CABOT WARD,
Commissioner of Parks,
Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond.

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PART I

GENERAL REVIEW FOR THE TAXPAYER

INTRODUCTION

1—BRIEF HISTORY OF DEVELOPMENT OF PARK SYSTEM IN BOROUGHES OF MANHATTAN AND RICHMOND:

The history of the development of the park system, Manhattan and Richmond, may be divided roughly into four periods:

First: Early development of small parks, that is, from 1732 to 1853.

Second: Acquisition and development of Central Park, 1853 to 1863.

Third: Acquisition and development of Riverside Park, 1872 to 1898.

Fourth: Acquisition and development of small parks as result of appointment of Small Parks Commission, 1898 to 1914.

Bowling Green Park:

The first park space in the City of New York was that now called Bowling Green Park. In 1732 this plot of ground was leased by citizens for playing the game of bowls. The plot was originally square and in the middle there was erected, in 1770, a lead statue of George III. After the Declaration of Independence the statue was torn down by a mob and the lead used for making bullets for the American army. In 1786 Bowling Green was first laid out as a park. At that time it was the centre of the fashionable residential district.

Battery Park:

Open water existed originally where the Staten Island Ferry houses now stand, and the site of the Aquarium was under water until about 1800. State Street was not laid out until 1789, and was then bounded by the Bay on one side. A ledge of rocks stretched across Manhattan Island, and facing these rocks along the edge of the water there was built in the early days a line of defensive works known as "The Battery." These works extended from Whitehall Street to what is now Rector Street, and cannon were mounted behind them. About 1723 the first steps were taken to fill in to the present water line, but many years passed before this was actually accomplished.

City Hall Park:

The present City Hall Park constitutes a part of what was known in the latter half of the seventeenth century as "The Common Lands," which stretched from the site of the Postoffice northward towards the Tombs, and from the line of Broadway across what is now Park Row. This land was originally used for the grazing of cattle and at its northeasterly end was what was known as "Fresh Water Pond." The land originally comprising The Commons was gradually reduced by the laying out of streets and the construction of buildings. At the close of the Revolutionary War improvements were begun in City Hall Park. The erection of the present City Hall was authorized in 1803 and was ready for occupancy in 1811. During the Civil War the present site of the Postoffice building was occupied by sheds, where the soldiers were supplied with food. After the war it was ceded to the United States Government as a site for the Postoffice.

Madison Square Park:

Madison Square Park was laid out as a Potter's Field in 1794, at what was then the junction of the Post and Bloomingdale roads. In 1806 the United States Government

erected in Madison Square an extensive Arsenal which was subsequently abandoned. Plans for improving this square were adopted in 1870.

Union Square Park:

Union Square was laid out in 1815, but not until 1832 was it enlarged to its present size. Plans for its improvement were also adopted in 1870.

Washington Square Park:

In 1797 the Potter's Field was removed from Madison Square to what is now Washington Square Park. Later, Washington Square was known as "Washington Parade Ground." Plans for its improvement were adopted in 1870 and carried out during the year 1871.

Tompkins Square Park:

Tompkins Square Park was a parade ground in 1866. It was paved with concrete originally, but has since been remodeled and laid out as a public park.

Central Park:

The second so-called period in the development of the Manhattan park system began in the early 50's when Mayor Kingsland transmitted to the Board of Aldermen a special message inviting attention to the limited areas devoted to the use of the public, their inadequacy to fulfil the wants of the people, and the necessity, both from a moral and sanitary point of view, of securing more lands for the purposes of recreation. A committee, to whom the matter was referred, reported the ground known as "Jones' Woods" suitable for the purposes required. This report was adopted with the result that an act was passed in the Legislature in 1851 known as the "Jones' Woods Park Bill." After the passage of this act the wisdom of selecting these lands was questioned, and the public discussion and ensuing agitation caused the appointment of a special committee by the Board of Aldermen to investigate whether more suitable lands for a public park could not be obtained.

This committee urged the advantages of a plot of ground lying between Fifth and Eighth Avenues, Fifty-ninth and One Hundred and Sixth Streets, and recommended its acquisition instead of Jones' Woods. This resulted in the passage by the Legislature in 1853 of an act selecting the ground to be known as "The Central Park." In November of that same year, the Supreme Court appointed five Commissioners to take over the land.

Upon the confirmation of their report invitations were extended to Washington Irving, George Bancroft, C. A. Dana and others, to form a Consulting Board to the Central Park Commission with a view to the adoption of a permanent design for the improvement of the Park. Washington Irving was subsequently elected President of the Board. A competition was held, thirty-three different plans being submitted. The design selected was that of Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux. In 1857 Mr. Olmsted was appointed Superintendent of the Board, and George E. Waring, Agricultural Engineer. In June, 1858, the actual work of constructing the park was begun under the supervision of Mr. Olmstead, Mr. Vaux and Mr. J. W. Mould.

Additional acreage was later acquired through private sale, while other portions including the reservoir tract and the so-called "Common Lands" consisted of property already owned by the city. The Arsenal, originally erected for State military purposes pending the construction of the existing one at 7th Avenue and 35th Street, was secured by a grant from the State, together with its surrounding grounds.

The extension of Central Park from 106th Street to 110th Street was authorized under the laws of 1859, and lands for this extension were acquired in 1863.

Riverside Park:

Riverside Park was acquired under the provisions of Chapter 697 of the Laws of 1867, the City obtaining possession of the lands in August, 1872. Under the provisions of Chapter 447 of the Laws of 1876, the whole area of what was formerly known as Riverside Park and avenue was placed under the control and management of the Park Department. Under the laws of 1885 the City acquired, in 1891, certain small parcels of land on the westerly side at a cost of about \$95,000. In 1900 the City acquired, under the Laws of 1896, the lands north of One Hundred and Twenty-second Street, between Claremont Avenue and Riverside Drive, at a cost of about \$370,000. In 1899, under the provisions of the laws of 1894, and in 1901, certain lands on the westerly side of Riverside Park, west of the railroad tracks, were acquired at a cost of about \$24,000. The present area of Riverside Park is about 140 acres, exclusive of the land west of the railroad track.

Small Parks:

Chapter 320 of the Laws of 1887 gave the Board of Street Opening and Improvement of the City of New York power to select, locate and lay out in the City of New York, south of One Hundred and Fifty-fifth Street, such public parks as the Board might from time to time determine. The Board was given unusually broad powers including the closing and discontinuance of streets within the areas selected for new Parks and the immediate use of the same as City property.

The following park lands were acquired under the provisions of this act:

Name of Park	Cost of Land
DeWitt Clinton Park (7.377 acres).....	\$1,272,385.00
Columbus Park (2.750 acres).....	1,522,055.60
Hudson Park (1.700 acres).....	533,765.04
Park at Worth and Baxter Streets adjoining Mulberry Bend Park (0.187 acres).....	184,724.67
Triangle Manhattan Ave. and 114th Street (0.018 acres).....	47,000.00
Carl Schurz Park Extension (12.546 acres).....	522,118.88

In June, 1897, an advisory committee which became known as the Small Parks Commission was appointed by Mayor Strong to advise as to the acquisition of additional small parks and playgrounds. In October of that year this Commission made an exhaustive report suggesting many places for the creation of small parks. It pointed out that in the original plan of the City of New York no provision had been made for the necessary play space; that as the City had grown, the unoccupied spaces had been covered by improvements; and the streets, overlaid with car tracks and so crowded with traffic as to make it dangerous, had become a perilous playground for children.

Largely as a result of this report the following small parks have been acquired:

Name of Park	Cost of Land
Hamilton Fish Park (3.673 acres).....	\$1,719,455.00
Corlears Hook Park (8.300 acres).....	1893 1,370,421.00
Schuyler Square (1.72 acres).....	1895 34,232.90
William H. Seward Park (2.651 acres).....	1897 1,811,127.00
Thomas Jefferson Park (15.409 acres).....	1897-1900 2,748,122.50
Colonial Park (12.790 acres).....	1899 1,473,071.62
John Jay Park.....	1902 338,544.89
Roger Morris.....	1903 235,000.00
Sakura Park.....	1903 67,849.39
St. Gabriel's Park.....	1903 1,043,434.18
Chelsea Park.....	1904-1906 853,668.00
Addition to Corlears Hook Park.....	1906 161,868.78
Carmensville Playground.....	1906 50,918.54

Name of Park		Cost of Land
Jasper Oval.....	1906	\$206,641.18
Unnamed park between Broadway, Columbus Avenue, 65th and 66th Streets.....	1906	84,100.00
Empire Park North.....	1909	42,589.20

John Jay Park:

On July 11, 1902, the report of the Park Commissioners for the acquisition of land situated at Seventy-sixth to Seventy-eighth Streets and the East River was confirmed. Subsequently this land, comprising 3.004 acres, was developed as a playground and on December 12, 1914, a complete playground and field-house was opened to the public.

St. Gabriel's Park:

This park is situated between Thirty-fifth and Thirty-sixth Streets, First and Second Avenues. It was acquired by the City in 1903 and was improved as a playground, provision also being made for farm garden work.

2—FIRST REALIZATION OF CITY'S NEED FOR A PARK SYSTEM

There is no doubt that every branch of the park development here outlined would have come at a very much later date, had it not been for the efforts of Mayor Kingsland to whom we undoubtedly owe the beginnings of park planning for New York. In season and out of season he was forever striving to bring to the citizens the realization of its park needs. As far back as 1850, in speaking of the necessity of improving Castle Garden, the Mayor said:

"What a truly noble entrance to New York City the Battery might still be made before it is too late. In proper hands, Castle Garden can be transformed at moderate expense into a stately water-gate with an ample walk to which a steamer or man-of-war could bring whatever honorable company might be the city's guest, and after due reception the soldiery, officials and citizens would have free room to form on the esplanade of the Battery itself, no longer the squalid sleeping place of beggars, and the lounging place of drones that it is now, but bright with flowers and over-arched with trees, well-paved and fenced; as bright and sunny a spot and with as noble an outlook as could be found in the world. New York owes it to herself to have such an entrance; at present the only access to her is through unutterable filth."

Let us imagine that there had been no Mayor Kingsland to start this movement. That Central Park had never been acquired. Let us imagine the space now occupied by that park completely filled with tenements such as those between Third Avenue and the East River; or consider Manhattan Square (where the Museum of Natural History now stands) closely built up with factories. Think of Riverside Drive lined with warehouses, factories, lumber-yards and stables such as stretch from Brooklyn Bridge to Williamsburg Bridge, and then with all these changes figure out what the realty values would be in these sections of New York. The contrast gives us definite assurances that the money invested in parks gives high return at many points by increasing the taxable value of property adjacent thereto. So even though we do not consider for the time being the incalculable recreation asset which the parks afford to the City, as a mere matter of financial self-interest, the City should seek further to increase its taxable resources by extending and improving its park system.

The shape of New York City, like the shape of a man's head, may stand greatly in the way of his improvement, but it cannot be altered, and the only matter to be considered is, how to make the best of it. Thus in 1848 the people of New York began to realize that something must be done to supply the want of space for recreation. There was no place within the city limits where it was pleasant to walk, drive or stroll; no place for skating; no water on which it was safe to row; no field for games corresponding to the

baseball or tennis of to-day; no pleasant garden where one could sit and chat with a friend; or watch his children at play, or listen to a good band. Theatres, concerts, and lectures were the only amusements within the reach of the people. The sidewalks and back-yards were the only substitute for the Tuileries or Hyde Park of the Old World, or for the ancient freedom and rural beauty of young New York.

Mayor Kingsland in the message of 1851 shows remarkable insight into future, as well as the present-day needs of that time.

"TO THE HONORABLE THE COMMON COUNCIL:

"Gentlemen:—The rapid augmentation of our population and the great increase in the value of property in the lower part of the City, justify me in calling the attention of your Honorable Body to the necessity of making some suitable provision for the wants of our citizens who are thronging into the upper wards which, but a few years since, were considered as entirely out of the city. It seems obvious to me that the entire tongue of land south of the line drawn across the park is destined to be devoted, entirely and solely, to commercial purposes; and the park and battery, which were formerly favorite places of resort for pleasure and recreation for citizens whose residences were below that line are now deserted. The tide of population is rapidly flowing to the northern section of the island, and it is here that provision should be made for the thousands whose dwellings will, ere long, fill up the vacant streets and avenues north of Union Park.

"The public places of New York are not in keeping with the character of our city; nor do they in any wise subserve the purpose for which such places should be set apart. Each year will witness a certain increase in the value of real estate, out of the city proper, and I do not know that any period will be more suitable than the present one for the purchase and laying out of a park on a scale which will be worthy of the city.

"There are places on the island easily accessible, and possessing all the advantages of woods, lawn and water, which might at a comparatively small expense, be converted into a park which would be at once the pride and ornament of the city. Such a park, well laid out, would become the favorite resort of all classes. There are thousands who pass the day of rest among the idle and dissolute, in porterhouses or in places more objectionable who would rejoice in being enabled to breathe the pure air in such a place, while the ride and drive through its avenues, free from the noise, dust, and confusion inseparable from all thoroughfares, would hold out strong inducements for the affluent to make it a place of resort.

"There is no park on the island deserving the name, and while I cannot believe that anyone can be found to advance an objection against the expediency of having such a one in our midst, I think that the expenditure of a sum necessary to procure and lay out a park of sufficient magnitude to answer the purpose above mentioned would be well and wisely appropriated, and would be returned to us four-fold in the health, happiness, and comfort of those whose interests are specially intrusted to our keeping—the poorer classes.

"The establishment of such a park would prove a lasting monument to the wisdom, sagacity, and forethought of its founders, and would secure the gratitude of thousands yet unborn for the blessings of pure air, and the opportunity for innocent, healthful enjoyment.

"I commend this subject to your consideration, in the conviction that its importance will insure your careful attention and prompt action.

"A. C. KINGSLAND,
"Mayor."

But New York City was essentially a democratic city and finally the people with small incomes, and the large "salary class" were heard. As we have seen Central Park was acquired and the other large uptown parks were added one by one to the city's recreation space. Those glimpses of the country and some facilities for recreation were thus brought to the community.

ASSESSED VALUATION PARK PROPERTY, MANHATTAN—1914

Park (Name)	Acreage	Land Value	Value of Property	Total Valuation
Battery Park.....	21.199	\$14,775,000	\$250,000	\$15,025,000
Jeannette Park.....	0.728	370,000	5,000	375,000
Bowling Green Park.....	0.517	1,735,000	15,000	1,750,000
Peck Slip.....	0.981	75,000	75,000
City Hall Park.....	8.239	36,000,000	1,300,000	37,300,000
Duane and Hudson Streets.....	0.108	100,000	100,000
Columbus Park.....	2.750	1,400,000	25,000	1,425,000
Paradise Park.....	0.114	100,000	100,000
West Broadway and Beach Street....	0.038	50,000	50,000
Rutgers Slip.....	0.478	85,000	85,000
Catharine Slip.....	0.076	25,000	25,000
Corlears Hook Park.....	8.300	900,000	50,000	950,000
Grand Street & East Broadway.....	0.096	50,000	50,000
E. Broadway, Hester and Essex Sts..	3.315	1,450,000	50,000	1,500,000
Pitt and Stanton Sts.....	1.8365	650,000	50,000	700,000
Willet and Stanton Sts.....	1.8365	650,000	650,000
Tompkins Square Park.....	10.508	3,000,000	3,000,000
Cooper Park.....	0.229	120,000	20,000	140,000
Washington Square Park.....	8.115	2,700,000	2,700,000
St. John's Park or Hudson Park.....	1.700	540,000	10,000	550,000
Christopher, Grove and W. 4th Sts...	0.139	40,000	40,000
West and Canal Sts.....	0.318	143,000	2,000	145,000
Jackson Square.....	0.227	100,000	100,000
Abingdon Square.....	0.202	100,000	100,000
Chelsea Park.....	3.117	684,000	684,000
Broadway 34th-35th Streets.....	0.042	175,000	175,000
Worth Monument.....	0.224	1,000,000	1,000,000
Greeley Square.....	0.144	700,000	700,000
Lincoln Monument.....	0.001	3,000	1,000	4,000
Union Square.....	3.483	6,000,000	6,000,000
Madison Square.....	6.840	9,000,000	9,000,000
Washington Monument.....	0.002	15,000	1,000	16,000
Stuyvesant Square.....	4.229	1,920,000	50,000	1,970,000
St. Gabriel's Park.....	2.947	730,000	730,000
Ave. C. 17th-18th Sts.....	1.037	140,000	5,000	145,000
DeWitt Clinton Park.....	7.377	1,400,000	50,000	1,450,000
Central Park.....	843.019	355,000,000	25,000,000	380,000,000
Empire Park—Broadway and 63rd St.	0.344	400,000	400,000
Manhattan Square.....	17.582	8,625,000	4,875,000	13,500,000
Lincoln Sq.—Col. Ave. and 65th St...	0.069	150,000	150,000
Sherman Sq.—Broadway and 72nd St.	0.095	215,000	215,000

Park (Name)	Acreage	Land Value	Value of Property	Total Valuation
Riverside Drive and Park.....	214.316	32,345,000	1,300,000	33,645,000
Bryant Park.....	4.775	6,000,000	6,000,000
5th Avenue and 58th Street.....	0.625	1,500,000	1,500,000
John Jay Park.....	3.004	240,000	40,000	280,000
Carl Schurz Park.....	12.546	1,835,000	1,835,000
101st—2nd—3rd Avenues.....	0.846	160,000	15,000	175,000
Thomas Jefferson Park.....	15.529	2,085,000	60,000	2,145,000
Mount Morris Park.....	20.174	5,000,000	5,000,000
Morningside Park—Morningside and Manhattan Aves.....	31.238	4,515,000	8,000	4,523,000
Straus or Schuyler Park.....	0.072	70,000	70,000
Kilpatrick Square.....	0.074	40,000	40,000
Hancock Square.....	0.072	35,000	1,000	36,000
St. Nicholas Park.....	19.728	4,937,000	4,937,000
Montefiori Park.....	0.038	170,000	170,000
7th Ave. and 153rd Street.....	1.270	175,000	175,000
7th Ave. and 154th Street.....	50,000	50,000
Colonial Park.....	12.790	1,825,000	1,825,000
Amsterdam Avenue and 151st Street.	0.142	190,000	10,000	200,000
143rd St. and Hamilton Place.....	0.001	200	200
Highbridge Park and Speedway.....	75.766	3,471,000	101,000	3,572,000
Roger Morris Park.....	1.546	245,000	10,000	255,000
166th St. and St. Nicholas Avenue...	0.286	191,000	191,000
Washington Bridge Park.....	23.013	470,000	2,000	472,000
Fort Washington Park.....	40.810	530,000	3,000	533,000
Northern Ave., N. of 181st St.....	150,000	150,000
Isham Park.....	7.911	256,500	10,000	266,500
Total.....	1,449.174	517,800,700	33,319,000	551,119,700

ASSESSED VALUATION PARK PROPERTY, RICHMOND—1915

Park (Name)	Acreage	Land Value	Value of Property	Total Valuation
Richmond Turnpike and Barrett Bld., Silver Lake Park.....	57.90	\$105,100	\$23,900	\$129,000
Main Avenue Westerleigh.....	2.92	10,500	10,500
Washington Sq.—Water and Canal Sts.	1.46	75,000	15,000	90,000
Herberton Ave. and Vreeland Street, Port Richmond.....	1.28	22,000	22,000
Total.....	63.56	212,600	38,900	251,500

BOROUGHES OF MANHATTAN AND RICHMOND

Grand Total.....	1,512.734	513,013,300	33,357,900	551,371,200
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As congestion increased the need was felt for small parks in the densely populated districts. As we have seen these small parks with their green spaces now serve as sitting rooms for a large element of New York's population.

When, therefore, Mayor Kingsland in 1851 sent his memorable message to the Common Council, public attention was directed forcibly to the lack of proper area in New York City, and it had a tremendous influence not only in developing public parks in this city, but also in Boston and Philadelphia.

In talking of this move, a critic of that time speaks as follows:

"Such a project, carefully planned and liberally and judiciously carried out, would not only pay in money, but largely civilize and refine the national character, foster the love of rural beauty, and increase the knowledge of and taste for rare and beautiful trees and plants. It is only necessary for one of the three cities which first opened cemeteries as recreational spaces to set the example and the thing once fairly started becomes universal. The true policy of republics is to foster the taste for great public libraries, parks and gardens which all may enjoy, since our institutions wisely forbid the growth of private fortunes sufficient to achieve these desirable results in any other way."

It can be fairly said that the purchase of the first large recreation space in New York at Central Park had the result of defining all future park policy in this country. Until that time the other densely populated cities on the Atlantic Coast like Philadelphia and Boston had, with New York, thrown open their public cemeteries as an inviting place for recreation.

3—BRIEF RÉSUMÉ OF CONDITIONS EXISTING JANUARY 1, 1914:

A survey of the Department as it existed January 1, 1914, showed a serious deterioration of the park asset. The run-down condition of the plant was clearly in evidence with regard to park buildings, comfort stations, yards and equipment. The small parks, with few exceptions, presented an unkempt appearance. The lawns were covered with bare spots, shrubbery had been destroyed, or was not in good condition, trees that had been removed lacked replacement, and in general the parks, both large and small, showed the effects of the wear and tear of misdirected use of park property.

This condition of affairs was very largely due to the lack of proper appropriations for maintenance which had existed for a number of preceding years; but the conditions were also due in some measure to the difficulty of placing responsibility on individual units for the proper upkeep of the park sections and the various phases of park work.

On the administrative side it was clear that the internal organization worked on a system which made for duplications and did not bring about the desirable co-ordination between the various Bureaus of the Department.

The need was apparent for a system that would place responsibility definitely for each branch of the work upon the proper Chief of Division, both for the sake of efficiency and in order to avoid that friction which arises inevitably where duplication exists and where proper co-ordination is lacking.

The need was most keenly felt in the Accounting Bureau. Lack of centralization had produced duplication of work, confusion, and a meagre and sometimes inaccurate system of records. The latter was especially serious, as accurate records are essential for basing statistics required by the Department for estimates and plans, as well as furnishing definite information to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, the Comptroller's Office and other City auditing agencies.

The filing system was found to have been so inefficient as to make it practically impossible to obtain definite information upon a given point by consulting the records. As a result, the Bureau Chiefs constituted in themselves, to all intents and purposes, the archives of the Department, and from their memory only could be obtained the desired information or a suggestion as to where that information could be sought.

Thus the information which an administrative head should have before him in order to secure the best results for the city has been lacking. Moreover, in the past a mass of detail has been brought to the Commissioner which should have been handled by the office force, thus taking up time which could have been better employed in working out the larger problems of administration and future development.

The staff of the Department failed to include any position corresponding to that of Chief Clerk; there was no one directly in charge of the office force; no one who could have full control of the accounting force of the Department and so distribute the work as to make for a better performance of the duties involved.

There was no proper control records of purchases, stores or equipment.

The lack of a work program to which the administrative head of the Park Department could adhere and on which he could base his arguments for appropriations has been responsible for a great deal of the retardation and lost motion of the Park Department in Manhattan and Richmond. The Board of Estimate and Apportionment in the past has often failed to grant sufficient appropriation for the reason that the needs of the Department have not always been sufficiently set forth.

There has never been a thorough survey of the whole Department made by the various heads, of the work under their respective jurisdictions, so that problems could be taken up in a systematic manner, thus providing for a program in advance. This criticism applies not only to the planning of work within the Department but also to the planning of the park system itself.

To remedy the conditions above referred to the following measures were adopted:

1. The various bureaus having to do with accounting or bookkeeping were centralized under one head, with a consequent reduction of personnel. The new division was called the Division of Audit and Accounts, with the Chief Clerk and Auditor in charge.

2. The Arboriculturist, Entomologist, Climbers and Pruners were concentrated so as to secure adequate responsibility.

3. Proper records of purchase, stores and equipment were installed and by a re-assignment of force an adequate control was secured.

3. The Bureau files previously maintained were moved into a central file and segregated units were maintained in a new central file system.

4. The information required by administrative officers for the planning of the future policy and development of the Department has been secured by installing proper work reports and instituting a series of office conferences to provide for proper cooperation between the respective bureaus.

5. Definite policies were determined on and mapped out the guidance of the staff of the Department in every phase of park work.

The other measures adopted to remedy unsatisfactory conditions are stated in other portions of this report, and also under the head of "Organization and Administration" in Part II.

A REVIEW OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE YEAR

1—PARKS, PARKWAYS AND BOULEVARDS, NEW CONSTRUCTION, ADDITIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS

a Acquisition During the Year:

No acquisitions of park territory were secured during the year 1914 although negotiations were practically concluded by which the city is to acquire a substantial addition to Isham Park by gift of the Isham family, the final transfer to the city to take place in a few weeks. There is an immediate need, however, for acquisition of additional park territory in both Manhattan and Richmond Boroughs.

b Needed Acquisition:

The park development seems to have proceeded in a more or less haphazard manner for many years. The result is a patch work of a number of different plans and individual units installed by succeeding commissions and administrations without due correlation.

In order to more properly co-ordinate the existing park system and to supply future needs, the following steps should be taken at an early date, to save for the city those available areas for future park space that may be lost at any moment unless they are now rescued:

1. Remove the restrictions which at present prevent general public use of the Speedway and make one park of Highbridge and Washington Bridge Parks, Fort George and the Speedway.
2. Connect by a parkway Washington Bridge and Fort Washington Park.
3. Prolong by a parkway or boulevard street the existing Speedway from its termination northwesterly, so as to join the present northerly terminus of Lafayette Boulevard at Broadway and thus make a connecting link with a new park to be created at Inwood Hill and connecting along the line of the Harlem Canal to Isham Park.
4. Acquire as a public park the land between Lafayette Boulevard and the Hudson River front. This is now private property, which may at any day be built upon to the permanent detriment of the City. New York can ill afford to acquire some years from now, at an almost prohibitive cost, this property which can now be saved to the City at reasonable figures.
5. Furnish Central Park with more adequate connections with Riverside Drive, thus making it possible to use more intensively the existing park and recreation facilities. Morningside, St. Nicholas and Colonial Parks should be connected with boulevards or additional park space, so as to join Central Park with the Speedway at 155th Street.
6. Preserve what can be saved to the City of the banks of the Harlem River and develop them in connection with the existing parcels of park land which adjoin the present Speedway.
7. Transform Blackwell's Island (which is not suitable to our modern needs for charity and correction) and turn it into what would be a most beautiful island park—as has been done at the Belle Isle Park of Detroit.

Richmond:

Perhaps the greatest opportunity for park planning for the future in Greater New York lies in Richmond. What shall we say of a city with a congestion problem like ours—a city which has had to spend millions in retrieving past lack of foresight by purchasing land for recreation purposes, but which even now is not awake to the need of taking action in the Borough of Richmond before it is too late?

Staten Island presents one of the best sites for extensive municipal beaches in the whole City, and yet encroachments for bungalow sections or amusement parks are constantly permitted. Compared with Manhattan property, this land is very cheap, and for a comparatively small sum large tracts may still be obtained.

Richmond will develop rapidly upon being connected with the other boroughs by the rapid transit subway, and values will immediately soar. Even now the bungalow developments forecast the great increase in population which will follow. The time for acquisition of property for City parks is now.

It is recommended that the Board of Estimate and Apportionment appropriate funds for an extensive study of the Richmond situation, and that this study should take into consideration the probable growth in population of the island, the proper location of parks both on the waterfront and in the inland sections, and an extensive system of parkways to connect the park properties, furnishing lines of traffic for rapid transportation to all sections of the island. Too much emphasis cannot be placed upon the development of Staten Island. I have prepared for study and discussion two plans for park development for the Borough of Richmond, one for the interior, making use of the several lakes, including the existing aqueduct at Silver Lake Park, and one which is a study of the park possibilities of development along the southerly beach shores.

(c) CONSTRUCTION WORK AND IMPROVEMENTS:

Four interesting pieces of 1914 construction:

(1) Construction of Reinforced Concrete Bulkhead on Harlem River Driveway.

The Harlem River Driveway begins at 155th Street and ends at Dyckman Street. The easterly boundary is the channel line of the Harlem River as laid out by the United States Government.

When the Driveway was constructed in 1894, it was necessary to build a bulkhead along the river front and a retaining wall down the ramp from 155th Street practically to 165th Street. From 165th Street north to Dyckman Street, for a distance of about 2,080 running feet, a stone retaining wall was built wherever rock was found. The length of the original bulkhead which was built on a crib foundation with face timbers was 6,100 feet. The original bulkhead has given away at many points with the result that portions of the roadway several years ago crumbled into the river.

To meet this condition the Park Department obtained from the Board of Estimate and Apportionment in 1911 an appropriation of \$110,000 for this work and also an additional appropriation of \$110,000 in 1913, in order to build at the most urgent points a permanent reinforced concrete bulkhead.

The estimated cost of the entire work was \$445,000, this to include the erection of an artificial stone balustrade at a cost of \$12.50 per running foot for the entire length of the bulkhead. At the present time a new bulkhead has been built with the money authorized in the two above-mentioned appropriations along 1,671 running feet of the driveway. There will remain 4,411 running feet of wooden crib bulkhead which will have to be replaced sooner or later with a permanent structure.

The cause of the failure of the old bulkhead and the selection of a particular type of cellular bulkhead for reconstruction are of more than passing interest and on pages 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80 and 81, Part II, of this report will be found a description of the original engineering methods by which this problem has been worked out.

Constructing a Service Road, etc., Metropolitan Museum of Art:

At the completion of the work of erecting the northerly wings of the Museum of Art, it was found necessary to construct a service road to the north of the new wing and to improve the new section of the park between the buildings and the walk adjacent to the 86th Street Transverse Road. Numerous complaints reached the Department that there was

no way for trucks to deliver materials and fuel to the buildings without encountering the serious handicap of being mired axle-deep in the mud roads which had been constructed for temporary use at that point.

Plans were prepared therefore for construction of a service road from 84th Street and Fifth Avenue westerly to the end of the Buildings and thence southerly to the old wings. Work on the contract was begun July, 1914, and completed in November of the same year.

In addition to constructing a service road, walks were laid out, pipe rail fences erected, the lawns re-shaped and planted with trees and shrubs, sod laid, drainage and water supply installed, cement curbs set, and the 82nd Street entrance to the Museum paved. By building this entrance, and treating the territory to the north and west of the building in the manner described, the entire section of the park which for many years was unfinished is now permanently improved.

Riverside Park Fill:

The Laws of 1894, Chapter 152, gives to the Department of Parks jurisdiction over that land lying between the western property line of the New York Central right-of-way and the bulkhead line of 1868 from 72nd and 129th Streets with the exception of two strips centering on 79th and 96th Streets respectively, which are under the jurisdiction of the Department of Docks and Ferries.

The work of depositing rock and earth fill between the railroad right-of-way and the 1868 bulkhead line was undertaken in 1898 but was not prosecuted to any great extent until 1912. During the years 1912, 1913 and 1914 substantial headway was made.

Permits were issued to contractors engaged in excavating rock and earth for building; to contractors for the Catskill water supply, and to contractors and sub-contractors on subway work, to deposit stone fill along the outer edge or as near as possible to the bulkhead line and to deposit stone and earth fill outshore from the railroad right-of-way towards that line. About sixteen acres of land have been reclaimed during the past three years, of which six were reclaimed in 1914. In reclaiming this land the mud was dredged from the river bottom between a point near the bulkhead line and a point inshore of sufficient width to guarantee a pyramidal form of section for the stone fill which was to retain the earth and stone outshore from the railroad right-of-way. On top of the earth and rock fill the old gravel, excavated from the Central Park and Riverside driveways in process of repaving, was deposited in layers over the filled-in territory and thoroughly rolled. In this manner temporary playgrounds were constructed which are intensively used for baseball and other purposes.

It is the plan of the Department to make Riverside Park a waterside park in fact, as well as in name, and after the fill has been completed between 72nd and 129th Streets, it is anticipated that the New York Central tracks will be covered over, thus providing an uninterrupted park area from Riverside Drive to the Water-line. Negotiations are now going on between the City and the New York Central Railroad authorities as to what proportion of expense should be borne by the City and Railroad respectively. Thus the fill and reclaimed land is destined to prove of great use both in freeing the west side of objectionable railroad tracks and in increasing the Riverside Park asset.

Improvement of Tennis Courts, North Meadow, Central Park:

During the year under review, a new tennis field providing 30 additional courts was opened in Central Park. A foundation of old gravel excavated from the West Drive was spread in layers and rolled to ultimate compaction.

The National Tennis Association and the chief tennis clubs of the United States were consulted, and as a result of conference with their experts, the Department decided to apply a coating of clay loam over the gravel which had reached its final settlement and a highly successful surface was obtained. These courts are an important addition to the 38 courts already laid out on the Sheep Meadow.

Designing, Planning and Supervising Improvements by Landscape Treatment of Park Area in Manhattan and Richmond:

The office of Landscape Architect is a position under the Park Board and its activities cover the entire city. This official has the great responsibility of advising the Commissioners on all monuments and works of art that it is proposed to present to the city, for location in or near the public parks, and park designing including all modifications and changes in the existing landscape features of the parks. The importance of this office to the city can scarcely be exaggerated.

In the appendix of this report are given some of the principal plans and sketches prepared by the Landscape Architect during the year under review:

Union Square: New plan and sketches showing proposed arrangement of new subway entrances, etc.

Morningside Park: Sketch showing proposed arrangement of sidewalks, fence, etc., Morningside restoration.

Colonial Park: Sketch of new entrance walk at West 148th Street.

St. Nicholas Park: Various plans of playground park bounded by Convent Avenue, grounds of the College of the City of New York, St. Nicholas Terrace and West 136th Street.

St. Nicholas Park: New entrance shown on plan for improvement of southern end of St. Nicholas Park (128th-130th Streets).

Small park bounded by West 166th Street, St. Nicholas Avenue, West 167th Street and Broadway. Plan for improvement.

Bryant Park: New plan.

Bryant Park: Plan showing proposed changes along eastern boundary.

Cooper Square: Planting plan.

Kenmare Street Triangle: Planting plan.

Carl Schurz Park: Plan showing proposed change of walk at foot of East 86th Street.

High Bridge Park: Plan of playground park.

Central Park West: Sections showing proposed arrangement of street car tracks.

Central Park West: Planting plan for site of B. W. S. Shaft No. 14.

Planting plan of grounds north of Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Sketch showing temporary location of Sherman Monument and Subway entrance.

Isham Park: Alternate plans for improvement and final plans.

Grand Street Park: Plan for improvement.

E. 67th Street Playground: Plan for improvement.

Corlears Hook Park: Plan showing proposed improvement.

Silver Lake Park: Sketch plan for improvement.

Down Town Parks: (Planting plans).

Rutgers Square Fountain, Straus Park, Monument Sites, Public Service Commission, Board of Water Supply: Sketches, etc.

A great deal of the Landscape Architect's time has also been taken up in the matter of directing the gardening force in landscape work that had been outlined, it being necessary to give personal supervision of many new plantations and the re-arrangement of old ones. Particularly successful were the new planting of shrubs, vines, etc., to cover the denuded slopes in Central and Riverside Parks; the planting of trees of the long-lived species to take the place of the short-lived trees now rapidly disappearing. It is the policy of the present Park administration to remedy the denuded spaces under trees with vines and other ground-cover plants. This has been most successful and there should also be mentioned the methods adopted so as to close breaks in the park walks by plantations of thorny shrubs. In many of the small parks downtown where impoverished soils had prevented previous efforts to obtain lawn conditions, seeding was resorted to with rye,

buckwheat, netch, crimson clover and cow-peas, in accordance with the nature of the soil. It is proposed after this treatment during the coming season to put these lawns into permanent grass seed either in the spring or in the autumn.

The Landscape Architect is constantly working on plans submitted for the consideration of the Park Commissioner pertaining to proposed works of art to be given the city or to be constructed by the city itself. There are a great number of such monuments, fountains and other objects which it was proposed to place on land under the control of the Park Department. A great many were rejected as unworthy of the highest standards that the city should demand in such matters. Others were modified by the citizens' committees in charge, after suggestions had been submitted through designs drawn up by the Landscape Architect.

The Landscape Architect has also constantly co-operated with the Park Commissioner and represented him at hearings and conferences in the great diversity of matters involved in the too great municipal undertakings of water supply and subway construction. Both the city construction work of the Catskill water system and that of the subways are at many points conducted within park territory, and it is only through constant vigilance that it has been possible to minimize the destructive effect of such operations and limit the area destroyed. Restoration to normal conditions after excavation work shall have been completed must of necessity take many years and with our limited park area, it is the duty of the Park authorities to retain the greatest amount of territory for the use of the citizens that is consistent with the strict requirements of construction work.

d Maintenance Problem:

(1) Insufficient funds constituted the most serious maintenance problem for 1914.

During the past ten or fifteen years the Park Department has not received sufficient maintenance appropriations. This has been due chiefly to three causes:

1. Lack of realization by the appropriating body as to the value of the park asset to the city.
2. Fear on the part of the appropriating body that the Department would not spend the money wisely.
3. Failure of the Park Department to present its needs in a comprehensive manner.

Whatever may have been the causes the fact remains that for some years the Department failed to receive sufficient maintenance appropriations, or if they were received the money was not always used most wisely.

In spite of being thus handicapped during the year 1914 by insufficient maintenance appropriations, the installing of business methods and the effecting of various economies has enabled the department to perform the routine work in a manner more satisfactory than in years where there was relatively much larger maintenance appropriations available.

(2) Routine work of labor force:

The parks of Manhattan both small and large have in general a more highly intensive and constant use than similar kinds of park property in any other part of the country. Added to this is the carelessness of many of our citizens who have not yet been brought to a realization of the assistance they can give in park preservation, by using the parks without detracting from the enjoyment that their fellow citizens can derive.

This and other special factors complicate immensely the proper carrying on of the routine work of the Department. With the constantly growing use of the parks the maintenance problem is further complicated, especially as the amounts available for maintenance are continually decreasing. Such work as the cleaning and repair of walks, drives, buildings and fences and other structures in the parks; the planting of new trees and shrubs; care of lawns and plantations; the cleaning and repair of playgrounds and playground apparatus; the cleaning and maintenance of paths and comfort stations—all these operations are complicated by the pressure of constant use and the amount of rubbish that is left, and damage inflicted.

It would surprise a great many of our citizens to know that there are points in parks where people wait in line for an opportunity to sit on benches as if in front of a ticket office; and where bath and other park facilities are in such demand that there is a long and continuous waiting list.

However, by studying the special conditions at each point it was possible to carry on adequately throughout the year these phases of park service as far as the insufficient force would allow.

Besides these routine matters a great deal of special work was accomplished during the year by the maintenance force, such as the regeneration of lawns and slopes, the paving of walks, and the grading and construction of new playgrounds. Extra work was also placed upon the maintenance division by the assistance rendered to other departments of the City government in the delivery of decorative plants, benches, etc., lent for special occasions, and the planting and cultivation of trees and garden plots for hospitals and schools. The propagation of flowering plants for the summer flower beds in the parks, and for display in the Central Park conservatories was continued throughout the year. However, it is a grave question as to whether the City should indulge in such a large use of the "annuals" thus cultivated, and also as to how much the City can afford to spend on the conservatory display.

At the Annual Flower Show the Central Park flower exhibition took the first prize from among a number of celebrated private exhibitors and well-known florists firms. In fairness it should be stated in this connection that thousands of people view the exhibitions in the park conservatories during the year, and that for many of them this is the only opportunity they have for becoming acquainted with the multitude of flower varieties that nature provides.

The unusual conditions that arose because of the great snow-storm during the winter of the year under review caused the Mayor to resort to unusual expedients to relieve the situation. Among other things, the Park Commissioner was directed to omit for the time being the usual clearing of snow from the park walks and drives and to immediately co-operate with the Street Cleaning Commissioner by putting the entire park labor force to work in cleaning certain sections of the City streets. For a number of days the entire park labor force was therefore engaged in this work.

During the year special efforts were made to discuss frequently all matters affecting conditions of work with Committees representing the various classes of Park Employees. In this way it is hoped that the interest of the force may be intensified in the work and a better understanding secured of the needs of the men and the policies of the present administration.

The force employed during the year consisted of the following:

Labor Force:

- 3 General Foremen
- 21 Foremen
- 380 Laborers, Stablemen, Bath Attendants, etc. (permanent force)
- 75 Laborers (extra summer force)
- 55 Drivers
- 7 Hired Carts (summer only)
- 1 Automobile Engineman
- 68 Female Attendants

Gardening and Arboricultural Force:

- 1 Foreman of Greenhouses
- 1 Entomologist
- 4 Arboriculturists
- 10 Foremen Gardeners
- 45 Gardeners (permanent force)

35 Gardeners (extra summer force)
30 Climbers and Pruners

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In the employment of this force, every effort was made to secure the greatest efficiency possible. The large proportion of employees who by reason of their advanced age and impaired physical condition are unable to do full duty, increases the difficulties of this problem. However, by detailing these men to duty in the comfort stations, storage yards and buildings where watchmen were required, the fullest possible service was obtained from them. In every case, endeavors were made to place all the employees where they would give best service by fitting the man to the job. For instance, by careful observation and inquiry, a special force of laborers used to the handling of tools, was gathered together and put at work repairing and putting up pipe rail fences, playground swing frames, etc. They also operated the automobile lawn mowers and gasoline road rollers. Previously all this work had been done by high-priced mechanics, and is still done in some other departments of the City by that class of labor. The saving in cost of operation by the use of these men approximates five thousand dollars.

Substantial savings likewise were effected in the cost of operation of the working force. For example, a careful study of the cost of repairing settees resulted in a readjustment of the work whereby the daily output was increased from four settees to ten, for the same expenditure. By the use of concrete, other savings were effected. Instead of building brick basins and manholes for sewers and drains, concrete was used, using barrels for the concrete form. By this method, the work was completed in one-third the time required for a brick basin and the final cost was correspondingly decreased. Concrete drinking fountains (made at one of the Department storage yards during the Winter at a cost of approximately five dollars each) were used to replace the old style iron fountains throughout the parks. These fountains are of a new model and are architecturally a tremendous improvement on those hitherto in use. They are moreover so constructed that they cannot be clogged up or their operation interfered with except by their absolute destruction. Fifty of them were set out during the year, and only three instances of damage were reported, in each case this damage being the result of wanton vandalism, the fountain having been broken to pieces with clubs or baseball bats.

Three bridges spanning the bridlepath in Central Park were covered with permanent concrete floors, replacing the former wooden floors which on account of constant exposure to the weather had required frequent renewal.

In general through the park system, there existed at the beginning of 1914 a failure to enforce the park ordinances, coupled with the lack of a work program and system of early repair and restoration or destroyed areas. Not only were there large areas where lawns no longer existed that were filled with bare spots, but deep gullies had formed on the slopes, washing out trees and shrubs, and walks had become ill-defined and in many cases bore little resemblance to their originally planned width.

3—CARE OF LAWNS AND PLANTATIONS:

Although no special funds were granted for the purpose, the work of restoring lawns and plantations was continued throughout the year. The work already described that was carried on in the downtown small parks was also undertaken in all the smaller lawns along the West and East Drive in Central Park and some in Riverside Park. These were spaded or plowed up, limed and manured, graded and reseeded; or sown with winter rye preparatory to reseeding with grass in the spring.

By cooperation with some of the City contractors, earth, stones and wooden cribs were used to fill in the deep gullies along Riverside and other parks, and were then planted with

long root grass and other ground-holding plants. These have successfully survived the subsequent storms.

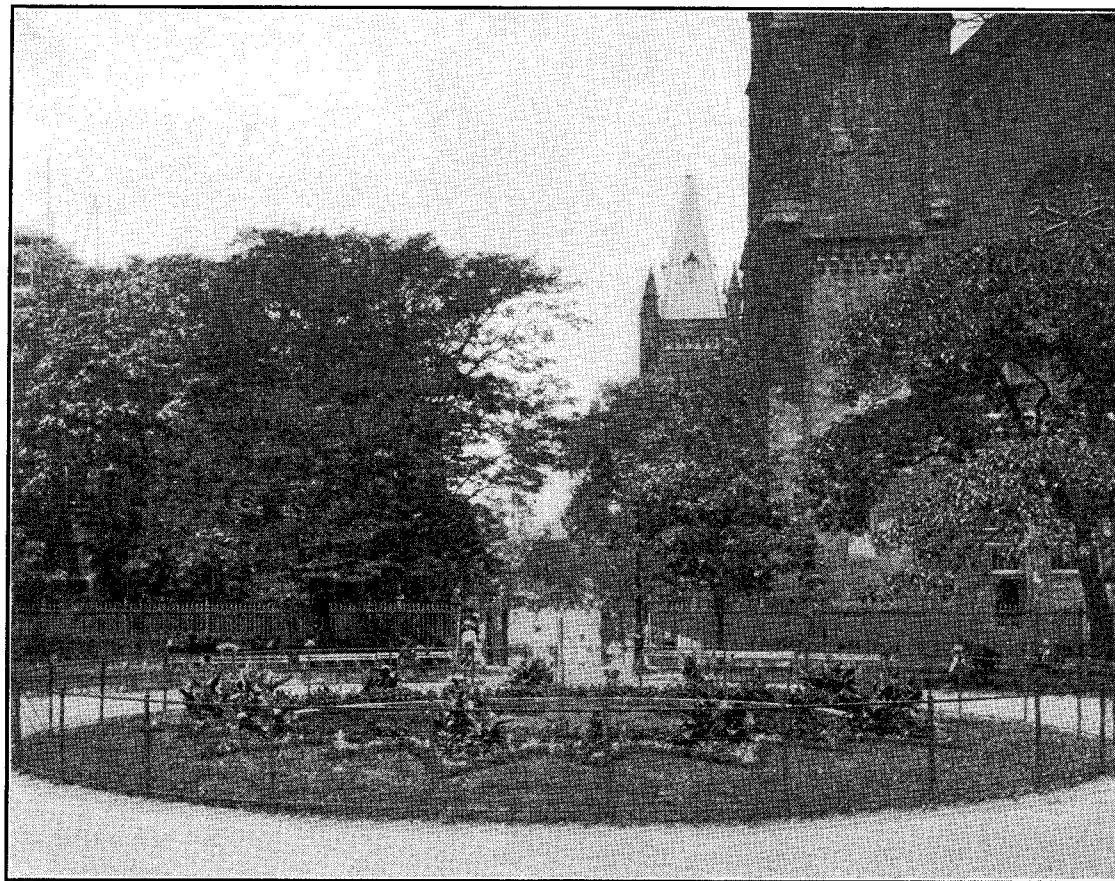
In Seward Park, Hamilton Fish Park, Beach, Duane, Canal Street, Abingdon Square, where the lawns were renewed, it was necessary to erect high wire fences around the re-seeded lawns to protect the young grass from being trampled and destroyed before it could gain strength. Such fences must be maintained until the new lawn is firmly established, and even then they do not entirely prevent damage, as they are continually broken down. Only constant watchfulness and attention has kept the fences from being destroyed. And with their destruction, the lawns would meet the same fate. This has been demonstrated at Columbus Park, where two lawns renewed two years ago were utterly destroyed, the wire fences erected to protect them having been torn to pieces. If therefore the work of the department in attempting to bring these park spaces back to the standard of what a park should be, is not to be negated, some effective means must be found for the permanent conservation of lawns and plantations. The present temporary fences of six foot poultry netting with rough wooden posts are unsightly and take away from the park that appearance of freedom and openness which a park should have. The only alternative, however, in cases of this or similar character, is to provide adequate police protection and instill into the minds of our children and adults that wholesome regard for the maintenance of public property which is already possessed by such a large majority of our people. In all the cases under consideration, there are park playgrounds in the immediate vicinity which are not yet used to their full capacity.

There has been noticeable during the year, however, a decided improvement in this respect and one can look forward to a greater realization in the next few years of the necessity of conserving the small park acreage existent in Manhattan for the best recreation of the largest number.

To offset the wanton damage to park plantations, it had been necessary each year to renew great quantities of trees and shrubbery in addition to supplying the losses caused by the cutting out of old shrubs that have become overgrown or decayed. During the past year, the Department's purchases of trees, shrubs and vines, amounted to nearly fifteen thousand dollars. The greatest part of this stock was planted in Central Park, the remainder being distributed throughout the entire park system. Large plantations of shrubs were set out in Washington Square, Madison Square and other downtown parks where such plantations had not previously been maintained. The small parks at Beach Street, Duane Street and Canal Street were planted with shrubs, thorns being made the principal feature of these groups. Additional shrub groups were set out at City Hall Park, Battery Park, Bryant Park and Stuyvesant Park. Magnolias and other flowering shrubs constituted part of the new plantations at City Hall and Bryant Park. In the latter park, a readjustment was made of the walks at the entrances to the two toilet buildings and the new shrubbery groups were so arranged as to effectively screen the entrances from public view. The new trees and shrubs were largely used to fill up gaps in the old plantations, and to replace losses. One of the largest of the new plantations was the one on the slopes to the north of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in Central Park where some 150 trees and 1,300 shrubs were planted. Other important groups were the slopes along Fifth Avenue from 99th Street to 102nd Street, where, after the re-soiling of the banks by the addition of some 500 cubic yards of top soil, about 500 shrubs, mainly thorns, were planted; the shaded banks along the West Drive near 106th Street where thousands of ivy, honeysuckle and periwinkle were planted, and the steep slopes near 110th Street and 7th Avenue, where another large plantation of vines was set out.

STORAGE YARD AND PLANT REORGANIZATION:

In the early months of the year a survey of conditions revealed a lack of centralization in the utilizing of plant and storage facilities of the Department. This resulted in a great deal of lost motion and waste time.



STUYVESANT PARK, MEMORIAL WILLOW, PLANTED WHERE FIRST WILLOW IN AMERICA STOOD.
FLOWER BED AND FOUNTAIN IN FOREGROUND

The stables were so badly located that the Department lost a number of horses through illness and unsanitary conditions. The then existing stables provided no space for the apparatus to which the horses were harnessed and much valuable time was spent in bringing the horses to the carts, lawn mowers, sprayers, snow plows, etc. Apparatus of this character were frequently located at great distances from the stables. The same loss, of course, was incurred in returning the horses after the work was completed.

The shop work of the Department was conducted at various points widely separated. Storage places were filled with old junk or with useless and superannuated material, while mowing machines and other valuable apparatus was left exposed to the weather.

Through the yard reorganization the stable has been placed at a point where all rolling stock is concentrated, and new and improved sanitary methods of stabling and food handling installed.

The preparation of fertilizing materials for the Department has been concentrated at this same point, so that in future the Department may have all its necessary fertilizer prepared for a sufficient length of time. Formerly a great deal of material was placed on the lawns which was useless because the manure or compost had not been sufficiently rotted.

Arrangements have been made with the Street Cleaning Department and other departments whereby the manure collected by them shall be used for fertilizer in the Park Department.

The shops have now been concentrated at a central point so that all carpenter, plumbing, painting and other shop work is under unit control.

A third yard formerly in use for a number of small detached units has now been given over entirely to concrete and masonry work.

Other Reorganization and Economies Effected:

The old stable has been converted into a storehouse.

The former expensive system of buggies and drivers for definite branches of the park service has been discontinued or reduced by the use of automobiles cast off as unsuitable for work in other departments.

The work of supervision and maintenance of buildings and general repairs have been placed in the charge of the engineer's and architect's bureaus respectively, so that those who have charge of the buildings are also responsible for their maintenance.

A great deal of material useless to this Department has been disposed of and much of it has been taken by other departments. In exchange the Park Department has obtained piping which was much needed for fencing purposes at dangerous points.

A complete plan has been made by the present Commissioner for future park development with recommendations for immediate acquisitions to provide for coming years. In this connection, co-operation is being sought from the City Planning Committee of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment.

Reorganization—Stores and Warehouse Control:

The warehouse system of the Department was found entirely inadequate in connection with the installation of the cost accounting system. The warehouse system has been therefore reorganized including the reassignment of warehouse helpers, and an adequate system installed of checking for income and outgo stock, records, etc.

2—PLAYGROUNDS AND PIERS:

(a) New Construction, Additions and Improvements.

(1) Acquisition—Playgrounds:

Playground (undeveloped) bounded by 67th and 68th Streets, 1st Avenue and a point 300 feet west of 1st Avenue.

This playground, which contains 1.38 acres, was acquired by the Park Department

from the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund on June 25th, 1914. The tract had formerly been held by the Public Recreation Commission. It was originally acquired by the Board of Education for erection of a supply depot.

The location of the land renders it a particularly valuable piece of playground property. The surrounding district is one of the crowded tenement house sections of the City. In the neighborhood are three schools,—Public School No. 183 at 1st Avenue and 66th Street; the New York Trade School at 1st Avenue and 67th Street; and St. Catherine's School at 1st Avenue and 69th Street.

It is clear, therefore, that a large playground plant such as this lot could provide would be particularly valuable when run in connection with this large neighboring school population. Especially since the present prevocational plans that are being considered, include having all the children's physical exercises and play hours conducted in the playground, thus freeing a large portion of the crowded school building for vocational activities. The nearest existing outdoor playground on the south is 59th Street and on the north 77th Street.

The ground at present is very rocky and will require considerable excavation and levelling to make it of real value.

A request has been made to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment for corporate stock funds for its improvement in 1915. An estimate of cost has been made as follows:

Excavation and removal of earth and rock	
Paving side and interior walks	
Grading and surfacing playground	
Drainage and water supply	
Exterior and interior fencing	
Planting trees.....	\$25,000
Constructing a small field house.....	10,000
Total.....	<u>\$35,000</u>

The following seventeen centres were added during the year to the number of playgrounds previously operated—being a total of fifty-five centres, including eight recreation piers and the play lots that were lent the City for this purpose by their owners through the co-operation of the Park Department, Police Department, Safety First Society and various civic bodies and newspapers:

Name	Location	Period Open	No. of Attendants
NEW TEMPORARY GROUNDS			
Grace.....	104th St. between Columbus and Amsterdam Aves.....	June 22 to Sept. 7	1
Mount Morris.....	120th St. and Madison Ave.....	June 29 to Sept. 7	2
St. Peter's.....	New Brighton, S. I.....	June 27 to Sept. 7	2
Watergate.....	134th St. and Amsterdam Ave....	June 6 to Sept. 12	2
Williamsburg Bridge	Esplanade.....	Aug. 7 to Sept. 7	1
Play Lot.....	136th St. and 5th Ave.....	Aug. 8 to Sept. 18	1
Play Lot.....	138 St., 5th and Madison Ave....	Aug. 8 to Sept. 7	1
Play Lot.....	67th St. between Amsterdam and West End Aves.....	Sept. 7 to Sept. 22	1
NEW PERMANENT GROUNDS			
John Jay Park.....	76th and 77th Sts. and East River	Dec. 12	4
RECREATION PIERS			
	North River and 129th St.....	July 17 to Sept. 7	2
	" " " W. 50th St.....	July 17 to Sept. 7	2
	" " " Barrow St.....	July 17 to Sept. 7	2
	" " " Albany St.....	July 17 to Sept. 7	2



JOHN JAY PARK, FIELD HOUSE

Name	Location	Period Open	No. of Attendants
East River and 3rd St.....		July 17 to Sept. 7	2
" " " Market St.....		July 17 to Sept. 7	2
" " " 24th St.....		July 17 to Sept. 7	2
" " " 112th St.....		July 17 to Sept. 7	1

Needed Acquisitions:

It is clear that the City can with the greatest advantage acquire additional playgrounds. For a number of years the citizenship of New York has decided clearly on the advantages of such a policy, but it is equally clear that the playgrounds should only be established at points where the conditions will lead to such an intensive use as to justify the city in making such expenditures. As fast as such sites can be obtained they should be taken over by the City. It is earnestly hoped that such acquisitions may not be delayed because of the present financial condition of New York.

Improvements:

Meanwhile it is not only possible but imperative to develop those sites suited for playgrounds which the City already owns. In addition to the site at 67th and 68th Streets, between First and Second Avenues, there are two other locations owned by the City which have not been developed—the playground at Jasper Oval at 136th Street; and the playground at Cherry and Market Streets, under Manhattan Bridge. Each of these is in a neighborhood which will ensure intensive use and immediate benefit. The department has made request for appropriations to develop these two sites.

(c) *John Jay Park:*

On December 12, 1914, the field house at John Jay Park was thrown open for use. This field house is the most complete of its kind in the city and provides shelter, shower baths, etc., and an indoor play room where supervised play can be conducted in the winter time. The cost of this building was \$35,555.00.

(b) *Maintenance:*

The surface of many of the playgrounds is unsatisfactory and augments unnecessarily the maintenance charges. Most of the grounds are surfaced with gravel containing a great deal of clay or loam. This holds water for several days after a storm and provides a very dirty surface. The unimproved earth surfaces at Jasper Oval, Cherry Street and the emergency play lots, because of heavy dust, necessitated frequent oiling as well as the resort of watering the grounds. The latter method is most unsatisfactory as it cannot be carried on while the grounds are in use. Proper surfacing of the playgrounds calls for a composition of cinders and clay, but this work is of too great magnitude to be undertaken by the maintenance force. Special funds will have to be obtained. However, it was possible during the year to resurface with new gravel a number of the grounds.

Special attention has been given to secure a full co-operation between the various bureaus in the Department and accordingly the Bureau of Recreation has taken charge of the tennis courts in Central Park; the laborers formerly assigned to that duty being returned to other work. The Recreation Bureau has also taken charge of the coasting facilities of the Department and other activities formerly conducted by other bureaus.

On taking possession of the play lots acquired in the manner already described, it was necessary to level off the majority of them and clear them of the encumbering debris before erecting apparatus, the building contractors in the vicinity wherever necessary providing the fill.

The maintenance and repair of the playground equipment and apparatus involve constant renewal of swings, rope and other apparatus. During the past year the wooden swing frames in the playgrounds were removed and replaced by strong galvanized iron

frames. New types of ball-bearing swing hooks and other improved apparatus replaced the old types in vogue. Some of the play apparatus can be purchased more cheaply in the open market, but the great majority of the apparatus is made with good results at the Department shops. During the year a large amount of new equipment was made by the Department for the playgrounds. A table giving in full new equipment thus acquired will be found in the appendix of this report.

72 rope swings	136th St., 5th Ave.:
400 jump ropes	2 sets large swings
300 pursuit pins	1 flagpole
7 bagatelle boards	1 shelter tent
22 ring toss boards	138th St., 5th Ave.:
500 rope rings	1 baseball backstop
25 giant stride ropes	Grace Playground:
6 kindergarten benches	1 set kindergarten swings
6 kindergarten tables	West 67th St.:
500 building blocks	1 set kindergarten swings
3 approach boards	1 set large swings
2 bulletin boards	1 shelter tent
1 doll house and bench	St. Peter's Playground, Borough of Richmond:
4 parallel bars	1 set large swings
38 jump standards	1 set baby swings
10 tether ball poles	1 slide
4 vaulting poles	1 set of see-saws
New apparatus and equipment were put	1 shelter tent
up as follows: <i>John Jay Park:</i>	There was repaired during the year the fol-
2 sets large swings	lowing playground equipment:
2 sets baby swings	395 large swings
2 sets basket ball backstops	949 small swings
1 giant stride	123 basket balls
1 baseball backstop	12 doll houses
2 sets see-saws	5 bucks
<i>Hudson Park:</i>	9 kindergarten benches
2 sets baby swings	35 footballs

also a great quantity of miscellaneous small supplies and equipment that cannot be well classified.

The Bureau of Recreation and other bureaus of this Department are constantly co-operating with civic centers, settlements, neighboring societies and other bodies of citizens for celebrations that are held in the parks or near their vicinities. Band stands are furnished, pageants organized and directed, and the schedules of the park concerts made to coincide with these events. The Department also provides moving pictures of recreational and other events of the playgrounds, through the Bureau of Recreation. The annual field day of all the Park Playground force was held on the green in Central Park on August 27th, where the boy scouts rendered efficient work in caring for the spectators and properly policing the grounds.

(c) Operation:

In the supervising or operating of the fifty-five playgrounds there were engaged a Supervisor of Recreation; a Field Staff of eight persons; and from sixty to one hundred and thirty play-leaders.

The total attendance for the year 1914 was..... 8,327,308

The cost of supervision was..... \$73,827.00

so that the per capita cost for supervising was less than one cent per child.

There is shown as "Appendix D" the playgrounds under the jurisdiction of the Park Department; their location; respective acreage; attendance per year; play facilities; and cost of maintenance and supervision.

3—FURTHER CONCENTRATION AND CO-ORDINATION OF RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES:

The present Commissioner has been a strong advocate of Centralization of all recreational activities and in this matter there was hearty agreement between the policy of this Department and the Recreation Commission.

New York should proceed to concentrate all recreation facilities under the Park Department and the Board of Education, working out greater co-operation between these two organizations. With this idea of concentration in mind, the Park Department has this year taken over the recreation piers formerly run by the Dock Department, and some recreation playgrounds formerly controlled by the Water Department. It has also developed playgrounds over and under the bridges, obtaining this space from the bridge department, and likewise secured vacant real estate areas in crowded districts lent the City by their owners for play lots. A trial has been made of using the armories for play facilities, and in other ways we are striving for additional play space. The back-yard playground experiment is particularly interesting because there the owners have co-operated, and through the common use of the City back-yards within a city block, it has been possible in some cases to get all the inhabitants of the block interested in different civic movements. In this way the back-yard may become a kind of "civic center." This Department appreciates the fine results obtained by Mrs. Clarkson in this campaign.

By co-ordinating recreation under the park department we have been eliminating former duplications. The next step is to secure complete co-operation between our work and that of the Board of Education. Some day we ought to bring it about that some one central body, be it the Board of Education, or some other, shall have control of all recreational facilities of whatever character. That should be the ultimate aim, but at present we shall take a long step forward if we can unite our scattered facilities under two heads.

It is planned therefore to continue during the year 1915 this centralization, this Department taking over the gymnasiums and other activities conducted by the Public Recreation Commission, so that in a short time all recreational activities, other than those carried on by the Department of Education, can be centralized in the Department of Parks. Most of the piers, gymnasiums and swimming pools are adjacent to park playgrounds and it is clear that they can be more economically administered when one activity is closely co-ordinated with the other and the bulk of the outdoor recreation features are on park territory.

A number of different units of organization, both public and private, are carrying on recreation work in Manhattan and Richmond. It is of primary importance that additional co-ordinated effort with such associations be secured if the combined effort is to be efficient. Meanwhile the present Commissioner wishes to express his appreciation of the co-operation and advice given by several of these private recreation organizations. Notably the Parks and Playgrounds Association. The abolition of the Recreation Commission in accordance with the policy determined on, will be of further aid toward the centralization of administrative jurisdiction of playgrounds, gymnasiums, and other activities.

This Department and the Board of Education are working in close co-operation in order to adjust facilities of the various playgrounds to the needs of the respective schools in the neighborhood of the playground. Prevocational work and out-door classes are now carried on in several of the Park Department playgrounds. This system will be further developed in order that the children may obtain the greatest use of the valuable playground asset.

In Manhattan the playground problem is distinctive from that of the other boroughs of New York City. Because of the extreme congestion of population existing in this borough, this Department believes that in crowded centers the playground should be segregated from the small park, wherever possible. The small park is used by the people at large as

PLAYGROUNDS UNDER JURISDICTION OF THE

PLAYGROUNDS	Acreage	Total 1914 Attendance	Cost of Supervision and Maintenance	Per Capita Cost	FACILITIES PROVIDED						
					Shelter	Comfort Station	Running Water	Showers	Lockers	Electric Lights on Field	Electric Lights in House
Abingdon Square.....	.07	7,188	\$287.28	.039+						Yes	..
Battery.....	.85	43,220	912.26	.021+	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
*Bennett.....	2.29	35,802	347.70	.009+	Yes	Yes	Yes
Carl Schurz.....	.25	105,596	247.78	.002+	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	..
Carmansville.....	.50	112,339	3,454.91	.030+	Yes	Yes	Yes	4	Yes
†C. P. East Meadow.....	5.14	354,635	\$7,189.84	.002+	Yes
†C. P. South Meadow.....	9.86	933,342			Yes	..	Yes
†C. P. Sheep Fold.....	21.11	1,171,229			Yes	..	Yes
†C. P. East Green.....	5.23	4,500		
†C. P. 99th St.....	1.00	29,459	**	
Chelsea.....	2.02	380,722	3,952.96	.010+	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cherry and Market.....	.38	222,148	2,264.52	.010+	Yes
*Clark.....	.92	26,888	526.14	.019+
Colonial.....	1.11	70,533	1,146.38	.011+	Yes	Yes	..
Columbus.....	.54	110,022	1,217.99	.011+	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	..
Corlears Hook.....	.50	237,094	3,397.36	.014+	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
DeWitt Clinton.....	1.77	194,454	3,905.99	.020+	Yes	Yes	Yes	..	100	Yes	..
East 17th St.....	.12	92,248	1,836.61	.019+	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	..
Five Points.....	.17	51,307	1,483.66	.028+	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
*Grace.....	.10	6,206	178.15	.028+
Hamilton Fish.....	1.84	465,114	5,584.68	.010+	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	..
Highbridge.....	.25	46,465	706.10	.015+
Hudson.....	.13	148,777	2,533.13	.017+	Yes	Yes	Yes	..	1	Yes	..
Jackson Square.....	.13	10,906	258.58	.023+	Yes	..	Yes
Jasper Oval.....	2.06	666,775	2,211.58	.003+	Yes	Yes	Yes
Jeannette.....	.30	2,618	121.57	.046+
John Jay.....	1.34	214,162	4,065.47	.018+	Yes	Yes	Yes	10	..	Yes	Yes
Queensboro.....	1.11	185,220	3,214.99	.017+	Yes	Yes	Yes	6	62	Yes	Yes
Mt. Morris.....	1.10	22,923	263.28	.011+	Yes	..
Market St.....	140x52 ft.	7,828	72.29	.009+
Reservoir.....	.85	39,175	363.54	.009+	Yes	..	Yes
Riverside (96th St.).....	1.00	36,500	1,056.37	.018+	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Riverside Oval.....	5.00	21,998		
Ryan.....	.18	27,004	1,463.73	.054+	Yes
St. Gabriel's.....	1.14	176,678	4,139.29	.023+	Yes	..	Yes	Yes	..
St. Nicholas.....	.28	15,965	148.41	.009+	Yes	..
*St. Peter's.....	1.00	16,712	447.77	.026+
Seward.....	1.00	535,742	4,735.67	.008+	Yes	Yes	Yes	50	78	Yes	..
Thomas Jefferson.....	4.18	310,622	4,952.47	.015+	Yes	Yes	Yes	22	50	Yes	..
Tompkins Square.....	1.25	488,957	4,783.64	.009+	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	..
Watergate.....	1.67	29,120	1,004.72	.034+
Westerleigh.....	.90	7,366	275.83	.037+
West 59th St.....	.45	105,836	3,098.01	.023+	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yorkville.....	.75	229,274	5,810.44	.025+	Yes	Yes	Yes	8	Yes
*136th St., 5th and Madison Ave..	.50	15,750	693.20	.037+
*138th St. and 5th Ave.....	.45	2,695		
Williamsburg Bridge.....	.50	5,440	64.43	.011+
East 3rd St.....	150x52 ft.	20,705	158.61	.007+
East 24th St.....	150x52 ft.	12,872	163.22	.012+
East 112th St.....	150x52 ft.	21,485	119.26	.005+
West 50th St.....	101x52 ft.	9,374	160.02	.017+
Barrow St.....	100x50 ft.	8,521	110.01	.012+
West 129th St.....	150x50 ft.	13,085	120.20	.009+
*West 67th St.....	.15	1,586	290.90	.183+
INDOOR GYMNASIUMS											
Hamilton Fish.....	86,374	††	Yes	Yes	Yes	3	50	..	Yes
West 59th St.....	25,205	††	Yes	Yes	Yes	6	118	..	Yes
Skating Central Park.....	105,425
May Parties, Central Park.....	300,000
Field Staff.....	11,213.50
Executive Staff.....	1,006.50
Salary Supervision.....	3,000.00
Undistributed Expense.....	21,239.10
TOTALS.....	8,626,215	\$121,956.04	.014

* Play Lots. † Central Park. ** This includes Skating and May Parties. †† Included in Playground

Piano	Tether Pole	Baseball Diamond	Basket Ball Court	Soccer Field	Handball Court	Running Track	Tennis Court	Apparatus Units	Sand Pit	Sand Bin	Swings	See Saws	Faba Gaba Boards	Baby Hammocks	Doll House	Kindergarten Bench	Kindergarten Table	Rock-a-Bye	Croquet Sets	Japanese Rolling Game	First Aid Kit	Flamole
1	1	5	1	1	1	1	29 38	18 30	1	2	28 43 24	1	2 2	6 6	1 1	1	1			1 1	1 1	1 1
	1	10	2 1	1 1	1	1 1	1 1	50 38	1 1		14	1	2 1	6 6	1	2	2			1	2 1	1 1
	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	62	1		22	3	1		1	2	1			1	1	1
	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	64		1	28	12	3		1	2	1		2	1	1	1
	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	101		1	56	6	1		1	5	1		1	2	2	1
	2	2	3	1		1	1	5	1		28	6	2	3	1	1	1		1	1	1	1
	1	1	1					21	1		40	6	1		1	4	2		3	1	2	1
	3	3	1	1	1			80	1	2	30	12			1	2	1		1	1	1	1
	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	25	1	2	34				1	4	1				1	1
	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1		8				1	1	2			1	1	1
	1	3						50	1		42	2			1	2	2			2	1	1
	1	1	1	1	1			27	1		6									1	1	1
	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1		30											1
	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2		1	18	9			1	2	2					1
	1	1	1	1		1	1	74	1	1	51	12				4	2		5	1	1	1
	3	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	20		3			1	3					1
	2	3	1	1	1	1	1	67		2	40	6	7		1	4	4		1	2	2	1
		1	1	1	1	1	1	84	1		104	12	4		1	4	2		2	1	1	1
	2							131			29	12			1						1	1
								1	1		28			6	1	1	1	1		1	2	1
		1						38			41	12										1
								83			14											
								1														
2 1						2		50 175							18						1	

a sitting room. Often their family conditions prevent their going further than a few squares from home. For this reason all the small park acreage remaining under the jurisdiction of the Department should be conserved for such use. The modern playground is a complete plant in itself and is most successful when segregated from a park. New playgrounds therefore cannot with safety be carved out of existing small parks, for this means reducing beyond the danger point the available amount of breathing space needed by mothers and babies and the rest of the adult population living in congested districts.

The playgrounds as well as the small parks should be neighborhood centers serving as nuclei for the common life of the local community. This should be the final stage in the development of small parks, and whenever opportunity offers we should reconstruct the small park so as to meet the needs of the present day. In the small parks we must consider that the people who use the park treat it as their sitting room, since they are often restricted by family conditions from going more than a few squares from their homes. A great many open spaces have already been made into small parks, yet we need many more open spaces in certain parts of the town, to provide meeting places for the exchange of ideas and to furnish facilities for other neighborhood activities. The open space should be to the town and the neighborhood what the old village green was to the village. The small parks should be redesigned and some of them should be converted into open paved spaces, such as are found in European cities. In every case the object should be to adapt the park to the actual needs of the people.

As the small parks are made civic centers the civic spirit of the neighborhood is aroused. People get to know each other better. They come to their concerts, they have folk dances, by means of which they get into better touch with their children's education, and they are welded together in the consciousness of common interests. What is more and more important in a big city is that each man should come to feel that his street has a particular significance for him, that his home is something in which to take pride, that his neighborhood park belongs to him and that an enemy of that park is an enemy of his own. Small parks in congested areas should be used as centers for the development of a true neighborhood spirit.

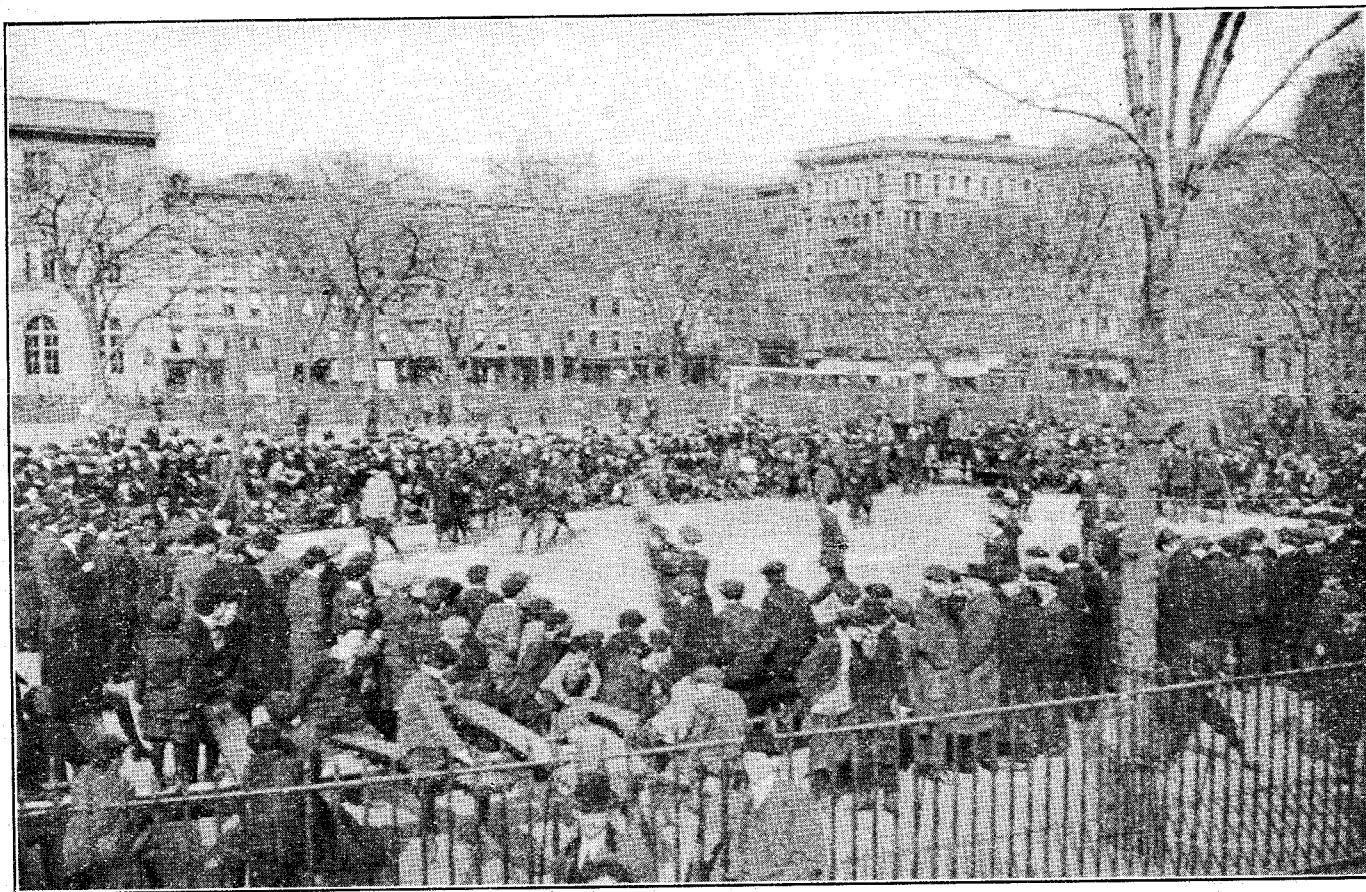
To-day it is hard to use them as such instruments because they are not properly designed for such purposes. Wherever possible the layout of the parks should be modified to serve the needs of the present day. Very often, for example, a path has been worn between two points where the people wish to go. In such places, the department has for years attempted unsuccessfully to preserve the grass. These places have been gravelled and paths cut where the landscape architect considers this can be done without sacrifice of the landscape features.

There follows in the last section of Part I a list of corporate stock requests to be made in 1915 for playground and small park development.

(f) Discussion of Benefits Derived by Those Using the Playgrounds:

Our children spend a large part of the formative periods of their lives in the playgrounds. Therefore, since Recreation is sufficiently important to be supported by public expense, all taxpayers have a right to expect a corresponding benefit to the City. We must see to it that the playgrounds do not follow out the prophecy of their opponents and merely cater to pleasure in the sense of mere relaxation. It is our duty to make sure they are building up a better type of citizen.

The idea of the educational value of play did not originate in this country. Plato was the first writer who said distinctly that education must take in the whole of life. He attached great importance to intelligent guidance of play. Of course under "play" he included music, gymnastics, and other arts whose influence he felt to be a direct one on the development of those attributes of "restraint and courage" which in his eyes were the qualities most to be striven for in the formation of character. In the Republic, Plato deals at some length with the spirit of lawlessness "in the form of amusement" which easily steals in "and at first sight appears harmless" but "little by little spirit of license, finding



BASKET BALL GAME, TOMPKINS SQUARE PARK PLAYGROUND

a home, imperceptibly penetrates into manners and customs, whence, issuing with greater force, it invades contracts between man and man, and from contracts, goes on to laws and constitutions, in utter recklessness, ending at last by an overthrow of all rights, private as well as public." "Our youth"—he says again—"should be trained from the first in a stricter system, for *if their amusements become lawless*, they can never grow up into well-conducted and virtuous citizens." On the other hand, "when they have made a good beginning in play, and—by the help of music—have gained the habit of good order, then this habit of good order. . . will accompany them in all their actions, and be a principle of growth to them."

Thus, the playground, in the eyes of Plato, should be a spot where definite training and guidance are given. His own rules were not only of a general nature, but went into the most minute details as to the kinds of art and music that were demoralizing to youth, as to what manner of art would bring out the traits of the ideal citizen, as he conceived him.

There is a wide divergence of opinion among our citizens in regard to playgrounds. Many consider the purpose of the playground to be mere amusement—a place to herd the children so as to keep them off the streets. Play, in their eyes, must be completely spontaneous—there must be no regulation at all.

Then we find a second group which considers the playground as a place for athletics only—for mere muscular development.

A third group will think of them as a place for instilling the spirit of co-operation through games—properly ordered—or for cultivating a sense of ordered motion through folk dancing and other such movements.

In other words, there are plenty of ideas floating about, but very little focusing of those ideas. The point which should be brought out is this: If we are to build up a constructive policy as regards our playgrounds, there must be—back of that policy—a clear intellectual conception of our ultimate aim. If we have not decided upon the harbor to which we are bound, even the most excellent navigator's chart, the most delicately adjusted compass will avail us nothing.

The playground is not a panacea. Out of it will come just as much as we put into it—and nothing more. If we do not use the playground for development in the best sense of the word—we may well expect the playground to become a positive evil. We realize to-day, better than in the days of Plato, the vital part that the imitative faculties play in the development of the child. We also know that the imitative force of a model works in inverse ratio to its distance from the child. In a word the most valuable example to a child from a psychological standpoint, is the example of the boy or girl just a little older than himself. It is also the most dangerous. Turn these children loose, without supervision, in an empty playground and what will be the model held up for their imitation? The successful bully, who will at once assume control of play activities. This we must avoid at all costs, even, occasionally at the cost of moving a trifle more slowly in opening playgrounds, in order that proper supervision may first be provided.

On the other hand, the importance is great of letting the children come in contact with principles of fair play and honor among their own contemporaries. It is of more practical value in many cases than any amount of theory. A respect for the rights of others, and their own position as part of an organism, not as a lawless unit—this is the least that the playground should foster, and it will only do so if it is in the hands of a proper director. By this I do not mean merely that kind of direction that teaches children how to play games but the direction that teaches them to play games fairly and honorably. This is the reason why I am not in favor of opening new playgrounds more quickly than we can provide supervision for them. It is true that any playground keeps children off the streets to a certain extent—though less so than is popularly imagined by those who do not investigate. For it is a matter of common experience to see a playground lacking any sympathetic and expert direction standing empty, while the nearby streets are packed with children at play; the reason being not far to seek—the street provides excitement and variety which the empty play space cannot rival.

To sum up: We need a more definite intellectual conception as to the type of citizenship to be produced; we need policies directly planned to bring out the desirable qualities, and then we need to proceed to open playgrounds as rapidly as is consistent with a proper handling of the children committed to our care—not moved by hysteria, but by sober judgment—not sacrificing 90% of the population to the remaining 10% by turning all our parks into play spaces, but enlarging the present facilities wherever it may be accomplished so as to serve the greatest good of the largest number.

4—BUREAU OF CHILDREN'S SCHOOL FARMS:

(a) *New Construction, Additions and Improvements:*

During the year 1914 there were five (5) School Farm Gardens under the jurisdiction of the Park Department as shown in the following table:

Date Opened	Name	Location	Size
1902	De Witt Clinton Park.....	52nd-54th Sts., 11th and 12th Aves..	$\frac{3}{4}$ acre
1911	Thomas Jefferson Park.....	111th-114th Sts., and East River....	2 acres
1913	Corlears Hook Park.....	Jackson, South, Corlears and Cherry Sts.	$\frac{3}{4}$ acre
1914	Isham Park.....	211th Street and Broadway.....	1 acre
1914	Seward Park.....	Canal Street and East Broadway....	6,500 sq. ft.

(1) *Acquisitions:*

There were no acquisitions of land for farm garden purposes during the year 1914.

(2) *Improvements:*

Two farm garden plots were improved during the year 1914: One at Isham Park, 211th Street and Broadway, at which place an acre of ground was improved for the use of farm gardens. The other site which was improved was at Seward Park, Canal Street and East Broadway, where 6,500 square feet were cultivated during 1914 for farm garden work.

(b) *Maintenance and Operation:*

During the past year 6,104 different children had farm garden plots and 23,462 children from Public, Parochial, Industrial Schools and pupils from the New York Training School for Teachers used the Gardens as nature study laboratories.

The method of operating the school farms briefly stated is as follows:

A blackboard bulletin in the School Farm notifies the children of the time for registration, different days being reserved for boys and girls. All plots available are given out to children in order of their registration, the only qualification being that children should be over six years of age. Tags bearing their plot numbers are given to the children at time of registration. Immediately following registration, School Farm Attendants take groups of children to lesson plots, where a model planting lesson is given. The children then plant the plots assigned to them. Each individual plot is 4 x 8 feet. A systematic method of spading which has been in practice for several years has made it possible for the children to do more and more thorough work in preparing the ground. Spading is done by children in spring, midsummer and fall, assisted by Park Department laborers.

Observation Plots:

Decorative flower beds are included in the Farm Gardens, consisting of flowers and bedding plants, set out with careful arrangement of attractive colors. Field and fiber crops are also planted and a large variety of economic plants are grown in the School Farm Gardens. Such observation plots are usually located near the edge of the School Farm plot, with descriptive signs turned outward in order to interest the adults of the neighborhood.

Awarding of Flags:

For the neatest section a flag is awarded by a committee of children who are impressed with the importance of their position.

(c) Benefits Derived by Those Using School Farm Gardens:

One of the strongest reasons in starting school farm gardens was to teach the private care of public property. This can only be done through education and example. By having the children lay a strip of sod around the flower beds and having them realize that they must take care of this sod and keep it in condition so that it will increase the beauty of the Farm Garden, they gradually learn as in no other way to respect the park lawns outside the Farm Garden. The ownership of an individual plot is sometimes apt to develop selfishness on the part of the children in the care of their respective plots. This is only overcome by requiring from all a general care of the whole School Farm Garden, such as paths, decorative flower beds and grass, uniting the individual ownership with a responsibility for the appearance of the whole Farm Garden, thus building a foundation for good citizenship.

It is remarkable to see these children who have their baby brothers and sisters to take care of, keep them amused in the immediate vicinity of their respective farm garden plots, in contrast to carrying babies in their arms through the hot streets. The School Farm Gardens, while not relieving them from their responsibility, enable the older child, at the same time, to gain health and pleasure.

The influence of the Children's School Farms extends not only to the children, but to their parents as well. The Children's School Farm creates a normal environment for children.

One cannot fail to be impressed with the value of school farms when witnessing the thousands of children at work on their plots and the tremendous interest that is kept up at fever heat in the whole neighborhood and by all the families concerned in the wonderful new lessons that they are learning each day.

3—PUBLIC BATHS AND COMFORT STATIONS*(a) New Construction, Additions and Improvements**(1) Acquisition:*

During the year the Department opened two new comfort stations, facilities being provided for both men and women. The new stations opened and their capacity are as follows:

Cooper Square.....	20 men	6 women
John Jay Park.....	11 "	5 "

The Cooper Square station is an underground structure located at the southerly end of Cooper Park at the head of the Bowery. Since the opening the men's station has been one of the busiest in the city; the women's station, however, has been used by so very few that it does not warrant the expense of maintenance for the purpose, and I have already recommended that it be added to the men's station which has been intensively used and is even now inadequate to the needs of the public.

The John Jay Park station is located in the Playground Field House and contains besides toilet accommodations for the public generally, shower baths for the boys and girls who use the playgrounds.

(2) Improvements:

A number of stations were heated with coal stoves and others by hot water or steam heaters. The stoves were troublesome besides taking up a great deal of space in stations which were all much smaller than they should be, while the hot water and steam boilers, though all low pressure plants, were constantly being damaged through ignorance of the

laborers as to the proper way to handle them. By arrangement with the Department Architect gas-steam radiator heaters were installed in the following stations, displacing the old stoves and boilers:

Fort Washington Park	106th St. and 5th Avenue
Hudson Park	110th St. and Lenox Avenue
Madison Square Park	151st St. and Riverside Drive
96th St. and Riverside	Central Park, near the Marble Arch
66th St. and Central Park	Mount Morris Park
Morningside Park	Columbus Park
Chelsea Park	Bryant Park
138th St. and Riverside	

These heaters have proven highly satisfactory in all the stations and have proven more economical and cleanly than the old methods of heating, and it is planned to continue their installation in the other stations where coal stoves are now used.

(b) *Maintenance and Operation:*

As no additional attendants were provided for the new stations in the annual budget it was necessary to readjust the schedule for the other stations to provide extra attendants needed. The reports of our inspectors proved that the number of persons using the baths and toilets at DeWitt Clinton and Thomas Jefferson Parks was so small that the Department was not warranted in keeping them open during the evenings except during the summer. The schedule was consequently shortened accordingly, reducing the force on this function of the Department's work by four men, two laborers and two stokers.

Many of the stations are old buildings, equipped with obsolete plumbing which no amount of care and attention can render thoroughly sanitary. In consequence, many complaints are made to this Department and the Health Department as to the condition of these places—a condition which can only be corrected by a thorough reconstruction of the building and equipment. Among the worst of these are Tompkins Square, Madison Square, Seward Park, Hamilton Fish Park, Mount Morris Park, Washington Square, and a number of stations in Central Park. One of the latter, that at the Conservatory Lake opposite about 74th Street near Fifth Avenue, was overhauled and remodeled during the year under the direction of the Department Architect, the work being done partly by contract and partly by departmental labor.

A complete list of comfort stations with a description of the facilities they provide and the periods for which they are open to be used follows:

There is shown as Appendix E, "Comfort Stations, Park Department, Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond."

D—SCULPTURE, MONUMENTS, NOTABLE ARCHITECTURE, ETC.

The parks of a city and its open spaces are very important in recreation places, but they are of tremendous importance also as indicating the artistic value a community places on beautiful things and as typifying a city's ideals.

Just as along a country road a man is judged to a great extent by the way he keeps his little front lawn, in the same way a city is frequently appraised by the strangers within its gates by the impression created from the way in which it has treated its beautiful spaces.

Early in the year a study of the monuments, memorials and other works of art in the public parks and squares revealed an unsatisfactory situation.

Some of these monuments are a just source of pride and delight to our citizens as examples of works of art worthy of the prominent place given them. As examples of this class, one might include the statue of Bryant in Bryant Park; Abraham DePeyster in Bowling Green; Farragut in Madison Square; Nathan Hale in City Hall Park; Holley in Washington Square; Lafayette in Union Square; Lafayette in Washington Square; Indian

Hunter; Still Hunt; Tigress and Cubs in Central Park; Sherman Statue at the plaza, 59th Street and Fifth Avenue.

But it is also very clear that the city authorities in the past have been far too lenient both in appraising the value of the monuments themselves, as works of art, and as to the importance of the subject to be memorialized. As a result of this we frequently find the city's most important and dignified sites filled with a very great number of monuments which are absolutely unworthy of the sites and of the subjects. If monuments and statues are to be accepted for the parks and squares and other public places, the highest artistic standards must be maintained. Especially in view of the restricted park area in Manhattan, it is particularly desirable that in the future great care and discretion be used in allotting space, and that a certain definite policy be laid down as a guide to the city authorities for the future.

Now is the time, when city planning is being seriously undertaken, when we should consider this very important phase. All the different organizations, national and civic, that have to do with art, particularly sculpture societies, should unite in the establishment of a fixed plan to be adhered to in the future.

This plan would take up definitely each portion of park property in the city, to determine what sites in that area are suitable for statues or other works of sculpture and what the character of the art work should be.

For instance, some distribution of zones could be agreed upon within which certain classes of statues could be grouped. A beginning has already been made of this kind along Riverside Drive where a number of memorials and statues are placed which relate to heroes of the Civil War. In a similar way City Hall Park might be reserved for statues and memorials of citizens' prominently distinguished service in the life and progress of the city. The whole available area should be mapped by a good technical committee, and on this map would appear those places where it is considered (from landscape, architectural, and other points of view) that the surroundings will be enhanced rather than injured by the placing of statues or monuments.

Any method would be welcome by this department whereby the City could rid itself of a number of the statues and monuments which encumber its parks. The sites then could be used for monuments of the highest and most inspiring form of art.

A definite plan along these lines, in which only the most artistic works would be adopted and placed only where their presence would be appropriate, would be of inestimable benefit to the City and would strengthen the hands of all future park commissioners.

At present every month brings many proposals of statues and monuments for the approval of the park commissioner. Often they are merely the expression of regard which the members of a family hold for a dead parent or other ancestor. Despite the fact that the individual in question may have contributed nothing to City life to entitle him to such commemoration in one of the important civic centers, frequently through friendship and enthusiasm for the man's character, a committee of reputable citizens will collect a fund for the erection of a statue. They will employ an architect who will make a statue that the committee thereafter is committed to, and which is often unworthy of the high artistic standard to which the City should adhere.

It is amazing at times to see what powerful interests can be enlisted in support of such projects and how difficult it is to stem the tide which results from their enthusiastic but misguided efforts.

Since January 1, 1914, it has been the policy of this department not to accept monuments on behalf of the City unless the would-be donors provide, besides the funds necessary for the statue or monument itself, amounts necessary for reforming the surrounding park territory, so as to provide an adequate setting.

It is a pleasure to record that in several cases the donors have expressed a willingness when this matter was called to their attention, not only to provide a setting but also an endowment fund to provide for the care and maintenance of their gift.

An impression seems generally to have prevailed in the past that a statue or monument

will take care of itself after it has once been erected in the City's parks. An investigation of existing monuments made during 1914 revealed the fact that many of the monuments were in very bad state of disrepair and were suffering rapid disintegration.

The Municipal Art Commission and the Sculptors' Society, Mr. Daniel C. French, Mr. Karl Bitter, Mr. J. Quincy Adams, and others, were very kind in giving their time and advice in helping this department to decide on a proper method to pursue in repairing or restoring those monuments which were in the most serious condition. However, the best results would be achieved if some technical body, preferably the Art Commission, should undertake an annual inspection of the monuments of the City, and have a decision as to what repairs should be made, so as to enhance the value of the monument without doing any unexpected injury.

This matter has been discussed with the Art Commission and it is hoped they may see their way to adopt such a plan. In such case the Park Department would detail a workman especially qualified for this purpose whose time would be entirely occupied in special work of this character, until such time as the City could provide a force operating under the Art Commission.

During the year 1914 the Obelisk in Central Park and the Statue of Admiral Farragut in Madison Square Park were weatherproofed by a chemical process.

WEATHERPROOFING THE OBELISK, CENTRAL PARK

Since 1885, when the Obelisk was treated with a weatherproofing process, no attention whatsoever has been given to its exterior, and early in 1914, it was found that the surface was beginning to flake, thin scales of stone, quite large in area, falling to the ground from various sections of the exterior. After a thorough investigation and study of the various weatherproofing processes, it was decided to entrust the work to Dr. William Kuckro, chemist of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and in May, 1914, the Obelisk was treated with his preparation.

The preparation belongs to the group of glycerides which, after chemical treatment, changes to a new product. This product dries in the air to a rubberlike material, which is hard, very elastic, absolutely water and air proof. It resists the mechanical friction of sand and dust and a rapid rise and fall of temperature. It was used in a very diluted solution in order to penetrate deeply and fill the pores of the granite.

Two coats of this preparation were applied in two weeks, and about 52 gallons were required for the work.

WEATHERPROOFING OF THE FARRAGUT MONUMENT, MADISON SQUARE

For several years it had been noticed that the stone work of the Farragut monument was badly flaking, and early in 1914 a very careful examination was made and many flakes and hollow sounding places were discovered principally on the steps and base stones. These were doubtless more numerous below, because the moisture had accumulated there. The back of the monument was more affected than the front because that part is exposed to the east storms.

The cement mortar joints between the stones had almost completely perished, and it was found that an attempt had been made some time ago to save them, but the work was evidently not properly grouted, all these joints having cracked.

Realizing that immediate action must be taken to stop the destruction by the elements of this masterpiece of St. Gaudens and Stanford White, steps were taken to remedy what damage had already been done and to prevent further damage. After a thorough investigation of the various methods of stone preservation, the Caffal process for waterproofing was decided upon, and contract awarded.

The policy of treating the stones was similar to that adopted for the treatment of the

Egyptian Obelisk in Central Park, that is, to remove that which was too far gone or destroyed, and to save all that was possible to be saved. In pursuance of this plan, all the shallow flaking on the plane surfaces was cut away, and wherever possible the conventional mouldings were restored. There was no attempt made, however, to restore sculptural lines, of which, fortunately, there were but few badly damaged.

All the old pointing was then cut out with extreme care, and the spaces between the stones were thoroughly grouted with Portland cement mortar. The surface joints were then pointed with colored mortar. Wherever possible, the hollow flakes were grouted, so that the cement backing would hold them in place to prevent further movement.

After this work had been completed, a week was allowed to elapse so as to give the mortar a chance to thoroughly harden. The waterproofing of the stone was then undertaken.

There are now remaining on the sculptured figure work twenty-six flakes, all of which are marked and numbered, and made part of the records of the Park Department. Had these been allowed to remain unprotected, they would have fallen off and the Monument seriously marred.

These flakes should be annually examined to ascertain if their area is enlarging in any individual case. The joints should also be looked after and immediately repointed if found defective.

If these precautions are taken there is no reason to fear that any further deterioration of the Monument will take place, and it may be accounted as saved for an indefinite period to come.

5—FORESTRY:

In discussing the park and shade tree situation in New York City one should review in some detail, the wide range of conditions and problems which have to be met in this phase of park work in Greater New York. It is the purpose of this summary statement to tell briefly how the tree situation has been handled and finally to outline a plan for the future treatment of this problem in the Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond.

There are many problems to be met in New York City in street tree work, as each borough has radically different conditions. In Queens and Richmond, and most of The Bronx, the problem of planting and maintaining trees in City streets is less complicated provided the right type of tree is selected in the first place, and sufficient care is given to the tree from time to time, as the natural conditions which tend to insure a healthy growth of trees are present. In the above-mentioned boroughs there is frequently sufficient soil and dirt strips on the sidewalks which will allow for sufficiently large tree holes. In large sections of Brooklyn territory also, conditions are almost as favorable.

In the Borough of Manhattan, however, a more difficult problem is encountered. The soil with rare exceptions is very poor compared with the outlying boroughs: in most cases a rocky sub-surface is covered with only a thin layer of earth. Even where there is sufficient soil, the traffic on the street, the congestion and height of buildings, the narrow sidewalks, and scant tree openings provided, make it difficult to obtain a healthy growth of trees. There are large areas where high buildings bordering on the streets are dedicated entirely to active commercial interests, and constant shipping over the sidewalk does not make for success in a tree planting campaign. There are other areas, numerous vaults, conduits and gas pipes leaving only a thin layer of earth of a depth not sufficient to provide that nourishment upon which trees are dependent for their continued existence.

The protection of trees in an effective manner constitutes a difficult problem, in a congested city, where trees are exposed not only to the usual attacks from insects, but also to destruction by intensive use of sidewalks both in the residential and commercial sections: to damage by horses and trucks, to perpetual harm done the trees by the large number of gas leaks: to the atmospheric conditions resulting from the constant passing of automobiles. To add to the difficulties of tree development we have the constant danger of destruction by the vandalistic element of our community.

As nearly as can be determined without an actual census there are about eleven thousand trees on the streets of the Borough of Manhattan, not counting those on the streets immediately surrounding the parks, or those in the park plots in the center of the roadway along Broadway and Seventh Avenue. These number approximately four thousand more. No actual census of the street trees has heretofore been taken. A thorough census of street trees is now under way. These trees were given all the attention possible within the limits of the funds appropriated for that purpose in the annual budget for the year by pruning, trimming of dead wood, cleaning of insect pests and spraying in the proper season. All dead or dangerous trees were removed, new wire or iron box guards were put on where necessary, and old guards or wires were removed where they were damaging the trees.

There is a greater need for tree protection in New York than in a smaller city where the population has been educated to take pride in shade trees and to realize their obligations in helping to conserve this valuable City asset. Therefore it is imperative that street trees in New York City be sprayed frequently and provided with a type of tree guard and grating which will protect them from the assaults of their enemies.

The results of efficient spraying have been particularly noticeable during the past summer. The Department purchased a new Fitz-Henry Guphill High Power Sprayer in the spring and the results obtained have already more than justified its purchase; caterpillar and other insect pests have been controlled far better than previously. For spraying in the smaller parks a second-hand automobile received by the Department in exchange for one damaged in a street-car collision was equipped with one of the old spraying outfits formerly used on a horse-drawn wagon. The amount of work accomplished was greatly in excess of the former horse-drawn machines.

In all boroughs, with the exception of Manhattan, a simple tree guard of wire mesh has been found satisfactory. In Manhattan, however, a somewhat heavier guard supplemented by a grating over the tree-hole has been found advisable in the past.

This Department is working at the present time trying out an aluminum composition grating, four feet by eight feet, of the type so extensively used in Germany. If this grating proves successful, it is believed that the heavier type of iron tree guard can be dispensed with, and a wire mesh guard used. Experience in Manhattan has shown that when a grating is placed over a tree hole so that children with roller skates and other root destroying elements cannot approach within several feet of a tree, the use of a light wire mesh guard is sufficient.

Here follows a table which shows the number of trees planted and removed on city streets during the years 1908-1913, inclusive:

	1908		1909		1910		1911		1912		1913		1914	
	R	P	R	P	R	P	R	P	R	P	R	P	R	P
Manhattan.....	350	0	185	0	75		212	18	402	273	274	296
			*35		*54	*275								
Richmond.....	704	62	51		16				63		140	249	27	183
	*118		*79	*79	*52	*69								

P Planted

R Removed

* Additional by property owners under permit

.. No data given

The above table speaks for itself. Unless drastic measures are taken the Borough of Manhattan will have treeless streets within a few years.

In 1914, there were 2142 trees planted in parks in Manhattan and Richmond and 1350 trees removed.

The Department of Parks in Manhattan and Richmond has no nursery within its limits and the two boroughs of the City which possess nurseries have needed hitherto all the trees at their disposal for development in their own territory.

This Department made determined efforts to obtain funds from the appropriating authorities of the City to purchase trees for a campaign to improve the street tree situation, but thus far funds have not been secured with which to make any extensive experiments in the planting of trees in our Manhattan streets, owing to the serious financial condition which limits the funds available. The Department meanwhile has tried to encourage property owners to plant trees in front of their property. Whenever possible a permit has been granted for this purpose, which provides for the work being done by firms of florists or nurserymen, who, in the experience of the Park Department, have proved efficient in the past. At the present time the Department is restricting the kind of trees planted in the City streets to those three or four varieties which have proved to be the specimens hardy enough to survive amid sidewalks, gaspipes, vaults and sewers where only a small amount of soil, depth and circumference, can be provided. The following conditions which appear upon the permit itself must be agreed to by the applicant.

1. The trees to be at least $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter of stem one foot from ground.
2. To be straight, have good roots and well balanced heads.
3. Two to five cubic yards of good mould to be placed in each tree hole, according to the conditions governing the location.
4. The trunk of each tree to be without branches from the ground to at least seven feet therefrom and the first branch to be not over nine feet from the ground.
5. Trees to be set in the new ground to the same depth that they were in the ground before transplanting.
6. The trees to be watered at least once a week, and cultivated at least once a week, in dry weather by the owner of the premises in front of which they are set and otherwise to be properly cared for by the owner of the said premises, at his own expense, and to the satisfaction of the Department of Parks.
7. The work of planting to be done under the direction and to the satisfaction of the Department of Parks or its proper representatives, and subject to the rules, regulations and ordinances of the Department of Parks.
8. Tree guards of approved patterns to be placed around the trees by the owner of the premises.

Mould must not be placed in tree hole and tree must not be planted until mould, tree, size of hole and quantity of mould have been inspected and approved by the Department representative.

Department must be notified of date of preparation of tree hole and proposed planting.

As long as the property owner is alone relied upon to plant city trees, New York City will never have a sufficient number of shade trees. In the whole of New York City, and particularly Manhattan, it has been the experience of this Department that the average property owner will not plant trees even on his own property when such property is leased to tenants. It also naturally follows that tenants will not often plant trees on property belonging to another person. The pride which a citizen should take in the appearance of his property is only obtained when he *owns the property in which he lives*. Therefore, this year I have asked for an appropriation of \$25,000 for the planting of trees on City streets. Even should this sum be appropriated, it is scarcely sufficient to allow for a striking demonstration of the benefits which must accrue when the City plants and maintains the trees on its streets.

Unfortunately it is not feasible at present to adopt in Manhattan a system of tree-planting similar to that now in operation in Brooklyn, whereby the Park Department plants trees at a stipulated sum for the property owner. The gardening force of the Park Department in Manhattan and Richmond is insufficient even to maintain our parks, parkways and squares in proper condition. This inadequate supply of labor is most keenly felt in the spring precisely at the time when most of the tree planting must be done. Moreover, as I have shown, the cost of planting a tree on the sidewalks of Manhattan varies according to the condition of the pavements, quality of soil, and underground construction (pipes, vaults, manholes, etc.) so that it would be impossible to set a uniform price.



RIVERSIDE PARK EXTENSION, LOOKING NORTH

The Plane trees shown in this picture were planted in 1911 and are flourishing to-day, because they were planted under normal conditions.

It is planned to secure some expert who can give his entire time to the subject and can catalogue the history of the trees of New York, so that we can more precisely ascertain those kinds, giving a reasonable assurance of growth under conditions in the different zones into which the City might be divided for tree purposes with complete tree data, thus obtaining and acquiring specifications for planting in the case of each zone and character of trees. A general plan of tree-planting such as has been now installed in Brooklyn could be tried out even under the complex Manhattan conditions.

Past experience in planting trees in congested parts of New York City proves that when trees are planted in small tree holes and without sufficient supply of mould, a fair sized grating and a permanent tree guard, only a very small percentage of the trees live for more than two or three years.

At the present time this Department is considering a plan for local tax assessment against the improved property, so that the work can be done in a rational manner and we can give the tree a fighting chance to live and grow.

A proper organization of the force caring for trees in City streets should provide a man to be in charge of this work which such technical knowledge as a degree from a post graduate school of forestry would indicate, and also a number of years experience in forestry, park, and street tree work.

Under different conditions the Landscape Architect might successfully have added the directorship of an intensive tree campaign to his many other duties. As it is, however, the Landscape Architect has an immense amount of territory to cover for the Park Board. In the 7,637 acres of park land of the greater city, it is his duty to see and approve the numerous Landscape features and pass on new features in territory in course of development. Besides this, the daily business of the Park Department requires that he should pass on the countless problems of park deterioration and restoration made necessary by the activities of the Public Service Commission in subway construction within park areas. When one adds to this large part of his time that must be spent in City planning for the future (and the countless proposals for monuments that are constantly before the park authorities) it is clear that the duties of the Landscape Architect are too numerous and diversified to permit him to devote his whole attention to an active campaign of tree planting in the City streets to the exclusion of his other manifold occupations. He must create, compose and plan along aesthetic and engineering lines, rather than supervise foresters or general arboriculturists' work of maintenance and tree campaign development.

A forester if obtained would include in his field of study, the nature, character, habit and requirements of trees, their insect and fungus enemies, methods of raising, planting and caring for trees.

Certain problems of management, important tree records and current data on the care given individual trees, are not available under present conditions, but are extremely important for the intelligent treatment of trees in this City. This as well as educational work in connection with tree matters could be attended to by such an expert, administrative head of the tree force.

Problems of reforestation in New York can be studied and solved only by a man possessing a special technical knowledge on the subject of City street trees.

This Department will therefore earnestly advocate the employment of a forester or a chief agriculturist, with expert experience. He could study conditions while administering this branch of the City service and eliminate those conditions which are rapidly killing the trees and making New York a treeless city.

Menagerie:

In 1914 the total cost of maintaining Central Park Menagerie including personal Service averaged \$40,213.49.

There is no fund at the disposal of this Department for the purchase or replacement of animals for the Menagerie.

(Note where marked "E")

It is only due therefore to the energy and special talent of William Snyder, the Head-keeper of the Central Park Menagerie, that there continues to be such a varied stock of animals. As is well known, he has been remarkably successful in raising the young produced by the wild animals under his charge, and in this way by a series of exchanges the wide range of specimens have been acquired and maintained.

By reference to Exhibit 148 to 152 of the Appendix there will be found a report showing the deaths, births, presentations, exchanges, purchases and auction sales for the year 1914.

MUSIC

The music appropriation for 1914 was \$71,000, of which amount \$21,500 was made to the Department of Docks and Ferries who conducted the concerts on the recreation piers. Early in the year the present Commissioner appointed a Music Committee consisting of:

Mr. Richard Aldrich
 " F. X. Arens
 " Frank Damrosch
 " Reginald DeKoven
 " Victor Herbert
 " R. E. Johnston

This Committee passed on the names of all applicants for positions of leaders of park music and advised also as to the general composition of the programmes and the balance of the musicians forming the respective orchestras and bands. Supervision was had over each band concert by a representative of the Finance Department, or by the Secretary of the Park Board, to assure that the quality of the music would be up to the required standard and to guard against attempts to make use of dummies in the park bands as has occurred some times in the past. Each leader was made directly responsible to the public of his neighborhood, and was particularly directed to give heed to the special needs of the community within that district. In this way a beginning was made of providing songs and folk music well known to the various communities, and a very friendly spirit was thus engendered which undoubtedly will prove of great help to all future efforts to get the elements of that section of the City together for various civic purposes.

A standard instrumentation was prescribed for the small park bands. Leaders were compelled to furnish men according to this standard. No musician was allowed to play an instrument for which he had not passed an examination at the Musical Union. A band of less than standard instrumentation was not assigned to any park concert, a practice often resorted to in former years.

The improvement in the quality of park music as a result of this innovation was notable, and is attested by scores of letters received in this Department. The verdict of the public as expressed in correspondence was that the concerts in 1914 were better than they had ever been.

The musicians who composed these permanent organizations were of a high quality; they were made up of men who in the winter played in organizations such as the Metropolitan Opera House, the New York Symphony Orchestra, Sousa's Band, the Philharmonic Orchestra, etc.

A table giving the concert schedule for last year and also the cost of each concert is shown in the Appendix following:

APPENDIX

PARK CONCERTS, 1914

Location	No. Concerts	Day of Week	No. of Inst.	Cost per Concert	Total
Manhattan:					
Abingdon Sq.....	6	Wed. & Thurs.	21 & L	\$115	\$690
Battery.....	6	Wed. & Sun.	21 & L	115	690
Carl Schurz.....	16	Thurs. & Sat.	21 & L	115	1,840

PARK CONCERTS, 1914—Continued

Location	No. Concerts	Day of Week	No. of Inst.	Cost per Concert	Total
Chelsea.....	11	Tuesday	21 & L	115	1,265
Colonial.....	9	Saturday	21 & L	115	1,035
Columbus.....	11	Wednesday	21 & L	115	1,255
Corlears Hook.....	10	Tuesday	21 & L	115	1,150
DeWitt Clinton.....	10	Wednesday	21 & L	115	1,150
Ft. Washington Park.....	2	Tuesday	21 & L	115	230
Hamilton Fish.....	11	Friday	21 & L	115	1,265
Hudson.....	9	Thurs. & Sat.	21 & L	115	1,035
John Jay.....	3	Tuesday	21 & L	115	345
Morningside.....	10	Thursday	21 & L	115	1,145
Mount Morris.....	16	Fri. & Sat.	21 & L	115	1,835
Seward.....	16	Mon. & Thurs.	21 & L	115	1,840
St. Gabriels.....	6	Thursday	21 & L	115	685
St. Nicholas.....	5	Wednesday	21 & L	115	575
Tompkins Sq.....	15	Wed. & Sat.	21 & L	115	1,725
Washington Sq.....	21	Wed., Sat., Sun.	21 & L	115	2,405
Washington Bridge Park.....	3	Tuesday	21 & L	115	345
Central Park Band.....	39	Daily	47 to 55	Various	
Central Park Orchestra.....	37	except Monday	Solo & L	200	19,644
United German Societies					
Richmond:					
Alaska.....	4	Wednesday	21 & L	115	460
Curtis Field Orch.....	6	Saturday	52, L & S	412	2,474
Pleasant Plains.....	3	Thursday	21 & L	115	345
Port Richmond Band.....	5	Friday	21 & L	115	575
Orchestra.....	1	Saturday	52 L & S	412	412
Tottenville.....	5	Thursday	21 & L	115	575
Washington Park Band.....	6	Tuesday	21 & L	115	690
Orchestra.....	1	Sunday	51 L & S	405	405
Westerleigh.....	5	Thursday	21 & L	115	575
Manhattan:					
Piers:					
Market Street, E. R.....	10	Mon. & Thurs.	7 & L	45	450
Williamsburg Bridge.....	10	Mon. & Thurs.	7 & L	45	450
Third St., E. R.....	10	Mon. & Thurs.	7 & L	45	450
Twenty-fourth St., E. R.....	10	Mon. & Thurs.	7 & L	45	450
One Hundred Twelfth St., E. R..	10	Mon. & Thurs.	7 & L	45	445
Barrow Street, N. R.....	10	Mon. & Thurs.	7 & L	45	445
Fiftieth Street, N. R.....	10	Mon. & Thurs.	7 & L	45	450
One Hundred Twenty-ninth St., N. R.....	10	Mon. & Thurs.	7 & L	45	450

7—CONCESSIONS:

The Park Department revenue for concessions was increased approximately \$30,000 during 1914. (At the same time, the number of concessions was decreased.)

This was effected by applying business methods in letting park concessions. The privileges of the Department were divided into two classes:

First:—Those earning \$1,000 a year or less and returning to the Department of Parks a revenue of \$200 a year or less.

Second:—Those earning \$1,000 a year or more and returning to the Department of Parks a revenue of \$200 a year or more.

The first class of concessions were treated as charity cases and were awarded to deserving residents of Manhattan and Richmond after investigation by the leading charitable associations of the City.

The second class, which consisted of the more important concessions, were treated strictly as a business proposition and in each case were put up for public bidding and were awarded to the highest responsible bidder.

After a series of conferences with the Mayor, a concession committee was appointed to confer and assist the Commissioner of Parks in determining questions of policy in regard to concessions; this committee consisted of:

- Mr. Louis W. Fehr, Secretary of the Park Board
- “ Paul C. Wilson, Secretary to the Mayor
- “ John J. Kenny, Office of Commissioner of Accounts
- Dr. Fred Hovey Allen, of the City Club
- “ Carl F. Pilat, Landscape Architect
- “ John H. Beatty, Superintendent of Parks

9—SPECIALIZED ACTIVITIES:

Semi-public institutions located in parks within the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks:

- American Museum of Natural History
- The Metropolitan Museum of Art
- The New York Aquarium (under the jurisdiction of the New York Zoological Society)
- Jumel Mansion, Roger Morris Park

There are also the Zoological Park and Botanical Gardens in whose Board of Trustees the Commissioner of Parks, as President of the Park Board, serves as the City's representative. With all these institutions the Department has been kept in very close touch as a result of the courteous co-operation given by their Boards of Trustees to the President of the Park Board. Joint conferences were had with representatives of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment to consult upon the present needs of the institutions and their financial relation to the City. It is hoped that as a result of these conferences at an early date a more definite plan may be adopted for the proper division of financial responsibility between the societies and the City on questions of maintenance and expenditure in the future. At the present time in these institutions (particularly the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the American Museum of Natural History) the amounts provided by the City for maintenance have to be supplemented every year by subscriptions of large sums by the Trustees, the latter feel the City should provide all maintenance, leaving to the Trustees to provide the funds for new purchases, collections, expeditions, etc.

(a) *American Museum of Natural History:*

The chief internal work of the American Museum of Natural History for the year 1914 has been the refinement in decoration, methods of exhibition and labeling in many of the large exhibition halls, especially the Peruvian Hall, the Indians of the Southwest, the Indians of the Woodlands, the Forestry and Darwin Halls. The additions to the museum collections, while less spectacular than in certain previous years, revealed a normal growth and represent a very careful selection. Exploration and publication, the two indices of the research activity of the Museum, compare favorably with previous years,

while the progress of the educational work is reflected both in the improvement and labeling of the exhibits and the broad plans developed for the Museum extension to the public schools of the city.

The circulation of the nature study collections to 451 of the public schools, the giving of special lectures to school children to supplement their class-room work in geography, history and natural science, and the provision for instruction to the blind are all educational features of this great institution.

In order to reach the people of certain densely populated portions of the city, who are without means of sending their children to the Museum, a plan was this year formulated for the further extension of the public school work. The plan embraced three features: first, the establishment of a series of local lecture centres, to provide lectures in the various branches of natural science for children who cannot afford to visit the Museum; second, the inauguration of a system of loaning lantern slides to enable teachers to give visual instruction in their own class-rooms; third, the opening of a branch teaching museum in the Washington Irving High School, as an experiment to be carried out in other schools as soon as the fund is provided for this purpose.

In the support of the work of The American Museum of Natural History, the City appropriated during 1914 the sum of \$200,000.

(b) *The Metropolitan Museum of Art:*

The year 1914 witnessed the addition of two important collections to the Museum of Art,—The Benjamin Altman Collection, and the Exhibition of the J. Pierpont Morgan Loan Collection. The year has been an important one not only because of the opening of these exhibitions to the public, but also because of an increase in the usefulness both on the educational and artistic side and a fuller accomplishment of activities in all directions.

The membership has held its own through a period of financial depression.

The attendance showed an increase of 73,811 over that of 1913, making the total attendance for the year 913,230, the largest attendance in the history of the Museum, with the exception of 1909, the year of the Hudson-Fulton Celebration.

The usefulness of the collections have been developed by systematic cataloguing and labeling, and the work of the various departments of the Museum have been pushed in other directions with energy and with definite results.

In the support of the work of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the City appropriated during 1914 the sum of \$200,000.

(c) *The New York Aquarium* (under the jurisdiction of the New York Zoological Society)

The Aquarium, located in Battery Park, had a successful year during 1914. Although much of the equipment is obsolete in character, the fact remains that in no other aquarium is there so much animal life successfully carried in so small a space.

All exhibition tanks and pools are kept full of attractive specimens of good size, while the variety of forms is usually more than twice the number of tanks available.

It is to be regretted that most of the specimens live in tanks too small for their proper accommodation.

The total number of specimens on December 31, 1914, was 5,169,—199 species being represented.

In the support of the work of the New York Aquarium, the City appropriated during 1914 the sum of \$47,000.

(d) *Jumel Mansion:*

The Jumel Mansion, located in Roger Morris Park, is administered by the Washington Headquarters Association of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

In Jumel Mansion there are three distinct collections of historic interest: (1) Collection of Washingtoniana lent to the Washington Headquarters Association by Mr. William Lanier Washington. (2) The Reginald Pelham Bolton Collection of articles dug up on the battlefields and camp sites in the vicinity. This collection was gathered, labeled and arranged by Mr. Bolton and is a result of over twenty years of painstaking work. (3) The third collection embraces all the exhibits made by the Washington Headquarters Association and by the various Chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

During the year 1914, 98 exhibits have been added to the Museum collection, 50 by loan, 27 by gift and 21 by purchase.

During the year 36,710 people visited the Museum, a daily average of over 100 visitors.

In the support of the work of Jumel Mansion, the City appropriated during 1914 the sum of \$4,509.25.

CO-OPERATION WITH PARK DEPARTMENTS OF OTHER CITIES

A special effort was made during the year to bring the Park Board into close contact with Park Departments in other cities by correspondence and exchange of information. The subjects of park music, of park amusements, recreation, refreshment pavilions in parks, paving materials, fertilizers, care of animals and landscape treatment, were among those on which correspondence was exchanged. To visiting park officials were explained our system on the occasion of the visit to New York of the annual convention of the Superintendents of Parks, which was in session at Newburgh. The meeting at Newburgh was attended by the Commissioners, the Secretary of the Board, and various heads of borough departments, and an exchange of views on matters of Park Policy and practice proved most valuable.

(c) RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE TAXPAYER

1—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS REGARDING PROBLEMS MET IN PARK WORK

There are two broad divisions into which park work from an administrative standpoint may be divided:

1. Conception and planning for an adequate park system.
2. The efficient maintenance of those parks already under the control of the Department.

The second problem which meets the administrator is that of maintaining the present park system.

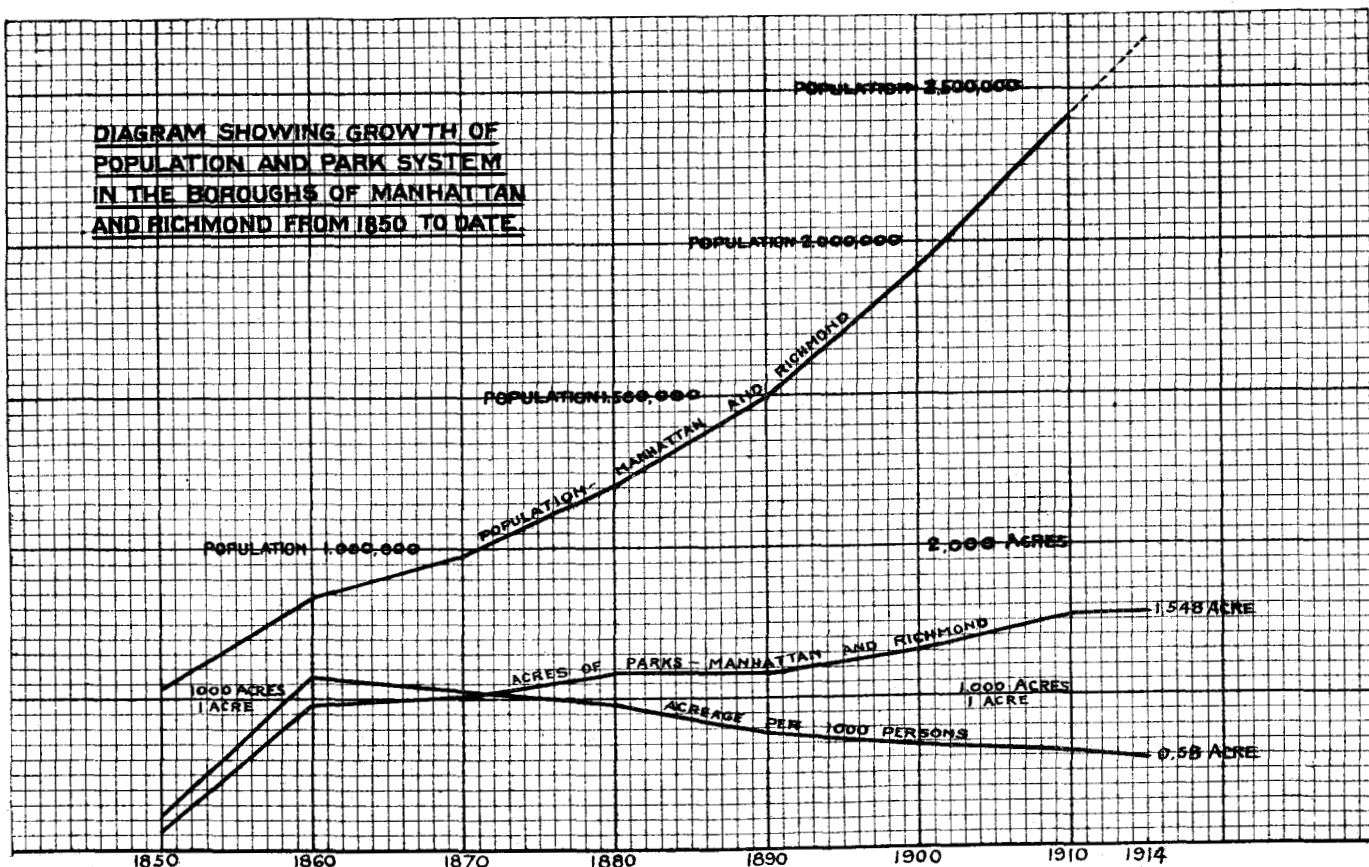
The total assessed valuation of the parks in Manhattan and Richmond is \$551,119,700.

It is bad business to allow the park plant to deteriorate as it has been doing for a number of years. The inevitable result is that an increasingly large sum of money will have to be appropriated to put the plant in running order the longer such appropriation is withheld. As earlier stated in this report, for a number of years past the Park Department of the Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond has received a maintenance appropriation which was insufficient for this purpose. In 1915, therefore, the Department will ask for certain corporate stock authorizations to bring the plant back to a normal condition so that it may properly serve the public.

To supplement and coordinate the existing park territory certain acquisitions are badly needed. In the past, the citizens of New York indeed planned wonderfully considering that it was impossible for them to realize to what extent the City would grow, but the citizens and taxpayers of to-day have an immense advantage in being able to gauge the effect that rapid transit will have upon the situation. We are now in a position to prophesy where commissions and citizens of the past have gone blindfolded, and a golden opportunity in Park planning awaits us if we will but seize it.

Intelligent Park planning at the right time means getting the most out of the expen-

**DIAGRAM SHOWING GROWTH OF
POPULATION AND PARK SYSTEM
IN THE BOROUGH\$ OF MANHATTAN
AND RICHMOND FROM 1850 TO DATE.**



YEAR	POPULATION	PARK AREA	ACREAGE PER 1000 OF POPULATION
1850	530,600	116 $\frac{84}{100}$ Acre	0.22
1860	839,100	960 $\frac{90}{100}$ "	1.14
1870	975,300	1017 $\frac{30}{100}$ "	1.05
1880	1,203,600	1161 $\frac{14}{100}$ "	0.96
1890	1,492,900	1161 $\frac{23}{100}$ "	0.77
1900	1,917,100	1311 $\frac{02}{100}$ "	0.68
1910	2,417,500	1531 $\frac{59}{100}$ "	0.63
1914	ESTIMATED 2,667,700	1547 $\frac{91}{100}$ "	0.58

**BUDGET ALLOWANCE
FOR PARKS, MANHATTAN
AND RICHMOND.**

1880	\$ 418,500.00
1890	766,000.00
1900	635,000.00
1910	1,058,208.95
1914	1,062,093.00

*NO FIGURES OBTAINABLE FOR
PERIODS PRIOR TO 1860.*

ditures that are bound to be made and saving heavy expenses in future for reconstruction made necessary by faulty conception in the past.

It is not only important to know what areas will be definitely needed for park purposes, but also the probable order in which the park areas will be developed. It is only by a thorough understanding of the situation by the citizens and taxpayers of this City that the Park Department can hope to obtain the funds necessary to plan now for the future. It is clear we have not yet thoroughly understood this when we see New York spending less for park maintenance and park improvements in three of its boroughs than Indianapolis with its 250,000 inhabitants.

The city spends roughly, \$60,000,000 a year for all its so-called welfare work. Far too small a proportion of this is spent in maintaining and in extending our park system, perfecting our recreation facilities, intensifying and co-ordinating our playground working plant for the future. We should immediately proceed to appropriate sufficient sums to restore the parks and then provide enough for their proper maintenance so they may serve the public to the best advantage. We should then acquire the additional park areas as already outlined on page 18 of this report.

2—RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING PARKS, PARKWAYS AND BOULEVARDS

The following requests will be made to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment in 1915 for the issue of corporate stock for parks, parkways and boulevards:

Paving the Walks of Central Park and Other Parks.....\$77,500.00

In presenting a request for funds for this item your attention is directed to the fact that during the years 1911 to 1914, inclusive, very little money was appropriated to cover the cost of laying new walks or re-surfacing old ones in the maintenance budget. During that period no authorization of corporate stock for paving was made despite repeated requests.

Because of heavy depreciation due to this neglect, it is now necessary to make restoration of a larger part of the walks in all parks. It is necessary to lay a permanent pavement on the existing foundations to the amount of 340,000 square feet of the walks in Central Park, 910,000 square feet in other city parks.

The sum \$32,700 will be used in laying a permanent pavement on the existing foundations upon walks in Central Park and City parks in such sections where the pavement is in a dangerous condition, a menace to pedestrians and beyond repair.

There are at present 160,000 square feet of old dirt walks in Central Park that are impassable in wet weather and winter, and dry and dusty in summer. Ninety thousand square feet of the same kind of walks are found in Morningside Park and provided for in request "Restoration of Morningside Park." It is necessary that a permanent pavement be laid in place of all these dirt walks.

It is intended to pave these walks with rock asphalt mastic wearing surface on concrete base. In addition to the above, 60,000 square feet of cement pavement must be laid in the city parks. The estimate cost of this work is \$44,800.

The total estimated cost is \$297,500 and it is recommended that authorization be granted as follows:

\$77,500 in 1915
110,000 " 1916
110,000 " 1917

Continuing the Work of Constructing a Reinforced Concrete Bulkhead to Take the Place of the Wooden Crib Bulkhead Along the Easterly Boundary of the Public Driveway.....\$135,000.00

Work on the construction of the Harlem River Driveway was begun in 1894 and completed in 1897. The Driveway runs along the river front of the Harlem River and its easterly line is built on the channel line as laid out by the United States Government.

At the time this bulkhead was constructed about 2,200 running feet of the same was built of stone in the shape of a retaining wall and is in good condition. The remaining length, 6,100 feet, was of a wooden construction, crib work and face timbers.

This wooden crib work rotted away in the course of years, and portions of the roadway began to crumble into the river at a number of points. To remedy this situation, the Board of Estimate and Apportionment by resolution authorized the construction of a permanent bulkhead for the entire length of the Speedway to guarantee the permanency of the roadway in the future, and resolved to appropriate \$110,000 annually, until the work was completed.

Two appropriations were authorized during previous years, one in 1911 of \$110,000 and the other in 1913 of \$110,000, to cover the cost of building a permanent structure (reinforced cellular bulkhead) in the sections which had failed. In 1914, however, no appropriation was made.

When the work embraced in the contract now in force has been fully completed, which will be in the near future, funds will have to be provided to cover the cost of continuing the construction of permanent bulkhead on sections which have failed and which may fail at any moment, also the cost of the new artificial stone railing or fence.

The total length embraced in the item above referred to is 1208 running feet and the estimated cost including cost of railing is \$135,000. This amount is asked for 1915.

There still remains 3,200 linear feet of wooden crib. This should also be replaced by a permanent structure. Therefore, \$155,000 is requested for 1916, and \$155,000 for 1917.

When these appropriations are granted provision will have been made to cover the cost of constructing reinforced concrete bulkhead in place of wooden crib for the entire remaining length and also for an artificial stone railing for same.

Paving 79th Street Transverse Road (No. 2).....\$60,000.00

The pavement of roadway and for that matter the sidewalks of Transverse Road No. 2 (79th Street) are beyond repair, in fact they are a menace to travel and serious accidents must occur unless a new pavement is laid.

It is the intention to properly regrade the roadway, set new curb as the old curb is practically useless and pave the roadway with the improved granite block upon a concrete foundation and relay an entire new sidewalk for the length of the roadway, to install such drainage as may be necessary and where required and thereby remedy defective conditions.

To perform the work in a manner suggested \$60,000 will be required.

Detailed estimate follows:

3,110 cu. yds. excavation in roadway at \$1.00.....	\$3,110.00
1,550 cu. yds. concrete in roadway at \$6.00.....	9,300.00
9,400 sq. yds. special granite block pavement at \$3.10.....	29,140.00
6,050 lin. ft. curb (new 5-in. bluestone throughout) at \$1.25..	7,562.00
32,700 sq. ft. new walk surface asphalt mastic at \$0.15.....	4,905.00
200 cu. yds. concrete in walk at \$8.00.....	1,600.00
16 new manhole frames and covers at \$18.00.....	288.00
Drainage.....	1,040.00
Engineering, inspection and contingencies.....	2,847.00
Total.....	\$59,792.00

The pavements of all the transverse roads are in a serious state of disrepair, which causes them to be avoided by the heavy trucking and general traffic going from one portion of the city to the other portion, which the park bisects. Traffic of this character has increased very rapidly within the last few years. Since practically all crosstown traffic



ISHAM PARK CHILDREN'S SCHOOL FARM, 212TH STREET AND BROADWAY

from the east or west sides from 59th to 110th Streets is carried by the narrow 86th Street transverse road, the situation at that point has become serious. There are two car tracks on this roadway, and many sharp curves, and the city is consequently suffering from a number of damage suits from accidents occurring in this area, not to speak of the long delay occasioned by the necessity of proceeding to 86th Street to avoid the bad pavement in the nearest transverse road. An examination of the situation will clearly prove the urgent necessity of this work which can be taken up in the near future, if authorization is granted.

Paving the Extension of Riverside Drive Between 135th and 158th Streets, with a Pavement Similar to That Laid on the Old Section of Riverside Drive Between 72nd and 113th Streets..... \$150,000.00

The total area of the roadway (that is, drive) is 50,000 square yards.

Some sections of this roadway were originally paved with a gravel wearing surface and others with a macadam surfacing. As this surfacing material began to show wear, the Park Department under the Maintenance Division began the work of surfacing the entire roadway with a sand and asphalt binder mixture. The cost of maintenance is considerable and this repair cannot be termed "permanent."

Request is made for an authorization to cover the cost of paving this roadway with an asphaltic concrete, resetting the curb, where necessary, owing to a settlement, and installing additional drainage.

The estimated cost is \$130,000 based on bids received for similar work.

The sidewalk on the westerly side of the Drive at various places between the limits mentioned has become broken, depressed and settled and its present condition is liable to cause serious accidents to pedestrians. The stone coping on the walls has become displaced at various locations and should be reset and pointed. This work cannot be classed as "repair" as the pavement referred to is beyond such treatment.

An entirely new pavement must be laid at the same time that the driveway is paved in order to safeguard the city from the possibility of damage suits.

The estimated cost for the reconstruction of the walk pavement and pointing stone work is \$20,000.

This estimate includes any expense in changing the curb to its original grade; providing top soil and transplanting trees as required.

The estimated cost per square yard is \$2.60, which includes the cost of all necessary excavation and removal of same. The laying of a 6-inch Portland cement concrete foundation and a wearing surface of 3 inches; taking up, re-dressing and re-setting of 5,500 feet of curb and installing new drainage where required and restoring defective conditions in the drainage system made by settlement. On past performances \$2.60 would appear high, but because of the long haul and expense of cartage an additional percentage is added.

Completing the Installation of a Water Supply System in Central Park..... \$25,000.00

It is difficult to understand how for many years there has remained as much area of park land in Manhattan destitute of water supply. In other sections a water supply system was partially installed, but it is not effective for lack of completing the general plant. This seems bad business for the city, inasmuch as we are annually laying thousands of square feet of sod, and spend a considerable outlay in planting trees and shrubs and other kinds of soil and grass restoration, only to be compelled to renew this work again for lack of proper watering facilities.

Under various contracts a modern water supply system was installed in certain sections of Central Park, namely, along the East Drive, along the West Drive, around the Reservoir, across the park through the Ramble, etc.

In connection with the system, laterals were laid, street washers, flush hydrants and fire hydrants were installed as were also the necessary gates, blow-offs and connections with the buildings in the park.

The request is made for an authorization of \$75,000 which is to be expended as follows:

\$25,000 in 1915
25,000 in 1916
25,000 in 1917

to cover the work of completing the installation throughout the park.

In connection with the work remaining to be done, I will state that the section of Central Park, between 104th and 110th Streets from Eighth Avenue east to the Loop of the East Drive with the exception of the main and a few hydrants is practically without water. The section west of the West Drive, between 59th and 86th Streets, is in the same condition. Laterals should be laid and flush hydrants set in the lower Ball Ground, the Lawn Tennis Ground and the sections referred to. Further sections could be mentioned if necessary.

Inasmuch as provision has been made in a tentative way to connect the park system with the Catskill Aqueduct water supply which will be completed in a short time, it is respectfully recommended that this matter receive favorable consideration.

With the authorization of the \$25,000 requested for 1915, it is the intention to install a complete water supply system between 104th and 110th Streets from 8th Avenue east to the Loop of the East Drive, in order to properly connect the system and to carry the work of such other sections as are sorely in need of an irrigating water system.

The pipe to be laid and the appurtenances and fittings to be furnished and set are shown in the following statement:

10,500 linear feet of pipe of various sizes and appurtenances..	\$20,920.00
Restoring lawn.....	2,440.00
Engineering and Inspection.....	1,168.00
Contingencies.....	472.00
	—————\$25,000.00

Restoration of Morningside Park..... \$94,500.00

Request was made through previous petitions for appropriation of funds for this purpose, and the Board of Estimate and Apportionment is well acquainted with the urgent need of funds for the restoration of Morningside Park.

It is sufficient to restate here that this park was acquired by the city at a very high cost. That it is one of the most valuable park assets from every point of view, and that unless immediate steps are taken to remedy conditions, the depreciation at this point will reach a phase where a great deal of this asset becomes a total loss through lack of conservation. Lack of landscape treatment and sufficient funds for maintenance have allowed the successive storms of many years to wash away the soil from this hillside park, so that deep gullies now exist along its entire length. The washing away of this soil has loosened the roots of the trees and shrubs, exposing them to the weather, and causing their death and destruction. The roots and the surrounding soil supporting the trees has in many cases been taken away, leaving the trees in a dangerous condition.

The item of \$94,500.00 is asked for the complete restoration of Morningside Park. It includes the re-soiling, re-grading, sodding and planting of the slopes and lawns; paving the walks where necessary. A detailed estimate of this work is as follows:

Reconstructing Exterior Walks of Morningside Park:

Excavation, 1,000 cu. yds. at \$1.25.....	\$1,250.00
Concrete, 1,350 cu. yds. at \$8.00.....	10,800.00
Wearing surface, 150,000 sq. ft. at \$0.15.....	22,500.00
	—————\$34,550.00

Constructing Permanent Walks in Place of Dirt Walks:

90,000 sq. ft. at \$0.25.....	22,500.00	22,500.00
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Laying New Asphalt Walks in Place of Old Ones, Including Excavation and Removal:

50,000 sq. ft. at \$0.20.....	10,000.00	10,000.00
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Reconstruction of Certain Sections of Drainage:

10 walk basins at \$50.00.....	\$500.00	
3 surface basins at \$75.00.....	225.00	
1,500 feet of 6, 8 and 10-in. pipe at \$2.50.....	3,750.00	
Sewer connections and incidentals.....	525.00	
		5,000.00

New Steps, Rock Plantings and Incidentals:

With this money it is the intention to furnish and set new blue stone steps, where required, and to reconstruct certain flights. To plant between 50 and 75 large rustic rocks to hold up the steep embankment or slopes along 123rd Street, Amsterdam Avenue and the westerly end of Morningside Avenue West		
	3,000.00	3,000.00

Furnishing Mould, Sod and Planting:

3,000 cu. yds. of mould at \$1.60.....	4,800.00	
200,000 sq. ft. of sod at \$0.02½.....	5,000.00	
Plants, shrubs and bushes.....	1,300.00	
Trees.....	500.00	
Labor.....	500.00	
		12,100.00

Pipe-Rail Fences:

4,000 feet at \$0.80.....	3,200.00	3,200.00
Engineering, Inspecting and Contingencies.....	4,150.00	4,150.00
		\$94,500.00

Reconstruction of Bulkhead at Thomas Jefferson Park..... \$15,815.00

The wooden crib bulkhead at Thomas Jefferson Park fronting on the East River between 111th and 114th Streets needs immediate attention, as it may fall at any time.

Some of the sections of the bulkhead have bulged, on other sections the face work has left the tenons and projected beyond the line at the top, depressions were found in the asphalt walk and other defective conditions existed.

In order to properly restore this bulkhead it will be necessary to excavate behind the existing crib, and to reconstruct the bulkhead for a height of at least 4 feet and a length of 720 feet.

The following is a detailed estimate of the work to be done:

1,730 cu. yds. of excavation and re-building at \$1.00 per cu. yd.....	\$1,730.00
11,700 sq. ft. of rock asphalt mastic pavement 1 inch wearing surface, 3 inch concrete base, and 8 inch rubble stone foundation at \$1.25.....	2,925.00
720 linear feet of crib to take down and rebuild at \$15.50.....	11,160.00
	\$15,015.00

Completing the Bulkhead at Carl Schurz Park, 86th Street, East River, and Constructing an Approach to the Southerly Section of the Park from the Esplanade at the Foot of 86th Street..... \$2,000.00

It is intended to use this appropriation to complete the work of constructing a stone bulkhead from the Dock Department property to the end of the existing bulkhead, and to construct an Approach from the foot of 86th Street at the East River to provide entrance to the southerly section of Carl Schurz Park.

To cover the expenditure \$2,000 is requested for 1915.

Completing Bulkhead.....	\$1,000.00
Constructing Approach with walk and slope treatment.....	1,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$2,000.00

Restoration of Mount Morris Park..... \$25,000.00

The slopes in this park are in very bad condition. The top soil has been almost entirely washed away as the result of years of neglect to repair the damage caused by wash-outs. This it has not been possible to do with the annual maintenance appropriation. All that the Department could do within the limits of that appropriation was to perform the ordinary maintenance work.

No private corporation would allow their plant to deteriorate in the manner here indicated, and I urge that immediate funds be provided. This park is in the midst of a neighborhood that is greatly in need of park facilities, and it is particularly important therefore that its full value be preserved.

For the restoration of Mount Morris Park the following amounts are asked:

\$25,000 in 1915
 \$25,000 " 1916
 \$20,000 " 1917

It is intended to use the \$25,000 asked for in 1915 to resoil, sod and plant the slopes in this park.

A detailed estimate of this work is as follows:

Total area considered, 220,000 square feet.	
8,200 cu. yds. of excavation at \$1.00.....	\$8,200.00
8,200 cu. yds. of mould at \$1.50.....	12,300.00
220,000 sq. ft. of sod at \$0.02.....	4,400.00
	<hr/>
	\$24,900.00

Improving Triangular Plot Between 106th and 107th Streets, West End Avenue and Broadway (Schuyler Square), Site of Straus Memorial..... \$5,500.00

The plot referred to above is Schuyler Square which has been set aside as a site for the Straus Memorial Monument.

Provisions will have to be made by the City to improve and park the space exterior to the Monument proper.

A careful estimate has been made and it is found that the sum of \$5,500 is required to construct the work on the lines and in the manner suggested by the Architect. This amount is asked for 1915.

During the previous administration the City agreed to Schuyler Square as a site for the Straus Memorial Monument. Commissioner Stover also agreed with the Committee-in-Charge, that the City would care for the improvement of the park space exterior to the monument proper. In view of the erection of the monument at this point and the necessary setting, this Square will have to be revised as to walks and planting, and to carry out the agreement to which the City has bound itself, the following request is made:

680 lin. ft. of curb to be taken up, redressed and reset on concrete base at \$0.75.....	\$510.00
Regulating and grading not included in excavation in specified items...	632.50
8,820 sq. ft. of cement walk pavement at \$0.25.....	2,205.00
570 lin. ft. of 4-in. granite edging at \$1.50.....	855.00
85 lin. ft. of 8-in. granite edging at \$2.00.....	170.00
320 cu. yds. of mold at \$1.50.....	480.00
5,800 sq. ft. of sod at \$0.03.....	174.00
110 cu. yds. of excavation in lawns (rock and earth) at \$1.25.....	137.50

18 cu. yds. of sand in sand pits at \$2.00.....	36.00
Planting.....	300.00
Total.....	<u>\$5,500.00</u>

I might add that no agreements of this character have been entered into since January 1, 1914. Since it is my policy that all associations or individuals presenting works of this character to the City should provide, as a sine qua non, additional funds to take care of the changes made necessary in providing a setting for the work of art in question.

Continuing Work of Paving Central Park Drives with a Bituminous Pavement...\$150,000.00

Road gravel as a surfacing material for the Central Park Drives has outlived its usefulness.

The traffic, and particularly the automobile traffic in Central Park in recent years, has made the maintenance cost of this type of surfacing material very high.

In 1912 an expenditure of \$100,000 was authorized by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment to provide means for repaving portions of the West Drive with a bituminous pavement. In 1913, \$100,000 additional was appropriated with which to continue the work.

The total area of Drives remaining to be paved without considering the Bolivar and McGowns Pass Tavern Plazas is 148,000 square yards. Basing the estimate of cost on past experience, the total amount of money required to complete the entire work will be \$350,000. The total area to be paved is 148,000 square yards and the estimated cost is \$2.37 per square yard.

A request is made for \$150,000 for 1915 to defray the cost of paving the East Drive of Central Park from the lower end of the Mall to the junction near 110th Street and Sixth Avenue, the total area of which is 63,000 square yards.

Deducting this area of 63,000 square yards from the total work to be done (148,000 square yards) the balance remaining to be done in 1916 and 1917 is 85,000 square yards, which it is estimated will cost \$200,000.

It is suggested that this be divided as follows:

One hundred thousand dollars to be expended in 1916 and \$100,000 in 1917.

When these requests are granted the entire Drives will be paved with a modern bituminous pavement which will withstand all traffic to which they may be subjected and the cost of maintenance will be reduced to a minimum.

Preliminary Surveys and Plans for Contemplated Improvements.....\$5,000.00

It is impossible under the present system to plan any work in advance, make preliminary studies, surveys and definite reports on any proposed work since the Engineering and Architectural force, with the exception of the Architect, Chief Engineer and Principal Assistant Engineer, are Corporate Stock employees and must be paid from a definite account for definite work on each authorized appropriation. It is impossible to prepare plans for any building or structure unless the money for same has already been appropriated.

The need for a fund from which money could be used for the preparation of preliminary plans prior to appropriations for construction in order that a definite work program may be laid out, is evident. To overcome this handicap and to provide proper means for such purposes, the sum of \$5,000 is requested.

Completing the Improvement of the Addition to Riverside Drive Between 122nd Street, Claremont Place, Claremont Avenue and Riverside Drive.....\$9,000.00

The sum of \$9,000 is asked to complete the improvement of Sakura Park which was acquired December 21, 1896.

The interior of the tract has been left unimproved since that time, despite the fact

that improvements in the neighboring property were made in view of the promised creation of a park at this point. Furthermore, lying directly east of Grant's Tomb and adjacent thereto, and near Claremont, it is unusually conspicuous a factor in Riverside Park.

The amount asked for includes the erecting of picket fences along the entire length of Claremont Avenue; the shaping of lawns where now needed east of the walks; sodding; and the building of two piers on the 122nd Street entrance. It is also intended to erect a retaining wall to hold the slope.

A detailed estimate of the work is as follows:

100 cu. yds. of rock excavation at \$3.00.....	\$300.00
1,000 cu. yds. of excavation in lawns, etc., at \$1.00.....	1,000.00
1,000 cu. yds. of mould at \$1.50.....	1,500.00
25,000 sq. ft. of sod at \$0.03.....	750.00
175 cu. yds. rubble wall to be built at \$7.00.....	1,225.00
200 lin. ft. of coping at \$1.50.....	300.00
512 lin. ft. of picket fence at \$3.00.....	1,536.00
8,200 sq. ft. rock asphalt mastic walk, on concrete base rubble stone foundation, including cost of earth and rock excavation	2,460.00
	<hr/> \$9,071.00

Complete Reconstruction of Interior of Pavilion Building at Seward Park..... \$18,000.00

The pavilion building in this park is in a very deplorable condition, and no amount of repairing will help make it serviceable. The cost of repairs to this structure annually runs up to quite a large item, and this expense will continue.

Unless extensive overhauling is done, the building will not serve the purpose for which it was originally intended. Due to improper planning and faulty construction the object has never been realized. The floor construction consists of wooden beams and rough floor, on which is placed a bed of cinders, and finished with cement or tile as the case may be. This poor construction causes all the floors to set and sag badly. The pavilion floor has settled so that the water collects in puddles and percolates through the ceilings below, causing them to fall and endangering the lives of the employees and the public on the floor below. The constant moisture in this floor has caused the wood beams to rot, and many of them are now in a dangerous condition. The present wood floor construction should be ripped out and entirely replaced with steel and concrete construction, thoroughly waterproofed. This would require the closing of the entire building to the public for some time, and provisions should be made for temporary toilet facilities. The toilet rooms need a thorough overhauling, including new fixtures, and a proper system of heating and ventilating and floor drainage. The men's toilet should be rearranged and extended to provide additional facilities, since the present number of fixtures is absolutely inadequate for the big demand. A new system of water supply, both hot and cold, should be installed, and hot water regulating valves provided at the storage tanks to prevent bathers from scalding, and avoid the waste of hot water.

The estimated cost of this overhauling (exclusive of the temporary toilet facilities).....\$18,000.00

Bow Bridge in Central Park..... \$25,000.00

The Bow Bridge in Central Park needs immediate attention. It should be rebuilt on the same lines and of a material that will endure. Plans had been prepared for its reconstruction in reinforced concrete, and had twice been submitted to and disapproved by the Art Commission in 1912, with the objection that a bridge originally designed and constructed in iron could not be reproduced in concrete. This all depends on the point of view, and personally I do not agree with the Art Commission.

Concrete is now being used to such an extent and with such success that this Department would be severely criticized if it were to rebuild Bow Bridge in cast iron. I would

suggest one change in the plans, however, and that is to substitute an artificial stone balustrade, pedestals and urns in place of the concrete, for several reasons:

Artificial stone will not show surface cracks as concrete will. It can be tooled to give any desired texture; it can be tinted in warm color, and finally will be everlasting.

As a result of the long delay caused by the indecision of the Art Commission, the appropriation of \$25,000, available for the reconstruction of the Bow Bridge, was rescinded by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment on June 5, 1913.

Improving That Portion of St. Nicholas Park Between West 128th and West 130th

Streets \$25,000.00

This land was acquired by the City on November 29, 1909, and turned over to the Park Department for improvement. The area including sidewalks is approximately 3.044 acres.

The sum of \$25,000 is asked to defray the cost of improving this section of St. Nicholas Park. At present it is absolutely unimproved. Although precautions have been taken by the City against accidents to people using this section as a thoroughfare, accidents have occurred.

Request was made some time ago to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment asking that the appropriation for improving St. Nicholas Park, between 136th and 138th Streets, St. Nicholas Terrace and Convent Avenue, be amended, so as to make it available for improving other sections of the Park. This request was returned on October 30, 1914, to the Park Department, in accordance with the resolution of the Board of Aldermen.

It is necessary at this time to grant the requested sum as the condition of the territory above referred to has been the subject for constant complaint.

Constructing a Playground Including Small Field House on Plot Between 67th

and 68th Streets and First Avenue \$35,000.00

The Commissioners of the Sinking Fund of the City of New York at a meeting held on June 25th, 1914, adopted a resolution assigning to the Department of Parks, Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond, certain property between East 67th and 68th Streets and First Avenue, in the Borough of Manhattan, turned over by the Public Recreation Commission.

There are two reasons why I urge that funds be appropriated at this point:

(1) This is one of the two remaining playground sites that are real assets to the City, because they provide enough space for intensive play activities and proportionately low expense of operation in the midst of a most congested neighborhood. In the case of this site and at Jasper Oval at St. Nicholas Park, the City already owns the land, and therefore playground relief in crowded neighborhoods can be offered at the lowest possible cost.

(2) The co-operation of the park playgrounds with the Department of Education has become of far greater importance this year than in the past, because of the necessary factor of using the park playgrounds to allow of prevocational work in the schools. This feature has great weight at this point, because of the immediate contiguity of a Public School at First Avenue and 66th Street; New York Trades School at First Avenue and 67th Street, and St. Catherine's School at First Avenue and 69th Street.

Funds are not at hand with which to prosecute the improvement of this plot for playground purposes.

The amount of \$35,000 is asked for 1915 wherewith to defray the expenses of constructing the playground, building a small field house, and the cost in detail is estimated as follows:

The work to be done under this authorization covers the excavation of earth and rock, and the removal of same; paving of sidewalks and interior walks; the construction of the playground proper and resurfacing of same; drainage and water supply; exterior and interior fences; planting of trees; mould and top soil for trees. \$25,000.00
Building a field house. 10,000.00

Total \$35,000.00

Completing Jasper Oval Playground and Erecting Field House \$40,000.00

Jasper Oval is a portion of St. Nicholas Park, bounded by West 136th Street, Convent Avenue, the grounds of the College of The City of New York and St. Nicholas Terrace.

With the \$25,000 already appropriated the work of regulating and grading in general, trenching for trees, erection of exterior picket fences and interior wire mesh fences, setting of edging and paving of sidewalk, can be prosecuted.

An additional \$15,000 is needed to complete the playground, that is, as to drainage, water supply, surfacing, laying out walks, depositing mold and planting trees and an additional \$25,000 for the construction of a Comfort Station, Field and Play House.

Purchase and Erection of Steel Frame Apparatus for Equipment of Playgrounds and Play-Lots \$10,000.00

The sum of \$10,000 is asked to supply the apparatus now lacking in the various park playgrounds and to develop play-lots, recreation piers, and also new playgrounds—for the improvement of which appropriations have been asked this year.

This amount includes the cost and erection of the apparatus shown in detail on the attached list, which is based upon the last contract with A. G. Spaulding Brothers in 1910.

This department is in frequent receipt of resolutions and memorials from taxpayers, civic neighborhood and settlement associations, urging the acquisition by the City of land for playgrounds in congested districts. I have felt in recent months that I would not be justified in favoring this movement owing to the financial condition of the City. I have made every effort to meet conditions in another way by using all the vacant play-lots, lent by real estate owners, and City property obtained and lent by other City departments, for playground purposes.

In both these cases the sites are only approved when the cost of leveling the ground requires only a small expenditure, and where the congested conditions demonstrate particularly the need of playground facilities. I was prevented from carrying out this policy properly by lack of a fund such as is herewith requested. Not only will the granting of this request enable the department to install proper apparatus at the large playgrounds developing at 67th Street and First Avenue and the Jasper Oval, but also at existing playgrounds like that of Cherry and Market Streets, which can be used more intensively with proper apparatus, and also in the play-lots and playgrounds obtained in the manner above described.

Improving Space Under Manhattan Bridge at the Foot of Cherry and Market

Streets, As a Playground and Erecting Field House \$10,000.00

This property, situated as it is in one of the densely populated sections of the City, adjacent to Public School No. 177, and fitted for no other purpose, is well situated for a playground. There is a small portion now developed for athletics, baseball, football, etc., for boys.

In this densely populated neighborhood play space is badly needed. As the City already owns the property at Cherry and Market Streets, the development of the whole of this site as a playground in the manner outlined below will furnish a great playground asset for this section.

Ten thousand dollars is asked for. This would develop the remainder of the playground including football and baseball field for the neighborhood, space for a girls' and little children's playground and would provide for the erection of a small field house.

A detailed estimate of this work is as follows:

Regulating and grading remainder of playground	\$2,200.00	
Erection of fence	800.00	
Erection of small field house	7,000.00	
		<hr/> \$10,000.00

3—RECOMMENDATION REGARDING PUBLIC BATHS AND COMFORT STATIONS:

During the year the Department was forced to close the men's comfort station at Madison Square Park, and those at Canal Street and Grand Street Parks. The Board of Estimate had not acted favorably on the Department requests for repair funds. These three places had been condemned by the Department of Health as objectionable on both sanitary and moral grounds. The structures at Canal and Grand Streets were dismantled and the sites converted to other uses.

Early in the year the Architect of the Department who has the maintenance of buildings under his charge was directed to make a study and report of the comfort station situation. The results showed clearly that faulty planning is in evidence and that too frequently have comfort stations been erected haphazard, without due consideration of the relative needs of different sections and the relative distance between the various comfort stations. It seems reasonably clear that there should be devised a new small type of comfort station for such districts as along the West Street water-front and that this type and the larger type be then standardized so as to reduce their construction cost to a minimum. The whole City should then be mapped out so that it can be exactly determined what kind and at what points new comfort stations should be placed, and the order of their immediate importance. This could be done by general conference of those Departments including the Park Department who now have comfort station management under their control.

The several requests for comfort stations hereinafter mentioned in the appendix are only those representing the most immediate needs and for which an early appropriation is asked:

Comfort Station, Madison Square Park..... **\$30,000.00**

The present conveniences, which consist of a small frame building, containing a woman's toilet on the main story and a man's toilet in the basement, have for years past been a constant source of complaint both from the public and the Board of Health.

On several occasions during the last year, after conference with the Board of Health, the men's toilet has been closed, but the nature of the ground and the continuous conditions of seepage for years has made any repair of doubtful profit and short duration.

The situation at the Madison Square comfort station is undoubtedly serious, both from the view-point of health and morals, and something should be done at once to remedy the situation. The structure is beyond improvement and is a disgrace to the community. It is a question at the present time whether or not it should be closed on account of its unsanitary condition. A new building has been the subject of consideration for more than twelve years. Ten years ago plans were prepared for a building in this park, and an appropriation of \$18,000 made therefor. The Art Commission rejected the plans, and additional appropriations for this new building have been sought for without results in the following years.

A new comfort station should be erected just north of the present one, and built entirely underground, except for some modest treatment of the superstructure, in which can be located the stairways leading to the comfort station, ventilating shaft and smoke flue. Madison square is one of the most prominent squares in the City, and any building erected there should serve as a model. •

The following are the toilet facilities required:

Women's Comfort Station:	12 water closets
	4 wash basins
	1 slop sink
Men's Comfort Station:	12 water closets
	15 urinals
	3 wash basins
	1 slop sink

The estimated cost of a structure of this character would be..... **\$30,000.00**

Comfort Station in Union Square Park.....\$35,000.00

A new comfort station should be erected in Union Square to replace the present old and unsanitary frame structure in that park. The new building shall be entirely underground, and so designed as to provide toilet facilities for men and women, together with the necessary tool room, office, attendants' rooms, boiler and coal rooms.

This park is one of the most important centres of the City, traversed by more people than any other park, and any structure erected there should be a standard of utility, design and construction.

The situation in regard to the sanitary conditions in the comfort station at Union Square Park is not as acute or as serious as Madison Square, but it is imperative that appropriation should be made and a new comfort station erected at Union Square, to replace the old unsanitary frame structure.

Within a few months the subway contractors will be restoring this park, including work to be done around the present comfort station. From every point of view it is therefore desirable that a comfort station be built at the same time as the general restoration of the park.

The following are the toilet facilities required:

Women's Comfort Station:

- 12 water closets
- 4 wash basins
- 1 slop sink

Men's Comfort Station:

- 12 water closets
- 15 urinals
- 3 wash basins
- 1 slop sink

Estimated cost of a structure of this character.....\$35,000.00

New Comfort Station in the Mall, Central Park.....\$25,000.00

There are no comfort station facilities in the vicinity of the Mall, Central Park, at the present time. The nearest comfort station in the central part of the park is the Ramble, on the 79th Street Transverse Road; eastern part of the park—the Arsenal, 64th Street and 5th Avenue; western part of the park—8th Avenue and 64th Street; there is also a small comfort station for women only at Conservatory Lake on the east side of the park at 77th Street.

The Mall is one of the most frequented parts of the park and particularly so during the summer time when band concerts are given at this point. This comfort station would provide for badly needed facilities in this section of the park.

The following are the toilet facilities contemplated:

Women's Comfort Station:

- 12 water closets
- 4 wash basins
- 1 slop sink

Men's Comfort Station:

- 12 water closets
- 15 urinals
- 3 wash basins
- 1 slop sink

The estimated cost of this structure is \$25,000.00.

4—RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING STREET AND PARK TREE WORK:

Street and park tree work as already stated in another part of this report this Department strongly advocates.

Recommendations:

b (2) The employment of a forester or chief arboriculturist, who with expert experience could study and eliminate those conditions which are rapidly killing the trees and making New York a treeless city.

In order to prove that trees in city streets can only be successfully planted and maintained when the initiative is taken by the City, this Department will ask in 1915 for an appropriation of \$25,000 for the planting of trees in City streets:

Trees in City Streets.....\$25,000.00

The Borough of Manhattan with its many miles of streets and avenues, many of which are by reason of their width splendidly suited for tree planting, has very few trees.

This appropriation is requested in order to begin at once on a comprehensive and rational system of tree-planting. Furthermore, the number of such trees as are in residential districts is being rapidly decreased. In 1913 New York City lost 1,500 more trees than were planted, due to death and disease. For replacement at the present time it is necessary to depend on individual property owners, and in these rare cases it is difficult to secure from the private nursery man an agreement to employ proper planting conditions, sufficient area in the sidewalk, etc. The result is that a great deal of waste money has been spent in planting trees that only live a season, an expenditure which could be much more to the advantage of the City, if put to some other use.

It is difficult to obtain sufficient interest on the part of a great number of the citizens to plant trees themselves, because of conditions in Manhattan where the majority of people live in apartments, tenements or rented houses. The owner who does not live on the premises will not plant trees on his property, and it does not often happen that the tenant will plant trees on property he does not own. If there is a desire to improve the tree situation in city streets, the City must take the initiative. If the work can be done by the Park Department as is provided in most of the cities of this country, it will be possible to secure tree holes with sufficient size. They can be filled with the proper kind of mould, the surrounding pavements properly treated, tree guards provided, etc. Above all, proper gratings introduced which will furnish apertures of sufficient size to admit light, air and moisture to the tree, without interfering with pedestrian traffic or cleaning operations of the property owner.

It is intended to plant trees in such avenues and residence streets where the width of the sidewalk and traffic conditions will permit.

To do the work properly tree holes of sufficient size must be dug and filled with good garden mould, sidewalk pavements must be trimmed, tree guards provided and where pedestrian traffic is considerable the tree plots must be covered by gratings.

Favorable action on this request would be a great step towards the adoption of a comprehensive rational system of street tree planting. The first year several stretches of streets could be planted with different varieties of trees known to be suitable for this kind of planting, and a comparison made of their suitability for New York City conditions.

The above mentioned facts and requests are submitted to citizens and taxpayers of the Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond in order that they may be thoroughly familiar with the needs of the Park Department. The co-operation of all citizens and taxpayers is heartily welcomed. It is only with such co-operation and a thorough understanding of the situation on their part that this Department can successfully administer the public property under its jurisdiction.

E—ACCOUNTING FUNCTIONS*Bureau of Audit and Accounts—Records and Cost Accounting:*

When the present administration was installed in the Park Department, it was found that the various accounting functions were distributed throughout the Department, thereby causing a very badly organized condition.

Without any recognized head the Divisions were as follows:

- 1—Bookkeeping
- 2—Payroll
- 3—Expense Accounting
- 4—Inspection of Stores

In addition to the foregoing it was ascertained that various duplications of work existed in accounting in the office of the Superintendent of Parks.

In May, 1914, there was appointed a Chief Clerk and Auditor for the purpose of centralizing the accounting system of the Department on a business basis. All these functions have since been centralized under one heading, thus creating a uniformity of action which will result in a proper system of accounting, and in a more satisfactory audit of claims.

The inventory of stores has been perfected. The expense accounting has been brought almost up to date. The reduction of the number of store rooms will be accomplished next year, and it is expected that before the close of 1915 the number of store rooms will be reduced so as to have more perfect control of the stores. With this end in view, it is expected to see a large store room in the place now occupied by the stables at the 86th Street Transverse Road. This store room will take the place of the smaller store rooms located at various points.

In this connection, in the practice of economy, it is anticipated that the services of at least three men now employed in the Department at accounting work will be available for clerical services other than accounting work to which men are now improperly assigned.

The general idea of the centralization of accounts gives the administrative head more perfect control.

There is shown as Appendix C a financial summary for 1914, with the following statements:

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E. *Accounting Functions*

1—Centralization of Accounting Functions Resulting in Creation of Bureau of Audit and Accounts

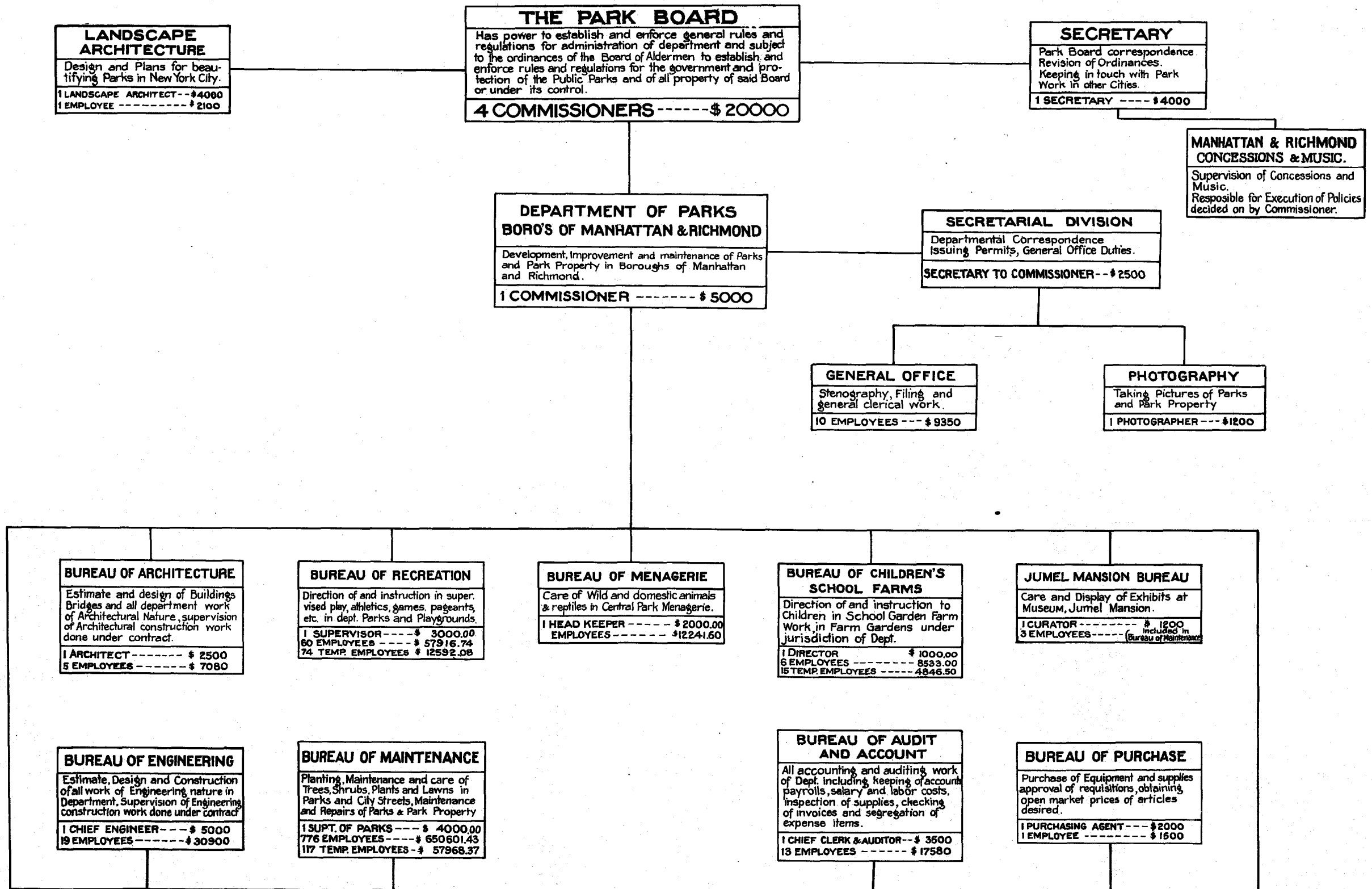
1—DESCRIPTION SUPPLEMENTING GRAPHIC CHART:

(a) *Park Board:* (see page 71 of this report for organization and duties)

The Park Board by provision of the City Charter employs a Landscape Architect, whose assent is requisite for all plans, work or changes respecting the conformation, development or ornamentation of any of the parks, squares or public places of the city. The Landscape Architect is required to submit upon the request of any of the Park Com-

ORGANIZATION CHART

DEPT. OF PARKS, BOROUGH'S OF MANHATTAN & RICHMOND.



missioners any plans for works or changes thereof respecting the parks, parkways, squares or public places of the city. The salary of the Landscape Architect is not fixed by law but at the present time is \$4,000 per annum. The Landscape Architect has a topographical draftsman to assist him.

Revision of Park Ordinances:

The ordinances, rules and regulations of the Department of Parks were revised and codified in 1914. During a period of years there had been no revision of the ordinances. Additions and amendments had been made. Certain provisions had become obsolete or inadequate. The new parts had not been printed and few available copies were extant, so that after their enactment they were not available for the use of the park force, the police or the magistrates. As they stood they were not uniform in arrangement with other city ordinances.

The general revision and codification of the whole body of city ordinances gave the Park Board the occasion and the opportunity to take up this work. The ordinances were made the subject of special discussion at several meetings of the Board. Dead wood was cut out. Certain provisions for park protection were strengthened. Other sections were made more definite and certain. The work of redrafting the ordinances into the form of the code was delegated to the Secretary of the Park Board, who attended sessions of the Aldermanic Committee on codification and worked in connection with the Corporation Counsel's office.

Prior to the amendment and revision of the ordinances, the Park Departments of the principal cities of the country were requested to send copies of their regulations. Advice and statements of experience on this subject were also requested. A great mass of material was obtained which proved of much assistance.

(b) Duties of Park Commissioners:

Under the Charter each Commissioner shall have charge of the management and be responsible for the care of all such parks, parkways, squares and public places as are situated in the borough or boroughs over which he has jurisdiction and of the streets and avenues immediately adjoining same. It is the duty of each Park Commissioner, subject to such general rules and regulations and in conformity therewith, to maintain the beauty and utility of all such parks, squares and public places as are situated within his jurisdiction, and to institute and execute all measures for the improvement thereof for ornamental purposes and for the beneficial uses of the people of the City.

It is the duty of the Commissioner of Parks, Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond, to maintain in Central Park the Meteorological and Astronomical Observatory, the Museum of Natural History, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art; and to maintain in Battery Park the Aquarium. The Commissioner has the power to appoint such superintendents, engineers, subordinates, clerks and assistants as may be necessary for the efficient performance of the duties of the Department respecting the parks, squares and public places within his jurisdiction.

(c) Department Organization, Department of Parks, Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond:

The Department of Parks for the Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond is divided into nine Bureaus:

Bureau of Maintenance	Bureau of Children's School Farms
Bureau of Engineering	Jumel Mansion Bureau
Bureau of Architecture	Bureau of Purchase
Bureau of Recreation	Bureau of Audit and Accounts
Bureau of Menagerie	

BUREAU OF MAINTENANCE

The Superintendent of Parks is in charge of the laboring, mechanical and gardening force of the Department, and is charged with responsibility for the general maintenance in the Department of Parks, Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond.

Laboring Force:

The laboring force is divided into twenty-eight sections, each (section) in charge of a section foreman, who is immediately responsible for the work of the laborers under his jurisdiction. There is an average of about 12 to 14 laborers in each section. There are two general foremen, one in charge of all foremen in the territory south of 59th Street and the other in charge of all foremen in the territory north of 59th Street.

Mechanical Force:

The mechanical force is under the immediate supervision of the Assistant Superintendent of Parks, who has his headquarters in the Department Shops in Central Park. The Assistant Superintendent has general charge of the painters, carpenters, machinists, electricians, plumbers and masons and also the shop labor force. There are a foreman-painter, foreman-carpenter, foreman-machinist, foreman-electrician, and plumber-in-charge, and foreman-mason, in immediate charge of their respective functions; climbers and pruners under the immediate charge of the foreman-gardeners and arboriculturists, who in turn look for guidance to the Superintendent of Parks, working in conjunction with the Landscape Architect of the Park Board and the Bureau of Engineering.

BUREAU OF ENGINEERING

The Bureau of Engineering is responsible for the planning and executing of construction work of the Department, including bridge building, construction of roadways and pavements, installation of water supply, sewer and drainage systems, construction of seawalls; bulkheads; reinforced concrete and heavy retaining walls; lay-out and construction of playgrounds; and park work in general.

The Chief Engineer has general supervision over the work of the engineering bureau. In addition to the Chief Engineer there are:

Principal

1 Assistant Engineer	3 Rodmen
3 Assistant Engineers	6 Axemen
1 Mechanical Engineer	1 Topographical Draftsman
2 Transit Men	1 Inspector of Masonry

BUREAU OF ARCHITECTURE

In charge of the Bureau of Architecture is the Architect of the Department, who is responsible for the design, supervision and erection of all departmental work of an architectural nature; for the care and alteration of park buildings and comfort stations; who advises on the care and upkeep of monuments and memorials in the parks of Manhattan and Richmond. In the Bureau of Architecture there are:

- 2 Architectural Draftsmen
- 2 Inspectors of Masonry

BUREAU OF RECREATION

In charge of the Bureau of Recreation is the Supervisor of Recreation who administers and directs all playground work in the fifty-five playgrounds and piers under the jurisdiction of the Department. He is assisted by a Field Staff consisting of 4 men and 4 women, who are playground attendants detailed for inspection purposes. The number of playground attendants in immediate charge of the respective playgrounds varies from 60 in winter to 130 in summer.

BUREAU OF MENAGERIE

The Bureau of Menagerie is in charge of a Head Keeper assisted by twelve keepers.

BUREAU OF CHILDREN'S SCHOOL FARMS

In charge of the Bureau of Children's School Farms is the Director of School Farms, who prescribes and administers all work in School Farm Gardens. The Director is assisted by

- 1 Assistant Director
- 2 Head Attendants
- 3 to 17 School Farm Attendants

BUREAU OF PURCHASE

The Bureau of Purchase is in charge of the Purchasing Agent of the Department, who issues all contract and open market orders, approves requisitions before such requisitions are signed by the Commissioner of Parks, obtains prices on requisitions to be purchased on open market orders. He is assisted by 1 clerk, in preparing purchase orders and prices.

BUREAU OF AUDIT AND ACCOUNTS

The Bureau of Audit and Accounts is under the direction of the Chief Clerk and Auditor, who is responsible for the entire accounting and auditing work of the Department. He also has charge of the storehouses. The Chief Clerk and Auditor is assisted by a staff of

- 10 Senior Clerks
- 1 Junior Clerk
- 1 Storekeeper
- 2 Storekeeper's Helpers

2—SUPERVISION METHODS:

(a) *Written Reports:*

TIME REPORTS

Time reports are required by the Bureau of Maintenance, Bureau of Recreation and Bureau of Children's School Farms of all employees who are engaged in field work. In the Bureau of Maintenance:—Foremen in charge of the various sections are required to submit a daily report of all men under their jurisdiction. Each report shows the name, title and salary rate of each employee, the time employee started and quit work, and the exact nature of the work on which he was engaged. These reports are forwarded daily by the foremen to the Superintendent of Parks, and after approval by said official, are sent to the Bureau of Audit and Accounts, where the information is used in the expense accounting and segregation of costs of each class and character of work. The information on this report is also taken off by the Superintendent of Parks for the necessary operative data of the force under his jurisdiction.

In the Bureau of Recreation:—Time reports are required of all playground attendants which are kept by members of the field staff of this Bureau, and after being approved by the Supervisor of Recreation are sent to the Bureau of Audit and Accounts.

In the Bureau of Children's School Farms:—Time reports of School Farm Attendants are sent to the Director of this Bureau and then forwarded to the Bureau of Audit and Accounts.

(b) *Personal Visits to Work:*

All chiefs of divisions who have employees in the field make almost daily inspection trips of the work in their charge.

The Superintendent of Parks in his inspection trips sees the various foremen in charge of sections and confers with each one on the status of work in his section.

The Supervisor of Recreation and his field inspection staff cover daily all playgrounds in order that the quality and quantity of work of the playground attendants may be checked up.

The Chief Engineer makes periodical inspections of construction both by departmental labor and under contract.

(c) *Conferences:*

In order to co-ordinate the work of the several divisions, conferences are held between the Commissioner of Parks and the various bureau heads. It is found that these conferences are very valuable in acquainting the administrative head with a status of the work in each respective bureau.

(c) 2—PARKS, PARKWAYS AND BOULEVARDS:

New Construction, Additions and Improvements:

(a) *Acquisition:*

No acquisitions of park territory were made during 1914 in Manhattan and Richmond.

(b) *Construction and Improvements:*

The following construction work was done by the Department of Parks during the year 1914:

1. Constructing a reinforced concrete bulkhead to take the place of the old wooden bulkhead along the river bank of the Harlem River Speedway.
2. Completing work of constructing a playground on Amsterdam Avenue between 151st and 152nd Streets.
3. Surfacing tennis courts in Central Park and laying new drainage for same.
4. Constructing a service road and appurtenances from Fifth Avenue and 84th Street to the buildings of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.
5. Repairs to roadway pavements of avenues, streets and public places. During the year 1914 only 241 square yards of sheet asphalt were laid, due to the fact that this Department was not allowed funds for this work in the budget and was forced to make request for an issue of corporate stock to defray the cost of new constructing and repaving park roadways and drives.
6. Repairs to walk pavements in Central and other city parks. During the year 1914, 11,430 square feet of rock asphalt mastic pavement with one inch wearing surface, and 35 yards of Portland cement concrete foundation were laid.
7. Reclamation of land under water west of the New York Central right-of-way between 72nd and 129th Streets and North River.
8. Connecting water supply system installed in the 79th Street Yard, Central Park to the street mains.

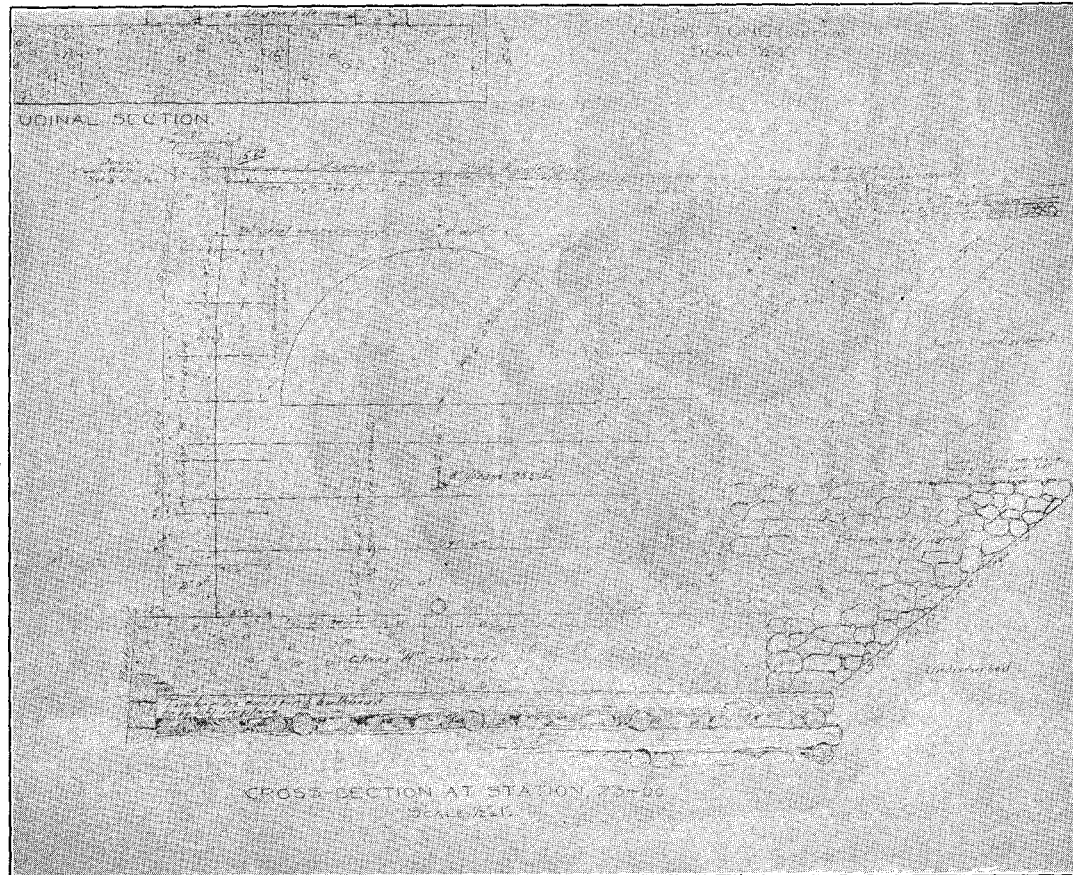
Among the construction work done in 1914 there were three pieces of work of engineering interest, already stated in this report, both because of the type of construction used and because of the difficult and interesting problems met.

REINFORCED CONCRETE BULKHEAD, PUBLIC DRIVEWAY

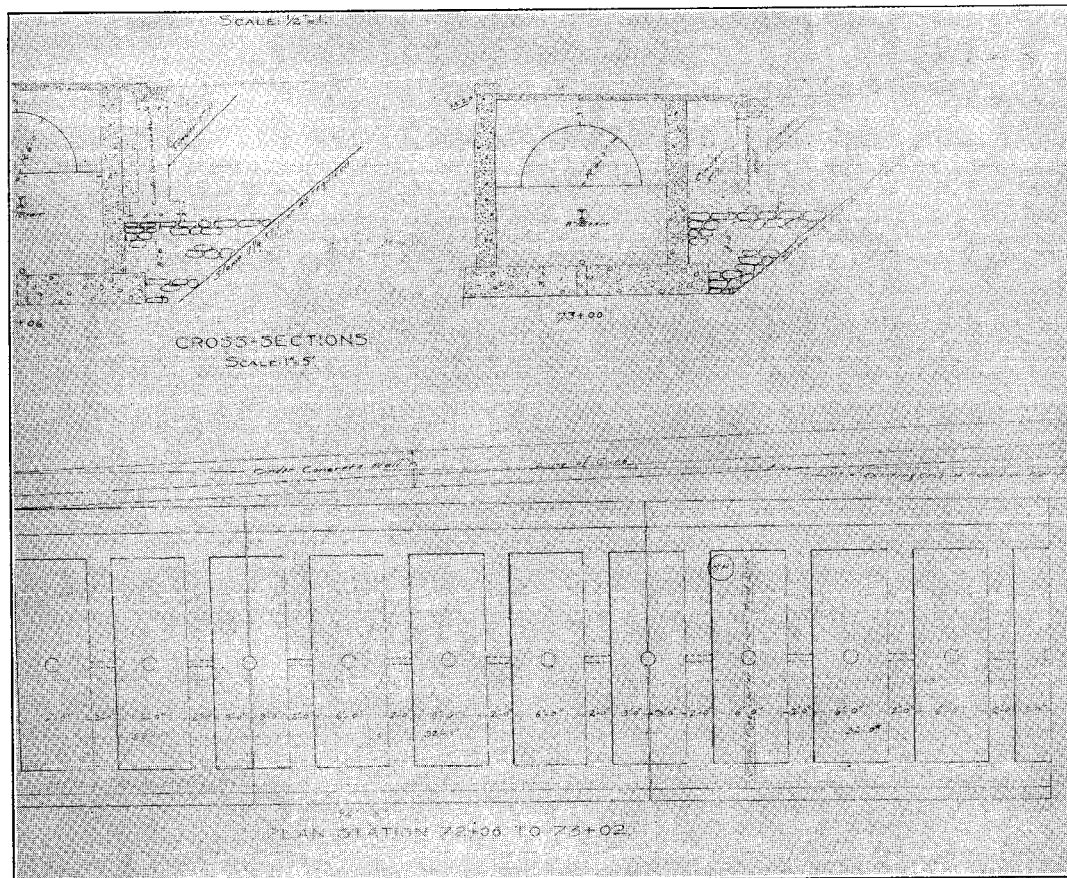
During the early part of January, 1914, the Park Department executed a contract covering the construction of a concrete bulkhead along the easterly boundary of the Public Driveway where required between 174th Street and 183d Street, in the Borough of Manhattan, The City of New York. Work on the same was begun as soon as weather conditions permitted. The work embraced in this contract was the continuation of similar work under a previous contract.

In the narrative section of the Park Department report for 1914, the location of the Harlem River Driveway, its origin and original completion have been mentioned.

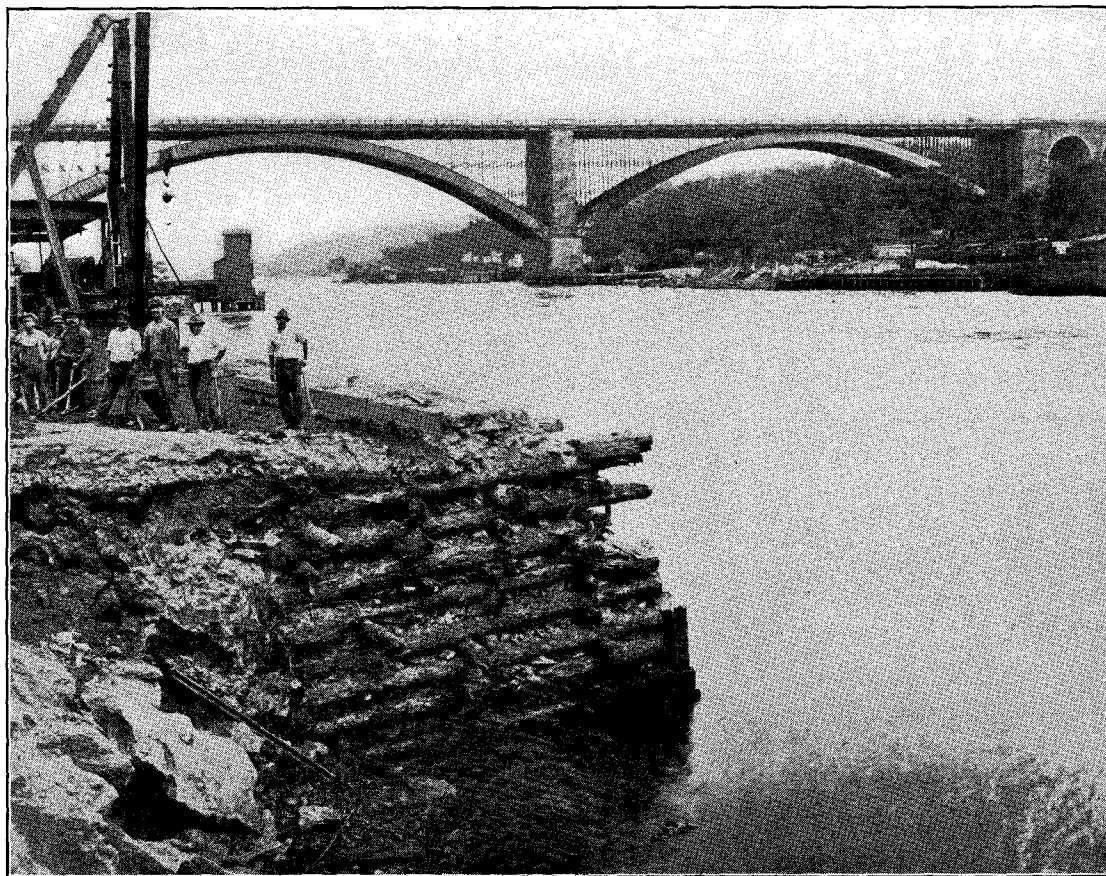
It may be of more than passing interest in a professional way to describe the construction of the concrete bulkhead in detail and to touch on conditions as found and the problems



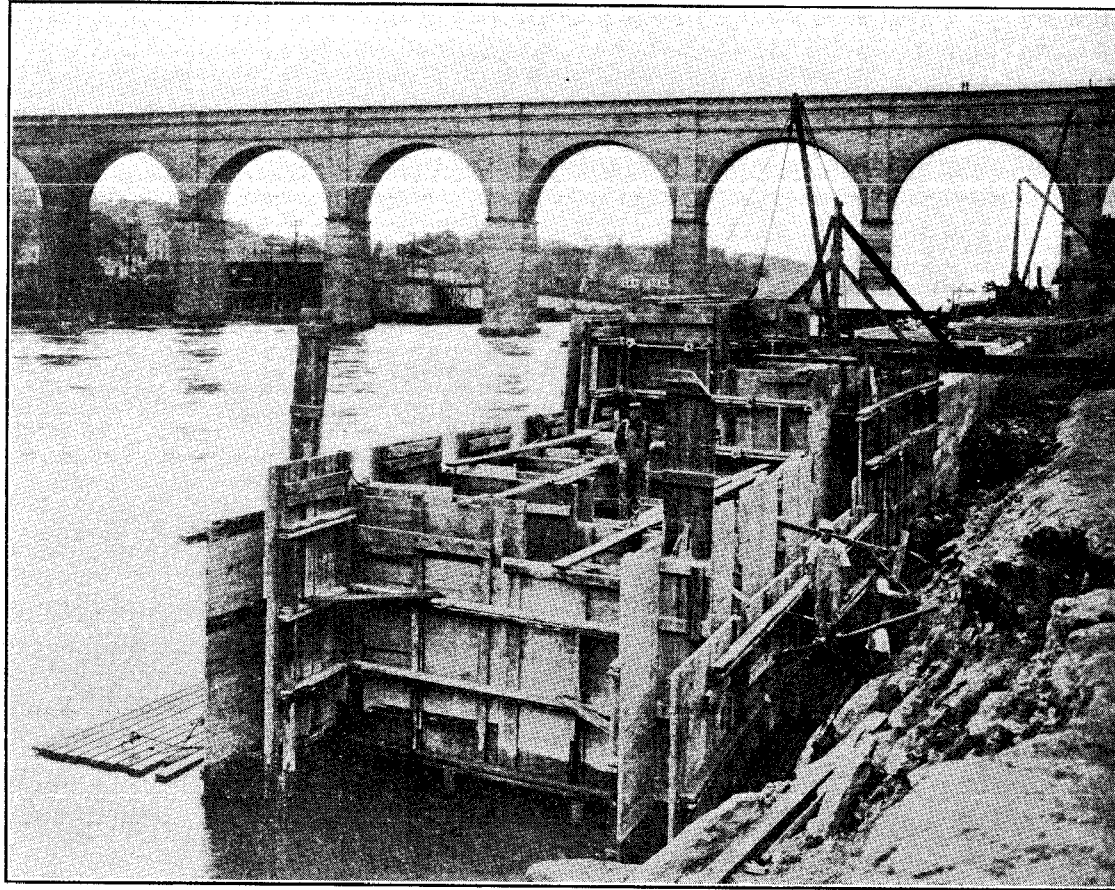
HARLEM RIVER DRIVEWAY. CROSS-SECTION SHOWING MONOLITH OF CONCRETE OVER EXISTING CRIB BULKHEAD FOUNDATION AND GENERAL WALL CONSTRUCTION AND REINFORCEMENTS



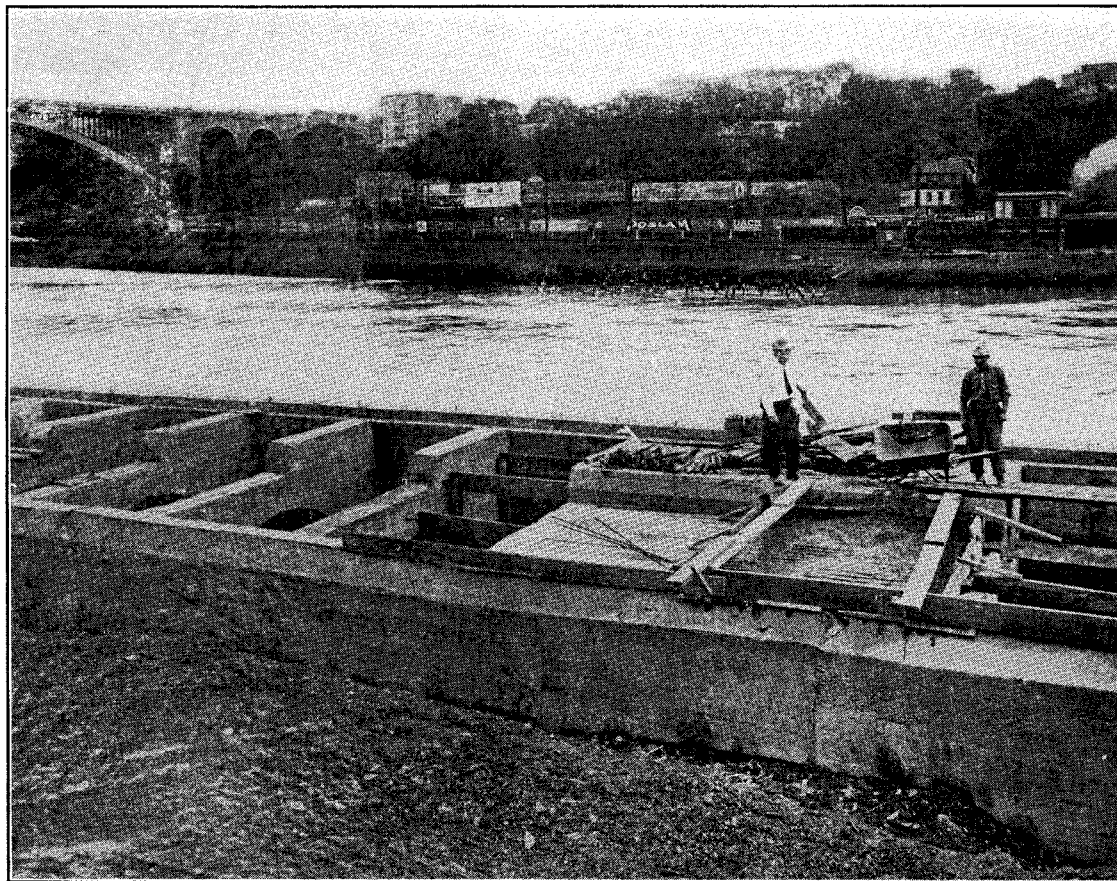
HARLEM RIVER DRIVEWAY. PLAN AND TYPICAL CROSS-SECTIONS REINFORCED CONCRETE CELLULAR CONSTRUCTION



HARLEM RIVER DRIVEWAY. ORIGINAL CONSTRUCTION OF WOODEN CRIB BULKHEAD



HARLEM RIVER DRIVEWAY. WOODEN FORMS READY TO RECEIVE CONCRETE



HARLEM RIVER DRIVEWAY. COMPLETED CONCRETE WALLS

which had to be met and solved in connection with a permanent structure which was to take the place of the wooden crib bulkhead which had failed.

At the time the bulkhead was originally constructed about 2200 linear feet of the same was of a stone construction in the shape of a retaining wall. This was found in good condition. The remaining length, a little over 6000 feet, was of a wooden construction, crib work and face timbers. The appropriation covering the original construction made previous to 1894 was insufficient to construct a permanent structure for the entire length. The stone bulkhead or permanent structure was built where rock formations were found. On the other sections where the wooden crib bulkhead was constructed, the mud was dredged out to hard bottom and cribs constructed of timbers or crib logs longitudinally and latitudinally in box form. These were floated in place and gradually sunk by filling the chambers with stone. After these cribs, which varied in depth from 16 to 25 feet and over in certain sections, had been carried up to mean low water line and settled in place, a wooden crib bulkhead constructed of latitudinal and longitudinal timbers or crib logs spiked together and faced with square timbers 10 by 12 inches was set on the top of the crib foundation above referred to and filled with riprap stone. This wooden crib was carried to finished grade. The face timbers were spiked together and were attached to the crib by means of tenons at regular spaces in the crib logs. In time these dovetails or tenons rotted and the face work, which varied in height from 10 to 27 feet, dropped into the river carrying with it considerable of the crib fill. An examination revealed the fact that the crib logs were found to be fairly good between mean high and low water, above this they were rotted to a degree which would make them useless.

As the Engineering Bureau had been instructed to prepare a design and contract for what is known as a permanent structure and not to consider the rebuilding of a wooden crib bulkhead, the problem which had to be solved was the devising of a scheme or construction which would not be heavier per square foot on the crib foundation than the original construction as it was not deemed advisable to excavate and remove the crib foundation, which, in the opinion of the Engineer, had reached its ultimate settlement and which was solid as it was under water. Aside from this a new foundation of concrete and masonry to take the place of the old wooden crib foundation, if it were removed, would probably add one million dollars or more to the cost.

Careful calculations were made and it was found that by adopting the reinforced concrete cellular construction as shown on the drawings attached hereto, the weight which the old foundations would have to support would be less than that of the original construction and it was considered sound engineering judgment to recommend the adoption of this construction.

The new construction provided for the laying of a monolith of concrete, three feet deep, over the entire crib foundation. On the top of this monolith of concrete, the reinforced concrete walls were built, spaced in such a manner that the thrust would be carried to spread over the entire foundation.

The construction of these walls with their reinforcements and schemes to reduce weight is fully shown on the drawings above referred to.

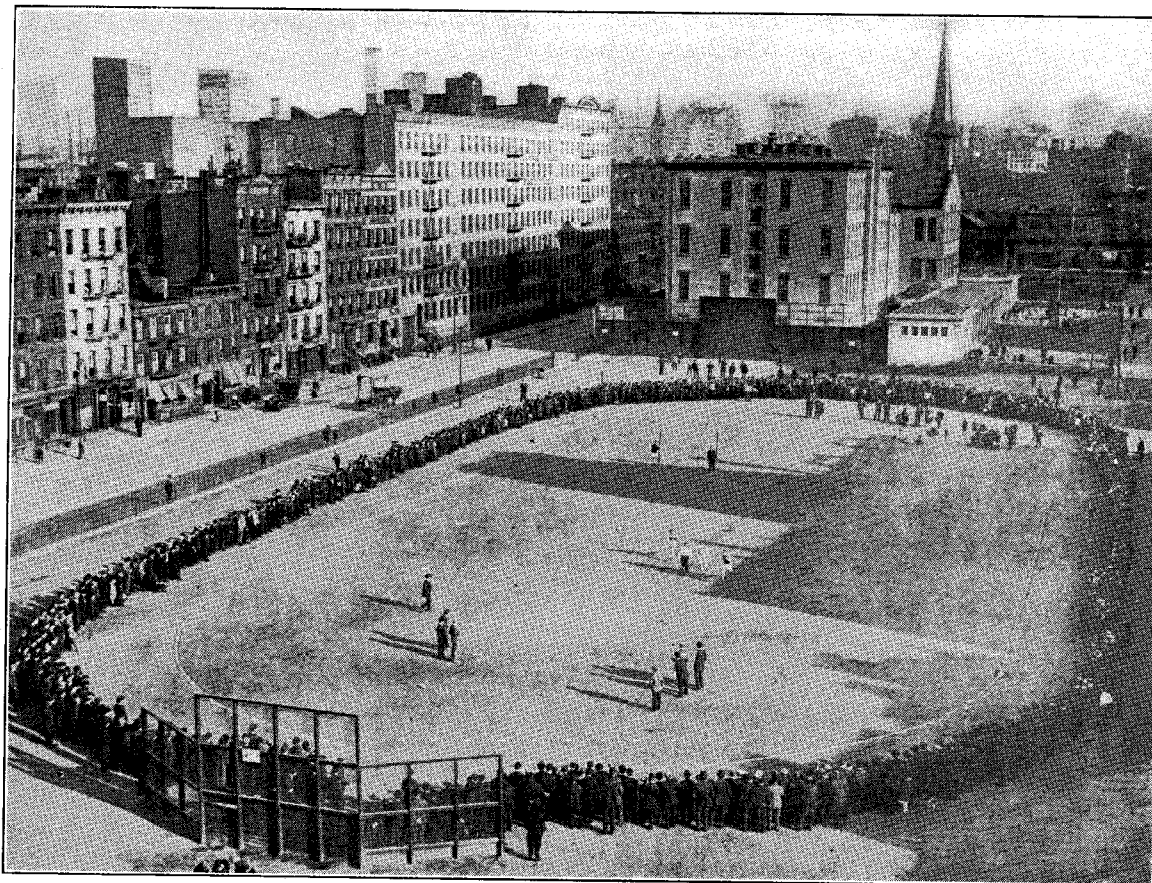
On the top of these walls a reinforced concrete sidewalk was laid which was surfaced with rock asphalt mastic. New curbs were set in concrete and the necessary drainage was provided for.

Special attention is called to the weep holes left in the monolith of concrete. Through these weep holes the tide rises and falls in the cells and by this means uneven pressure is guarded against. All these details are shown on drawings submitted herewith.

Levels have frequently been taken on the new structure since its erection not alone on the 1914 contract but on the 1912 contract as well and it is found that practically no settlement has taken place. Where a slight settlement has been found it is due to compaction of materials.

Work on the contract above referred to was practically completed in 1914.

To erect a permanent structure to take the place of the wooden crib on the remaining



ATHLETIC MEET AT CHELSEA PARK PLAYGROUND, SUNDAY AFTERNOON

portions of the bulkheads will require an expenditure of \$445,000. This will include the cost of constructing an artificial stone railing on the granite coping.

Application has been made for this appropriation.

PLAYGROUND ON THE EASTERLY SIDE OF AMSTERDAM AVENUE BETWEEN 151ST AND 152ND STREETS

During the latter part of 1913 a contract was entered into covering the construction of a playground on the easterly side of Amsterdam Avenue, between 151st and 152nd Streets, in the Borough of Manhattan, The City of New York. The work was fully completed in 1914.

The area of this playground is a little less than 0.6 of an acre.

Title to this plot of ground was vested in the city many years ago, but it was not until the latter part of 1913 that funds were available with which to improve the same. .142 acres was under the jurisdiction of the Park Department and .432 under the jurisdiction of the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity. By mutual agreement the total area was laid out as a playground divided into two sections, the smaller section for the use of little children and the other section as a play field for larger children.

In connection with this playground a field house was erected.

After the area of the playground had been regulated and graded to subgrade 10 inches below finished grade and thoroughly compacted by ramming and rolling, broken stone was spread over the same to a depth of six inches and the surfacing material was spread and rolled to final compaction. This surfacing material was composed of fine gravel, known as Park Department standard bridle road gravel, clean steam cinders and clay. These ingredients were thoroughly mixed in the proportion of $1\frac{1}{2}$ parts of gravel, 1 part of steam cinders and $\frac{1}{2}$ part of clay. (In future construction it is recommended that less steam cinders be used and more clay, say one to one.) The entire playground area was sub-drained by means of a tile drainage system laid in a manner shown on plan and sections transmitted herewith.

Low walls surmounted with a granite coping and wrought iron picket fence were constructed to surround the playground and enclose the same. Where possible, concrete seats were constructed inside and adjacent to these walls.

A new cement sidewalk was laid exterior to the playground and in the playground in front of the field house. The sidewalk was constructed as follows:

The area was regulated to a subgrade 12 inches below finished grade. A foundation of rubblestone from 2 to 8 inches in thickness and width was laid. These stones were placed in the walk compactly by hand. Upon this foundation 3 inches of concrete base and 1 inch finishing layer of pavement was laid. The concrete in base was mixed in the proportion of one part of Portland cement to two parts of clean, sharp sand and five parts of broken stone, the latter known as $\frac{3}{4}$ inch. The wearing surface, one inch thick, which was applied to the concrete base before the same had set, was mixed in the proportion of one part of Portland cement to two parts of crushed granite of the fineness directed.

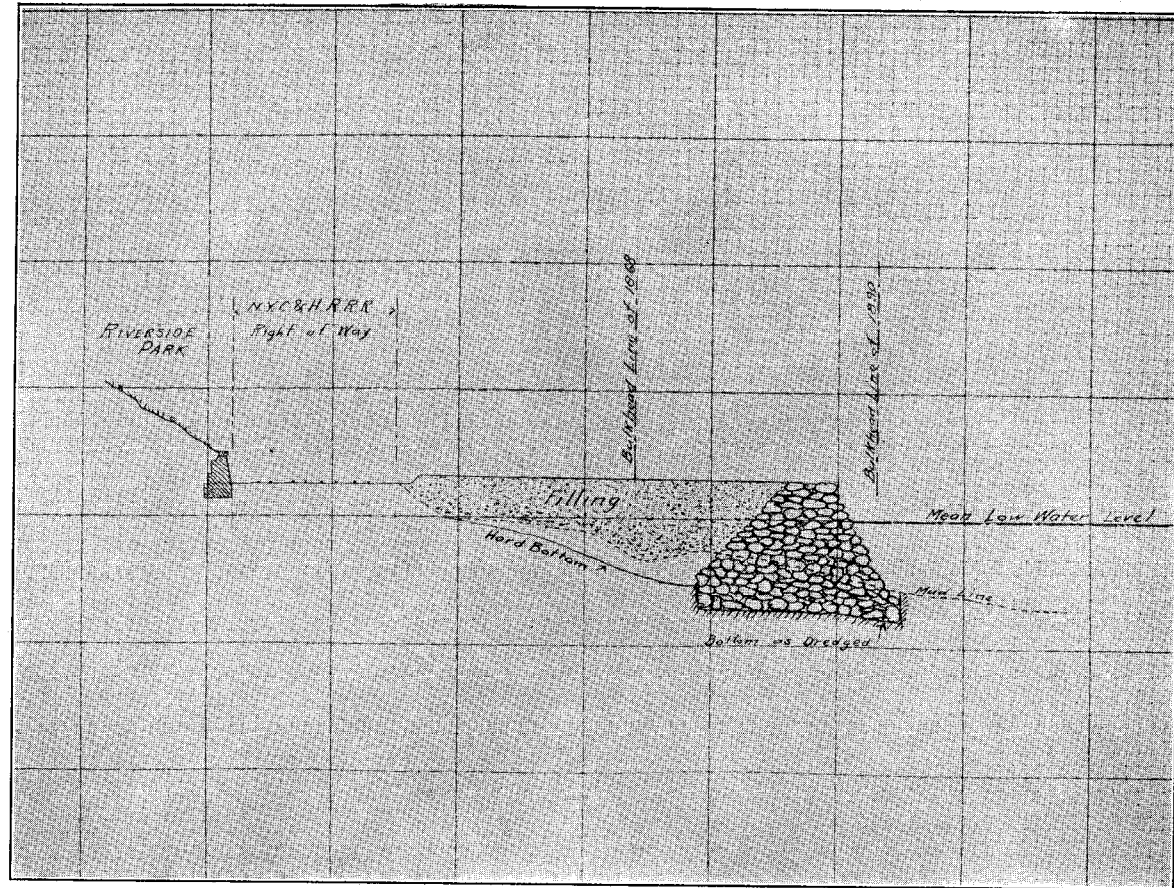
In connection with the playground an irrigating or water supply system was installed and a surface drainage system was constructed.

Fresh garden mold and fertilizer was placed around the trees after the rough material had been excavated.

Playground apparatus was installed and the playground opened to the public.

RIVERSIDE PARK EXTENSION RECLAMATION OF LAND

In connection with the work of reclaiming land under water in the Extension of Riverside Park, between 72nd and 129th Streets, the work of depositing rock and earth filling in place between the Railroad Right of Way and a line inside the bulkhead line established in 1868, was continued in 1914. About six acres of land was reclaimed in 1914.



RIVERSIDE PARK EXTENSION. TYPICAL SECTION OF RIPRAP BULKHEAD AND FILL BETWEEN RAILROAD RIGHT OF WAY AND BULKHEAD LINE

Careful estimates were made and it was found that the cost of constructing a permanent bulkhead on the 1868 line would be practically prohibitive.

The Park Department, in order to avail itself of the opportunity of obtaining fill, rock and earth, free of cost, proceeded with the work in the following manner:

The river mud was excavated by dredging to solid bottom on a line as near the 1868 bulkhead line as possible and permits were issued covering the construction of a pyramidal form of rock fill. The widths at the base of this fill varied in proportion to the depth from mean high water. After this rock fill had been completed for a certain length, permits were issued covering the depositing of earth and rock from the Railroad Right of Way out-shore to the same. The entire work was carried well above mean high water and considerable park land has been made, in all about 17 acres, of which 7 were made in 1914.

It will be seen that this reclamation of land has been practically free of cost to the City of New York.

After this rock fill built in pyramidal shape has reached its ultimate settlement and compaction, a low retaining wall may be constructed on the same and the park proper laid out between the Railroad Right of Way and the wall.

C. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

a *Care of Lawns*

The proper maintenance of lawns is one of the most difficult problems of the administration of the parks of New York.

The carelessness and lack of respect for public property on the part of a portion of the public using the parks, an insufficient maintenance force, and lack of sufficient policing have caused many of our lawns to deteriorate to such an extent that a thorough reseeded has become necessary. In other cases only parts of lawns had to be treated in this drastic manner.

In this work we proceeded as follows:

The areas were spread over with barnyard manure which was plowed under during the early summer and seeded with cow peas, crimson clover, or other cover crop which in turn was plowed under in the late summer, being used as a green manure. After lying fallow for a few weeks the ground was harrowed and raked, and the grass seed sown in the early fall.

The disposition of our forces did not make it possible to prepare all lawns which we could treat for fall seeding. For spring seeding the work was started in the early fall and rye was used for cover crop which was turned under in the spring. Then, after lying fallow for several weeks the ground was treated as above and grass seed sown.

Lime was used where required.

To make this work possible in the downtown parks, the areas had to be enclosed by high wire fences to protect them from being trampled over.

But even lawns in comparatively good or fair state had to receive a good deal of attention. They were maintained and improved by putting on a top dressing either of well rotted stable or sheep manure in the early winter, or they were top dressed in the spring with a compost consisting of guano, bone dust, leaf mould or humus, wood ashes, and good clean top soil, all thoroughly mixed two months before using and then kept in a dry place.

Of this compost about two tons were used per acre and it was spread as soon as the frost left the ground.

To maintain a lawn it is of course necessary to water it when dry. Unfortunately the water supply in our parks is still so inadequate as to make the watering of many lawns difficult, of some entirely impossible, and until the Department will be able to complete the water supply system, there will always be many places where the grass will turn brown or even be destroyed during the severe droughts which during the last eight years have come with painful regularity.

In those parts of our park system where a good water supply exists, the lawns retain their beautiful, refreshing aspect during the entire year. To achieve this result, especially on slopes, the surface should be perforated with sharp pointed forks to allow the water to penetrate the soil; otherwise it would run off as from a roof and be lost.

The following is a table showing cost of protecting and caring for lawns during the year 1914:

Name of Park	Care of Lawns
Battery.....	\$1,143.00
Bryant.....	1,420.11
Central.....	17,634.64
Chelsea.....	169.14
City Hall.....	947.27
Colonial.....	132.19
Columbus.....	27.79
Corlears Hook.....	425.30
DeWitt Clinton.....	218.97
Hamilton Fish.....	278.86
Ft. Washington.....	68.15
Highbridge.....	875.52
Hudson.....	153.69
Isham.....	693.09
John Jay.....	9.55
Thos. Jefferson.....	230.24
Madison Sq.....	1,654.31
Manhattan Sq.....	49.95
Morningside.....	317.85
Roger Morris.....	281.78
Mount Morris.....	941.33
Riverside.....	5,842.49
St. Gabriels.....	689.81
St. Nicholas.....	453.93
Carl Schurz.....	92.19
Seward.....	630.19
Stuyvesant.....	571.90
Tompkins.....	853.88
Union Sq.....	163.21
Washington Sq.....	1,129.20
Small Parks.....	996.23
East 17th St.....	47.22
Broadway Plots.....	2,202.44
Cathedral Parkway.....
Delancey St. Parkway.....	136.33
86th St. Parkway.....	85.47
Harlem River Driveway.....	284.17
Park Ave. Plots.....	1,628.20
7th Ave. Plots.....
72nd St. Parkway.....
West End Ave. Parkway.....	30.00
Washington Br. Parkway.....	123.76
Carmensville.....
Silver Lake, S. I.....	23.75
Washington, S. I.....	160.00

Name of Park	Care of Lawns
Pt. Richmond, S. I.....	145.00
Westerleigh, S. I.....
Queensboro Playground.....
Undistributed Parks.....	189.71
	<hr/> \$44,151.81

b *Care of Trees, Shrubs.*

During the year 1914, the Department planted 1,941 trees and 11,891 shrubs.

These trees and shrubs were purchased at a cost of \$14,882.50.

The total cost of planting trees and shrubs, removing trees and protecting and caring for trees and shrubs was \$66,571.22.

There follows a table which shows the number of trees and shrubs planted in each park, the number of trees removed and total cost for the care of trees and shrubs in each park:

Parks	Number of Trees Planted	Number of Shrubs Planted	Number of Trees Removed	Total Cost of Removing, planting, protecting and caring for trees and shrubs during 1914
Battery Park.....	11	\$778.47
Broadway Plots.....	61	1,278	2,815.67
Bryant Park.....	26	594	5	1,052.11
Carl Schurz Park.....	6	9	218.68
Central Park.....	1,059	1,792	912	34,962.85
Corlears Hook Park...	3	97.24
Chelsea Park.....	40	2	137.38
City Hall Park.....	2,143	2	685.82
Colonial Park.....	31	656.49
Columbus Park.....	1	43.13
Delancey St. Parkway.	100	52	174.42
East 17th St. Park....	3	32.32
Hamilton Fish Park...	2	48.61
Highbridge Park.....	1	127	301.49
Hudson Park.....	225	4	187.40
Isham Park.....	10	260.44
John Jay Park.....	2	2	91.00
Morningside Park.....	1	6	5	375.69
Madison Square Park.	867	2	947.03
Mt. Morris Park.....	3	131.53
Park Ave. Plots.....	15	1,015	1,157.49
Queensboro Bridge....	3	12.56
Riverside Park.....	602	1,702	173	5,528.31
Roger Morris Park....	5	295	172.87
7th Ave. Plots.....	1	305.39
Stuyvesant Park.....	948	726.03
Tompkins Square Park	53	22	1,404.66
Union Square Park...	3	207.38
Washington Sq. Park..	82	996	4	1,178.58
	<hr/> 1,941	<hr/> 11,891	<hr/> 1,354	<hr/> \$54,691.04

In addition to the cost of planting and removing trees and shrubs in the above mentioned parks there was expended during the year 1914 the sum of \$11,860.18 for caring for and protecting the trees and shrubs in the parks of Manhattan and Richmond.

During the Winter season hundreds of trees in the parks were cut down. These were in many cases very old trees of large size which through the continual trimming necessitated annually by their gradual decay, had become unsightly and even grotesque in appearance. A large number of hickories was included. These were removed by order of the State Agricultural Department because they were (found to be) affected by the hickory bark borer. All of them were taken out of the woods in the upper end of Central Park. That portion of Central Park between 72nd and 86th Street was given a thorough cleaning out of the plantations, particularly the wooded section in the Ramble. Most of the wood from these trees was burned at the Department storage yard at 97th Street, Central Park, and the ashes were used as fertilizer for the lawns.

Toward the close of the year the large logs were piled at convenient points where they will be sawed and split into kindling wood for the use of the various city institutions who now purchase their supply of wood from outside concerns. A large stock of these logs is now piled at 79th Street, Riverside Park, and at Fort Washington and Highbridge Parks.

In the last named park a systematic clearing of dead trees from the wooded slopes was undertaken. The work has not yet been completed but the more dangerous trees were taken out and a large part of the park was thoroughly cleaned out. The work is still under way and will be continued until the entire park has been covered.

Several old plantations were readjusted by the transplanting of parts of them to other groups, notably in the case of the Japanese cherry tree groups north of 72nd Street in Central Park. From these groups some hundreds of cherry trees were removed and new groups formed with them. Similar changes were made in the plantations at Boliver Hill, on the West Drive, at the Maine Monument and the small lake at 59th Street, all in Central Park.

In connection with the work of construction of the new rapid transit subways, considerable transplanting of trees and shrubs was necessitated, some of the new routes having been laid out through park territory. The parks thus affected are Battery Park where the north and east sides of the park are torn up, Jeannette Park which is entirely covered by the contractor's operations, Bowling Green, about one-half taken up by the contractors, Union Square which is practically cut in two by the subway work, and Herald Square which is entirely taken over by the contractors. There is also a branch route running through the southeast corner of Central Park and crossing the Fifth Avenue Plaza, necessitating the removal of the Sherman Statue to a temporary site to the north of the Plaza. At all these points the trees and shrubs that were (found to be) worth the effort and expense were transplanted to other park plantations. Some of the large shrubs from Battery Park were used to screen the women's toilet buildings at Stuyvesant Park and Washington Square; those taken from the other points were used to fill out gaps in existing plantations at near-by points.

In connection with the erection of the Pulitzer Memorial Fountain at 58th Street and 5th Avenue, it was found necessary to remove the row of horse-chestnut trees which lined the walk crossing the small irregular park at that point. Three of the smaller trees were transplanted to nearby points in Central Park, the others being too large to be handled with the ordinary department equipment.

NOTE: A planting list for the year 1914 showing species and number of trees and shrubs planted in each park is shown in Appendix A.

A planting list for the year 1914 showing species and number of trees removed in each park is shown in Appendix B.

Horticulture

The usual floral displays were given in the parks throughout the year, both at the Central Park Conservatories and in the flower beds throughout the parks, generally.

The Department raised all of the flowers used for the outside display in the parks, and with few exceptions all of the stock used for display in the Conservatories. Special exhibitions were given at the Conservatories at Easter time and Thanksgiving Day week. At Easter, the display consisted of Azaleas, Lilies, Hyacinths, Tulips, Genestas, and other seasonable plants. At Thanksgiving Day, the exhibition consisted almost exclusively of Chrysanthemums, of which thousands of blooms were shown. Besides these special displays, the usual collection of Palms, Orchids, and other flowering plants was on exhibition free to the public daily throughout the year except during the Summer months. For the outside display in the flower beds throughout the parks during the Summer, there were used over 150,000 plants of the standard bedding varieties, such as Geraniums, Coleus, Alternantheras, Crotons, etc. For the Spring display, over 60,000 Pansies and Daisies were used. All of these were raised at the Department Greenhouses and Nurseries. There were used besides in the Spring display over 100,000 Tulips and Hyacinths. The display of Daffodils, Narcissus and other perennial flowers in the permanent herbaceous beds and borders throughout Central Park was unusually good. There were added to these beds during the year some 10,000 Narcissus and Daffodils. About 5,000 more were set out in the open woods along the border of the West Drive in the upper part of the park. Two additional flower beds were established in City Hall Park, both at the lower end of the park, one on the east side and the other surrounding the concrete space forming the roof over the Subway which runs through the park. The display in both of these beds was the result of a careful selection and excited favorable comment generally.

Following is the list of the parks where flower beds were maintained and the amount spent for the care of them throughout the season:

Name of Park	Care of Flowers and Plants	Name of Park	Care of Flowers and Plants
Battery Park.....	\$309.32	Seward.....	\$86.04
Bryant Park.....	86.16	Stuyvesant.....	183.24
Central Park.....	5,679.41	Tompkins.....	35.00
Chelsea Park.....	4.63	Union Sq. Park.....	165.89
City Hall Park.....	811.56	Washington Sq. Park.....	116.85
Colonial Park.....		Small Parks.....	211.12
Columbus Park.....		East 17th St. Park.....	
Corlears Hook Park.....	30.88	Broadway Plots.....	
DeWitt Clinton Park.....	41.34	Cathedral Parkway.....	
Hamilton Fish Park.....	131.08	Delancey St. Parkway.....	303.20
Ft. Washington.....		86th St. Parkway.....	
Highbridge.....		Harlem River Driveway.....	5.24
Hudson.....	128.90	Park Ave. Plots.....	263.38
Isham.....		7th Ave. Plots.....	453.20
John Jay.....	.62	72nd St. Parkway.....	
Thos. Jefferson.....	28.00	West End Ave. Parkway.....	
Madison Sq.....	215.80	Washington Br. Parkway.....	
Manhattan Sq.....	62.20	Carmensville Park.....	
Morningside.....	133.37	Silver Lake Park, S. I.....	26.88
Roger Morris.....	13.90	Washington Park, S. I.....	50.00
Mount Morris.....	505.80	Pt. Richmond Park, S. I.....	35.00
Riverside.....	1,319.74	Westerleigh Park, S. I.....	70.00
St. Gabriels.....	8.07	Queensboro Playground.....	
St. Nicholas.....		Undistributed Parks.....	2,129.22
Carl Schurz.....	42.00		
			<hr/> \$13,687.04

d Trees on City Streets

The total cost of caring for trees on city streets, including labor, botanical and agricultural supplies, fuel supplies, general plant supplies and materials, tree guards, repairs to tree guards, tree stakes and incidental expenses was \$9,199.22.

During the course of the year the following trees were planted by property owners on permits issued by the Park Department:

Manhattan

Norway Maples.....	88
Oriental Planes.....	35
Lindens.....	6
Carolina Poplars.....	4
Total.....	133

Richmond

Norway Maples.....	90
Oriental Planes.....	83
Elms.....	2
Lindens.....	2
Horse Chestnut.....	6
Total.....	183

The following trees were removed by private owners on permits issued by the Park Department:

Manhattan

Willows.....	1
Norway Maples.....	45
Carolina Poplars.....	6
Lindens.....	3
Oriental Planes.....	4
Horse Chestnut.....	16
Elms.....	4
Total.....	79

Richmond

Silver Maples.....	22
Ash.....	1
Elm.....	1
Liquidamber.....	1
Apple.....	1
Total.....	26

TREES PLANTED ON CITY STREETS BY THE PARK DEPARTMENT

West 72nd St.....	12	American Elms
West 86th St.....	63	Norway Planes
West End Avenue.....	2	American Elms
	20	Norway Maples
	20	Silver Lindens
	2	Oriental Planes

Broadway.....	2	Oriental Planes
Greenwich Ave. (Public School No. 41).....	1	Oriental Plane
West 145th St. (Public School No. 186)	1	Sugar Maple
	1	Greenleaf Poplar
East Broadway (Henry S. School, P. S. 147).....	3	Oriental Planes
	4	Norway Maples
Cathedral Parkway.....	6	American Elms
Edgecombe Avenue.....	15	Oriental Planes
Edgecombe Ave., 140th St. (P. S. 5).....	1	Greenleaf Poplar
Ave. A and 81st St. (P. S. No. 96-G).....	1	Greenleaf Poplar
Morningside Avenue East.....	3	American Elms
	3	Oriental Planes
Seventh Avenue, north of 124th St.....	3	Oriental Planes
Total.....	163	

The tree plantations on West 72nd Street, West 86th Street, West 110th Street and West End Avenue, which were planted by the Department when those streets were parkways, were given regular attention. Any trees removed were replaced by new trees planted by the Department. The grass plots surrounding the trees on these streets are a source of constant friction between the Department and the owners and residents over the question of sodding and maintaining grass on these plots. For some years the Department annually sodded these plots and endeavored to care for them, but found it impossible to maintain them for more than one month or two in good condition, as the grass was destroyed by that time by the action of dogs, household servants and delivery men. On West 86th Street, there was the additional drawback of not having sufficient sunlight, the maple trees being planted so close together that practically no sunlight penetrates the dense foliage. On West End Avenue, the conditions are better than in any of the other streets. As to the sodding and care of the plots on West End Avenue the Department is confronted with a serious problem. The appropriations allowed for such purposes are totally inadequate for making any attempt to maintain the grass plots situated on the sidewalks of this type of street. An effort to accomplish this on West End Avenue a few years ago resulted disastrously for the major portion of the amount allowed that year for such purposes was expended in this way, leaving the parks and boulevards lacking in necessary sodding and replacement. At 74th Street, some small shrub groups were set out on the plots in the way of experiment to determine a better and more artistic treatment of the plots than the present one of using pipe fence railing around them.

c Roads, Driveways, Paths and Walks:

The following table shows the various types of surfacing, number of miles and square miles of all walks, paths and driveways under the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks, Manhattan and Richmond:

The parkways comprise Harlem River Driveway, Morningside Drive, 122nd Street, 123rd Street, Riverside Drive and Riverside Drive Extension to 158th Street.

Roads and Bridle Paths include the above as well as those in Central Park.

Roads	Yardage	Mileage
Asphalt roads.....	170,600	20.03
Stone block roads.....	29,900	
Macadam roads.....	21,700	
Loam roads.....	87,500	
Gravel roads.....	282,600	
Bridle roads.....		7.70
Total.....	592,300 not including Bridle Paths	27.73

PARK WALKS (Interior walks only)

Kind of Payement	Mileage
Asphalt.....	55.05
Cement.....	3.38
Gravel or dirt.....	4.28
Total.....	62.71

The cleaning of all roads, walks, paths and driveways in park territory is done by Park Department laborers in the respective park sections, organization of which is outlined in another part of this report.

All repairing work on walks and driveways are done by a special repair gang in charge of a repair foreman.

The gravel portions of the drives in Central and Riverside Parks were kept in as good condition throughout the year as it was possible with that type of drive and the heavy traffic it sustains. The portions of the drive covered by this work include Riverside Drive, from 113th Street to 129th Street, Riverside Drive Extension, 135th to 158th Street, the East Drive, Central Park, from 66th to 110th Street, and a number of smaller branch drives leading from the main drives to the various entrances. On all of these drives, the method of treatment was as follows: Twice during the year, Spring and Fall, the old binder was stripped from the drive by laborers with shovels and picks. After the binder surface was taken off, the drives were then spiked up, fresh gravel added where necessary, the drives regraded and rolled with ten ton gasoline rollers, and after it was dried out, the surface was then covered with the asphalt binder oil and sand. Some of the old binder taken from the drive was carted away to the Riverside waterfront at 79th Street where it was stored for use during the Winter for patching holes in these drives, for which purpose it served very satisfactorily. The balance of it was used to fill in unpaved walks in the upper section of Central Park where the walks were practically impassable in wet weather. Some of the walks filled in by this method were the walk leading from the pool at about 101st Street to the Circle, at a point about opposite 106th Street. A new walk made along the lines of a foot path which the public had established from 106th Street and 8th Avenue to the blockhouse at 110th Street and 7th Avenue was also filled in with this material, also a walk leading from the lily pond at 110th Street and Lenox Avenue for about half a block to the east. This walk has been practically a swamp in wet weather. Many of the smaller stretches of walks in the vicinity of the blockhouse leading through the woods were surfaced with this material. Other points where it was used were in St. Nicholas Park which is the westerly boundary of St. Nicholas Terrace and Convent Avenue, where it was used to fill in the earth spaces between the flag sidewalk and the curb where on account of the steep grade, the earth had been continually washed out. The same condition was also corrected at Montefiore Park, 137th Street and Broadway.

The new asphalt drives in Central and Riverside Parks required no attention during the year except the ordinary cleaning. The roadway of the Harlem River Driveway, popularly known as the Speedway, was kept in condition for fast driving throughout the year. This roadway is made of sandy loam. It is rolled and then gone over with a light harrow daily so as to have a cushion over the entire surface. The bridle paths in Central and Riverside Parks were given constant daily attention throughout the year. During the slack Summer season, they were spiked up and regraded, and fresh gravel spread over the entire surface. At various points in Central Park where wet spots had formed in the drive, the road bed was excavated and drainage put in. The paths were harrowed daily every evening so as to have them in good condition for the early morning riders. This was done throughout the year regardless of weather conditions and the riding public was therefore enabled to make use of the bridle paths every day in the year, rain, snow or shine.

The cost of cleaning, repairing and caring for roads, driveways, walks and paths for the year 1914 by park is as follows:

Name of Park	Care of Roads, Paths, and Driveways			Total
	Cleaning Oiling and General Care	Repairs to Paths and Walks	Repairs to Roads and Driveways	
Battery Park.....	\$3,330 02	\$295 26	\$3,625 28
Bryant Park.....	2,113 42	428 44	2,541 86
Central Park.....	38,564 54	3,020 12	16,212 83	57,797 49
Chelsea Park.....	749 54	24 91	774 45
City Hall Park.....	3,732 16	3,732 16
Colonial Park.....	1,406 09	630 31	2,036 40
Columbus Park.....	1,015 38	15 93	1,031 31
Corlears Hook Park.....	1,505 43	14 20	1,519 63
DeWitt Clinton Park.....	1,778 49	22 58	1,801 07
Hamilton Fish Park.....	1,536 78	98 14	1,634 92
Fort Washington Park.....	990 36	2 50	992 86
Highbridge Park.....	128 99	205 68	334 67
Hudson Park.....	957 33	12 33	969 66
Isham Park.....	568 99	12 75	2 50	584 24
John Jay Park.....	5 12	5 12
Thomas Jefferson Park.....	1,874 29	29 46	1,903 75
Madison Square Park.....	2,117 53	64 88	2,182 41
Manhattan Square Park.....	589 83	589 83
Morningside Park.....	3,762 87	57 88	156 03	3,976 78
Roger Morris Park.....	544 95	544 95
Mt. Morris Park.....	2,413 10	10 02	2,423 12
Riverside Park.....	12,313 64	817 76	7,663 07	20,794 47
St. Gabriels Park.....	1,179 65	1,179 65
St. Nicholas Park.....	1,832 40	214 35	2,046 75
Carl Schurz Park.....	1,787 28	42 84	1,830 12
Seward Park.....	1,643 93	3 13	1,647 06
Stuyvesant Park.....	1,327 20	15 22	1,342 42
Tompkins Square Park.....	2,380 27	3 04	2,383 31
Union Square Park.....	1,087 70	1 37	1,089 07
Washington Square Park.....	2,151 15	12 42	288 20	2,451 77
Small Parks.....	4,957 27	141 51	5,098 78
E. 17th St. Park.....	566 23	566 23
Broadway Plots.....	254 22	105 39	359 61
Delancey Street Plots.....	688 48	688 48
Harlem River Driveway.....	2,554 71	42 04	1,586 57	4,183 32
Park Ave. Plots.....	234 55	234 55
Seventh Avenue Plots.....	59 10	74 85
Washington Bridge.....	588 77	588 77
W. 122nd St. Parkway.....	43 16	43 16
Silver Lake Park, Staten Island....	220 63	220 63
Washington Park, Staten Island....	789 82	789 82
Port Richmond Park, Staten Island....	614 07	614 07
Westerleigh Park, Staten Island....	53 75	53 75
Undistributed Parks.....	39.02	953 63	439 40	1,432 05
Total.....	\$107,003.93	\$7,318.96	\$26,391.76	\$140,714.65

(f) *Outside Demands on Maintenance Force:*

Accommodation work for other departments of the city government claimed considerable attention on the part of the labor, gardening and mechanical forces of the department during the year. The most important work of this character was the aid given the Department of Street Cleaning during the heavy snow storms which occurred late in February and the early part of March. After the first storm, which was the heaviest snowfall in the city in many years, the Park Department removed the snow from the roadway of Fifth Avenue from 58th Street to 110th Street, 66th Street roadway, also 79th Street, 86th Street and 97th Street, all between 5th and 8th Avenues, all of which the Department of Street Cleaning is ordinarily obliged to take care of. For this work a force approximating 200 laborers, 30 carts and 21 double trucks were required for a week. There were also twelve double teams with trucks and drivers detailed for the same period to the removal of snow from Ann Street, Fulton Street and other streets in that section of the business district, under the direct control of the Street Cleaning Department foremen. In each instance the work was done expeditiously and with thoroughness; advantage was taken of trunk sewers where possible, to dispose of the snow while short hauls were obtained for the snow that had to be carted, by spreading it on the large lawns adjacent to the park entrances, and every means at the command of the department, such as the use of the new patent road grading type of snow plow, was availed of to get the work done quickly and well. The accomplished results were highly satisfactory to the Street Cleaning Commissioner and his aides. These results could not have been obtained had not the entire working force co-operated by the extra effort displayed throughout this period.

Several small park areas under the care and control of other departments, were maintained in part by this department following the custom of the past few years, although no extra provision was ever made in the annual budget for the extra expense entailed by this work. The list of these comprises the following:

Small park at 23rd St., 11th Ave. under care of the Dock Department.

Longacre Square, 47th St., 7th Ave., under care of the Borough President, Manhattan.

Triangle, 115th St., 7th Ave., under care of the Borough President, Manhattan.

Borough of Richmond—

Plots in front of Borough Hall, St. George, Borough President, Richmond.

Triangle at Tompkinsville.

Grass plots on Canal St., Stapleton.

Considerable planting, grading, etc., was done in these areas, except that at 115th St., 7th Ave., which is paved over and which required only daily cleaning and the maintaining of park settees there. Besides these, assistance was given to schools and hospitals during the year as follows:

Hospital Boat "Westfield"	Garden plots manured, spaded up and laid out.
	Window boxes planted with geraniums, etc.
Hospital Boat, foot of E. 91st St.	Window boxes planted.
Bellevue Hospital	Flower beds planted.
College of the City of New York	Trees and shrubs planted. Entire plantations manured, pruned, etc.
Public School No. 64	Trees planted in Tompkins Square Park on Arbor Day.
Public School No. 41	Trees planted on Arbor Day.
Public School No. 186	Trees planted on Arbor Day.
Public School No. 147	Three trees planted on Arbor Day.
Public School, Norfolk St.	Window boxes planted.
Public School, West 28th St.	School garden manured and spaded up.

Cooper Union Institute	Palms and other decorative plants furnished for the annual reception.
Hunter College Alumnae	Flowering plants, etc., furnished for distribution to the public schools for nature study.
National Fruit and Flower Guild	Flowering plants, etc., furnished for distribution to the public schools for nature study.
Hunter College	Palms, etc., furnished for two receptions.
Parks and Playgrounds Association	Palms, etc., furnished for the Associations Bazaar.
Board of Education	Band stand and guests' stand erected for the Shakespeare Anniversary Celebration at the Shakespeare Statue, Central Park.
Greenwich Village Association	Electric light decorations put up around Hudson Park for the Village Fair held by the Association.
Tree of Light Committee	Stand erected for singers, speakers, etc., for celebrations at the public Christmas Tree in Madison Square Park.
Public Schools Athletic League, Girls' branch	Band stand erected, seats provided for guests, the grounds roped off, maypoles set in place and other incidental work required for the Annual Field Day, held on the Green in Central Park.
Public Schools Athletic League, Boys' branch	Stand provided for band for Field Day, Curtis Field, Borough of Richmond.

Besides the foregoing, departmental equipment such as road rollers, lawn mowers, carts, etc., were loaned to other city departments at various times during the year. In some instances, equipment for which the department had no present use was given outright to other departments, the transfer being duly sanctioned by the Sinking Fund Commission as provided by the city charter. The most notable case of this kind was the transfer to the Department of Correction of a lot of equipment consisting of plows, harrows, etc., for the new experimental farm which that department was establishing at Hampton, New York, for first offenders, and for which no special funds had been provided. Other Departments were given office furniture from the equipment of the department's old headquarters in the Arsenal Building, Central Park, which the department vacated on May 25 to occupy the new quarters provided for it in the Municipal Building.

(g) *Structures:*

During the year 1914 the Architect's Bureau was busied in the preparation of designs, plans and estimates of architectural work. Due to the general rundown condition of all buildings and structures in the park system there was great need for a thorough repair and general overhauling of park buildings and structures. Several interesting pieces of new construction were started. The following is a description of the most important work of the year on structures:

There is shown as "Appendix F" a list of Construction work under supervision of the Architects Bureau in 1914.

RECONSTRUCTION OF THE PLAZA—FIFTH AVENUE AND 59TH STREET

Eighty-five thousand dollars was appropriated for the reconstruction of the plaza to provide a proper setting for the Pulitzer Memorial. Plans were prepared for the reconstruction of both the north and south islands of the Plaza, but as the subway is being constructed through 59th and 60th Streets, and as the construction is to be done in the open cut method, it was decided to reconstruct the south island only at this time.



ISHAM PARK, LOOKING TOWARDS SPUYTEN DUYVIL

The contract was advertised September 1, 1914—The following bidders put in their bids:

Charles H. Bellows.....	\$38,500
Degnon Contracting Co.....	44,250
Nicholas Di Menna.....	37,770
Dunbar Contracting Co.....	37,300
William H. Egan.....	39,990
Libman Contracting Co.....	40,984
Marble Arch Co.....	44,430
H. H. Oddie, Inc.....	53,211
Howard H. Peterson Co.....	47,930
Neptune B. Smyth, Inc.....	43,300
B. A. & G. N. Williams.....	55,920

Contract awarded to Dunbar Contracting Co., \$37,300.

Contractor notified to commence work, October 8, 1914.

The work of erecting the Pulitzer Memorial Fountain is progressing very rapidly, and it is expected that it will be completed in the early spring of next year. The work on the contract for the reconstruction around the fountain is progressing as rapidly as the weather permits, and although considerable excavation and concrete foundation work, as well as the drainage has been completed, the most favorable progress was made in preparing in the quarry the cut stone, so that the work of setting same can be pushed rapidly to completion in the Spring of 1915.

SPEEDWAY FENCE

Revised plans and specifications were prepared for a new artificial granite balustrade to be erected along the newly-reconstructed Speedway bulkhead. These plans superseded those made last year for an iron fence, and were transmitted to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment October 1st. They are now before the Bureau of Contract Supervision of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment.

The specifications call for an artificial granite fence made of crushed white granite or Gouverneur marble, with an admixture of black marble, or such other jet black material as will produce the color and texture desired. This stone balustrade was decided upon after the question of rusting, painting and maintenance of the iron fence was thoroughly discussed and the conclusion reached, that although the original cost of the fence construction would be slightly more than the iron one, this difference would be more than offset, due to the fact that the artificial granite balustrade would require very little, if any attention for many years, and then only periodical inspection and repointing of joints that may have become open.

It is estimated that the stone fence will cost approximately \$12.50 per linear foot, as compared with \$10.00 per foot for the iron fence.

The manufacture of artificial stone has been perfected to such an extent and such wonderful results have been accomplished, that it is difficult to differentiate between artificial and natural stone. As to the strength and durability of artificial granite, reference is made to the following tests, which speak for themselves:

Test specimens 2 x 4 x 8 inches in size not less than 30 days old when placed flatwise on supports 7 inches apart sustained without fracture a transverse center load of 1,000 lbs.

Test cylinders 8 inches in diameter and 16 inches long when not less than twenty-eight days old supported when dry, without cracking, a compressive load of 1,200 lbs. per square inch.

Half specimens from transverse tests after drying at about 180° F. were placed flatwise in water, so that their upper surfaces were ½ inch above the surface of the water. At the expiration of forty-eight hours, the upper surface was dry, and no specimen showed more than 4% absorption by weight of water.

TABLE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK

LOCATION	CONTRACTOR	Paid from Corporate Stock Revenue Bonds Budget	Date of Execution of Contract
Pavilion Building, John Jay Park—General Construction.....	P. F. Kenny Co.	Corporate Stock	7, 17, 13
Pavilion Building, John Jay Park—Plumbing and Gas Fitting.....	National Plumbing Co.	"	7, 22, 13
Pavilion Building, John Jay Park—Heating.....	M. J. Callahan Co.	"	7, 23, 13
97th St. Storage Yard, Central Park—Installation of Gate.....	Anchor Post Iron Works	Budget	2, 17, 14
Greenhouses, 106th St. and 5th Ave.—Installing Vent Ducts and Registers.....	Wm. C. Duggan	"	4, 6, 14
Obelisk, Central Park—Waterproofing.....	Wm. Kuckro	"	4, 23, 14
Sheepfold, Central Park—New, Artificial Granite Balustrade, including Gate.....	Vulcan Rail and Constr. Co.	"	5, 7, 14
Metropolitan Museum of Art—Heating and Ventilating.....	Osborn, Rea & Co.	Corporate Stock	5, 9, 14
Metropolitan Museum of Art—General Construction.....	P. F. Kenny Co.	"	5, 11, 14
Metropolitan Museum of Art—Plumbing.....	"	"	5, 11, 14
Obelisk, Central Park—Scaffolding.....	'Chesebro', Whitman Co.	Budget	5, 11, 14
Comfort Station, 108th St. and Riverside Drive—Alteration.....	Wm. C. Duggan	"	5, 11, 14
Comfort Station, 72nd St. and Riverside Drive—Alteration of Plumbing Fixtures.....	"	"	6, 27, 14
Comfort Station, Conservatory Lake—New Plumbing Fixtures.....	"	"	7, 1, 14
Greenhouses, 106th St. and 5th Ave.—Repairs to Steam Mains.....	M. J. Callahan Co.	Budget	7, 1, 14
97th St. Storage Yard, Central Park—Furnishing of Pump.....	Brown & Sites Co.	"	7, 10, 14
Greenhouses, 106th St. and 5th Ave.—Installing Area Gratings.....	Anchor Post Iron Works	"	7, 17, 14
Comfort Station, Conservatory Lake—New Floors.....	Fileine Co.	"	7, 28, 14
Comfort Station, Bryant Park—Installation of New Louvres.....	Chas. Christianson	"	8, 6, 14
Sheepfold, Central Park—Overhauling of Living Quarters.....	E. J. Alquist	"	8, 11, 14
Columbus Park—Installation of Gassteam Radiators.....	Eastern Gas Appliance Co.	"	8, 14, 14
Cooper Square—Installation of Ventilators.....	Wm. C. Duggan	Corporate Stock	9, 14, 14
Enclosure for Pavilion, John Jay Park—Hardware.....	Sargent & Co.	"	9, 16, 14
Enclosure for Pavilion, John Jay Park—Sash.....	Empire City Gerard Co.	Budget	9, 17, 14
Enclosure for Pavilion, John Jay Park—Glass.....	Marks Bros.	"	9, 17, 14
Reconstruction of Plaza—59th St. and 5th Ave.....	Dunbar Contracting Co.	Corporate Stock	9, 28, 14
Greenhouses, 106th St. and 5th Ave.—Repairs to Boilers and Smoke Pipe.....	Wm. C. Duggan	Budget	9, 29, 14
Alteration, Comfort Station, Conservatory Lake—Painting.....	M. Casey	"	10, 10, 14
Bryant Park Comfort Station—Installation of Gassteam Radiators.....	Eastern Gas Appliance Co.	"	10, 19, 14
Tompkins Square Park Comfort Station—Installation of Gassteam Radiators.....	"	"	10, 19, 14
Riverside Drive and 96th St., Comfort Station—Installation of Gassteam Radiators.....	"	"	10, 19, 14
Hudson Park Comfort Station for Men—Installation of Gassteam Radiators.....	"	"	11, 9, 14
Hudson Park Comfort Station for Women—Installation of Gassteam Radiators.....	"	"	11, 9, 14
Madison Square Comfort Station, Men and Women—Installation of Gassteam Radiators.....	"	"	12, 4, 14
97th St. Storage Yard, Central Park—Ventilator in Pump Room.....	Chas. Christianson	"	12, 23, 14
Fort Washington Park Comfort Station—Gas Piping.....	P. F. Kenny Co.	"	12, 23, 14
Pavilion, Hamilton Fish Park—Installation of New Toilet Seats.....	Brunswick-Balke-Collender Co.	"	12, 23, 14
Pavilion, Seward Park—Installation of New Toilet Seats.....	"	"	12, 23, 14
Farragut Monument—Waterproofing.....	Obelisk Waterproofing Co.	"	12, 28, 14
79th St. Storage Yard, Central Park—Furnishing and Installing Folding Gates, South Entrance.....	F. W. Fiske Iron Works	"	12, 28, 14
Pavilion, Seward Park—Installation of Shower Bath Valves.....	Victor Brass Works	"	12, 28, 14

* Plans and Specifications Completed.

FOR 1914.—ARCHITECT'S BUREAU

Date Work Started	Date of Acceptance	Percentage of Completion	Amount of Final Estimate	CHARACTER OF WORK PERFORMED
9, 2, 13	10, 29, 14	100	\$30,762.00	Most Complete and Up-to-Date Playground Building.
.....	2,343.00	All Plumbing and Gas Fitting for Comfort Station and Baths.
4, 7, 14	1,295.00	Low Pressure Steam.
3, 10, 14	3, 8, 14	100	86.50	Collapsible Wrought Iron.
4, 20, 14	4, 25, 14	"	222.00	Ventilation for Boiler Room.
5, 20, 14	6, 10, 14	"	250.00	Process Explained in Detail Hereafter.
5, 27, 14	5, 30, 14	"	60.00	Artificial Granite Fence Erected without Cost to Department.
.....	36,386.00	Not Started.
6, 9, 14	2	624,955.00	Excavation 90% Completed.
5, 14, 14	100	6,300.00	Not Started.
.....	150.00
6, 4, 14	6, 17, 14	"	587.00	Modern Fixtures Installed.
7, 21, 14	7, 31, 14	"	153.00	"
7, 21, 14	7, 30, 14	"	535.00	Complete Overhauling.
7, 6, 14	7, 29, 14	"	182.00	Corroded Mains Replaced with New.
.....	8, 4, 14	"	392.00	For Use in New Sump Pit.
7, 30, 14	8, 8, 14	"	122.00	To Replace Corroded Grating.
8, 11, 14	8, 14, 14	60.00	Part of Complete Overhauling.
8, 24, 14	9, 3, 14	100	450.00	No Ventilation Had Been Provided.
8, 18, 14	9, 15, 14	"	771.00	Quarters for Shepherd.
8, 27, 14	9, 3, 14	"	473.65	To Replace Obsolete Steam Plant.
9, 22, 14	9, 26, 14	"	38.00	Additional Ventilator for Boiler Room.
.....	214.00	Enclosing of Pavilion.
10, 6, 14	10, 30, 14	100	815.00	"
10, 6, 14	10, 12, 14	"	137.00	"
10, 8, 14	5	37,300.00	Excavation (Stone Being Cut and Bronze Being Cast in Shop)
10, 1, 14	10, 6, 14	100	75.00	New Smoke Connections and Covering.
10, 12, 14	10, 16, 14	"	22.00	Part of Complete Overhauling.
10, 30, 14	11, 5, 14	"	127.50	No Heat Had Been Provided.
10, 26, 14	11, 6, 14	"	176.25	Replace Open Burner Gas Stoves.
11, 9, 14	11, 20, 14	"	283.13	Replace Coal Stoves.
11, 24, 14	11, 30, 14	"	53.75	"
11, 24, 14	11, 30, 14	80.06	"
.....	109.50	"
.....	80.00
.....	160.00	Not Started.
.....	201.25	Not Yet Installed.
.....	850.00	Not Started.
.....	81.00	"
.....	375.00	"

TABLE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK

LOCATION	CONTRACTOR	Paid from Corporate Stock Revenue Bonds Budget	Date of Execution of Contract
Alteration, 79th St. Storage Yard, Central Park—Erecting Partitions, Doors, Win- dows, etc.....	Thos. J. Buckley Construct. Co.	Budget	12, 29, 14
Hudson Park Playground—Installation of Gassteam Radiators.....	Eastern Gas Appliance Co.	"	12, 29, 14
97th St. Storage Yard, Central Park—Instal- lation of Hot and Cold Water System....	Edward J. McCabe Co.	"	12, 30, 14
97th St. Storage Yard, Central Park—Instal- lation, Water Supply Main.....	"	"	12, 23, 14
79th St. Storage Yard, Central Park—Finish- ing and Installing Gates, North Entrance..	Anchor Post Iron Works	"	12, 30, 14
Pavilion, Seward Park—Installation of Hot Water System.....	E. J. McCabe Co.	"	12, 30, 14
Enclosure Pavilion, John Jay Park—Instal- lation, 2 Extra Heavy Rails with Cresting..	Yorkville Iron Works	"	12, 30, 14
97th St. Storage Yards, Central Park—Exten- sion of Sump-Pit.....	Edmund D. Broderick	"	1, 8, 15
97th St. Storage Yards, Central Park—Altera- tion for Stabling Purposes.....	John Viviano	"	1, 22, 15
Artificial Granite Balustrade on Speedway Bulkhead.....	Corporate Stock
Morningside Park—Wrought Iron Fence....	"
DeWitt Clinton Park—Alteration of Pergola Building.....	"

* Plans and Specifications Completed.

FOR 1914.—ARCHITECT'S BUREAU—*Continued*

Date Work Started	Date of Accept- ance	Percent- age of Completion	Amount of Final Estimate	CHARACTER OF WORK PERFORMED
.....	\$945.00	Not Started.
.....	84.81	"
.....	340.00	"
.....	112.00	"
.....	153.00	"
.....	875.00	"
.....	125.00	
.....	1,042.00	
.....	3,190.00	Reorganization of Shops and Stables.
.....	*	To Replace Iron Railing Estimated Cost, \$12,000.00.
.....	*	Estimated Cost, \$17,000.00.
.....	Plans Prepared for Entire Reconstruction.