CULTURAL HERITAGE BOARD ITEM

MUSEUM MEETING DATE: 12/18/85

RE: Nomination of Fairmount Park as a Landmark of the City of Riverside

SPONSOR: Riverside City Council

OWNER: City of Riverside

INCLUSION ON OTHER INVENTORIES: California Historic Resources Inventory

Introduction

Riverside's Fairmount Park occupies approximately 180 acres near the Santa Ana River northeast of Mount Rubidoux. The largest park in Riverside, and the second oldest, the original acreage was dedicated as park land in 1898. It has grown and evolved with the City since 1870, and has a history all its own. Located in what was a swampy area "with a most forbidding aspect" according to an early historian, the park now consists of large picnic areas around lakes, with play areas for children, a bandshell, a large rose garden, a golf course, lawn bowling, and special monuments. Palms, Montezuma cypress, eucalyptus, and other species of trees grow in the park; many of them are unique specimens. The smaller Fairmount Lake, occupying 5.5 acres, has been in existence since 1904; Lake Evans, covering 36 acres, plus Brown Lake with 2 acres, were opened in 1924.

Setting

Rising as an artesian spring about a mile north of Fairmount (North) Hill, Spring Brook flowed into the Santa Ana River at the base of Little Rubidoux Mountain. The land was a wilderness in the swampy river bed; cottonwoods, peppers, sycamores, and wild grapes abounded; small wildlife and birds were plentiful. The geology of the area consists of granite outcrops and hills, decomposed granite, sand, and clay.

History

The park area was part of one of three Indian rancherias just outside of the Mile Square. The Cahuilla Indians of these villages were ultimately driven away from the expanding townsite by about 1900. The graves of their ancestors were scattered in the development of Indian Hill Drive and Lakehill Drive, just southwest of the park.

The area of Spring Brook, owned by the Southern California Colony Association, was a popular picnic ground and site of Fourth of July celebrations from the early days of the settlement. Fish were caught from the stream and crawdads from its banks. In the 1890's, a bathhouse was located on the stream where the banks were sandy and the water was deep enough for swimming. The brook was the only source of domestic water for a time in those early years.

The Fairmount Heights tract was subdivided in February, 1893, by John G. North, attorney for R.E. Houghton and C.E. Houghton. It was located to the west, south, and east of, and including, North Hill. John G. North has been given the credit for suggesting the name of Fairmount Heights, as well as that of the parent corporation, Fairmount Park Land Company, organized in 1890. The name originated with Philadelphia's Fairmount Park, which then covered 2,900 acres and was hailed in the 1890s as the greatest city park in the world. In June, 1893, John G. North began on his own to make improvements at Fairmount Heights' bottom land, including a swimming pool.

In 1893, C.M. Loring suggested to Samuel Cary Evans Sr., an early Riverside land speculator, that Evans donate a park, as Evans controlled the lands west of the Fairmount Land Co. property. He eventually did donate additional acreage and water rights in Spring Brook to form the original Fairmount Park Lake.

North Hill, originally called Fairmount Hill, became a quarry. In 1895, the City's Board of Trustees (City Council) launched a program to improve streets by paving them, establishing a rock and gravel base. Granite curbs and gutters were also called for. To obtain stone, the City purchased 35 acres

from Fairmount Land Co., which included Fairmount Hill and the meadow through which Spring Brook flowed. The purchase agreement stipulated that the meadow would become a park.

On October 6, 1897, an ordinance was adopted dedicating the 35 acres; Fairmount Park was officially opened on Arbor Day, April 9, 1898. In 1896-1897, Captain Charles M. Dexter and a committee of the Grand Army of the Republic (Union veterans of the Civil War) requested City permission to plant trees and improve the area that had been unofficially a public playground and picnic area but was officially becoming Fairmount Park. At Dexter's urging, the City provided the money for trees and ultimately took over direct responsibility for further development.

In 1903, Evans' donation of 12.5 ~~70~~ acres contributed Fairmount Lake, which was made by adding a simple dam across the brook, with the lowland of the streambed delineating the lake to a maximum depth of 10 feet at the dam. In 1910, George N. Reynolds, a major downtown merchant, returned from a trip to the Orient and, inspired by the things that he had seen there, donated several improvements and expansions to Fairmount Park Lake. The result was a group of islands and soil causeways, connected by arched wooden bridges in modified Japanese style. A lotus bed was started in the shallow east end, bordering on present Bowling Green Drive. The bridges became rickety and were replaced with cement bridges in about 1920, two of which still exist today. A great flood in 1938 wiped out the lotus bed, much of which was replanted by volunteers only to die of neglect in the 1960's and was subsequently covered over by debris from the Main Street mall improvement project.

The Park Board was eager to make more extensive improvements, and a $30,000 bond issue was voted in 1910 to improve the park, including funds for a swimming pool and a wading pool at the west end of the lake. An additional 18 acres was donated by Mayor Samuel C. Evans Jr., and his brother Pliny T. Evans. The Olmsted Brothers of Brookline, Massachussetts, sons of the nationally-recognized landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, were working on preparations for the 1915-16 Panama-California Exposition at San Diego. Mayor Evans, the Park Board, and the City Council arranged for the firm to draft a development plan for Fairmount Park, including lake modification, new

modification, new roadways, tree planting, a swimming pool, etc. The Olmsted Brothers submitted their proposal in June 1911, and the Mayor and Park Commission heartily endorsed it. Commissioner Hardman was engaged to carry out the plans as submitted, and was commended for doing so in May 1912. Careful accounts were kept of the enterprise. The final step was the improved entrance to Fairmount Park on Locust, to follow the Olmsted plan.

Bandshell

The Riverside Cornet Band, organized in 1876, had played its concerts first at the White Park bandstand, then at Fairmount Park where the bandstand had been moved in 1908. A more enduring musical group appears to have been the Riverside Military Band, which was organized in 1900 and played its first public concert in 1901. The Riverside Military Band remained a viable entity through 1940. Its players were local volunteers, playing part-time, hoping to collect expenses and the cost of uniforms and instruments through public donations. As audiences continued to grow, there developed the need for a bandshell to project music to greater distances.

The Fairmount Park Bandshell was built in 1920 and has been designated by the Cultural Heritage Board as City Landmark #10. It was designed by Arthur Benton, whose work at the Mission Inn, the First Church of Christ Scientist, the Riverside Municipal Auditorium, the Hole Mansion, and the Mount Rubidoux Peace Tower is also included within Landmark designations. The bandshell exhibits features such as a tile roof and outer walls of field stone by which Benton's work may be recognized. The new bandshell was inaugurated at a dedicatory concert before an audience of 6,000 on Sunday, September 26, 1920. Gustavus Milverkus, director of the Riverside Military band since 1905, had composed a "Greater Fairmount" march for the occasion, and Benton himself delivered a talk on "Music and Architecture." In later years, Hollywood actors Edward Arnold and Jeanette McDonald performed at the bandshell.

The Fairmount Park Bandshell was severely damaged by an electrical fire on Christmas Day, 1982. Its repair has come about through the joint efforts of the Park and Recreation Department and the volunteer Fairmount Park Citizen's Committee. It is being completely refurbished; the fire damage has been

repaired by a contractor hired by the Park and Recreation Department. General structural, electrical, roofing, and painting work, conforming to architectural design of the 1920's, is being accomplished by volunteers.

Lake Evans

In 1923 the Olmsted Brothers' plan for Fairmount Park was rediscovered and was brought to the attention of local architect G. Stanley Wilson, who presented a plan to the local Kiwanis Club. The Kiwanis promptly endorsed many of its features--particularly the enlargement of the lake. With promotion from the Kiwanis, the idea of expanding the lake drew popular support. Mayor Samuel Evans donated more than 40 additional acres toward expansion of the lake. The City Engineer drew plans for construction of a dam to hold back water in the existing Fairmount Park Lake. This dam was designed as a spillway for water to fall from the Fairmount Park Lake into the proposed second, lower lake. The two lakes were not connected due to the extreme amount of dredging necessary to equalize the water levels in both lakes.

Sixteen workmen and 24 mules were used to remove 50,000 cubic yards of earth from the proposed lake bottom. Mounds of dirt in the middle of the new lake bed formed two islands, one an acre in area and the other five acres. Over a thousand loads of decomposed granite came from North Hill to build the dam and to surface the new road laid out around the park. The new lake was named Lake Evans, in honor of Mayor Samuel C. Evans Jr., and the new road was named Dexter Drive, in honor of Captain Charles M. Dexter.

Brown Lake

An appendage to Lake Evans, Brown Lake was thought to be part of the Spring Brook stream bed, but it is not shown on any early tract maps before 1924. It was created as a result of the Lake Evans excavation in 1923. When the larger lake was filled with water, what came to be called Brown Lake also took on water at the same level. The lake was used as a fish hatchery and even for swimming, according to various accounts. Mr. Brown had other concessions at the park. In 1937, Brown Lake froze thick enough to allow ice-skating.

Golf Course

As early as 1911, the City Parks Commission had discussed the desirability of establishing a Municipal Golf Course. Around 1930, Ira Fallon Jr., and his family developed and operated a nine-hole golf course north of and adjacent to the park, called Riverside Country Club. In 1945, the Mission Inn purchased it and increased the acreage, operating the golf course until it was sold to the City in 1960. It was then leased to a concessionaire until 1979, and was operated by the City until it was leased again 1981; it is under lease at this time.

Lawn Bowling

Lawn bowling was introduced to Riverside in about 1920, when the Pachappa Bowling Club, with greens on Olivewood Avenue at the foot of Pachappa Hill, was formed. In 1926, the Riverside Lawn Bowling Club was formed in Fairmount Park with the assistance of the City Park and Recreation Department. Before 1930, the club built a small clubhouse which has since been expanded. The Pachappa Club disbanded in 1941, but the Riverside Lawn Bowling Club, based in Fairmount Park, continues today. The City's original agreement with the club was that it would "furnish and maintain" a site in the park if the club would raise the money to install the bowling green and equip it with lights. The City still maintains the three bowling greens, each with seven lanes 15 feet wide. Facilities are for the use of club members. International tournaments have been held at this green.

Rose Garden

Local nurseryman R. P. Small owned a piece of land along Lake Evans where he raised bedding plants. This plot comprised the only private property on the lakeshore. It was offered for sale to the City of Riverside; however, the City expressed no interest in buying the property, until Small applied for a building permit for a lakeshore home in about 1932. This led the City Council to reconsider the offer and purchase Small's land.

In 1939, a reflecting pool was dedicated at the Park's entrance at the corner of Redwood Drive and Dexter Drive. This pool and surrounding area, designed by landscape gardener Dorothy Dunbar, is flanked on either side by concrete banches, palms which were moved from other areas of the park, and a spacious lawn. A bronze plaque, mounted on a concrete base and embedded in the lawn at the entrance to the pool, carries an inscription to the memory of the late Samuel Cary Evans Jr. The pool has been filled in with a planting of miniature roses.

Fairmount Park Rose Garden, which was dedicated to Ellis Kindig, former park superintendent, had the first planting of roses in 1956 when the Riverside Floral Arts Group won 200 bushes from the rose growers annual "Fashions in Roses" show at the Mission Inn. At that time, the public rose garden was located in White Park in downtown Riverside, and there was no extra room for more roses; in fact, the roses already growing there were to be removed as plans were in the making for a recreation building in the park. Ellis Kindig submitted plans to the Park and Recreation Commission for a new site for the rose garden in Fairmount Park at the corner of Redwood and Dexter Drives. The garden was laid out in a formal design with curbings around each section at the 220' X 400' site.

The garden has been an All American Rose selection display garden for the past 30 years and has over 1,300 bushes, many of them award winners. The first rose pruning demonstration was held in January 1959 at the request of Zelda Lloyd, founder of the Riverside Rose Society and a Park and Recreation Commissioner at the time. The rose pruning demonstration has been continued each year since 1959 with the exception of one or two years.

Locomotive

In 1909 or slightly earlier, the Crescent City Railroad was given a right-of-way through Fairmount Park to facilitate the building of the Crestmore Cement Plant. This line became a route of the Pacific Electric interurban railroad into Riverside and was also used as a spur by Union Pacific Railroad, joining with the still existing U.P. Jurupa to form a loop. The rails and the high embankment through the park were removed in the 1950's.

The summer of 1954 saw a major addition to the park in the form of a steam locomotive engine and tender. Engine No. 6051 was built by the Baldwin Locomotive Works in October 1907 and began its career as a coal-burning locomotive running between Salt Lake City, Utah and Caliente, Nevada. After 17 years of service on this main line, Engine No. 6051 was transferred to Los Angeles in 1924 for use on the San Pedro and Anaheim branch lines. It was at this point that the locomotive was converted to an oil-burning engine. Regular use of steam locomotion essentially passed with the almost complete conversion to diesel fuel in 1947. Inspired by an editorial in the Daily Press and by efforts of the Southern California Chapter of the Railway and Locomotive Historical Society, Union Pacific donated Engine No. 6051, moving it from Pocatello, Idaho, where it had been retired from service in February 1954, to Riverside in recognition of the 50th anniversary of Union Pacific Railroad's coming to the City.

Water Buffalo

The "Water Buffalo," an amphibious landing vehicle, was manufactured primarily in Riverside by FMC (Food Machinery Corporation) during World War II. Used in the European War effort, 11,251 were built, over half in Riverside. On Veteran's Day 1946, a ceremony was held in Fairmount Park declaring a Water Buffalo acquired by the City Park and Recreation Department as a war memorial. Three years after the 1946 dedication, the City built a pedestal for the Water Buffalo on the Lake Evans shore in front of the American Legion Clubhouse. This pedestal is graced with a plaque which reads: "To the civilian war workers of Riverside -- Veterans of the Battle of Production and Full Partners in Victory."

Gone But Not Forgotten

Boathouse

Boating on the lake was a dream since the first proposal of creating a lake in 1903. A boathouse was in existence in 1911 on the south side of Fairmount Lake, near a pavillion which burned down about 1914. That year, additional boats and another landing were proposed. Marshall Bryant operated the boat

concession for the period of 1925-1972. The boathouse had a mission-style facade added in 1920, with steps down to dock level. A small bay was surrounded by a walkway, so that boats could be boarded and launched from inside. There was storage space for the small battery-driven boats built by Mr. Bryant, as well as space for rowboats. Tickets were purchased for the use of the boats. The 1938 flood devastated the concession, and boats were found in the sediment that washed up in West Riverside. Although the boathouse was refurbished and put back in business, another flood in the 1960's wiped out the remaining boats and filled Fairmount Lake with silt. The boathouse was demolished in 1980 because it was unsound.

New plans for a boathouse have been approved by the Cultural Heritage Board, Park and Recreation Commission, and the Design Review Board.

Fairgrounds

In 1913, the County-promoted Southern California Fair had been started at Chemawa Park, and in 1915 it was moved to its own fairground adjoining Fairmount Park. The fair operated through 1930, after which the City acquired the fairgrounds. The City ultimately sold most of the fairgrounds, the site of which is now divided by the Pomona Freeway. A small portion between Market Street and the freeway remains City-owned and was used, through the 1960's, as a heliport.

Auto Camp

In 1914, the Riverside Municipal Auto Camp opened in Fairmount Park. The Park Board felt that an auto camp would be an asset to the City, but suggested that it be placed in Tequesquite Arroyo alongside the new Magnolia Avenue fill. The City Council, however, preferred a less central location, between Crestmore Boulevard and the rail track which still passed through the edge of the park. (Crestmore Boulevard has since become Market Street, but differently aligned). A 1920's sign at the auto camp offers, at the rate of 50¢ per car per day, the use of individual gas plates, shower baths, laundry tubs, lights, and water. The auto camp was closed in 1927.

Zoo and Tennis Courts

In 1933, a small zoo and tennis courts were introduced to the park. A ten-cent admission charge was required to visit the zoo, which was more a hobby of its owner than a business. The zoo was closed in 1935. The tennis courts remain.

Aviary

Sometime around 1910 or later, a very large aviary-type cage was built near the southwest shore of Fairmount Lake. The wooden frame, covered with wire, was at least 50 feet high. It was stocked with many varieties of birds and several kinds of small animals, including desert tortoises. In later years it was eliminated.

Amusement Park

In 1947, a private concessionaire introduced a 1912 C.W. Parker carousel to the park. This concession developed into a small amusement arcade at the site of the old zoo. In 1978, the Cultural Heritage Board designated the carousel, with associated band organs, as a Landmark Object of the City. When the concessionaire could not interest the City in purchasing the carousel, it was removed from the park in late 1978, without comment by the Board. The carousel has since been sold.

Sulphur Spring

Now capped over and lost, the sulphur spring was located near the Bandshell. It had a Mission-revival style gazebo, stepped down to lower than ground level, with a fountain for the sulphur water in the center. Tourists from all over the state came to visit it and to sip the water for its medicinal value.

Flood

A major flood in 1938 disrupted the park as well as much of the Riverside area. Being a direct overflow from the Santa Ana River, the 1938 flood

followed the bluff below North Orange Street and raged across the park, destroying the dam and draining Fairmount Park Lake. The floodwater was then deflected toward Rubidoux where it overturned cars, flooded houses, and drowned occupants.

In 1947, the lakes became a link in the Flood Control District channel. This led to more flooding and silting problems.

Minor Additions

In 1972, some additional work was done on Fairmount Park, namely adding a day camp (now gone) and the wooden playground and parking lots just off Market Street. The gazebo near the Water Buffalo Memorial was built, and some landscaping was installed.

Consultant's Proposal

In 1979, plans for major changes in the entire park were proposed, but the changes were so radical that a group of citizens opposed the concept. The outcome of the proposal was to rehabilitate Fairmount Park as it is laid out, keeping its geography and topography, and to use a Mission-revival style of architecture (characteristic of the early 1900's) in the structures.

Fairmount Park Citizens' Committee

In 1979, the Fairmount Park Citizens' Committee was formed to assist the Riverside Park and Recreation Department with volunteer labor at the park. Growing from a study group, the Committee has donated many hours of labor as well as financial contributions toward park refurbishment. From repairing picnic tables to rebuilding the Redwood Drive Bridge, the Committee has tackled work on every area of the park.

Existing Park Structures and Features

1. Izaac Walton Clubhouse, opposite the Golf Course, was built in 1940. Used by the organization's members for 35 years, it has been given to the City.

2. "Victorian Bridge" at the corner of Banks Drive and Redwood Drive.

3. Five restroom buildings; three are of Mission-revival style.

4. Park maintenance office, facility, and nursery.

5. Armory, built in 1959, with a 99-year lease.

6. Food concession building.

7. Adult Center on Fairmount Boulevard.

8. Tennis courts.

9. Group picnic area shelter.

10. Carousel shed.

11. Maintenance rooms and garage.

12. Redwood Drive Bridge, reconstructed in 1982 by volunteers.

13. Japanese bridges.

14. Two playgrounds (swings, slides, climbing apparatus).

15. Boat maintenance shed by the Izaac Walton building.

16. Gazebo near the American Legion Clubhouse.

17. Golf Course Clubhouse.

18. Golf Course restroom and maintenance building.

Figure

Tree species found within Fairmount Park

Botanical Name	Common Name
1. Taxodium mucronatum	Montezuma Bald Cypress
2. Quercus agrifolia	Coast Live Oak
3. Q. suber	Corky Oak
4. Q. lobata	Valley Oak
5. Pittosporum undulatum	Victorian Box
6. Washingtonia robusta	Mexican Fan Palm
7. W. filifera	California Fan Palm
8. Jacaranda acutifolia	Jacaranda
9. Carya illinoiensis	Pecan
10. Juglans sp.	Walnut
11. Chamaerops humilis	Mediterranean Fan Palm
12. Liquidambar styraciflua	Liquidambar
13. Fraxinus uhdei	Evergreen Ash
14. F. velutina	Arizona Ash
15. F. v. "Modesto"	Modesto Ash
16. Pinus halepensis	Aleppo Pine
17. Schinus molle	California Pepper
18. Casuarina stricta	Mountain She-Oak
19. Cupressus sempervirens	Italian Cypress
20. Eucalyptus rostrata	Red Gum
21. E. ficifolia	Red Flowering Gum
22. E. viminalis	Manna Gum
23. Robinia pseudoacacia	Black Locust

Table
~~Pinus~~ | cont.

Botanical Name	Common Name
24. Brachychiton populneus	Bottle Tree
25. Bambusa oldhamii	Olham Bamboo
26. Acer negundo	Box Elder
27. Chorisia speciosa	Floss Silk Tree
28. Ulmus alata	Winged Elm
29. Ulmus americana	American Elm
30. Ulmus parvifolia	Chinese Elm
31. Callistmon citrinus	Lemon Bottle Brush
32. Pyrus kawakamii	Evergreen Pear
33. Prunus persica	Flowering Peach
34. Platanus racemosa	California Sycamore
35. Podocarpus gracilior	Fern Pine
36. Sequoia sempervirens	Redwood
37. Pinus canariensis	Canary Island Pine
38. Ficus elastica	Rubber Tree
39. Podocarpus macrophyllus	Yew Pine
40. Phoenix canariensis	CanaryIsland Date Palm
41. Ceratonia siliqua	Carob
42. Phoenix dactylifera	Date Palm
43. Butia capitata	Pindo Palm
44. Picea pungens	Colorado Spruce
45. Magnolia grandifolia	Magnolia
46. Phoenix reclinata	Senegal Date Palm
47. Cortaderia selloana	Pampass Grass
48. Eucalyptus globulus	Blue Gum

TABLE
~~Figure~~ 1 cont.

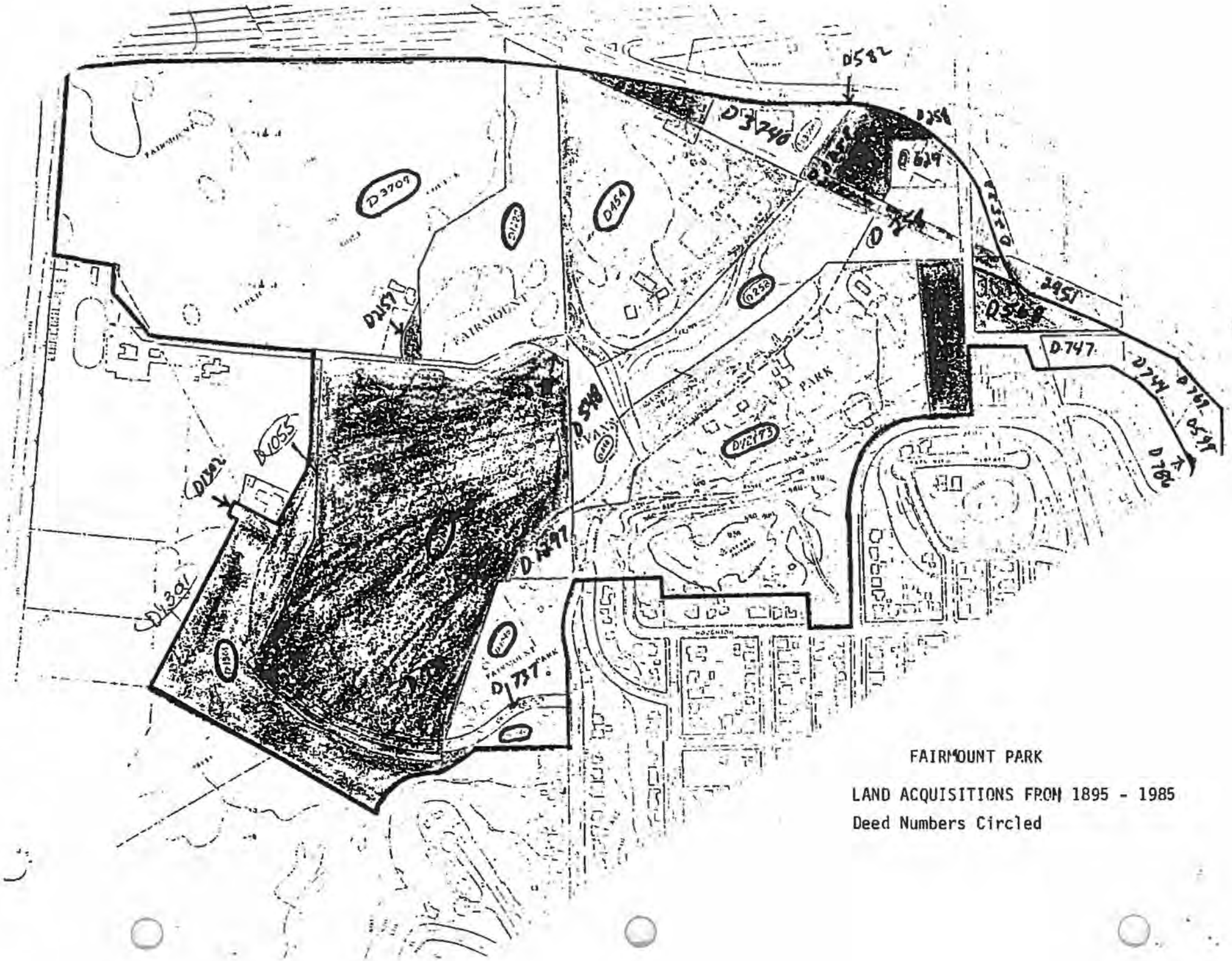
Botanical Name	Common Name
49. Trachycarpus fortunei	Windmill Palm
50. Sabal domingensis	Paniolan Palmetto Palm
51. Ulmus procera	English Elm
52. Ginko biloba	Ginko
53. Arecastrum romanzoffianum	Queen Palm
54. Grevillea robusta	Silk Oak
55. Eucalyptus robusta	Swamp Mahogany
56. Cedrus atlantica	Atlas Cedar
57. Pinus thunbergiana	Japanese Black Pine

Deeds for Fairmount Park lands as recorded in Property Services Files, City Hall

DEED	DATE	GRANTOR	COST
72	10-9-95	John G. North	$10,000
73	10-9-95	Riverside Water Co.	
258	6-11-03	Riverside Land & Irrigating	
333	5-16-07	Wm H. Bloom	$ 1,500
454	6-14-10	Riverside Land & Irrigating	
547	10-25-13	" " "	10
548	10-25-13	" " "	10
568	7-11-14	Wm. G. Henshaw	2,000
582	4-19-16	Riverside Land & Irrigating	10
629	2-17-20	Riverside Water Co	
645	5-17-21	Riverside Land & Irrigating	
711	10-20-23	Arthur H. Brown, et al	
737	8- 6-24	S. C. Evans, et al	
738	8- 6-24	"	
744			800
747			800
599			490
769			350
786			
907			1000
1040	7-18-33	Citizens National Trust	8,817
1055	1-22-34	S.C.Evans	35,000
1297	10-4-39	Ray P. Small	4,400
1301	11-21-39	Mary S. Evans	
1302	11-21-39	" "	
1628	8-12-41	Citizens National Trust	7,500
2084	6-17-49	Mary S. Evans	100
2157	1- 3-50	Frank A. Miller	
2451	5- 8-53	Union Pacific Railroad	
2816	1-26-56	W. C. Evans	
2817	1-27-56	Riverside Water Company	
3709	4-11-60	Mission Inn Co.	178,400 *
3740	6-20-60	Janniev Mori	28,000

*Transaction consisted of trading 31.21 acres (DeAnza Park) plus $53,560.00 for 44.6 acres Fairmount. The $53,560.00 was composed of $34,184.90 received for property used by Freeway and $19,375.10 from park funds.

Note: This document was copied from Property Service records which were hand-written.



FAIRMOUNT PARK

LAND ACQUISITIONS FROM 1895 - 1985

Deed Numbers Circled

Documentation

Brown, John, and James Boyd. History of San Bernardino and Riverside Counties, 1922.

Bryant, John, interview.

Bryant, Marshall, interview.

Chamber of Commerce Brochure, 1934.

City Council Reports

City Maps: 1898, 1903, 1917, & 1934.

Evans, Samuel Wayne, interview.

Fairmount Park Citizens' Committee Minutes.

Gunther, Jane Davis. Riverside County, California Place Names.

Hall, Joan. Inside Riverside.

Klotz, Esther. Mission Inn: Its History and Artifacts.

Lloyd, Zelda, interview.

Olmsted Preliminary and Planting Plans, 1911.

Park Board Minutes

Patterson, Tom. A Colony for California.

Press Enterprise

Proposed Fairmount Park Lake Map of 1903.

Riverside Press and Horticulturalist

Small, Lorraine, interview.

Small, Waldo, interview.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Cultural Heritage Board designate Fairmount Park, in its entirety, as a Landmark of the City of Riverside.

SUGGESTED RESOLUTION

A Resolution of the Cultural Heritage Board of Riverside, California, Designating Landmark #

WHEREAS the Cultural Heritage Board of the City of Riverside has considered the historical and aesthetic contributions that Fairmount Park offers the City; and

WHEREAS the Cultural Heritage Board considers Fairmount Park to be an important urban open space, as well as a lasting example of the work of an historically important landscape architecture firm, the Olmsted Brothers of Brookline, Massachussetts; and

WHEREAS the Cultural Heritage Board acknowledges and appreciates the many contributions--in both development and maintenance--to Fairmount Park by the citizens of Riverside; and

WHEREAS the Cultural Heritage Board desires that Fairmount Park remain a valuable legacy to future generations of citizens;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Cultural Heritage Board designates Fairmount Park, in its entirety, as a Landmark of the City of Riverside.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this designation includes all publicly visible elements of the park, including, but not limited to, the configuration of the lakeshores, the Fairmount Park Bandshell, the acreage of Fairmount Park Golf Course, the grounds of the Riverside Lawn Bowling Club, the Fairmount Park Rose Garden, the Food Machinery Corporation "Water Buffalo", Union Pacific Engine No. 6051, and the three Mission Revival restroom buildings;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Cultural Heritage Board requires that the original Olmsted Brothers plan for the park serve as a guide for varieties of trees suitable for reforestation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Cultural Heritage Board endorses the replacement of climaxed trees, with varieties from the Olmsted list, with the final approval for such reforestation to come from the Park and Recreation Commission.

ADOPTED BY the Cultural Heritage Board of the City of Riverside, California, and signed by its Chairman and attested by its Secretary this day of

CITY OF RIVERSIDE

INTEROFFICE MEMO

TO: Cultural Heritage Board DATE: December 9, 1985

FROM: Alan Curl, Museum

SUBJECT: Landmark Nomination for Fairmount Park

Bob Stewart, Pat Stewart, and I made--this date--a presentation to the Park and Recreation Commission relative to the nomination of Fairmount Park as a Landmark of the City of Riverside. After the presentation, the Commission unanimously endorsed the suggested Landmark resolution as included in this meeting packet.

In addition, Pat Stewart has provided the attached materials as addenda to the nomination report. On the map, please find the locations of the 18 features cited on pages 12 and 13 of the main report.

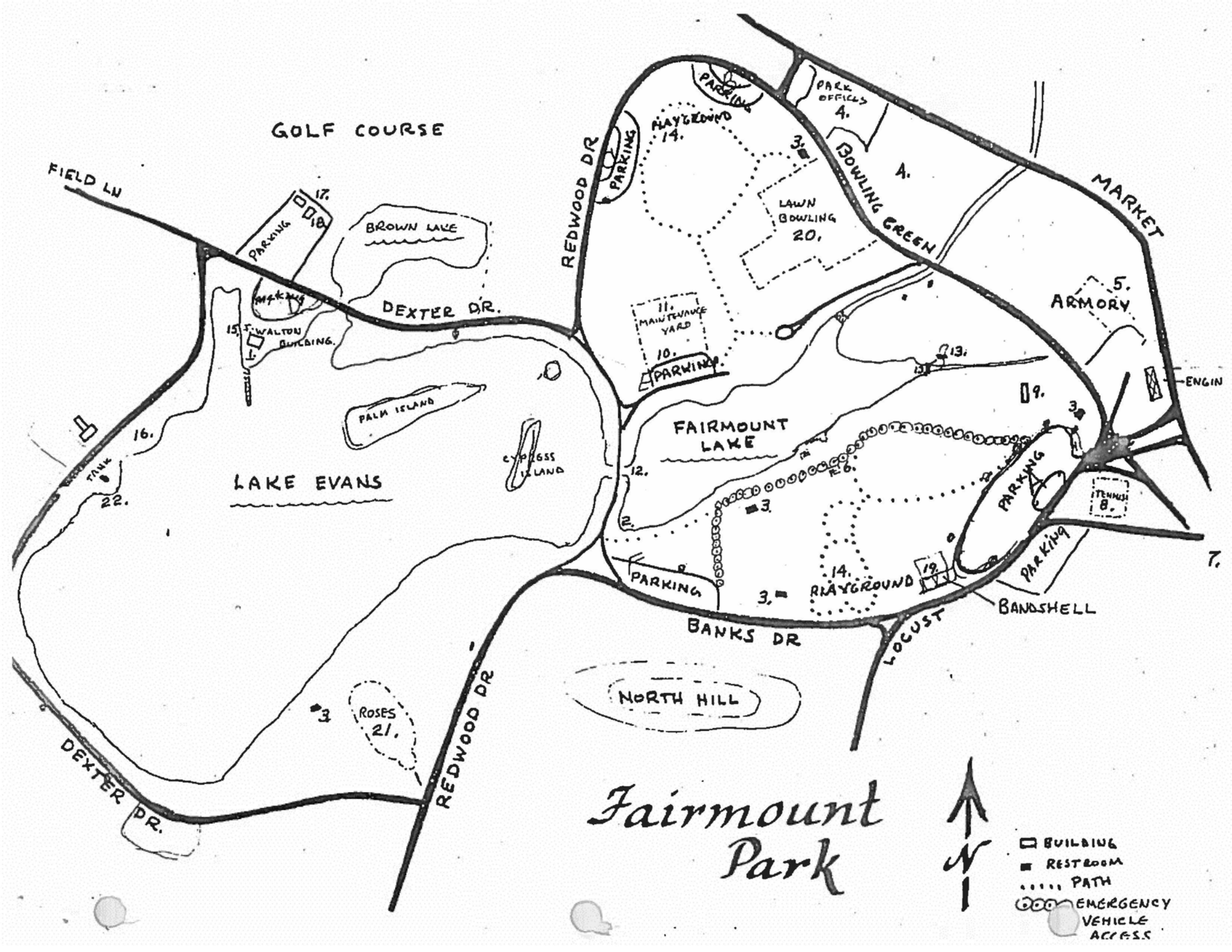
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PLAYGROUNDS

Playgrounds for children was an innovation by Jacob Riis,(1849-1914), a newspaperman and social reformer. About 1900, cities recognized the need for special areas for children to play, with special equipment for gymnastics and other exercises.

Before the 1911 Olmsted Plan, Fairmount Park had some play equipment such as swings and merry-go-rounds scattered through the older part of the park. The Olmsted Plan consolidated all the play area near the Plunge, just at the foot of North Hill and Banks Drive. Swings, slides, merry-go-rounds, a sand lot, and a special play lot for tots were included. In the mid 1950's, the equipment was updated and refurbished to the present 'cowboy' theme. A favorite piece of play equipment was a 1920 fire engine which had to be removed in 1983 because it was hazardous.

At the northern entrance off Market Street near the Freeway, a wooden playground was added in the 1970's. A fortress-like structure of squared off logs with play spaces and climbing areas, the design also incluces a tire swing. Boy Scouts recently refinished the structures.


GOLF COURSE
FIELD LN
PARKING
17.
18.
BROWN LAKE
DEXTER DR.
15. J. WALTON BUILDING.
16.
TANK
22.
PALM ISLAND
CYPRESS ISLAND
LAKE EVANS
REDWOOD DR
PARKING
PARKING
14. PLAYGROUND
3.
LAWN BOWLING
20.
PARK OFFICES
4.
BOWLING GREEN
A.
MARKET
11. MAINTENANCE YARD
10. PARKING
5. ARMORY
13.
ENGIN
9.
FAIRMOUNT LAKE
12.
2.
6.
PARKING
TENNIS
8.
PARKING
PARKING
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ITY OF RIVERSIDE

NTEROFFICE MEMO

TO: Cultural Heritage Board DATE: December 9, 1985

FROM: Alan Curl, Museum

SUBJECT: Colors for Proposed Pagoda on Public Library Frontage

Included in the Board's 11/20/85 meeting packet was an elevation for a proposed pagoda--a memorial to Riverside's pioneer Chinese--to be located on the Seventh Street frontage of the Riverside Public Library. Randolph Hlubik Associates has been contracted by the Park and Recreation Department to prepare three plans for siting and associated landscaping. Preparatory to planning sensitive landscaping, it is advisable for the Cultural Heritage Board to agree upon paint colors for this primarily concrete structure.

On 11/25/85, CHB staff met with Library Director Linda Wood, Park and Recreation Director Dee Bachman, Parks Project Coordinator Bob Johnson, and Chinese community representative David Chang to review details regarding the proposed pagoda. All in attendance agreed upon the colors presented in an elevation by the architecture firm of Acropolis Archiplanners and Associates. This elevation will be presented at the Board's 12/18/85 meeting, but essential features include a gold glazed tile roof, red pillars, gold balustrade, white and gold platform and enclosure, and a tile floor--for both surrounding platform and pagoda floor--in alternate shades of red, light red, gold, and brown. Orange, blue, and green detailing enhances eaveline decorative panels. All are colors and shades traditional to Chinese architecture.

RECOMMENDATIONS: 1) That the Cultural Heritage Board approve colors depicted in a color elevation (8/31/85 by Acropolis Archiplanners and Associates) for a proposed Chinese pagoda on Seventh Street at the frontage of the Riverside Public Library; and

2) That in the Cultural Heritage Board, in order to facilitate a groundbreaking ceremony in time for Chinese New Year (in 2/86), indicate its willingness to schedule a special meeting--if necessary--for consideration of siting and landscape plans.

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