

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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Olmsted Parks and Parkways Thematic Resources

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1. Delaware Park-Front Park System

Delaware Park (formerly known as The Park)

Delaware Park is a 376-acre tract of land located in north Buffalo and is bounded by Parkside Avenue on the east; Amherst Street and Nottingham Terrace on the north; the Scajaquada Expressway and the grounds of McKinley High School on the west; and Forest Lawn Cemetery and Rumsey Road on the south. The Scajaquada Expressway, which follows the roadbed of a former park drive, runs east and west through the park, and Delaware Avenue, a primary city street, bisects the park from north to south.

Delaware Park is divided into two areas: the 243-acre "Meadow Park" on the east and the 133-acre "Water Park," with what was originally a 46-acre lake, on the west. The ravine and picnic grove on the south side comprise a 12-acre subdivision of the latter section.

The meadow (#10), with its gently rolling topography and clusters of oaks, maples and other trees, is an open greensward bordered by mature trees and edged by a winding perimeter road. The Scajaquada Expressway carries high speed auto traffic over the route of a former carriage drive on the southern border of the meadow, and bridges Delaware Avenue as Olmsted's original roadway did and crosses the lake near the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society building. At the northeast corner of the meadow, the Buffalo Zoological Gardens stands, considerably expanded, in the area reserved for a deer paddock in Olmsted and Vaux's 1870 plan. Preserving most of its original pastoral character, the meadow is now mostly given over to a eighteen-hole golf course. It also accommodates four baseball diamonds and a soccer field. On the northern border, near Amherst Street, are several tennis courts. In the area near Agassiz Circle is the remains of a bridge (1898) that once formed part of a system of pools which have been filled in, leaving the bridge level with the lawn.

The broad lake (#11) that forms the major feature of the section of the park west of Delaware Avenue was created by the damming of Scajaquada Creek, a stream flowing into the park from Forest Lawn Cemetery. Known as Mirror Lake, it originally had a picturesquely irregular shoreline embellished by masses of shrubs and trees. In the northwest corner of this section of the park, near the historical society building, the north shore still possesses pathways winding through sloping wooded banks (#12). On the southern side of the lake, groves and open spaces form a diverse landscape. A modernized casino (which replaced an earlier structure designed by Vaux) stands on the south shore near Lincoln Parkway and a bridge (1900) designed by Green and Wicks (#13) carries Lincoln Parkway across the end of the lake. The Albright-Knox Art Gallery (National Register listed 5/27/71) overlooks

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the park at this point. Gala Waters, a smaller bay to the northwest of the main lake (and separated from Mirror Lake by the expressway) forms the setting for the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society building (National Register listed 4/23/80 ; designed in 1901 by George Cary as the New York State Pavilion at the Pan-American Exposition, which included Delaware Park). Gala Water drains directly into Scajaquada Creek, which west of Elmwood is bordered by landscaped banks that extend the park several hundred feet west of Elmwood Avenue. North of Mirror Lake, the thin band of the park east of Lincoln Parkway between the Scajaquada Expressway and Nottingham Terrace contains a walking path and spotty stands of shrubbery and trees. A number of tennis courts are located in this area, near Delaware Avenue.

The third section of Delaware Park is the ravine south of the lake. This land was added to the park at Olmsted's suggestion in 1887 and comprises twelve acres of a native grove of mature trees on either side of a pleasantly winding hollow. A stone bridge built in the 1880's spans the ravine (#14). To the west of the ravine, along Rumsey Road, is a picnic grove, an area that, in 1906, was also appended to the original park plan. Adjacent to the picnic grove, near to Lincoln Parkway, a rose garden and pergola, dating from 1912, have been recently restored (#15).

The following is a list of the major structures in Delaware Park:

Contributing Structures

- Caretaker's Cottage, 1889 (stone)
Southwest of the historical society building
Described in 1898 park report as "a stone residence of good size and distinctive design," this building recalls the care once given to maintaining the parks, especially at the time of the 1901 Pan-American Exposition.
- Lincoln Parkway Bridge, 1900 (stone)
West end of the lake, over Scajaquada Creek
Green and Wicks, architects
The local firm of Green and Wicks was hired by the Parks Department to design this Neo-Classical bridge in preparation for the 1901 Pan-American Exposition. Olmsted Brothers approved the design.
- Rose Garden Pergola, 1912 (wood)
East of Lincoln Parkway, south of the casino
- Stone Bridge, c. 1887
North of Rumsey Road, west of Shelter House
This is the only remaining structure from the original Olmsted plan for the park.
- Parkside Lodge, 1914 (stucco)
West of Parkside Avenue, north of the Scajaquada Expressway

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- Rumsey Shelter House, 1900 (stone)
West of Delaware Avenue, northeast of Rumsey Road
This unobtrusive, rusticated stone structure was built to accommodate increased use of the park during the 1901 Pan-American Exposition.
- Main Zoo Building, 1935-1940 (stone)
West end of the Buffalo Zoological Gardens
This building was built as part of the expansion of the zoo that was undertaken with WPA funds. When completed, the simplified Art Deco structure was regarded as the best reptile house in America.
- Shelter House, c.1900 (stone)
East end of the zoo, near Parkside Avenue
- Elephant House, c.1912 (brick)
East side of the zoo, near Parkside Avenue

Non-Contributing Structures

- H. Parkside Garage, c.1960 (brick)
North of Parkside Lodge
- I. Concession Stand, c.1970 (wood)
South side of North Meadow Road, north of expressway
- J. Scajaquada Expressway (concrete road), approximately one and one-half miles long; width: New York State Department of Transportation right-of-way, 1950's.
- K. Children's Zoo, 1965 (brick)
East end of the zoo, near parking lot and Parkside Avenue
- L. Delaware Park Zoo Visitor's Center, c.1979 (concrete)
South side of the zoo, on North Meadow Drive
- M. Delaware Park Zoo Concession stand, c.1955 (cement)
East of Main Zoo building, north of visitor's center
- N. Giraffe House, c.1967 (brick)
Northeast side of the zoo
- O. Police Radio Station, c.1950 (brick)
North of the expressway, east of Delaware Avenue
- P. Delaware Park Casino, 1900; rebuilt, 1961 (stone)
Green and Wicks, architects
South side lake near Lincoln Parkway

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Q. Bathroom Shelter House, c.1940 (brick)
West of North Meadow Road, north of the expressway

Gates Circle (Originally called Chapin Place)

In plan, Gates Circle (#19) is a 5-acre rectangular area, 500 feet x 420 feet, at the intersection of Delaware Avenue, West Ferry Street and Chapin Parkway. The circle constitutes the monumental entry to the parkway approach to Delaware Park from the downtown area of the city. Delaware Avenue links Gates Circle to Niagara Square some three miles distant. In 1904, Gates Circle received a large circular fountain that remains intact and which is currently undergoing restoration. A sunken basin punctuated with bronze urns surrounds a low central pool within an outer circular granite wall. The three entrances to flights of steps leading to the lower pool are distinguished by pairs of tall bronze lamp standards. Surrounding Gates Circle is a multi-scaled mixture of institutional, commercial and residential architecture.

Chapin Parkway

Chapin Parkway runs 1904 feet southeast from Soldier's Place to Gates Circle and comprises an area of 8.7 acres (#6). It consists of a wide grassy median planted with four rows of trees. Two roadways flank this median area and are bordered with single rows of trees screening large residences, most of which date from the early twentieth century.

Soldier's Place

More than the other Olmsted circles in Buffalo, Soldier's Place retains the features of its original plan, although most of the trees and shrubs that once stood here have disappeared. First projected to hold a Civil War memorial, Soldier's Place is an area 700 feet in diameter, 8.8 acres, at the juncture of Bidwell Parkway, Lincoln Parkway, Bird Avenue and Chapin Parkway. In the center of the circle is a low hexagonal cement bed containing a single evergreen surrounded by a low hedge border. An outer ring of young shade trees borders this inner area. Around Soldier's Place are large, wedge-shaped areas of grass with trees which form the sections between the various entering roadways. Set considerably back from the circle are large, late nineteenth-century houses. Frank Lloyd Wright's Heath House (1904) overlooks the circle at Bird Avenue.

Lincoln Parkway

Lincoln Parkway (#21) runs north 1965 feet from Soldier's Place to Delaware Park and is a 200-foot-wide, 9-acre thoroughfare bordered

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by imposing residences, which date from the early twentieth century. Between Soldier's Place and Forest Avenue, a broad central street is flanked by two service roadways separated from the central right-of-way by grassy medians. From Forest Avenue to the park there is a service road only on the west side of the parkway. Each of the medians is planted with double rows of young trees.

Bidwell Parkway

Bidwell Parkway runs 2323 feet northwest from Colonial Circle to Soldier's Place and comprises an area of 10.7 acres (#1). The 200-foot-wide roadway has two roadbeds which are separated from each other by a wide grassy median strip planted with four rows of trees. An additional row of young trees flanks each side of the roadway. At the Soldier's Place end of Bidwell Parkway stands a large bronze statue by Larry Griffiths entitled "Birds in Flight" (1980).

Colonial Circle (formerly Bidwell Place)

Colonial Circle, which was formerly known as Bidwell Place, covers an area 510 feet x 465 feet comprising 5.4 acres at the juncture of Richmond Avenue, Bidwell Parkway and Lafayette Street. In the landscaped central area of the circle stands a bronze equestrian statue of General Daniel D. Bidwell (#7). The circle is surrounded by large residences dating primarily from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The spaces between the entering streets are planted with a variety of young trees (#8). St. John's Episcopal Church (1926) by Cram, Goodhue and Ferguson is at the east side of the circle (#8).

Richmond Avenue (formerly called The Avenue)

Richmond Avenue (#29) was a pre-existing roadway that Olmsted incorporated into the parkway system. It runs from Symphony Circle north to Colonial Circle, a distance of 6022 feet. Together with Porter Avenue it provides a 100-foot-wide link from Front Park on the west side of town to Delaware Park in the north part of the city. Richmond Avenue traverses Ferry Circle at the juncture of West Ferry Street. A few large elms remain standing in isolation at various places along the avenue, which was originally lined with double rows of trees. Richmond Avenue is bordered by large, closely spaced houses dating primarily from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Ferry Circle

Ferry Circle is an area 300 feet in diameter at the juncture of Richmond Avenue (north-south), West Ferry Street (east-west), and

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Massachusetts Avenue (entering from the southwest). A broad paved area void of architectural embellishment, it is surrounded by large, late nineteenth century houses.

Symphony Circle (formerly called The Circle)

Symphony Circle is at the juncture of Porter Avenue with Richmond Avenue, North Street, Pennsylvania Street and Wadsworth Street. Five hundred feet in diameter, it provides a 4.5 acre setting for Kleinhans Music Hall on the southeast, the First Presbyterian Church on the south, the Rosa Coplan Home and Birge residence (abandoned) on the east, and a series of late nineteenth century houses on the north. Little remains of Olmsted's original landscape scheme, except for a few large trees (Listed on the National Register on 4/22/80 as part of Allentown Historic District).

Porter Avenue

Porter Avenue is a former city street incorporated into the parkway system to connect Front Park and Columbus Park with Symphony Circle. A wide thoroughfare, it traverses a late nineteenth century residential neighborhood and was formerly lined with elms on either side.

Columbus Park (formerly Prospect Park)

Columbus Park is an area of two city blocks on the west side of Buffalo and is bounded by Connecticut Street on the north; Prospect Street on the east; Porter Avenue on the south; and Seventh Street on the west. Niagara Street bisects the park from north to south. The broad flat area of turf and trees is unrelieved by any significant landscape feature but is one of the highest points in the city (#9). The park supports a variety of trees of different ages, with many mature specimens of horse chestnut, maple and elm surviving. On the north side of Columbus Park stands the Romanesque Revival 174th Regiment Armory (1897) and on the east side are the nineteenth and twentieth century buildings of D'Youville College. The south and west sides of the park have a primarily residential character. A public library on Porter Avenue between Niagara Street and Prospect Street and a park building on the north side of the same section of the park and the architectural elements of the park. A statue of Christopher Columbus faces Porter Avenue between Niagara and Seventh Streets.

The following is a list of the major structures in Columbus Park:

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Contributing Structures

- Shelter House, c.1908 (brick)

South of Connecticut Street, west of Niagara Street

C.L. Schutrum, builder

This structure is a good example of the type of brick shelter houses erected in the Buffalo parks in the early twentieth century. A wing was added on the north side in the 1960's.

Non-Contributing Structures

G. Niagara Branch Library, c.1957 (brick)

North side of Porter Avenue, east of Niagara Street

Front Park (formerly known as The Front)

Front Park is a 32-acre space located at the beginning of the Niagara River. Originally bordered by Fort Porter to the north, Sixth Street to the east, York Street to the south and the Erie Canal to the west, today Front Park is bounded by Busti Avenue to the east, Porter Avenue to the south, the Peace Bridge to the north, and the New York State Thruway to the west.

Chosen for the view out over Lake Erie, the Niagara River and the Canadian shore, the site, wrote Olmsted, "would be peculiar to Buffalo and would have a character of magnificence, admirably adapted to be associated with stately ceremonies, the entertainment of guests, and other occasions of civic display." The original plan comprised an area of 35 acres and included a large terrace overlooking the Erie Canal and the beginning of the river. Behind the terrace on the east was a large oval playground. Carriageways entered the park on the north at Fort Porter and on the south from York Avenue (now Porter Avenue). Trees and shrubs were clustered in groves along the winding carriageways and along the perimeter of the park. The grassy banks were also planted with shrubbery.

In the 17th Annual Report of the Park Commissioners (1887), Front Park was described as having a playing green of 7.5 acres, a terrace concourse of 3.5 acres and the Front Border and Fort Porter areas of 24.5 acres. By 1891, additional land had been acquired west of the canal, an area which was developed into playgrounds, a bathing beach and a boathouse. By 1931 recreation facilities included eight baseball diamonds, four tennis courts, two football fields, a cricket field, a toboggan slide and an ice skating rink.

The original plan of Front Park has been altered in a number of ways. At the Porter Avenue entrance, access routes to the Peace Bridge (Moore and Baird Drives), erected in 1927 and located on the site of Fort Porter, have been cut through the eastern edge of the park. These roads have removed about 75 feet from the park. The large open playing field and ball diamond still dominate the center

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of the park, although they are slightly smaller than originally laid out (#16). Tennis courts occupy the northern edge of the playing field (#17). The original form and extent of the terrace can still be seen. In the center is a monument to Commodore Perry. At the western edge the view toward the lake has been obstructed by an unattractive brick building used as the superintendent's house and restrooms. In addition, the park visitor wishing to view the river must look through elevated lanes of the New York State Thruway, which occupies the right-of-way of the former Erie Canal. The southern end of Front Park possesses many mature trees, a curving entrance road, several winding paths, and grassy banks sloping down to the former edge of the canal (#18). A stone shelter stands in a grove in this area. In the southeastern corner of the park, a nondescript brick building houses a recreation center. In front of it an ice skating rink is surrounded by a chain link fence.

The following is a list of the major structures in Front Park:

Contributing Structures

Picnic Shelter, c.1900 (stone)

South end of park, near Porter Avenue

A rustic, open shelter, this structure is consistent with Olmsted's conception of park architecture.

Non-Contributing Structures

R. Hockey Rink Casino, c.1957 (brick)

West side, near Porter Avenue and Thruway

S. Tourist Information Center and Superintendent's House, c. 1957 (brick)

West side of park, near Thruway.

2. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park (formerly called The Parade and, after 1896, Humboldt Park)

Martin Luther King, Jr. Park was originally called The Parade by Olmsted and Vaux who conceived it as a place for military displays and active children's sports. The 56-acre slightly L-shaped plot is located in the eastern section of the city where, Olmsted said, "it is more near to the densely populated parts of the city than any other site having distinctive natural advantages." The park is bordered by Northampton Street and North Parade Avenue on the north, East Parade Avenue on the east, Best Street on the south, and the Kensington Expressway and West Parade Avenue on the west.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Park is bisected by Fillmore Avenue, which divides the grounds into eastern and western portions. (In Olmsted's original plan, the street did not extend through the park; it was cut through in 1896 when John C. Olmsted presented a revised design and the name of the park was changed to Humboldt Park.) In the southeastern

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Building upon the success of his initial effort, Olmsted and his successors proposed additional parks and parkways for Buffalo in the 1880's and 1890's. The South Parkways (McKinley and Red Jacket), South Park and Cazenovia Park were designed between 1888 and 1893. After 1872, when his partnership with Vaux ended, Olmsted practiced under his own name until 1884 when he moved from New York City to Brookline, Massachusetts, and teamed up with his stepson, John Charles Olmsted (1852-1920). In 1893, they were joined by Charles Eliot (1849-1897) in the firm of Olmsted, Olmsted and Eliot. In 1898, after Olmsted's retirement, the mantle of his reputation passed to the Olmsted Brothers, the professional name adopted by John Charles Olmsted and Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. (1864-1948). During the first year of their partnership, they designed Riverside Park, the last park for Buffalo from the Olmsted office, which over a period of three decades had shaped a major portion of the city's landscape.

DISCUSSION

For organizational purposes the statement of significance is divided here into four segments, following the groupings created in part seven (description). The discussion of the Delaware Park-Front Park system is the most extensive because it is the earliest and largest. The four discussions which follow provide detailed information about the historic development of each of the thematic units and are intended to supplement the general statement of significance above, which applies to all the components of the park and parkway system as conceived by Frederick Law Olmsted.

1. DELAWARE PARK-FRONT PARK SYSTEM

"The most admirable feature of the place is its system of parks, parkways, and avenues," wrote Lippincott's Magazine in 1885 about Buffalo.¹ The genesis of these splendid amenities had occurred only seventeen years earlier, in August, 1868, when Frederick Law Olmsted met in Buffalo with a group of private citizens to discuss the creation of a public park. Led by William Dorsheimer, a prominent attorney, the group had sought out Olmsted because of the preeminence of his firm, Olmsted, Vaux and Company, in the relatively new profession of landscape architecture. In 1858 Olmsted and his partner, Calvert Vaux, had won the competition for Central Park, the first large-scale municipal park in America. At the time of his trip to Buffalo, Olmsted had taken on two other notable projects, Prospect Park in Brooklyn and Riverside, a planned suburban community near Chicago. Olmsted, who may have known Dorsheimer through contact at the Century Club in New York, where both

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men held membership, came to Buffalo at a period when the city was experiencing rapid industrial and commercial growth. His hosts were concerned that the city acquire its parkland and organize its outskirts before haphazard expansion ruined all chances for orderly development. Olmsted's visit, therefore, was the result rather than the cause of a growing local park movement, one that existed at least among an enlightened minority of voters. As early as 1866, Dorsheimer had written to Olmsted on the subject of a park for Buffalo. Four years before that the city had opened Prospect Park. The city set aside two blocks of land on either side of Niagara Street between York Street (present Porter Avenue) and Connecticut Street.² This hilltop promenade, which Olmsted later included in his park system and is today called Columbus Park, was followed in 1868 by a Common Council resolution to purchase the bluff overlooking the opening of the Niagara River, in the area of York and Sixth Streets.³ This land, which was unimproved at the time of Olmsted's visit, was also destined to become an element in Olmsted's plan and since his time has been known as The Front (or, more commonly, Front Park).

It was apparently Dorsheimer's original intention to have Olmsted lay out a single park along the lines of Central Park. He and the group he represented showed Olmsted three sites that they believed suitable for such an undertaking. One was the area of The Front; a second was the Potter's Field on High Street, on the east side of the city; and the third was an open tract of land north and west of Forest Lawn Cemetery in the northern outskirts of the city. Between Olmsted's initial inspection tour in August and the completion of the firm's report in October, 1868, Olmsted and Vaux conceived the idea of creating three new parks, one main park (The Park) and two smaller ones (The Front and The Parade), located in all three areas of the city Olmsted had seen. This was a marked departure from the single large parks of New York and Brooklyn. Furthermore, the Buffalo parks, including Prospect Park, were to be connected to each other by wide, shaded thoroughfares. Already, in Brooklyn, Olmsted and Vaux had proposed several parkways, as they called such boulevards, leading to Prospect Park. Riverside was also to have been linked to Chicago by means of a parkway. But Buffalo was the first American city for which a series of parks and parkways were projected and carefully coordinated with the existing city plan.⁴ They remain one of the most impressive American urban planning projects of the nineteenth century.⁵

In Olmsted's scheme, The Park (today called Delaware Park) was the premier pleasure ground to which The Front and The Parade, as well as Prospect Park, were subordinated in size and function. Comprising 350 acres, his plan called for embellishing the grounds with trees and shrubs and winding roadways and paths. The design echoed the English

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romantic landscaping tradition, which had received its first major expression in American public grounds in the early 1850's when Andrew Jackson Downing, Olmsted and Vaux's mentor, had laid out the area between the White House and the Capitol in Washington.⁶ This informal style had characterized Central Park. Yet, unlike the barren stretch of land that had confronted Olmsted and Vaux when they began their work at Central Park, the location of The Park was, according to Olmsted, "Not only beautiful, but its beauty is of that kind appropriately termed park-like."⁷ By this he meant that it presented a gently rolling terrain dotted with groves of stately trees, elements that were naturally conducive to the creation of "attractive and suitable scenery." The contemplation of such vistas, Olmsted believed, would restore the mental and spiritual equilibrium of weary city dwellers. Faith in the healing power of nature was the guiding principle behind Olmsted's work. To give full expression to this notion, the main part of the new park would be planted in turf, "the most essential element of park scenery," in Olmsted's words, because it was "the antithesis of the confined spaces of the town."⁸ Called The Meadow, this area covered well over 200 acres and lay to the east of Delaware Street, which bisected The Park from north to south. Together with the shaded hillside of adjacent Forest Lawn Cemetery, The Meadow offered extensive views of classic Olmstedian scenery.

The smaller western portion of The Park was given over to The Water Park. Here, by damming Scajaquada Creek, which flowed through the site from the cemetery, Olmsted and Vaux brought into being an artificial lake with an artfully contrived shoreline of varied features. "With its mimic islands, bays, and coves," Gala Water, as the lake was called, wrote a contemporary observer, "is exceedingly picturesque."⁹ Today, with much of the original shoreline filled in, the lake, which is currently undergoing cleaning, has lost most of its poetry.

The other two parks, The Front and The Parade (the latter now known as Martin Luther King, Jr., Park and discussed separately below), were planned to serve more active pastimes. The Front contained several playgrounds. Its chief attraction was that it was a place from which to view Lake Erie and the opening of the Niagara River, the perfect backdrop, Olmsted felt, for public ceremonies on a terrace planned for the top of the bluff. Eventually enlarged to include the adjacent grounds of Fort Porter to the north, The Front soon became a fashionable promenade. Olmsted was especially gratified by its popularity, for to him it dispelled the "spirit of the middle ages" he had encountered in Buffalo, when he was told "'Nobody here wants to look at lake, we hate the lake.'"¹⁰ Personally, Olmsted regarded the prospect from the Front as unique. "This new public property . . .," he wrote "commands a river effect such as can be seen, I believe, nowhere else, -- a certain quivering of the surface and a rare tone of color, the result of the crowding upward of the lake waters as they enter the deep portal of the Niagara."¹¹

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All of these new parks and Prospect Park (Columbus) were to be linked to each other by residential avenues and parkways. These latter were a new form of street, first built in the United States in Buffalo. Olmsted defined parkways as "broad thoroughfares planted with trees and designed with special reference to recreation as well as for common traffic." ¹² The Park was to be approached by four parkways, the longest of which, Humboldt Parkway, linking The Park to The Parade, (Martin Luther King, Jr.,) was transformed into an expressway in 1970-71 and, therefore, is not included in this nomination. The parkways, each 200 feet wide, terminated in circles where they joined major city streets. Coming from the west, Bidwell Parkway began at Bidwell Place (currently called Colonial Circle) and ran northwest to Soldier's Place, a circular space 700 feet in diameter. Soldier's Place, which was to have held a Civil War monument (never constructed), was also the end of Chapin Parkway, which linked up with Delaware Street at Chapin Place (now Gates Circle). From Soldier's Place, one proceeded north directly to The Park along Lincoln Parkway. The arrangement of these parkways Olmsted said, was "more park-like than town-like" ¹³ and consisted of tree-lined medians for pedestrians and side roadways for vehicles. Lincoln Parkway had a broad central carriageway flanked on either side by rows of trees and service roadways on the outer edges.

In addition to the parkways that formed the monumental approaches to The Park, Olmsted upgraded several older city streets, pressing them into service as residential avenues leading to the parkways from various parts of the city. These streets were widened to 100 feet and lined with elms, as were the parkways. Delaware Street (present Delaware Avenue), which ran from Niagara Square three miles to Chapin Place, was the principal of these. (Delaware Avenue is not included in this nomination.) A more drastic alteration to the city's plan, however, was the creation of Porter Avenue and The Avenue to connect The Front with The Park, a distance of some 6.5 miles. From The Front, Porter Avenue ran eastward, generally following the way of two older streets, York and North, to the juncture with Rodgers Street, which ran northward toward the new Bidwell Place. Each of these three streets was widened from 66 to 100 feet and provided with a canopy of double rows of elms on either side of the central roadway. Rodgers Street was changed to The Avenue, which Olmsted regarded as the chief park approach from the west side of town, and became a street of large residences set well back from the street-line, a feature characteristic of parkway residences as well. Where The Avenue (the name was changed to Richmond Avenue by 1881) met Porter Avenue, Olmsted laid out The Circle (present Symphony Circle, which is listed on the National Register as part of the Allentown Historic District), on the site of an old cemetery. Into The Circle came streets which tied the neighborhood now known as Allentown to the park system. At Ferry Street, where Rodgers Street had ended, Olmsted created another circle, Ferry Circle, and extended the line of The Avenue across unimproved land to Bidwell Place.

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All of these avenues and parkways were intended to promote not only convenient access to the parks but the development of individual, free-standing housing in the northern residential part of Buffalo, a phenomenon that had already begun before Olmsted's arrival and one which his private sponsors were eager to preserve. Olmsted's improvements introduced a new scale and spaciousness to the late nineteenth century city, replacing the "old-fashioned, compact urban, block building" that filled the older, crowded portions of the city near the lake.¹⁴ Olmsted regarded this new openness in cities, where each house stood separate from its neighbor, characteristic of the modern age. It resulted from new modes of more efficient transportation -- to which his parkways contributed -- which made possible the separation of the residential parts of the city from the business district. Clearly, the parkways and avenues were designed to foster this suburbanization of the city, a notion that Olmsted regarded as an advance almost as important as the park movement itself. "There is a strong tendency in our civilization," he wrote, "to build parts of towns with reference . . . strictly to business . . . and to building other parts of the same towns with reference to the enjoyment of life apart from business in such a manner that more and more ground shall be appropriate to give a number of houses . . . The effect of the tendency on the whole will be to spread out the domestic parts of a town and to include in the idea of a town a much larger proportion than at present of decidedly suburban elements."¹⁵ Buffalo, due to Olmsted's direction was one of the earliest and best examples of this urban evolution.

As much as he was impressed by the possibilities that the yet undeveloped north side of Buffalo offered for parkland and residential growth, Olmsted likewise admired the virtues of the original city plan which had been devised in 1804 by Joseph Ellicott. "No equal number of people was to be found in any American town," he remarked, "so beautifully housed and having the use of so convenient arrangements of inter-communication."¹⁶ Buffalo stood in sharp contrast in Olmsted's mind to "the stupidity, the wastefulness, the hardship and the barbarous cruelty of the arrangement" of San Francisco, where Olmsted had prepared a park plan in the mid-1860's.¹⁷ A series of radial broadways emanating from Niagara Square had distinguished Ellicott's plan, which showed affinities to L'Enfant's plan for Washington. Olmsted and Vaux took great care to plan their parkways in relation to the existing street pattern. "Whether used for pleasure travel or for general traffic," they explained, "the fortunate location and liberal width of the trunk thoroughfares of the older portion of the city most happily exemplify the wise forethought of Mr. Ellicott. The Parkways provide equally liberal accommodation for travel through the newer sections, and simply supplement the original plan in fit accordance with the general design."¹⁸

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Olmsted Parks and Parkways Thematic Resources

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Continuation sheet

Significance

Item number

8

Page 7

The immediate inspiration for the wide, straight parkways lay, undoubtedly, in the example of the boulevards that Baron Haussmann had recently laid out in Paris. Not only was Haussmann's work reported in the American press, but both Olmsted and Vaux had been to the French capital and seen the changes first hand. Indeed, the passage from Solider's Place via Lincoln Parkway to The Park strongly evokes the movement along Haussmann's Boulevard de l'Imperatrice (completed in 1856; present Avenue Foch) from the circular Place de l'Etoile (where stands Chalgrin's Arch of Triumph dedicated to Napoleon's victories) to the main Paris park, the Bois de Boulogne. The central carriageway bordered by wide strips of grass planted with rows of trees, side service roads, luxurious individual houses set back from the street line, and even the military dedication of Soldier's Place, may be seen as a direct reflection of the Parisian grouping. Even Olmsted's choice to employ the French term "place" to describe the circle in his plan indicates the influence French culture exerted on post-Civil War America.

Olmsted must have been particularly gratified when the excellence of his plan for Buffalo won honorable mention at the 1878 Exhibition held in Paris. The award put its creator and the city in a forward position in the international urban park and boulevard movement that had been set in motion by Napoleon III's rebuilding of Paris. Buffalo came to be ranked with such cosmopolitan cities as Brussels, Rome and Madrid, all of which had been touched by the new ideals of urban planning.

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources

Continuation sheet Erie County

Item number 10

Page 2

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date entered

Delaware Park-Front Park System

Delaware Park:

Buffalo NE/Buffalo NW Quad.

388 Acres

- A. 675340/4756250
- B. 675100/4755140
- C. 674000/4754790
- D. 673470/4755040
- E. 673250/4755150
- F. 672460/4755860
- G. 673140/4755660

Verbal Boundary Description: Boundaries delineated on enclosed site map. (1)

Gates Circle (Chapin Circle)

Buffalo NE Quad.

4.8 Acres (500ft. X 420 ft.)

- H. 674020/4753980

Verbal Boundary Description: Boundaries delineated on enclosed site map.

Chapin Parkway

Buffalo NE Quad.

8.7 Acres (1904 ft. X 200 ft.)

- H. 674020/4753980
- I. 673510/4754550

Verbal Boundary Description: Parkway extends 1,904 feet between Gates Circle and Soldier's Place and is bounded by adjacent property lines. Nominated property includes roads and plantings.

Soldier's Place

Buffalo NE Quad.

8.8 Acres (700 ft. diameter)

- I. 673510/4754550

Verbal Boundary Description: Boundaries delineated on enclosed site map.

Lincoln Parkway

Buffalo NE Quad.

9 Acres (1965 ft. X 200 ft.)

- I. 673510/4754550
- D. 673470/4755150

Verbal Boundary Description: Parkway extends 1,965 feet between Soldier's Place and Delaware Park and is bounded by adjacent property lines. Nominated property includes roads and plantings.

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources

Continuation sheet Erie County

Item number 10

Page 3

For HCRS use only

received DEC 29 1981

date entered

Delaware Park-Front Park System

Bidwell Parkway

Buffalo NE/Buffalo NW Quads.

10.7 Acres (2,323 ft. X 200 ft.)

I. 673510/4754550

J. 672880/4753910

Verbal Boundary Description: Parkway extends 2,323 feet from Soldier's Place to Colonial Circle and is bounded by adjacent property lines. Nominated property includes roads and plantings.

Colonial Circle (Bidwell Place)

Buffalo NW Quad.

5.4 Acres (510 ft. X 465 ft.)

J. 672880/4753910

Verbal Boundary Description: Boundaries delineated on enclosed site map.

Richmond Avenue

Buffalo NW Quad.

13.8 Acres (6,022 ft. X 100 ft.)

J. 672880/4753910

L. 672910/4751900

Verbal Boundary Description: Parkway extends 6,022 feet between Colonial Circle and Symphony Circle and is bounded by adjacent property lines. Nominated property includes roads and plantings.

Ferry Circle

Buffalo NW Quad.

1.6 Acres (300 ft. diameter)

K. 672850/4753380

Verbal Boundary Description: Boundaries delineated on enclosed site map.

Symphony Circle (The Circle)

Buffalo NW Quad.

4.5 Acres (500 ft. diameter)

L. 672910/4751900

Verbal Boundary Description: Boundaries delineated on enclosed site map.

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources

Continuation sheet Erie County

Item number 10

Page 4

For HCRS use only

received DEC 29 1981

date entered

Delaware Park-Front Park System
Porter Avenue

Buffalo NW Quad.

10.9 Acres (4,750 ft. X 100 ft.)

L. 672910/4751900

T. 671680/4751520

Verbal Boundary Description: Parkway extends 4,750 feet from Symphony Circle to the southwest corner of Front Park and is bounded by adjacent property lines. Nominated property includes roads and plantings.

Columbus Park (Prospect Park)

Buffalo NW Quad

7.7 Acres (2(594 ft. X 281 ft.)

M. 672140/4751850

N. 671970/4751740

O. 671870/4751880

P. 672040/4752010

Verbal Boundary Description: Boundaries delineated on enclosed site map. (2)

Front Park

Buffalo NW Quad.

32 Acres

Q. 671870/4751660

R. 671680/4751520

S. 671420/4751830

T. 671680/4751520

Verbal Boundary Description: Boundaries delineated on enclosed site map. (2)

Riverside Park

Buffalo NW Quad.

21.9 Acres

U. 670800/4757570

V. 670590/4757430

W. 670340/4757900

X. 670560/4758150

Verbal Boundary Description: Boundaries delineated on enclosed site map. (3)

Name Delaware Park (Olmsted Park and Parkway Sys. Them. Res.)
 State, County NY-Erie Fed Nom or Request-Agency _____
 Working Number 12-29-81-549 Federal Register Date _____

Nomination
 Determination of Eligibility
 On Nomination Form

Bldg(s)
 Site
 Object
 Structure
 District

Within:
 Multiple Resource Area
 Thematic Group

Maps _____
 Photos _____

Nomination prepared by:
 State Staff
 Local
 Other

Action:
 ACCEPT
 RETURN 2/12/82
 REJECT

Check if Appropriate:
 State Request for Review
 Keeper's Decision to Review
 2nd Return

I. Evaluation of Resource (cont. on back if necessary)

see back of cover sheet for comments
Travers
2/10/82

II. Evaluation of Nomination

	Good			Comments
	Adequate	Poor		
1. Descriptive Statement Short Format <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No				
2. Significance Statement Short Format <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No				
3. Concepts/Integrity				
4. Concepts/Criteria				
5. Concepts/Boundaries				
6. Contextual Evaluation				

General Comments (cont. on back if necessary):

Reviewer/Date Travers 2/10/82

See Attached _____

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 2

Page 1

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Olmsted Parks and Parkways Thematic Resources
State NY

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

1. Delaware Park-Front Park System
Substantive Review

Keeper

Bruce M. Douglas 3/30/82

Attest

[Signature]

2. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park
Substantive Review

Keeper

Bruce M. Douglas 3/30/82

Attest

3. Cazenovia Park-South Park System
Substantive Review

Keeper

Bruce M. Douglas 3/30/82

Attest

4. Riverside Park
Substantive Review

Keeper

Bruce M. Douglas 3/30/82

Attest

5. Parkside East Historic District
Substantive Review

for

Keeper

Patrick Andrews 10/17/80

Attest

Betty H. Savage 10/17/80

6. Parkside West Historic District
Substantive Review

for

Keeper

William B. Bushong 12/10/80

Attest

Betty H. Savage 12/10/80

7.

Keeper

Attest

8.

Keeper

Attest

9.

Keeper

Attest

10.

Keeper

Attest

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

EVALUATION / RETURN SHEET

Property: Delaware Park - Front Park System
State, County: NY
Federal Agency: _____

2nd Century
*Planted Park (Parkways
Thematic Resources)*
Working No. 12-29.81.549
Fed. Reg. Date: _____
Date Due: 5/7/82
Action: ACCEPT 3/30/82
 RETURN _____
 REJECT _____

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

photos _____
maps _____

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

*Eligible as the Work of a master.
* * May be of National Significance*

Recom. / Criteria c
Reviewer Mar Dreyf
Discipline Architectural Historian
Date 3/30/82
see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: technical corrections cited below
 substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

Condition	Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
		<input type="checkbox"/> moved
		<input type="checkbox"/> date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

BEST OF THE PRESENT STATE
INDIVIDUAL DESCRIPTION CENTERS ON ELEMENTS AND DOES NOT BEGIN WITH SUMMARY.
SHOULD HAVE ASSESSED ALTERATIONS BETTER.

8. Significance

Period _____ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates _____ Builder/Architect _____

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- summary paragraph
 completeness
 clarity
 applicable criteria
 justification of areas checked
 relating significance to the resource
 context
 relationship of integrity *COULD BE BETTER* to significance
 NA justification of exception
 other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UMT References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national ___ state ___ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

title _____ date _____

13. Other

- ___ Maps
___ Photographs
___ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



5 NP row 1 #27

Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources

1. Delaware Park-Front Park System

Buffalo, Erie County

Photo: P.M. O'Donnell

July 1979, Neg. at Div. for Hist. Pres.

View: Bidwell Pkwy. northeast
parkway from Colonial Circle
shows width and scale

1 of 36 DEC 29 1981



10 NP row 2 #59

Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources

1. Delaware Park-Front Park System

Buffalo, Erie County

Photo: P.M. O'Donnell

July 1979, No. at Div. for Hist. Pres.

View: Chapin Pkwy., northwest
toward Soldiers' Circle shows
four rows of elms

6 of 36

DEC 29 1981



5 NP row 2 #34

Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources
1. Delaware Park - Front Park System

Buffalo, Erie County

Photo: P.M. O'Donnell

July 1979. Neg. at Div. for Hist. Pres.

View: Colonial Circle, southeast
Central space, statue of General
Bidwell

7 of 36

DEC 29 1981



4 NP row 1 #1

Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources
1. Delaware Park-Front Park System

Buffalo, Erie County

Photo: P.M. O'Donnell

July 1979, Neg. at Div. for Hist. Pres.

View: Colonial Circle, north-
east, landscaped space in front
of residences

DEC 29 1981

8 of 36



C072

9

3 CO row 3 #27

Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources
1. Delaware Park-Front Park System

Buffalo, Erie County
Photo: P.M.O'Donnell
July 1979, Neg: at Div. for Hist. Pres.
View: Columbus Park, southwest
view from eastern block acrossed
western block DEC 29 1981
9 of 36



9 DE Row 1 #85

Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources
1. Delaware Park-Front Park System

Buffalo, Erie County

Photo: P.M. O'Donnell
July 1979, Neg. at Div. for Hist. Pres.

View: Delaware Park, west
Meadow from eastern edge with
golf course and soccer goal

#10 of 36

DEC 29 1981



6 DE row 4 #16

Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources

1. Delaware Park-Front Park System

Buffalo, Erie County

Photo: P.M. O'Donnell

July 1979, Neg. of Div. for Hist. Pres.

View: Delaware Park, northwest
Delaware Park lake, bridge and
Historical Society

11 of 36 DEC 29 1981



8 DE Row 1 #53

Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources
1. Delaware Park-Front Park System

Buffalo, Erie County

Photo: P.M. O'Donnell

July 1979, Neg. at Div. for Hist. Pres.

View: Delaware Park, west

Weeping Willow overhanging lake
edge along north shore

12 of 36 DEC 29 1981



8 DE row 2 #60

Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources

1. Delaware Park-Front Park System

Buffalo, Erie County

Photo: P.M. O'Donnell

July 1979 Neg: at Div. for Hist. Pres.

View: Delaware Park, south
Bridge of the Three Nations
spanning lake

#13 of 36 DEC 29 1981



14
6 DE ROWS # 23

Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources
1. Delaware Park-Front Park System

Buffalo, Erie County

Photo: P.M.O'Donnell

July 1979, Neg. et D.O. for Hist. Pres.

*View: Delaware Park, northwest
Stone bridge with overpass and
underpass*

14 of 36

DEC 29 1981



15
6 DE rowz #8

Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources
1. Delaware Park-Front Park System

Buffalo, Erie County

Photo: P.M. O'Donnell

July 1979 Neg. at Div. for Hist. Pres.

View: Delaware Park, south

Rose garden pergola restored

15 of 36 DEC 29 1981



16
2 FR row 1 #25

Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources

1. Delaware Park-Front Park System

Buffalo, Erie County

Photo: P.M. O'Donnell, July
Neg: at Div. for Hist. Pres., 1979

View: Front Park, view south-
west, ball field

#16 of 36

DEC 29 1981



1FR row 3 #8

Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources

1. Delaware Park-Front Park System

Buffalo, Erie County

Photo: P.M. O'Donnell

July 1979, Neg. at DIV. for Hist. Pres.

View: Front Park, northeast

Play equipment and tennis court
at north end of park

#17 of 36



FR 1003 #31

Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources

1. Delaware Park-Front Park System

Buffalo, Erie County

Photo: P.M. O'Donnell

July 1979, Neg. at Div. for Hist. Pres.

View: Front Park, southeast

Shady walk with pedestrians

#18 of 36 DEC 29 1981



10 NP row 4 # 71

19

Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources
1. Delaware Park-Front Park System

Buffalo, Erie County

Photo: P.M. O'Donnell

July 1979, Neg: IDIV, for Hist. Pres.

View: Gates Circle, northwest
central circle stone work and
cast lamp posts

19 of 36

DEC 29 1981



10 NP row 1 #55

21

Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources
1. Delaware Park-Front Park System

Buffalo, Erie County

Photo: P.M. O'Donnell
July 1979, Neg. at Div. for Hist. Pres.
north

View: Lincoln Pkwy. from Soldier
Circle, shows three roads with
median strips

#21 of 36

DEC 29 1981



4 NP row 4 #16

Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources

1. Delaware Park-Front Park System

Buffalo, Erie County DEC 29 1981

Photo: P.M. O'Donnell

July 1979

Neg: NysOPR

29 of 36

View: Symphony Circle, south across
circle with Kleinhans Music Hall ^{Symphony} Circle

NOV • 18



Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources
1. Delaware Park-Front Park System

Buffalo, Erie County

Columbus Park

DEC 29 1981

Photo: F. Martin, 9/80

Neg: at Div. for Hist. Pres.

View: Intrusion, Niagara Branch
Library, north side of Porter Ave.
east of Niagara St. G



• NOV

18

1

Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources
1. Delaware Park-Front Park System

Buffalo, Erie County
Delaware Park

DEC 29 1981

Photo: R. Martin, 9/80

Neg: at Div. for Hist. Pres.

View: Intrusion, Parkside Garage,
north of Parkside Lodge

H

JUICERY



NOV • 81

Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources

1. Delaware Park-Front Park System

Buffalo, Erie County

Delaware Park

DEC 29 1981

Photo: R. Martin, 9/80

Neg: at Div. for Hist. Pres.

View: Intrusion, Concession Stand,
south side of N. Meadow Rd. &
north of Expressway I

•
NOV

10



Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources

1. Delaware Park- Front Park System

Buffalo, Erie County

Delaware Park

Photo: P. M. O'Donnell, 7/79

Neg: at Div. for Hist. Pres.

View: Intrusion, Scajaquada

Expressway, approximate length

1½ miles long, width to N.Y.S. D.O.T.
D.O.T. right-of-way, photo west of
Delaware Ave., looking northwest

J

DEC 29 1981

NOV • 18



Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources
1. Delaware Park-Front Park System

Buffalo, Erie County

Delaware Park

DEC 29 1981

Photo: R. Martin, 9/80

Neg: at Div. for Hist. Pres.

View: Intrusion, Children's Zoo,
east end of zoo near parking lot
and Parkside Ave. **K**

NOV • 1911



Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources
1. Delaware Park-Front Park System

Buffalo, Erie County
Delaware Park

Photo: R. Martin, 9/80

Neg: at Div. for Hist. Pres.

View: Intrusion, Visitor's Center
at Zoo, south side of Zoo on
N. Meadow Rd. L

DEC 29 1981

NOV

81



Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources
1. Delaware Park-Front Park System

Buffalo, Erie County

Delaware Park

DEC 29 1981

Photo: R. Martin, 9/80

Neg: at Div. for Hist. Pres.

View: Intrusion, Concession Stand
east of main Zoo building &
north of Visitor's Center

M



NOV • 18

Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources
1. Delaware Park-Front Park System

Buffalo, Erie County

Delaware Park

DEC 29 1981

Photo: R. Martin, 9/80

Neg: at Div. for Hist. Pres.

View: Intrusion, Giraffe House,
northeast side of Zoo

N.

POLICE RADIO STATION

NOV

81

1

Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources
1. Delaware Park-Front Park System

Buffalo, Erie County

Delaware Park

DEC 29 1981

Photo: R. Martin, 9/80

Neg: at Div. for Hist. Pres.

View: Intrusion, Police Radio
Station, north of Expressway &
east of Delaware Ave. O

NOV • 18



Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources
1. Delaware Park-Front Park System

Buffalo, Erie County
Delaware Park

DEC 29 1981

Photo: R. Martin, 9/80

Neg: at Div. for Hist. Pres.

View: Intrusion, Delaware Park
Casino, south side of lake near
Lincoln Parkway P

NOV • 18



Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources
1. Delaware Park-Front Park System

Buffalo, Erie County
Delaware Park

Photo: R. Martin, 9/80

Neg: at Div. for Hist. Pres.

View: Intrusion, Bathroom Shelter
House, west of N. Meadow Rd. &
north of Expressway Q

DEC 29 1981

NOV • 18



1

Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources
1. Delaware Park-Front Park System

Buffalo, Erie County

Front Park

DEC 29 1981

Photo: R. Martin, 9/80

Neg: at Div. for Hist. Pres.

View: Intrusion, Hockey Rink Casino,
west side near Porter Ave. and
N.Y.S. Thruway R

NOV • 18



1

Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources

1. Delaware Park-Front Park System

Buffalo, Erie County

Front Park

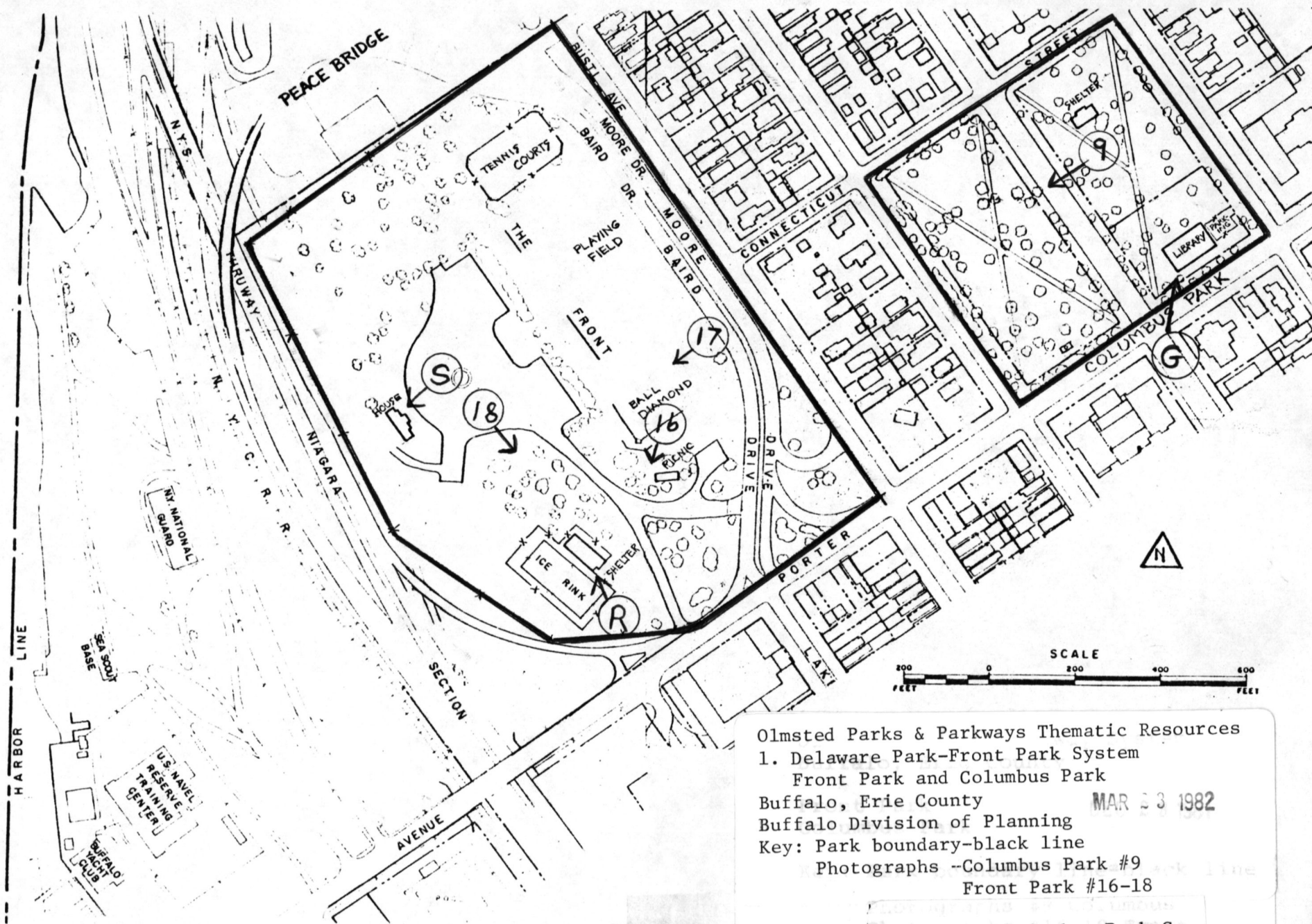
DEC 29 1981

Photo: R. Martin, 9/80

Neg: at Div. for Hist. Pres.

View: Intrusion, Tourist Information
Center, west side near N.Y.S.

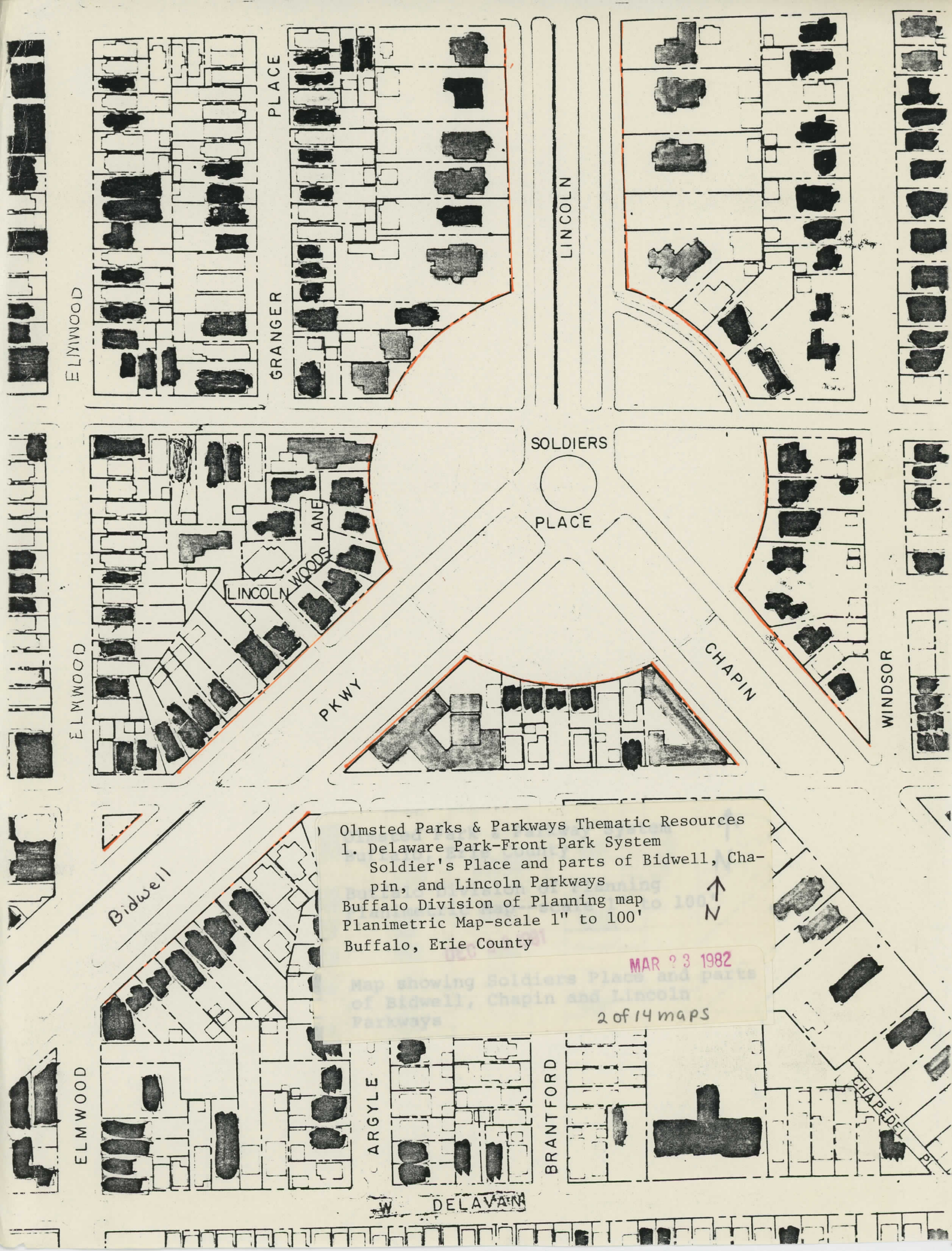
Thruway S



Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources
 1. Delaware Park-Front Park System
 Front Park and Columbus Park
 Buffalo, Erie County
 Buffalo Division of Planning
 Key: Park boundary-black line
 Photographs --Columbus Park #9
 Front Park #16-18

Intrusion-Columbus Park-G
 Intrusion-Front Park-R-S
 7 of 14 maps

MAR 23 1982



ELMWOOD

GRANGER PLACE

LINCOLN

ELMWOOD

LINCOLN WOODS LANE

SOLDIERS PLACE

PKWY

CHAPIN

WINDSOR

Bidwell

Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources
 1. Delaware Park-Front Park System
 Soldier's Place and parts of Bidwell, Chapin, and Lincoln Parkways
 Buffalo Division of Planning map
 Planimetric Map-scale 1" to 100'
 Buffalo, Erie County



MAR 23 1982

2 of 14 maps

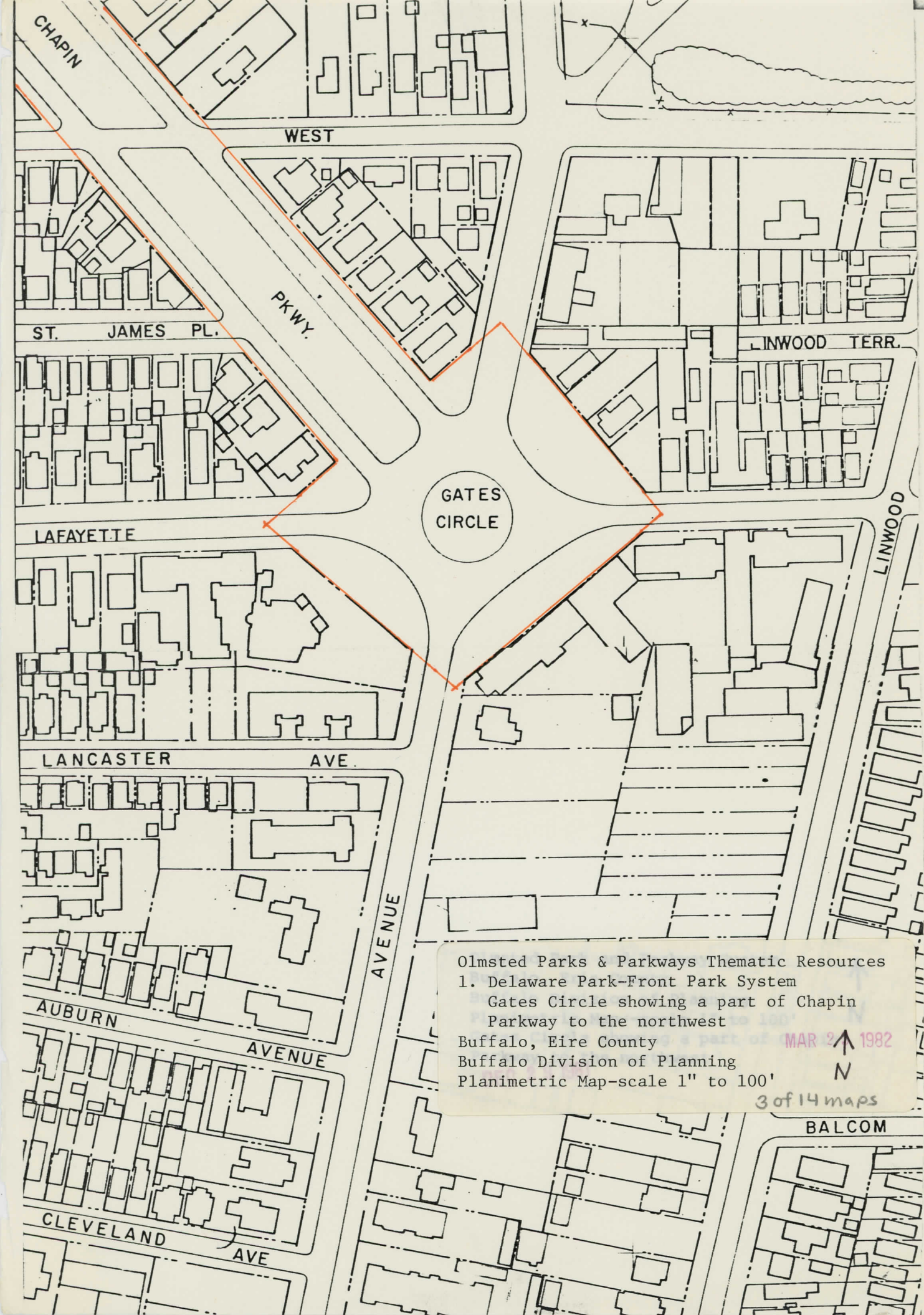
ELMWOOD

ARGYLE

BRANTFORD

CHAPEL

W DELAWARE



GATES
CIRCLE

Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources
1. Delaware Park-Front Park System
Gates Circle showing a part of Chapin
Parkway to the northwest
Buffalo, Eire County
Buffalo Division of Planning
Planimetric Map-scale 1" to 100'

MAR 2 1982
N

3 of 14 maps

BALCOM

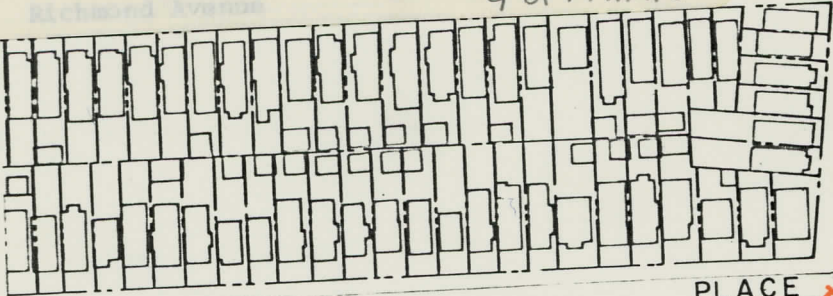
DORCHESTER

Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources
 1. Delaware Park-Front Park System
 Colonial Circle showing parts of Bidwell
 Parkway and Richmond Avenue
 Buffalo, Erie County
 Buffalo Division of Planning
 Planimetric Map-scale 1" to 100'

MAR 23 1982



4 of 14 maps



RD MORE

PLACE

RICHMOND

BIDWELL

COLONIAL
○
CIRCLE

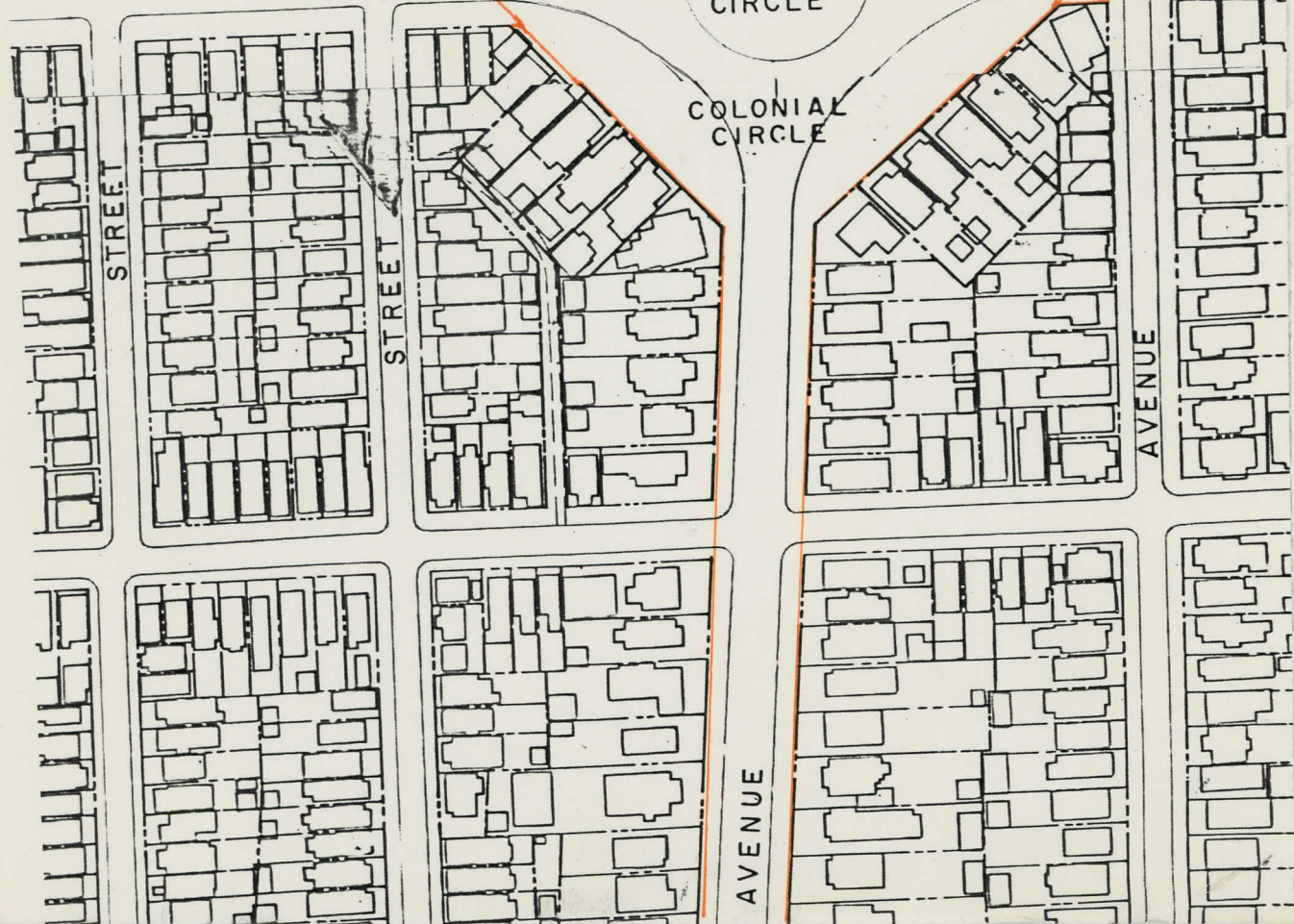
COLONIAL
CIRCLE

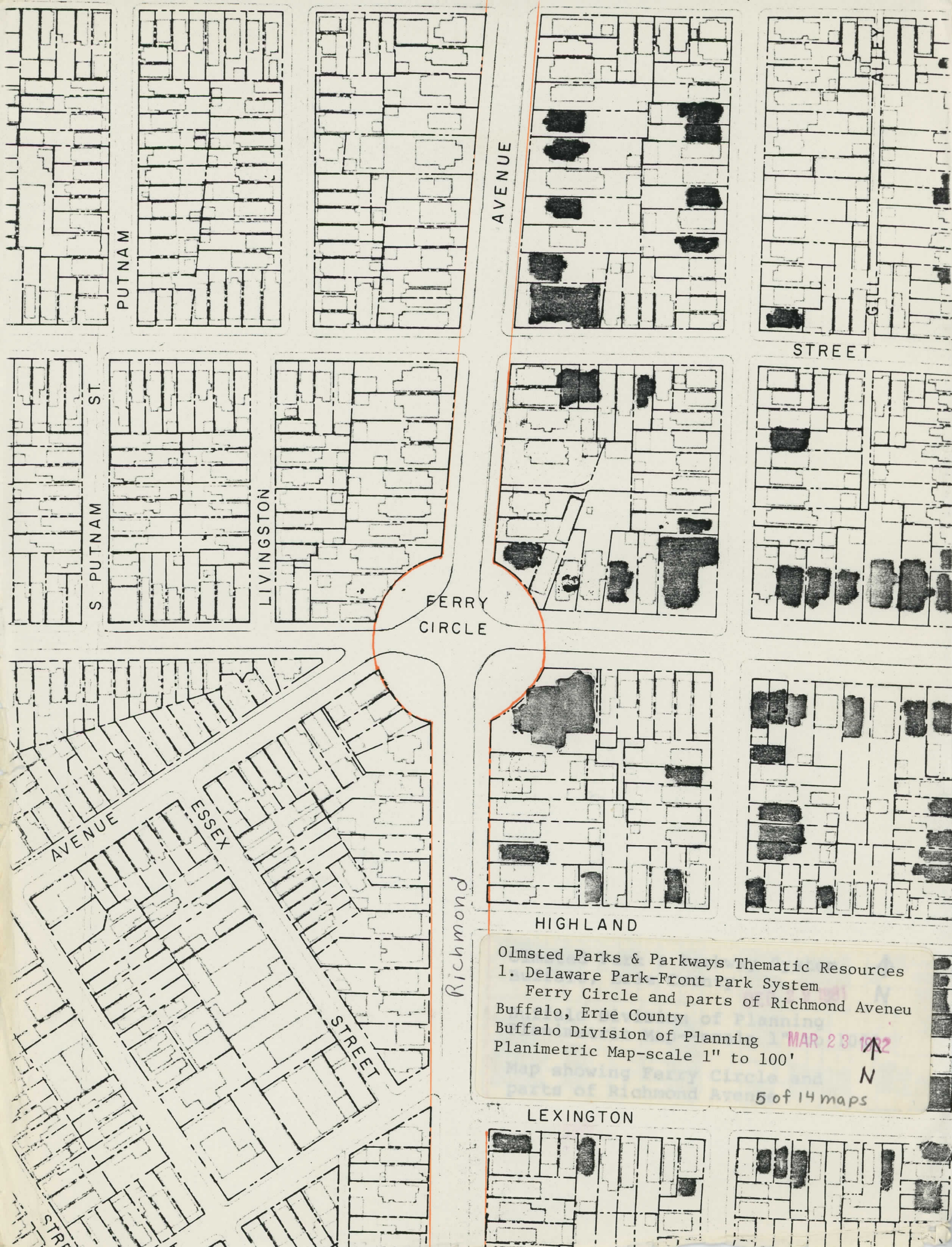
STREET

STREET

AVENUE

AVENUE





PUTNAM

AVENUE

GILL ALLEY

STREET

ST.

S. PUTNAM

LIVINGSTON

FERRY CIRCLE

Richmond

HIGHLAND

Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources
 1. Delaware Park-Front Park System
 Ferry Circle and parts of Richmond Avenue
 Buffalo, Erie County
 Buffalo Division of Planning
 Planimetric Map-scale 1" to 100'

MAR 23 1982

N

5 of 14 maps

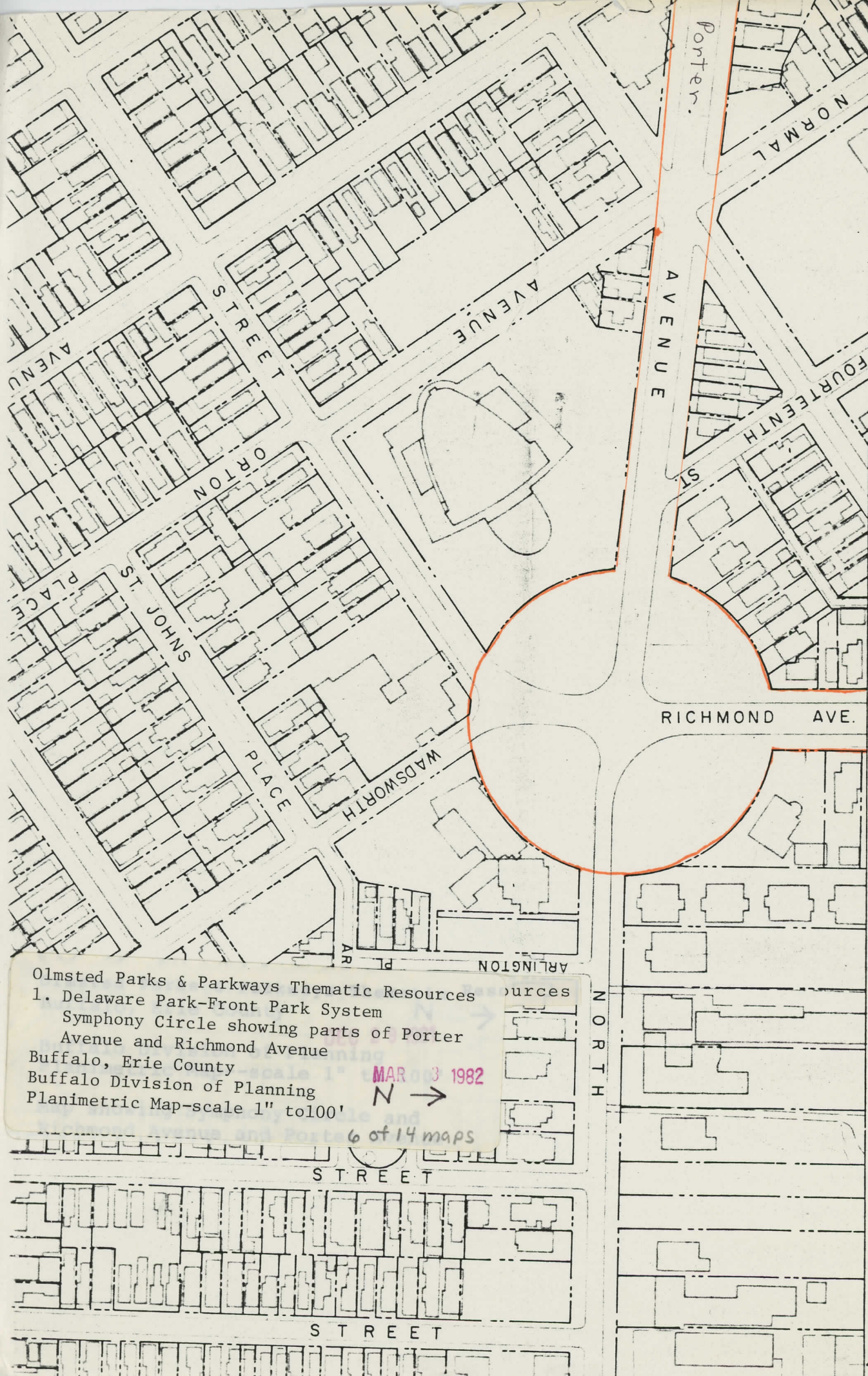
LEXINGTON

AVENUE

ESSEX

STREET

STREET



419000E

420000E

421000E

Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources
 1. Delaware Park-Front Park System
 Symphony Circle showing parts of Porter
 Avenue and Richmond Avenue
 Buffalo, Erie County
 Buffalo Division of Planning
 Planimetric Map-scale 1" to 100'

MAR 3 1982



6 of 14 maps

NORTH



Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources

- 1. Delaware Park-Front Park System
- Lincoln Parkway #21 Photographs
- Soldier's Place #21
- Chapin Parkway #6
- Gates Circle #19
- Bidwell Parkway #1
- Colonial Circle #7-8
- Richmond Avenue #29
- Symphony Circle #29



MAR 23 1982

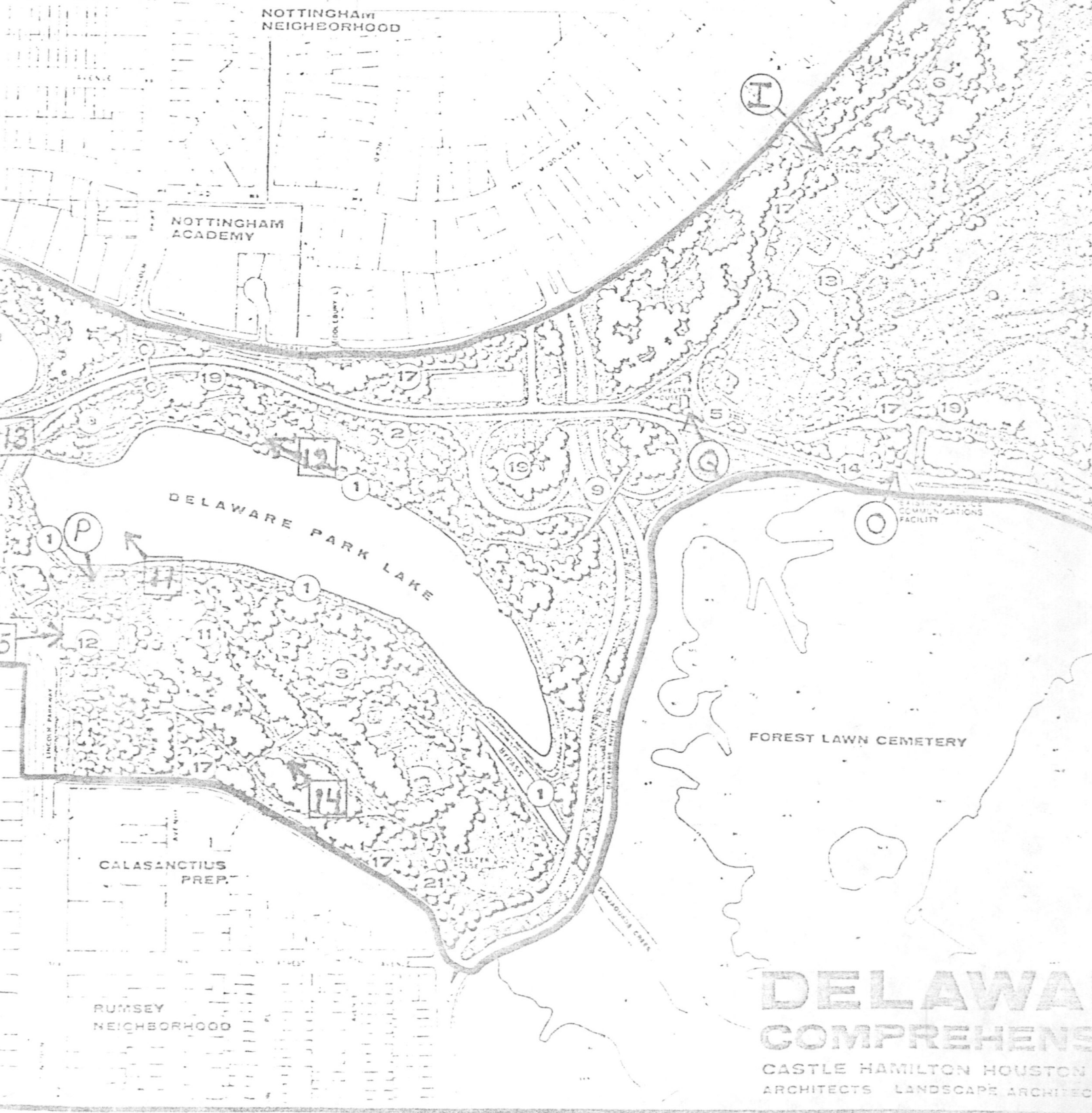
Olmsted Park & Parkway System
Buffalo, Erie County

Delaware Park

DEC 29 1991

Key: Park boundary=black line
Photographs #10-15

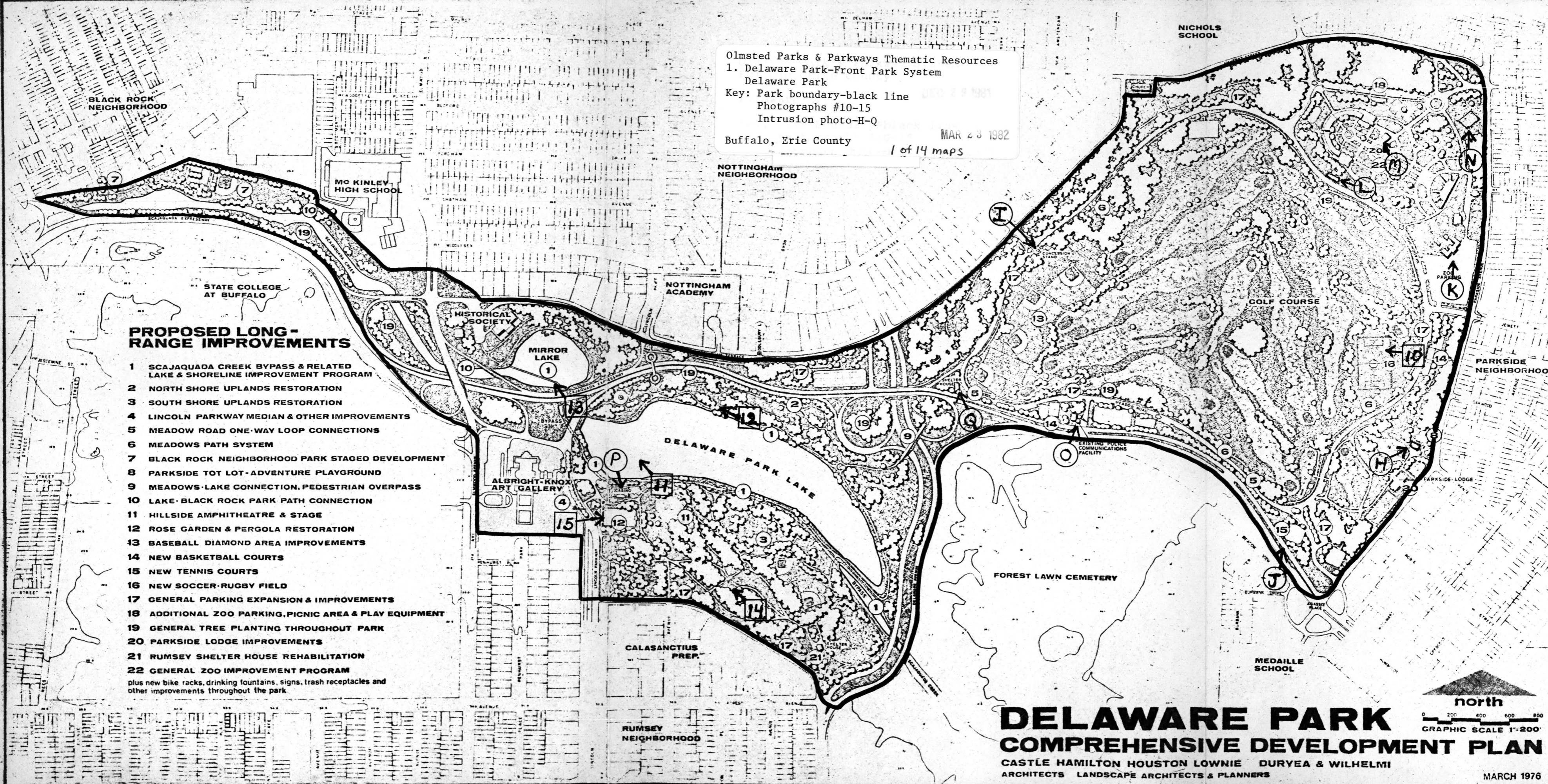
Intrusion photo--H-Q *Map 2 of 7*



Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources
 1. Delaware Park-Front Park System
 Delaware Park
 Key: Park boundary-black line
 Photographs #10-15
 Intrusion photo-H-Q
 Buffalo, Erie County
 MAR 23 1982
 1 of 14 maps

PROPOSED LONG-RANGE IMPROVEMENTS

- 1 SCAJAQUADA CREEK BYPASS & RELATED LAKE & SHORELINE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
 - 2 NORTH SHORE UPLANDS RESTORATION
 - 3 SOUTH SHORE UPLANDS RESTORATION
 - 4 LINCOLN PARKWAY MEDIAN & OTHER IMPROVEMENTS
 - 5 MEADOW ROAD ONE-WAY LOOP CONNECTIONS
 - 6 MEADOWS PATH SYSTEM
 - 7 BLACK ROCK NEIGHBORHOOD PARK STAGED DEVELOPMENT
 - 8 PARKSIDE TOT LOT-ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND
 - 9 MEADOWS-LAKE CONNECTION, PEDESTRIAN OVERPASS
 - 10 LAKE-BLACK ROCK PARK PATH CONNECTION
 - 11 HILLSIDE AMPHITHEATRE & STAGE
 - 12 ROSE GARDEN & PERGOLA RESTORATION
 - 13 BASEBALL DIAMOND AREA IMPROVEMENTS
 - 14 NEW BASKETBALL COURTS
 - 15 NEW TENNIS COURTS
 - 16 NEW SOCCER-RUGBY FIELD
 - 17 GENERAL PARKING EXPANSION & IMPROVEMENTS
 - 18 ADDITIONAL ZOO PARKING, PICNIC AREA & PLAY EQUIPMENT
 - 19 GENERAL TREE PLANTING THROUGHOUT PARK
 - 20 PARKSIDE LODGE IMPROVEMENTS
 - 21 RUMSEY SHELTER HOUSE REHABILITATION
 - 22 GENERAL ZOO IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
- plus new bike racks, drinking fountains, signs, trash receptacles and other improvements throughout the park



DELAWARE PARK
COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

CASTLE HAMILTON HOUSTON LOWNIE DURVEA & WILHELMI
 ARCHITECTS LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS & PLANNERS

MARCH 1976

Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000580

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

STATE NEW YORK

Date Entered MARCH 30, 1982

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Olmsted Parks & Parkways Thematic Resources	Buffalo Erie County
King, Martin Luther, Jr., Park	Buffalo Erie County
Delaware Park/Front Park System	Buffalo Erie County
Cazenovia Park - South Park System	Buffalo Erie County
Riverside Park	Buffalo Erie County

Notified

Honorable Henry J. Nowak
Honorable Daniel P. Moynihan
Honorable Alfonse D'Amato

Mid-Atlantic Regional Office, NPS
North Atlantic Regional Office, NPS

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mr. Orin Lehman
Commissioner, Office of Parks
Recreation & Historic Preservation
Agency Building #1
Empire State Plaza
Albany, New York 12238