



Midwinter Fair, 1894

Park History

Overview History Of Golden Gate Park

In San Francisco's Gold Rush days, the area that is now Golden Gate Park was marked on maps as part of the "great sand waste," and untrammelled "Outside Lands," located well beyond the reach of the city's masses. By the end of the Civil War, the city of San Francisco emerged as the chief commerce center on the Pacific Coast, rich in the silver wealth of the Comstock and eagerly anticipating completion of a transcontinental railroad. The populace of the city, once teeming with transient fortune-seekers and speculators, now settled down to build a world-class metropolis.

In 1870 the large urban park was a new idea, and something of a social experiment. New York's Central Park (1858), Philadelphia's Fairmont Park (1865), and Brooklyn's Prospect Park (1866) were the only comparable examples in the nation. The idea of a public pleasure ground for use by all classes of people was a new and democratic concept.

Frederick Law Olmsted, traveling in California in 1866, proposed a public park for San Francisco to enhance the health and morality of the citizenry, and attract capital and investment of the business community. Olmsted envisioned a series of parks: a promenade across the city to the bay, parade ground, and pleasure ground in sheltered Hayes Valley. At the same time, the federal government upheld the city's title to the Outside Lands against claims of squatters. During the course of lengthy litigation over the Outside Lands, local politicians, led by Frank McCoppin and other citizens, rallied for establishment of a public park in the western quarter of the city. A supervisory committee subdivided the Outside Lands and proposed an arrangement whereby squatters could donate a portion of their claims for a public park in return for clear title to the remainder of their lands. The proposal won McCoppin the Mayor's office, and gained the approval of the state legislature. The supervisors, however, debated over the eastern boundary of the park. The majority opinion of



Sand dunes in what is now Golden Gate Park

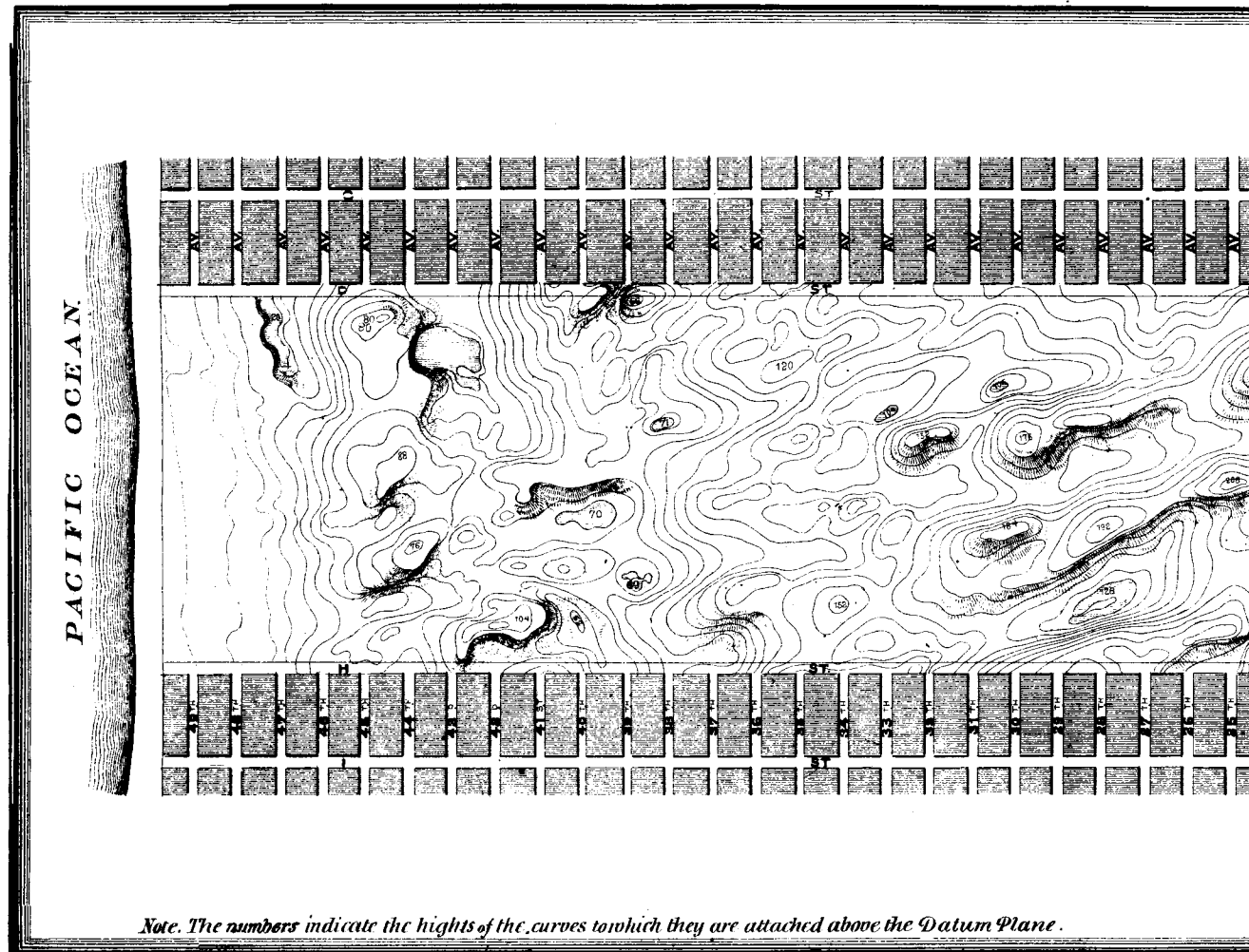
Photo: Wells Fargo Bank

supervisors Stanyan, Shrader and Cole prevailed, establishing Stanyan Street as the park's eastern limit, with an avenue extending to Baker Street. Olmsted's plan for a sheltered inland park and promenade was cast aside for economic reasons: the availability of cheap Outside lands and support of speculators who had a direct financial interest in improvements in the western section of the city.

On April 4, 1870, the state legislature passed "An Act to provide for the improvement of Public Parks in the City of San Francisco." Soon after, the newly-formed park commission advertised bonds to fund park improvements. Enough bonds were sold to finance a topographical survey of Golden Gate Park and its approach. Surveyor and engineer William Hammond Hall won the contract to survey park land, completed his report on February 15, 1871, and in August that year was appointed as engineer of the park.

Hall and his work crews took on the task of transforming the sandy, sparsely vegetated 1,017 acre park tract between Stanyan Street and the ocean into a pleasure ground which would convey "warmth, repose, and enlivenment" to citizens. Hall started work on the 270 acres in the eastern end of the park, a locale suitable for features such as a picnic ground, gardens, play and recreation area, and the avenue of approach now known as the Panhandle. He envisioned a woodland forest on the 600 acres west of Strawberry Hill, but first the extensive sand drifts had to be reclaimed with vegetation. Experiments revealed that lupine seed sown with fast-growing barley successfully sheltered delicate lupine strands from harsh winds

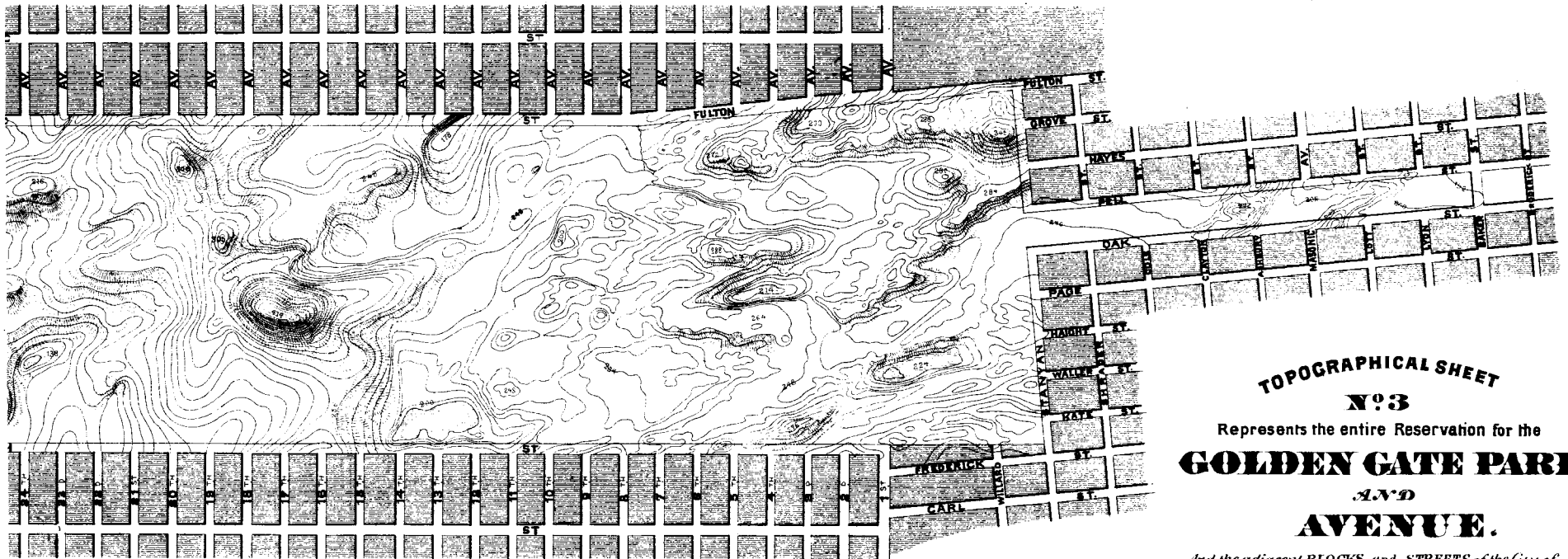
Topographic map from the survey by William Hammond Hall. Printed in the First Biennial Report of the San Francisco Park Commissioners, 1870-71.



Note. The numbers indicate the heights of the curves to which they are attached above the Datum Plane.

LITH.

GOLDEN GATE PARK.



TOPOGRAPHICAL SHEET
Nº 3
 Represents the entire Reservation for the
GOLDEN GATE PARK
AND
AVENUE.

And the adjacent BLOCKS and STREETS of the City of
SAN FRANCISCO.

Surveyed and drawn under the direction of the
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
 BY W^m HAMMOND HALL.

SCALE 1200 FEET IN 1 INCH.

BRITTON & REY SAN FRANCISCO.

and shifting dunes. Initial work completed in 1871 included grading, fencing, drainage and irrigation work, and development of a park nursery. The following year, 22,000 hardy and quick growing trees were set out, park roads built, and visitors began to arrive by the thousands (W.H. Hall, in Report of the Park Commissioners, 1872).

Golden Gate Park welcomed pedestrians, ladies and gentlemen in fine carriages, equestrians, and hordes of bicyclists after 1880. Park use reflected the recreational activities of all San Franciscans, and included band concerts, floral displays, picnicking, croquet, tennis, and racing carriages on the speed road. Facilities arose on park land to attract visitors, including a conservatory erected on North Drive in 1877, an adjacent music stand completed in 1882, and the children's quarters and playground, dedicated in 1888.

The new pleasure ground provided an aesthetic balance to the harsh realities of city life. Weary city residents could relax in the hygienic atmosphere of the park, surrounded by sublime scenery of trees, shrubs, gardens and picturesque lakes. The park also fulfilled a higher purpose of social reform. In the Gilded Age of the 1870's, parks were seen as a tonic of nature which exerted positive influence on the morals of the common citizen and contributed to physical and mental health. The concept of parks as a vehicle for social reform continued into the next century, but park use moved gradually from aesthetic appreciation to utilitarianism.

Political corruption and chicanery tainted city

government and vexed park management in the nineteenth century. Park Superintendent Hall became the target of political attacks when he resisted corrupt politicians. He resigned his post in 1876, and for the next decade the park languished due to lack of funds. A change in city administration in 1886 heralded the overhaul of the Board of Park Commissioners, and the return of William Hammond Hall's involvement in Golden Gate Park. Hall, then State Engineer, examined the condition of the park's forest and general state of affairs. In 1886, Frederick Law Olmsted commented on the reclamation and progress of work in the park, stating that, while obviously far from its finished state, the park was "an achievement far exceeding all that I have believed possible" (F.L. Olmsted to Board of Park Commissioners, 1886). In 1890, John McLaren became park superintendent and held the post for over half a century. McLaren soon faced the greatest challenge of his career.

In the wake of the widely acclaimed World's Columbian Exposition, held in Chicago in 1893, San Francisco's park commissioners approved deviation from traditional park use and agreed to host the California Midwinter International Exposition in an undeveloped area east of newly-constructed Stow Lake. San Francisco Chronicle publisher Michael H. deYoung, who had served as a vice-president of the Chicago exposition, and banker James D. Phelan, former chairman of California's fair exhibit in Chicago, spearheaded the campaign to raise funds for the fair. Promoters hoped a California world's fair would help pull the state from the depths of a nationwide recession and showcase San Francisco's salubri-

ous winter climate. The California Midwinter International Exposition opened on January 27, 1894, amid parades, bands and military salutes. When the fair closed six months later, over two million visitors had passed through the turnstiles, and the fair recorded a modest profit. The 200-acre Midwinter Fair left an enduring legacy on Golden Gate Park. Several exposition displays continued as park attractions, including the Japanese Tea Garden, and the Egyptian-style Fine Arts Building, which, filled with objets d'art from the fair, became a permanent museum. The fair's Grand Court became the Music Concourse. Other fair structures were demolished, and with considerable effort by Superintendent John McLaren and his crews, the bulk of the fair site returned to parkland.

At the turn of the century, under a new city charter, the park came under the direct jurisdiction of the city government instead of the state legislature. New additions included a park lodge, music stand donated by Claus Spreckels, a chain of lakes, and windmills. The growing popularity of the horseless carriage fostered new user conflicts and enforcement challenges for the park police squad.

In 1906, the park served as a place of refuge for thousands of displaced citizens in the wake of the earthquake. Refugee tent camps sprang up beside the park lodge and conservatory, and surrounded the Garfield Monument and other familiar landmarks. Barracks camps covered ball fields and straddled the abandoned Speed Road. A number of park structures sustained heavy damage during the temblor: the Sweeney Obser-

vatory atop Strawberry Hill twisted grotesquely and was completely destroyed, and the Children's Quarters, art museum, emergency aid station, and Spreckels Temple of Music suffered severe damage. By the new year, the park refugee camps closed, and key park structures were repaired. One new structure, Portals of the Past, commemorated the disaster.

The neighborhoods of the Richmond and Sunset surrounding the park resounded with new building as the city's population moved from the devastated area into the spacious Outside Lands. In 1910, voters approved a proposal to move the California Academy of Sciences from its earthquake wrecked downtown quarters into the park. In 1915, San Francisco hosted the Panama-Pacific International Exposition to celebrate the opening of the Panama Canal and the city's recovery from the earthquake. Groundbreaking ceremonies were held October 14, 1911, in the Polo Field in Golden Gate Park. William Hammond Hall and other concerned citizens, reminded of the impact of the MidWinter Fair on park lands, thwarted initial plans to host another grand exposition in the western portion of Golden Gate Park.

Several new facilities were added to the park in the 1920's, including Kezar Stadium and pavilion, Willis Polk's Beach Chalet, the Shakespeare Garden, and expansion of the Academy of Sciences with the addition of the North American Hall and Steinhart Aquarium.

The 1930's brought an increased acceptance of parks and recreation as a necessity of modern life

rather than a moral tonic. Americans experienced an increase in leisure time brought about by shorter work weeks, technological innovation, or the high unemployment rates during the Great Depression. The Depression also fueled New Deal construction of the Angler's Lodge, Model Yacht Club, Police Stables, Crossover Drive, the Park Presidio Bypass, visitor comfort stations, and a water reclamation plant near the Great Highway. During the war years, San Franciscans tended victory gardens in the park along 9th Avenue. After the war, a golf course was added to the park landscape, as was a lodge annex building to house administrative operations of an expanding Recreation and Park Department.

In the tumult of the 1960's, parks emerged as peaceful neutral terrain in troubled urban America. Golden Gate Park became San Francisco's common ground, a gathering place and magnet for the counterculture. Flower children from Haight-Ashbury communed with nature on "hippie hill" and attended rock concerts and events held in the park and panhandle. Parks became valued as open space; versatile, undeveloped lands which invited the public to experience an expanding variety of athletic and cultural activities. During the decade, a growing awareness of our national cultural heritage also resulted in historic landmark recognition for pioneer urban parks, and initiatives to rehabilitate historic park buildings and features.

The last two decades have brought renewal to old Golden Gate Park attractions: rededication of the children's playground, restoration of the

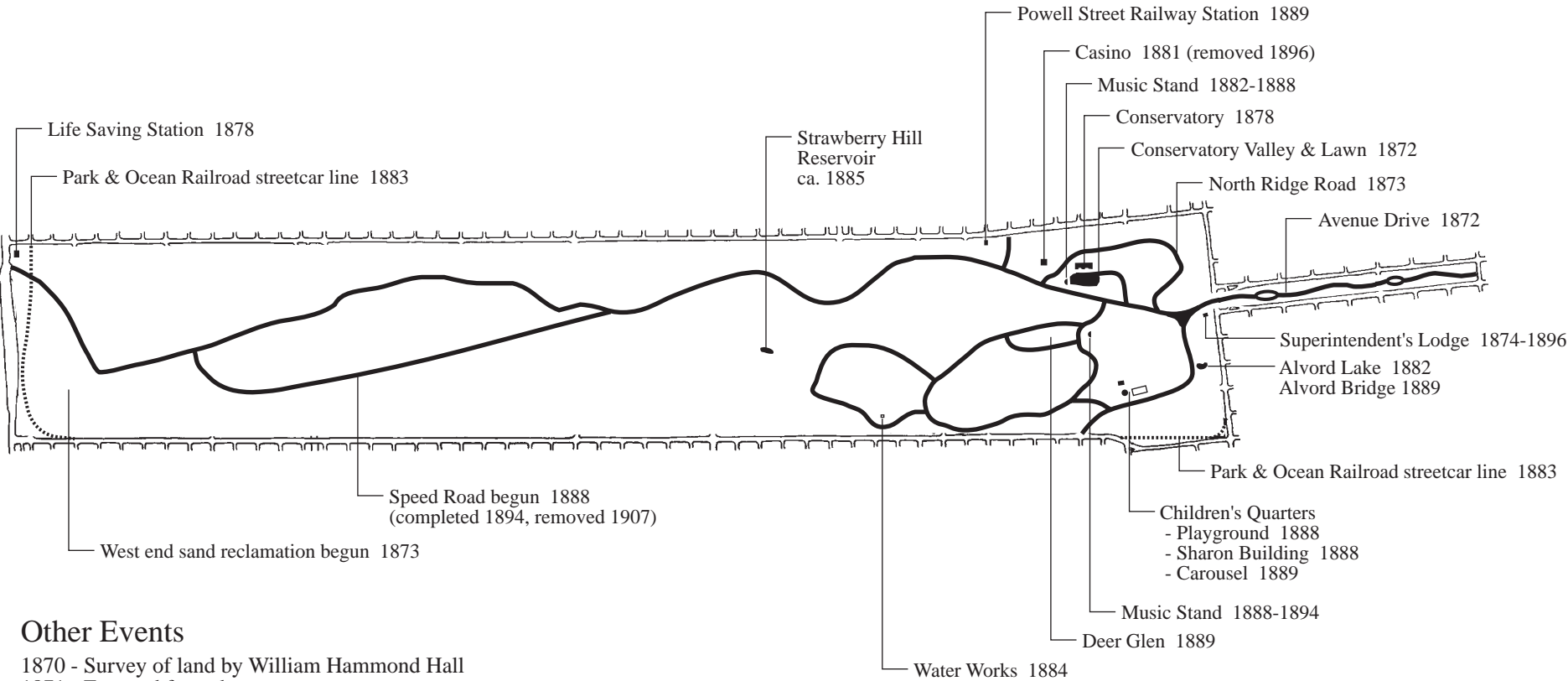
park carousel and Huntington Falls, renovation of the music concourse, and initiation of park reforestation. Adoption of park objectives and policies in "The Plan for Golden Gate Park" in 1979 led to road closures at Marx Meadow Drive, Overlook Drive, and the Sixth Avenue entrance. In 1992, work was begun on the first comprehensive master plan for Golden Gate Park in this century.

Historical Development Maps

The maps on the following pages trace the development of Golden Gate Park. The information was compiled from many sources, including Annual Reports to the Commission, newspaper accounts, various historical park maps, Coast and Geodetic Survey (USGS predecessor) maps, and photographs. Much of the information that is available is sketchy. There are few construction plans for the park, particularly for the early work. Most of the work was done from direction given in the field from William Hammond Hall and John McLaren. The sources that are available provide information about roads, buildings, and other park facilities. There is very little information on the landscape itself. The annual reports provide numbers and species planted but little else. William Hammond Hall was a prolific writer, and has left a good, descriptive written record. Writings by John McLaren are relatively scarce by comparison. The 1935 aerial photograph contained in this report is the earliest complete record of the park landscape.

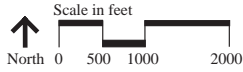
The spans of years for the maps were selected to show major periods of park development.

1870-1889	Initial development and early years
1890-1899	Mid Winter Fair and related development
1900-1909	Early impact of automobile and post-earthquake development
1910-1929	Development of museums and recreation facilities
1930-1939	Depression-era public works projects (WPA, etc.)
1940-Present	Post-war development and modern period

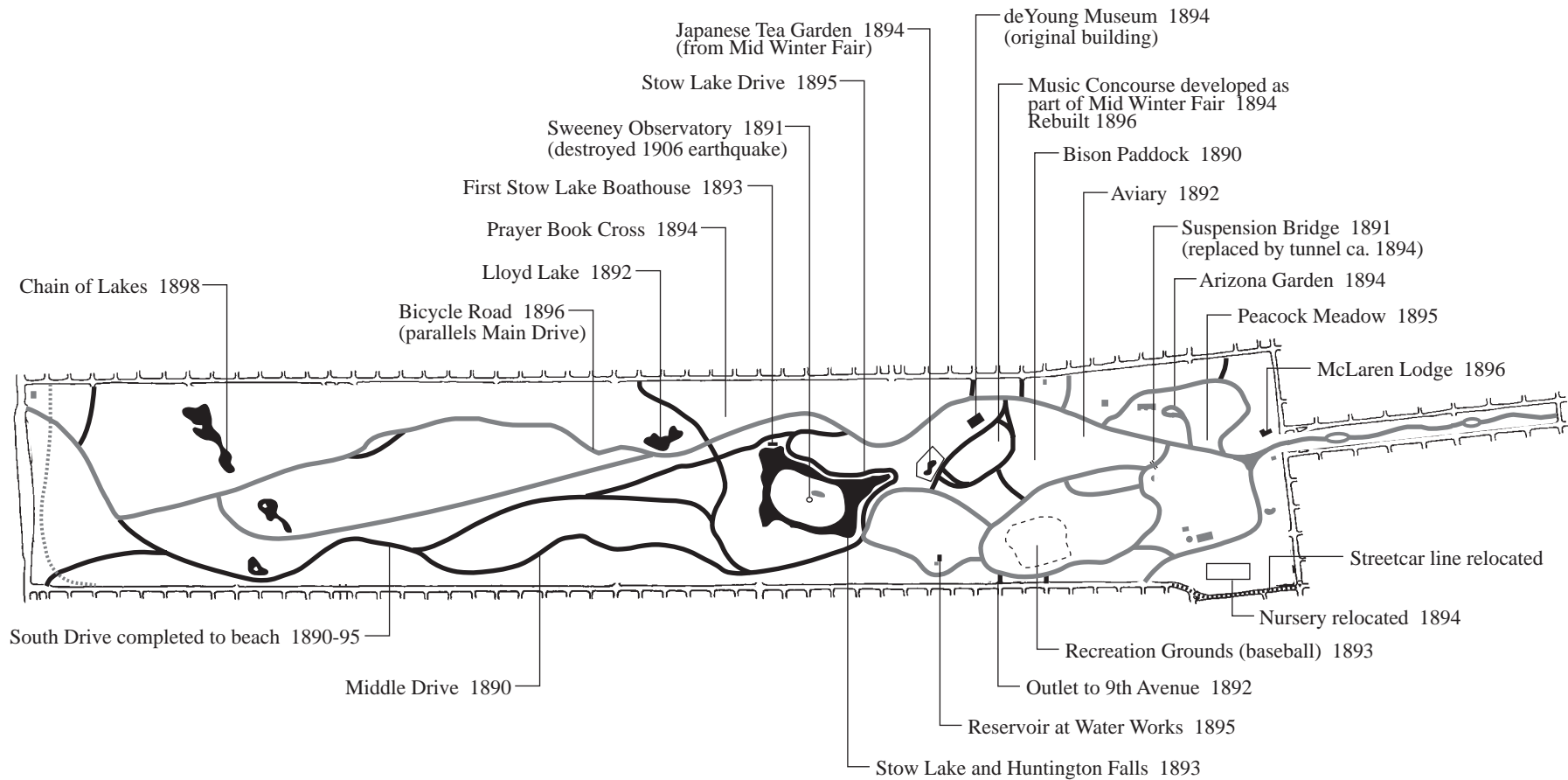


Other Events

- 1870 - Survey of land by William Hammond Hall
- 1871 - East end fenced
- 1871 - Nursery and greenhouse on present lodge site
- 1871 - William Hammond Hall appointed Engineer of the Park
- 1874 - Four rustic shelters constructed in northeastern park (designed by Anton Gerster)
- 1886 - Frederick Law Olmsted visits Golden Gate Park
- 1887 - John McLaren appointed Assistant Superintendent

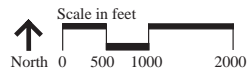


The Development of Golden Gate Park
1870-1889

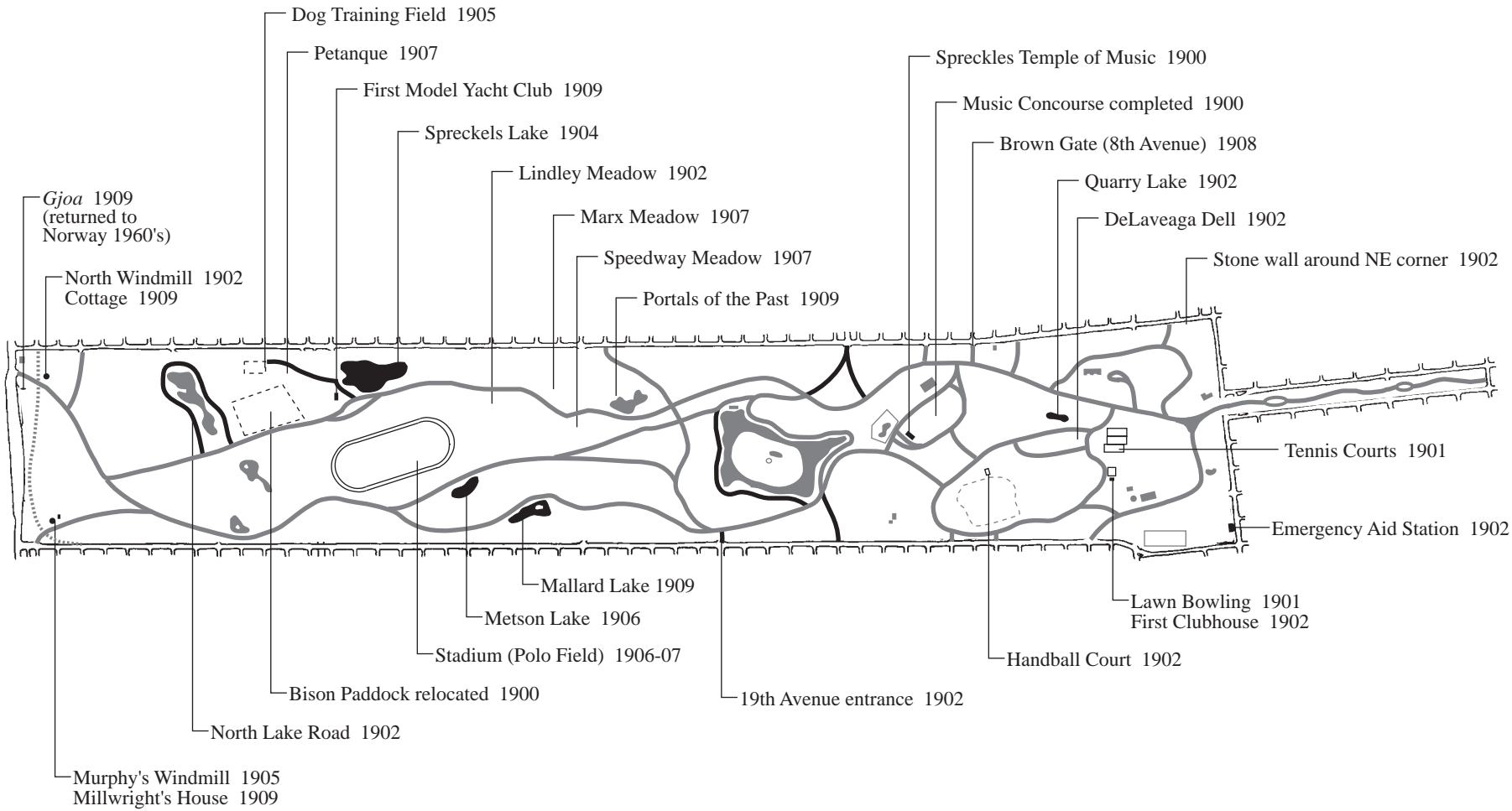


Other Events

- 1890 - John McLaren appointed Superintendent
- 1894 - Mid Winter Fair
- 1896 - Casino Removed
- 1899 - Park placed under jurisdiction of City rather than State Legislature

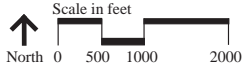


The Development of Golden Gate Park
1890-1899

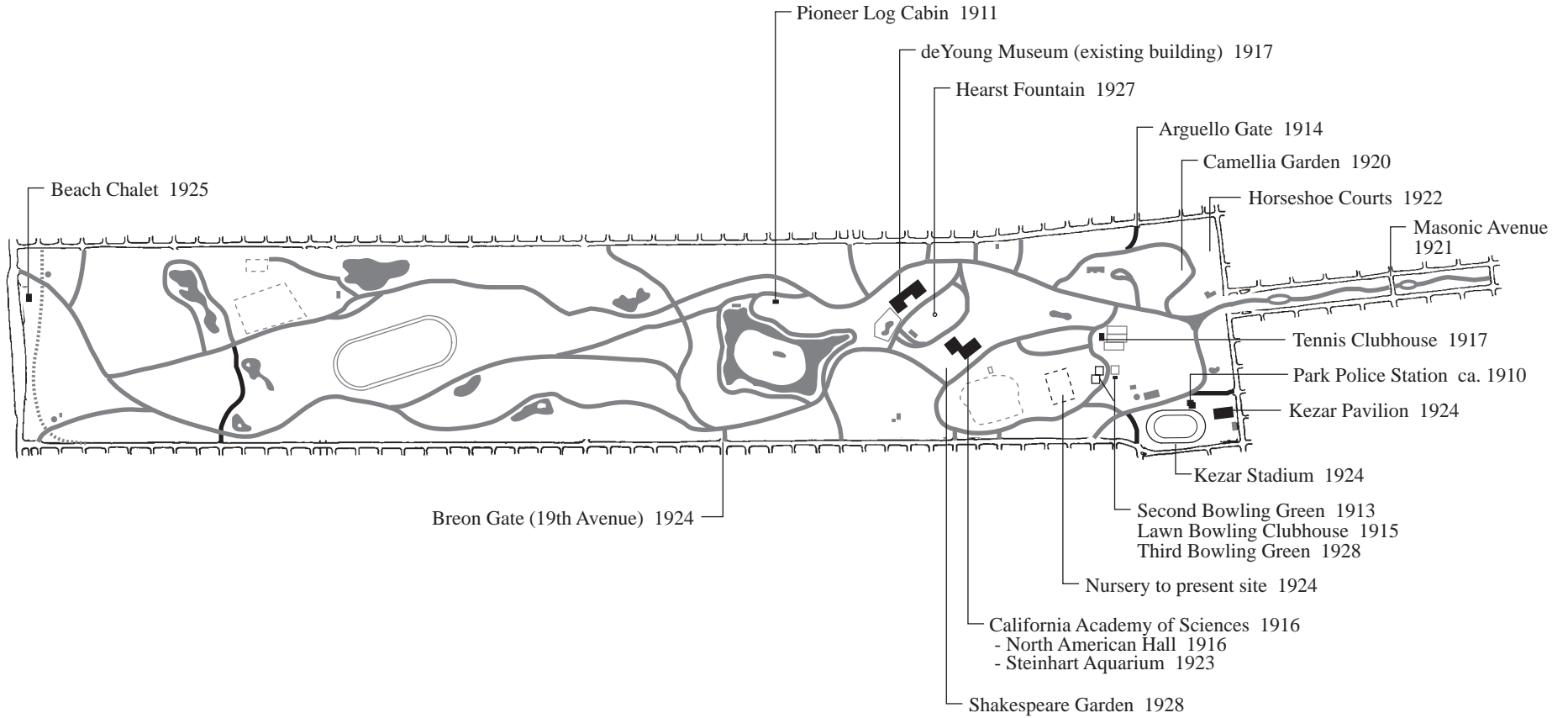


Other Events

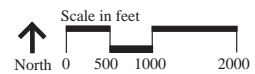
- 1901 - First automobile permit
- 1906 - San Francisco Earthquake
- 1907 - Speed Road removed

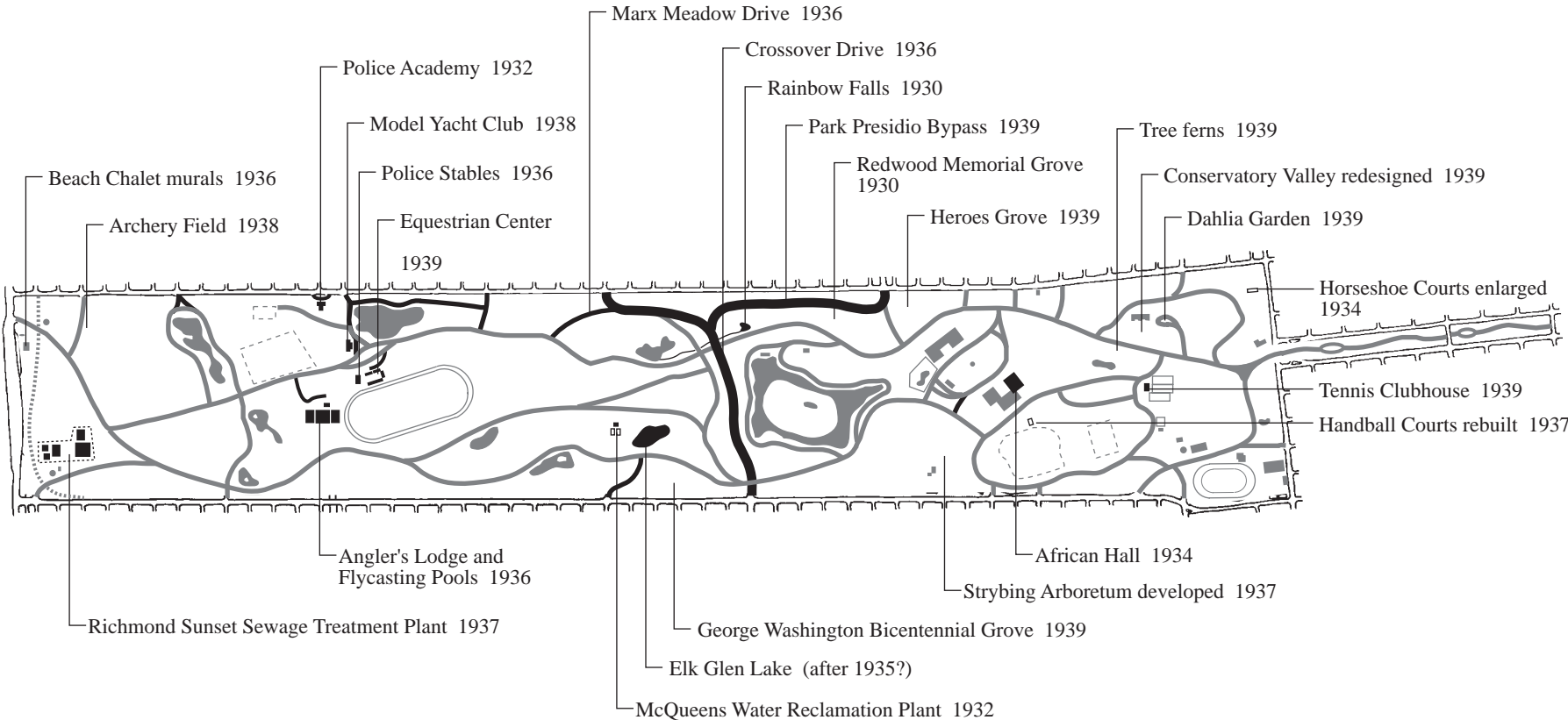


The Development of Golden Gate Park
1900-1909



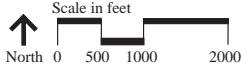
The Development of Golden Gate Park
1910-1929



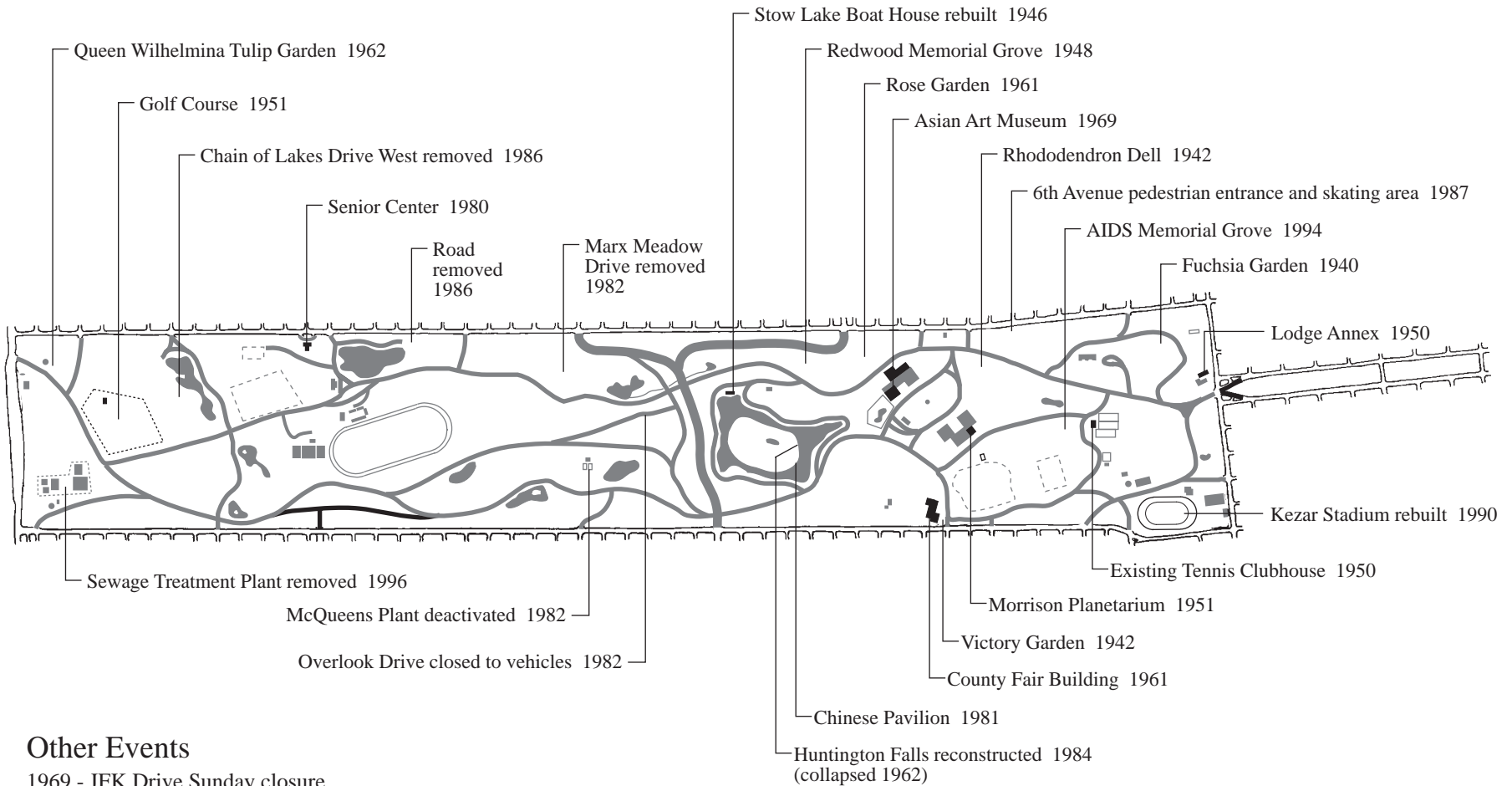


Other Events

1930's - Works Progress Administration and other federal programs
1930's - Aviary removed

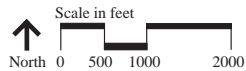


The Development of Golden Gate Park
1930-1939



Other Events

- 1969 - JFK Drive Sunday closure
- 1979 - Objectives and Policies for park adopted
- 1980 - Reforestation program started
- 1981 - Marx Meadow Drive removed
- 1981 - 6th Avenue entrance closed to vehicles
- 1985 - Transportation Management Plan adopted
- 1993 - Sunset Richmond Sewage Plant closed



The Development of Golden Gate Park
1940-1998

Golden Gate Park Chronology

1870	Park Commission's first meeting (May 3)	1882	McEwen appointed Superintendent of the Park (July)
1870	Hall, William Hammond, awarded survey contract (August)	1882	Music Stand first located in Conservatory Valley, west side
1870	Greenhouse established on present lodge site	1882	Office of Superintendent declared vacant due to deficiency in the appropriation
1871	East end fenced	1882	Park band gives first of continuous performances
1871	Nursery established on present lodge site	1883	Streetcar built across southeast corner, out Lincoln and north across west end of park
1871	Panhandle graded, plantings	1883	Conservatory burned
1871	Quarry opened in park	1884	Planned Strawberry Valley Water Works and Strawberry Hill Reservoir
1871	South Drive contract spec. prepared	1884	Water Works constructed
1871-76	Hall appointed engineer of the park (August)	1885	Recreation ground for ball players (Big Rec) discussion at Commission, developed 1893
1872	Avenue Drive, North Ridge Rd. and portions of Main Dr. in trimmed and rolled	1885	Water Works Pumping Plant finished
1872	Conservatory Valley grading completed, 20,000 trees set out	1886	Park and Ocean Railroad Line lease granted. Opened 1893
1872	Main Drive entrance complete	1886	Well drilled, southeast base of Strawberry Hill.
1872	Nursery Valley graded, shaped, and covered with rich soil	1886	Frederick Law Olmsted visits park
1872	Park lodge, stable and engine houses authorized	1887	Sharon Building plans accepted (Percy & Hamilton)
1872	Planting experiments	1887-90	John McLaren appointed Assistant Superintendent. McLaren signed Superintendent's report of 1889.
1873	Hall started sand reclamation on west end	1888	Children's playground dedicated
1873	North Ridge Road constructed	1888	Elk given to park
1873	Spring Valley water used, 100,000 gallons daily	1888	Hall Report to Commission
1874	Bell tower constructed	1888	Music Stand #2 dedication on site of present tennis courts
1874	Northeast corner named Mt. Lick (orig. Plateau Hill, by Hall)	1888	Speed Road started
1874	Rustic shelters (4) constructed northeast portion of park, designed by Anton Gerster	1889	Alvord Bridge - first reinforced concrete bridge (Ransome Concrete) constructed. Lake enlarged
1874	Superintendent's Lodge constructed opposite of present McLaren Lodge site	1889	Deer Glen located on site of Delaveaga Dell
1874	Tank house and cottage built by Chain of Lakes	1889	First carousel constructed
1875	Artesian well contract	1890	Aviary constructed
1876	Eastern portion brought under cultivation	1890	Buffalo purchased by Park Commission
1876-81	Prichard as Superintendent, designed Stow Lake and Strawberry Hill Reservoir, submitted resignation in March 1881	1890	Casino moved south to knoll overlooking Main Drive, 2nd story added
1877	Conservatory purchased from Lick Estate	1890	Middle Drive constructed (overlook, middle, south)
1877	Well boring experiments	1890	Sharon Building completed
1878	Conservatory constructed	1890	South Drive construction completed to beach
1878	Life saving station constructed at Ocean Beach	1890	Stable constructed behind Tank House
1879	South Drive: section completed	1890-1943	John McLaren Superintendent
1881	Archery Club requests privileges	1891	Suspension bridge from Favorite Point to Music Ground (present day tennis courts) construction contract awarded to J.A. Roebblings and Sons (builders of the Brooklyn Bridge)
1881	Casino constructed		
1881	Hennessey appointed Acting Superintendent of Parks (May)		
1882	Alvord Lake constructed		

1891	Sweeney Observatory dedicated (Percy and Hamilton)	1899	Park now under jurisdiction of City rather than State Legislature
1892	Ball Thrower by Douglas Tilden	1900	Buffalo move to present location
1892	Lloyd Lake constructed	1900	Music Concourse completed
1892	New Aviary constructed, remained until 1930s	1900	Spreckels Temple of Music dedicated
1892	Pumping Station	1901	First auto permit issued to Stow Lake concessionaire
1892	Rose Garden laid out on site of present Park Lodge	1901	Tennis courts situated at present site
1893	Huntington Falls under construction	1901	Lawn Bowling Club established
1893-94	Midwinter Fair	1902	Handball court constructed
1893	Japanese Tea Garden developed as part of Midwinter Fair	1902	Aquarium proposed
1893	Recreation Valley developed (Big Rec)	1902	Bridle path completed to beach
1893	Stow Lake Boathouse planned, constructed (?)	1902	DeLaveaga Dell (Old Deer Glen) undergoing improvements
1893	Stow Lake completed, walk constructed	1902	Elk Grove Meadow laid out south of Strawberry Hill
1893	Wells sunk in Water Works	1902	Flower calendar prepared, planted in park
1894	Arizona Garden	1902	Handball courts constructed at Recreation Grounds (Big Rec)
1894	Liberty Tree planted by Conservatory	1902	First Lawn Bowling Clubhouse designed
1894	Monarch (bear) exhibit established	1902	Herd of Spotted Deer introduced into Lindley Meadow
1894	Prayer Book Cross unveiled	1902	Native wildflowers sown along borders
1894	Tunnel from tennis courts to Conservatory replaced suspension bridge	1902	Nineteenth Avenue entrance constructed in response to residents' petition, double "V"-shaped banks sloped, planted with <i>Mesembryanthemums</i> and Red Top Clover
1895	Beach House west of highway	1902	North Dutch Windmill constructed
1895	deYoung Museum started as holdover from Midwinter Fair	1902	North Lake Road constructed
1895	Fence constructed from 3rd Ave. to 25th Ave. (picket, with barbed wire), and Fulton St. from 6th Ave. to Stanyan St. planted with trees	1902	One-mile portion of Bicycle Path constructed
1895	Footpath constructed north of Main Drive, running parallel to it	1902	Park Emergency Aid Station built
1895	Forest, 500 acres planted between 1985-'95, west of 24th Ave.	1902	Quarry Lake designed
1895	Main Drive widened	1902	Reservoir constructed by North Mill, close to Life Saving Station
1895	Peacock Meadow	1902	Salt Water Pond east of railway embarkment proposed
1895	Reservoir constructed at Water Works	1902	Sediment from Mt. Lake Park used to fertilize eastern park
1895	Rockery, south of tunnel leading to Conservatory Valley	1902	Stone wall built along the line of Fulton Street
1895	South Drive extended from Strawberry Hill to 40th Avenue	1902	Tennis courts built on site of old music grounds
1895	Stow Lake drive completed	1902	Tunnels constructed from Music Concourse under Main Drive
1896	Bicycle Road constructed, running from Boom Point west for one mile and paralleling Main Drive	1903	Justice Monument at the east end of Panhandle
1896	Casino removed	1904	Spreckels Lake completed
1896	Centennial Trees (historic tree lane)	1905	South Windmill (Murphy's Mill) constructed
1896	McLaren Lodge constructed (E.R. Swain)	1905	Dog Training Field
1896	Nursery moved to present Kezar site	1906	Earthquake refugees camped in park, Sweeny Observatory destroyed, Sharon Building damaged
1897	Bridle Road started at Strawberry Hill, running to ocean	1906	Golden Gate Park Stadium (Polo Field) dedicated
1897	Concrete bridge constructed on Main Drive	1906	Metson Lake
1897	Police station and emergency hospital located on site of Casino	1907	Marx Meadow
1898	Chain of Lakes constructed		

1907	Petanque Field	1930	Redwood Memorial Grove and Doughboy Meadow
1907	Speed Road removed	1932	McQueen's Water Reclamation Plant
1907	Polo Field constructed	1932	Police Academy constructed
1907	Speedway Meadow	1934	Conservatory Valley rehabilitated
1909	Bridge at east end of Stow Lake constructed (Roman Bridge)	1934	Simson African Hall constructed at the Academy of Sciences
1909	Dutch Windmill Cottage constructed	1935	Arboretum plans initiated
1909	"Gjoa," Roald Amundsen's northwest passage boat, installed on Great Highway (returned to Norway in 1960s)	1936	Angler's Lodge and Fly Casting Pool
1909	Great Highway, Main Drive, and South Drive oiled and repaired	1936	Breon Gate planned, 19th Avenue and Lincoln Way
1909	Mallard Lake (Hobo Lake), natural fresh water pond	1936	Beach Chalet murals
1909	Middle Drive constructed	1936	Police Stables constructed
1909	Model Yacht Clubhouse constructed near Spreckels Lake	1936	Panhandle resurfaced
1909	Moose brought in west of Children's Quarters, near deer and kangaroos	1936	Meadow improvements
1909	Portals of the Past	1936	Crossover Drive and Marx Meadow Drive built
1909	Transverse Drive constructed, Stow Lake Drive widened	1936	Park Emergency Hospital upgraded
1910	Polo Field grandstand for 100,000 construction initiated but never completed	1937	Handball Courts reconstructed
1911	Pioneer Log Cabin	1937	Richmond Sunset Sewage Treatment Plant
1913	Bowling Green #2 constructed	1937	Strybing Arboretum developed
1914-15	Arguello Gate entrance, Clarke Pillars (Bliss & Faville)	1938	Archery Field irrigation planned, installed
1915	Tennis courts added	1938	Horseshoe Courts shelter constructed
1915	Lawn Bowling Clubhouse built	1938	Bowling Green road realigned
1916	California Academy of Sciences constructed	1938	Marconi bench and plaque (19th Avenue and Lincoln)
1917	Tennis Clubhouse	1938	Present Model Yacht Club constructed
1920	Camellia Garden	1938	Arboretum construction
1922	Horseshoe Courts constructed	1939	Australian Tree Fern Dell
1923	Steinhart Aquarium	1939	Chalet Field Training Quarters and Convenience Station
1924	Bear Pit by Middle Dr. next to Bison Paddock (end of Delaveaga Dell)	1939	Conservatory Valley redesigned
1924	Kezar Stadium/Pavilion (Willis Polk) contained tennis and handball courts, east of stadium, opened November 11	1939	Dahlia Garden
1924	McLaren Lake at western end proposed but never constructed	1939	George Washington Bicentennial Grove
1924	North American Hall built at Academy of Sciences	1939	Golden Gate Equestrian Center constructed
1924	Nursery moved to present site	1939	Heroes Grove
1925	Beach Chalet constructed (Willis Polk)	1939	Park Presidio Bypass constructed
1927	Bowles collection of Himalayan Rhododendrons planted in Peacock Meadow	1939	Sheep Sheds near Golden Gate Park Stadium
1927	Hearst Fountain, Music Concourse	1939	Tennis Clubhouse constructed
1928	Shakespeare Garden developed	1940	Fuchsia Garden
1928	Third lawn bowling green constructed	1940	Panhandle irrigation
1930	Rainbow Falls, gift of Herbert Fleishhacker	1942	Rhododendron Dell started
		1942	Victory Garden, 19th Avenue and South Drive
		1944	Arguello Entrance stairway built
		1946	Stow Lake Boathouse rebuilt
		1948	Native Sons Grove Plot Plan

1949	Pitch and Putt Golf Course, as installed Map #15726.1	1984	Mother's Meadow Playground rehabilitation
1949	Redwood Memorial Grove landscaping, 15723.1 Planting Plan	1985	Stow Lake shoreline rehabilitation
1950	Lodge Annex constructed	1985	Transportation Management Plan adopted
1950	Old Speedway Convenience Station built	1985	Kezar Corner Master Plan formulated
1950	Tennis Courts, Building	1985	Alvord Lake Well constructed
1951	Morrison Planetarium constructed at Academy of Sciences	1985	Beach Chalet Renovation Plans approved
1951	Pitch and Putt Building remodeled	1985	Bamboo Garden established with Fuhrman Bequest funds
1958	Handball Courts redesigned	1985	Palm Garden established with Fuhrman Bequest funds
1959	Bercut Equitation Field name applied to Horseman's Retreat	1986	Lincoln Way and 46th Avenue Play Area rehabilitation
1961	Hall of Flowers (renamed County Fair Building in 1980's)	1986	4th Avenue and Fulton Street Rustic Shelter reconstruction
1961	Rose Garden developed on site of closed road	1986	Dressage Ring enlarged to 66' x 198'
1962	Huntington Falls collapses	1986	Strybing Arboretum new entrance gate
1962	Queen Wilhelmena Tulip Garden dedication	1986	Tour bus lot walkway conceptually approved
1969	Sunday closure	1986	Hagiwara Tea Garden Drive approved
1969	Asian Art Museum	1987	6th Ave. redesign approved
1969	Helen Crocker Russell Library	1987	Soccer Field at Beach Chalet expansion, irrigation, and restroom rehabilitation plan approved
1978	Children's Playground rededicated - Mary B. Connolly	1988	Kezar/JFK drives pedestrian-activated signalized crossing approved
1979	Objectives/Policies adopted for Golden Gate Park	1988	Nursery greenhouse improvement addition
1980	Dressage Ring constructed west of Bercut Field	1988	Children's playground handicapped access improvement and playground rehabilitation
1980	Senior Center opened, remodeled Police Academy	1988	MLK Dr./Transverse Dr. intersection installation of stop signs
1980	Reforestation Program started	1989	MLK Drive at Ninth Avenue installation of stop sign
1980	Music Concourse renovated	1989	Loma Prieta Earthquake. Spreckels Temple of Music damaged
1981	Chinese Pavilion (Golden Gate Pavilion) - gift from Taipei	1990	Kezar Stadium reconstructed
1981	Marx Meadow Drive closed to automobiles	1992	Golden Gate Park Infrastructure Bond passed by voters
1981	Overlook Drive closed to automobiles	1992	Work began on Golden Gate Park Master Plan
1981	Senior Sitting Area at 6th Ave. and Kennedy Drive constructed	1993	Richmond Sunset Treatment Plant closed
1981	Sixth Ave. entrance closed to automobiles on a temporary basis	1994	Centennial of Midwinter Fair, reconstruction of Spreckels Temple of Music completed
1981	Tenth Ave. and Kennedy Drive Children's Play Area constructed	1994	AIDS Memorial Grove
1981	Dutch Windmill restored	1996	Richmond Sunset Treatment Plant demolished
1982	Marx Meadow Drive landscaped	1996	Beach Chalet reopens with restaurant and visitor center
1983	West end barrier completed	1998	Haight Street/Stanyan Street entry reconstructed
1983	Chain of Lakes rehabilitation	1998	Golden Gate Park Master Plan adopted
1983	South Drive renamed Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive		
1983	Automatic irrigation systems at Conservatory Valley, Arboretum, Big Rec, Beach Chalet		
1984	Huntington Falls reconstructed		
1984	Sharon Building restored		
1984	Carousel restoration completed		
1984	Irrigation improvements at Elk Glen Well, Alvord Lake Well, Bison Paddock irrigation		