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# What's Out There®

## Cleveland

## Welcome to *What's Out There*® Cleveland organized by The Cultural Landscape Foundation® (TCLF)

This guidebook provides photographs and information about two dozen examples of the region's rich cultural landscape legacy, many of which were featured in *What's Out There Weekend Cleveland*, September 9-10, 2023, a weekend of free, expert-led tours.

Originally populated by the Lenape, Oneida, Ottawa, and Wyandot peoples, this northeastern Ohio cultural landscape was acquired by the Connecticut Land Company in 1795. One of the largest shareholders, Moses Cleaveland, established a settlement on the bank of the Cuyahoga River in 1796 and called it "Cleaveland." The opening of the Ohio & Erie Canal (1832), and later the arrival of cross-country railroad routes, repositioned the once-isolated city into a bustling hub. The city's growth attracted immigrants, who fueled the city's steel mills, refineries, factories, canal boats, and lumberyards. A century after Cleveland's founding, a board of park commissioners was established to secure parkland for the growing city, with landscape gardener Ernest Bowditch engaged to improve and connect the disjointed parcels.

In the early twentieth century, Cleveland acquired the characteristics of a prosperous American city, including a grand, Beaux-Arts civic core planned by Daniel Burnham, John Carrère, Arnold Brunner, and Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr., major cultural institutions, and hundreds of acres of parkland donated by generous patrons such as William Gordon, Jephtha Wade, the Van Sweringen brothers, and John D. Rockefeller. In anticipation of Cleveland's growth past its city limits, city engineer William Stinchcomb established in 1917 the Cleveland Metropolitan Park District (now Cleveland Metroparks), which by 1930 had acquired 9,000 acres.

Although Cleveland's economy slowed during the Great Depression, the city made great strides in capital improvements funded by New Deal programs, and wealthy Clevelanders continued to support the development of public space, including John D. Rockefeller, Jr., who in 1938 hired landscape architect A. D. Taylor to convert his estate into the 235-acre Forest Hill Park.

In the 1960s and 1970s, following years of industrial activity, geographic upheaval, and urban renewal, Clevelanders mobilized to protect the city's built and natural environment and reinvigorate its civic and public realm. Many of Cleveland's once-neglected areas have been revitalized and activated, with improved connections to nearby cultural and natural resources. In the 21st century, the city's tradition of patronage has evolved in partnership with community-based groups to invest in more inclusive parks and open spaces, making visible, instilling value, and engaging a broader public in the stewardship of the public realm.

This guidebook is a complement to TCLF's digital *What's Out There Cultural Landscapes Guide to Cleveland*, which includes a history of the city and nearly 50 site profiles, as well as overarching narratives, maps, historic photographs, and biographies. This print guidebook and the digital guide dovetail with TCLF's web-based *What's Out There*, the nation's most comprehensive searchable database of cultural landscapes. Profusely illustrated and carefully vetted, the searchable database currently features more than 2,600 sites, 13,000 images, and 1,100 designer profiles. It has been optimized for mobile devices and includes *What's Nearby*, a GPS-enabled feature that locates all landscapes within a given distance. A special word of thanks is owed to all who participated in the creation of the guidebook and online guide. We are likewise grateful to the site stewards, volunteers, sponsors, and other friends of TCLF who made the tours possible. We appreciate your interest in *What's Out There Cleveland* and hope you will enjoy experiencing the region's unique and extraordinary landscape legacy.

Sincerely,



**Charles A. Birnbaum, FASLA, FAAR**  
President and CEO, The Cultural Landscape Foundation

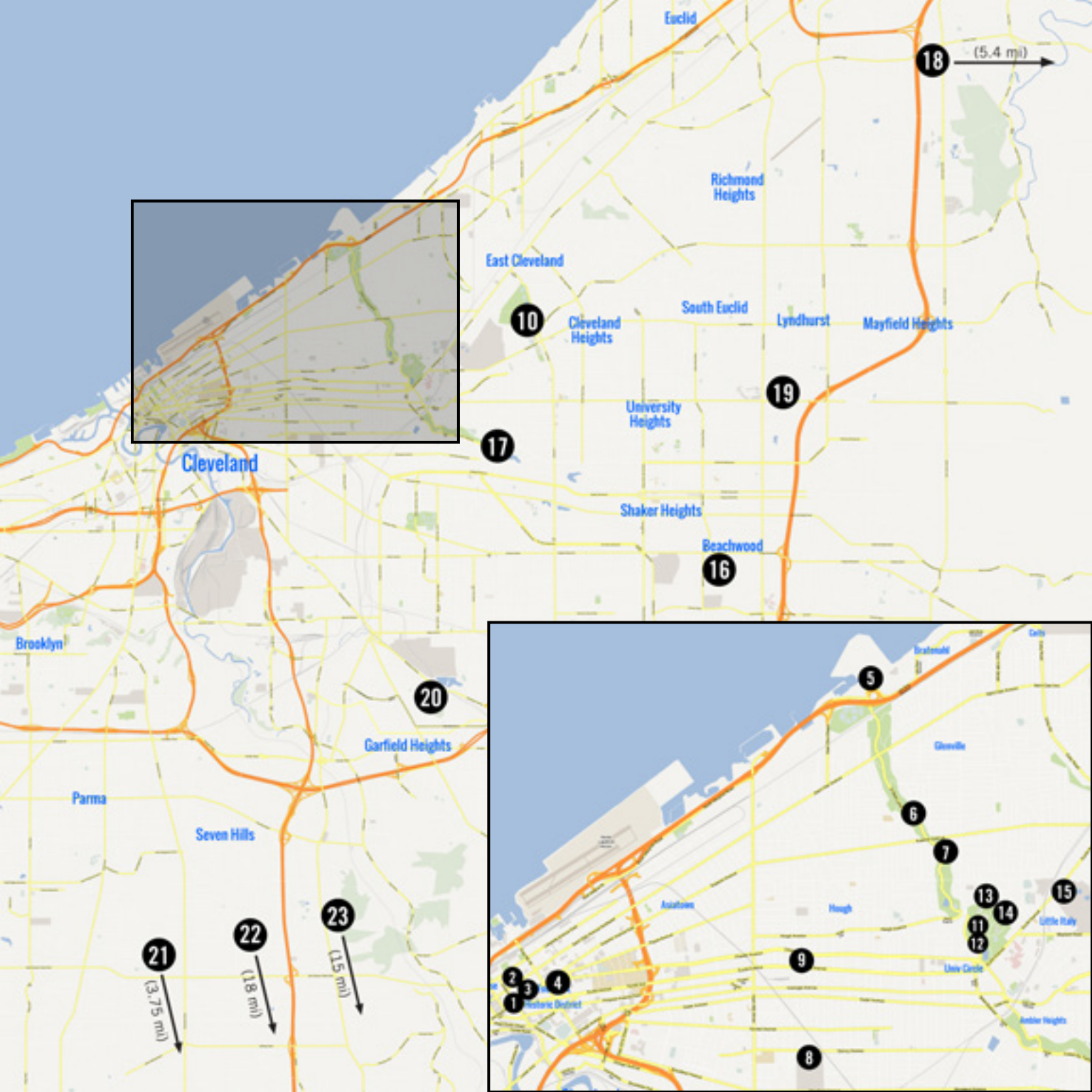


### The Cultural Landscape Foundation® (TCLF)

TCLF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit founded in 1998 to connect people to places. TCLF educates and engages the public to make our shared landscape heritage more visible, identify its value, and empower its stewards. Through its website, publishing, lectures and other events, TCLF broadens support and understanding for cultural landscapes. TCLF is also home to the *Cornelia Hahn Oberlander International Landscape Architecture Prize*®.

[tclf.org](http://tclf.org)

Image courtesy of Cleveland Public Library.



Wade Park

Photo by Tom Rask, courtesy Case Western Reserve University.

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# 1894 Parks and Parkways Plan & 1903 Group Plan

Image courtesy Cleveland State University Library Special Collections.



By 1890 Cleveland's population had swelled to exceed 200,000, yet unlike comparable cities, Cleveland lacked a comprehensive park system, with only eight parks, totaling less than 100 acres.



In 1893 the Ohio Park Act afforded park boards increased authority to appropriate parkland and issue bonds, and a new five-member board of park commissioners was established. The commissioners located several large parks along the city's periphery, from forested valleys to lakeshore beaches and bluffs. In 1894 they appointed Boston landscape gardener Ernest

Bowditch to implement the work and by 1896, hundreds of acres of parkland had been acquired, enabling the creation of a ribbon of parks, extending from Gordon Park in the east to Shaker Lakes to the south. To enhance connectivity, curvilinear parkways were laid out by Bowditch near Edgewater Park, along Lake Erie and throughout the Doan Brook Valley, providing a foundation for a future interconnected system.

Less than a decade later, the city, supported by the American Institute of Architects and the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce, established a Group Plan Commission to create a harmonious, centralized plan for the city's downtown. Architects Daniel Burnham, John Carrère, and Arnold Brunner led the effort. Their 1903 plan, inspired by the City Beautiful movement, recommended an axial plan with a wide, central, tripartite mall running south-north to Lake Erie, with a secondary east-west axis along the lakefront. Beaux-Arts civic buildings of uniform scale and style would surround the mall and anchor the terminating axial focal points. Soon after, the city acquired land east of its historic Public Square, stretching between Superior Avenue and the lakefront, to realize the plan. Upon Burnham's death in 1912, Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr., was appointed to the commission to advise on the plan's implementation through the 1930s.

In 2010, Mayor Frank Johnson commissioned a new Group Plan to oversee development of the city's downtown core. A 2014 master plan by landscape architects Gustafson Guthrie Nichol (GGN) and LMN Architects, commissioned by LAND Studio, proposed strengthening the connections between the lakefront, civic institutions, and public spaces established in the 1903 Group Plan.

**Landscape Category:**  
Designed Landscape

**Landscape Type:**  
Park System –  
City Plan

**Landscape Style:**  
Beaux-Arts/Neoclassical  
Picturesque

**Designed By:**  
Ernest W. Bowditch  
Arnold Brunner  
Daniel H. Burnham  
John Carrère  
Carrère and Hastings  
Gustafson Guthrie Nichol  
LAND Studio  
LMN Architects  
Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr.  
Olmsted Brothers

**Related Landscapes:**  
Cleveland Mall  
Cleveland Public Library  
Eastman Reading Garden  
Edgewater Park  
Garfield Park  
Public Square  
Rockefeller Park  
Shaker Lakes  
Wade Oval

(above) Image courtesy of the United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site.

# Public Square

**Historical Name:**  
Monumental Park

**Landscape Category:**  
Designed Landscape

**Landscape Type:**  
Public Park –  
Greens/Commons/Squares  
Commemorative Landscape

**Landscape Style:**  
Beaux Arts / Neoclassical  
Modernist

**Designed By:**  
Ken Bassett  
James Corner Field Operations  
LAND Studio  
Lawrence Halprin  
Sasaki Associates

**Related Landscape:**  
1903 Group Plan for Cleveland

Laid out in the city's 1796 plan, this 6.5-acre square lies less than a mile south of Lake Erie. It was intended to resemble a New England common, serving as the city's geographic, symbolic, and civic core. The square is subdivided into four distinct quadrants by Superior Avenue and Ontario Street. As the city developed through the nineteenth century, competing demands for a transit hub, park, and space for commemoration led to the site's scattershot development. By the late nineteenth century, the northeast quadrant was modestly designed with pedestrian paths, benches, and trees, while other quadrants accommodated statues in park-like settings.

In 1903, the Group Plan developed northeast, yet the square continued to evolve incongruously. Unifying plans were proposed in the 1970s by Lawrence Halprin and in the 1980s by Ken Bassett of Sasaki Associates, but the city instead continued a piecemeal approach, introducing park amenities such as water features and paved plazas that no longer survive.

Alongside efforts to revitalize Cleveland's downtown, the square was redesigned by James Corner Field Operations with LAND Studio in 2016 as a cohesive, walkable space. Superior Avenue was narrowed and limited to bus traffic, while Ontario Street was closed and subsumed by the square. The perimeter is framed by an apron of grey brick pavers, rows of elm trees, and raised planting beds of flowering trees and perennials. A walkway traces a butterfly-shaped loop around complementary forms that define the northern and southern halves. The northern is carpeted with lawn and curves around a monument to former mayor Tom Johnson, with curvilinear terraced mounds edged with stone. The southern, paved area accommodates a splash pad, a statue honoring Moses Cleaveland, and the Soldiers and Sailors Monument. The square was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1975.



Photo © Multivista for Donley's Construction.



# Cleveland Mall

**Landscape Category:**  
Designed Landscape

**Landscape Type:**  
Pedestrian Mall  
Public Park

**Landscape Style:**  
Beaux-Arts/Neoclassical

**Designed By:**  
Daniel H. Burnham  
John Carrère  
Carrère and Hastings  
Clarke & Rapuano  
Marshall Fredericks  
LMN Architects  
James M. Lister  
Frank Mead  
Gustafson Guthrie Nichol  
Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr.  
Olmsted Brothers  
Ron Payto

**Related Landscape:**  
1903 Group Plan

Inspired by the McMillan Plan for Washington, D.C., also led by Burnham, the 1903 Group Plan called for a tripartite mall lined by rows of topiary that opened towards a fountain fronting the Union Railroad Terminal, later built adjacent to the nearby Public Square. Olmsted Brothers were engaged to consult on the plan's execution, and the firm remained involved with the project through the 1930s.

A bronze war memorial called the *Fountain of Eternal Life*, by sculptor Marshall Fredericks, was added to the mall's southernmost segment, known as Veterans Memorial Plaza, in 1964. The northern and central segments were excavated that year to allow for construction of the underground Cleveland Convention Center, during which time it was redesigned by Clarke & Rapuano. The convention center was rebuilt as the Huntington Convention Center in 2013 by LMN Architects, and portions of the mall redesigned by landscape architects Gustafson Guthrie Nichol (GGN). The latter design sought to reintroduce the uniform proportions of the Group Plan.

Divided by roadways and framed by civic Neoclassical buildings, the mall widens incrementally as it moves northwest. A plaza, accessed by paths that radiate out from Fredericks' memorial fountain, comprises the mall's southernmost segment. A long central green, built atop the convention center, gradually inclines before ending one story above the building's entrance. Edged by border plantings and mirror-covered ventilation shafts, the elevated lawn overlooks a wider green culminating in expansive views of Lake Erie. The sculpture, *Flame Cauldron*, by Ron Payto, is situated in the centermost segment. The Cleveland Mall was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1975.



# Cleveland Public Library Eastman Reading Garden

The Cleveland Public Library's main branch was erected in 1925 and designed by Walker and Weeks to assimilate with the 1903 Group Plan. In 1937 librarian Linda Eastman created a "reading garden" in an adjacent, undeveloped 0.3-acre lot, enlivening a linear paved walkway with lawn borders, canopy trees, and alcoves with benches and moveable book carts.

In 1959, the library acquired a second building opposite the reading garden. Following renovations, landscape architect George Creed paved the park with concrete and flanked the space with carpets of low ground cover and flowering trees. Ornamental iron fencing and entry gates were added at Rockwell and Superior Avenues. Lawn panels with trees border each gate, screening the park. Creed added two central, rectangular beds, each planted with one tree, and furnished the space with moveable chairs, tables, shade umbrellas, figurative sculpture, and a sun dial. The garden reopened as the Eastman Reading Garden in 1960.

In 1998, landscape architecture firm Hanna/Olin reconceived the space in tandem with the library's rehabilitation. Shade trees remain at each street entrance, and the central space, repaved in a pattern of white, red, and grey stone, retains its linear form. Along the east and west perimeter, understory flowering trees shade beds of perennials, some raised and rimmed by stone benches. In the southwest corner, a pyramidal lightwell illuminates the space below.

Two permanent sculptures were installed in 1998. Small, playful bronze figures by Tom Otterness adorn the entrance gates and benches. Maya Lin's L-shaped black granite fountain, titled *Reading a Garden* and inscribed by a Tan Lin poem of the same name, frames a recessed seating area shaded by a grove of honey locusts at the park's center. Since 2009, an initiative by the library and LAND Studio has also displayed rotating works of public art.

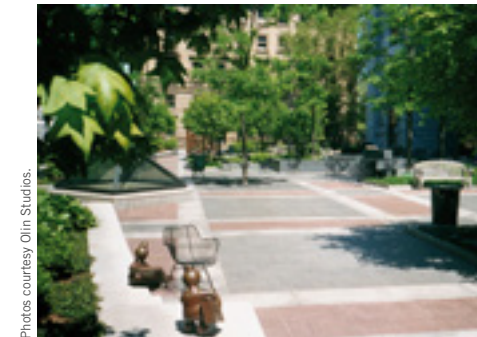
**Historical Name:**  
Eastman Park

**Landscape Category:**  
Designed Landscape

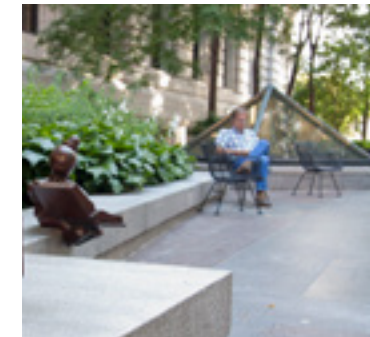
**Landscape Type:**  
Vest Pocket Park

**Landscape Style:**  
Modernist

**Designed By:**  
Clayton Aiken  
George Creed  
Linda Eastman  
Hanna/Olin  
Maya Lin  
Tom Otterness  
Walker and Weeks



Photos courtesy Olin Studios.



# Ralph J. Perk Plaza

Photo courtesy SWA/Balsley.



This one-acre park occupies the eastern end of a downtown city block between Walnut and Chester Avenues. Set aside following the publication of I.M. Pei's Erievue plan for downtown Cleveland in 1961, the park, originally named Chester Commons and later renamed after former mayor Ralph Perk, opened in 1972 and featured a sunken central area traversed by angular paths edged by berms planted with turf and trees. The park was replete with cast concrete elements, including retaining walls, steps, benches, and tables. Following years of decline, a campaign led by LAND Studio secured funds to revive the park, which was redesigned by landscape architects Thomas Balsley Associates (now SWA/Balsley) and Jim McKnight, and reopened in 2012.

Viewed from above, the park's circular and biomorphic forms recall an abstract painting framed by a perimeter sidewalk. A metal frame pergola runs the entirety of the park's eastern edge and shades low tables and fixed chairs. The pergola's roof is composed of evenly spaced fluorescent panes that cast red-hued shadows below, complementing the park's verdancy.

A sidewalk bisects the site, creating two orthogonal spaces, that while alike in size and orientation, each feature different but complementary elements. The southern section is dominated by an open lawn with an elliptical mound, which extends slightly into the southern perimeter sidewalk. Recently introduced deciduous trees frame the southern and western edge of the mound and will one day offer shade. The northern section is paved with crushed stone and defined by nine elliptical beds planted with shrubs and trees, including mature honey locusts retained from the former park. The beds are each edged by respective bands of concrete that serve as benches. While distinct, the sections are bound by their use of similar elements, including elliptical forms and ordered rows of sculptural, twenty-foot-tall cylindrical light fixtures.

**Historical Name:**  
Chester Commons

**Landscape Category:**  
Designed Landscape

**Landscape Type:**  
Plaza

**Landscape Style:**  
Modernist

**Designed By:**  
Thomas Balsley Associates  
Jim McKnight



Photos courtesy SWA/Balsley.



# Cleveland Lakefront Reservation

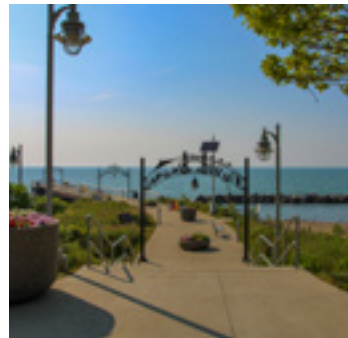
**Historical Name:**  
Lakefront State Park

**Landscape Type:**  
Public Park –  
Park System  
Scenic Reservation  
Waterfront Development

**Designed By:**  
Behnke Associates, Inc.  
William A. Behnke  
Bialosky  
Ernest W. Bowditch  
Charles L. “Pete” Knight  
William Stinchcomb

This 419-acre reservation provides access to beaches, trails, boating and fishing docks, and open green space along the southern shore of Lake Erie. In 1977, the City of Cleveland, struggling to protect its parklands from increasing pollution and vandalism, leased more than 400 acres of its lakefront parkland to the State of Ohio, which commissioned landscape architects William A. Behnke Associates, Inc., to develop a master plan for the new Lakefront State Park. Although the plan received national recognition, lack of funding led to the transfer of parkland management to Cleveland Metroparks in 2013. Edgewater Park to the west and Gordon Park to the east were originally established in the 1894 Parks and Parkways Plan to provide lakefront access, and are now connected by the Memorial Shoreway (I-90) and a series of foot and bike paths, including the Cleveland Lakefront Bikeway, to a chain of waterfront parks including Wendy Park, Wildwood Park, and Euclid Beach Park.

The 147-acre Edgewater Park includes a wooded upper-level hosting bike trails and visitor amenities, and a lower level featuring a beach, marinas, fishing piers, and a pavilion designed by local firm Bialosky. An all-purpose trail connects Edgewater Park to Wendy Park, a nesting and migratory animal habitat, and a historic Coast Guard station at the mouth of the Cuyahoga River. East of the river, the East 55th Street Marina contains boat slips, a restaurant, and volleyball and bocce ball courts, and connects to a fishing area. The lakeside section of Gordon Park contains boat ramps, fishing platforms, and picnic facilities. The Doan Brook once emptied into Lake Erie here, providing scenic and recreational value, but was culverted during the extension of I-90 in the 1950s. Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve, a former landfill and dredge placement site, was constructed with dredge from the Cuyahoga River. The Nature Preserve, operated by the Port of Cleveland, provides essential lakefront habitat and is recognized by the National Audubon Society as an Important Bird Area.





# Rockefeller Park

**Landscape Category:**  
Designed Landscape

**Landscape Type:**  
Public Park –  
Neighborhood Park

**Landscape Style:**  
Picturesque

**Designed By:**  
Arthur H. Alexander  
Behnke Associates, Inc.  
Ernest W. Bowditch  
Charles L. “Pete” Knight  
Seward Hamilton Mott  
Pitkin & Mott  
William Chase Pitkin, Jr.  
Charles Schweinfurth  
Siteworks

**Related Landscape:**  
1894 Parks & Parkways Plan  
Cleveland Cultural Gardens

Established on land donated by John D. Rockefeller, Sr., this 206-acre park stretches for approximately two miles from Gordon Park, situated along the shore of Lake Erie, to University Circle. Set in a ravine carved by the Doan Brook, the park was designed by Ernest Bowditch in 1894 on behalf of the Board of Park Commissioners, who envisioned a chain of interconnected greenspaces throughout the city.

Bowditch designed a curvilinear parkway (now Martin Luther King, Jr., Drive) flanked by pedestrian paths, asymmetrical plantings of shade trees (beeches, cottonwoods, maples, sycamores, and oaks), and lawns framed by steeply sloped sides that provide enclosure. Bowditch accommodated multiple modes of travel, while ensuring a shared choreographed experience. The meandering parkway and walks contrast with the linear, ordered grid of the surrounding neighborhoods and pass under four masonry bridges (1899-1902) designed by Charles Schweinfurth. The park is also home to more than 30 Cleveland Cultural Gardens.

The park follows the course of the Doan Brook, whose contiguous expanses of lawn meet banks reinforced with stone walls erected between 1904 and 1941. The Works Progress Administration was integral to the project’s construction as well as the development of greenhouses and many of the Cleveland Cultural Gardens.

Bowditch’s design created picturesque passages of scenery that animated sections of the park with rocky outcroppings and a curvilinear lagoon near the southern terminus, rebuilt in the early 2000s at half its original size. The lagoon is encircled by a pedestrian path edged by willows and features an island that echoes one originally designed by Bowditch. The landscape architecture firm Siteworks prepared a master plan for the park in 2009, which received an ASLA Honor Award. The Rockefeller Park and Cleveland Cultural Gardens Historic District was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2005.

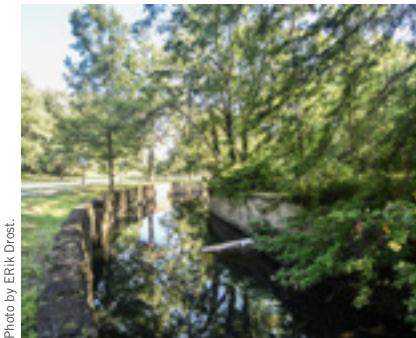


Photo by ERIK DREST.

# Cleveland Cultural Gardens

**Landscape Category:**  
Designed Landscape

**Landscape Type:**  
Commemorative Landscape  
Public Park

**Designed By:**  
Behnke Associates, Inc.  
Donald A. Gray  
Thomas H. Jones  
Charles L. “Pete” Knight  
James Lister  
B. Ashburton Tripp

**Related Landscape:**  
Rockefeller Park

This collection of more than 30 gardens in or adjacent to Rockefeller Park originated with the establishment of the Shakespeare Garden (now the British Garden) in 1916. Its purpose, to commemorate the culture of Britain, with support from a coalition led by the Shakespeare Memorial Committee and the City of Cleveland, inspired city leaders to replicate the concept with additional themed gardens honoring America’s diverse immigrant populations. A partnership formed between the city, the newly established Cleveland Cultural Gardens Federation, and the Federal Government, with the first Cultural Garden, the Hebrew Garden, dedicated in 1926.

Over the following two decades, Works Progress Administration funding was used to complete dozens of additional gardens, with local landscape architects including Ashburton Tripp, James Lister, A. Donald Gray, and Thomas Jones, among others, employed to create the designs. Plantings, statuary, and signage interpret the cultural lifeways of a diverse array of immigrant communities. Between 1929 and 1950, the German, Italian, Hungarian, Slovak, Irish, Greek, Polish, Czech, Lithuanian, Carpatho Rusyn, and Ukrainian Gardens were established, many with ongoing support and maintenance provided by Cleveland’s immigrant communities. The Peace Garden of the Nations (1936) represents the Cultural Gardens goal to promote civic pride and world peace and contains intermingled soils retrieved from historic sites around the world. More than a dozen gardens were later established, including the African American (1977), Chinese (1985), and Indian (2005) Gardens, with many more slated for development. The Rockefeller Park and Cleveland Cultural Gardens Historic District was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2005.



Photos by Charles A. Birnbaum.



# Woodland Cemetery



Located approximately two-and-a-half miles southeast of downtown, this cemetery incorporates 60 acres purchased by the city in 1851. In 1852, the Committee on Public Grounds hired Howard Daniels to design the property's southern third. In his plan, circular geometries animate the flat ground plane. A central roundabout is surrounded by concentric circles of burial lots crosscut by drives. From the southeast and southwest corners, secondary circular formations of burial lots overlap with the central arrangement.

The remaining two-thirds of the cemetery was developed through the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Circular motifs from Daniels' plan were extended into the northwest quadrant, where curvilinear drives were also introduced. In contrast, the northeast quadrant is platted in a grid. Plantings of shade trees, including maples and sycamores, are a unifying feature of each section. Some older burial lots exhibit Rural Cemetery characteristics, though mausolea and headstones represent a broad range of Revival styles.

The cemetery is accessed today by north and south entrances connected by a linear drive. A stone Gothic gatehouse frames the Woodland Avenue entrance. Several other features, including a chapel and two ornamental fountains, were installed in the 1880s (no longer extant), with a flagpole now occupying the chapel's site at the cemetery's center. The central drive is paved with asphalt while the remainder of the drives, originally paved, are predominantly grass or compacted earth. Many prominent abolitionists and African American leaders are interred here, reflecting Cleveland's role in historic events from the antebellum era through the Civil Rights movement.

The cemetery was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1986, became a Cleveland Landmark in 2008, and an Ohio Historical Landmark in 2009. In 2015 it was included in the National Park Service Underground Railroad Network to Freedom.

**Landscape Category:**  
Designed Landscape

**Landscape Type:**  
Cemetery

**Landscape Style:**  
Picturesque

**Designed By:**  
Howard Daniels



# Dunham Tavern Museum & Gardens

**Historical Name:**  
Dunham Tavern

**Landscape Category:**  
Designed Landscape  
Historic Site

**Landscape Type:**  
Garden and Estate –  
Colonial Garden

**Designed By:**  
Merritt Chase  
Donald A. Gray  
LAND Studio

Located approximately two-and-a-half miles east of downtown, this relatively level, five-acre site is nestled between Chester and Euclid Avenues. The southern edge of the property features a Colonial farmhouse, established in 1824 by settlers Rufus and Jane Pratt Dunham as a home, stagecoach stop, and tavern. The property was sold in 1853 and served solely as a residence until 1930. In 1936 local landscape architect A. Donald Gray organized the corporation Dunham Tavern, Inc., to acquire and rehabilitate the structure and property, which opened as a house museum in 1982.

Accessed from Euclid Avenue from the south, a drive skirts the east façade of the L-shaped farmhouse and a formal garden, named in Gray's honor. The drive leads to a parking area framed to the east by a garden, established in 1991, which includes a central brick path and beds planted with flowering shrubs and perennials. The north side of the property features a barn (1999), a smaller replica of an 1840 structure that burned in 1963. Demonstration gardens about the barn, extending north and terminating at a border of deciduous trees, including sycamore and locusts, that screen the property from Chester Avenue. The easternmost portion of the property includes an orchard facing Euclid Avenue and a lawn with a looped path that leads visitors south toward Euclid Avenue through a grove of deciduous trees, including oaks.

In 2019 LAND Studio conducted community engagement studies that informed a master plan prepared by Merritt Chase in 2021. Dunham Tavern was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1974.



Photo by Jimmy Emerson.



Photos by Stu Spivack.



# Forest Hill Park

Straddling the boundary between East Cleveland and Cleveland Heights, this 235-acre park is edged primarily by residential neighborhoods and is partitioned by a curvilinear, east-west oriented drive, Forest Hills Boulevard. The park features topographically varied land, including two steep ravines, and incorporates an estate developed by John D. Rockefeller, Sr., from 1880 to 1917. Throughout his tenancy, Rockefeller developed the grounds, laying out a network of carriage drives, paths, and trails; establishing a nine-hole golf course and lake; and constructing bridges, culverts and retaining walls along the Dugway Brook using Euclid bluestone quarried on site. Beginning in 1890, John D. Rockefeller, Jr., assisted with landscape-related projects, and in 1923 acquired the property. In 1938 he donated a portion of the estate to East Cleveland and Cleveland Heights, stipulating that the land be used as a recreational park, overseen by a commission comprised of each city's mayor and a chairperson appointed by the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA).

Rockefeller, Jr., engaged landscape architect A.D. Taylor, whose 1938 masterplan was implemented by the Works Progress Administration. Taylor incorporated the existing circulation network and preserved expansive sections of woodlands. He transformed the golf course into a pastoral Great Meadow, and established athletic fields north and south of Forest Hills Boulevard. Taylor enlarged the lake to over five acres, siting an open-air stone boathouse (1940) on its northern shore and establishing a naturalistic cascade-like spillway at its outflow. A pedestrian bridge designed by engineer Wilbur Watson and architect Frank Walker (1940) spans the boulevard, connecting footpaths that navigate throughout the park. Paths follow the edges of the ravines and are shaded by deciduous trees, such as maples, oaks, and beeches. The park opened to the public in 1942.

Forest Hill Park was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1998. The following year an updated master plan was prepared by Pressley Associates.

**Historical Name:**  
Forest Hill  
The Homestead

**Landscape Category:**  
Designed Landscape

**Landscape Type:**  
Public Park –  
Neighborhood Park

**Landscape Style:**  
Picturesque

**Designed By:**  
Donald A. Gray  
Pressley Associates  
Hannah Champlin Scott  
A.D. Taylor  
Frank Walker  
Wilbur Watson



Photo by Mark Souther.



# Cleveland Museum of Arts Fine Arts Garden

## Landscape Type:

Institutional Grounds –  
Cultural Institution  
Public Park

## Landscape Styles:

Beaux-Arts / Neoclassical

## Designed By:

Chester Beach  
Behnke Associates, Inc.  
Donald A. Gray  
William L. “Pete” Knight  
William Bell Marquis  
Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr.  
Olmsted Brothers  
Sasaki  
William A. Strong  
Edward Clarke Whiting  
Leon Henry Zach

## Related Landscapes:

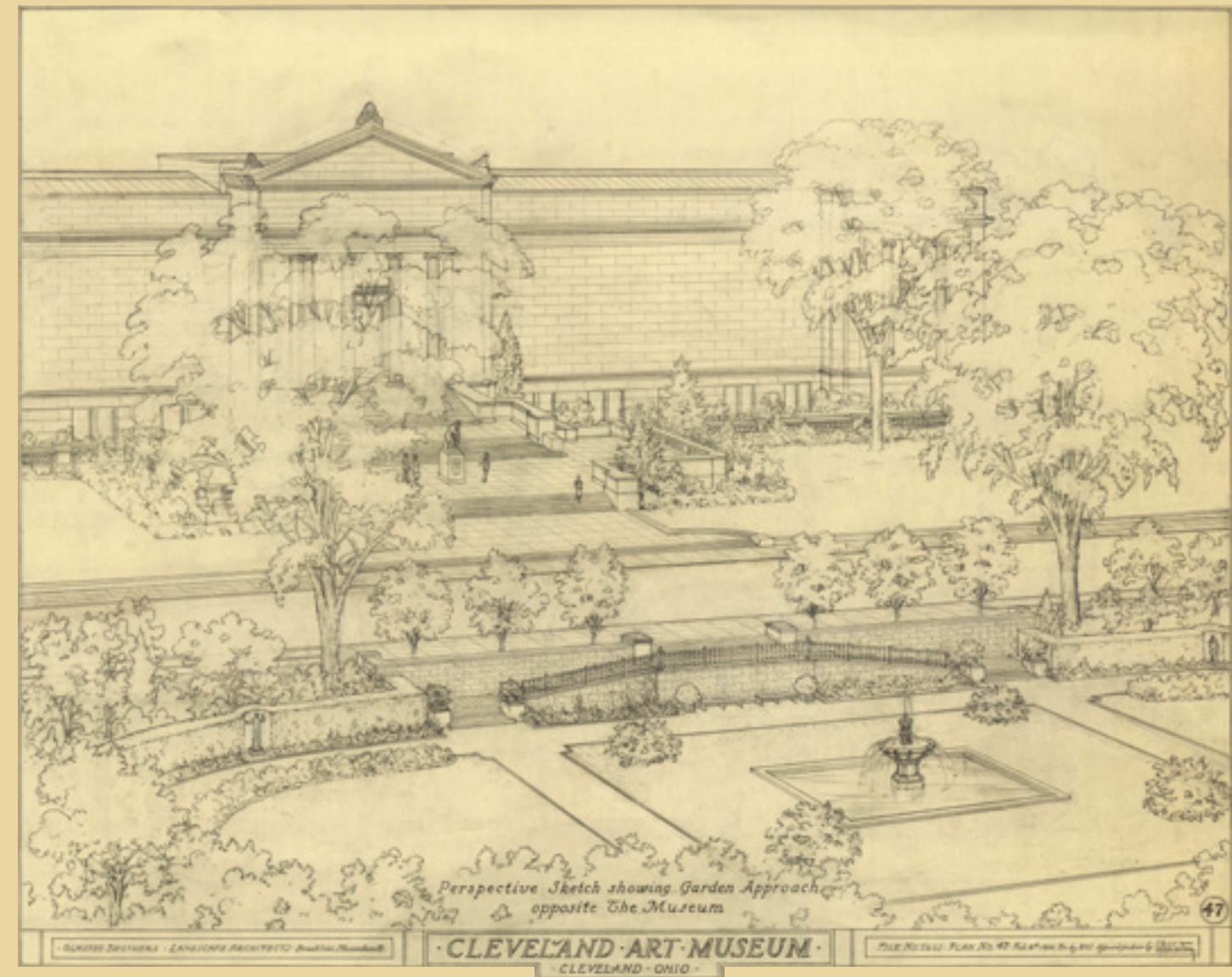
Nord Family Greenway  
Wade Oval

This garden occupies land that was originally part of a 63-acre parcel donated, in 1882, to the City of Cleveland for use as a park by industrialist Jephtha Wade. A smaller adjoining segment, initially withheld as a reserve, was donated by Wade's grandson, Jephtha Wade II, to the city for the creation of the Cleveland Museum of Art, which opened in 1916. In 1925 the Garden Club of Cleveland hired Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr., of Olmsted Brothers to beautify the surrounding parkland. The design, completed by the firm's Edward Whiting and Leon Zach in 1928, included a formal garden that fronted the museum. Landscape architect A. Donald Gray, who had worked for Olmsted Brothers before establishing his own practice in Cleveland in 1920, also contributed to the park's design.

This formal garden consists of two outdoor rooms that descend along a central axis bookended by the museum's southern façade terrace and the Wade Park Lagoon. The first is the Zodiac Garden, an oval lawn fitted onto a plateau and bound by stepped terraces. Contained by marble curbing, the lawn's shape is strongly defined by a dense border of yew hedges. Twelve stone plinths, created by artist Chester Beach and representing each sign of the zodiac, frame the lawn's curvatures. A single-tier fountain, also created by Beach and named *Fountain of the Waters*, is situated at the center of the green, flanked by two figurative sculptures. Sandstone paths descend from the museum's terrace to trisect the lawn before continuing southward to define an adjoining mall bordered by yew hedges. As it gently slopes towards the lagoon, the mall's rectangular shape is further strengthened by two framing, parallel rows of topiary that gradually decrease in size. The garden was rehabilitated by Behnke Associates, Inc., (2002) and Sasaki (2018). Sasaki's Nord Family Greenway project connected the garden with neighboring institutions and the Doan Brook. The garden is a contributing feature of the Wade Park District, listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1982.



Image courtesy of the United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site.



# Nord Family Greenway

**Landscape Category:**  
Designed Landscape

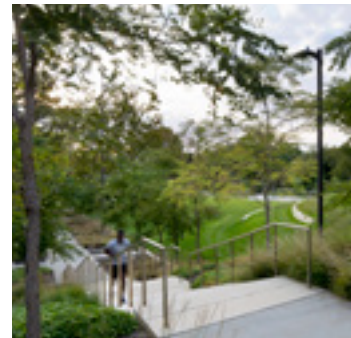
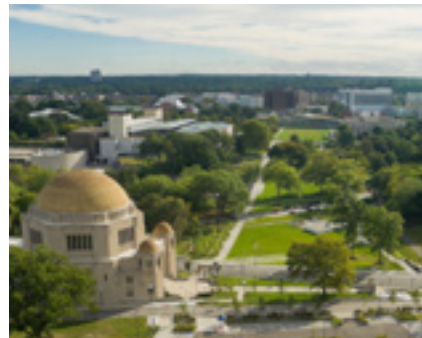
**Landscape Type:**  
Public Park –  
Neighborhood Park

**Designed By:**  
Sasaki

**Related Landscapes:**  
Case Western Reserve University  
Cleveland Cultural Gardens  
Cleveland Museum of Art  
Fine Arts Garden  
Wade Oval

Located approximately four miles east of downtown, this 14.4-acre linear park weaves together portions of Wade Park, the Cleveland Museum of Art (CMA), and the museum's Fine Arts Garden to connect two sections of Case Western Reserve University's (CWRU) campus. Following a 2013 design competition, CWRU, CMA, and the Cleveland Foundation engaged Sasaki to develop the greenway, with construction completed in 2018.

The 300-foot-wide 2,200-foot-long park runs from the CWRU Maltz Performing Arts Center at the west to the Tinkham Veale University Center at the east, complementing the north-south axis established in 1928 by Olmsted Brothers connecting the CMA and Wade Lagoon. Linear and curvilinear paths navigate around mature deciduous trees, including sycamores and oaks. A promenade knits together distinct areas, including the Fine Arts Garden, athletic fields, and a sunken, central lawn enlivened with a partially terraced slope. The eastern portion of lawn features the Chinese Cultural Garden (1985), with its orderly rows of cherry trees and a marble pavilion. The sinuous Harrison Dillard Trail winds past the garden, leading north to Wade Oval and south to Wade Lagoon. Sasaki introduced an allée of honey locust trees, which ascend the sides of the sunken lawn. While interrupted by the Fine Arts Garden, the allée continues east towards the Tinkham Veale University Center. The trees will ultimately shade seating alcoves that line its edge. The greenway includes a low cantilevered bridge that overlooks the Doan Brook, which flows under the site.



Photos courtesy Sasaki.

# Bingham-Hanna Mansion

**Landscape Category:**  
Designed Landscape

**Landscape Type:**  
Garden and Estate  
Institutional Grounds –  
Cultural Institution

**Landscape Style:**  
Italianate

**Designed By:**  
AECOM  
Percival Gallagher  
Donald A. Gray  
Olmsted Brothers  
Walker and Gillette

Shortly after his marriage to Clevelander Harriette Gowen, financier Harry Bingham engaged architects Walker and Gillette in 1916 to build a 35-room Renaissance Revival mansion near Euclid Avenue, known as "Millionaire's Row." Percival Gallagher of Olmsted Brothers worked closely with Walker and Gillette to design a landscape that complemented the mansion's formalism. Their plan included flowering trees and beds of perennials flanking the driveway, and coniferous trees, including imported mature specimen trees, screening adjacent alleys and structures from view.

Completed in 1919, the residence was never occupied by the Bingham family, who settled in New York. The estate was purchased by Coralie Hanna in 1920, and the same year, Cleveland landscape architect A. Donald Gray, formerly an employee of the Olmsted firm, was engaged to complete the landscape design. Gray retained some elements of the Olmsted plan, including a formal, sunken garden tucked behind the residence.

Following Hanna's death in 1936, the property was donated by her son to the Western Reserve Historical Society (WRHS) in 1940. The Bingham-Hanna home was adjoined to the neighboring Hay-McKinney estate, also owned by the WRHS, in 1959. Through the end of the twentieth century, nine acres surrounding the two properties were redeveloped to form the Cleveland History Center. The formal garden is the only extant element of the Olmsted Brothers landscape and is maintained by the WRHS. From a terrace at the rear of the house flanked by trees, steps descend to a gravel walk that frames a turf lawn edged by clipped box hedges and beds planted with herbaceous plants and shrubs including lilac and azalea. East and west of the lawn, secondary steps and paths are bordered by raised stone beds planted with flowers and evergreen shrubs. A shallow pool and fountain provide a focal point at the garden's north end. In 2022, AECOM completed a plan for the garden's rehabilitation. The Hay-McKinney and Bingham-Hanna Houses were listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1976, and are contributing features of the Wade Park District, listed in 1982.



# Cleveland Botanical Garden

**Historical Name:**  
The Garden Center of Greater Cleveland

**Landscape Category:**  
Designed Landscape

**Landscape Type:**  
Botanical Garden

**Designed By:**  
Elsetta Gilchrist Barnes  
Behnke Associates, Inc.  
Dirtworks  
EDAW  
Graham Gund Architects  
David Kamp  
Lucille Teeter Kissack  
Charles L. "Pete" Knight  
William Platt  
David Slawson  
David Swetland  
Nelson Byrd Woltz  
Landscape Architects

**Related Landscapes:**  
Holden Arboretum  
Wade Oval

Located along the eastern curve of Wade Oval, the garden traces its origins to 1916, when Eleanor Squire donated her archive of horticultural books to the Garden Club of Cleveland. With Squire's gift, the Club established a library in a former boathouse near Wade Lagoon, which opened as the Cleveland Garden Center in 1930. A 1959 flood prompted the center to relocate north to the site abutting Wade Oval. The new center, designed by architect William Platt, opened in 1966.

In 1994, the center expanded its mission, becoming the Cleveland Botanical Garden. The facility, rehabilitated by Graham Gund Architects, sits among ten acres of gardens installed over the next decade. West of the building lies an herb garden laid out in an English knot, designed by Elsetta Gilchrist Barnes (maintained by the Western Reserve Herb Society). To the north is an octagonal rose garden designed by Charles Knight, and a topiary garden designed by David Swetland. The Hershey Children's Garden, designed by EDAW with Behnke Associates, Inc., features a pond and peat bog, as well as a tree house, stone cliff, and cave. Paved paths shaded by deciduous trees navigate to further gardens, including a Japanese garden designed by David Slawson and a universally accessible healing garden designed by David Kamp at Dirtworks. Behnke Associates Inc., oversaw a 2003 expansion that added an entrance plaza embellished with flowering trees and perennial beds, a terrace with reflecting pool and fountain, and the 18,000-square-foot Eleanor Armstrong Smith Glasshouse, which contains more than 350 plant species native to Madagascar and Costa Rica.

The Botanical Garden was integrated, in 2014, with the Holden Arboretum, a separate 3,500-acre landscape, to form Holden Forests & Gardens. Master planning for both landscapes, led by Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects, was initiated in 2021. The Cleveland Botanical Garden is a contributing feature of the Wade Park District, listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1982.

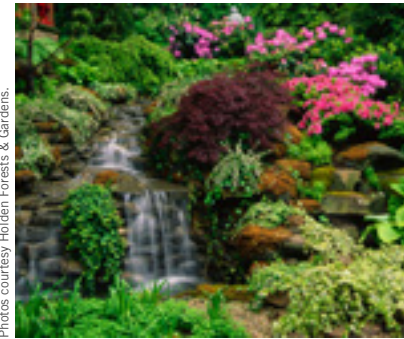


Photo courtesy Holden Forests & Gardens.



# Lake View Cemetery



Located between Euclid Avenue and Mayfield Road, roughly five miles east of downtown, this 285-acre cemetery was named for its views to Lake Erie. In 1869 the Lake View Cemetery Association acquired nearly 200 acres of agricultural land and commissioned landscape gardener Adolph Strauch to design the grounds. Strauch envisioned the cemetery as an arboretum, bird sanctuary, and park, and laid out curvilinear drives following the site's rolling topography. The drives afford visitors a scenographic landscape experience, sequentially unveiling expanses of lawn, naturalistic lakes, and specimen oaks, sycamores, and beech trees.

In 1890 the James Garfield Memorial was sited atop a hill in the southwest portion of the grounds. Designed by architect George Keller, the memorial and tomb feature an 80-foot-tall circular stone tower. In 1897 landscape gardener Ernest Bowditch improved the cemetery's infrastructure and located a new entrance along Euclid Avenue. Much of the labor was performed by Italian gardeners and stonemasons, many of whom settled in the adjacent Little Italy neighborhood. The Neo-Classical Wade Memorial Chapel, (Hubbell & Benes architects; interiors Louis Tiffany), was erected near the cemetery's two prominent water features in 1901.

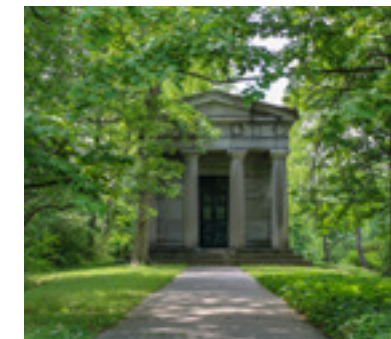
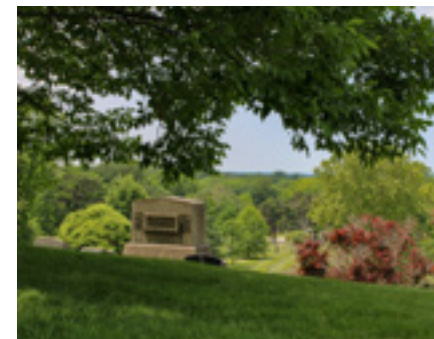
From 1903-1955, German nurseryman Ernst Muny established thousands of plants, substantially increasing the arboretum's collection. Landscape architect A.D. Taylor prepared a master plan in the 1920s, providing guidelines for vista management and additional plantings. Victory gardens were established in 1940 and the following year Dr. William Weir donated his collection of daffodil bulbs, which were planted on a slope abutting a curving drive. In 1978 the Lake View Cemetery Dam, the largest in Cuyahoga County, was constructed above the cemetery's two lakes for flood control. The Garfield Memorial and Wade Memorial Chapel were listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1973 and the cemetery was included in the National Park Service Underground Railroad Network to Freedom in 2020.

**Landscape Category:**  
Designed Landscape

**Landscape Type:**  
Cemetery –  
Rural Cemetery

**Landscape Style:**  
Picturesque

**Designed By:**  
Ernest W. Bowditch  
Hubbell & Benes  
Gordon D. Cooper  
George Keller  
Charles L. "Pete" Knight  
Ernst Muny  
Adolph Strauch  
William A. Strong  
A.D. Taylor  
Louis Comfort Tiffany



# Norma's Garden at The Gathering Place

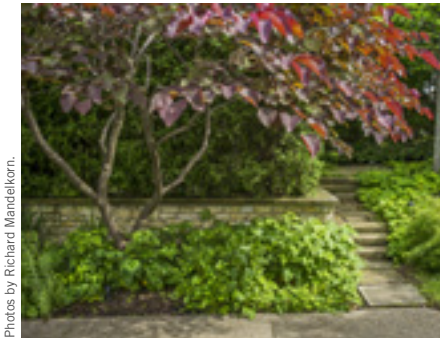
**Landscape Category:**  
Designed Landscape

**Landscape Type:**  
Institutional Grounds –  
Medical Institution  
Commemorative Landscape

**Designed By:**  
MKSK  
Virginia Burt

Covering one-third of an acre in a commercial park east of Cleveland, this healing garden designed by landscape architects Virginia Burt and MKSK in 2004 adjoins the east building of cancer support center The Gathering Place (TGP). Originally a vacant lot, Burt transformed the space into a contemplative, verdant retreat for cancer patients and their families.

The garden is accessed via a paved terrace at the rear of the east building or from the adjacent parking lot via two separate labyrinth-inspired gates. At the garden's western gate, the Walk of Friends, evergreen shrubs and a wisteria-covered steel arcade and fence adorned with donors' names enclose a paved walkway leading to a gate made of concentric circles. Visitors emerge from the arcade into an intimate garden space anchored by a rectangular lawn with a pavilion to its east and a paved, tree-lined terrace with moveable tables and chairs to its west. A densely vegetated curvilinear paved walkway surrounds the lawn, passing through various garden rooms furnished with boulders, statuary, reclaimed stonework, water features, and benches. Designed to stimulate the senses, aromatic, edible, and uniquely textured plant species are found throughout while deciduous, coniferous, and broadleaf evergreen trees and shrubs provide shade and screening. Sloping upward at its southern edge, the site's varied topography is negotiated by stacked limestone walls and a naturalistic waterfall descending from a knoll named the Sacred Mount in the southeast corner. The garden was named for Norma Siegler, who, with her husband Ernie, was one of the founding donors of TGP.



Photos by Richard Mandelkorn.

# Shaker Lakes

In the mid-nineteenth century, the North Union Shaker Community dammed the Doan Brook to generate waterpower, in the process forming two lakes known as Upper Lake (now Horseshoe Lake) and Lower Lake. The community dissolved in 1889, leasing its territory to the Shaker Heights Land Company. Following the construction of the nearby Rockefeller Parkway, the company donated 279 acres, including both lakes, to the city in 1895, and engaged landscape gardener Ernest Bowditch. Bowditch connected the lakes with Wade Park (Wade Oval) Rockefeller Park, and Gordon Park to the east, forming a chain of parks linked by curvilinear boulevards. In 1905, the Van Sweringen family purchased plots from the company and began developing Shaker Heights, which eventually expanded to encompass approximately six square miles along the Doan Brook. Roughly 60 acres of parkland immediately surrounding the lakes, populated by deciduous and flowering trees and dozens of species of native shrubs and herbaceous plants, was retained, with homes along lakefront boulevards afforded picturesque water views through groves of mature trees. More than four miles of paved and unpaved paths provide circulation around the lakes and access to overlooks, bridges, and pavilions. Pitkin & Mott devised a 1935 plan for Upper Lake that allocated discrete sections to local garden clubs to maintain. Since 1947 the lakes have been jointly managed by the cities of Shaker Heights and Cleveland Heights.

In the 1960s, community members prevented construction of a freeway through the lakes, generating investment that prompted the establishment of the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes in 1966. Following years of sedimentation and flooding, Horseshoe Lake was drained in 2019. In 2022, STIMSON, with LAND studio and AECOM, surveyed the Doan Brook watershed, aiming to remediate the area near Horseshoe Lake. The lakes are contributing features of the Shaker Village Historic District (1984) and the North Union Shaker Site (1974), both listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

**Landscape Category:**  
Designed Landscape

**Landscape Type:**  
Public Park –  
Neighborhood Park  
Scenic Reservation

**Landscape Style:**  
Picturesque

**Designed By:**  
AECOM  
Ernest W. Bowditch  
LAND Studio  
Seward Hamilton Mott  
Pitkin & Mott  
William Chase Pitkin, Jr.  
STIMSON  
Van Sweringen Brothers

**Related Landscapes:**  
1894 Parks & Parkways Plan





# Holden Arboretum

**Landscape Category:**  
Designed Landscape

**Landscape Type:**  
Arboretum

**Landscape Style:**  
Picturesque

**Designed By:**  
Gordon D. Cooper  
Donald A. Gray  
Melissa Marshall  
MTR Landscape Architects  
Nelson Byrd Woltz  
Landscape Architects  
Geoff Rausch  
William A. Strong

**Related Landscape:**  
Cleveland Botanical Garden

Modeled on Harvard University's Arnold Arboretum and begun in 1931, this arboretum was the gift of mining magnate Albert Holden, who sought to create a living memorial to his deceased wife and daughter. Opened to the public in 1937, it was established on 100 acres of land initially under the management of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. A 556-acre parcel of nearby Baldwin Farm was soon acquired, and the arboretum, which had expanded to 1,000 acres by 1956, then severed ties with the museum.

This 3,500-acre ecological museum comprises a patchwork of old-growth forests, young post-agriculture forests, and wetlands combined with more than 200 acres of cultivated gardens. With its collection of more than 10,000 woody plants encompassing some 1,700 species, the arboretum represents much of Earth's woody biodiversity. Shaped over the decades by landscape architects Gordon Cooper, William Strong, Geoff Rausch, A. Donald Gray, and Melissa Marshall of MTR Landscape Architects, the site features several gardens reflecting discreet ecosystems, such as the Crabapple Collection, the Holden Butterfly Garden, and the Layer Rhododendron Garden. The site stretches from Pierson Creek in the west to Wisner Road in the east and is bisected by Sperry Road. A looped offshoot from Sperry Road leads to the Corning Visitor Center and a contiguous parking area. Corning Lake occupies the southeastern swath of the site, while several smaller bodies of water are scattered throughout, including Foster Pond to the north, Blueberry and Buttonbush Bogs to the west, and Sherwin, Heath and Hourglass Ponds to the south. The vast woodlands are traversed by a network of trails, while the 500-foot-long Murch Canopy Walk is elevated 65 feet above the forest floor. The arboretum was designated an Important Bird Area by the National Audubon Society in 2004.

The Arboretum was integrated, in 2014, with the Cleveland Botanical Garden, a separate 101-acre landscape, to form Holden Forests & Gardens. Master planning for both landscapes, led by Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects, was initiated in 2021.

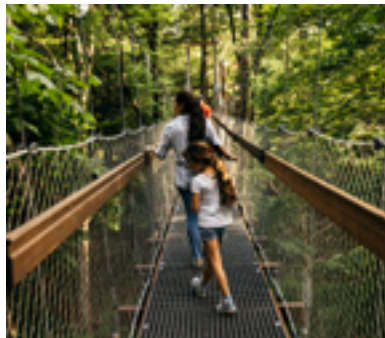
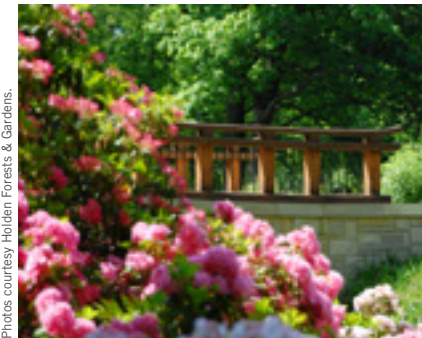


Photo courtesy Holden Forests & Gardens.



# Acacia Reservation

**Historic Name:**

Acacia Country Club

**Landscape Category:**

Designed Landscape

**Landscape Type:**

Public Park –  
Scenic Reservation

**Landscape Style:**

Picturesque

**Designed By:**

Biohabitats  
Donald Ross

Situated approximately ten miles east of downtown Cleveland, this 155-acre park offers refuge from its surroundings, dominated by residential and commercial development. The site, characterized by gently rolling topography, was designed as a private golf course in 1921 by Donald Ross. In 2012 the non-profit Conservation Fund purchased the property from Acacia Shareholders and donated the site to Cleveland Metroparks, who engaged the firm Biohabitats to prepare an Ecological Restoration Master Plan. Published in 2014, the master plan guides the transition of the landscape from a relatively homogenous golf course to a diverse, forested preserve.

From the park's entrance, along Cedar Road, curvilinear paved paths, which originally accommodated golf carts, lead visitors throughout the grounds. As the interconnected paths navigate through the park and its diverse habitats, including streams, ponds, meadows, and forests, each turn unveils a picturesque scene. Signs placed throughout the property interpret the restoration process and the site's ecological communities.

The westernmost path skirts Euclid Creek, which feeds Lake Erie, and winds through the southwest portion of the park, which is shaded by a riparian, deciduous forest. Other paths proceed from the primary entrance, passing through former fairways edged by copses of oak, maple, pine, hickory, willow, and birch. The fairways, no longer mowed, have been succeeded by grass and wildflower meadows. Tree saplings are interspersed throughout the meadows, the first volunteers of the second-growth forest that will eventually dominate the site.



Photos courtesy David Ike Photography.



# Garfield Park Reservation

**Historic Name:**

Newburgh Park

**Landscape Category:**

Designed Landscape

**Landscape Type:**

Public Park –  
Neighborhood Park

**Landscape Style:**

Picturesque

**Designed By:**

Ernest W. Bowditch  
Herman Kregelius  
B. Ashburton Tripp

**Related Landscape:**

1894 Parks & Parkways Plan

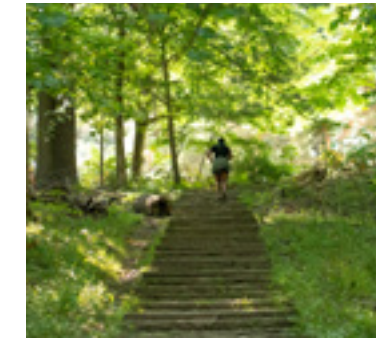
This 223-acre park is situated just outside Cleveland's southern boundary, nestled between Turney Road and Broadway Avenue. The park was established in 1894 by Cleveland's newly formed Board of Park Commissioners by acquiring approximately 145 acres located in a wooded valley formed by the Mill and Wolf Creeks. Originally called Newburgh Park, the park was renamed in 1897 to commemorate President James Garfield. Following improvements planned by Ernest Bowditch, including a looped curvilinear circuit drive, accessed from both Turney Road and Broadway Avenue, stone bridges, and spaces for active recreation, the park opened to the public in 1900. That year, John Charles Olmsted of Olmsted Brothers visited the park and recommended improvements, which were not implemented.

In the early twentieth century, Wolf Creek was dammed, creating two connected ponds, later improved by New Deal-related projects. The northern pond was deepened and footbridges, retaining walls, and a boathouse were established along the southern water feature. The boathouse and stone bridge crossing Mill Creek were designed by Cleveland city architect Herman Kregelius. Landscape architect Ashburton Tripp oversaw improvements throughout the park, establishing paths and retaining creek banks. In the second half of the twentieth century, as sediment accumulated in the ponds, the water features became dominated by vegetation, and are no longer extant.

Maintained by Cleveland Metroparks since 1986, the park features rugged, forested terrain, punctuated by irregularly shaped, rolling lawns edged by deciduous shade trees. The park is traversed by more than six miles of paved and unpaved trails, including the original two-mile circuit drive, whose southern half is now closed to vehicular traffic. A new paved, curvilinear trail, unveiled in 2002, connects the looped drive with an overlook of Mill Creek Falls, long blocked from public view. In 2022 Cleveland Metroparks announced plans to rehabilitate the ponds and establish additional trails.



Photos courtesy Cleveland Metroparks.



# Cuyahoga Valley National Park



Photo courtesy the National Park Service.

Located between Akron and Cleveland, this 32,572-acre park encompasses 22 miles along the Cuyahoga River and its surrounding valley. The land has been shaped over many centuries into diverse and distinct areas of varying topography, vegetation, and settlement, including steep ravines, dense woodlands populated by native ash, cherry, and red maple, hedgerows of Osage orange, historic roadways, and open fields cleared for agricultural uses. Once populated by the Hopewell and Whittlesey peoples, the valley was later settled by families from America's eastern coast in the late eighteenth century. In the 1820s, development increased following the opening of the Ohio & Erie Canal.

After the canal was abandoned in 1913, the valley's scenic landscape features continued to attract visitors from the nearby metropolitan areas. A 1925 report by Olmsted Brothers highlighted the "natural advantages" of the Cuyahoga Valley as public parkland. In the 1930s the Civilian Conservation Corps installed several rustic park shelters, and in 1968 the Modernist Blossom Music Center pavilion opened to the public and became the summer home of the Cleveland Orchestra. In 1974, as suburban development encroached on the valley, President Gerald Ford established the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area. A patchwork of natural and cultural resources, the park includes archaeological sites, remnants of heavy industry associated with the canal, and more than 600 historic structures. The park offers opportunities for year-round recreation, including 140 miles of hiking, biking, and horseback riding trails, and areas for skiing and tobogganing.

In 2000 the area was officially designated as a National Park, and is managed by the National Park Service in partnership with Cleveland Metroparks, Summit Metroparks, and the Western Reserve Historical Society.

**Historic Name:**  
Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area

**Landscape Category:**  
Designed Landscape  
Historic Site  
Vernacular Landscape

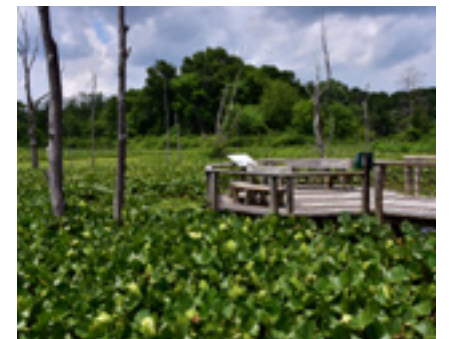
**Landscape Type:**  
Public Park –  
National Park  
Scenic Reservation

**Landscape Style:**  
Naturalistic/Cohesive

**Related Landscapes:**  
Ohio & Erie Canalway National Heritage Area



Photos courtesy the National Park Service.



# Ohio & Erie Canalway National Heritage Area

## Landscape Category:

Designed Landscape  
Vernacular

## Landscape Type:

Public Park

## Related Landscapes:

Cuyahoga Valley National Park

In the early nineteenth century, politicians and businessmen in Ohio lobbied for a canal to connect the state with the vital economy of the East Coast. Completed in 1832, the 308-mile Ohio & Erie Canal formed a link between Lake Erie and the Ohio River, becoming the first inland waterway in the United States to connect the Great Lakes and the Gulf of Mexico. The canal prospered from the 1830s until the 1860s, when railroads began to assume the role of freight and passenger transportation in the region. In 1913, the Great Dayton Flood severely damaged the canal's functionality and led to its abandonment. Today, disconnected watered portions of the canal still exist, providing scenic value, storm water detention, and water supply to local industries.

In the mid-1980s, two local non-profits led a campaign to adapt the waterway for recreational use, while preserving the canal's cultural and natural resources. The Ohio & Erie Canalway encompasses three transportation routes loosely following the path of the original canal. These include a 110-mile scenic byway extending south from Cleveland to New Philadelphia, a 51-mile historic railway traveling from the outskirts of Cleveland to Akron, and the Towpath Trail, a footpath traveling more than 90 miles from Cleveland to Zoar. The routes pass through a variety of settings, including industrial sites in Cleveland, Cuyahoga National Parklands, and the vegetated banks of the Cuyahoga and Tuscarawas Rivers. The richly interpreted Towpath Trail varies in surface materials and offers pedestrians and cyclists access to birding and wildlife viewing.

A four-mile stretch located in Valley View was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1966 and in 1996 the National Park Service designated the Ohio & Erie Canalway a National Heritage Area.



# Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens

Photo by Erik Drost.



Situated on an escarpment west of the Cuyahoga River Valley, this property incorporates 70 acres of a larger estate developed by landscape architect Warren Manning for Frank and Gertrude Seiberling from 1911 to 1916. Manning collaborated with the Seiberlings to improve the 3,000-acre tract of abandoned quarries with an Arts and Crafts aesthetic.

From the primary entrance, a curvilinear drive proceeds northeast toward the Tudor Revival manor house. The apple-tree-lined drive is edged to the east by an orchard and to the west by an expansive lawn. Two allées are oriented on axis with the northeastern and southern wings of the residence, serving as visual and spatial extensions. The southern allée features London plane trees and rhododendrons while the 550-foot-long northern allée of gray birch trees terminates at a dramatic vista overlooking a naturalistic lagoon, shaped from a former quarry, with borrowed views of the river valley beyond. A linear grape arbor extends to the east, framing an expansive rose and cutting garden. West of the residence, a rectilinear terrace includes a pool, balustraded walls, and lawn panels framed by paths. South of the terrace is a walled English garden, designed in 1915 by Manning and replanted according to a 1929 design by landscape architect Ellen Shipman. Below the terrace is a Yugen Japanese garden, designed in 1916 by Manning and landscape architect T.R. Otsuka.

In 1957, two years after Gertrude Seiberling's passing, the Stan Hywet Hall Foundation was established and the estate opened to the public as a non-profit house museum, with landscape architect John Paolano as executive director. Master plans by Susan Child and Douglas Reed of Child Associates, Inc., (1984) and Doell & Doell (1992) have guided landscape rehabilitation efforts. Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1981.

**Historic Name:**  
Stan Hywet

**Landscape Category:**  
Designed Landscape

**Landscape Type:**  
Garden and Estate –  
Country Place Era Garden

**Landscape Style:**  
Arts & Crafts

**Designed By:**  
Susan Child  
Child Associates, Inc.  
Doell & Doell  
Douglas Reed Landscape  
Architecture

Warren H. Manning  
T.R. Otsuka  
John Paolano  
Ellen Shipman



Photo by Erik Drost.



Photos by Charles A. Birnbaum.

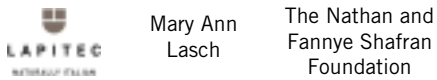


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This guidebook is the result of scholarly research by Celia Carnes, Allan Greller, and Caroline Craddock, with editorial and programmatic support from Charles A. Birnbaum, Nord Wennerstrom, and Aileen Beringer. Additional support was provided by our local partners, David Wilson and Jeremy Hinte of the Ohio Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects, Cleveland Metroparks, the Cleveland Restoration Society, Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative, Holden Forests and Gardens, the Western Reserve Historical Society, Mary Ann Lasch, and Janelle D'Avignon. The guidebook was designed and laid out by Justin Clevenger. Photography by Janelle D'Avignon unless otherwise noted.

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