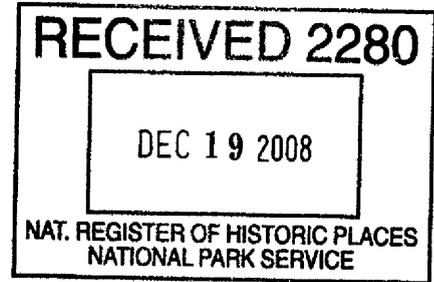


(Oct. 1990)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



1400

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. NAME OF PROPERTY

HISTORIC NAME: Fort Worth Botanic Garden

OTHER NAME/SITE NUMBER: Rock Springs Park; Municipal Rose Garden; Harry J. Adams Memorial Garden

2. LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER: 3220 Botanic Garden Boulevard

CITY OR TOWN: Fort Worth

STATE: Texas

CODE: TX

COUNTY: Tarrant

CODE: 439

NOT FOR PUBLICATION: N/A

VICINITY: N/A

ZIP CODE: 76107

3. STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this (nomination) (request for determination of eligibility) meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property (meets) (does not meet) the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant (nationally) (statewide) (locally). (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official

12/11/2008

Date

State Historic Preservation Officer, Texas Historical Commission

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet
- determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

1/29/09

5. CLASSIFICATION

OWNERSHIP OF PROPERTY: Public-local

CATEGORY OF PROPERTY: District

NUMBER OF RESOURCES WITHIN PROPERTY:	CONTRIBUTING	NONCONTRIBUTING
	1	1 BUILDINGS
	5	3 SITES
	14	1 STRUCTURES
	0	4 OBJECTS
	20	9 TOTAL

NUMBER OF CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES PREVIOUSLY LISTED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER: 0

NAME OF RELATED MULTIPLE PROPERTY LISTING: N/A

6. FUNCTION OR USE

HISTORIC FUNCTIONS: LANDSCAPE / park
AGRICULTURE / SUBSISTENCE / horticultural facility
SOCIAL / clubhouse
EDUCATION / research facility
RECREATION AND CULTURE / outdoor recreation

CURRENT FUNCTIONS: LANDSCAPE / park
AGRICULTURE / SUBSISTENCE / horticultural facility
SOCIAL / clubhouse
EDUCATION / research facility
RECREATION AND CULTURE / outdoor recreation

7. DESCRIPTION

ARCHITECTURAL CLASSIFICATION: OTHER / landscape
20th CENTURY REVIVALS / Italian Renaissance, French Renaissance

MATERIALS: FOUNDATION STONE / sandstone
WALLS STONE / sandstone
CONCRETE
ROOF WOOD / Shake
ASPHALT
OTHER STONE / sandstone

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (see continuation sheets 7-5 through 7-15).

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

APPLICABLE NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA

- A** PROPERTY IS ASSOCIATED WITH EVENTS THAT HAVE MADE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE BROAD PATTERNS OF OUR HISTORY.
- B** PROPERTY IS ASSOCIATED WITH THE LIVES OF PERSONS SIGNIFICANT IN OUR PAST.
- C** PROPERTY EMBODIES THE DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS OF A TYPE, PERIOD, OR METHOD OF CONSTRUCTION OR REPRESENTS THE WORK OF A MASTER, OR POSSESSES HIGH ARTISTIC VALUE, OR REPRESENTS A SIGNIFICANT AND DISTINGUISHABLE ENTITY WHOSE COMPONENTS LACK INDIVIDUAL DISTINCTION.
- D** PROPERTY HAS YIELDED, OR IS LIKELY TO YIELD, INFORMATION IMPORTANT IN PREHISTORY OR HISTORY.

CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS: N/A

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Landscape Architecture; Entertainment/Recreation

PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE: 1929-1954

SIGNIFICANT DATES: 1929-1931, 1933, 1950-1954

SIGNIFICANT PERSON: N/A

CULTURAL AFFILIATION: N/A

ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Hare and Hare, landscape architects; R. C. Morrison, City Forester; Reconstruction Finance Corporation, builder; Civil Works Administration, builder; Works Progress Administration, builder; William Porter, stonemason (c. 1933); Robert P. Woltz, Jr., architect (1949-1955)

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (see continuation sheets 8-16 through 8-40).

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

BIBLIOGRAPHY (see continuation sheet 9-41-9-44).

PREVIOUS DOCUMENTATION ON FILE (NPS): N/A

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

PRIMARY LOCATION OF ADDITIONAL DATA:

- State historic preservation office (*Texas Historical Commission*)
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government (*Fort Worth Botanic Garden; Parks and Community Services Department, City of Fort Worth; Fort Worth Public Library*)
- University (*Western Historical Manuscript Collection, University of Missouri-Kansas City*)
- Other -- Specify Repository: (*Fort Worth Garden Club, Inc., Fort Worth, Texas*)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF PROPERTY: approximately 33 acres

UTM REFERENCES	<u>Zone</u>	<u>Easting</u>	<u>Northing</u>		<u>Zone</u>	<u>Easting</u>	<u>Northing</u>
A.	14	653520	3623280	B.	14	653520	3623020
C.	14	653120	3622920	D.	14	653120	3623015

(see continuation sheet 10-45)

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION (see continuation sheet 10-45)

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION (see continuation sheet 10-45)

11. FORM PREPARED BY (with assistance from Rachel Leibowitz, Historian, Texas Historical Commission)

NAME/TITLE: Susan Allen Kline, consultant **DATE:** June 26, 2008

ORGANIZATION: Fort Worth Botanical Society, Inc; The Fort Worth Garden Club, Inc.;
Texas Garden Clubs, Inc.; Garden Club Council of Fort Worth

STREET & NUMBER: 2421 Shirley Avenue **TELEPHONE:** (817) 921-0127

CITY OR TOWN: Fort Worth **STATE:** Texas **ZIP CODE:** 76109-1016

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

CONTINUATION SHEETS

MAPS (see continuation sheet MAP-46 through MAP-48)

PHOTOGRAPHS (see continuation sheet PHOTO-52 through PHOTO-66)

ADDITIONAL ITEMS: FIGURES (see continuation sheet FIGURE-48 through FIGURE-51)

PROPERTY OWNER

NAME: City of Fort Worth, Mayor's Office; Michael J. Moncrief, Mayor

STREET & NUMBER: 1000 Throckmorton **TELEPHONE:** 817-392-6118

CITY OR TOWN: Fort Worth **STATE:** Texas **ZIP CODE:** 76102

NAME: City of Fort Worth, Parks and Community Services Division; Richard Zavala, Director

STREET & NUMBER: 4200 South Freeway, Suite 2200 **TELEPHONE:** 817-871-5700

CITY OR TOWN: Fort Worth **STATE:** Texas **ZIP CODE:** 76115

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Fort Worth Botanic Garden
Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Texas

Summary

The nominated portion of the Fort Worth Botanic Garden encompasses the historic core of a much larger garden. It is located in west Fort Worth, Texas, just north of Interstate 30 and west of University Drive. The nominated resources are limited to those in the original Rock Springs Park area of the garden primarily developed between 1929 and 1935 as well as a portion of an adjacent area developed in the early 1950s. Also included is the small stone shelter that originally served as the terminus of the East Vista but was severed from the garden by the realignment of University Drive in the 1950s, thereby making the nominated district discontinuous. The nominated district encompasses approximately 33 acres containing the Municipal Rose Garden and adjacent vistas as well as the trails and water gardens of the Rock Springs area, the former Cactus Garden, the Garden Center Area and the Horseshoe. All of these areas were designed or developed under the direction of the noted landscape architecture firm of Hare and Hare of Kansas City, Missouri. A major component of the Fort Worth Botanic Garden is the formal Municipal Rose Garden. Influenced by Italian and French Renaissance landscapes and constructed in 1933, it is composed of a stone shelter and overlook above the rose ramp with terraces and a water cascade, *parterres*, and a large pond. On a north axis with the *parterres* is a Colonnade and Oval Rose Garden. Beyond the pond is a vista constructed through a native stand of trees. South of the Municipal Rose Garden is the informal water gardens and trails of the Rock Springs Area.

Description

The Fort Worth Botanic Garden is located southwest of downtown near the Clear Fork of the Trinity River and at the southern edge of the city's Cultural District. The Cultural District contains the historic Will Rogers Auditorium, Arena and Pioneer Tower (Wyatt C. Hedrick, 1936-37, with later additions), Casa Mañana Theater (A. George King and Associates, 1958; Gideon Toal, 2003) Amon Carter Museum (Philip Johnson, 1961, 1964, 1977, 2001), Kimbell Art Museum (Louis Kahn, 1969-72), National Cowgirl Hall of Fame (David Schwarz, 2002) and the Fort Worth Modern Art Museum (Tadao Ando, 2002). Along the garden's eastern border is University Drive, a major north-south arterial, and Trinity Park. Along the southern border is an access road for Interstate 30. West of the garden are former light industrial buildings fronting Montgomery Street, another busy north-south street.

Today's Fort Worth Botanic Garden encompasses approximately 109 acres of slightly rolling terrain originally marked by native stands of deciduous trees. Over the years, this acreage has been supplemented with various theme and specialty gardens, naturalized areas, vistas, greenhouses, a conservatory and multi-use buildings. The nominated section of the Fort Worth Botanic Garden contains those areas associated with the original Rock Springs Park, primarily developed between 1929 and 1935 based on the designs of the landscape architecture firm of Hare and Hare of Kansas City, Missouri. Also included is a section to the west developed in the mid-1950s, again designed by Hare and Hare. These areas can be divided into five distinct zones: Rock Springs and Water Gardens Area, Municipal Rose Garden and Vistas, the Cactus Garden, the Garden Center Area and the Horseshoe. The Fort Worth Botanic Garden is being nominated as a discontinuous district in order to include the small stone shelter that originally served as the terminus for the East Vista. This resource was severed from the Botanic Garden when University Drive was rerouted along the garden's eastern border in the early 1950s.

The resources of the original Rock Springs Park (Rock Springs Area, Municipal Rose Garden, the Cactus Garden and the Garden Center and adjacent Greenhouse) are tied together through the use of flagstone for trails and walks and rough-cut Palo Pinto sandstone laid in irregular courses for architectural features. The rustic design of the Rock Springs Area

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Fort Worth Botanic Garden
Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Texas

provides a counterpoint to the formality of the adjacent Municipal Rose Garden. The placement of live oaks along the walks of the Horseshoe also provides a formal effect.

Rock Springs and Water Gardens Area

The Rock Springs Area of the Fort Worth Botanic Garden was the first section to be developed. Although the original Rock Springs Park was purchased in 1912, it was not until 1929 that improvements to it began. The park received its name because of three natural springs located in rock outcroppings near the southwest corner of the property. Under the supervision of City Forester Raymond C. Morrison, the springs were enhanced with the creation of naturalized waterfalls and small pools where water could collect and flow eastward to other pools and lagoons. Flagstone was used to create trails that wind through the area and along the rivulets. Although always wooded, the area has been enhanced with the planting of more trees and vegetation, creating a heavy canopy. The creation of the waterfalls and the sound of flowing water add to the auditory experience as visitors move through the area.

One of the primary entrances to the Rock Springs Area is via a flagstone walk from the south pergola of the overlook shelter of the Municipal Rose Garden. Entering the wooded area, a small basin (or pool) lined with stone rip-rap is encountered. Nearby is a low stone bench. The flagstone walk continues either to the right or left. To the left and veering off of the path to the north is a large hollowed-out pecan tree that is estimated to be over 200 years old. It has become a favorite attraction for children and adults alike. Continuing to the left (east) along the flagstone walk, one follows a rivulet that flows to lagoons containing water plants such as yellow flag iris, pickerel weed, and lizard's tail.

Turning right after entering the wooded area, the flagstone walk ascends toward the springs passing directly over one waterfall. It then curves back toward the southeast and a small concrete pedestrian bridge with simple metal railings (this bridge is not original). The flagstone path continues toward an overlook. Low stone walls that also serve as seating form a small rectangle, at the center of which is a pedestal water fountain (no longer functioning). Stone stairs descend from the north side of the overlook to stepping stones across a rivulet, reconnecting with the trail system near the stone pool. Other paths lead to the lagoons to the east. These lagoons eventually flow to the large pond associated with the Municipal Rose Garden and East Vista.

To the east of the lagoons is a small comfort station constructed of the same Palo Pinto sandstone used in the Municipal Rose Garden. This building has a hipped roof covered with wood shakes. The north and south walls each have two small windows; the windows on the south elevation are covered with metal screens and the north windows are infilled with wood vents. The irregular coursed rough-cut stone walls extend out on the east and west ends to partially conceal the entrances to the building. The building no longer functions as a restroom but is used for storage. An exact construction date for the building has not been determined but it likely was built at the same time as the Municipal Rose Garden, in 1933.

The Rock Springs Area is composed of three contributing resources: one building (comfort station), one structure (pump house) and one site (the stone trails, water features, overlook and other related features), and it retains a high degree of integrity. However, it was negatively impacted during the early 1950s with the construction of the East-West Freeway (now Interstate 30) and associated access ramp. The construction of the highway necessitated the destruction of at least one lagoon and some related trails. This construction disrupted the natural water flow of the historic springs causing them to dry up. Today, water flows through the area with the assistance of a pump house located within the trees above the original springs. Built c. 1952, the pump house was constructed of poured concrete and has a hipped roof sheathed with

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Fort Worth Botanic Garden
Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Texas

asphalt shingles. The structure has been enlarged with a small concrete block addition on the north end. It is painted brown, causing it to blend into the trees. Although the loss of water features and related trails as well as the historic flow of the springs is regrettable, these alterations occurred over fifty years ago. The Rock Springs Area still retains its rustic design. Today, the largest impact that the highway has on this and adjacent areas is the noise associated with automobile traffic on the heavily used road.

Municipal Rose Garden and the Vistas

The focal point of the nominated area is the formal Municipal Rose Garden and Vistas. Designed by the landscape architecture firm of Hare and Hare, these areas were built under the direct supervision of Raymond C. Morrison, City Forester, in 1933. The work was carried out by laborers employed through the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, a federal relief program predating the Civil Works Administration (CWA) and Works Progress Administration (WPA). Its architectural features are constructed of reddish-brown rough-cut Palo Pinto sandstone laid in irregular courses. Entering the garden from the west, visitors first encounter a hipped-roof shelter with flanking pergolas, an overlook, a rose ramp and water cascade. At the bottom of the ramp are *parterres* (formal pathways, hedges, and flower beds designed in a rigidly geometric pattern), a small reflecting pool, and two ornamental trellises. Extending east from the parterres is a large pond and a vista flanked by stands of mature trees. This vista is an important component of the Rose Garden's design, and one of the best views of it is from the overlook. Leading north from the parterres is a colonnade of trellises that lead to an oval rose garden, at the center of which is a rectangular gazebo. Each of these features is described in more detail below.

Upper Rose Garden

Access to the west entrance of the Municipal Rose Garden is through a semi-circular drive with head-in parking off of Rock Springs Road. On a central flagstone walk, visitors pass a low stone wall that flanks the walk and encloses the overlook. Corner piers of the wall have cast stone caps with pinecone finials. The walk leads to a rectangular open-sided shelter with a hipped roof covered with wood shakes. The roof is supported by four rectangular stone columns on the north and south ends. On the east and west sides of the shelter are six square wood columns, of which the center four are paired. Lattice wood trellises are located between the corner columns. Flanking the north and south sides of the shelter are pergolas supported by four square wood columns and two stone columns at the ends. These columns support notched wood beams and rafters. The floor of the shelter is of flagstone, and at its center is a large five-pointed star representing the Lone Star of Texas. In the southwest corner of the shelter is a pedestal drinking fountain constructed of stone (currently nonfunctional). Originally, an ice box was located next to the fountain as a means of cooling the water. Flagstone walks extend under the pergolas. The north walk extends to the former Cactus Garden (now the Perennial Garden). Near its end is a hand-hewn stone in the shape of Texas. The south walk extends to the trails in the Rock Springs Area.

Flagstone paving leads east from the shelter to an overlook platform that features a low stone wall and ornamental iron railing. Leading from the north and south ends of the overlook are L-shaped stone stairs descending to the rose garden. Along the wall of the south stairs is the garden's dedication plaque from 1933. On the wall immediately below the overlook is a rounded arched niche outlined with stone voussoirs and a keystone. Water flows into a basin at the bottom of the niche from the mouth of a lion, its head cast in the center of the keystone.

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From the low-rising stone stairs flanking the north and south sides of the rose garden are six sets of stone ramps that cross one another in repeated X formations. Running down the center of the garden, on axis with the lion's head, is a water cascade. This cascade, divided into three sections, receives its water from the basin below the lion's head via underground pipe. Each section has five wedge-shaped stone basins through which the water descends down the cascade. The water cascade and crossing ramps divide the garden into 14 triangular-shaped beds. Flanking the beds are swaths of lawn and box-cut yaupon hedges. Collectively, this area is known as the "rose ramp." From the overlook platform to the bottom of the ramp, the elevation changes from 578 feet to 555 feet.

At the bottom of the ramp is a low stone wall and stairs leading to parterres which are defined by exposed aggregate concrete sidewalks, grade-level concrete edging and strips of lawn. Within this area are two pools. A small pool is located on the east side of the low wall dividing the upper rose garden from the lower parterres. This pool receives water from the water cascade via underground pipe. The second pool is a shallow rectangular-shaped pool with beveled corners; a single water jet in the center provides a simple fountain. The south, east and north edges of the parterres are outlined with low stone walls which are punctuated with tall sandstone piers set on cast bases and topped with cast caps with cast pinecone finials.

The beds of the rose ramp are currently planted with three cultivars of Knock Out shrub roses that are hot pink and pale (blushing) pink. These cultivars were chosen because of their lower maintenance requirements and suitability for local growing conditions. Each of these beds is also outlined with small slow-growing boxwood shrubs providing a green edge around the roses. The roses in the parterres are of various colors and varieties representing polyantha, miniatures, floribunda, tea, Bourbon, grandiflora and shrub roses.

The overlook shelter, the overlook platform, and the rose ramp are each counted as one contributing structure. The parterres and surrounding walls, piers and portals together are counted as one contributing site.

East of the parterres is a large pond (sometimes referred to as a reflecting pool), the shape of which resembles the outlines of an "8." Lagoons from the Rock Springs Area flow into the south side of the pond. A small concrete bridge with metal handrails separates the lagoons from the pond. On the north side of the pond is a small spillway that feeds other lagoons that flow through the woods between the East and South vistas. Near the west end of the pond is a spray fountain that helps to aerate the water. After the installation of the water fountain and removal of water irises, large boulders were placed around the edges of the pond to prevent erosion. Trees planted around the perimeter of the pond include weeping willow (*Salix babylonica*), pond cypress (*Taxodium ascendens*) and sweet gum (*Liquidambar styracifus*). Outside the perimeter are a variety of trees including green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*). The pond is counted as a contributing structure.

The East Vista extends from the pond and was cut through the original trees that were on this site. Other species now supplement the original trees. In the springtime, the edges of the vista are dotted with dispersed groupings of daffodils, and plantings of azaleas are in its southeast corner. Originally, the vista terminated with a small stone shelter sited on the west bank of the Clear Fork of the Trinity River. University Drive has severed the shelter from the vista. However, the shelter is included in this nomination and is described later in this narrative. The East Vista is counted as one contributing site.

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Colonnade and Oval Rose Garden

On a north axis with the parterres' small pool is the Colonnade and Oval Rose Garden. At the south end of the Colonnade are tall portals constructed of Palo Pinto sandstone set on cast stone bases and surmounted by cast caps with pinecone finials. The Colonnade is composed of nine evenly spaced trellises, each made up of two squared sandstone columns supporting wood beams and rafters like those on the pergolas. Some of the trellises are planted with Chinese wisteria (*Wisteria senensis*). Running beneath the trellises is an exposed aggregated concrete walk leading to the Oval Rose Garden. The Colonnade sits at the base of a small hillside lined with trees and other vegetation that provide additional shade along this walk. The Colonnade is counted as one contributing structure.

The Oval Rose Garden is composed of two concentric ovals that are linked by connecting walks. These walks divide the garden into numerous beds. At the center of the oval is a hipped roof gazebo with shake shingles, its roof supported by three square stone columns at each corner. Between the stone columns are latticed wood trellises. These trellises and the lower portion of the gazebo's roof are currently covered with Climbing Cecil Brunner roses, a type of climbing polyantha rose. The floor of the gazebo is paved with flagstone, and a large round medallion composed of quarter sections is at its center. There are four entrance portals to the Oval Rose Garden similar to the trellises of the Colonnade but are composed of four stone columns instead of two. Between the ends of the portals are wood trellises; the west and east portals are on axis with the gazebo, while the north and south portals are on axis with the gazebo and the Colonnade.

The Oval Rose Garden is planted with a variety of roses that include shrub, noisette, China, floribunda, and Bourbon, their colors varying from light pink to reddish-pink. The roses encircling the gazebo grow to a height of over five feet. The outer oval's roses are lower. The Oval Rose Garden is counted as one contributing site. Its gazebo and four portals are each counted as contributing structures, totaling five.

East of the Colonnade and Oval Rose Garden is the South Vista. The South Vista is on axis with the North Vista located north of Rock Springs Road and not within the boundaries of the nominated district. The eastern edge of the South Vista is defined by the woods that border the north side of the East Vista. The woods is composed of native trees such as pecans and elms. The tree canopy is heavy and unpaved paths wind beneath them. Some of these paths were likely created by the relief laborers who worked on the garden in the 1930s. A small creek flows from the lagoons on the north side of the large pond and then makes a turn toward the east where it eventually flows into the Clear Fork of the Trinity River. There are small wood posts designating various trails but the area remains largely undeveloped. Documentation on the South Vista and the woods is not readily available but both areas are important to the aesthetics and design of the Fort Worth Botanic Garden.

Alterations

By their nature, gardens are dynamic and ever-evolving. It is not unusual for plantings to be changed as mature plants die or fail to adapt to local conditions, new varieties are tested, and new elements added. This is certainly the case with the Municipal Rose Garden. Alterations to architectural features have been minor and are relatively unobtrusive. The Rose Garden overlook is now ADA accessible. This necessitated the removal of some stone stairs and the construction of a new flagstone walk on the inside perimeter of the north wall around the overlook shelter. The original stone was salvaged and reused when possible.

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Other alterations have occurred to replace deteriorated or damaged features. Stones around the basins of the water cascade have been replaced over time as the original sandstone deteriorated. The wood columns of the shelter and the wood components of the pergolas, colonnade, gazebo, and oval rose garden portals have been replaced over time as the original wood deteriorated. Early photographs of the shelter indicate that the columns were painted white; today, the columns are unfinished. The paired wood columns on the west and east sides of the overlook shelter originally had latticed wood trellises between them. The cast concrete caps and finials on top of most of the stone piers and portals have been replaced. The lion's head above the water cascade was replaced after vandals destroyed the original.

The wood trellising on top of the stone walls on the perimeter of the parterres has been replaced with metal replicating the pattern of the original trellises. The wood trellises had been periodically replaced over time as they deteriorated. The metal trellises were installed as a more permanent alternative to wood. Paths around the parterres were originally graveled but have been replaced with exposed aggregate concrete walks. Ornamental metal gates—a gift of Deborah and Tex Moncrief in 2002—have been added to the portals at the south end of the parterres portion of the garden. The installation of the gates necessitated the addition of extensions to the portals which were constructed of a stone similar to the original. Within the parterres are two ornamental metal arched trellises which are replicas of wood trellises that were original to the garden. The original rustic wood bridge along the south side of the large pond has been replaced with a concrete bridge. Running along the west side of the Colonnade is a continuous concrete bench with wood railing backs added c. 1979.

Some plantings, such as the yaupon holly trees flanking the arched niche below the overlook and the Republic of Texas Rose Garden along the east side of the Colonnade, are not original to the Municipal Rose Garden's history. However, they do not detract from the original features and design intent of the garden and represent the evolving nature of gardens and designed landscapes.

Cactus Garden and Walk to Oval Rose Garden

The historic Cactus Garden (sometimes referred to as the Wildflower and Arid Garden) is located north of the Municipal Rose Garden's overlook shelter. Originally a gravel pit, the depressed area was transformed into the Cactus Garden in 1935 using CWA labor. Workers installed large pieces of stone to resemble natural stone outcroppings. Specimens for this garden were largely collected from west Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona. As the tree canopy around it became more dense, the garden became less suitable for its original function, and in 1983 the Cactus Garden was transformed into the Perennial Garden. This conversion resulted in the creation of water features and enlarged paths. Due to these alterations, the Cactus Garden is counted as a noncontributing site.

The flagstone path that extends from the Municipal Rose Garden overlook to the west portal of the Oval Rose Garden was constructed c. 1933–35. Historic photographs reveal a cluster of trees between the Cactus Garden and the Colonnade. This path follows these trees and a narrow stone-lined culvert along its west side, and water flows through this culvert. The sound of the flowing water and the tree canopy provide a cooling retreat, especially during the heat of a Texas summer. The Cactus Garden/Perennial Garden Walk is counted as a contributing structure.

Garden Center, Greenhouse and Fragrance Garden

The Garden Center, Greenhouse and Fragrance Garden are located at the intersection of Rock Springs Road and Old Garden Road near the northwest corner of the garden's original 37.5 acres. Laborers employed through the Civil Works Administration constructed the Garden Center—originally called the Horticulture Building, and now frequently referred

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to as the Rock Springs Center—in late 1934. As originally built, the 1-story building had a cross gabled roof and was constructed of the same Palo Pinto sandstone found elsewhere in the garden. The east elevation served as the primary entrance with a projecting front gable bay featuring a recessed entrance behind an arched opening flanked by small, narrow double hung windows. A double hung 6/6 wood window at the north end of this elevation has art glass panes with red roses. The north elevation featured a large tripartite window with a wisteria design in the glass panes, created by Fort Worth Art Glass. The north window was reframed c. 1965, but the multiple-light window pattern and art glass design were retained. The interior of the building features flagstone floors, knotty pine walls, built-in bookcases, and a fireplace with a Colonial Revival-style mantle. The original furnishings were provided by the Fort Worth Garden Club. Attached to the south elevation was a greenhouse, the base of which was also constructed of Palo Pinto Sandstone.

In June 1935, the Fort Worth Garden Club opened a Garden Center in the building. A Garden Center director was employed through a joint arrangement of the Fort Worth Independent School District, the Fort Worth Park Board and the Fort Worth Garden Club. The Garden Center became an integral part of the Botanic Garden by making its library available to the public and offering programs highlighting the Botanic Garden and gardening in general. The center also became the headquarters for the garden clubs affiliated with the Garden Club Council of Fort Worth.

Within a few years of the building's completion, the Board of Park Commissioners began planning for its enlargement to meet the many demands being placed on it. However, it was not enlarged until 1949-1950, under the direction of local architect Robert P. Woltz, Jr. The greenhouse was converted to a lecture hall using its original footprint—the lower stone walls are still visible—and a new greenhouse was constructed. In 1955, the Garden Center was enlarged again to accommodate the administrative offices of the Park Department. Woltz also designed this addition, using stone and wood to compliment the original design. The building now has an asphalt shingled hipped roof with cross gables marking the locations of the original library (north elevation) and greenhouse (south elevation). Large window openings flanked by casement windows illuminate the interior.

In 1980, the courtyard located between the west end of the Garden Center and the greenhouse was enclosed, also using stone along the west end. Today, the Garden Center building houses the Gardens Restaurant, the offices of the Fort Worth Botanical Society, the Botanic Garden's education office and other offices. The original east entrance to the Garden Center is still visible inside the later addition. The Fort Worth Garden Club still maintains the library, now known as the Mary Daggett Lake Library in honor of the Garden Center's long-time director. Although the Garden Center has been an important part of the Botanic Garden's history since 1935, it is counted as a noncontributing building because of alterations.

When the Garden Center was enlarged in 1950, a new greenhouse was constructed to the west of the building. It featured an aluminum superstructure fabricated by the Texas Greenhouse Company on top of a base approximately four feet high; the west elevation is of poured concrete and the south (front) and east elevations are of irregular coursed rough-cut sandstone. The head house at the north end of the building was destroyed by fire in 1994 and rebuilt. The greenhouse now serves as exhibition space for the Botanic Garden's begonia collection. Within the greenhouse is a small sculpture by A. Garrier, *Maiden Sitting Beside Ram*, which the North Fort Worth Garden Club presented to the Garden Center in 1952 in honor of Mary Daggett Lake.¹ The Greenhouse is counted as a contributing structure.

¹ A newspaper article stated that the sculptor was A. Garrier. See *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* (morning edition), October 24, 1952, AR406-7-95-5, FWSTCF, SCDUTA.

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The Fragrance Garden is located behind the Garden Center Building. Also referred to as "Lighthouse Court" in some early materials, the garden was a project of the Fort Worth Garden Club and built especially for the visually impaired. Charles Campbell, director of Parks and Recreation, developed the plans, and the engineering details and lighting were carried out under the direction of David Nivens. Scott Fikes, City Forester-Horticulturist, and Mrs. Hubert Hammond Crane—the wife of a prominent Fort Worth architect and member of the Fort Worth Garden Club—supervised the planning and planting of the Fragrance Garden, and Botanic Garden employees completed the planting in the summer of 1964. Dedicated in October of that year, the Fragrance Garden consists of a series of raised beds that are approximately 2 feet high and sheathed with small squares of glazed ceramic tile. These beds are enclosed within a brick wall that is approximately 3 feet high. At the north end of the garden is a semi-circular bed with a pool and water fountain. Plants for this garden are certainly fragrant, but many also have a distinctive texture that adds to the visitor's tactile experience of the garden. Specimens include herbs such as rosemary, basil, lemon-scented thyme, pineapple sage and chocolate mint as well as several varieties of scented geraniums. Labels identifying these plants are also written in Braille. The garden has an intimate, enclosed feeling to it from the overhanging boughs of Texas live oak, Japanese maple and Burford holly trees. Other plantings and a wood fence behind this garden provide a buffer between it and the Japanese Garden (outside the boundaries of the nominated area). The sound of the water fountain enhances the auditory experience within the garden. The Fragrance Garden is counted as a noncontributing site due to insufficient age.

On the piers of the brick wall defining the garden are casts of four sculptures by local artist Evaline Sellors (1903-1995), a member of the Fort Worth Circle of Artists. Collectively called *Nature Finials*, these pieces are adorned with plant forms and wildlife such as oak leaves and a squirrel and redbud leaves and a bird; she also created a life-sized frog in bronze that sits near the edge of the pool. Within the walls of the Fragrance Garden and adjacent to the large art glass window of the Garden Center's library is an Official Texas Historical Marker honoring the life of Mary Daggett Lake. Erected in 2001, the marker is counted as a noncontributing object.

East of the Fragrance Garden near Old Garden Road and the drive to the Garden Center parking lot is a large round water tank constructed of cedar, with a domed roof also constructed of cedar. The tank is used as a Rainwater Harvesting Demonstration unit as a joint project of the Texas Cooperative Extension, the Fort Worth Botanic Garden, the Tarrant Regional Water District, and Frenchmen Construction. Installed in 2001, the tank is counted as a noncontributing structure due to insufficient age.

Horseshoe

The Horseshoe is the most recently established contributing unit within the nominated district. Located across from the Municipal Rose Garden on the west side of Rock Springs Road, this section was purchased in 1946 but was not developed until 1954. Based on a design by Hare and Hare, the Horseshoe is composed of two concrete sidewalks curving westward from Rock Springs Road and converging at an apex. Flanking the inner sides of each sidewalk are five large live oaks (*Quercus virginia*), their graceful branches stretching out over the sidewalks and partially over the lawn between the two lines of trees. There is enough open lawn between the two columns of trees so that another vista is created, terminating at the apex of the Horseshoe and the concrete stairs that ascend to the west as well as to the north and south. Sandstone wing walls, resembling the stonework found elsewhere in the garden, flank the stairs. On top of the wing walls are ornate wrought iron lanterns that were originally located near the east end of the East Vista. The stairs lead to the Trial Garden, which was developed c. 1979. The Trial Garden is excluded from the boundaries of the nominated district. The Horseshoe is counted as one contributing site.

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East Vista Shelter

Included in this nomination is the small stone shelter that formerly served as the terminus of the East Vista. This shelter actually lies within Trinity Park, having been severed from the Fort Worth Botanic Garden when University Drive was rerouted along the eastern edge of the Garden. The East Vista shelter was designed by Hare and Hare and constructed in 1933 by the R. F. C. laborers using the same Palo Pinto sandstone as found in the Municipal Rose Garden. Sited above the west bank of the Clear Fork of the Trinity River, the shelter has a hipped roof sheathed with composition shingles. The corners of the shelter are beveled and have small segmental arched niches. Low stone walls connect the corners with the exception of the west elevation, which is left open. Inside the shelter, low stone benches are located along the north and south walls. The floor of the shelter is composed of hand-hewn flagstone with an octagonal medallion in the center. The shelter is accessed by an exposed aggregate concrete walk and is surrounded by towering pecan and oak trees. It is still visible from the vista. By including this shelter, the Fort Worth Botanic Garden is being nominated as a discontinuous district. The shelter is counted as a contributing structure.

Other Noncontributing Resources

Four Seasons Garden

North of the Horseshoe is the Four Seasons Garden. As its name implies, it is composed of plants representing the seasons of the year. It is organized around a central meandering exposed aggregate concrete sidewalk. Constructed in 1995, the garden displays a delightful collection of annuals, perennials, trees, and shrubs. These include beds of irises, daylilies, camellias, azaleas, hollies, Indian hawthorn, columbine, dwarf nandina, and crepe myrtles. It is counted as a noncontributing site due to insufficient age.

Birth of Love Sculpture

North of the Oval Rose Garden is a large circular bronze sculpture, *Birth of Love*, designed by Michael Pavlovsky (b. 1957) of Dover, Delaware. Pavlovsky received a Master of Fine Arts degree in Sculpture from the University of North Texas. The piece was commissioned by the Moncrief Endowment Fund and was dedicated in 2001. This sculpture is counted as a noncontributing object due to insufficient age.

South Entrance Gates

The gates flanking the entrance to Rock Springs Road from University Drive were dedicated in 1965. Designed by local architects William O'Neal, Edward Jackson, Richard W. Campbell, and Robert G. Adams, they were a gift to the Botanic Garden from the Garden Club Council of Fort Worth. Contributors to the project included the Amon Carter Foundation, Coca-Cola Bottling Company, Texas Electric Service Company, Acme Brick Company, and several individual donors.

The gates originally consisted only of the masonry units constructed of a tan brick and concrete. They are composed of a brick planting bed at the base and a water feature rising above it. From the edge of the water feature rises a tall brick shaft with a vertical concrete panel in the center. Suspended from the panel are ornate brass lanterns, a gift of Montgomery Ward and Company. The lanterns were taken from the company's building at 2600 W. 7th Street, constructed in 1928. The metal gates were installed in 1979 and can be used to block Rock Springs Road. Only the south gate is within the boundaries of the nominated property, and it is counted as a noncontributing object due to insufficient age.

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Fort Worth, Tarrant County, TexasMetal Fence

A tall metal fence similar in design to the metal gates was installed around the perimeter of the Botanic Garden as a security measure, c. 1979. Only that portion of the fence within the boundaries of the district is included in this nomination and counted as a noncontributing object.

It should be noted that Rock Springs Road formerly extended from the South Entrance off of University Drive to the access road along the south side of the Botanic Garden. In an effort to eliminate traffic using the Rock Springs Road as a short cut from University Drive to the access road, the south end of the street was closed off near the Municipal Rose Garden in 1975.

The Fort Worth Botanic Garden is an excellent example of a designed landscape, retaining both the formal and informal treatments originally designed by the landscape architecture firm of Hare and Hare. It has undergone some alterations and additions of other garden and plant elements. But these changes do not detract from the original design intent and represent the evolving nature of gardens and designed landscapes. The Fort Worth Botanic Garden retains a high degree of integrity of design, location, setting, feeling, materials, workmanship and association.

Proposed Contributing Resources

Map Key	Name of Resource	Location	Date of Construction	Type
1	Trails, Water features, etc.	Rock Springs Area	1929-1931	Site
2	Comfort Station	Rock Springs Area	c. 1933	Building
3	Pump house	Rock Springs Area	c. 1952	Structure
4	Overlook shelter	Municipal Rose Garden	1933	Structure
5	Overlook platform	Municipal Rose Garden	1933	Structure
6	Rose ramp	Municipal Rose Garden	1933	Structure
7	<i>Parterres</i> , walls, piers, etc.	Municipal Rose Garden	1933	Site
8	Large Pond	Municipal Rose Garden	1933	Structure
9	East Vista	Municipal Rose Garden	1933	Site
10	Colonnade	Municipal Rose Garden	1933	Structure
11	Oval Rose Garden	Municipal Rose Garden	1933	Site
12	Gazebo	Municipal Rose Garden	1933	Structure
13a-d	Oval Rose Garden Portals	Municipal Rose Garden	1933	Structure (4)
14	Cactus Garden Walk	Cactus Garden to Oval Rose Garden	c. 1935	Structure
15	Greenhouse	Garden Center Area	1950	Structure
16	Horseshoe	Horseshoe	1954	Site
17	East Vista Shelter	Trinity Park	1933	Structure

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Proposed Noncontributing Resources

Map Key	Name of Resource	Location	Date of Construction	Type
18	Cactus Garden/Perennial Garden	Cactus Garden	c. 1933-1935	Site
19	Four Seasons Garden	North of Horseshoe	1995	Site
20	Garden Center/Rock Springs Building	Garden Center Area	1934, 1950, 1955, 1980	Building
21	Fragrance Garden	Garden Center Area	1964	Site
22	Mary Daggett Lake Marker	Garden Center Area	2001	Object
23	Rain Water Harvest Tank	Garden Center Area	2001	Structure
24	<i>Birth of Love</i> Sculpture	Near Oval Rose Garden	2001	Object
25	South Entrance Gate	South Entrance	1965, 1979	Object
26	Metal Fence	Along University Drive and access road	c. 1979	Object

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Statement of Significance

The Fort Worth Botanic Garden is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places at the national level of significance under Criterion C, in the area of Landscape Architecture, as an excellent example of a designed landscape and as one of the first municipal rose gardens established in the southern half of the United States. The garden's most outstanding historic feature, the municipal rose garden, was constructed in 1933 and featured over 6,000 roses of more than 100 varieties. The noted landscape architecture firm of Hare and Hare of Kansas City, Missouri, designed the Rose Garden in a formal style influence by Italian and French formal gardens of the 16th through the 18th centuries. Viewed from an overlook that is an integral part of the overall design, the garden is a stunning arrangement of such classical features as a water cascade and terraces, all of which are constructed of Palo Pinto sandstone. Geometrically shaped beds, or *parterres*, a reflection pool, and a pond are also integrated within the design. Extending from the formal garden is a long vista between stands of trees and shrubs. Together with the water gardens and paths located south of the rose garden, these features combine to create a contrasting informal treatment, another feature of the Renaissance garden. The Fort Worth Botanic Garden is also eligible for the National Register at the state level of significance under Criterion A, in the area of Entertainment/Recreation, as the first municipal botanic garden established in the state of Texas, and as an environment to which Fort Worth residents and other visitors flock for inspiration, knowledge, and enjoyment.

The Origins of Fort Worth and Its Public Parks

Much like the city itself, the location of the Fort Worth Botanic Garden is strongly tied to its geographical characteristics. The city lies on the edge of the Eastern Cross Timbers, noted for its rolling terrain and stands of blackjack and post oaks. The Clear and the West Forks of the Trinity River converge below a bluff upon which the town's namesake military outpost once set. The Fort Worth Botanic Garden is located just west of the Clear Fork and was the site of three natural springs and stands of native trees.

Major Ripley Arnold originally established Fort Worth in 1849 below the bluff near the confluence of the two forks of the Trinity but relocated it on top of the bluff for strategic purposes. The military abandoned the fort in 1853 but the community that had grown up around it remained. In 1856, Fort Worth became the seat of Tarrant County and in 1873, the town was incorporated. Following the arrival of the first railroad later that decade, the city soon became a manufacturing and transportation hub in North Central Texas. By 1890, its population had grown to 23,076.

The first purchase of land for park use occurred in 1892. That year, the city bought 50 acres of land south of West 7th Street and straddling the Clear Fork of the Trinity River from Robert McCart and William Capps for \$20,000. The 31.5 acres on the west side of the river became City Park and the acreage on the east side was used for the Holly Water Treatment Plant. A private citizen, Will M. Cobb cleared the land and planted the first flower beds. A proper park system and a means of managing it was not developed until the early years of the 20th century.

In 1907, Sam Davidson, Commissioner of Public Grounds, Street and Alleys appealed to the Fort Worth Federation of Women's Clubs to assist with improvements to City Park. In response, the Federation raised money for the erection of a \$550 gate. In 1908, a Park League composed of club women and other interested citizens was formed. The League persuaded the noted landscape architect George E. Kessler to visit Fort Worth and entered into a contract with him to prepare a park master plan for the city. In December, Mrs. A. W. Grant, president of the Park League, appeared before the City Commission asking for an appropriation of \$1,500 to pay Mr. Kessler's fee. The Commission voted unanimously to

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appropriate the money. In 1909, under a new city charter, the mayor appointed three men to serve on the Fort Worth Park Board. This board was invested with the authority to acquire parkland, hire staff, and generally oversee the operation of the City's parks.²

George Edward Kessler, Landscape Architect

George Edward Kessler (1862-1923) had a wealth of experience in park planning by the time he began working with the Fort Worth Park Board. Born in Bad Frankenhausen, Germany, he came to the United States with his parents in 1865 where they first settled in Hoboken, New Jersey, and later moved to Dallas, Texas. Following his father's death in 1878, Kessler returned to Europe with his mother and his sister. While there, he studied botany, engineering, and landscape gardening for three years, and he then spent a year studying the civic design of major European cities before returning to the United States in 1882.

For a few months, Kessler worked as a gardener in Frederick Law Olmsted's Central Park and then became head gardener for railroad station gardens of the St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad. Following residential commissions in Kansas City, Missouri, Baltimore, Maryland, and Cleveland Ohio, Kessler's reputation grew throughout the Midwest and he was hired by the Kansas City Board of Park Commissioners in 1890 to design a plan for parks and boulevards. With the success of this project, Kessler received commissions for park and landscape projects such as Fairlawn Cemetery in Oklahoma City (1892), the park systems in Memphis, Tennessee (1900), Indianapolis (1905), Syracuse, New York (1906) Cincinnati, Ohio (1906), Denver, Colorado (1907), Oklahoma City (with W. H. Dunn, 1910) and Dallas, Texas (1910) as well as the St. Louis World's Fair in 1904.³

Under Kessler, Fort Worth's City Park was renamed Trinity Park and the park system was quickly expanded with the acquisition in 1909 of the original 70.85 acres of Forest Park, located south of Trinity Park, and 115.9 acres for Sycamore Park in east Fort Worth. Part of Kessler's plan called for the linkage of Sycamore, Trinity and Forest parks with a parkway. Over the next 15 years, land was acquired for the creation of numerous parks including Capps (1910), Hillside (1911), Rotary (1912), Arnold (1914), Paddock (1917), Burnett (1919) and Cobb (1923). By 1925, the City had approximately 600 acres of parkland.⁴

² Fort Worth Parks, Book 1 [scrapbook], Mary Daggett Lake Library, Fort Worth Botanic Garden, Fort Worth, Texas [hereafter referred to as MDLL].

³ "George Edward Kessler (1862-1923) Papers (KC355)," <http://web1.umkc.edu/WHMCKC/Collections/IKC355.HTM> (accessed September 12, 2005); Kurt Culbertson, "Kessler, George Edward," in *Pioneers of American Landscape Design: An Annotated Bibliography*, edited by Charles A Birnbaum and Lisa E. Crowder, (U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Cultural Resources, Preservation Assistance Division, Historic Landscape Initiative, 1993), 72.

⁴ "Park System Made Start Here in 1892," *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* (morning edition), October 20, 1949, *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* Clippings File AR406-7-59-40, Special Collections Division, University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, Texas [hereafter referred to as FWSTCF, SCDUTA]; Fort Worth Parks, Book 1. Hyde Park actual predates Trinity Park, having been acquired by the City in 1891. Park officials such as Superintendent Harry J. Adams held "it was not a park in truth." Marine Park (1894) and Maddox Park (1905) were early parks in North Fort Worth when it was a separate city. For dates of acquisition of other early parks see *Annual Report of the Fort Worth Park Board, 1923*, p. 31.

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Hare and Hare, Landscape Architects

Following Kessler's death in 1923, the Park Board retained the landscape architecture firm of Hare and Hare of Kansas City, Missouri, to update the master plan for the parks in 1925. The firm of Hare and Hare was composed of Sidney J. Hare (1860-1938) and his son, S. Herbert Hare (1888-1960). Sidney J. Hare was born in Kentucky and moved with his family to Kansas City, Missouri, by riverboat in 1868. Although he had no formal education in landscape design, he did study horticulture, civil engineering, geology, surveying, and photography while in high school. From 1881-1896, he worked in the city engineer's office in Kansas City. It was during this time that Hare met George Kessler, who was then a landscape engineer for the city. Through Kessler, Hare developed an interest in landscape design.⁵

Hare left his job with the city in 1896 to become superintendent of Forest Hill Cemetery, also in Kansas City. While there, Hare became an authority on cemetery design. In 1901, at the Association of American Cemetery Superintendents' convention in Cleveland, Hare discussed the cemetery as botanical garden, arboretum, and bird sanctuary. This was likely the first conversation on the subject on record. Hare put his thoughts in practice by assembling at Forest Hill one of the largest collections of trees and shrubs in the Midwest.⁶

In 1902, Hare resigned from Forest Hill and set up his own design practice. In his cemetery designs, he began incorporating park-like features such as lush lawns, groupings of ornamental trees and shrubs, lakes, curving roads and walks and long vistas. Hare's practice soon became quite reputable and his commissions included parks, subdivisions, streets and boulevards, and residential designs. By 1910, his son, S. Herbert Hare, had joined his firm and the two worked under the name of Hare and Hare. The younger Hare was admitted to Harvard's School of Architecture in 1908 as a special student. Harvard's curriculum was the first in the nation for the new profession of landscape architecture. Under the tutelage of Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr., his principal instructor, Hare completed the course work for a master's although the degree was not granted because he had not completed the preliminary course work. He was one of the first six students in the United States to be formally trained as a landscape architect. The Harvard program trained most of the nation's leading landscape architects for the next five decades.⁷

The father-son team enjoyed a successful and prolific practice. Among their best known early works were the Country Club District in Kansas City (1913), the park and boulevard system for Kansas City, Kansas (1915), and the campus of the University of Kansas at Lawrence (1913-1918). As one historian has stated, "Their trademark—winding roads contoured to natural topography, preservation of trees and valleys, and an eye for the scenic vista—became well established." These traits would be put into practice in the future Fort Worth Botanic Garden.⁸

The firm's reputation for city planning was established with the planning of Longview, Washington, in 1922. In collaboration with George Kessler and J. C. Nichols (the force behind the Country Club District in Kansas City), the firm created an entirely new town with a central business district, three residential areas, suburban acreage and a central manufacturing district with two large mills. Following the death of George Kessler in 1923, the firm took over his Kansas City, Missouri, commissions. By the end of the 1920s, Hare and Hare had a wide variety of projects in 28 states. Much of

⁵ Cydney Millstein, "History of the Landscape Architecture Firm of Hare and Hare," Western Historical Manuscript Collection-Kansas City, University of Missouri, <http://www.umkc.edu/whmckc/Hare/Hare%20history.htm> (accessed April 16, 2005).

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ *Ibid.*

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S. Herbert Hare's work became concentrated on consulting services to city planning and park commissions in such cities as Oklahoma City, Dallas, Houston and Fort Worth.⁹

The younger Hare built upon Kessler's original park plan for Fort Worth by adapting it to the needs of a much larger city. In 1922, the city's boundaries nearly doubled with the annexation of areas such as Arlington Heights and Mistletoe Heights to the west and southwest, Polytechnic and Meadowbrook to the east and Rosen Heights, Washington Heights, Diamond Hill and Riverside to the north and northeast. Its population was nearly 150,000 in 1925, over twice its 1909 population. Hare saw Fort Worth's river valleys as a great natural asset and envisioned circling the city by a valley drive with short connecting roads linking the edges of the valleys.¹⁰

Raymond C. Morrison, City Forester, and the Development of the Botanic Garden at Rock Springs Park

Not long after S. Herbert Hare was retained as park consultant, the Park Board, now composed of five commissioners, hired Raymond C. Morrison in 1926 as the first City Forester, a position mandated by the City Charter of 1924. Morrison would become a central figure in the development of the Fort Worth Botanic Garden as well as the school playground development program of the 1930s, a joint venture of the Park Department and the Fort Worth Independent School District. Morrison came to Fort Worth from Oak Park, Illinois, after graduating from a five-year program at the New York State College of Forestry at Syracuse University. Morrison believed that it was important to beautify the whole city, and not just certain spots. An issue he thought had received scant attention was the proper cultivation of street trees. He was quoted as saying "The street tree problem, because of its apparent simplicity, has not received the amount of serious attention which it has needed from experts." In his opinion, focus had been concentrated on planting and care instead of the more important issues of design, engineering and administration. One of his first tasks was to conduct a street-by-street census of the city's trees and to draft ordinances governing the planting of trees.¹¹

But Morrison's previous experience at arboreta in the East made him eager to develop an arboretum or botanical garden in Fort Worth. As early as 1928, the Fort Worth Board of Park Commissioners authorized Hare to develop a topographical survey for an area to be used as an arboretum and municipal rose garden, the latter of which had been of keen interest to the Tarrant County Rose Society since 1926. An undated newspaper article in Morrison's scrapbook suggests that a newly acquired 17-acre tract of land west of Forest Park was being considered for such use. But work could not proceed until funding had been appropriated for that purpose. It was envisioned that thousands of plant specimens would be grown for scientific and educational purposes. For Morrison, the new garden would provide an ideal opportunity to educate the public about various types of plants and trees as well as a means of providing practical information on the types of plants best suited for local conditions.¹²

⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰ Madeline Williams, "Natural Beauty of River Valleys is Great Asset," *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* (morning edition), June 18, 1950, FWSTCF, AR406-7-72-179, SCDUTA.

¹¹ See unidentified articles "Whole City in Beauty Plans" and "City to Take Tree Census," in the Morrison Scrapbook, photocopy available at the Mary Daggett Lake Library, [hereafter referred to as Morrison Scrapbook].

¹² *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, July 23, 1972; See article titled "City will have Model Forest," Morrison Scrapbook. This tract of land may be the current location of Log Cabin Village and Bobo Woods. In a discussion of municipal rose gardens across the country, see Morrison's "Fort Worth" in *The American Rose Annual*, 1935, pp. 158-159.

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From the inception of the idea, Morrison and Fort Worth park officials envisioned an arboretum that would some day be equal to the Shaw Garden (Missouri Botanical Garden) in St. Louis. The Fort Worth arboretum would be the first of its kind in Texas, but not for the lack of interest. As early as 1915, representatives from the Texas Experiment Stations, the Texas Nurserymen's Association, the State Horticultural Society, and other interested parties had advocated the establishment of a state botanical garden and arboretum. In 1920, the State Botanical Garden and Arboretum Association unsuccessfully lobbied for the creation of the Texas Botanical Garden and Arboretum west of Austin along the Colorado River. Interested parties in Dallas called for the creation of an arboretum in that city in the 1920s.¹³

A final decision was made to locate Fort Worth's arboretum in Rock Springs Park, a wooded tract of land west of Trinity Park comprising approximately 37.5 acres in the southeast corner of the Thomas White Survey. Acquired by the City in 1912, the park was named for a series of small springs that flowed through the area. Local lore claims that early traders named John P. Lusk and Ed Terrell were captured by Indians at this location in the early 1840s before the military established Fort Worth. In 1868, Major K. M. Van Zandt operated a cotton gin at this site. The Van Zandt family continued to own land in the immediate area into the 1940s.¹⁴

Kessler had recommended the acquisition of Rock Springs in his 1909 survey of Fort Worth's park system. J. A. Evans purchased the property in 1910 for \$5,000. He offered to sell the tract to the Fort Worth Board of Park Commissioners in 1911 for \$10,000. He reduced the price to \$7,500 two weeks later but because the tract was largely inaccessible, the Park Board declined the offer. In 1912, Evans received permission from Major Van Zandt and the Texas and Pacific Railway to have access to their property for a road connecting Trinity and Forest parks as far as Stove Foundry Road (located south of the Rock Springs tract, now known as Vickery Boulevard). With that, a deal was worked out where Mr. Evans' father would be able to continue to live in the house on the property rent-free, have use of grounds already in cultivation and serve as a custodian until the City was able to make use of the property. The Park Board agreed to pay Evans \$7,500 in four installments at six per cent interest.¹⁵

Early information regarding Rock Springs Park is not readily available. A Chamber of Commerce Guide to Fort Worth from 1920 provided a two-word description of its attributes—"Native Forest." Another Chamber publication from the following year offered a few more details: "Rock Springs Park, north of Stove Foundry Road and southwest of the city, although unimproved, contains more than 38 acres of ground of great natural beauty." The Annual Report of the Fort

¹³ *Dallas Morning News*, June 15, 1915, December 12, 1920, November 21, 1924, June 4, and June 20, 1928.

¹⁴ Oliver Knight, *Fort Worth: Outpost on the Trinity* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1953), p. 16; Federal Writers Project, Research Data, Fort Worth and Tarrant County (Unpublished Manuscript [microfilm], 1941), pp. 461, 2010, Genealogy and Local History Division, Fort Worth Public Library, Fort Worth, Texas. Others claimed that Lusk and Terrell's camp was in a grove further east of Rock Springs. See Julia Kathryn Garrett and Mary Daggett Lake, editors, *Down Historic Trails of Fort Worth and Tarrant County* (Fort Worth: Dudley Hopkins, c. 1949), p. 6.

¹⁵ Jane McAleavey, "Fort Worth Botanic Garden Rock Springs," Draft National Register of Historic Places nomination. Partial copy in the file "Municipal Rose Garden/Fort Worth Botanic Garden" Tarrant County Historic Resources Survey, Historic Fort Worth, Inc., Fort Worth, Texas.

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Worth Park Board from 1923 also listed no improvements for the park; its valuation of \$11,500 was based solely on the value of the land.¹⁶

Construction in the Rock Springs Area

Work began on the first unit of Rock Springs Park in 1929 and was largely completed in 1931. The transformation of a truly natural setting to a man-made interpretation of the natural required hard work and a little bit of ingenuity. Years later, Morrison recalled that the area “was one big patch of weeds when we started.” The springs were located near the south end of the tract within a thicket of native trees, one of which is a pecan tree that is now estimated to be over 200 years old. Stone was used to create naturalized walks, waterfalls, and a series of small pools. Workers “tried to make a pond where a spring had made a watering hole on a cattle trail, but it wouldn’t hold water. Then we got the idea of bringing Queen Tut, the elephant, over from the zoo and have her walk and wallow around. It packed the ground enough so that water stayed.” A newspaper article provided a picturesque portrayal of the work by stating, “The lake will be filled with every variety of water lily. Swans will stalk the vicinity, which will be given over to picnic parties under the shade of the towering pecan and willow trees that surround the springs. The banks of the lake are being rock-ribbed with several tons of native stone. A spillway has been built to permit the excess water from the springs to flow to the nearby channel of the Clear Fork of the Trinity River.” Plantings in the arboretum were to begin in November 1931.¹⁷

Prior to the development of the Rock Springs area, few in Fort Worth were aware of this beautiful section of Trinity Park. In an article published in *Parks and Recreation*, S. Herbert Hare described this first unit of the arboretum as “a naturalistic garden with several small lakes at different levels, supplied from the springs. Flagstone paths, some interesting rock treatments of springs and lake borders, a collection of native and other shrubs, and plants suitable to the situation, all attracted sudden interest to this little known corner of the park.”¹⁸

In 1930, Hare and Hare produced a comprehensive plan for the entire development of Rock Springs Park that included a formal rose garden and a long vista through a natural grove of trees, connecting it with Trinity Park to the east. Because of its ambitious scope, it was feared that it would take 10 to 20 years to complete the project. But as the financial crisis of the 1930s began to deepen, a creative collaboration between the local Relief Board, the Fort Worth Park Board and Tarrant County resulted in the majority of the work being completed within nine months and for a fraction of the estimated cost.

¹⁶ Fort Worth (Texas) Chamber of Commerce, *Fort Worth Official Pocket Guide and Directory*, (Fort Worth, Texas: The Map & Guide Publishing Co., 1920), p. 40 and *Fort Worth and the Billion Dollar Circle*, (Fort Worth, Texas, 1921): 21; *Annual Report of the Fort Worth (Texas) Park Board, 1923*, p. 31.

¹⁷ Undated newspaper article in the Morrison Scrapbook. Swans were introduced into Botanic Garden but after several birds died, the practice was stopped. *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, July 23, 1972. This article states that the pond Morrison was referring to was the lotus pond, one of the small ponds in the springs area. The Queen Tut story has become part of local lore with most people assuming that the elephant was used to create the large pond associated with the Rose Garden. See also *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, August 8, 1931, FWSTCF AR406-7-59-31, SCDUTA.

¹⁸ S. Herbert Hare, “The Municipal Rose Garden at Fort Worth,” *Parks and Recreation* 16 (September 1933): 22.

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The Rise of the Municipal Rose Garden

Landscape historian Phoebe Cutler has defined the classic period of the municipal rose garden in the United States as an era from 1927 to 1937. The first municipal rose garden in the nation was established in Elizabeth Park in West Hartford, Connecticut in 1904. But early in the 20th century, rose plants were not readily available, as most were imported. The nation did not have its first major commercial grower until 1914. The domestic cultivation of roses received a boost in 1919 when Congress passed a law which severely limited the importation of roses. Legislation such as this and the Plant Protection Act of 1930 encouraged a thriving domestic market. East Texas, particularly around the Tyler area, became an important supplier of roses. The boom in the rose market occurred at the same time as a revival of the Western European formal garden as practiced from 1400 to 1650. Characteristics of these gardens included walls, water chains, fountains, allées and parterres—a geometric patterning of grass, box hedges, sand, or beds of annuals. Roses typically were substituted for annuals in these later gardens.¹⁹

The construction of formal gardens coincided with the City Beautiful movement of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Advocates of social reforms believed that by beautifying their cities, they could inspire moral and civic virtue among urban populations. They also believed that the culture of American cities would be elevated on par with their European counterparts as they adopted a design idiom based upon Beaux Arts classicism, and that these newly-refined environments would lure the upper classes back to the cities' historic cores to live, work, and play.²⁰ Although many rose gardens were built in the waning years of this movement, the idea that such beauty spots could provide a refuge for the masses and the more well-to-do in the midst of the economic crisis of the 1930s surely crossed the minds of city planners and leaders.

Another factor in the rise of the popularity of roses and the public rose garden was the advocacy and leadership provided by J. Horace McFarland (1859-1948). A printer by trade, McFarland published most of the nation's nursery catalogs at that time. But he also was the founding president of the American Civic Association, the forerunner of today's American Planning and Civic Association, through which he championed such causes as the saving of Niagara Falls and the creation of the National Park Service. McFarland also was an accomplished rose grower and authored or co-authored four books on roses, and he edited *The American Rose Annual*, the journal of the American Rose Society (ARS), and its other publications. Initially, the ARS was an association of commercial growers, but by the 1920s, its membership was largely composed of amateur rosarians with a smaller contingent of breeders and landscape professionals. Affiliated groups of the ARS formed throughout the country. The local chapter in Fort Worth was the Tarrant County Rose Society.²¹

McFarland became president of the American Rose Society in 1930 and from this platform he was able to combine his interest in public infrastructure improvement with his personal passion for growing roses. Throughout the 1930s, the *American Rose Annual* reported on the status of public rose gardens across the country. For many of these communities, Fort Worth included, the actual construction of a public rose garden was accomplished through the assistance of federal relief programs. The situation in Fort Worth was unusual in that its Rose Garden and other elements of the Botanic

¹⁹ Phoebe Cutler, "The Rise of the American Municipal Rose Garden, 1927-1937," *Studies in the History of Gardens and Designed Landscapes* 25 (July-September 2005, Number 3): 202.

²⁰ "The City Beautiful Movement," <http://xroads.virginia.edu/~cap/CITYBEAUTIFUL/city.html>, (Accessed May 28, 2008).

²¹ *Ibid.*

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Garden were constructed with the overlapping relief programs of Herbert Hoover's administration and Franklin Delano Roosevelt's New Deal.²²

The Tarrant County Rose Society was very active in the initial conception and construction phases of Fort Worth's Municipal Rose Garden. Originally, the organization considered raising money for the garden's construction through appeals but hesitated to do so because of the Depression. Shortly after the nearby Arlington (Texas) Municipal Rose Garden received a \$1,000 award from *Woman's Home Companion's* Municipal Rose Garden Competition, Mr. Jewel P. Lightfoot, the chairman of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation's (RFC) Relief Committee in Tarrant County, "offered to the society the RFC labor for the Rose Garden." Mr. Lightfoot, himself a rose enthusiast, was the husband of the society's secretary. Many assumed that Mrs. Lightfoot was influential in her husband's decision to offer the use of relief labor in the construction of the garden. Whatever the case, it was apparent that directly or indirectly, the Tarrant County Rose Society played a large role in finally getting the Rose Garden off the drawing board and into reality.²³

At its meeting of February 21, 1933, the Fort Worth Park Board thoroughly discussed the matter of using RFC labor for the construction of the Rose Garden. City Forester Morrison estimated that the cost of materials such as gravel, lumber, drain tile, water pipe, cement, and stone—as well as the realignment of the road—would cost \$685. The board unanimously agreed that the work should start immediately under Morrison's direct supervision, with all expenditures to be approved by the board before they were made. Park Superintendent Harry J. Adams was instructed to ensure that no other matters interfered with Morrison's work on the Rose Garden.²⁴

Designing the Municipal Rose Garden and the East Vista

An undated letter written by S. Herbert Hare to Morris E. Berney, president of the Board of Park Commissioners, reveals some of the give and take between Hare, the Park Board and staff, and the Tarrant County Rose Society concerning the design of the Municipal Rose Garden. The Rose Society initially had been assigned a plot of land for its use within the proposed garden but wanted a bigger role in the garden's overall development and maintenance. Hare acknowledged the interest displayed by the Rose Society and stated that he would be glad to do what he could to cooperate with their activity and added, "I also appreciate being consulted regarding the matter, as I am very much interested in the success of this rose garden." This letter, along with a preliminary plan for the garden dated April 1930, indicates that the trellis walk and the oval rose garden were initially planned as annual and perennial gardens. Hare and Morrison had discussed the option of changing the use of the oval-shaped perennial garden to that of a supplementary rose garden. Hare saw no harm in this idea. He wrote that the "general form of this space will lend itself to such treatment, and we are now studying the detailed design of the area." Hare went on to explain:

There may be some question as to the exact location of this oval on the ground, as we have it located on our sketch in relation to the topographical survey which we have since determined is at least partially incorrect. In grading the space out for this oval garden, it can be cut on the upper side and filled on the lower, so as to get the same general pitch from west to east as that in the main garden. The exact elevation

²² *Ibid.* For example, see Robert Pyle, "More Municipal Rose-Gardens," *American Rose Annual*, 1931, p. 15.

²³ Hally Bradley Hampton, "The Fort Worth Municipal Rose-Garden." *The American Rose Magazine* (January-February, 1934): 9-10; Cutler, "The Rise of the American Municipal Rose Garden, 1927-1937," 208.

²⁴ Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners, February 21, 1933, p. 178 and March 7, 1933, p. 180. Photocopy of the minutes are located in a miscellaneous file "1935" at MDLL.

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in the north and south direction will have to be determined in connection with the profile of the connecting path, which will be treated with rose arches. It seems useless to try to determine this from the topographical information we have.²⁵

Hare's preliminary concept called for white-washed brick columns, but the Rose Society wanted stone columns. Hare stated that he found the stone in Fort Worth to be very unsatisfactory, but if the Park Board "[deemed it] wise to concede to the suggestions of the Society, we believe the columns, together with the cast stone caps and base, should be slightly re-designed so as to take care of the less finished appearance of the stone." Hare said he would prepare a design for the arches between the two gardens once the choice of brick or stone for the piers and walls was made and suggested the use of "some masonry" for the arches.²⁶

The letter went on to discuss the design options for the vista between the River Drive (to the east in Trinity Park, now known as Old University Drive) and the Rose Garden. Morrison had provided Hare with a concept sketch giving the vista a formal arrangement which apparently included paved paths and formal rose beds, an element supported by the Tarrant County Rose Society. Hare responded:

We are not opposed to a formal treatment of this approach to the garden, provided other conditions are satisfactory. In the first place, we believe such a formal treatment would be unsatisfactory unless the paths and the intermediate space were graded to a perfectly true grade, preferably with a slight concavity in profile. From our recollection of the area, we think this would be practically impossible, especially in view of the fact that the trees which are retained will prevent changes of grade in places. We would, however, be glad to have more information on the subject. In the second place, we were wondering if it would be possible to get the straight paths through the area and still miss the trees which have been retained. Of course, we have not seen the vista since it was cleared.²⁷

Hare did state that if it became difficult to pursue the formal scheme, he saw no harm in using "less formal types of bush roses" along the edge of the woods on either side of the vista—although shade from the trees might be an issue—but that climbing roses on trellises would not work, nor would the use of Polyantha roses (roses that produce clusters of flowers), but "that there would be plenty of room in the main rose gardens to display the Polyantha Roses as well as all of the types of climbing roses which are suitable under the conditions down there." To Morrison's suggestion of using flagstone walks in the approach between the River Drive and the Rose Garden, Hare replied, "This would certainly be picturesque, but we doubt whether it would be as practical, either from the standpoint of walking or expense as the use of crushed gravel with board edging, as adopted in other parks." Hare concluded that he would be willing to make a trip to Fort Worth to settle the questions of the exact location of the rose oval and its grade, the grade of the walk between the two gardens, and the choice between a formal or informal approach between the River Drive and the Rose Garden, "all of which could be decided on the ground a little more satisfactorily." In a postscript, Hare added that he was enclosing

²⁵ Undated letter from S. Herbert Hare to Morris E. Berney, President, Board of Park Commissioners, Mary Daggett Lake Papers [hereafter referred to as MDLP], Series V, Box 6: 3, Fort Worth Park Board—Correspondence—1926-1944. Actually, this is not an original copy of the letter as it is not on Hare and Hare letterhead, but appears to be a copy that Mary Daggett Lake typed for her own files. See plan dated April 1930, Project #27-0062, Hare and Hare Collection KC206, Western Historical Manuscript Collection, University of Missouri-Kansas City [hereafter referred to as Hare and Hare Collection].

²⁶ Undated letter from Hare to Berney.

²⁷ *Ibid.*

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a print of our original layout showing a study for a formal approach drawn to scale. The proportions of this approach seem to be satisfactory in plan. In checking the area of rose beds in the two gardens, we find there is room for 7,000 roses, figured at an average spacing of one and one half feet. This does not provide for any roses along the path between the two gardens, or on the proposed formal approach from the River Drive.²⁸

The design was basically finalized by June 2, 1933, as that is the date of the drawing used as an illustration of the garden in numerous publications. The concept that was finally selected included a shelter at the west end of the garden (which it was thought might eventually be replaced with a conservatory). The shelter overlooked a terrace of diagonally-crossing ramps and a water cascade. The view was inspired by the garden at the French palace at Versailles and the water cascade and ramp by the Villa Lante at Bagnaia, Italy, which Hare had visited previously. The terrace terminated at a small reflecting pool surrounded by parterres that then led to stairs to gravel pathways circling a larger pond. Beyond the pond to the east was a long vista between naturalized stands of trees. The vista, nearly 800' in length, terminated with a small shelter house. The plan also included the oval rose garden which was located on a north-south axis extending from the small reflecting pool and connected to it by a long walk over which trellises were erected, creating a long promenade that became a popular place for visitors to stroll, earning it the name "Peacock Alley."²⁹

Hare had used a similar ramp and water cascade in 1926 for his garden design for Villa Philbrook, the estate of Mr. and Mrs. Waite Phillips in Tulsa, Oklahoma (now the location of the Philbrook Art Museum), although the Philbrook garden was not designed as a rose garden. The Philbrook design also included a juxtaposition of formal gardens with a natural wooded area, a characteristic of the 16th-century Italian Renaissance garden. Philbrook's vista terminates with a small "Temple of Love," whereas Fort Worth's vista terminates with a small rustic shelter.

Hare and Hare was also the designer of the municipal rose garden at Loose Park in Kansas City, Missouri. Concepts for both the Kansas City and Fort Worth gardens were initially developed around the same time, although the Kansas City garden was built over a period of years from 1932 to 1937, and they share some design features. Both gardens have an oval rose garden, and the Kansas City garden has stone trellises similar to the ones at Fort Worth; however, instead of leading to the oval garden, at Kansas City the trellises actually encircle it. The Kansas City rose garden is not nearly as large as the Fort Worth rose garden and it does not have a rose ramp or water cascade. A shelter with pergolas was added to the Kansas City garden in 1937.³⁰

With the final design of the Fort Worth Municipal Rose Garden, the Tarrant County Rose Society got its wish of using stone in the construction of the Rose Garden. Whether the use of the reddish-brown Palo Pinto sandstone versus the "unsatisfactory" Fort Worth stone was an effort to appease Hare, one can only guess. Hare's preference for an informal approach along the vista between the River Drive and the Rose Garden was kept. Describing the formality of the Rose Garden with the informality of the vista, Morrison later wrote, "The monotony of straight lines in the formal design [of the Rose Garden] is offset by its interesting patterns and exceedingly pleasing proportions. And where the formal meets

²⁸ *Ibid.*

²⁹ Hare, "The Municipal Rose Garden at Fort Worth," 23.

³⁰ Kathryn McKnight, "People and Places in the History of Landscape Architecture in Oklahoma" in *Of the Earth: Oklahoma Architectural History* edited by Howard L. and Mary Ellen Meredith, Volume XIII, The Oklahoma Series (Oklahoma City: Oklahoma Historical Society, 1980): 115-118. See also projects #26-0051 Villa Philbrook for Mr. and Mrs. Waite Phillips, Tulsa, Oklahoma and #27-0014 Jacob L. Loose Park, Kansas City, Missouri, Municipal Rose Garden, Hare and Hare Collection.

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the informal, there is no sudden boundary line, but a delightful fading away of the one and the gradual dominance of the other." Creating the vista necessitated the removal of some trees. Years later Hare recalled, "It has such an interesting setting. But I can still hear the protests when we cut down the trees to provide that vista from the rose garden down to University [Drive]. I was about ready to leave town then for good."³¹

Building the Rose Garden

Construction of the Rose Garden began in February 1933. It had been assumed that the construction of the Rose Garden would take years to complete, but Lightfoot's "offer" of the use of RFC labor resulted in its completion, minus the actual planting of the roses, within nine months. The use of RFC labor for construction projects was a novel concept at this time. Previously, those on relief were just given vouchers for food. Lightfoot thought that if the men worked for assistance, it would not only respect their dignity and sense of self-worth, but would also result in the construction of a worthwhile project that would be of permanent benefit to the city. Of further benefit to the construction of the garden was Tarrant County's contribution of the use of various equipment.

The area where the Rose Garden was to be built was swampy and filled with weeds. The upper rose garden was built into the side of a small hill, but approximately 10,000 yards of soil was brought in to make the lowlands useable. For the construction of the shelters, flagstone walks, stairs, walls, trellises, and other architectural details, nearly 4,000 tons of Palo Pinto sandstone from Millsap, Texas, located west of Fort Worth, was hauled to the site. The work was very labor intensive as all of the rock was cut by hand. Working two days a week in shifts of 40 to 50 men, common laborers were trained under the supervision of a small number of skilled stonemasons.

Before the Depression, these stonemasons would earn between \$12 and \$18 a day, and carpenters on the project previously were paid \$12 a day. In an article published in *The American Rose Annual*, Morrison proclaimed that the result was "a truly pleasing work of art Although these men were paid only \$2 a day [in the form of a meal ticket], they were most enthusiastic in their work from beginning to end. On several occasions when relief money had been exhausted, the men donated as much as two day's labor at one time to complete certain phases of the projects." Work stopped for a short time in August when all RFC relief funds in Texas were withdrawn, partially as a means of limiting the use of RFC labor to only those projects of permanent construction. Funding resumed after state officials were made aware of the importance of the garden project to Fort Worth and the men who were employed there. By the time the Rose Garden was completed, approximately 750 men had worked on the garden.³²

According to a newspaper article from 1964, William Porter (c. 1862-1951) served as the superintendent of stonework and masonry for the construction of the Rose Garden. Porter learned his trade as an apprentice stone cutter in Sedalia, Missouri, and perfected his craft cutting and laying stone for piers and bridges along the Missouri-Kansas-Texas (Katy) Railway as he made his way to Texas. He worked on buildings in Waco and then arrived in Fort Worth in the early 1900s. In Fort Worth, his projects included the old First National Bank, the old Fort Worth National Bank, the Farmers and Mechanics National Bank, granite work in Burk Burnet Park and the entrance pylons to Elizabeth Boulevard. He also was the foreman for the stonework on the San Jacinto Monument. Other jobs took him to Dallas, San Antonio, Breckenridge, Haskell and even out of state. Porter was known for adding personal or whimsical touches to his work. He is credited with

³¹ R. C. Morrison, "The Fort Worth Botanic Garden" *Holland's: The Magazine of the South* (September, 1935): 20; Williams, "Natural Beauty of River Valleys is Great Asset."

³² R.C. Morrison, "Fort Worth," *American Rose Annual*, 1935, p. 159; Hampton, "The Fort Worth Municipal Rose-Garden:" 10.

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creating the Texas-shaped stone in the walk by the shelter above the Rose Garden. In the center of the shelter, he laid out a large star, representing the famed Lone Star of Texas, and nearby set a circular-hewn stone representing "the world of which Texas was a part."³³

In addition to the creation of the rose garden and the vista, other work included cutting a mile of nature trails through the trees on either side of the vista. The trails and open spaces were intended to provide individuals and organized groups such as Girl and Boy Scouts the opportunity to study nature and to use the garden and arboretum as an outdoor learning library, a concept that was frequently referenced in promotions of the garden as a whole. Rustic benches cut from large trees were interspersed throughout for the convenience of the visitor. Other rustic treatment included fences and at least one wood bridge. Also included near the east end of the vista, before reaching the small shelter house, were two large wrought iron standards with iron lanterns said to be "relics of early Fort Worth."³⁴

Dedication of the Municipal Rose Garden

In celebration, the new arboretum and unplanted Rose Garden were dedicated on October 15, 1933, in a two hour ceremony. Musical selections were provided by the Masonic Band, the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, and J. J. Patterson, who sang a composition written especially for the occasion by Miss Jeanette Tillet, President of the Fort Worth Conservatory of Music. Dr. Anna Greve, Chairman of the Program Committee and a rose enthusiast herself, introduced Mrs. Henry B. Trigg, president of the Southwest Region of the National Council of Garden Clubs. Other speakers included City Councilman Sam Calloway, Jewel P. Lightfoot, and Park Board President Morris E. Berney. Raymond C. Morrison spoke briefly and regretted the fact that so many of the laborers who constructed the garden could not attend because they lacked attire deemed appropriate for such an occasion. S. Herbert Hare was unable to attend the event but sent a letter read by Park Board Secretary Margaret McLean. She was followed by Park Superintendent Adams who in turn was followed by Hally Bradley [Mrs. Ireland] Hampton, President of the Tarrant County Rose Society. Mrs. Hampton introduced J. Horace McFarland, president of the American Rose Society, who gave the dedicatory address. Noting the challenge of procuring roses for the garden, McFarland told the audience, "You can have this garden as your garden if you care to make it yours. Don't stand off and say 'they,' but help plant and develop it and say 'we.'" ³⁵

A dedicatory plaque was to have been unveiled at the ceremony but its delivery was delayed. It was placed along the stairs from the overlook to the rose ramp and water cascade. The plaque, which is still present, reads:

Municipal Rose Garden
Developed under the direction of
the Fort Worth Park Department
Sponsored by
The Tarrant County Rose Society
With the assistance of
Tarrant County Federal Relief Committee

³³ *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, March 12, 1964.

³⁴ Mary Daggett Lake, "Fort Worth Dedicates Its New Arboretum and Municipal Rose Garden" *Southern Home and Garden* 1 (November, 1933, Number 1): 18-19; Morrison, "Fort Worth Botanic Garden:" 31. These light standards are now by the trial garden located west of the Rose Garden.

³⁵ *Ibid.*

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Commissioners Court of Tarrant County
Acknowledgement is also made to the artisans
and laborers who wrought the beauties of this garden and gave
of their best to a degree far exceeding their monetary reward
October 15, 1933.³⁶

Even without the benefit of a planted garden, let alone blooming roses, the “completed” Rose Garden was an immediate success, stirring the imagination of the public, both within Fort Worth and beyond. Forester Morrison noted that the Rock Springs Arboretum, as it was frequently called, generated a substantial increase in business for one local photographer. Morrison wrote, “Nearly half of the pictures taken to one photographer are of this beauty spot and an increase in the number of pictures taken has been noted. Constantly it is rumored that someone has ‘captured’ a new ‘view’ or has a new composition to offer to the already big collection of pictures of the area.”³⁷

Conflict with the Tarrant County Rose Society

Despite appearances, all was not harmonious in the creation of the Rose Garden. A month before the dedication, Mrs. Hampton, president of the Tarrant County Rose Society, wrote a letter to the Park Board expressing the Society’s concerns over such issues as the group’s role in the selection of roses, including the placement and varieties of groupings, and overall supervision of the garden. The Society wanted to know if the Park Board would employ a qualified rosarian, provide day and night security for protection of the plants from theft, and the wording of and placement of the dedication plaque. In late December of that year, the Society threatened to remove its participation and its aid in the procurement of the roses because the group did not like the placement of *Iodense* bushes around the roses as shown in Hare’s plan for the rose ramp. The Society’s objection was based on concerns that the bushes could potentially spread fungus to the roses and would prevent proper air circulation around the plants. Although two of the five members of the Park Board, Mary Daggett Lake and Harry Vinnedge, agreed that the planting of the *Iodense* bushes was a “Horticultural Error,” the Park Board would not change Hare’s design and in fact, had already planted the bushes. The Rose Society was told that it could withdraw from involvement with the Rose Garden and concentrate on supplying plants for outlying areas of the garden. On January 1, 1934, Mrs. Hampton responded to the Park Board’s ultimatum with a six-page letter outlining everything the Society believed the board and Mr. Hare were doing incorrectly regarding the Rose Garden. The letter concluded that the “Society deeply regrets to advise you that it can proceed no further toward providing rose plants for the Garden.” The Park Board requested the list of pledged roses from the organization. The Society refused to hand over the list and threatened to create a separate rose garden.³⁸

The “War of the Roses,” as the controversy was dubbed in a local newspaper, caused concern for at least one group that planned to donate roses to the garden. The Business and Professional Women’s Club placed a request to verify the location of its designated bed. Margaret McLean, secretary of the Park Board, wrote to the president of the club stating that its assigned bed was in the lower, or oval, garden. This garden would not have any border plantings. McLean further

³⁶ “Value of Rose Gardens to City is Emphasized,” unidentified newspaper article dated October 16, 1933, Morrison Scrapbook.

³⁷ R. C. Morrison, “Beauty and Photography,” *Southern Home and Garden*, 1 (February 1934): 13.

³⁸ Copy of letter in Fort Worth Parks Scrapbook, Book 1, MDLL; newspaper articles dated December 25, 1933 and January 3 and 4, 1934 (source not cited), Botanic Garden Scrapbook, MDLL; Letter from Hally Bradley Hampton, President, Tarrant County Rose Society to Morris E. Berney, President, Board of Park Commissioners, January 1, 1934, MDLP, Series V, Box 6: 3, Fort Worth Park Board—Correspondence—1926-1944.

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assured the organization that "Should the lodense hedge prove injurious...the roses donated by your Club will not be effected [*sic*] as they will be some two or three hundred feet distance from the part of the garden in which the hedge is to be planted." Satisfied with that response, the club proceeded with its donation of 100 roses.³⁹

The conflict continued through January 1934. On January 15, the Tarrant County Rose Society sent another letter to the Park Board accusing the board of breaching the agreement between the two bodies. Without backing down from its position that the placement of the offending lodense bushes would ruin the opportunity to produce "a garden in which roses might be grown with a perfection which would give the garden a Nation-wide reputation," it offered a compromise. Recognizing that "the public interest is the dominate interest" the Society proposed that a referendum be held whereby the public could vote for or against the Board's plan. If the majority favored the Board's plan, then the Society would strive to get the consent of all of the parties presently committed to providing roses to follow the Board's plan. But the Park Board flatly responded that it would take over the planting and maintenance of the Rose Garden. On January 18, the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* ran an article in which it reported that Arlington had offered space in its municipal rose garden to the Society. With that, the controversy seems to have disappeared from public discourse and the Tarrant County Rose Society's official association with its long sought-after municipal rose garden ended.⁴⁰

Gifts to the Garden

On January 23, 1934, the Park Board adopted a plan outlining the manner in which donations for the planting of the Rose Garden could be accepted. Small beds were set aside in which the donated roses would be planted. The name of the donor would be acknowledged by the placement of a metal marker bearing the name of the donor in the appropriate bed. The marker was to remain in place for at least three years. The Park Department would select the roses and undertake all of the planting, cultivating and general maintenance of the beds. Hare and Hare, in consultation with local parties, prepared a diagram of where roses should be planted based on color and height. Potential donors could view this diagram and know everything from the kind of roses one would be donating, the location where they would be planted and the cost of each bed (plant prices ranged from nine to seventy-five cents per bush). Donations came from area nurseries, local individuals and organizations such as the Business and Professional Women's Club mentioned previously. The Rotary Club of Fort Worth donated all of the roses in the colonnade. The laborers who constructed the garden donated \$70 for the purchase of roses to be used along the rose ramp.⁴¹

Full-scale planting of the Rose Garden began in April 1934. According to Park Department estimates, 200 roses were purchased by the workers who built the garden, 845 were donated by nurseries, individuals, groups and organizations, and 3,593 were purchased by the Park Department for \$440.24. But when accounting for the additional \$258.70 in cash that was donated or pledged to the project, the total cost to the Park Department for the purchase of roses was only \$181.54. A

³⁹ Letter from Margaret McLean, Secretary, Board of Park Commissioners, to Mrs. John G. Sims, Jr., President, Business and Professional Women's Club, January 13, 1934. MDLP, Series V, Box 6:3, Fort Worth Park Board—Correspondence—1926-1944. This letter appears to be another example of a copy that Mary Daggett Lake typed for her own files.

⁴⁰ Letter from Tarrant County Rose Society to Morris E. Berney, President, Board of Park Commissioners, January 15, 1934, MDLP, Series V, Box 6:3, Fort Worth Park Board—Correspondence—1926-1944; *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, January 17 and January 18, 1934. Perhaps ironically, Hare and Hare designed a development plan for the Arlington Municipal Rose Garden as well.

⁴¹ Minutes of the Board of Park Commissioners, January 23, 1934, copy located in a miscellaneous file "1935," MDLL; S. Herbert Hare to Mrs. Will F. Lake, letter dated April 7, 1941, MDLP, Series V, 6:3, Fort Worth Park Board—Correspondence—1926-1944.

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sampling of the varieties planted included Mme. Butterfly, Hoosier Beauty, President Hoover, Columbia, Edith Nellie Perkins, Talisman, Martha Washington, Luxembourg, Willowmere, Red American Beauty, Pink Radiance and Premier.⁴²

Besides the community's gift of the roses, numerous other donations were made to the garden. Frank Carroll of New Orleans donated 100 irises. Carroll was known for donating irises across the country in his efforts to see if the plants could adapt to local conditions. The irises were planted in a bed east of the colonnade filled with 80 varieties the garden already owned. William Coates, a local collector, donated 50 varieties of water lilies. Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Shuman donated two large urns created by C. J. Sutton. The urns were placed by the stairs leading from the parterres to the large pond. In 1938, the Mary Isham Keith Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution presented an American flag and a 30-foot flag pole. The flag pole, along with a bronze marker at its base, was erected near the overlook shelter.⁴³

More Than Just Roses

Throughout the inception and early construction of the arboretum, there was much inconsistency in the names used to describe this new unit of the Fort Worth park system. Hare and Hare's earliest drawings for the Rose Garden referred to it as "Rose Garden in Rock Springs Section of Trinity Park" or, as shown on the perspective drawing dated June 2, 1933, "Rose Garden in Trinity Park." For the entire unit, the name "Rock Springs Arboretum" was used. On December 18, 1934, the Board of Park Commissioners voted to change the name "Rock Springs" to "The Fort Worth Botanic Garden" as "a more appropriate name for this type of garden."⁴⁴

Indeed, the Botanic Garden continued to grow with new features and later expanded with the addition of more acreage. Some of these early projects were also completed through the use of federal relief funds. Through the Civil Works Administration (CWA), the predecessor of the Works Progress Administration (WPA), \$5,000 was provided for the purchase of materials and the construction of a Horticulture Building. Located near the northwest corner of the property, this small building was also constructed of the Palo Pinto sandstone. Within it were a combination office/library, a dark room for the development of photography work, a lavatory and tool rooms. The office had built-in bookcases and knotty pine walls. The Fort Worth Garden Club provided the Early American style furniture of pegged maple. The leaded art-glass windows by Fort Worth Art Glass featured designs of roses and wisterias. Attached to the building was a fairly large greenhouse used for the propagation of plants for the Botanic Garden. In addition to built-in runs and propagation boxes, the interior had a concrete fish pond that extended the entire length of the greenhouse. South of the Horticulture Building was a test garden for roses and other plants. Plants for this garden were provided by various government agencies and growers as experiments to see what varieties would adapt to this area.⁴⁵

The Horticulture Building became a vital part of the Botanic Garden's mission to educate the public about plants and their environment. The same day that the Park Board voted to adopt the name "The Fort Worth Botanic Garden," it also voted to allow the Fort Worth Garden Club to maintain a Garden Center within the Horticulture Building for the benefit of the

⁴² "Summary, Rose Planting at Ft. Worth Arboretum," list found at the back of the Birds and Insects Scrapbook, MDLL.

⁴³ "City Park Being Dressed Up with Floral Gifts," undated newspaper article in the Morrison Scrapbook; "Flag Presentation Ceremony Held in Botanic Garden," *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* (morning edition), October 13, 1938, FWSTCF, SCDUTA.

⁴⁴ Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners, December 18, 1934, copy in a miscellaneous file "1935," MDLL.

⁴⁵ Morrison, "Fort Worth," p. 159; *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, May 12, 1937, Botanic Garden Scrapbook; "Garden Center is Latest Addition to Botanic Garden," *Southern Home and Garden* (February, 1935), [copy of this article found in a miscellaneous file, MDLL].

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public, the first of its kind in Texas. Through a cooperative agreement between the Park Board, the Fort Worth Garden Club and the Fort Worth school system, Mary Daggett Lake (who was still a member of the Park Board) was hired as the director of the Garden Center. After officially opening in June 1935, the Garden Center worked closely with the school system developing a curriculum that focused on the Botanic Garden as an outdoor learning laboratory. The Garden Center featured seasonal exhibits, monthly lectures on a variety of garden and nature-related subjects and offered the library's collection for the public's use. In 1936, the Garden Center became home to the Albert Ruth Herbarium featuring a collection of 8,500 mounted and pressed plant specimens that the late Mr. Ruth, a scholar of Greek and Sanskrit as well as a botanist, had collected over a 40-year period. When Mrs. Lake became the president of the Texas Federation of Garden Clubs (later known as Texas Garden Clubs, Inc.) in 1939, the Garden Center also became the home of the federation's library, where it remained until the construction of its own headquarters in the Botanic Garden years later. Because of such programs and features as these, the Garden Center received considerable attention, including being singled out in the August 1938 issue of *Country Gentleman* as a national model for other garden centers. F. F. Rockwell's article in particular noted that the Fort Worth Garden Center had been built solely for the interpretation of the Botanic Garden.⁴⁶

Much like the Botanic Garden, the Garden Center also benefited from laborers available through work-relief programs. During the late 1930s and early 1940s, women employed by the Fort Worth Independent School District's WPA library program and the National Youth Administration (NYA) created over 300 scrapbooks for the Garden Center's library on such subjects as garden flowers, wild flowers, natural history, and old homes and gardens of Fort Worth and Tarrant County. In addition, the NYA workers also served as guides in the Botanic Garden.⁴⁷

The fourth unit of the Botanic Garden to be constructed was the Cactus Garden (later referred to as the Wildflower and Arid Garden) north of the Rose Garden overlook shelter. It was built in a depressed area that had served as a gravel pit, the sides of which the construction crew lined with rocks to simulate natural outcroppings. In describing the garden Morrison wrote: "Again we have tried to produce a naturalistic effect, so that the garden will be of value in displaying rock work as well as the plant material." Plants in this garden were often collected by park department employees. In 1935, the same year in which the garden was constructed, L. W. Pope and Frank Parker, along with local cactus expert C. E. Papworth, made an expedition through West Texas and New Mexico to gather specimens for the garden. The trio brought back 270 new plants representing 45 varieties, including four specimens of a rare variety collected at White Sands National Monument. They were planted in sharp (or building) sand in an effort to duplicate their original growing conditions. Pope created a makeshift shelter over newly acquired barrel cacti to acclimate them to their new environment. In 1937, Pope received a permit from the Arizona Commission of Agriculture and Horticulture to collect "native Arizona flora" specifically for use in the Botanic Garden. He and H. J. Wade, another park employee, brought back seven large cacti from that state.⁴⁸

⁴⁶ Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners, December 18, 1934; Garden Center Annual Report, 1939-1940, MDLL; "Garden Center is Latest Addition to Botanic Garden;" Garden Center Annual Report, various years, MDLL; Mary Daggett Lake, "Fort Worth Garden Center of Southwest" *Fort Worth Magazine* (November 1950): 17, 33. Around 1950, the Albert Ruth Herbarium was placed on indefinite loan to Texas Christian University in Fort Worth; *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, July 18, 1938, from Fort Worth Botanic Garden Scrapbook, MDLL.

⁴⁷ Garden Center Annual Report, various years, MDLL.

⁴⁸ Morrison, "Fort Worth Botanic Garden;" 31; *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, July 30, 1935, FWSTCF, SCDUTA; Permit dated July 26, 1937 from the Arizona Commission of Agriculture and Horticulture, miscellaneous file "History—Botanic Garden, Prior to 1960," MDLL.

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Between 1931 and 1936, the City of Fort Worth spent \$45,957.26 on construction, planting, and maintenance at the Fort Worth Botanic Garden. This would have encompassed some work in the water gardens in the Rock Springs area south of the Rose Garden, the construction of the Rose Garden and creation of the east vista, the construction of the Garden Center and the Cactus Garden, and the purchase of plant material. This amount did not include costs associated with equipment furnished by the County or funds from the various relief agencies. Considering that the cost of the construction of the Rose Garden originally was estimated to be \$150,000, the savings was truly amazing.⁴⁹

In City Forester Morrison's opinion, the Fort Worth Botanic Garden was uniquely different from the typical botanic garden where plants were grown as specimen plants. Morrison commented that at the Fort Worth garden

every shrub, tree, and flower is here used to create a landscape effect. For example, in those areas where naturalistic effects are desired, only the native-type plants are used. Where accents are needed in the plan, those plants with fastigate forms are employed. For the most part, large groups of trees and shrubs are used to avoid any possible "spotty" results, which happens when only one or two plants of a kind are set out. Therefore, while the garden in its present stage is complete and lovely, the final results of our work will be an even more comprehensive and beautiful development, wherein both the formal and the informal will be present and happily blended.⁵⁰

Continual refining of the Botanic Garden occurred throughout the decade. With the help of WPA labor, a new road was constructed from Crestline Road to the Botanic Garden through Trinity Park in 1937. During the Fiscal Year 1938-1939, WPA labor was used to construct nine-tenths of a mile of hand-cut native stone curb and four bridges of cedar logs. New varieties of plants were added and the soil characteristics of beds were changed if a particular rose did not perform well. Within a few years, the Botanic Garden had a wide variety of plants from across the country and the world. Many were sent by government agencies as a means of not only expanding the collection but also for scientific purposes to see which plants could adapt to the conditions in North Texas. The U.S. Bureau of Plant Introduction sent 44 varieties of trees from countries such as Russia, China, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, France, England, India, Manchuria, Colombia, and Mexico. The U. S. Department of Agriculture's experiment station in Chico, California sent 54 plants, many of which had been collected in such distant places as Afghanistan, India, China, and Uruguay. The garden had 19 varieties of trees from East Texas including shortleaf pine, loblolly pine, beech, maple, pin oak, red oak, sweet gum, black gum, sand myrtle, and devil's walking stick, as well as 23 varieties of pecans. In 1937, 80 new varieties of plants were added, including many trees and shrubs. By 1939, it was estimated that the Fort Worth Botanic Garden had a collection of approximately 2,500 species which included 150,000 plant specimens and 6,000 roses consisting of 100 varieties.⁵¹

⁴⁹ City of Fort Worth, *Municipal Life, 1931-1937*, Fort Worth, Texas, 1937, p. 54.

⁵⁰ Morrison, "Fort Worth Botanic Garden," 20.

⁵¹ Summary of the Activities of the Park Department for the Calendar Year 1937, p. 2, MDLP, Series V: 6.8 Fort Worth Park Board—Ordinances, Policy and Reports—1913-1954; Activities of Fort Worth Botanic Garden, October 1938-October 1939, Botanic Garden Scrapbook, MDLL; "A Partial List of Trees of the Fort Worth Botanic Garden," (c. 1938), Fort Worth Botanic Garden Scrapbook, MDLL; Mary Daggett Lake, "Botanic Garden Beauty Spot all Year," *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* (morning edition), February 13, 1938 and Ida Belle Hicks, "Fort Worth's Botanic Garden is World-Known for Beauty," *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* (evening edition) July 20, 1939, FWSTCF, SCDUTA.

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Promoting the Fort Worth Botanic Garden

The success of the Fort Worth Botanic Garden could easily be measured through attendance. On one Sunday in 1935, it was estimated that the garden had 18,000 visitors. Fort Worth newspapers frequently included editorials touting the garden's virtues and encouraging the public to visit it. Visitors could register at the Garden Center and the local newspapers often published their names or the cities from which they came. Members of other cities' park boards came to learn from Fort Worth's example. Both Dallas and Fort Worth papers covered visits from Dallas Park Board members. City Forester Morrison became a highly sought-after speaker and even spent considerable time in west Texas at the invitation of the West Texas Chamber of Commerce promoting parks, city beautification, and of course, the Fort Worth Botanic Garden.⁵²

The Botanic Garden's beauty was admired by park and garden experts from across the nation. In 1936, the American Rose Society held a national meeting in Fort Worth. J. Horace McFarland of the American Rose Society, the same man who spoke at the Rose Garden dedication ceremony in 1933, encouraged other Texas cities to follow Fort Worth's lead in establishing a municipal rose garden. In September 1937, attendees to the joint convention of the American Institute of Park Executives, the American Park Society, and the American Association of Zoological Parks being held in Fort Worth were treated to visits to the Botanic Garden. According to the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, delegates were "awed" by the garden's features. One of the most glowing reviews of the Botanic Garden was written in late 1936 by Adolph Kruhm, the garden editor for the *New York World-Telegram*, a sister publication of the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*. Kruhm praised the spectacular vista from the upper shelter above the Rose Garden, the quality of the stonework, including the waterfalls and spillways, and the labeling of plants along the nature trails. He was especially impressed with the dedication of the workers who built the garden and concluded his article thus:

This, briefly, relates the romantic start and finish of a project that stands for a pioneering feat in the garden history of western America. It is one of the finest examples of men working together for a common ideal. They received comparatively little for doing much. They took part in achievements as citizens. Part of their reward is the satisfaction derived from sharing the enjoyment of the fruits of their labor with the rest of the world.

The article was accompanied by photographs of the rose ramp and overlook shelter as well as a floral specimen from "the outdoor library of flowers."⁵³

Among the most prolific writers proclaiming the garden's virtues were City Forester Raymond C. Morrison and Garden Center Director and Park Board member Mary Daggett Lake. Separately, the duo had numerous articles published in such periodicals as *Parks and Recreation*, the *Houston Chronicle*, *Southern Home and Garden*, *American City*, *Holland's: The Magazine of the South*, *American Rose Annual*, *Country Gentleman*, *Fort Worth Magazine*, and the *Memphis (Tennessee) Press-Scimitar*. In addition, Morrison was co-author with Myrtle E. Huff of the book *Let's Go to the Park*, published in 1937. The Botanic Garden, along with a few other Fort Worth park projects, was featured in the book. Mrs. Lake was the garden page editor for the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* and wrote a weekly garden column that appeared in that paper, the *North Fort Worth News* and other small weekly newspapers printed across the city. These articles often highlighted

⁵² See Morrison Scrapbook for articles relating to his various speaking engagements.

⁵³ *Dallas Morning News*, October 22, 1936; *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, September 29, 1937, (article found in Fort Worth Botanic Garden Scrapbook, MDLL); *New York World-Telegram*, December 5, 1936 (article found in Morrison Scrapbook).

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various aspects of the Botanic Garden and the Garden Center.⁵⁴

Segregation at the Fort Worth Botanic Garden

Although the Botanic Garden received praises from near and far, its beauty was not shared with all of Fort Worth's citizens. During the period of significance, Fort Worth was a segregated city and separate parks were created for African American residents. Early parks for African-Americans included Loveland, Douglas, and Dixie. These were later joined by Lake Como, Bunche, and Greenway parks. None of these had features even remotely similar to what could be found at the Botanic Garden.

There were special circumstances under which African-Americans could visit parks typically unavailable to them. Annually, June 19th, commonly known as Juneteenth, was (and still is) a day of celebration in the black community commemorating the day in 1865 when Texas slaves learned of the Emancipation Proclamation. City leaders opened the Botanic Garden and Forest Park—initially with the exception of the use of the swimming pool—to African-American citizens on that day. The Botanic Garden's Garden Center provided some outreach to the African-American community through the Negro branch of the YMCA by conducting a six-week course on "Ornamentation of the Home Grounds." The Center also furnished judges for neighborhood beautification contests.⁵⁵

In 1950, a reporter for the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, Madeline Williams, was given an assignment to write a feature on Juneteenth and to get a photograph of black citizens at the zoo or on the concession rides at Forest Park. But instead of doing that, she went to city hall and asked the city attorney what city ordinance prohibited African-Americans from entering "white" parks. She was told there was no ordinance. So instead of doing a Juneteenth feature, she wrote a simple news story quoting the city attorney as saying there was no law that barred African Americans from entering any park at any time. But change came slowly. In 1951, the Park Board opened the Botanic Garden, Forest Park concession rides, and the zoo to "'sponsored groups' of Negro children." It would be nearly a decade later before Fort Worth parks were fully integrated. Dr. Marion "Jack" Brooks, a prominent physician in the black community, then became the first African-American appointed to the Park Board.⁵⁶

The Botanic Garden in the 1940s and 1950s

The early 1940s brought little in the way of substantial changes to the Fort Worth Botanic Garden. The Park Board attempted to obtain WPA funding for additions to the greenhouse and Garden Center but was unsuccessful. Most of the expenditures for the garden were for routine orders of plants and general repairs. Because of war-time shortages, major projects were placed on hold throughout the park system. Just a few days before the country's official entrance into the war, S. Herbert Hare volunteered to decrease his fee because of the reduced workload. The Park Board gratefully accepted his offer. Despite gas rationing, the Botanic Garden remained a popular place throughout the war. During the height of the war, an international program was initiated, honoring various nations and their countrymen living in Fort Worth.

⁵⁴ For a sampling of some of these articles, see bibliography.

⁵⁵ *Fort Worth Press*, June 9, 1945, article in Fort Worth Parks Scrapbook, Book 1, MDLL; Annual Report, Fort Worth Garden Center, Fort Worth Botanic Garden, Fort Worth, Texas, 1937-38, MDLL.

⁵⁶ Madeline Williams, "She Opened Parks to Negroes," originally published in the *Fort Worth News-Tribune* c. July 1976, reprinted in *In Old Fort Worth* by Mack Williams (Fort Worth: Williams, 1977), p.17; *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, June 6, 1951, in the clippings file "African-Americans, 1956-59" Genealogy and Local History Department, FWPL; *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, April 10, 1994.

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Countries spotlighted included Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Great Britain and Canada. The final program was "I Am an American Day," sponsored by local chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Colonial Dames, Sons of the American Revolution, Daughters of 1812, the American Legion and other patriotic groups.⁵⁷

In 1944, Hare began planning for the development of post-war highway projects, especially in regard to how they would impact the city's parks. The Botanic Garden took a direct hit along its southern boundary for the route of the proposed East-West Freeway. Hare's firm created numerous studies for the westbound access ramp from University Drive. The construction of the ramp and freeway impacted the water gardens in the vicinity of the comfort station (south of the large pond), destroying at least one pool and some trails. The construction also caused the natural springs in this area to dry up. A pump house which drew water from the Clear Fork was constructed above the springs in order to feed water to the garden's pools. It was also after World War II that University Drive was rerouted through the eastern end of the Botanic Garden. Previously, it had curved to the east and ran in front of the small shelter in Trinity Park that provided the terminus for the Rose Garden East Vista. After it was rerouted, it severed the shelter from the rest of the Botanic Garden.⁵⁸

Besides contending with man-made assaults on the Botanic Garden, nature brought its share of woes, too. The year 1949 was particularly hard on the garden. Heavy freezes and ice from the winter took its toll on plants. There were also two floods, both of which put portions of the garden under 12-18 feet of water. Especially hard hit were the dahlias and gladiolas, which suffered a complete loss. Surprisingly, most other plants survived and the lawn actually thrived due to the deposition of top dressing from the flood. The flood did require much cleanup work for the removal of oil and debris. The walks in the Rose Garden required regravelling after being washed away.⁵⁹

In August 1949, the City Council authorized the sale of \$200,000 in bonds for improvements within the Park and Recreation departments. Some of this funding was to be used for renovations to the Garden Center. In early 1950, Fort Worth architect Robert P. Woltz, Jr., (1905-1993) prepared plans for the conversion of the greenhouse into a large assembly or lecture room. A new greenhouse, the superstructure of which was supplied by Texas Greenhouse Company, was constructed on the west end of the Center. The greenhouse was especially designed for conservatory plantations, being mostly composed of rare tropical plants. A growing room at the rear of the structure was another useful addition. The lecture room was made available to the public free of charge if the featured topic was related to the mission of the Garden Center.⁶⁰

Architect Woltz was again called upon to design an addition to the Garden Center in 1955. The chief aims of the expansion were to enlarge the auditorium and to provide space for the executive offices of the Park Department. At that time, the offices were in Rotary Park which was located at the southeast corner of West 7th Street and Summit Avenue on the western edge of the Central Business District. The Park Board, with the approval of the City Council, wanted to sell

⁵⁷ Minutes of the Meetings of the Board of Park Commissioners, 1940-1941, Parks and Community Services Department, City of Fort Worth, Fort Worth, Texas. See undated drawings of ramp studies, Project #34-0023, Hare and Hare Collection; *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, morning addition, May 18, 1944, evening edition, June 2, 1944, and morning edition, July 2, 1944, FWSTCF, SCDUTA.

⁵⁸ See miscellaneous undated drawings, Project #34-0023, Fort Worth Botanic Garden, Hare and Hare Collection.

⁵⁹ Mary Daggett Lake, "All Damage to be Repaired: Garden Center has Much to Offer Despite Setbacks," *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, October 23, 1949, Clipping File "Park—Botanic Gardens [sic]," FWPL; Annual Report, Activities of the Fort Worth Botanic Garden, October 1948-October 1949, Fort Worth Botanic Garden Scrapbook, MDLL.

⁶⁰ *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, August 23, 1949 and *Fort Worth Press*, January 20, 1950, both articles found in Fort Worth Parks, Book 1, MDLL; *Fort Worth Star-telegram* (morning edition), January 18, 1950, FWSTCF, AR406-7-59-33 SCDUTA. The Texas Greenhouse Company was founded by Woltz, an avid grower of camellias. See *Fort Worth Magazine* 26(March 1951): 21.

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the park because of its location “in a high value commercial district” and the fact that it had little use from the public. The expansion of the Garden Center was funded from a portion of the proceeds from the sale of the park. The Park Department headquarters moved to its new facility in September 1955. The enlarged meeting capacity also allowed the center to better serve the many organizations requesting to use the facility.⁶¹

Another addition to the Botanic Garden included the construction of a maze on a quarter-acre of the south side near the West Freeway access road in 1956. Through the use of six-foot tall yaupon holly plants, it was based on a similar maze at Hampton Court Gardens in England with the exception that the Fort Worth maze featured six dead-ends instead of the five in the English version. Using more than 1,000 plants, the maze was constructed for \$12,000. The curious could wander through it, searching for its center, for an admission fee of 20 cents for adults and 10 cents for children. But the maze never caught on with the public. Two years after it opened, the *Fort Worth Press* reported that the only visitors seemed to be those who ventured in during the night, leaving beer cans and other trash behind them. Many of the pathways had become overgrown and the plants were largely neglected. The maze was removed shortly thereafter.⁶²

Changes in Personnel

In December 1938, one of the people most closely associated with the conception and construction of the Botanic Garden, Raymond C. Morrison, resigned from his position as City Forester. Morrison and Eugene Carter were teaming up to serve as landscape architects for the construction of two large low-income federal housing projects in Fort Worth: Ripley Arnold Place and Butler Place. Morrison and Carter had worked together on the school playground development program. Morrison later held various positions in the federal government. He was still a resident of Fort Worth in 1983 and attended the 50th anniversary celebration of the completion of the Rose Garden in October of that year. He passed away in 1989.⁶³

There were twelve applicants for Morrison’s position, and the Park Board hired Donald D. Obert. Obert was a member of the American Society of Landscape Architects and had attended the Minnesota School of Forestry; he also had worked for a time under Charles H. Ramsdell, a landscape architect in Minneapolis. He came to Fort Worth from the National Park Service in Oklahoma and Texas, where he was the chief draftsman in the central design office in Austin. Prior to working for the NPS, Obert worked for Hare and Hare. In fact, it is Obert’s name that appears on the perspective drawing of the Municipal Rose Garden that was widely used in the promotion of the garden. Obert’s tenure as City Forester was marked by both praise and criticism for the tree pruning program carried out under his supervision. In 1953, his duties were expanded to include the position of technical director for the park system. He resigned from the City in 1954 to accept the position of director of parks for Long Beach, California.⁶⁴

In early February, 1953, long-time Park Superintendent Harry J. Adams passed away. A week later, the Fort Worth Park Board voted to change the Botanic Garden’s name to the Harry J. Adams Memorial Garden in recognition of his many years with the department and his particular fondness for the garden. Although the name was used in a few newspaper

⁶¹ *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* (morning edition), February 16, 1955 and *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* (evening edition), September 26, 1955, FWSTCF, AR406-7-59-35, SCDUTA.

⁶² *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, evening edition, September 27, 1955, FWSTCF, SCDUTA; *Fort Worth Press*, June 22, 1956 and August 8, 1958, Clippings file “Parks—Botanic Gardens [sic],” FWPL.

⁶³ “Morrison Clippings,” AR406-7-112-76, SCDUTA; *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, October 9, 1983.

⁶⁴ Fort Worth Star-Telegram Clippings File, AR406-7-119-147, SCDUTA.

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articles, it never seemed to stick and the garden is still referred to as the Fort Worth Botanic Garden.⁶⁵

Besides the loss of Park Superintendent Adams, two other key Botanic Garden employees and advocates also passed away within the following two years. L.W. Pope, who was very active in the development of the Cactus Garden, died of a heart attack in June 1954. Pope was made supervisor of the Botanic Garden in 1938. Less than a year later, Mary Daggett Lake passed away on March 1, 1955. Mrs. Lake was more than just a garden enthusiast: she studied botany while a student at Cottey College in Missouri and had served as a research assistant at a private herbarium for 12 years. As an authority on plants, she was sought out by gardeners and park representatives across the country. She was a member of the Board of Park Commissioners from 1928 until her passing and was elected board president in 1945. Besides serving as the director of the Garden Center, the board gave her the title of Educational Director of the Botanic Garden in 1941. She traveled extensively on behalf of Fort Worth's parks, especially the Botanic Garden. As a member of a pioneer Fort Worth family, she wrote a history of the city's earliest settlers. In recognition of her many accomplishments, Texas Christian University bestowed her with an honorary doctor of letters degree in 1946. Mrs. Lake did live long enough to see the Fort Worth Botanic Garden acclaimed as an All-American Rose Selections-accredited public rose garden in 1954. Fittingly, the library at the Garden Center is named in her honor. More recently, her importance to Fort Worth was acknowledged with the erection of a State Historical Marker in her name in 2001. The marker is located on the north side of the Garden Center building.⁶⁶

Expansion of the Botanic Garden

As a dynamic and popular attraction, it was only natural for the Fort Worth Park Board to consider building on the success of the Botanic Garden through the expansion of its grounds. The earliest expansion, although minor, occurred in 1937 when the Park Board purchased a 2.54-acre strip of land along the northern boundary of the Botanic Garden from Ike Van Zandt and others. This allowed for the straightening of this northern boundary as part of the park road from Burleson Street (now University Drive) into the Botanic Garden.⁶⁷

Expansion of the Botanic Garden was under consideration by the Park Board at least by the early 1940s. In 1943, Hare and Hare presented a concept drawing for the development of adjacent properties to the west and north even though the City did not own them at that time. On the two tracts of land west of the entrance to the Rose Garden, the firm proposed that the southern portion be used for a museum. The northern portion was designated as "picturesque broken ground." North of the Botanic Garden, the land owned by the Van Zandt family was envisioned as a woodland area with a curving road running through it. Although the west section was not developed in accordance with this early plan, the eventual development of the Van Zandt land did resemble this proposal.⁶⁸

For many years after the Rose Garden was constructed, the two tracts of land immediately to the west of it continued to be owned by the Fort Worth Cavalry Club. Comprising approximately 23 acres, the property contained a large horse stable

⁶⁵ Miscellaneous newspaper article dated February 13, 1953 and *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, March 1, 1953, Clippings file "Parks—Botanic Gardens [sic]," FWPL.

⁶⁶ Unidentified newspaper article dated June 16, 1954, Fort Worth Botanic Garden Scrapbook, MDLL; *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, March 2, 1955, copy of article found in miscellaneous file "Prior to 1930," MDLL; *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, April 4, 1954, article found in Fort Worth Botanic Garden Scrapbook, MDLL.

⁶⁷ *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* (morning edition), January 23, 1937, FWSTCF, SCDUTA.

⁶⁸ See oversized drawing dated March 31, 1943, Project #27-0062 Trinity Park, Fort Worth, Texas, Hare and Hare Collection.

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and a riding track. Here, Albert J. B. Beasley operated Beasley Stables, an establishment that both boarded horses and provided saddle horses for rent. In 1946, the City of Fort Worth purchased the two tracts but they remained undeveloped for a number of years. Approval for the development of three acres was given in 1954. For this area, Hare and Hare included a parking lot for 50 cars. Also included was a horseshoe-shaped sidewalk leading from the road and extending west to a flight of stairs. Several concepts were put forth regarding what to construct beyond the stairs including a lathe house or a maze of hedges in the center of which was an elevated view structure. Other proposals were made for a fountain at this location. An octagon-shaped sidewalk was built on the site c. 1955, allowing room for a fountain with a 50' diameter. A low bid of \$37,109 was received for the construction of the fountain in February 1957. But the City Council later balked at the cost for this "fancy fountain" when as one councilman said "there are so many parks that don't have even the bare necessities." The fountain was never built. Today, a trial garden is located on this site.⁶⁹

The property north of the Botanic Garden was purchased from members of the Van Zandt family in 1944. Containing approximately 69 acres, the tract is heavily wooded on its east side. After taking possession of the property, the Park Department did initiate some improvements in November and a topographical survey was authorized in December. A naturalistic setting was retained in this section with a few paths and a culvert meandering through the trees. In 1959, ground was broken for the construction of the headquarters for the Texas Garden Clubs, Inc.—the first state garden club headquarters in the United States. The 1-story stone and stucco building was designed by Robert P. Woltz, Jr., and constructed by Cain and Cain of Fort Worth.⁷⁰

More developments were envisioned for the Fort Worth Botanic Garden. In June 1958 Scott Fikes, who was then serving as the City Forester, wrote a letter to the members of the Park Board proposing improvement and expansion plans for the next five years. Fikes believed that although the garden was planned beautifully, it lacked "beauty, interest, finish and the glamour and appeal an area this size must have." In outlining his goals for accomplishing this transformation, he envisioned a new conservatory and a small greenhouse; acquisition of land for a Japanese or "Oriental" Garden; plots set aside for turf and trees; enlargement of the test garden operations; improvements to the water system, including sprinkler and sub-irrigation lines in specified areas; the addition of fountains or a bell tower; improvements to educational programs; and various operational and maintenance procedures. Many of these goals would be accomplished over the next 30 years, including a new greenhouse (1962), a Fragrance Garden for the Blind (dedicated in 1964 and located behind the Garden Center), the Japanese Garden (1970), and a new conservatory (1985-1986). Other garden areas in the vicinity of the conservatory contained various water features and a carillon.⁷¹

The Significance of the Fort Worth Botanic Garden as a Designed Landscape

As mentioned previously, the Fort Worth Botanic Garden was the subject of much local and national attention through its inclusion in articles and essays in newspapers, magazines, and books in the years following its completion and into the 1950s. More recently, descriptions of it can be found in such garden guides as *A Guide to Significant and Historic Gardens of America* (1982) and *National Geographic Guide to America's Public Gardens: 300 of the Best Gardens to*

⁶⁹ Fort Worth City Directories, various years between 1937-1938 and 1957; Various drawings for extension of the Botanic Garden, Project # 34-0023 Fort Worth Botanic Garden, Fort Worth, Texas, Hare and Hare Collection; *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* (morning edition), February 17, 1954, AR406-7-59-34, SCDUTA; *Fort Worth Press*, April 10, 1957, Clippings file "Parks—Botanic Gardens [sic]," FWPL.

⁷⁰ Minutes of the Meetings of the Board of Park Commissioners, November 7 and December 5, 1944.

⁷¹ Letter from Scott Fikes to Members of the Park Board, June 26, 1958, Project #34-0023, Box 10; Hare and Hare Collection.

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Visit in the U. S. and Canada (1998). Over the past 20 years, its significance as a designed landscape has been addressed by scholars in several publications.

Phoebe Cutler was among the first to recognize the Fort Worth Botanic Garden, particularly its Rose Garden, as an excellent example of the American adaptation of the formal garden during the New Deal. In her book *The Public Landscape of the New Deal* (1985), Cutler uses the garden's water cascade as a notable example of the adaptation of this traditional feature of the Renaissance garden. A copy of Hare and Hare's 1933 perspective drawing of the garden was included in the book.⁷² Similarly, Philip Pregill and Nancy Volkman included the Rose Garden in their book, *Landscapes in History: Design and Planning in the Eastern and Western Traditions* (1999, second edition), as an excellent example of a formal garden built during the New Deal. Both books also used Meridian Hill Park in Washington, DC, as an example of a formal landscape, although it predates the Fort Worth Botanic Garden and the New Deal. Meridian Hill Park's significance as a designed landscape has been recognized through its designation as a National Historic Landmark in 1994.⁷³

More recently, the Rose Garden in the Fort Worth Botanic Garden was used to illustrate the "classic period" of the American public rose garden. In her article, "The Rise of the American Municipal Rose Garden, 1927–1937" published in 2005 in the international journal *Studies in the History of Gardens and Designed Landscapes*, Phoebe Cutler used the Fort Worth rose garden along with municipal rose gardens in Kansas City, Missouri; Oakland, California; and Tulsa, Oklahoma, as representative of those public gardens built during a period when such forces as the rise of the popularity of a rose culture, the influence of the American Rose Society, and the interplay of federal involvement through work-relief projects resulted in the creation of numerous municipal rose gardens. All four gardens were built in the formal style, often sharing similar design features such as water chains and pools, terracing, parterres, and oval or round gardens. As discussed previously, the municipal rose garden in Kansas City, now known as the Laura Conyers Smith Rose Garden, was also designed by Hare and Hare. The municipal rose garden in Tulsa's Woodward Park was designed by C. Burton Fox and encompasses a 4.5-acre terraced site. Oakland's Morcom Rose Garden and Fort Worth's Rose Garden are larger than the other two and both feature more architectural components. The Morcom Rose Garden, designed by Arthur Cobblestick and built over a four-year period from 1933 to 1937, employs elements of Italian, French and British garden design. The Rose Garden in Fort Worth's Botanic Garden was constructed prior to the Tulsa and Oakland gardens and Cutler's article suggests that the Fort Worth garden may have been the impetus for the creation of the Tulsa garden as well as the inspiration for the water cascade in the Oakland garden. Of the three other gardens included in Cutler's analysis, only the Morcom Rose Garden could rival the Rose Garden in the Fort Worth Botanic Garden for its complexity of design and architectural features.⁷⁴

The use of informal design elements in the Fort Worth Botanic Garden is also an excellent example of the American interpretation of the Renaissance garden in the early 20th century. The vista extending from the Rose Garden and the Water Gardens in the Rock Springs area provide an intriguing juxtaposition to the formal elements of the Rose Garden. In addition, the rustic nature of the water features of the Rock Springs area is similar in design to the rustic style used in parks developed by the National Park Service (NPS) in the years between the two World Wars. Although the extent of Hare and Hare's involvement with the design of this area has not been determined, it is known that it was developed under

⁷² Phoebe Cutler, *The Public Landscape of the New Deal* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1985), 40, 42.

⁷³ Philip Pregill and Nancy Volkman, *Landscapes in History: Design and Planning in the Eastern and Western Traditions*, second edition (New York: John Wiley and Sons, Inc., 1999), 685.

⁷⁴ Cutler, "The Rise of the American Municipal Rose Garden, 1927 – 1937:" 206-214.

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the direction of Raymond C. Morrison, City Forester. Both S. Herbert Hare and Morrison were likely aware of the rustic trend in park design as practiced by the NPS, and either, or both, could have applied those design precepts to this area.

As the first botanic garden established in the state of Texas, the Fort Worth Botanic Garden is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A, in the area of Entertainment/Recreation, at the state level of significance. It is also eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C, in the area of Landscape Architecture, at the national level of significance as an excellent example of a public garden designed and developed under the supervision of the nationally renowned landscape architecture firm of Hare and Hare of Kansas City, Missouri. Its formal rose garden, in particular, originally called the Municipal Rose Garden, is nationally significant as an outstanding example of a Renaissance garden within the southern half of the United States. The period of significance is from 1929, the year that work began to transform Rock Springs Park into an arboretum, through 1954; the latter date corresponds with the development of the Horseshoe, the latest contributing resource within the nominated property.

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UTM REFERENCES	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing	
E.	14	653020	3623015	F.	14	653020	3623140
G.	14	653120	3623140	H.	14	653120	3623320
I.	14	653200	3623320	J.	14	653580	3623080

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Beginning at the southwest corner of the intersection of University Drive and Rock Springs Road, proceed west along the south curb line of Rock Springs Road to a point parallel with the west curb line of Old Garden Road. Proceed west across Rock Springs Road following the west curb line of Old Garden Road to a point parallel with the south wall of a refuse enclosure. Proceed in a westerly direction to a wood fence bordering a service drive to the Japanese Garden. Follow this wood fence to its end. Proceed in a southwesterly direction to a concrete retaining wall west of the greenhouse. Follow the retaining wall to its end and then proceed in a southerly direction to the north curb line of Rock Springs Road. Follow this curb line to a point parallel to the southern edge of the parking lot to the Japanese Garden. Proceed in a westerly direction along the edge of the parking lot to a point parallel with the top of the stairs leading to the Trial Garden. Proceed in a southerly direction to a point parallel with the southernmost point of the outer edge of the south sidewalk of the Horseshoe. Proceed east to the southernmost edge of the south sidewalk of the Horseshoe. Proceed south to the northern edge of the west access road to Montgomery Street. Proceed in a northeasterly direction to the west edge of University Drive. Proceed north along University Drive to the place of beginning.

The Fort Worth Botanic Garden is being nominated as a discontinuous district to include the stone shelter that originally served as the terminus of the East Vista. It was severed from the garden when University Drive was rerouted to the west in the early 1950s. The boundaries of the shelter are: Beginning at a point at the southern edge of the sidewalk leading to the East Shelter and the east curb line of Old University Drive, proceed in a southerly direction along the curb for 13 feet. Then proceed in an easterly direction for approximately 44 feet to a point parallel with the easternmost edge of the curbing surrounding the shelter. Then proceed in a northerly direction for approximately 38 feet and 8 inches. Then proceed in a westerly direction for approximately 40 feet and 4 inches to the east curb line of Old University Drive. Proceed in a southerly direction to the place of beginning.

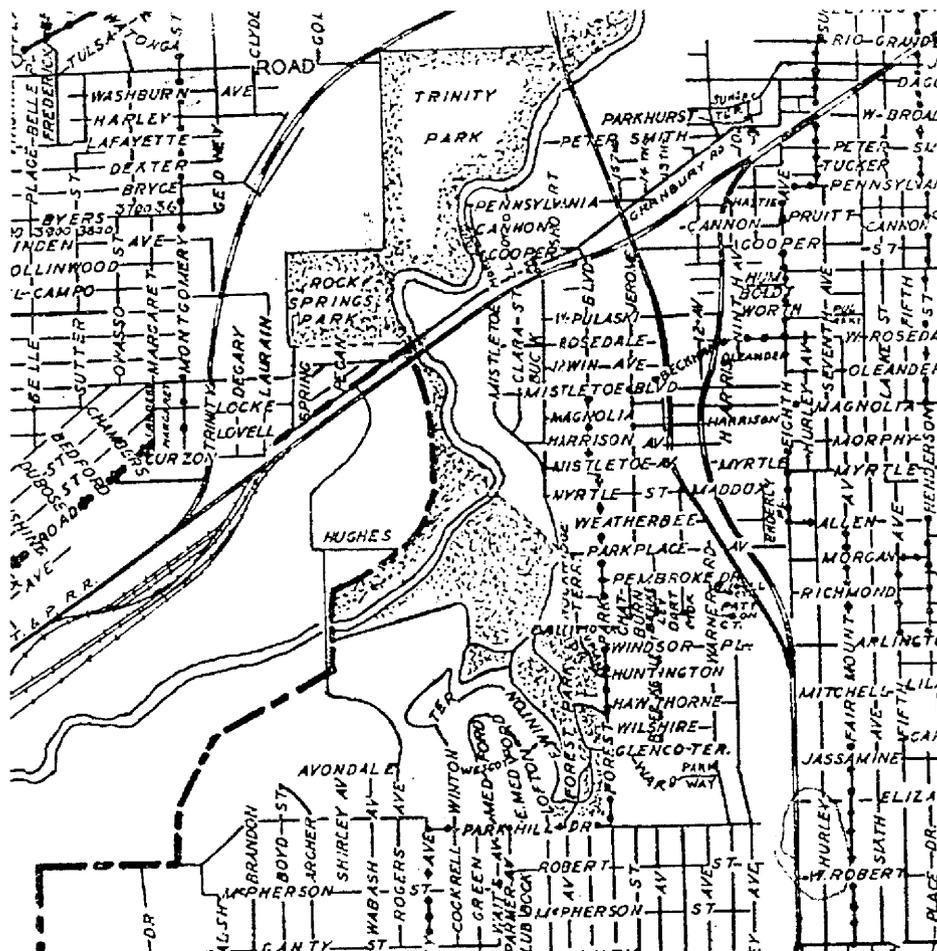
BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION: These boundaries contain the historic core of the Fort Worth Botanic Garden and encompass those areas and features that were developed primarily between 1929 and 1954, the period of significance for the garden.

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MAP 1: 1931 Western Map Company Street Map of Fort Worth showing location of Rock Springs Park in relation to Trinity Park and the Clear Fork of the Trinity River

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Fort Worth Botanic Garden
Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Texas

Fort Worth Botanic Garden - Fort Worth, Texas



Contributing Resources

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Trails, Water Features, etc.. | 10. Colonnade |
| 2. Comfort Station | 11. Oval Rose Garden |
| 3. Pump House | 12. Gazebo |
| 4. Overlook Shelter | 13. a-d Oval Rose Garden Portals |
| 5. Overlook Platform | 14. Cactus Garden Walk |
| 6. Rose Ramp | 15. Greenhouse |
| 7. Paterres, Walls, Piers, etc.. | 16. Horseshoe |
| 8. Large Pond | 17. East Vista Shelter |
| 9. East Vista | |

Noncontributing Resources

- | |
|---|
| 18. Cactus Garden/Perennial Garden |
| 19. Four Seasons Garden |
| 20. Garden Center/Rock Springs Building |
| 21. Fragrance Garden |
| 22. Mary Daggett Lake Marker |
| 23. Rainwater Harvest Tank |
| 24. <i>Birth of Love</i> Sculpture |
| 25. South Entrance Gate |
| 26. Metal Fence |



MAP 2: Contributing and Noncontributing Resources

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Fort Worth Botanic Garden
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Fort Worth Botanic Garden - Fort Worth, Texas



Contributing Resources

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Trails, Water Features, etc.. | 10. Colonnade |
| 2. Comfort Station | 11. Oval Rose Garden |
| 3. Pump House | 12. Gazebo |
| 4. Overlook Shelter | 13. a-d Oval Rose Garden Portals |
| 5. Overlook Platform | 14. Cactus Garden Walk |
| 6. Rose Ramp | 15. Greenhouse |
| 7. Paterres, Walls, Piers, etc.. | 16. Horseshoe |
| 8. Large Pond | 17. East Vista Shelter |
| 9. East Vista | |

Noncontributing Resources

- | |
|---|
| 18. Cactus Garden/Perennial Garden |
| 19. Four Seasons Garden |
| 20. Garden Center/Rock Springs Building |
| 21. Fragrance Garden |
| 22. Mary Daggett Lake Marker |
| 23. Rainwater Harvest Tank |
| 24. <i>Birth of Love</i> Sculpture |
| 25. South Entrance Gate |
| 26. Metal Fence |



MAP 3: Photo Key

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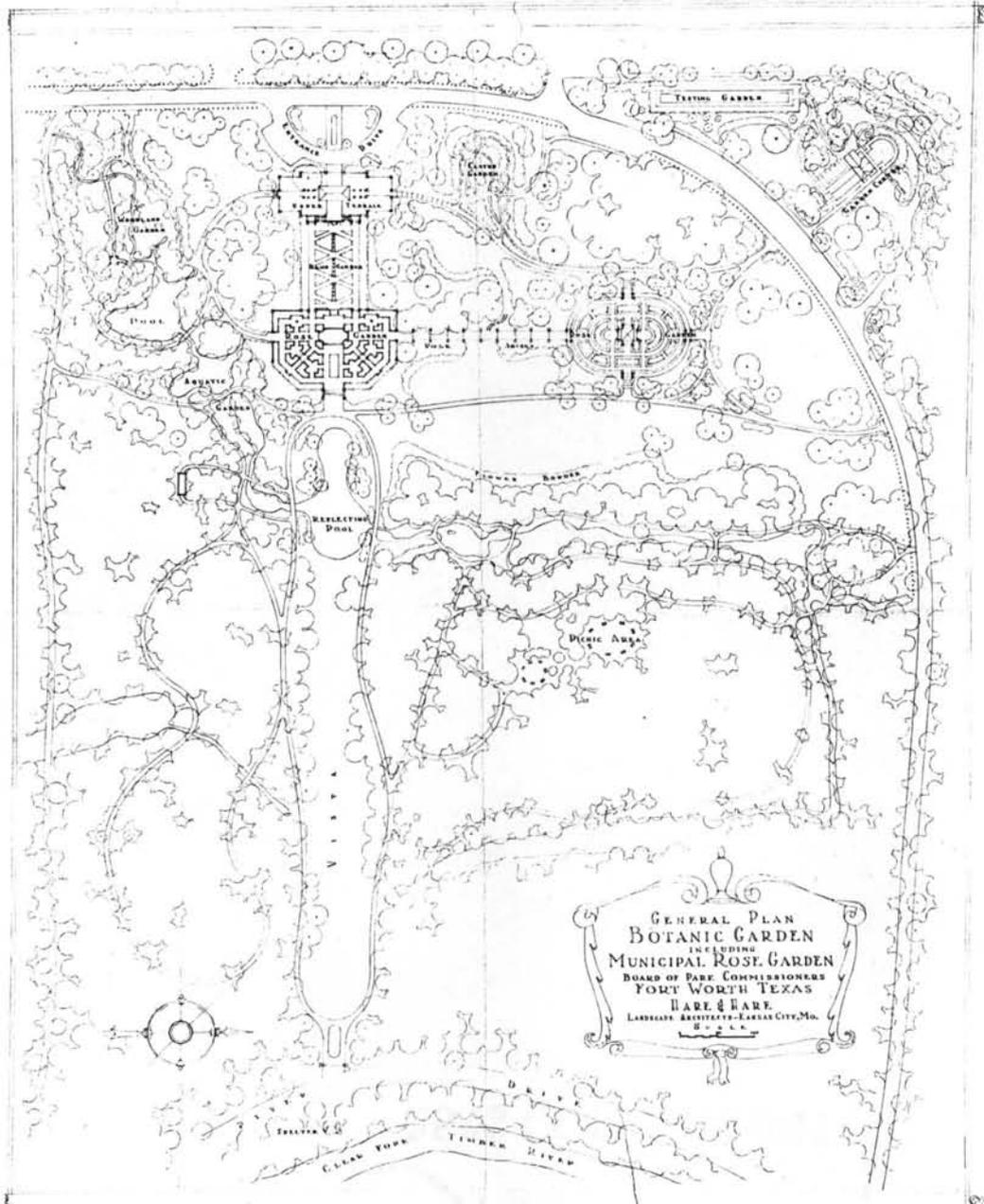


FIGURE 1: "General Plan, Botanic Garden including Municipal Rose Garden," c. 1935. *Hare and Hare Collection (KC206-34.0023)*, *Western Historical Manuscript Collection, University of Missouri-Kansas City*.

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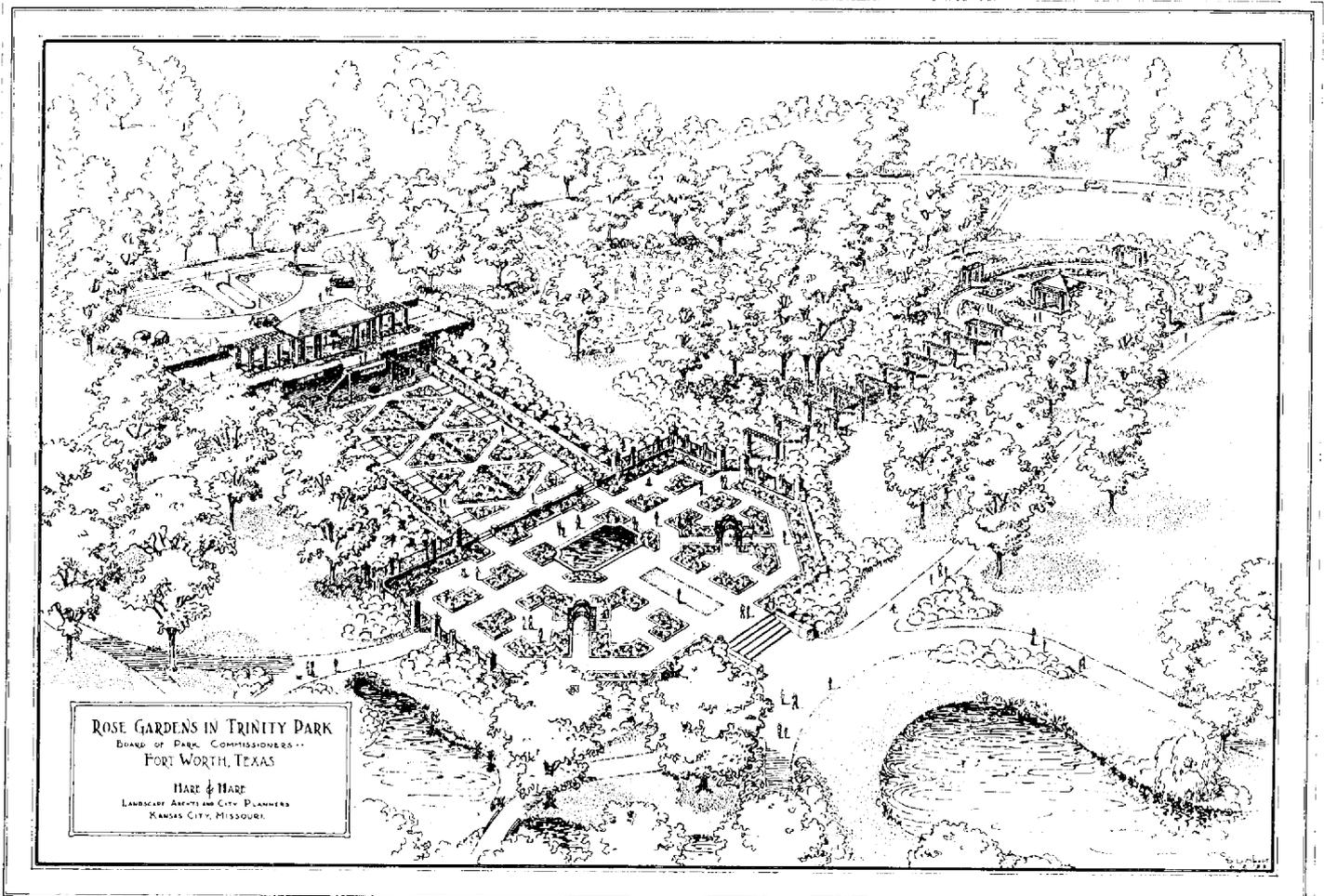


FIGURE 2: “Rose Gardens in Trinity [Rock Springs] Park.” Drawn by D. D. Obert, June 2, 1933. *Hare and Hare Collection (KC206-27.0062), Western Historical Manuscript Collection, University of Missouri-Kansas City.*

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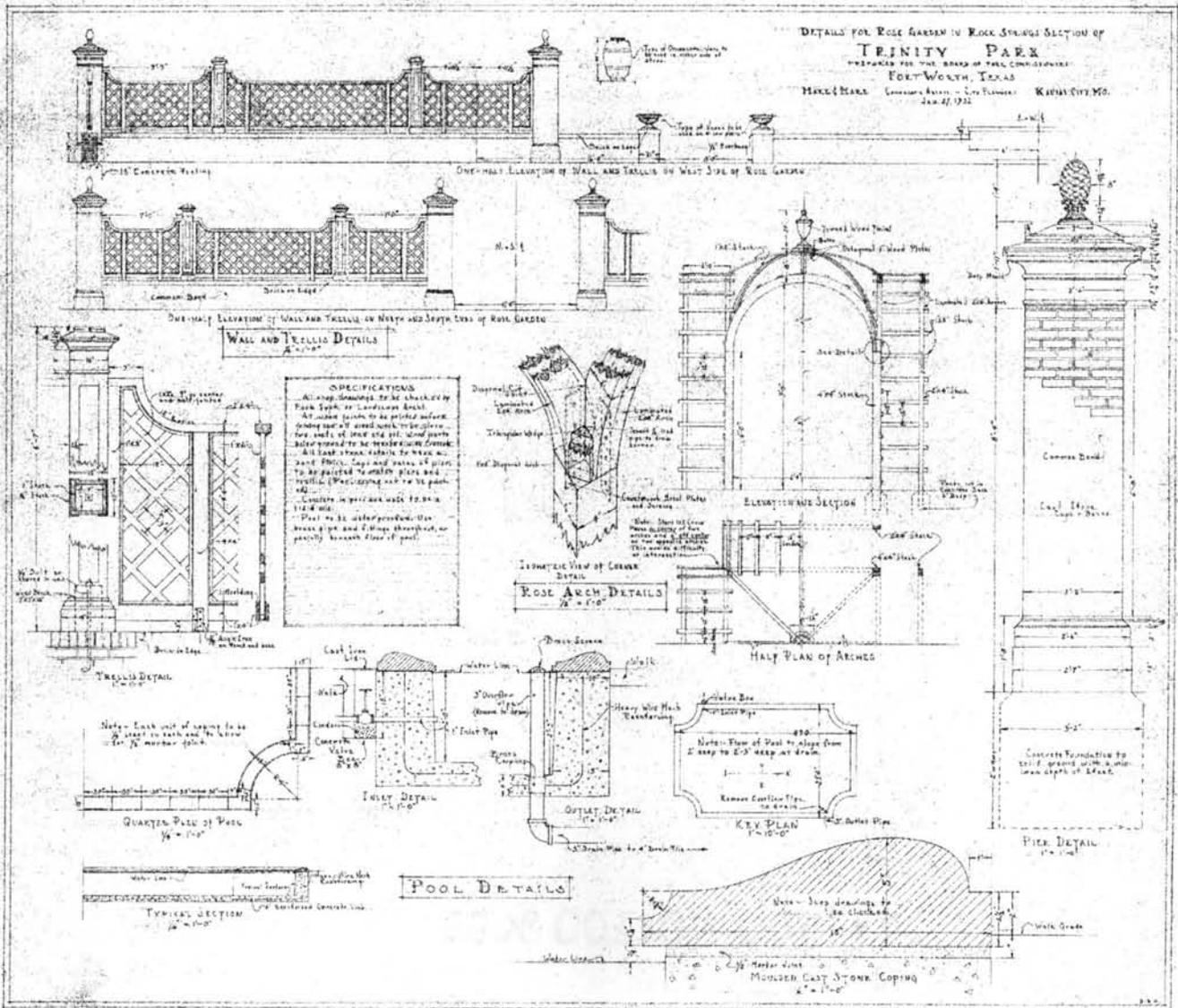


FIGURE 3: "Details for Rose Garden in Trinity [Rock Springs] Park." January 27, 1932. Hare and Hare Collection (KC206-27.0062), Western Historical Manuscript Collection, University of Missouri-Kansas City.

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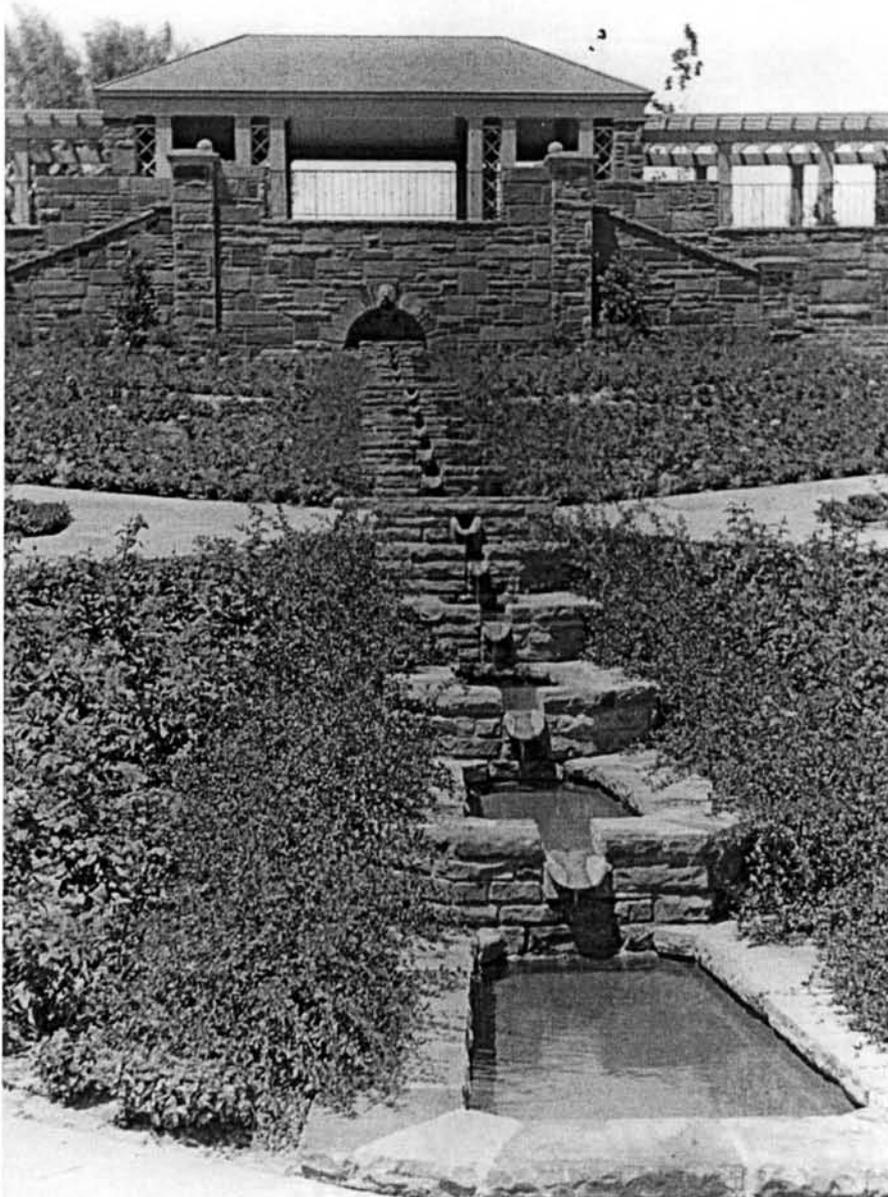


PHOTO 1: "Fort Worth Botanic Garden. The Cascade. This detail of the rock work shows how carefully the small spillways were cut. All cutting was done by hand." Captioned photograph from Fort Worth Botanic Garden Scrapbook, MDLL.

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PHOTO 2: "Fort Worth Botanic Garden. The terrace wall immediately after completion." Captioned photograph from Fort Worth Botanic Garden Scrapbook, MDLL.

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Fort Worth Botanic Garden
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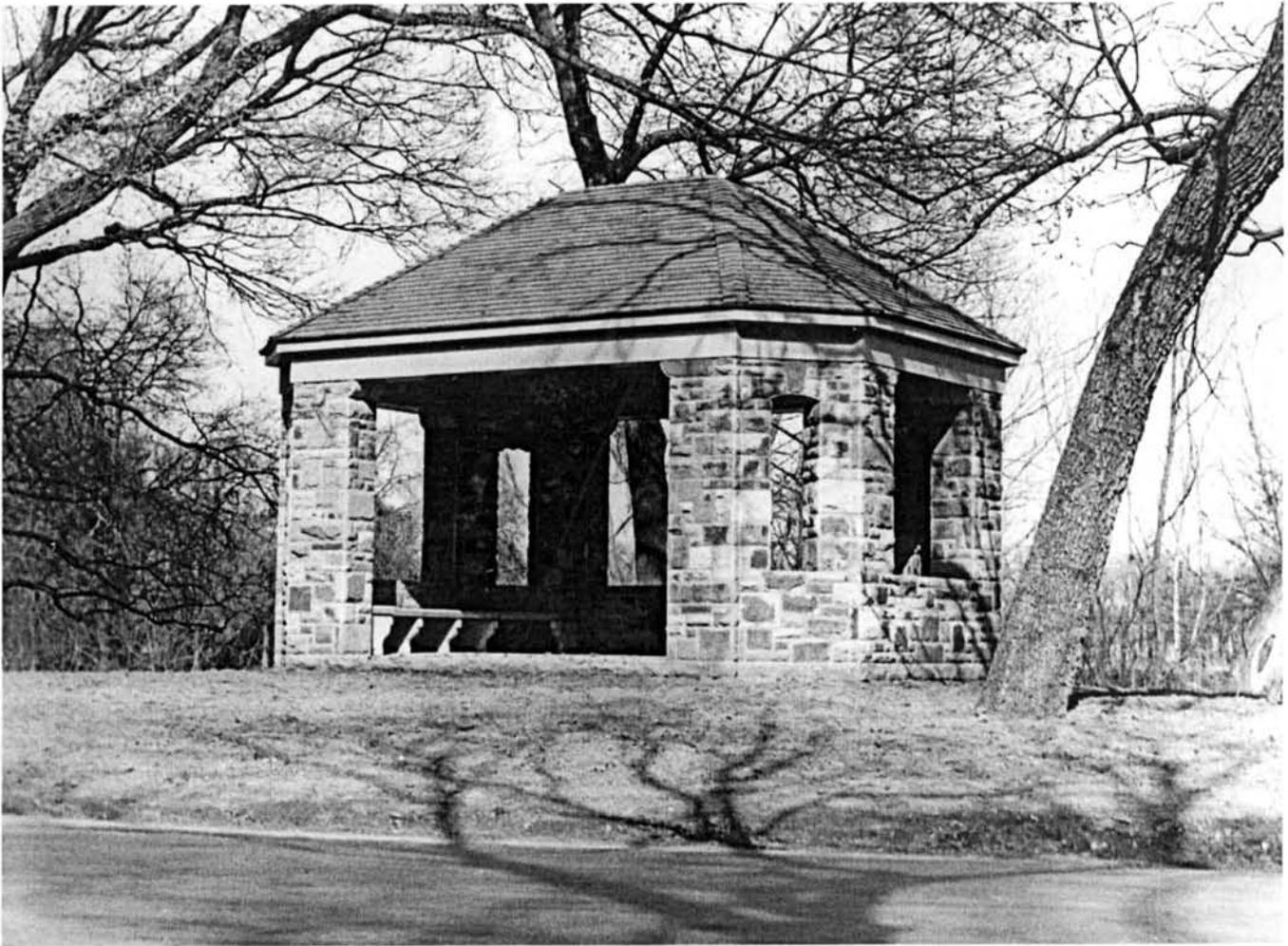


PHOTO 3: "Fort Worth Botanic Garden. The shelter at the end of the Vista." Captioned photograph from Fort Worth Botanic Garden Scrapbook, MDLL.

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PHOTO 4: "Fort Worth Botanic Garden. The colonnade and rose garden before construction." Captioned photograph from Fort Worth Botanic Garden Scrapbook, MDLL.

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PHOTO 5: "Fort Worth Botanic Garden. The men who worked on the project during the Relief Program." Captioned photograph from Fort Worth Botanic Garden Scrapbook, MDLL.

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PHOTO 6: "Fort Worth Botanic Garden. The rock work in the cactus garden during construction." Captioned photograph from Fort Worth Botanic Garden Scrapbook, MDLL.

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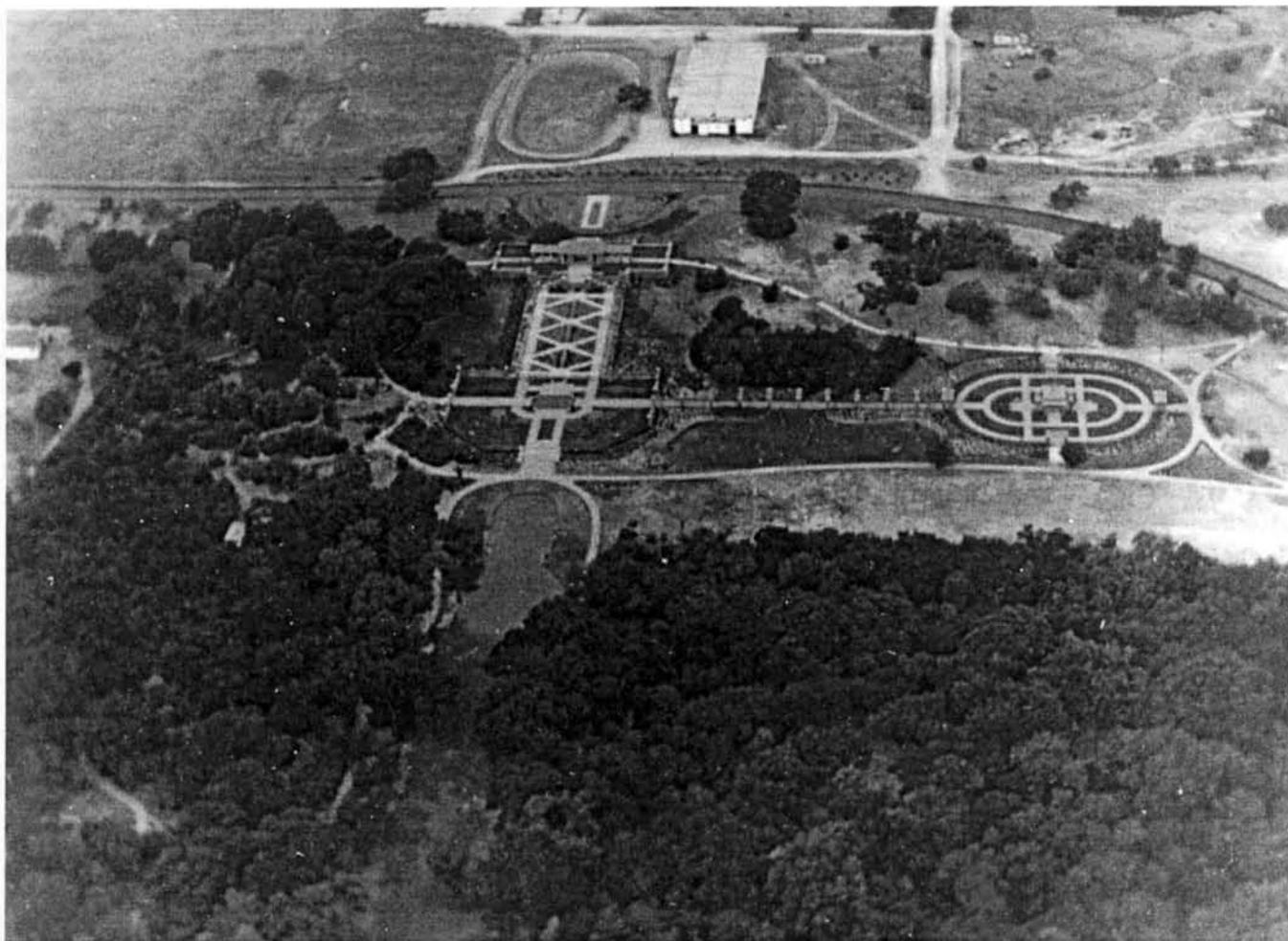


PHOTO 7: "Fort Worth Botanic Garden. An early view of the Rose Gardens taken during the summer of 1934, immediately after the gardens were planted." Captioned photograph from Fort Worth Botanic Garden Scrapbook, MDLL.

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PHOTO 8: "Fort Worth Botanic Garden. The main entrance to the Rose Gardens as seen from above the building to the west of the development." Captioned photograph from Fort Worth Botanic Garden Scrapbook, MDLL.

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Fort Worth Botanic Garden
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PHOTO 9: "The Fort Worth Botanic Garden from the air." Captioned photograph from Fort Worth Botanic Garden Scrapbook, MDLL.

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Fort Worth Botanic Garden
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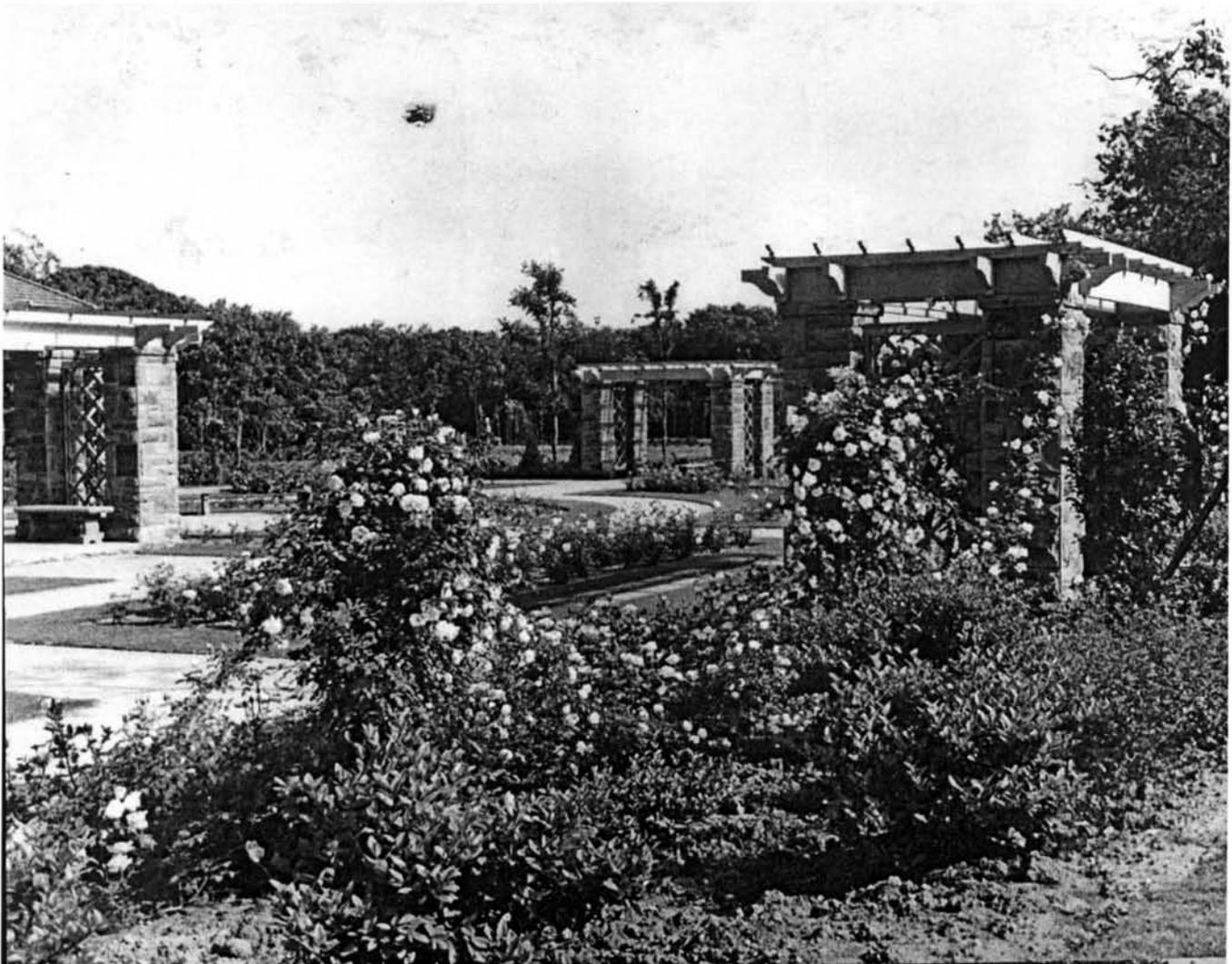


PHOTO 10: "Festoons of roses in the Oval garden." Captioned photograph from Fort Worth Botanic Garden Scrapbook, MDLL.

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Fort Worth Botanic Garden
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PHOTO 11: "The four freedoms. The blessings of peace are more dear than ever to Americans. Today they are keenly aware of how fortunate they are to be living in a peaceful democratic land. This group is spending a quiet hour in the Botanical Gardens, at Fort Worth, Texas." Captioned photograph by Alfred T. Palmer, c. 1941. Farm Security Administration—Office of War Information Photograph Collection, Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, DC (LC-USE6-D-001390). Digital image accessed on June 26, 2008, at: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/fsa.8b00827>.

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Fort Worth Botanic Garden
Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Texas

Photo 1

1. Rock Spring Area Stone Pool/Fort Worth Botanic Garden
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Kline
4. January 2008
5. Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, Texas
6. Looking Northwest
7. 1 of 20

Photo 2

1. Rock Spring Area Overlook/Fort Worth Botanic Garden
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Kline
4. January 2008
5. Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, Texas
6. Looking Northeast
7. 2 of 20

Photo 3

1. Rock Spring Area, Stairs to Overlook/Fort Worth Botanic Garden
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Kline
4. January 2008
5. Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, Texas
6. Looking South/Southwest
7. 3 of 20

Photo 4

1. Rock Spring Area, Water Features/Fort Worth Botanic Garden
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Kline
4. January 2008
5. Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, Texas
6. Looking West/Southwest
7. 4 of 20

Photo 5

1. Rock Spring Area, Comfort Station/Fort Worth Botanic Garden
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Kline
4. January 2008
5. Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, Texas
6. Looking Southwest
7. 5 of 20

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section PHOTO Page 64

Fort Worth Botanic Garden
Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Texas

Photo 6

1. Rock Spring Area, Pump House/Fort Worth Botanic Garden
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Kline
4. May 2008
5. Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, Texas
6. Looking Southeast
7. 6 of 20

Photo 7

1. Rose Ramp, *Parterres*, Large Pond, East Vista/Fort Worth Botanic Garden
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Kline
4. May 2008
5. Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, Texas 6. Looking East
7. 7 of 20

Photo 8

1. *Parterres*, Rose Ramp, Overlook Shelter/Fort Worth Botanic Garden
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Kline
4. May 2008
5. Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, Texas
6. Looking West
7. 8 of 20

Photo 9

1. Colonnade/Fort Worth Botanic Garden
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Kline
4. January 2008
5. Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, Texas 6. Looking North
7. 9 of 20

Photo 10

1. Oval Rose Garden Gazebo and West Portal/Fort Worth Botanic Garden
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Kline
4. May 2008
5. Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, Texas
6. Looking West
7. 10 of 20

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section PHOTO Page 65

Fort Worth Botanic Garden
Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Texas

Photo 11

1. Oval Rose Garden & East Portal/Fort Worth Botanic Garden
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Kline
4. January 2008
5. Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, Texas
6. Looking North
7. 11 of 20

Photo 12

1. Cactus Garden Walk/Fort Worth Botanic Garden
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Kline
4. January 2008
5. Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, Texas
6. Looking South
7. 12 of 20

Photo 13

1. Large Pond, Rose Ramp and Overlook/Fort Worth Botanic Garden
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Kline
4. January 2008
5. Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, Texas
6. Looking West
7. 13 of 20

Photo 14

1. East Vista & East Vista Shelter/Fort Worth Botanic Garden
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Kline
4. January 2008
5. Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, Texas
6. Looking East
7. 14 of 20

Photo 15

1. East Vista Shelter/Fort Worth Botanic Garden
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Kline
4. May 2008
5. Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, Texas
6. Looking East
7. 15 of 20

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section PHOTO Page 66

Fort Worth Botanic Garden
Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Texas

Photo 16

1. Wooded Area North of East Vista/Fort Worth Botanic Garden
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Kline
4. May 2008
5. Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, Texas
6. Looking North
7. 16 of 20

Photo 17

1. Greenhouse/Fort Worth Botanic Garden
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Kline
4. May 2008
5. Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, Texas
6. Looking North/Northwest
7. 17 of 20

Photo 18

1. Garden Center-Rock Springs Building/Fort Worth Botanic Garden
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Kline
4. May 2008
5. Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, Texas
6. Looking Northeast
7. 18 of 20

Photo 19

1. Horseshoe/Fort Worth Botanic Garden
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Kline
4. May 2008
5. Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, Texas
6. Looking West
7. 19 of 20

Photo 20

1. South Entrance/Fort Worth Botanic Garden
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Kline
4. January 2008
5. Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, Texas
6. Looking West
7. 20 of 20



1. Rock Springs Area stone-pool
Fort Worth Keller a water
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Kline
4. January 2009
5. Anton Carter Museum, Fort Worth, Texas
6. Looking north west
7. 1 - 2009



1. Rock Springs Area Overlook
Fort Worth Botanic Garden
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Alice Kline
4. January 2008
5. Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, TX
6. Looking northeast
7. 2 of 20



1. Rock Springs Area - Stairs to Overlook
Fort Clark Botanic Garden
2. Fort Clark Botanic Garden, Texas
3. Susan Allen Kline
4. January 2008
5. Aaron Carter Museum - Fort Worth, Texas
6. Looking South/Southwest
7. 3 of 20



1. Rock Springs Area - Klaxon features
Fort Worth
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Klaxon
4. January 1998
5. Alton P. Klaxon Museum, Fort Worth, Texas
6. Looking West/Southwest
- 7 4 of 20



1. Comfort station
Fort Worth Botanic Garden
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Kline
4. January 2008
5. Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, TX
6. Looking southwest
7. 5 of 20



1. Pump House
Fort Worth Central Station
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Kline
4. May 2008
5. Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth TX
6. Looking Southeast
7. 6 of 20



1. Rose Ramp, Parkettes, Large Pond and East Vista
Fort Worth Botanic Garden
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Kline
4. May 2005
5. Anson Carter Museum, Fort Worth, TX
6. Looking East
7. 7 of 20



1. Parterres, Rose Ramp, Overlook Platform and Shrubbery
Fort Worth Botanic Garden
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Klinc
4. May 2008
5. Amos Carter Museum, Fort Worth, TX
6. Looking West
7. 8 of 20



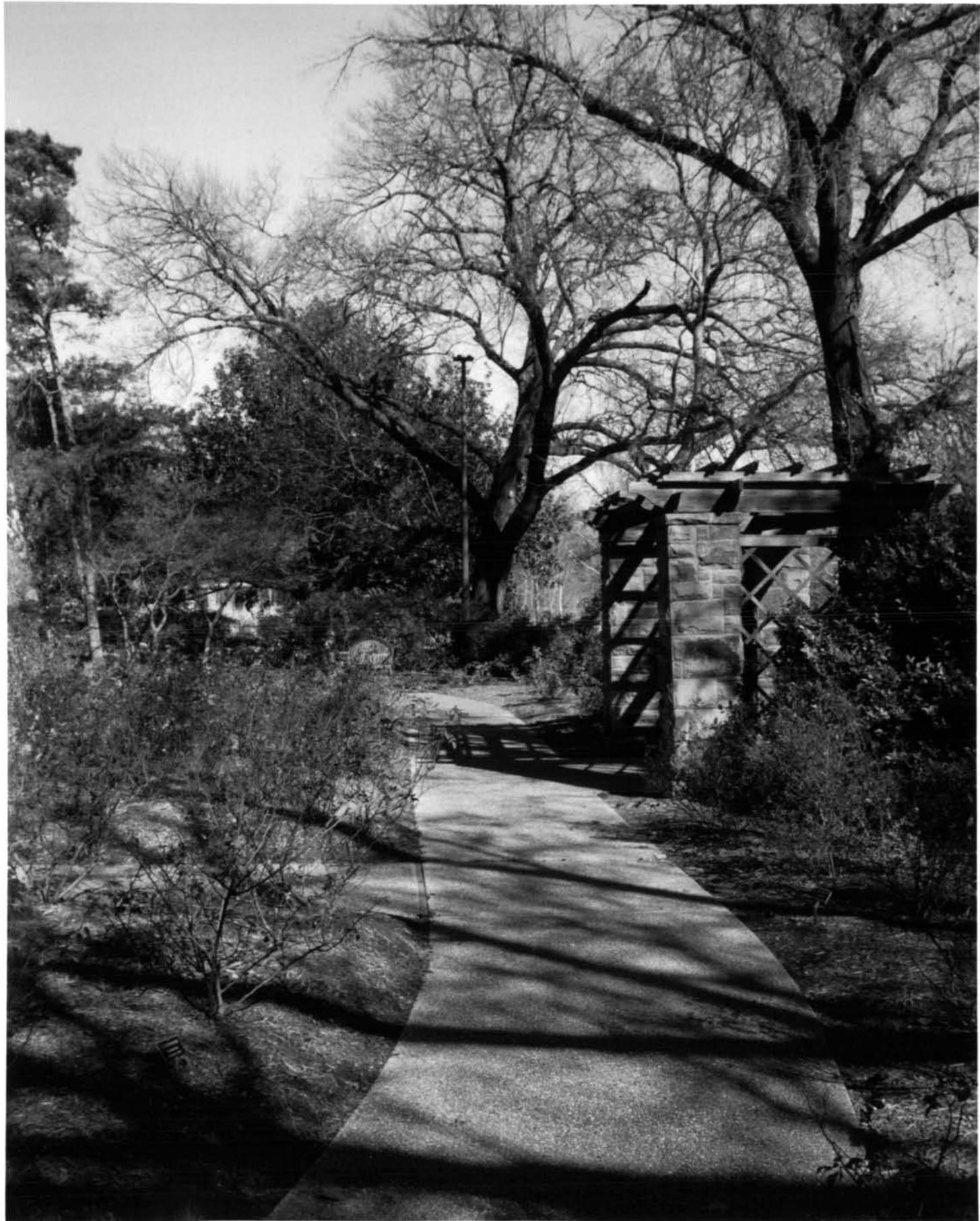
1. Colonnade
Fort Worth Botanic Garden
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Kline
4. January 2008
5. Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, TX
6. Looking North
7. 9 of 20



NEAR JONAH
ON THE
WALKWAYS

Maple

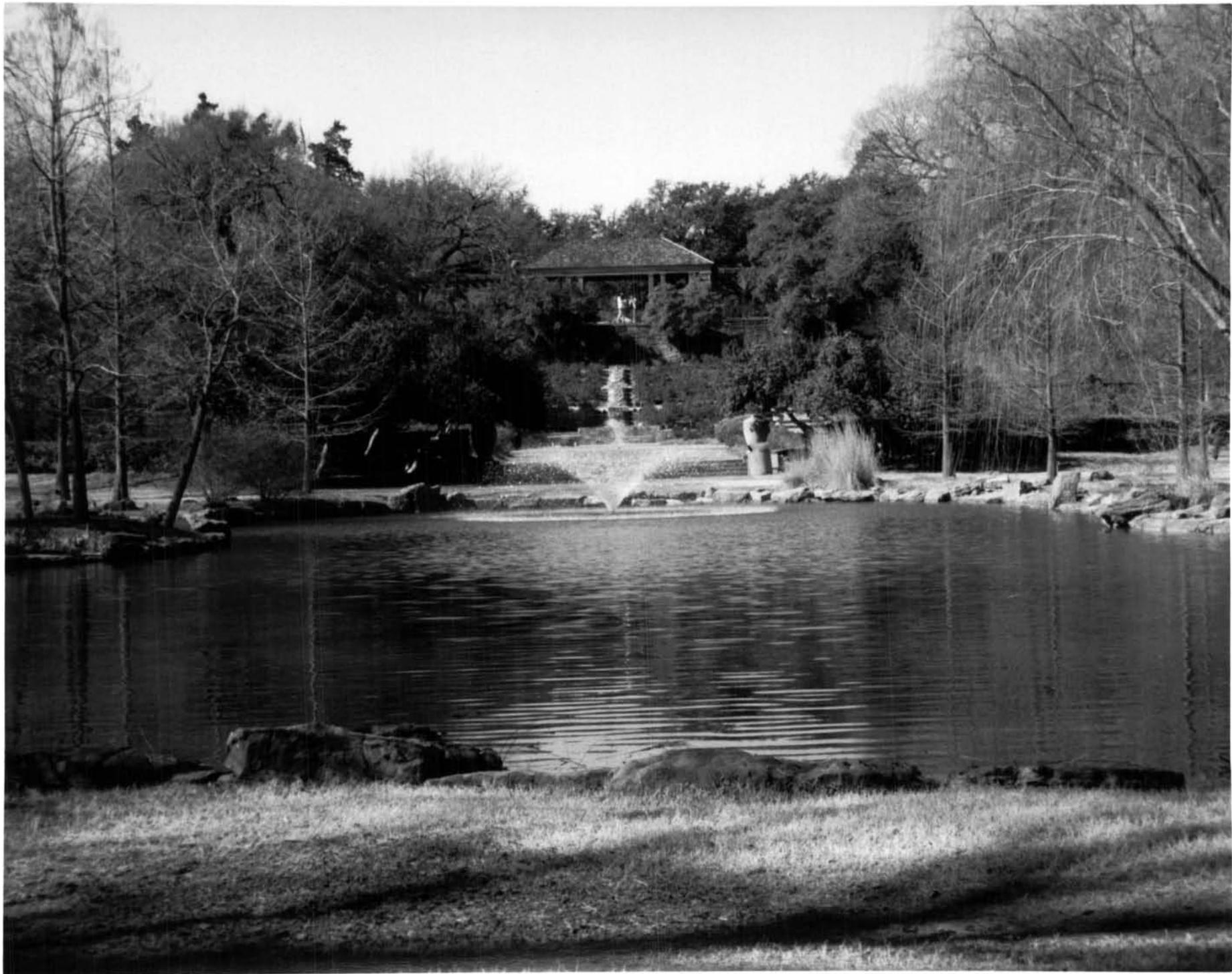
1. Oval Rose Garden - Garden + West Hall
Fort Worth Botanic Garden
- 2 Tarrant County Texas
- 3 Susan A. in blue
- 4 May 2008
- 5 Anna Carter Museum, Fort Worth TX
- 6 Locks - blue
- 7 10 of 20



1. Great Horned Owl
Jan 10 - 24th 1930
2. Townsend Solitaire, Texas
3. Jack Allen: 1 re
4. January 1930
Amor starts at museum, Fort Smith, V
5. Looking at it
7. 11 of 20



1. Castle's Garden Walk
Fort Worth Entrance Road,
- 2 Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Kline
4. January 2008
5. Arnon Carter Museum, Fort Worth TX.
6. Looking South
- 7 12 of 20



1. Large Pond, Rose Kemp, Overlook Museum - Shelton
Fort Worth Botanic Garden
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Kline
4. January 2009
5. Amen Carter Museum, Fort Worth, TX
6. Looking West
- 7 13 of 20





1. East Side Shaker
Fort Worth Botanic Garden
2. Texas: ... Texas
3. Susan Allen ...
4. May 2008
5. Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, TX
6. Looking East
7. 15 of 20



1. Flooded Area - North of East Vista
Fort Worth Botanic Garden
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Kline
4. May 2005
5. Amor Carter Museum, Fort Worth, TX
6. Looking North
7. 16 of 20



1. Greenhouse
Fort Worth Botanic Garden
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Kline
4. May 2008
5. Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth TX
6. Looking North/Northwest
7. 17 & 20



1. Garden Center / Rock Springs Building (noncontributing)
Fort Worth Botanic Garden
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Kline
4. May 2008
5. Amor Jester Museum, Fort Worth, TX
6. Looking Northeast
7. 18 of 20



1. Horsehair
Fort Worth Botanic Garden
2. Tarrant County, Texas
3. Susan Allen Kline
4. May 2005
5. Anton Carter Museum, Fort Worth
6. Lower West
7. 19 of 20



1. South entrance gate (left one only), noncont. ² ³ ⁴ ⁵ ⁶ ⁷ ⁸ ⁹ ¹⁰ ¹¹ ¹² ¹³ ¹⁴ ¹⁵ ¹⁶ ¹⁷ ¹⁸ ¹⁹ ²⁰ ²¹ ²² ²³ ²⁴ ²⁵ ²⁶ ²⁷ ²⁸ ²⁹ ³⁰ ³¹ ³² ³³ ³⁴ ³⁵ ³⁶ ³⁷ ³⁸ ³⁹ ⁴⁰ ⁴¹ ⁴² ⁴³ ⁴⁴ ⁴⁵ ⁴⁶ ⁴⁷ ⁴⁸ ⁴⁹ ⁵⁰ ⁵¹ ⁵² ⁵³ ⁵⁴ ⁵⁵ ⁵⁶ ⁵⁷ ⁵⁸ ⁵⁹ ⁶⁰ ⁶¹ ⁶² ⁶³ ⁶⁴ ⁶⁵ ⁶⁶ ⁶⁷ ⁶⁸ ⁶⁹ ⁷⁰ ⁷¹ ⁷² ⁷³ ⁷⁴ ⁷⁵ ⁷⁶ ⁷⁷ ⁷⁸ ⁷⁹ ⁸⁰ ⁸¹ ⁸² ⁸³ ⁸⁴ ⁸⁵ ⁸⁶ ⁸⁷ ⁸⁸ ⁸⁹ ⁹⁰ ⁹¹ ⁹² ⁹³ ⁹⁴ ⁹⁵ ⁹⁶ ⁹⁷ ⁹⁸ ⁹⁹ ¹⁰⁰ ¹⁰¹ ¹⁰² ¹⁰³ ¹⁰⁴ ¹⁰⁵ ¹⁰⁶ ¹⁰⁷ ¹⁰⁸ ¹⁰⁹ ¹¹⁰ ¹¹¹ ¹¹² ¹¹³ ¹¹⁴ ¹¹⁵ ¹¹⁶ ¹¹⁷ ¹¹⁸ ¹¹⁹ ¹²⁰ ¹²¹ ¹²² ¹²³ ¹²⁴ ¹²⁵ ¹²⁶ ¹²⁷ ¹²⁸ ¹²⁹ ¹³⁰ ¹³¹ ¹³² ¹³³ ¹³⁴ ¹³⁵ ¹³⁶ ¹³⁷ ¹³⁸ ¹³⁹ ¹⁴⁰ ¹⁴¹ ¹⁴² ¹⁴³ ¹⁴⁴ ¹⁴⁵ ¹⁴⁶ ¹⁴⁷ ¹⁴⁸ ¹⁴⁹ ¹⁵⁰ ¹⁵¹ ¹⁵² ¹⁵³ ¹⁵⁴ ¹⁵⁵ ¹⁵⁶ ¹⁵⁷ ¹⁵⁸ ¹⁵⁹ ¹⁶⁰ ¹⁶¹ ¹⁶² ¹⁶³ ¹⁶⁴ ¹⁶⁵ ¹⁶⁶ ¹⁶⁷ ¹⁶⁸ ¹⁶⁹ ¹⁷⁰ ¹⁷¹ ¹⁷² ¹⁷³ ¹⁷⁴ ¹⁷⁵ ¹⁷⁶ ¹⁷⁷ ¹⁷⁸ ¹⁷⁹ ¹⁸⁰ ¹⁸¹ ¹⁸² ¹⁸³ ¹⁸⁴ ¹⁸⁵ ¹⁸⁶ ¹⁸⁷ ¹⁸⁸ ¹⁸⁹ ¹⁹⁰ ¹⁹¹ ¹⁹² ¹⁹³ ¹⁹⁴ ¹⁹⁵ ¹⁹⁶ ¹⁹⁷ ¹⁹⁸ ¹⁹⁹ ²⁰⁰ ²⁰¹ ²⁰² ²⁰³ ²⁰⁴ ²⁰⁵ ²⁰⁶ ²⁰⁷ ²⁰⁸ ²⁰⁹ ²¹⁰ ²¹¹ ²¹² ²¹³ ²¹⁴ ²¹⁵ ²¹⁶ ²¹⁷ ²¹⁸ ²¹⁹ ²²⁰ ²²¹ ²²² ²²³ ²²⁴ ²²⁵ ²²⁶ ²²⁷ ²²⁸ ²²⁹ ²³⁰ ²³¹ ²³² ²³³ ²³⁴ ²³⁵ ²³⁶ ²³⁷ ²³⁸ ²³⁹ ²⁴⁰ ²⁴¹ ²⁴² ²⁴³ ²⁴⁴ ²⁴⁵ ²⁴⁶ ²⁴⁷ ²⁴⁸ ²⁴⁹ ²⁵⁰ ²⁵¹ ²⁵² ²⁵³ ²⁵⁴ ²⁵⁵ ²⁵⁶ ²⁵⁷ ²⁵⁸ ²⁵⁹ ²⁶⁰ ²⁶¹ ²⁶² ²⁶³ ²⁶⁴ ²⁶⁵ ²⁶⁶ 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