

SECTION 5

INVENTORY OF LANDS OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION INTEREST

Introduction to the Open Space System

Brookline's open space system is a complex of publicly and privately-owned land ranging from intensely managed landscapes to minimally managed woodlands and wetlands. The following inventory of open space parcels includes both lands that are legally protected for open space uses, and some of the lands which do not have legal protection, but are significant open space parcels.

Types of open spaces in Town include both publicly and privately-owned land. Publicly-owned land includes conservation areas, parks, playgrounds, recreation facilities, cemeteries, school yards, public works facilities and traffic circles. Many of these are legally protected as open spaces, but others are unprotected and could be used for different public purposes, such as additions to schools or Town buildings.

Privately-owned lands that have open space values include agricultural and recreational land, institutional lands, and private estates of significant size. While the open space on some of these private properties is protected, most is not.

Vacant parcels, green frontage and streetscapes can have special significance to a neighborhood or to the Town as a whole, particularly when they are contiguous to other areas which have open space value in this densely populated urban setting. However, these are not listed in this inventory.

Taking into account all public open space, legally protected or not, as well as significant private open spaces, Brookline has approximately 1,375 acres of open space. This represents ~31 percent of the Town's land base. However, only ~634 acres, just over 14 percent of the Town's land base, is legally protected as open space. Over 600 acres of significant open space is privately held and potentially subject to development. Town-owned conservation sanctuaries total only 56 acres, ~1 percent of the land base. Since 2005, ~27 new acres were protected as parkland (Skyline Park and Fisher Hill Reservoir) or under conservation restrictions, and the Town Reservoir (<5 acres) was sold for housing.

How Open Space Is Protected

Article 97

Land is considered protected if it falls under Article 97 or if it is protected by a conservation restriction or owned by a conservation land trust. The Article 97 Amendment is a provision of the Massachusetts Constitution, added in 1972, which prevents the taking of public park, recreation, and conservation lands for other purposes without a majority vote of the Conservation Commission or Park and Recreation Commission, Board of Selectmen, Town Meeting, and a two-thirds vote of both houses of the State legislature. This inventory identifies 602 acres of Article 97-protected land.

Conservation Restrictions

Conservation restrictions are legally enforceable agreements imposed through deeds that prevent development of privately-owned open space under M.G.L. c.184 s.3 1-33. Brookline holds 18 such conservation restrictions (including a number of private properties, and three on Brookline Conservation Land Trust properties). One parcel, Fisher Hill Reservoir, is owned by the Town, with a conservation restriction held by the Brookline GreenSpace Alliance. Restricted property is generally taxed at a lower rate than any portion of the property which is not under a conservation restriction. The restriction may run in perpetuity or be time-limited. Public access is not a requirement. Conservation restrictions allow a property owner to retain control of the land, but ensure most of it is preserved as open space by prohibiting development. It is possible to negotiate for public access or a gift of land at a future date. The same statute also authorizes preservation restrictions for properties with historical or cultural significance.

Brookline Conservation Land Trust

The Brookline Conservation Land Trust is a private non-profit corporation established for the purpose of preserving open space. Gifts of land to the trust are charitable donations and carry tax advantages. Currently, the Brookline Conservation

OPEN SPACE INVENTORY

Land Trust protects four properties. Of these, they own three parcels with conservation restrictions held by the Town, and the fourth parcel is privately -owned with a conservation restriction held by the Brookline Conservation Land Trust.

Special Taxation Programs

Privately owned land which is used for agriculture or for recreation can be given tax advantages under M.G.L c. 61A and c. 61B. These statutes help preserve open space by relieving pressures on property owners. A condition of this preferential assessment is that the Town holds the first right-of-refusal on any sale. Allandale Farm is assessed under Chapter 61A and The Country Club is assessed under Chapter 61B.

These properties are not considered protected because the Town would have to come up with a relatively large sum of money in a short period of time (120 days) to exercise its right to purchase the properties. The owner may also remove the property from the program by rollback or conveyance taxes. Therefore, the Town must assume these properties are partially or fully developable at some time in the future. Together, Allandale and the Country Club total ~300 acres.

Private Open Spaces

Brookline has approximately 650 acres of private unprotected open space. This represents almost half of the Town's current open space and is 15% of the Town's landbase. This private, unprotected open space includes agricultural and recreational land, large parcels owned by private institutions and private residential properties over 3 acres in size. Much of this open space is inaccessible to the public but has significant aesthetic and environmental value to the Town and the community. A significant portion of open space is controlled by private owners who may choose to develop or otherwise alter their property. Land throughout the Town that is taken for granted as open space may well disappear over time. As a consequence, the Town would not only lose the potential for new public parks, conservation areas, and recreation facilities, but this would also profoundly alter the visual and social character of Brookline.

INVENTORY

The following inventory of lands of conservation and recreation interest has been derived from the following sources:

- Parks, Open Space and Recreation Strategic Master Plan 2006;
- Open Space Plan 2005 and 2000;
- 2003 Brookline Parks and Open Space Inventory Database;
- Field Use Tables provided by the Town of Brookline, Division of Parks and Open Space;
- other recreational facilities information provided by the Brookline Recreation Department;
- aerial photographs provided by the Brookline GIS program;
- Field Inventory conducted by the project team in fall 2004 and spring 2005

List of Properties by Category

Conservation Areas

- D. Blakely Hoar Sanctuary
- Hall's Pond Sanctuary
- Amory Woods
- Lost Pond Conservation Area
- Lost Pond Reservation

Historic Parks

- Brookline Reservoir
- Emerald Necklace (1) – Riverway
- Emerald Necklace (2) – Olmsted
- Larz Anderson Park
- Longwood Mall
- Fredrick Law Olmsted National Historic Site
- Town Green

Community Parks

- Amory Playground
- Brookline Avenue Playground
- Cypress Street Playground
- Daniel W. Warren, Jr. Playground
- Fisher Hill Reservoir (in development)
- Harry Downes Field
- Skyline Park
- Soule Recreation Center
- Waldstein Playground

Passive Parks

- Corey Hill Park
- Dane Park
- Knyvet Square
- Linden Park
- Linden Square
- Little Field Park
- Mason Square
- Monmouth Street Park
- Philbrick Square
- Judge Henry Crowley Park at Saint Mark's Square
- Town Hall Lot

Neighborhood Parks

- Billy Ward Playground
- Boylston Street Playground
- Clark Playground
- Judge Sumner Z. Kaplan Park at Coolidge Playground
- Daniel F. Ford Playground at Emerson Garden
- Griggs Park
- John E. Murphy Playground
- Juniper Street Playground
- Lawton Playground
- Lotta Bradburn Schick Park
- Margaret E. Robinson Playground
- 50 Pleasant Street
- Winthrop Square

School Playgrounds

- Baker School Playground
- Baldwin School Playground
- Devotion School Playground
- Driscoll School Playground
- Heath School Playground
- Longwood Playground
- Pierce School Playground
- Runkle School Playground
- William H. Lincoln School Playground (New)
- William H. Lincoln School Playground (Old)

Cemeteries

- The Old Burying Ground
- Holyhood Cemetery
- Walnut Hills Cemetery

Golf Course

- Robert T. Lynch Municipal Golf Course at Putterham Meadows

Agricultural and Recreation Land

- Allandale Farm
- The Country Club

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Conservation Restrictions

Sargent's Pond
Hellenic Association
Walnut Place
235-255 Goddard Avenue
Town Houses at Larz Anderson
Sears Estate
Paine Estate
133 Goddard Avenue
Longyear Estate
Goddard House
Ivy Street, Map 9, Lot 1
Ivy Street, Map 12, Lot 4A
153 Rangeley Road
Saint Aidan's
170 Sargent Road
Fisher Hill Reservoir

Brookline Conservation Land Trust

Walnut Street
Lot 1 Sargent Beechwood
Lot 5 Cottage Street
Richardson Property

Traffic Medians, Circles and Triangles

Beacon Street Mall
Brington Road Island
Corey Farm Circle
Dudley Triangle
Dwight Square
Eliot and Crafts Road Triangle
Francis J. Hickey Square
Francis X. Ryan Circle
Freeman Square
Hammond Pond Parkway
Horace James Circle
Pleasant Street Triangle
Single Tree Road Circle
VFW Parkway Median
Webster Street Triangle
West Roxbury Parkway

Other Small Open Spaces

Clark Road Land
Clark Road/MBTA Land
Clinton Road Waterworks Land
Health Department Lot
Newton Street Parcel
Reservoir Road Extension
Reservoir Road Land
Single Tree Reservoir
Town Reservoir

Key

National, State and Local Protection of Park and Recreational Land

NR: National Register of Historic Places
SR: Massachusetts State Register of Historic Places
LHD: Local Historic District

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A. CONSERVATION AREAS

D. Blakely Hoar Sanctuary

Category	Conservation Area
Size	24.98 acres
Protection	Article 97
Manager	Conservation Commission, Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Gerry Road
Precinct	16
Inventory Date	11/01/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	At the back of Baker School and in a single and multi-family neighborhood



OVERVIEW

The D. Blakely Hoar Sanctuary is located in southwestern Brookline, behind the Baker Elementary School. It borders on Gerry Road to the southeast, and Boston to the east and north. It is connected to conservation lands in Boston and Newton. This natural, undeveloped 25 acre area contains several typical plant communities. A trail with several boardwalks circles the sanctuary. The south branch of the Saw Mill Brook flows through the Sanctuary from east to west. It cuts through an extensive red-maple swamp and vernal pool habitat. Cliffs and outcrops of "puddingstone" (Roxbury conglomerate) define the north edge of the sanctuary.

A wooded upland is found in the northeastern part of the sanctuary. The most common trees here are maple, oak, cherry, and birch. There is an understory of shrubs and an herbaceous layer of woodland plants. Adjacent to Gerry Road is a grove of trees, once part of a beech-hemlock forest. Many of the hemlocks have been damaged by woolly adelgids; wind damage has taken a toll on the larger trees. There has been extensive damage to the understory, shrub layer and herbaceous plant layer, partly due to overuse.

The sanctuary is used for wetland protection, conservation of wildlife habitat, environmental education, and passive exploration such as bird - watching and nature walks. Active recreation such as ball games and bicycling, and dog walking are not permitted in the sanctuary.

PARK HISTORY

The Town acquired the sanctuary in 1961 with a bequest from D. Blakely Hoar, a noted Brookline lawyer and conservationist, who stipulated in his will that a portion of his estate be used to establish a bird sanctuary in Brookline. The Conservation Commission assumed responsibility for the sanctuary in 1969.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

No information located in 2003 research.

Hall's Pond Sanctuary and Amory Woods

Category	Conservation Area
Size	Hall's Pond - 3.5 acres Amory Woods – 1.56 acres
Protection Manager	Article 97, NR, SR, LHD Conservation Commission, Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Behind 1120 Beacon Street
Precinct	1
Inventory Date	10/12/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Amory playground, condo buildings, single-family homes and a parking lot



OVERVIEW

Hall's Pond is one of two natural ponds remaining in Brookline. The sanctuary contains a pond, wetlands, an upland area, a formal garden area, and a short trail with wetland overlooks that circles the pond. Amory Woods was incorporated into and connected to Hall's Pond in 2000. Amory Woods has a small wetland, handicapped accessible nature trail, and a gazebo. The pond and uplands provide habitat for a variety of birds including great blue herons, black-crowned night herons, kingfishers, and red-winged blackbirds. With no spring or stream feeding the pond, the source of the water in the pond is rainwater falling in the surrounding heavily developed urban land. The sanctuary is used for habitat for plants and animals, environmental education and passive exploration. Active recreation, such as ball games, bicycling and dog walking are not permitted inside the property.

PARK HISTORY

Well into the 1800s, the sanctuary was part of Cedar Swamp. Minna Hall, a co-founder of the Massachusetts Audubon Society, owned it in 1896. About 1910, Charles A. Newhall acquired the land between the pond and Beacon Street and built apartment buildings and formal gardens. Hall's Pond was reduced to its present size around 1948 when a dam was constructed to the west of the pond and the land was filled to create Amory Playground. The Town purchased the property in 1975 as its first conservation land. In 1976 the Friends of Hall's Pond was founded by Josephine Albrecht and other citizens to assist the Conservation Commission in managing it. The 2000 restoration project included the unification of Amory Woods with the sanctuary, the enhancement of the sanctuary's ecological integrity and improvements to the water quality and wetland habitat. The Town acquired Amory Woods in 1977 from the Massachusetts Association for the Blind. The sanctuary and Amory Woods are located within the Cottage Farm Historic District.

The sanctuary saw extensive improvements in 2002, with existing wetlands restored and new wetlands created, improvements to drainage into Hall's Pond, new fencing, a new boardwalk around the pond, installation of commemorative granite piers, and the upland transformed by removal of invasive plant species and replanting with native species. The path system in Amory Woods was improved in 2005.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

It is listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places and is located within the Cottage Farm Historic District.

Lost Pond Conservation Area and Lost Pond Reservation

Category	Conservation Area
Size	Conservation Area - 26.03 acres (owned by the Town of Brookline) Reservation – 33.34 acres (owned by Massachusetts DCR)
Protection Manager	Article 97 Conservation Commission, Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Off Newton Street
Precinct	15
Inventory Date	11/05/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Surrounded by single-family neighborhoods, Skyline Park, and the former Town landfill



OVERVIEW

The Lost Pond Conservation Area is located in the extreme northwest corner of Brookline. This 30-acre tract of natural, undeveloped land adjoins the Kennard Park and Conservation Areas in Newton and the State's thirty acre Lost Pond Reservation. Together, these properties contain over one hundred acres of open woodland, rocky outcrops, marsh, bog and stream. A network of trails interconnects these conservation properties. Lost Pond, one of the few natural ponds remaining in Brookline, is a "kettle hole" pond, formed around a mass of ice left by glacial activity about 17,000 years ago. A quaking peat bog developed on its northern edge. The Lost Pond Reservation, owned by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, property lies adjacent to Lost Pond Conservation Area. The pond is located on the reservation property. The sanctuary is used for wetland protection, conservation of wildlife habitat, environmental education, and passive exploration, such as bird-watching and nature walks.

PARK HISTORY

In 1915, Frederick Kennard diverted the Lost Pond drainage to South Meadow Brook. In 1945 the Town acquired the land. It was used for the Town's incinerator and landfill site from 1952 to 1975. It has since been used as a transfer station. Subsequent leaching from the landfill site near the Pond caused deterioration of water quality. The Town transferred a section of the land to the Conservation Commission in 1982. Two citizens bought the reservation property and donated it to the state.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

No information located in 2003 research.

B. HISTORIC PARKS

Brookline Reservoir Park

Category	Historic Park
Size	32.21 acres
Protection	Article 97, NR, SR
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Along Route 9 between Lee and Warren Streets
Precinct	15
Inventory Date	10/26/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Bordered by single-family houses and Boylston and Lee Streets



OVERVIEW

The Brookline Reservoir property is a man-made body of water approximately one mile in circumference. A jogging/walking track encircles the reservoir. The entire park is visible from virtually the entire perimeter, while the details of the property become observable when walking along the circular path. The architecturally significant gatehouse is a prominent feature. Most of the park is set below the surrounding roads, creating a feel of separation between the park and abutting lands. Swimming and skating are not allowed on the property. The reservoir is on the National and State Registers of Historic Places. The reservoir is stocked annually with fish by the Massachusetts Department of Fish and Wildlife. Fishing is allowed by permit from the Town Clerk's Office.

PARK HISTORY

The reservoir was originally built as a drinking water supply for the City of Boston. This area was once low-lying pasture land with a marsh in the center and a stream running through it. The reservoir was part of the Cochituate water system and was built to feed the Beacon Hill Reservoir that stood at the intersection of Hancock, Derne and Temple Streets. The Brookline Reservoir was filled to capacity in 1848. Its granite gatehouse has the oldest extant iron roof in the U.S., supported by the oldest extant wrought iron roof trusses in the U.S., and it houses the oldest cast iron staircases in the U.S. intended for public use.

In 1902, the City of Boston decided to sell the reservoir and its surrounding land. Prompted by rumors of undesired development, the neighbors, including Amy Lowell, John C. Olmsted, Walter Channing, Edward Atkinson, and George Lee, contributed more than \$50,000 towards the purchase price of \$150,000.

In 1926, the gatehouse interior was altered to provide rooms and toilet facilities for swimming meets, skating and other occasions, and a pier was built nearby. A 1945 plan to build a beach and bathhouse near Lee and Dudley Streets was never realized. The Reservoir Park was considered briefly in 1956 as a possible location for a new Town Hall.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The land was purchased from the City of Boston with the condition to "operate and maintain to flow water through." The property is individually listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places and as part of the Cochituate Aqueduct Linear National Register District.

Emerald Necklace I - Riverway Park

Category	Historic Park
Size	13.8 acres
Article	Article 97, NR, SR
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Between Boylston and St. Mary's Streets
Precinct	1, 3, & 4
Inventory Date	10/09/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Surrounded by major streets, shopping center, Harvard Medical School, Emerson College, MBTA train track and apartment buildings



OVERVIEW

The Riverway and Olmsted Park form a green space that runs through Boston and a portion of Brookline linking the Boston Common and Franklin Park. The Riverway forms the lower, narrower section of the Emerald Necklace Park System between Brookline Village and the Back Bay Fens. Riverway's eight landscaped acres with walkways and stone bridges provide a shady respite from the urban traffic.

PARK HISTORY

Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr., designed Boston's "Emerald Necklace." His plan for the "Sanitary Improvement of the Muddy River" (1881, revised 1890), required close to fifteen years for implementation. The "Riverway" Project included recontouring the banks on both sides of the Muddy River and the tidal marshlands, and planting them with native trees and shrubs, many of which were eventually chosen by Brookline Park Commissioner Charles Sprague Sargent.

Land for the park construction was purchased between 1881 and 1894 from private property owners. In 1929, funds were allocated by Town Meeting to clean and deepen the Muddy River. In the mid-1980s, as part of the Massachusetts Olmsted Historic Landscape Preservation Program the Commonwealth appropriated over \$1 million for the restoration of the Riverway and Olmsted Park. The Emerald Necklace Park System, including Riverway and Olmsted Park, are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town acquired the properties of both parks between 1863 and 1900 with 40 transactions. Most of the parcels were acquired "to be used for park purposes under the supervision of the Park Commissioner." Some of the original property owners included Trustees of Aspinwall Land Company, Trustees of the Brookline Land Company, Overseers of the Poor, City of Boston and the House of the Good Shepherd. It is listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

Emerald Necklace II - Olmsted Park

Category	Historic Park
Size	12.94 acres
Article	Article 97, NR, SR
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Between Chestnut and Boylston Streets
Precinct	4 & 5
Inventory Date	10/09/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Surrounded by major streets, Brookline Village, and apartment buildings



OVERVIEW

Olmsted Park has three major ponds, a watercourse connecting them, six historic pedestrian bridges and attractive walkways and stone walls sheltered from the busy city by the densely wooded areas. The Park forms the broader segment of the Emerald Necklace Park System. Olmsted Park is directly adjacent to Jamaica Pond. The park has the second largest historic forest in the Necklace with 17 acres of forest cover. Ward's Pond, a protected preserve in the park, has boardwalk access. Babbling Brook, near Willow Pond, is currently under restoration.

PARK HISTORY

Olmsted Park was designed as a chain of picturesque fresh-water ponds, alternating with attractive natural groves and meadows. Included in the plans for Olmsted Park was the creation of Leverett Pond from a swamp near Brookline Village. Originally named Leverett Park, the park's name was changed in 1900 by the Boston Parks Commissioners to honor Olmsted.

Land for the park construction was purchased between 1881 and 1894 from private property owners. Seven "Natural History" ponds were created between Ward's and Willow ponds in 1893 for Natural History Society educational programs. They were filled in during the last years of the 19th century. In the mid 1980s, as part of the Massachusetts Olmsted Historic Landscape Preservation Program, the Commonwealth appropriated over \$1 million for the restoration of the Riverway and Olmsted Parks. The Olmsted Master Plan was implemented in 1997 and 1998 with funds from the Community Development Block Grant. The Willow Pond and Ward's Pond footbridges were restored between 1983 and 1984 through a grant from the George B. Henderson Foundation to the Massachusetts Association for Olmsted Parks. The Emerald Necklace Park System is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town acquired the park property between 1863 and 1900 through 40 transactions. Most of the parcels were acquired "to be used for park purposes under the supervision of the Park Commissioner." Some of the original property owners included Trustees of Aspinwall Land Company, Trustees of the Brookline Land Company, Overseers of the Poor, City of Boston, House of the Good Shepherd, Trustees of A. Aspinwall estate, and Boston & Albany Railroad Company. It is listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

Larz Anderson Park

Category	Historic Park
Size	61.13 acres
Protection	Article 97, NR, SR
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Newton Street
Precinct	15
Inventory Date	10/01/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Mainly single-family houses, town houses and school



OVERVIEW

Larz Anderson Park, the largest park in Brookline, was formerly the Larz Anderson estate. It is composed of large expanses of lawn at the top of the hill, playing fields, and sweeping slopes. At the highest point (where the main house stood), there are exceptional views of Boston. The hill provides opportunities for active and passive recreation that are not available elsewhere in Town. The grassy slopes provide a premier spot for sledding, watching sunsets, observing stars, kite flying and simply running on the slopes.

The architecturally significant Carriage House remains and houses the Museum of Transportation. Contemporary uses include a hilltop outdoor skating rink in the former Italian Garden and picnic areas with grills, located close to the newly restored pond, athletic fields and a playground. The park houses several Town offices including the Division of Parks maintenance yard. The community garden has over 80 plots.

PARK HISTORY

The land was the property of the Goddard family during the Revolutionary War. William Fletcher Weld purchased it between 1841 and 1881 to create "Windy Top," his country estate. William Fletcher Weld II inherited the property and built a polo ground where the athletic fields are now located.

Isabel Weld Anderson and Larz Anderson acquired the property and transformed it into one of the show-cases of New England. Mrs. Anderson bequeathed the main portion of the estate to the Town. The town report of that year states that the plants in the greenhouses were set in the Town's parks, squares and around public buildings. The Town tore the vacant house down in 1955 and removed the Italian garden to make space for the skating rink. With funds provided by a Massachusetts Self-help grant, the Town is preserving and stabilizing the landscape and the gazebo as well as renovating the playground. In 2010, the Larz Anderson Skating Pavilion was renamed the Jack Kirrance Ice Skating Rink, in honor of Jack Kirrane, a life-long resident of Brookline and a member of the American 1948 and 1960 Winter Olympics Hockey teams, winning the gold medal in 1960.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

Isabel Anderson donated the land to the Town "for purposes of public recreation, or for charitable purposes, or for purposes of public education" in 1951. The property is individually listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places. There is also a 1998 Massachusetts Historic Commission Preservation Restriction for the top of the hill.

Longwood Mall

Category	Historic Park
Size	2.55 acres
Protection	Article 97, NR, SR
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Kent & Beech Streets
Precinct	1
Inventory Date	11/01/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Surrounded by single-family houses and Wheelock College's Brookline campus, near Beacon St.



OVERVIEW

Longwood Mall is a linear park with historic beech trees, many of which were planted by David Sears. The mall is considered the oldest grove of European Beech trees in the U.S. The rectangular park has no site furniture, and is located on relatively flat land. Visitor activities are restricted.

PARK HISTORY

Longwood Mall is one of the four parcels of open space parks that were the brainchild of David Sears. By 1850's, he had planted fourteen thousand trees in the Longwood area. He later reported that ten thousand had survived. When the Town took possession of the park, it cut down other trees to give more room to the beech trees. In 1925, more beeches were set. In 1983, the Friends of the Longwood Mall established a fund for long-term maintenance for the trees. This group was presented with a Massachusetts Historical Commission Preservation Award in 1984 for their work in saving this unique resource. The park is listed on the National Register as part of Longwood Historic District.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town acquired the property from Francis Shaw in 1902 with the condition that it "shall be laid out...as public parks...and shall never be used for the purpose of a playground, as distinguished from a public park." It is listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places and is within the Longwood Historic District.

Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site

Category	Historic Park
Size	1.51 acres
Protection	National Park Service
Manager	Federal
Location	99 Warren Street
Precinct	15
Inventory Date	N/A
Vicinity	Surrounded by single-family residential homes



OVERVIEW

The house and grounds of America's famous landscape architect and creator of the Emerald Necklace and many other prominent parks are administered by the National Park Service.

Town Green

Category	Historic Park
Size	0.17 acres
Protection	Article 97, NR
Manager	Town of Brookline
Location	Walnut and Warren Streets
Precinct	15
Inventory Date	N/A
Vicinity	Surrounded by residential homes and located in a National Historic District.



OVERVIEW

This was the original center of the Muddy River Parish. During the Revolution, local militia mustered on the green before marching to Concord and Lexington. The Town Green is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

C. COMMUNITY PARKS

Amory Playground

Category	Community Park
Size	8.28 acres
Protection	Article 97, NR, SR, LHD
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Amory Street
Precinct	1
Inventory Date	10/12/04, revised 2/1/10
Vicinity	Located near Beacon Street and bordered by Hall's Pond Sanctuary, Amory Woods, single-family houses and condominium building



OVERVIEW

Amory Playground is located contiguous to Hall's Pond Sanctuary and Amory Woods, within the Cottage Farm Local Historic District. The park's topography consists of a vegetated bowl with a flat center. It is bordered on two sides by Amory Woods and Hall's Pond Sanctuary. The parking area also serves Hall's Pond Sanctuary. Park recreational facilities include 6 clay tennis courts, one baseball and one softball diamond, passive seating among mature oaks, and picnic tables beside Hall's Pond Sanctuary.

PARK HISTORY

Most of this area was originally a large wetland known as Cedar Swamp. Over the years, the swamp became smaller as it was filled and drained. During the 1800s, the land was the property of David Sears, who divided and distributed it among his children. William and Charles Amory resided there until c. 1890, when they began to lease out the property. The hill was leveled, the trees cut down and a portion of the property was taken for Amory Street. It also included a section of Hall's Pond. In 1903, the Town bought 8.2 acres from the Amory Land Trust to be used as a public playground with the option to erect a school on the property.

In 2009, significant renovations to the park were completed, including field improvements, new irrigation, restored turf and drainage, new plantings, new pathways and seating, a new entryway off of Amory Street, and enhanced handicapped accessibility including universal access to the comfort station.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town purchased the property from Trustees of the Amory Land Trust in 1903 for \$62,363.34. The current deed states that the size 356,370 square feet is "more or less." The land is for use as a public playground, "which use however shall not prevent the erection thereon of school houses". Slope rights to Freeman & Essex Street are reserved to the Grantor. The park is also within the Cottage Farm Local Historic District in addition to being listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

Brookline Avenue Playground

Category	Community Park
Size	4.05 acres
Protection	Article 97, National Register (eligible)
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Brookline Avenue
Precinct	4
Inventory Date	10/25/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Surrounded by train tracks, apartment building, single-family neighborhood, James J. Lynch Recreation Center and Brookline Ave. One block away from Olmsted Park



OVERVIEW

This property, along with Cypress Street Playground, was the Town's first land purchase for parks and recreation. This park is comprised of a large athletic field along Brookline Avenue. The park is relatively flat except for the slope below Aspinwall Avenue and is located partially within the 100-year floodplain of the Muddy River. There is a fenced tot lot near the Lynch Center and an open lawn with a play area.

PARK HISTORY

The Town bought the Brookline Avenue land from Thomas Aspinwall in 1871. This was one of the first municipal purchases of land for playground purposes in the country. The property was not used very much during the 1870s. In 1880 it was deemed "altogether unfit for the purposes bought." By 1896, the users petitioned the Park Commissioners to pay for gymnastic apparatus. An open-air gym was established in 1899. The Town bought another 10,351 square feet in 1915.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town purchased 166,899 square feet of the property "to be by them used, improved, and maintained as and for a public square, park, or common" for \$33,379.80 from Thomas Aspinwall in 1871. Another 4,832 square feet of the property with no restrictions was bought from Trustees of the Aspinwall Land Company in 1887 for \$1,691.20 to be used for Winthrop School, the present Recreation Building next to the park. Another 10,351 square feet of land with no restrictions was purchased from Holtzer-Cabot Electric Company in 1915. Part of this land became the Water Department Pipe Yard and another part was added to the Brookline Ave. Playground. The current park boundary was established in 1974.

Cypress Street Playground

Category	Community Park
Size	5.22 acres
Protection	Article 97, National Register (eligible)
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Brookline Avenue
Precinct	6
Inventory Date	10/09/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Bordered by multi-family houses, Cypress Street and Brookline High School



OVERVIEW

The playground is a long rectangular park located between multi-family houses on the north, Cypress Street on the east, the High School on the west and the Main Gym and Kirrane Aquatic Center on the south. A play area and spray pool are located at the bottom of the slope beside Cypress Street. A basketball court and bleachers stand beside the large multi-purpose field. The fields are used extensively for High School sports, adult leagues, and youth sports. New playground equipment was installed in 1999 and 2000, with donations from neighborhood families and parents of children in the Brookline Early Education Program.

PARK HISTORY

This site, along with the Brookline Avenue Playground, was one of the first municipal purchases for playground purposes in the United States. In 1876, the new property was filled with loam from the Fairmont (now Dudley) Street pit, and thirty young maples were planted. By 1880 the Brookline Athletic Club had built a track and seats for sport exhibitions. The playground was enlarged in 1886. Over the years, the property has been the site of many activities, including ice skating, track meets, baseball, and football.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town bought this land from William B. Craft for \$45,878.50 in 1871 as “public grounds to use, improve, and maintain for the public use forever, as and for a public square, park, common or playground, not otherwise.”

Daniel W. Warren, Jr. Playground

Category	Community Park
Size	11.1 acres
Protection	Article 97
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Eliot Street
Inventory Date	10/12/04, revised 2/1/05
Precinct	14
Vicinity	Surrounded by single-family houses, wooded areas and neighborhood streets



OVERVIEW

Daniel W. Warren, Jr. Playground includes one of the 3 largest playing fields in Brookline. It serves the Heath School and neighborhood as well as being a town-wide facility for baseball, soccer, and softball. Separate play areas are spread across a large sloping lawn section, and a mix of hardwoods including elm and black cherry provide a shaded canopy. One full-size baseball field and 1 youth baseball field, 3 tennis courts, 2 bang boards and 4 basketball courts are located in the park. Off-street parking is provided off Eliot Street. A log cabin stands in the center of the park. The Eliot Recreation Center is located at the edge of the park.

PARK HISTORY

This park was formerly the home of the Rivers School. Founded in 1915 as an “open air school” beneficial to the students’ health. The park was renamed Daniel W. Warren, Jr. Playground, after Daniel W. Warren, Jr., who became the Superintendent of the Parks and Forestry Department in 1945 and served in that capacity for almost 35 years. Renovation of the park was completed in early 1995. The Town Recreation Department moved into the building in 2004.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town acquired the property from Neillian Realty Co. in 1944 with no restrictions.

Fisher Hill Reservoir (park in development)

Category	Community Park
Size	9.97 acres
Protection	NR, SR, Article 97, Conservation Restriction
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Fisher Avenue
Precinct	14
Inventory Date	11/05/04, revised 3/1/11
Vicinity	Located opposite the Town Reservoir, between Fisher Avenue and Baxter Road/Hyslop Road Extension



OVERVIEW

The reservoir has been inactive for many years, and was recently purchased by the Town of Brookline from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The property is heavily vegetated, including a large number of non-native invasive plants, and provides wildlife habitat for a variety of animals and migrant birds. The Town is in the process of converting the reservoir into a multi-use community park with an athletic playing field, edged by walking paths with native vegetation.

PARK HISTORY

Two citizens bought the property and donated it to the Commonwealth. The reservoir was built by the City of Boston in 1887-88. Its historic gatehouse was designed by Arthur Vinal, and is an important visual marker of the historic nature of the site. The property was transferred from the MDC to the MWRA when the latter was created. The reservoir has been inactive since 1953. In 2001, the Massachusetts Division of Capital Asset Management notified the Town that the former reservoir had been declared surplus property and offered it to the Town for a direct municipal use. In 2002, a Master Planning Committee, established by the Board of Selectmen, evaluated the reuse potential of the site and recommended a scenic amenity and public park. In 2003, a Design Review Committee, also established by the Board of Selectmen, developed a plan and program for the park with associated costs. The Town then passed a home rule petition and filed enabling legislation for the purchase of the property, which was signed by the governor. In February 2011, the Town purchased the Fisher Hill Reservoir from the State, and executed a conservation restriction for the property. Currently, a Design Review Committee, appointed by the Board of Selectmen, is in the process of reviewing the conceptual master plan for the park, and finalizing the park design. The new park will include a soccer/playing field that will also serve as a Great Lawn, walking paths, seating, a comfort station, and parking. In addition to providing active and passive recreational opportunities for the community, the park will have a large wooded buffer for wildlife habitat, and will preserve the historic gatehouse and part of the reservoir berm.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

It is listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places. The Town purchased the 432,512 square foot property from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in 2011 for \$800,000, with the condition that in accordance with Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2008, "the Premises shall be used only for open space or active or passive recreation purposes, with the exception of the area containing approximately 12,000 square feet...which may be used by the [Town] for a municipal storage facility." The conveyance of the property to the Town was also subject to a conservation restriction, which the Town executed concurrently. There is also a proposed preservation restriction for the gatehouse.

Harry Downes Field

Category	Community Park
Size	8.73 acres
Protection	Article 97
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Pond Avenue
Precinct	5
Inventory Date	10/26/04, revised 2/1/10
Vicinity	Neighborhood of single and multi-family homes surrounded by neighborhood streets, across from Olmsted Park



OVERVIEW

Harry Downes Field, surrounded by trees on two sides and a dense neighborhood, is across from Olmsted Park. The park includes a track, field facilities, synthetic turf soccer and football fields, and one softball diamond. There is also a play area located at the southwestern end of the site, and a restroom and storage building located behind the backstop in the northeastern end of the field. Mature oaks line the southern edge of the property.

PARK HISTORY

The Town voted to buy this land from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1906. The purchase did not take place until 1914. It was named Brookline Stadium, then renamed Brookline Field. A field house and grandstand were built in 1929. There were plans to enlarge the field and to put in a running track. In 1979, improvements included a new tot lot, field house, bleachers, running track and three ball fields. Additional improvements occurred in 1983, funded by the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Another reconstruction took place in 1994-1995.

In 2006, a portion of Harry Downes became the Kraft Family Athletic Facility, following the installation of a state of the art synthetic turf field and resurfacing of the track, thanks to a generous donation by the Kraft family, as well as a grant from the National Football League.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town purchased the property from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1914 for \$85,000. There are no known restrictions on the property.

Skyline Park

Category	Community Park
Size	15.15 acres
Protection	Article 97
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Newton Street, Saw Mill Road (previously Incinerator Drive)
Precinct	15
Inventory Date	10/01/04, revised 2/1/10
Vicinity	Adjacent to Lost Pond Conservation Area, located at the former Newton Street landfill



OVERVIEW

This is Brookline's newest park, and the first new park added in over 25 years. The park includes a regulation sized, multi-purpose synthetic turf field, a playground with play equipment for all ages, a covered shelter with picnic tables, benches, recreational pathways that connect to Lost Pond Sanctuary, landscaping with new plantings, restored wetlands, a comfort station, and a parking area. Skyline Park is situated on the top and sides of a gently sloping hill, allowing for scenic views of the surrounding area.

PARK HISTORY

The location is the site of the former town landfill, the Newton Street landfill, which was capped and the land reclaimed for a public park. Funding for the new park was provided by the Town of Brookline, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Urban Self-Help Program, and the Brookline Travel Soccer Club. The park was named Skyline Park and was officially opened in 2008.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

There is an access agreement with the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation that allowed part of the park to be built on their property.

Soule Recreation Center

Category	Community Park
Size	9.49 acres
Protection	Article 97, NR, SR
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Hammond Street
Precinct	15
Inventory Date	10/26/04, revised 5/1/11
Vicinity	Surrounded by Hammond, Heath, and Woodland Streets and wooded area



OVERVIEW

The site has a wooded area, a specimen beech tree (which played a deciding role in the location of the rear soccer field), an isolated land area subject to flooding, and an interesting geological history. In addition to puddingstone and other rock outcroppings, the soil content is unique with eleven feet of peat found in one of the fields. Robinson Field, located near the site of the original main house, has 1 soccer field. The property also houses the newly renovated Environmental Education Center. The center has seasonal public restrooms and holds environmental education programs, including our summer and school vacation nature camps. The entire recreation area includes 2 soccer fields, including a new synthetic turf field, tennis courts, expanded play equipment for both toddlers and school age children, and a splash pad water play area.

PARK HISTORY

In 1961, the Town bought this property for recreational purposes. The main house burned in 1963. The carriage house continues to be used as the Soule Recreation Center. The Baldwin School playground is contiguous with the recreation area. The area was renovated in 1995 and 1996 with Urban Self-Help State funds. A design review process began in 2005 to replace the play equipment, and in 2007, construction was completed on the new equipment, providing exciting new play opportunities for all ages, as well as a new water play area. In 2011, there was a complete renovation of Lower Soule Field, including the installation of a new synthetic turf soccer field, improved drainage, a new handicap accessible entrance plaza, seating areas, improved site plantings, and replacement of sidewalks and fencing. This renovation was thanks to a generous donation by the Brookline Soccer Club.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town acquired the property from Rivers School in 1960 with no restrictions. This property is located in the Chestnut Hill Historic District and is on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

Jean B. Waldstein (Dean) Playground

Category	Community Park
Size	5.63 acres
Protection	Article 97
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Dean Road
Precinct	14
Inventory Date	11/02/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Enclosed by oak trees, train tracks, at the back of an apartment building parking lot, flanked by two churches



OVERVIEW

Large mature oaks line the edge of this park. There is open lawn on one side and an extensive array of recreational facilities on the other side. From Dean Road, the park appears as a large, open green field. From Clinton Path, the park appears to be a buzzing recreational area. The park has 8 new tennis courts. There is a play area, seating areas, and youth baseball field.

PARK HISTORY

This property was acquired in 1901. Originally, the Village Brook ran through it. The brook was covered and the lower side toward Beacon Street, was filled to make way for playing fields. In 1918, tennis courts were built. Tournaments for tennis and croquet were held here. When Clinton Path was laid out around 1903, a strip of land was bought from Boston and a flight of stairs from Dean Road was built. It was re-sodded in 1996 and the irrigation system was upgraded in 1997.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town acquired 247,760 square feet of the property from Susan Wadsworth et al under the condition that "no apartment buildings or stables to be erected there on." This parcel was previously called Beacon Street Playground and later called Dean Park. This information came from the 1960 deed research but could not be located during the 2003 deed research. The Town purchased another 2,935 square feet from the City of Boston in 1903 with no restrictions.

D. PASSIVE PARKS

Corey Hill Park

Category	Passive Park
Size	4.16 acres
Protection	Article 97
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Summit Avenue
Precinct	11
Inventory Date	10/28/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Bisected by Summit Avenue on top of the hill, surrounded by a single-family neighborhood and condo buildings



OVERVIEW

The most significant attribute of this park is its hilltop location and striking view of Boston and Cambridge. The park is divided in two by Summit Avenue. This potential disruption is ameliorated by the mature oaks and maples that line both edges of the street, clearly defining the sides of the park. The southern parcel contains a playground and the northern parcel has a sundial and large open sloped lawn.

PARK HISTORY

The first improved road to the park property was built in 1869. Corey Hill Park was purchased in several transactions between 1900 and 1917. In 1925, the view from the park was threatened by a proposal to construct buildings on lots on the north side. As a result, the Town recommended protecting the park and view by acquiring its adjacent lots. The Town reconstructed both sections of the park between 1985 and 1989. The sundial memorial in the northern parcel is dedicated to Shirley Sidd, former Town treasurer.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town purchased 46,021 square feet of the property from Gardner Beals in 1900 "to be kept open for 20 years," which later formed part of the northern parcel of the park. Another 92,778 square feet purchased from William Maynard in 1916 to be "kept open for park purposes for a period of not less than twenty years from the date hereof" later formed the southern parcel. However, there is an anomaly regarding Lot 20 and a Frances Richards regarding the selling and reselling of the property for \$41.10 in 1917. The Town purchased 24,450 square feet from Old Colony Tr. Co. et al and another 20,450 square feet from Gilbert V. Pennock. Both these lots were added to the northern parcel and their transactions were undated.

Dane Park

Category	Passive Park
Size	17.23 acres
Protection	Article 97
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Hammond Street
Precinct	15
Inventory Date	11/04/04, revised 2/1/10
Vicinity	Located near Putterham Woods



OVERVIEW

Dane Park is the only passive wooded park in the Town and serves as exceptional wildlife habitat for plants and animals. It is located on former estate land and contains a variety of volcanic formations including a lava dome that was formed when molten lava was hurled out of an active volcano, and lava pillows that resulted when hot lava flows reached the edge of existing dry land and dropped into the sea. A geology trail with informational signs was established in 2001. A wetland, where dumping occurred over the years, has been considerably cleaned up by the Town. The wooded parkland has recreational trails, including an all access trail. One side of the park is along private land with no public access.

PARK HISTORY

Dane Park is a unique natural and historic resource. Once part of the micro-continent Avalon, the rock outcrops in the park have been documented by Professor James Skehan of Boston College as being particularly fine and accessible examples of 575,000,000 year old volcanic rock that support the theory of the formation of the North American continent. The 2009 Dane Park renovation included a new trail system with a handicapped accessible trail, a short boardwalk with a scenic overlook, gathering spots with informal outdoor seating for outdoor classroom use, and an informational kiosk. As part of the renovation, many non-native invasive plants were removed from the park and appropriate native plantings, including an open meadow area, were installed.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town purchased 416,756 square feet of the property from Edward Dane for \$9,000 in 1953 with no restrictions. Edward Dane in turn donated another 318,512 square feet "for recreational or education purposes" the same year.

Knyvet Square

Category	Passive Park
Size	2.8 acres
Protection	Article 97
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	St. Paul and Amory Streets
Precinct	1
Inventory Date	10/12/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Surrounded by single-family houses and apartment building parking lot



OVERVIEW

This is a formal park on a sloping lawn with geometric plantings. Diagonal paths beginning at each of the four corners of the park intersect in the middle, edged by regularly-spaced trees. There are three distinctive horizontal levels of vegetation: the upper layer of the deciduous trees, a middle layer of ornamental trees, and a lower level of evergreen and deciduous shrubs.

PARK HISTORY

Knyvet Square is part of four parcels of open space parks that were the brainchild of David Sears. He began buying land in 1818 in the area known as Longwood, stretching from the Charles River to the Muddy River. By the late 1840s, Sears began laying out streets, lots and four small parks. The heirs of David Sears gave all four squares to the Town in 1902-1903 to be reserved for park purposes.

In 1961, lights were installed and paths were resurfaced. In 1963, an underground irrigation system was installed, and flowering trees were added around 1975. The Community Development Block Grant funded the 1995 renovation. The major elements of the 1995 renovation were safety related and included repaving of all the walks, removal of dead and dangerous wood from the large trees, and replacement of some flowering trees at the end of their life. Stumps left from recently removed trees were taken out, the area was regraded, drainage was improved, and new landscaping and lighting were kept to a minimum.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

Francis Shaw, heirs of David Sears, transferred the property to the Town with the stipulation that "the parcels of land...shall be laid out...as public parks...and shall never be used for the purpose of a playground, as distinguished from a public park."

Linden Park

Category	Passive Park
Size	0.28 acres
Protection	Article 97, NR, SR
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Linden Street
Precinct	4
Inventory Date	10/26/04, revised 2/1/10
Vicinity	In a residential neighborhood



OVERVIEW

The park reflects planned suburban subdivisions as advocated by Victorian landscape designer A.J. Downing. Though the perimeter of the park is surrounded by busy local traffic, the ornamental fence creates an inviting feel while protecting park visitors, especially children. The vegetation is simple but works well. The only equipment is a sandbox. The steel picket fencing, period lights, benches, tables, and new landscaping enhance the park.

PARK HISTORY

Linden Park and Linden Square date from 1844 and are listed on the National and State Registers of Historic Places. They were part of a residential development laid out by Thomas Aspinwall Davis and designed by Alexander Wadsworth. Each owner held a right in common to Linden Park and the Court (now Pierce Street) and Avenue (Linden Street). They were "to be forever kept open for the use and proprietors of Linden Place..." Each lot was sold with the condition that "no building shall be erected upon said tracts within thirty feet of Harvard Street or of the Court or Avenues laid down on said plan...the only buildings to be erected upon said land or placed thereon, shall be dwelling houses and their appearances exclusive of all shop yards or conveniences for manufacturing or mechanical purposes.² Of the three planned open spaces, only Linden Park and Linden Square remain. The land to the north and west, now covered with houses, was then a beautiful woods, with a brook running through it. In 1899, the Proprietors of Linden Place released the title and presented the land to the Town. Renovation in 1991 with Community Development Block Grant funds increased user enjoyment. Thanks largely to donor funding, new shrubs, trees, turf and irrigation were installed in the fall of 2008, with the goal of providing seasonal color and interest with native, durable plantings.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town acquired the property from Stone, Fay, et al-proprietors of Linden Pl. in 1900 with the stipulation that it "shall remain as a public open space or park". It is listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

Linden Square

Category	Passive Park
Size	0.19 acres
Protection	Article 97, NR, SR
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Linden Place
Precinct	4
Inventory Date	10/26/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	In a residential neighborhood



OVERVIEW

Linden Square has benches and fences, but no picnic tables. Compared to Linden Park, the trees of the Square have more presence and are more mature. There is a clear, central focal point created by a circular seating area with benches. There is considerably more lawn, but it is not in peak health and is not frequently used.

PARK HISTORY

The park property was originally 1.5 feet below the surrounding streets. It was filled and curbstones set around. There were 28 feet diagonal walks across; the remainder was either grass or shrubbery. Linden Square remained connected with the Davis house. At the April 1, 1895 Town Meeting, the Park Commissioners were authorized to accept this gift of land known as the "horseshoe lot". This square shares its history with Linden Park. The square is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town acquired the property from Leonard Stone & Mary G. Stone in 1895 with the stipulation that it "shall remain as a public ornamental open space or park." It is listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

Little Field Park

Category	Passive Park
Size	0.84 acres
Protection	Article 97
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Eliot Street
Precinct	14
Inventory Date	11/05/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	In a residential neighborhood, by Heath School Playground



OVERVIEW

Little Field Park is a small piece of property located next to Heath School, with Eliot Crescent separating the two. It consists of a flat lawn with a row of uniformly mature oak trees in the middle.

PARK HISTORY

The Town acquired this property as 2 lots, one belonging to the City of Boston and the other to a private citizen. A small area of toddler play equipment was removed in the 1980's.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town acquired 181,343 square feet of the property from the city of Boston. No deeds were found for this property transfer that took place between 1907 and 1913. The Town of Brookline divided the parcel into three properties: (1) Heath School, (2) Eliot Crescent, and (3) Eliot Street Park. In 1919, donation from Andrew White added 957.7 square feet of land with no restrictions to the park. In 1964 the park size changed from 43,925 to 37,282 square feet.

Mason Square

Category	Passive Park
Size	1.14 acres
Protection	Article 97, NR, SR, LHD
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Cottage Farm Street
Precinct	1
Inventory Date	10/13/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Surrounded by single-family houses



OVERVIEW

Mason Square is unique because of the regularly spaced rows of mature trees located on a flat plane. This quiet park is distinguished by large Red Oaks.

PARK HISTORY

Mason Square is one of the four park parcels that were the brainchild of David Sears (1787-1871). It was named after his wife's family.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town acquired the property from Francis Shaw, an heirs of David Sears, in 1902 under the condition that it "shall be laid out...as public parks...and shall never be used for the purpose of a playground, as distinguished from a public park." It is on the State and National Register of Historic Places and is in the Cottage Farm Local Historic District.

Monmouth Street Park

Category	Passive Park
Size	0.16 acres
Protection	Article 97, NR, SR
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	86 Monmouth Street
Precinct	1
Inventory Date	11/05/04, revised 2/1/10
Vicinity	Adjacent to the Brookline Art Center in a neighborhood of primarily historic brick townhouses



OVERVIEW

The park is recorded in the Longwood National Register Historic District. Striking 1800s architecture borders two sides of the park, while the other two sides are bordered by apartment complexes and the rear of stores. The small-scale ornamental fence adds significantly, framing the park and giving it a clear identity. The vegetation includes a raised planting bed and specimen trees. It is located just a block away from Beacon Street. The park includes open lawn and pathways, as well as custom play equipment for young children.

PARK HISTORY

The park property was originally purchased as two lots. In 1864 the town built Longwood School on one parcel. It was moved elsewhere on the property in 1886 to accommodate the building of a firehouse in the other parcel. The company was transferred to Station #5 on Babcock Street when it opened in 1964. The old firehouse was remodeled and became the Brookline Arts Center in 1968. In Fall 2002, Town Meeting voted for both lots to be protected under Article 97. In 2006, a total renovation of the park was completed, including installation of irrigation, new lawn areas, patio, pathways, seating, fencing, custom toddler play-ground equipment, ornamental plantings, and landscape connections to the Brookline Art Center. The Parks and Open Space Division was awarded a Certificate of Merit for the renovation of this park in the Longwood Historic District.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town acquired the property from William R. Lawrence in 1864 for \$901.90. The existing firehouse building and the land under that building was exempted from Article 97 in 2002, while the rest of the property was set for park purposes only. It is listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

Philbrick Square

Category	Passive Park
Size	0.28 acres
Protection	Article 97, NR, SR, LHD
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Upland and Maple Streets
Precinct	5
Inventory Date	11/02/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	In a single-family neighborhood



OVERVIEW

Philbrick Square is a small park with a lawn area, benches, and significant mature trees. Olmsted completed the original layout of this park in the 1880's as part of the residential plan for the area. Its shape is a triangle, situated on a slope. The site is bordered by Victorian homes of brick, stone, and wood.

PARK HISTORY

In the 1880's Edward Philbrook hired Olmsted to layout this park as part of a residential development. In 1901, Mabel Foster sold this property to the Town.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town purchased the property from Mabel H. Foster in 1901, to be "kept open and maintained as a public park." This land is located in the Pill Hill Local Historic District and in the Pill Hill National Register District. It is also listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

Judge Henry Crowley Park at Saint Mark's Square

Category	Passive Park
Size	0.40 acres
Protection	Article 97
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Park, Vernon and Marion Streets
Precinct	10
Inventory Date	10/12/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Surrounded by neighborhood streets and across from St. Mark's



OVERVIEW

The geometry of this park is both small and striking with a triangular shape and paths. There is a slight elevation to the park, resulting in the bench placement being at a slight pitch. A plant bed, blocking the view into the park, dominates the front entrance at the tip of the triangle. The mature trees, ornamental site furniture such as benches, tables, and period light fixtures also define the character of this park.

PARK HISTORY

The Town accepted this triangle from the heirs of Marshall Stearns in 1897 with the restriction that no buildings are to be erected on the property. It was renovated in 1995.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town acquired the property from William Stearns and Hannah Swift in 1897 under the condition that "the premises shall be forever kept open for the benefit of light and air for the convenience and comfort of all..."

Town Hall Lot

Category	Passive Park
Size	1.99 acres
Protection	NR, SR
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Washington Street
Precinct	6
Inventory Date	11/02/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	By the Town Hall, in a commercial and residential mixed use area



OVERVIEW

Located in front of the Town Hall this is a highly used public space. The site landscape is well-maintained with vegetation, benches, and walkways. Suggestions for redesign or refinements for this area have been made in the Main Library/Town Hall Grounds Master Plan completed in 2005.

PARK HISTORY

No information is available.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

It is listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

E. NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Billy Ward Playground

Category	Neighborhood Park
Size	0.54 acres
Protection	Article 97
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Brook Street and Aspinwall Avenue
Precinct	6
Inventory Date	10/27/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	In a single-family neighborhood, across the street from St. Mary's Church and St. Paul's Church



OVERVIEW

A pathway bisects the park, creating a series of functional areas. The park contains a grass area, a sand-based play structure, swings, a spray pool, a wooden-roofed play structure, and a basketball court next to the third play structure. Play areas are laid out on different levels with the tot lot in the upper level in a sunken area. Planters, flowering trees, mature trees and open lawn make the park enjoyable for adults as well as children.

PARK HISTORY

The Town acquired this playground between Aspinwall and Brook Streets in 1914 from William and Thomas Aspinwall. At this time, the playground was less than one quarter of its present size and contained a large elm tree and swing set. In 1972, the Town purchased the adjacent lots, demolished the existing houses, and constructed a playground, which was funded by the federal Cities and Parks Program. The renovation created a grass sitting area, a sunken house foundation for gardening and play, a sand area, spray pool, and a half basketball court. In 1992, after a two-year design review process, the playground was renovated again to include updated equipment for tots and older children, a new spray pool, a down-sized basketball key and considerable landscaping and screening. The name of the playground was changed at its dedication from Brook Street Playground to Billy Ward Playground.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town purchased 4,604 square feet of the land from Thomas and William Aspinwall in 1914 for \$423.54. George Belcher Cutts et. al. transferred to the Town 14,716 square feet as two parcels to the Town in 1972 for \$46,600.00. The deed has a "Cancelled" stamp on it, but the land remains in Town ownership. The Town acquired another 4,934 square feet from S. and A.C. Curtis in 1972. No deed records exist for this purchase, but the land plans and atlas confirm the transfer of land.

Boylston Street Playground

Category	Neighborhood Park
Size	1.16 acres
Protection	Article 97
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Precinct	6
Location	Boylston Street
Inventory Date	10/27/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Located between the train track and Boylston Street with multi-family houses on two short sides



OVERVIEW

The playground contains a very small playing field and a backstop for softball. It has a basketball court with 4 hoops and a small play area. It is linked to the neighborhoods by a pedestrian bridge over the MBTA tracks.

PARK HISTORY

The Town acquired this property in 1854. It was originally the site of the new South Primary School. The school was used by multiple occupants until 1971 when the building was torn down and the area was converted into playground space. The play equipment, irrigation, and turf were renovated in 2002.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town purchased 42,528 square feet of the property from Elijah Emerson in 1868 for \$7,089.42. Later another 17,046 square feet were purchased from James H McGivney and Ellen J Mealey McGivney in 1901. From this area 3,200 square feet was taken for a street and Davis Path. A size discrepancy occurred in 1964 with total area becoming 50,884 square feet. The property has no known restrictions.

Clark Playground

Category	Neighborhood Park
Size	1.68 acres
Protection	Article 97
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Cypress Street
Precinct	5
Inventory Date	10/27/04
Vicinity	Located in a single-family neighborhood



OVERVIEW

The many trees in the park and the surrounding wood-frame residences lend this park its domestic character. The mound at the entrance adds interest to an otherwise flat plane. The park has an open lawn area near the play area. Park recreational facilities include a tot lot, swings, a basketball court, and a spray pool.

PARK HISTORY

The Town bought this land, including the large boulder, in 1913. The property was designated as the Clark Playground and was rebuilt in 1990.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town purchased 26,864 square feet of the property from Helen Cutler & Annie Clark and 22,498 square feet from Harriet Vass in 1913. The deeds had the stipulation "to be acquired for playground purposes."

Judge Sumner Z. Kaplan Park at Coolidge Playground

Category	Neighborhood Park
Size	1.68 acres
Protection	Article 97
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Columbia Street
Precinct	9
Inventory Date	10/27/04
Vicinity	Located in a single-family and multi-family neighborhood



OVERVIEW

The playground has a meadow area and a grove of mature trees. Park recreational facilities include tot's and older children's play area, spray pool, tennis court, basketball court, and an open lawn area.

PARK HISTORY

After the Town acquired the property in 1905, it made arrangements to fill it with material from the excavations of the high-level sewer built by the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Board. The playground was improved and developed in 1965-66 with designs from the Olmsted firm. The Town renovated the park in 1990 with funds from the Community Development Block Grant, adding two play structures and edge landscaping, relocating the playground entrance; and relocating the basketball court to the opposite side of the path. The Town updated the park again with new play structures, pedestrian scale lighting, and improvements to lawn, tennis courts, and pathways in 2004.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town purchased 18,690 square feet of the property from Henry S. Coolidge and 54,452 square feet from Henry, Ellen, and Walter Coolidge in 1905. The property was purchased to develop "for park, playground or public purposes only."

Daniel F. Ford Playground at Emerson Garden

Category	Neighborhood Park
Size	2.05 acres
Protection	Article 97, NR, SR
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Davis Avenue
Precinct	6
Inventory Date	10/09/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Surrounded by Davis Avenue and Emerson Street



OVERVIEW

Surrounded by family homes and often hosting community events, Emerson Park is not only a beautiful site but also a gathering point for residents. The diverse perimeter plantings and clearly marked, inviting entrances render a gardenesque character to the park. The park has specimen trees, interesting shrubs, and a circular path around a grassy space. Bench groups are located near the spray pool and at intervals around the walk. Playground facilities include Brookline's first spray pool, and a colorful ship in the toddlers' lot.

PARK HISTORY

Emerson Park was formerly the site of the estate of Elijah Emerson who owned much of the land in the area. In 1908, it was designated as Emerson Garden. The Park Commission asked the Playground Committee to remove the volleyball net because it decided that the grounds and shrubbery were damaged by organized play and voted not to permit any organized play that involved the use of apparatus, including croquet and volleyball. In 1995, the park and equipment were renovated. The park is located in the Cypress - Emerson Historic District and is on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town purchased the property from Sarah C. Davis et al for \$45,000 in 1907 with the stipulation that "no building exceeding 600 square feet ground area to be erected for 25 years, and must be for the purpose for which tract was purchased." The park is listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

Griggs Park

Category	Neighborhood Park
Size	3.34 acres
Protection	Article 97, National Register (eligible)
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Griggs Road
Precinct	10
Inventory Date	10/27/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Half a block away from Washington Street



OVERVIEW

Griggs Park is located on a former wetland, in an enclave surrounded by houses and apartment buildings. Willow trees line the circular park. A memorial garden overlooks the wetland. The vegetated central portion attracts birds. The pathway is circular, rounding a collection of trees and vegetation situated next to the former wetland in the middle of the park. The trees blocking the cross view of the park, combined with the meandering pathway, render a more spacious effect than many other parks. Facilities include a paved path and playground.

PARK HISTORY

The Town acquired the park land in parts between 1901 and 1905 although the earliest plan exists from 1897. It was developed as a playground in 1903. The renovation in 1997- 98 addressed the drainage problem, added new plantings, and improved the pathways and sitting areas. A park neighbor donated the benches.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town purchased 8,471 square feet of the property from Lewis Conant and Carrie Conant; 5,221 square feet from Samuel Williams; 16,464 square feet from Mary Russell and 1,652 square feet from Johns Parsons in 1901. There were no known restrictions on these lands. In the same year Thomas Griggs transferred two parcels to the Town, 90,660 square feet with no restrictions and 23,600 square feet "to be used only as a public park and playground for at least 10 years." Deed research conducted in 1960 found Griggs to have donated 182,235 square feet of land, with a portion taken for Griggs Street and Marion Path. The deeds from research conducted in 2003 showed a total of 151,014 square feet. The remaining size discrepancy is most likely due to a missing deed from a large portion of land from F. Haven. The Town acquired additional 2,473 square feet from William Miller in 1903, and another 2,473 square feet from Carrie Burton Jr. in 1905 for \$370.95.

John E. Murphy Playground

Category	Neighborhood Park
Size	0.51 acres
Protection	Article 97
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Kent and Brook Streets
Precinct	4
Inventory Date	10/27/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Surrounded by neighborhood streets



OVERVIEW

The park is bowl shaped with a noticeable grade change, retaining walls on three sides and a sloped grass surface. Play equipment, furniture, and entry points are located on two sides. Park recreational facilities include basketball key, tot lot, and spray pool.

PARK HISTORY

Originally the Brook Street lot, the Town bought this site in 1915. In 1971, it was named after John E. Murphy, a former Park and Recreation Commissioner. The playground changed substantially in 1971 when tot play equipment, a basketball hoop and swings were added. In 1993, it was rebuilt under the Town-mandated design review committee's supervision, using Community Development Block Grant funds. In 1998, the drainage problem on the play area was corrected by the Water and Park Departments.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town purchased the property from Harriet A. Howe & Percival S. Howe in 1915 with no known restrictions.

Juniper Street Playground

Category	Neighborhood Park
Size	0.41 acres
Protection	Article 97
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Juniper Street
Precinct	4
Inventory Date	10/26/04, revised 2/1/10
Vicinity	Bounded by cooperative housing and Housing Authority property



OVERVIEW

Juniper Street Playground is dominated by a steep slope decorated with mature junipers on its banks. The steep wooded slope embracing the two sides of the park provides ample shade. Most of the facility consists of a playground.

PARK HISTORY

This playground is situated directly behind one of Brookline's housing complexes. Renovations and improvements were completed in 2009 and include new play equipment, a small splash pad, site furniture, plantings and improved access to the playground.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

Brookline Redevelopment Authority donated the land to the Town in 1967. The deed and land size does not include the adjoining housing complex.

Lawton Playground

Category	Neighborhood Park
Size	1.08 acres
Protection	Article 97
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Lawton Street
Precinct	9
Inventory Date	10/27/04, revised 2/1/10
Vicinity	Bisected by Lawton Street; surrounded by multi-unit apartment buildings



OVERVIEW

This playground is divided in two by Lawton Street with two areas of almost equal size. The north side is used for court games. The south portion is a playground for young children. The woodland feel of this portion is due to its small-scale, dense plantings and the unique design of the play equipment. The spray pool, located within the perimeter of the northern side, is lined with trees.

PARK HISTORY

This property was originally the Highway Department yard. Recreational use began in 1956. The Olmsted firm designed the southern side of the park in the 1960s. The first renovation was done in 1971 and included a spray pool, sand box, and play equipment on the south side and a basketball court on the north side. A path to Gibbs Street was added in 1972. Improvements in 1990 included renovating the spray pool and two new play structures. The Community Development Block Grant funded the rehabilitation of the south side. Another round of improvements was completed in 2007, including new play equipment and plantings with a “fairy woodland” theme, a unique granite gateway designed by the sculptor Murray Dewart, a new seating area and entrance from Thorndike Street, a new basketball court, lawn area, pathways and site furnishings.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town acquired 23,459 square feet of the property from Lane in 1940. No deeds exist recording this, but atlas and land plans show this information. Another 20,101 square feet was acquired from Lawton Realty Trust in 1961 for \$ 6,250 “for recreational purposes.”

Lotta Bradburn Schick Park

Category Neighborhood Park
Size 1.1 acres
Protection Article 97
Manager Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location Addington Road
Precinct 12
Inventory Date 10/27/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity Located on top of the hill



OVERVIEW

This attractive hilltop park includes an open lawn area, several play structures and a shelter.

PARK HISTORY

The park is one among the six lots bought by the Town atop Aspinwall Hill in 1945 for recreational purposes. Formerly known as Addington Park, this property was opened for recreational purposes in 1950. The park was completely renovated in 1997 and 1998 with Town funds.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town acquired the property from George B. Sargent with no restrictions in 1946.

Margaret E. Robinson Playground

Category	Neighborhood Park
Size	2.38 acres
Protection	Article 97
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Cypress and Franklin Streets
Precinct	5
Inventory Date	10/09/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Located along Cypress Street



OVERVIEW

Playground facilities include a youth baseball/softball infield, large paved basketball court, and a play area, with trees in the northwest corner. It is separated from the Walnut Place conservation restriction by one lot. This park has a variety of edge conditions: one is sloped, one lined with trees, two sides are lined with houses, and two with streets. The vegetation is not notable except along the perimeter, where there are mature trees.

PARK HISTORY

The Margaret E. Robinson Playground was the site of the car barn lot for the Boston Elevated Railway Company in the 1890s. Edward H. and Elizabeth B. Hill sold it to the Town for playground purposes in 1939. Margaret E. Robinson was a Brookline resident and served as chair of the Democratic Town Committee, member of the School Committee for six years, Town Meeting Member, president of the Democratic Women's Club, member of the Women's Relief Corps, president of the American Legion Auxiliary of the Brookline Post, and a member of the National Civic Foundation. In 2001, a new irrigation system and field were installed with funds from the Community Development Block Grant.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

Edward H. & Elizabeth B. Hill donated 92,029 square feet of the property to the Town in 1939 "for playground purposes." John L. Newell et al. transferred another 14,113 square feet of the property to the Town with no restrictions in 1965.

50 Pleasant Street

Category	Neighborhood Park
Size	0.77 acres
Protection	None
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	50 Pleasant Street
Precinct	2
Inventory Date	10/09/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Located along Pleasant Street.



OVERVIEW

This small park is part of the Housing Authority Complex.

Winthrop Square

Category	Neighborhood Park
Size	1.93 acres
Protection	Article 97
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	St. Paul Street
Precinct	2
Inventory Date	10/13/04, revised 3/1/11
Vicinity	Surrounded by single-family houses, town houses and apartment buildings



OVERVIEW

This park has a courtyard feel with three sides lined by brick apartment buildings and a clearly defined perimeter fence. There are two sections to the park, one open area and one area with playground equipment, benches, and the Minot Rose Garden with raised flower beds and arbor. Mature trees, primarily maples and oaks, unify its character. The rose garden, raised flower beds, and trellis are additional character-defining elements.

PARK HISTORY

Winthrop Square/Minot Rose Garden was acquired by the Town in four parts. The Winthrop Square property was part of four parcels of open space parks that were the brainchild of David Sears. The Minot Rose Garden section of this park contains an arbor that had been part of the Larz Anderson estate. The park was improved in 1965 with tot equipment. Renovations in 1984 included a spray pool, new play equipment, a renovated field with irrigation system, new swing, drinking fountain, and rose garden irrigation. In 1994, benches, play structures, lighting, and landscaping were added. The Town replaced the older children's wooden play structure in 2002. The rose garden was replanted and restored in 2005 with generous assistance from the Friends of the Minot Rose Garden. A decorative, ornamental metal fence was added in 2008 to finish the rose garden and protect the roses, thanks in part to a grant from the Brookline Community Foundation. In 2011, comprehensive renovations to Winthrop were completed, including replacement of the younger children's play structure, planting improvements including addition of the next generation of oaks and other landscaping, new site furniture, paved pathways and circulation improvements, and fence and gate repairs.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town acquired 46,470 square feet of the property from Francis Shaw, an-heir of David Sears, in 1902 under the condition that it "shall be laid out...as public parks...and shall never be used for the purpose of a playground, as distinguished from a public park." The Town purchased another 10,816 square feet from Robert and Anne Warner in 1909 "to be maintained as a public playground, in accordance with the provisions of Section 19 of Chapter 28 of the Revised Laws." Another 19,991square feet was transferred from Edward P. Shaw et al in 1906 "to be maintained as public playground." This information was located in the 1960 deed research and is confirmed by the land plans. It was not located during the 2003 research.

F. SCHOOL PLAYGROUNDS

Baker School Playground

Category	School Playground
Size	11.27 acres
Protection	None
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Beverly Road
Precinct	16
Inventory Date	11/01/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Located adjacent to D. Blakely Hoar Sanctuary in a single and multi-family neighborhood



OVERVIEW

Baker School Playground includes significant grade changes. The highest point is in the front playground and field area, with a steep drop to the tennis court. Mature oaks and a garden are located at the front of the property. The recreational facilities include 5 tennis courts, a small play area, one and one-half basketball courts, and a softball infield. The wooded hillside behind the fields and the tennis courts are adjacent to the D. Blakely Hoar Conservation Area.

PARK HISTORY

This property was purchased in 1935 in conjunction with the building of the Baker School. In 1949, the Town constructed five tennis courts. The playground was renovated in 1999-2000. The tennis courts were resurfaced in 2004.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The land was acquired in 1935 as a donation/ bequest from its original owner, Management Corp. No restrictions apply to this property.

Baldwin School Playground

Category	School Playground
Size	1.25 acres
Protection	Article 97, NR, SR
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Heath Street
Precinct	15
Inventory Date	10/26/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Abuts Soule Recreation Center at the back of Baldwin School



OVERVIEW

This park, associated with Baldwin School, shares one entrance and a parking lot with the Soule Recreation Center. The property is defined by its rolling topography, mature oaks over expansive lawn, and considerable variation between highest and lowest elevation. The playground includes two fenced tot lots, sand boxes, and swings.

PARK HISTORY

In 1898, architect George F. Johnson designed a two-story fire station to stand on the land the Town had purchased the year before at the corner of Heath and Oak Streets. This lot became the site of the Baldwin School and Chestnut Hill Library (no longer extant).

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town bought 53,655 square feet of the park from the Rivers School in 1941 for \$3,500.00. Deed research conducted in 1960 found this information which is confirmed by land plans. The deed was not located during the 2003 research. The Town bought a parcel of 51,726 square feet from Mary McCormack in 1871. Another land parcel of 12,155 square feet was bought from John & Margaret O'Handley in 1898. There are no known restrictions on the property. It is listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

Devotion School Playground

Category	School Playground
Size	6.72 acres
Protection	None
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Devotion Street
Precinct	8
Inventory Date	10/13/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Surrounded by single and multi-family homes and the school building



OVERVIEW

This is a complicated site with a youth baseball field, 3 basketball courts, 3 tennis courts, play equipment, a historic house, a large school, and a streetscape with game tables and benches. This area is heavily used and acts as a successful gathering area with a tot lot, benches, game tables, and a community bulletin board. A portion of the playground extends behind residences on Stedman Street to link up with a path from Babcock Street.

PARK HISTORY

The Town acquired this land as part of the acquisition of the school in 1891. In the mid-1890s, a portion of it served as the nursery for the Tree Planting Committee. The Department of Public Works kept a stable here and a firehouse was located here from 1893 to 1965. It became a multiple play area with playground equipment, paddle tennis, basketball, softball, roller-skating, and ice-skating. In 1965, the site was improved and the fire station was demolished. The Town renovated the playground in 1999.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town acquired 296,931 square feet of the property from Nehum Smith. This deed was not located during the 2003 research, but was part of the 1960 findings and is confirmed by land plans. Devotion Street was extended through this property for firehouse access to Stedman Street and then abandoned to enlarge the park when the firehouse was abandoned. The firehouse was located on 10,000 square feet of this property, which has now been absorbed by the park grounds. Another 27,720 square feet was purchased from Bouve-Boston School of P.E. in 1948 for \$8,600. There are no known restrictions on the land.

Driscoll School Playground

Category	School Playground
Size	4.03 acres
Protection	None
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Washington Street
Precinct	13
Inventory Date	11/02/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Surrounded by commercial buildings, and apartments, near Beacon St.



OVERVIEW

Renovated in 1993 and again in 2009, the park includes 2 tennis courts, a play area with play equipment for all ages, and a field that is used intensely during recess time. The school is located on a slope, while the playground is flat.

PARK HISTORY

The Driscoll playground is the site of four houses that were razed in 1955. Additions were made in 1929, 1953, and 1979. The park was renovated in 1993, and the field was renovated in 2001. In 2009, the play area was expanded and rubberized surfacing was added, in conjunction with the addition of new hand-capped accessible play equipment for ages 2 – 5. New shade trees were also added at this time and space provided for donations of new seating in the future. The new play equipment will complement the existing equipment for ages 5 – 12, and will provide a unique play experience for special needs children from Driscoll School as well as the larger community.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town acquired 24,584 square feet from Henry W. Estabrook; 36,000 square feet from James B. Bell; 23,129 square feet from Daniel Dewar; and 23,129 square feet from Brookline Savings Bank in 1910. No known restrictions applied to these lands. Another 50,333 square feet was purchased from A. Wolfman, H. & H. Crawford, M.Harris, A & C Barr in 1954 for \$125,000.

Heath School Playground

Category	School Playground
Size	6.51 acres
Protection	None
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Eliot Street
Precinct	14
Inventory Date	10/13/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Direct access to Boylston Street, single-family houses around two sides of the park



OVERVIEW

This playground is lined with uniformly mature oaks. The playground slopes from the rear to the front of the property. There is a planted courtyard in the school atrium. Currently the playground has landscaping, basketball half-court, an informal playing field and two areas of playground equipment. The slope on the western side of the school is a favorite neighborhood sledding spot. It was renovated in 1996.

PARK HISTORY

In 1902, the Town bought the Reed lot at the corner of Boylston and Reservoir Lane for a school. The school was torn down and replaced by the new Heath School in 1958.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town purchased the property from Eben W. Reed et al in 1902 with no restrictions. It was sold as two parcels, with 520 square feet taken for Boylston Street widening. One parcel as 22,279 square feet and the other was 6 acres. Deed totals 283,639 square feet approximately, but 1900 land atlas sets land as 284,552 square feet (factoring in Boylston widening). 15,448 square feet was added from Aqueduct location bringing the 1927 property to 300,000 square feet. 31700 square feet was taken for Fire Station 4 leaving 268,300 square feet in 1930. Size changed to current size in 1972 with the abandonment of part of Eliot Street for parking and a bus entrance to the school.

Longwood Playground

Category	School Playground
Size	4.99 acres
Protection	Article 97
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Longwood and Francis Streets
Precinct	3
Inventory Date	11/02/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Located in single and multi-family neighborhood



OVERVIEW

Longwood Playground is the school playground for Lawrence School. Situated in a bowl, the perimeter of Longwood Playground is lined with mature trees. The slopes of the land dictate the location of the field, and all other facilities are located around the field. There are many pleasant seating areas throughout the park. During the week, the park serves as the venue for the Lawrence School's recess, physical education and after-school programs. The school does not own the park. The park is developed with 2 separate play areas, one designed for school age children and the other for toddlers. Three tennis courts are located at the eastern edge of the playground. Two short combination softball and youth baseball infields are provided. A well-developed pedestrian path system exists around the field.

PARK HISTORY

The property was a deep marsh that was filled in, taking many years to settle. Olmsted and Eliot were hired to improve it in 1895. In 1928, Town Meeting authorized the Selectmen to petition the General Court to allow a small area of the playground to be taken for the school building. A tennis field house was constructed in 1929.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

Samuel McLean transferred 57,031 square feet of the property to the Town in 1873. The Town purchased 170,099 square feet from Henrietta W. Thomas in 1891 and another 27,629 square feet from Charles H. Stearns et. al. in 1898 with the stipulation that "no building shall be placed within 20 feet...no building of a value less than \$45,000, no apartment house, no building for carrying on any mechanical trade or for manufacturing purposes." The Town acquired 18,150 square feet of the property from Knights of Columbus/ Building Corporation in 1959. Original deed was not available, only a duplicate certificate of Title from 9/30/1977 was available.

Pierce School Playground

Category	School Playground
Size	2.37 acres
Protection	Article 97
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	School Street
Precinct	7
Inventory Date	11/02/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Enclosed by apartment buildings and parking lot on the west and housing on the north and east



OVERVIEW

The park has an upper level with play equipment and a lower level with a ball field, with a steep grassed slope between. The playground and field are located behind residences along School Street. The playground is enclosed by apartment buildings and their parking lot on the west, housing on the east and north. This green space serves as the school yard for the Pierce School which connects to the site by means of a pedestrian bridge over School Street. The school does not own the playground. The field is used extensively for youth baseball during the spring. The playground also includes basketball court, play area, tot lot, seating area, and spray pool.

PARK HISTORY

This property was purchased, taken, and given in 6 separate plots to serve as a playground.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town purchased 11,304 square feet of land from Charles Leavitt with no restrictions in 1927 and Mr. Leavitt donated 1996 square feet with no restriction the same year. Fannie Hall Fegan donated 36,575 square feet of land in 1927 and Anna M. & William J. Ward donated some land in 1928 to the Town with the "plan of land to be conveyed to the Town of Brookline for the Pierce School Playground." In 1951, the Town acquired another 29,306 square feet from Trustees of Fannie Hall Fegan and another 19,487 square feet from Jacob Ditch in 1962 to be developed "for recreational, school, playground purpose."

Runkle School Playground

Category	School Playground
Size	3.05 acres
Protection	None
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Clinton Road
Precinct	12
Inventory Date	11/02/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	In a single-family neighborhood, surrounded by neighborhood streets and school



OVERVIEW

The front entrance of the school includes a memorial bench, Japanese lantern, and an amphitheater used for school ceremonies. The playground descends through three levels, the first level is comprised of play equipment as is the second, while the third level contains an expansive lawn. A large bituminous play area separates the rear of the school from the lawn.

PARK HISTORY

Land for the playground at Runkle School was purchased in 1903. Renovation of the play area started in 1999 with additional improvements to play equipment implemented in 2000.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town purchased 50,000 square feet for the property with no restrictions in 1895 and another 46,389 square feet in 1903 "for playground use" from Lisette De Wolf Rotch. Deed information came from 1960 deed research. Another 36,699 square feet was purchased from the same person in 1908 with the stipulation that "no building within 25 ft. of Chesham Road, and on Buckminister Street no buildings under \$8,000 in cost shall be erected, manure shall be kept covered at all times, etc."

William H. Lincoln School Playground (New)

Category	School Playground
Size	4.24 acres
Protection	NR, SR
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Kennard Road
Precinct	5
Inventory Date	10/12/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Surrounded by single-family houses, the Old Burying Ground; one block away from Boylston Street



OVERVIEW

Two playground areas are confined within a small amount of square footage. Beyond the school the grounds open up into a large, open sloped lawn and a big terrace located at the side of the school. The perimeter of the lawn area is an old, charming brick wall some of which has recently been restored in 2005.

PARK HISTORY

The New Lincoln School was established as a Brookline school in 1969. It is located on the site of the Hill-Kennard-Ogden House (known as "The Maples" in the 1890s). The site was occupied by several private schools until the late 1960's when the old Hill-Kennard place was bought by the Brookline School Department. The new school and grounds were completed in 1994 and include extensive play structures and a multi-use field. The property is located within the Town Green Historic District and is listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town acquired the property as two parcels from Park School Corporation for \$400,000 in 1970 "for the purpose of the public schools."

William H. Lincoln School Playground (Old)

Category	School Playground
Size	1.51 acres
Protection	None
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	194 Boylston Street
Precinct	5
Inventory Date	10/26/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	By the side of the school building, 60 feet above the street level; right by Boylston Street



OVERVIEW

There is a small playground area located next to the building, which now serves as a temporary location for schools or Town offices during construction.

PARK HISTORY

The first Lincoln School was dedicated in 1888. In 1890, the Town bought the lot next door for a new building and a playground. The old schools were razed in 1931 and the new school constructed in 1932. The building is now used as a back-up facility when other Town buildings are under construction.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town acquired 35,244 square feet of the property from Sarah D. and Susan B. Clark in 1886. It added another 20,705 square feet from Alfred Winsor and Horace D. Chaplin, executors of the will of Edward S. Philbrick, in 1890. Both parcels had the stipulation that “no stable to be erected hereon for 25 years.”

G. CEMETERIES

The Old Burying Ground

Category	Cemetery
Size	1.54 acres
Protection	NR, SR
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Walnut Street
Precinct	15
Inventory Date	N/A
Vicinity	Near Route 9, surrounded by a mix of both residential and commercial buildings



OVERVIEW

Brookline's first cemetery, consecrated in 1717. Many past prominent citizens of the Town are buried here.

Holyhood Cemetery

Category	Cemetery
Size	36.2
Protection	NR, SR
Manager	Private, Non-Profit
Location	Heath Street
Precinct	15
Inventory Date	N/A
Vicinity	Adjacent to Beaver Country Day School, surrounded by single-family homes

OVERVIEW

The cemetery was founded in 1857 by the Catholic parishes of Brookline and Brighton and is on the National Register of Historic places.

Walnut Hills Cemetery

Category	Cemetery
Size	45.26 acres
Protection	NR, SR
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Newton Street
Precinct	15
Inventory Date	N/A
Vicinity	Located between Allandale Farm and Putterham Branch Library



OVERVIEW

The park-like setting with mature trees and puddingstone outcrops makes this area an attraction for walkers and birders. Many past prominent citizens, including Trinity Church architect H.H. Richardson, are buried here.

H. GOLF COURSE

Robert T. Lynch Municipal Golf Course at Putterham Meadows

Category	Golf Course
Size	119.90 acres
Protection	Article 97
Manager	Brookline Recreation Department
Location	1281 West Roxbury Parkway
Precinct	15
Inventory Date	10/27/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Located near the Country Club and Pine Manor College



OVERVIEW

The 18-hole golf course is the largest Town-owned green space. In addition to the golf course, the property includes Putterham Woods and wetlands. The property also contains a putting green, practice chipping green, and teaching areas. The club house has an administrative office, a large foyer, sandwich bar with kitchen, game room, and a pro shop.

PARK HISTORY

The golf course was designed and built by Stiles and Van Kleek during the Depression and opened in 1933. Much of the property was historically a wetland with drainage problems. In 2001, the Brookline Golf Club at Putterham Meadows was renamed the Robert T. Lynch Municipal Golf Course in honor of Robert T. Lynch, and his life-long service and commitment to the Town of Brookline's recreation programs, including working for the Town for 35 years, including as the Director of Recreation, coaching Brookline Pop Warner and Brookline High School Football for over twelve years, and serving as a Town Meeting member. In 2010, portions of a stream bank at the golf course were restored, and a golf cart stream crossing and retaining walls were removed to improve drainage and stream function. A larger drainage-related project is planned for the future.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

The Town purchased the property with no known restrictions. It was designated park land in 1907.

I. AGRICULTURAL AND RECREATION LAND

Allandale Farm

Category	Agriculture
Size	70.11 acres
Protection	None
Manager	Private
Location	Allandale Road
Precinct	15
Inventory Date	10/27/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Located near The Country Club and Pine Manor College



OVERVIEW

One of the oldest farms in continuous operation in Massachusetts, Allandale cultivates its land organically and operates a farmstand. The fields and wetlands provide valuable wildlife habitat. The property is located in the Charles-to-Charles Corridor. Because it is assessed under G.L. C.61A, the Town has first right-of-refusal on any sale.

The Country Club

Category	Recreation
Size	230.76 acres
Protection	None
Manager	Private
Location	Clyde Street
Precinct	15
Inventory Date	10/27/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Located near The Country Club and Pine Manor College.

OVERVIEW

The largest single area of open space in Brookline, The Country Club connects to Robert T. Lynch Golf Course at Putterham Meadows. In the past, agreements were made with the Club to allow residents to use parts of the course for cross-country skiing. Assessed under Chapter 61B as recreation land, the Town has first right-of-refusal on any sale.

J. CONSERVATION RESTRICTIONS

SARGENT POND

Size 5.00 acres
Manager Sargent Road Trust
Location Sargent Road
Grantor Sargent Road Trust
Year Granted 1973

HELLENIC ASSOCIATION

Size 1.20 acres
Manager Hellenic Association of Boston
Location 162 Goddard Avenue
Grantor Hellenic Association of Boston
Year Granted 1977

WALNUT PLACE

Size 1.20 acres
Manager Browne et al.
Location 55-100 Walnut Place
Grantor Kingsbury Browne, Jr. et al.
Year Granted 1979

235-255 GODDARD AVENUE

Size 11.69 acres
Manager Park School
Location 235-255 Goddard Avenue
Grantor Mary duPont Faulkner
Year Granted 1980

TOWN HOUSES AT LARZ ANDERSON

Size 3.21 acres
Manager Townhouses at Larz Anderson Trust
Location 275 Goddard Avenue
Grantor Townhouses at Larz Anderson
Year Granted 1980

SEARS ESTATE

Size 0.51 acres
Manager Various
Location 287 Kent Street
Grantor Parencorp
Year Granted 1983

PAINE ESTATE

Size 1.74 acres
Manager Various
Location 325-335 Heath Street
Grantor Heath Limited Partnership
Year Granted 1986

133 GODDARD AVENUE

Size 8.41 acres
Manager H. Kimball & Nancy W. Faulkner
Location 133 Goddard Avenue
Grantor H. Kimball & Nancy W. Faulkner
Year Granted 1990

LONGYEAR ESTATE

Size 6.00 acres
Manager Longyear Properties, L.L.C.
Location Seaver Street
Grantor Longyear Properties, L.L.C.
Year Granted 1998

GODDARD HOUSE

Size 2.30 acres
Manager Goddard House
Location 201 Huntington Ave, J.P.
Grantor Goddard House
Year Granted 2001

IVY STREET, MAP 9, LOT 1

Size 0.029 acres
Manager John J. and Shiyong Roh Weiter
Location Ivy Street
Grantor John J. and Shiyong Roh Weiter
Year Granted 2001

IVY STREET, MAP 12, LOT 4A

Size 0.05 acres
Manager Kenneth and Ruth C. Scheer
Location Ivy Street
Grantor Kenneth and Ruth C. Scheer
Year Granted 2001

153 RANGELEY ROAD

Size 0.605 acres
Manager Creative Development Associates LLP
Location 153 Rangeley Road
Grantor Creative Development Associates LLP
Year Granted 2001

SAINT AIDAN'S

Size 0.48 acres (4 areas total)
Manager St. Aidan's Realty Trust
Location Intersection of Freeman Street, Pleasant Street, and Crowninshield Road
Grantor Lisa B. Alberghini, Trustee of St. Aidan's Realty Trust
Year Granted 2005

J. CONSERVATION RESTRICTIONS

(Continued)

170 SARGENT ROAD

Size 1.82 acres
Manager Summera Realty Trust
Location 170 Sargent Road
Grantor Andrew J. Ley, Trustee of
Summera Realty Trust
Year Granted 2008

FISHER HILL RESERVOIR

Size 9.65 acres
Manager Brookline DPW, Parks and Open
Space Division
Location 100 Fisher Avenue
Grantor Town of Brookline
Year Granted 2011

K. BROOKLINE CONSERVATION LAND TRUST

WALNUT STREET

Size 1.01 acres
Manager Brookline Conservation Land Trust
Location Walnut and Warren Streets
Year Property Acquired by BCLT 1981 (from Marion Parson Alden)
Protection Conservation Restriction
Grantor Trustees of Brookline Conservation Land Trust
Year Granted 2010

LOT 1 SARGENT BEECHWOOD

Size 0.92 acres
Manager Brookline Conservation Land Trust
Location Sargent and Beechwood Roads
Year Property Acquired by BCLT 1996 (from Gertrude H. Donald)
Protection Conservation Restriction
Grantor Trustees of Brookline Conservation Land Trust
Year Granted 2010

LOT 5 COTTAGE STREET

Size 2.02 acres
Manager Brookline Conservation Land Trust
Location Cottage Street
Year Property Acquired by BCLT 1998 (from Clarita H. Bright)
Protection Conservation Restriction
Grantor Trustees of Brookline Conservation Land Trust
Year Granted 2010

RICHARDSON PROPERTY

Size 1.83 acres
Manager Margaret Richardson
Location Boylston Street (Route 9) opposite Brookline Reservoir
Protection Conservation Restriction
Grantor Margaret Richardson
Year Granted 2003

L. TRAFFIC MEDIANS, ISLANDS, AND OTHER PROPERTIES

Beacon Street Mall

Category	Medians and Traffic Islands
Size	14.25 acres
Protection	NR, SR
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Beacon Street
Precinct	1, 3, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14
Inventory Date	11/06/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Median of Beacon Street



OVERVIEW

Located in the most urban area of Brookline, the mall acts as a median of Beacon Street carrying the MBTA Cleveland Circle trolley line down the middle. The mall consists of landscaped islands and parking lots abutting the MBTA right-of-way.

PARK HISTORY

Beacon Street was laid out as a narrow country lane in 1850-1851 to link North Brookline to Boston. Forty years later Frederick Law Olmsted's design transformed it into a grand boulevard with the second electric trolley line in the country (and the oldest still in operation). Improvements to plantings, lighting and street furniture are planned for the near future as part of the Beacon Street enhancement project.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

It is listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

Brington Road Island

Category	Medians and Traffic Islands
Size	0.08 acres
Protection	None
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Brington Road
Precinct	6
Inventory Date	11/04/04 revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Residential neighborhood.



OVERVIEW

A small landscaped open space originally laid out by Fredrick Law Olmsted in the 1889 "Plan for Brookline Hills." Located in a residential setting, the island has a small patch of perennial shrubs. It does not have enough area for physical public use.

PARK HISTORY

No information is available.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

No information located.

Corey Farm Circle

Category	Medians and Traffic Islands
Size	0.06 acres
Protection	None
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Intersection of Williston, Evans, and Downing Roads
Precinct	13
Inventory Date	11/04/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Residential neighborhood



OVERVIEW

The traffic circle was installed in 1999 as part of a traffic calming effort. The circle with shrubs is surrounded by single family houses.

PARK HISTORY

No information is available.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

No information located.

Dudley Triangle

Category	Medians and Traffic Islands
Size	0.81 acres
Protection	Article 97
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Intersection of Dudley and Lee Streets
Precinct	14
Inventory Date	11/04/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Residential neighborhood adjacent to the Brookline Reservoir and the approach road to Route 9



OVERVIEW

The triangle with mature trees and open lawn act as a landscaped park.

PARK HISTORY

In the 1800s, this property was a Town gravel pit.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

No information located.

Dwight Square

Category	Medians and Traffic Islands
Size	0.16 acres
Protection	Article 97
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Intersection of Dwight and Babcock Streets
Precinct	8
Inventory Date	11/04/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Located in a residential neighborhood; one block from Devotion School playground



OVERVIEW

This is a small landscaped parcel surrounded by residential buildings. It has a mix of shade and flowering trees, flowering shrubs and ground cover, and seating.

Eliot and Crafts Road Triangle

Category	Medians and Traffic Islands
Size	0.26 acres
Protection	None
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Intersection of Eliot Street and Crafts Road
Precinct	13
Inventory Date	12/08/05
Vicinity	Residential Neighborhood near the Eliot Recreation Center



OVERVIEW

The triangle is located in a residential neighborhood, one block from the Eliot Recreation Center. At one time there was a formal rose garden at the corner where Crafts Road meets Eliot Street.

Francis J. Hickey Square

Category	Medians and Traffic Islands
Size	0.06 acres
Protection	NR, SR
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Intersection of Harvard and Washington Streets
Precinct	6
Inventory Date	11/02/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Commercial land use



OVERVIEW

The square is located in a busy urban area with a commemorative plaque and planters. It is a highly used public space.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTION

It is listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

Francis X. Ryan Circle

Category	Medians and Traffic Islands
Size	0.71 acres
Protection	NR, SR
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division (owned by Commonwealth of Massachusetts)
Location	Intersection of West Roxbury Parkway and Grove Street
Precinct	16
Inventory Date	11/02/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Roundabout of busy streets next to Temple Emeth, a shopping area, and residences



OVERVIEW

This landscaped island is also known as Putterham Circle.

PARK HISTORY

No information is available.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

It is listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

Freeman Square

Category	Medians and Traffic Islands
Size	0.15 acres
Protection	Article 97
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Intersection of Freeman and Babcock Streets
Precinct	8
Inventory Date	11/04/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Located in a residential neighborhood; one block from Dwight Square



OVERVIEW

This is a small landscaped parcel surrounded by residential buildings.

PARK HISTORY

The park was renovated in the fall of 2005, with new irrigation, plantings, a seat wall and benches, and a secondary path.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

No information located.

Hammond Pond Parkway

Category	Medians and Traffic Islands
Size	25.66 acres
Protection	Article 97
Manager	Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Location	Hammond Pond
Precinct	15
Inventory Date	11/01/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Busy road lined with trees

OVERVIEW

This busy street, some of which is adjacent to woods. The property is part of the MWRA parkway system.

Horace James Circle

Category	Medians and Traffic Islands
Size	0.71 acres
Protection	None
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division (owned by Commonwealth of Massachusetts)
Location	Intersection of Hammond Pond and West Roxbury Parkways
Precinct	15
Inventory Date	11/01/04 revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Busy roads lined with thick vegetation



OVERVIEW

This is a landscaped island at the intersection of Hammond Parkway, West Roxbury Parkway, Newton Street, Hammond Street, and Lagrange Street.

PARK HISTORY

The Massachusetts Horticultural Society awarded a Blue Ribbon Certificate to the Tree Planting Committee in 1937 for its implementation of Sidney Shurcliff's landscape design.

Pleasant Street Triangle

Category	Medians and Traffic Islands
Size	0.05 acres
Protection	NR, SR
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Pleasant Street
Precinct	10
Inventory Date	11/04/04 revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Located in a commercial area along Beacon Street



OVERVIEW

The triangle located north of Coolidge corner on Beacon Street, consists of planters located on paved surface. It is heavily used by pedestrians and functions as a small urban park.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

It is listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

Single Tree Road Circle

Category Medians and Traffic Islands
Size 0.33 acres
Protection None
Manager Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location Single Tree Road
Precinct 15
Inventory Date 11/04/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity End of a cul-de-sac in residential neighborhood



OVERVIEW

The property is located at the end of a dead end road in a residential neighborhood.

PARK HISTORY

No information is available.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

No information located.

VFW Parkway Median

Category Medians and Traffic Islands
Size 1.17 acres
Protection NR, SR
Manager Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
(owned by Massachusetts DCR)
Location VFW Parkway
Precinct 16
Inventory Date 11/04/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity Residential neighborhood



OVERVIEW

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Parkway has a linear median lined with mature oak trees and edged with granite curb.

PARK HISTORY

No information is available.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

It is listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

Webster Street Triangle

Category	Medians and Traffic Islands
Size	0.08 acres
Protection	NR, SR
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Webster Street
Precinct	10
Inventory Date	11/04/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Commercial and urban location in Coolidge Corner



OVERVIEW

The triangle was designed as part of the entry to the Marriott Hotel and is aesthetically designed with seating and planters. The site is heavily used by pedestrians and is located in an urban setting. It functions as a small urban park. The Marriott Hotel has an agreement with the Town to maintain the plantings.

PARK HISTORY

The new design replaced a former small gathering area with benches and a granite cobble planter.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

It is listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

West Roxbury Parkway

Category	Medians and Traffic Islands
Size	2.16 acres
Protection	NR, SR
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division, with assistance from Chestnut Hill Realty (owned by Commonwealth of Massachusetts)
Location	West Roxbury Parkway
Precinct	15
Inventory Date	11/05/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Median passing Robert T. Lynch Golf Course at Putterham Meadows and single-family houses



OVERVIEW

The parkway starting at Horace James Circle is part of Newton Street before the South Street intersection. The median is lined with mature trees and planted with shrubs. It exists as two parcels, the division occurring where Wolcott Road meets the parkway. The terrain of the median varies from steep slope to relatively flat.

PARK HISTORY

No information is available.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

It is listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

OTHER SMALL OPEN SPACES

Clark Road Land

Category	Medians, Traffic Circles, and Other
Size	0.66 acres
Protection	None
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Clark Road
Precinct	6
Inventory Date	11/04/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Sandwiched between houses and MBTA right-of-way



OVERVIEW

The property is behind a residence and adjacent to MBTA subway line, and consists of fenced wooded area with very little active maintenance. It offers no physical or visual access to it and acts as a buffer zone between the subway line and the residential area.

PARK HISTORY

No information is available.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

No information located.

Clark Road, MBTA Land

Category	Medians, Traffic Circles, and Other
Size	0.2 acres
Protection	None
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division (owned by Commonwealth of Massachusetts)
Location	Clark Road
Precinct	6
Inventory Date	11/04/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Next to MBTA right-of-way; adjacent to Clark Road Land



OVERVIEW

This property is located on a very steep slope and enclosed by a fence. It lies adjacent to a bridge over the MBTA subway line. The steep slope restricts physical access to the site. It acts as a buffer to negotiate the change in grade at the bridge.

PARK HISTORY

No information is available.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

No information located.

Clinton Road Waterworks Land

Category	Medians, Traffic Circles, and Other
Size	0.53 acres
Protection	NR, SR
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division (owned by Commonwealth of Massachusetts)
Location	Clinton Road
Precinct	14
Inventory Date	11/04/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Connects to Clinton Path and to Waldstein Playground



OVERVIEW

The property is fenced off and behind a residence from Clinton Road with no public access.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTION

It is listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

Health Department Lot

Category	Medians, Traffic Circles, and Other
Size	0.74 acres
Protection	None
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Beside Health Department building on Harvard Street
Precinct	6
Inventory Date	11/04/04
Vicinity	Located adjacent to Pierce School



OVERVIEW

Landscaped green space surrounds the Health Department building. The property with sloping ground is provided with drains to control storm water. Improvements are planned as part of the renovation of the Health Department Building and the Main Library/Town Hall Landscape Master Plan completed in 2005.

Newton Street Parcel

Category	Medians, Traffic Circles, and Other
Size	0.11 acres
Protection	Article 97
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Newton Street
Precinct	15
Inventory Date	11/04/04 revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Sandwiched between houses and Newton Street



OVERVIEW

The property is fenced and located on a sloping terrain along Newton Street with no public access.

PARK HISTORY

This land was part of the original site of the Putterham School. The school building was moved to Larz Anderson Park in 1965.

Reservoir Road Extension

Category	Medians, Traffic Circles, and Other
Size	0.092 acres
Protection	Article 97, NR, SR, LHD
Owner	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Reservoir and Middlesex Roads
Precinct	13
Inventory Date	12/7/05
Vicinity	Residential neighborhood next to MBTA tracks



OVERVIEW

This was once the extension of Reservoir Road to a vehicular bridge over the Green Line MBTA tracks. The roadway was replaced with a pedestrian path and bridge with native plants surrounding it.

PARK HISTORY

Town Meeting in November of 2004 voted to discontinue a portion of Reservoir Road leading to the bridge over the MBTA tracks and designate the area for a park. This portion of the road had been out of use since 1978, when the road was closed due to the bridge being unsafe. The MBTA has since replaced the bridge with a new pedestrian-only bridge.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

It is listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places, as well as the Local Historic District Register.

Reservoir Road Land

Category	Medians, Traffic Circles, and Other
Size	0.98 acres
Protection	NR, SR, LHD
Owner	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Unconstructed Reservoir Lane
Precinct	13
Inventory Date	11/04/04 revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Isolated location



OVERVIEW

This wooded property is located at the intersection of Reservoir Road and unconstructed Reservoir Lane. It is a fenced property sloping down from the road level with no public access.

PARK HISTORY

No information is available.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

It is listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places and is within the Chestnut Hill North Local Historic District.

Single Tree Reservoir

Category	Medians, Traffic Circles, and Other
Size	2.76 acres
Protection	None
Manager	Brookline DPW, Parks and Open Space Division
Location	Behind Chestnut Hill Benevolent Association
Precinct	15
Inventory Date	11/04/04, revised 2/1/05
Vicinity	Located off of Route 9 and approach is adjacent to Chestnut Hill Benevolent Association



OVERVIEW

The site contains a large green water tank and is part of the Town's water distribution system. Public access to the property is restricted.

PARK HISTORY

No information prior to 2010 is available. In the fall of 2010, Town Meeting voted to amend the Zoning By-Law to create a new Renewable Energy Overlay District (Solar Overlay District) on the Single Tree Reservoir site, which allows ground-mounted solar photovoltaic panels to be potentially installed on the site in the future.

DEED/TITLE/RESTRICTIONS

No information located.

Weld Garden

*WELD GARDEN glows with crimson velvet flowers
And yellow flowers like the setting sun;
The fountain sings in silver, splashing showers;
Along the crannied tiles green mosses run.*

*Vines curl upon the slender marble figures
Until the west wind strips them to the sky
All naked: then they face the autumn rigors
Till snow clothes them in ermine by and by.*

*The hilltop seaward looks across the plain
Where fogs descend and where the salt sea shoals;
There in the rift the white sails cleave the main,
Hither and thither blown like human souls.*

Isabel Anderson

* "Weld" was Larz and Isabel Anderson's estate, currently Larz Anderson Park.