

ANNUAL REPORT

BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

CITY OF PROVIDENCE

YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30-1954

To the Honorable City Council:

Gentlemen:

We have the honor to submit herewith our Annual Report for the year ending September 30-1954.

Respectfully submitted:

Joseph Eastman
Chairman
Charles B. Merdany
John R. Flynn

IN CITY COUNCIL

JAN 20 1955

READ:
WHEREUPON IT IS ORDERED THAT
THE SAME BE RECEIVED.

Everett Whelan
CLERK

FILED

JAN 7 12 26 PM '55

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
PROVIDENCE, R. I.

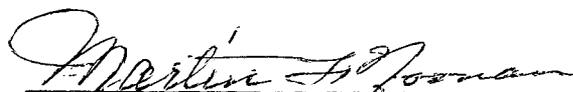
IN OLD RECORDS

RECORDS SECTION

To the Honorable Board of Park Commissioners:

Gentlemen:

I have the honor to submit to you the
Annual Report for the Park Department for the year
ending September 30-1954.


Superintendent of Parks

We are glad to report that all property throughout the entire Park System has been maintained in the best possible condition. We always conduct our routine work on a high order as we figure this method involves less expense in the long run.

We do all repair work on buildings, bridges, roads, sidewalks, animal pens, fences and grounds as it becomes necessary; this means less deterioration; also, our usual routine planting, care of trees and shrubs, trimming, spraying, clean-up of roads, etc.

An off-street parking lot has been built in Roger Williams Park which will accomodate approximately one hundred cars. This will relieve traffic congestion to a great extent in the center of the park and near the amusements in this area which tend to impede traffic; also in the area of the Oriental Garden.

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Our tulip display, always an outstanding feature in Spring, was exceptionally attractive this year and was visited by many out-of-state people as well as by thousands of our own residents. In addition to this beautiful showing - the azaleas, flowering cherry, crab and dogwood trees together with numerous other spring blooms all seemed to out-do themselves this past spring in an array of brilliant color and beauty.

In June our extensive Rose Gardens including both hybrid and climbing roses were a genuine treat for the thousands of visitors to the park during July and continuing practically all through the summer.

The Chrysanthemum Show early in November attracted the usual enthusiastic crowds of flower lovers. Thousands visited this beautiful exhibit held in our Park Avenue greenhouses and we received numerous compliments on this fine exhibition. We displayed hundreds of unusual blooms including many new species being introduced to the public for the first time.

Our Christmas Display continues to draw large crowds not only from our own state but from neighboring states as well. We have plans in mind for an improvement in this project which we hope we may be able to inaugurate for next year's scene.

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MUSEUM

During the past year our Museum Building has been completely re-wired: unsightly old fixtures have been replaced with modern fluorescent lighting. This made a very fine improvement besides being urgently needed.

The large numbers attending our Museum of Natural History continue to be keenly interested in the various exhibits and classes, and also in our Planetarium which serves as a special source of instruction to many adults as well as students and is very much appreciated. In addition to the usual showings for school children, we hold special sessions for groups of students interested in astronomy.

GOLF COURSE

We are glad to report that we had a very successful playing season at our Municipal Golf Course. To meet the popular demand for this recreation, the course was kept open through December 20th. A total of 46,317 rounds of golf were played as follows:

32,265 daily permits
14,052 rounds by season pass players

The greens and fairways have been maintained in splendid condition.

DEXTER TRAINING GROUND

During the past year, the Park Department has extended the landscaping project at Dexter Training Ground. We graded about two-thirds of the entire area and planted grass seed which is developing into a fine turf.

Also, four bocchia courts have been constructed and flood-lighted; this game meets a demand for a very popular form of recreation for the residents of this neighborhood. New benches were installed and, all in all, it added up to a very good improvement of this property.

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New benches were also installed at Bucklin Park.

HURRICANES

Park property throughout the entire city was extremely hard hit by two severe hurricanes this past Fall. Approximately 2500 trees were badly damaged; numerous others were damaged in a lesser degree - limbs broken, etc. and close to 1500 trees were up-rooted.

A number of our real old trees were ruined beyond reclaiming, and it will take many years to replace some of the rare priceless species in Roger Williams Park's noted collection. In a good many instances where they were up-rooted and not too badly damaged, we were able to save the trees by setting them back into position and securing them by the use of guy wires.

A large section of the cement wall around the brook at Pleasant Valley Parkway was undermined and broken away.

A great many tropical plants in beds on the Mall were ruined by oil and flood waters; a large section of the turf in that area and in City Hall Park was destroyed.

Practically all of our buildings were damaged to some extent - and, in the case of the Museum and Casino, the damage was extensive.

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All park property has been cleaned up of debris resulting from the hurricane and is being restored to good condition as quickly as possible.

Naturally, the time and labor required for emergency work on hurricane rehabilitation necessitated setting aside other work which had been planned for this fall season.

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FINANCIAL REPORT

PARK DEPARTMENT - CITY OF PROVIDENCE

YEAR ENDING SEP 30-1954

RECEIPTS

ROGER WILLIAMS PARK

Concessions	8 480 00	
Carousel	1 600 00	
Rent of Stable	914 00	
Rent R I Driving Club	12 00	
Casino Rentals	2 730 00	
Canoe Registration	2 00	
Receipts from Lavatories	147 48	
Commission - N E Telephone Co	17 83	
Sales - Scrap	78 70	
Wool	39 85	
Damage to Property	<u>100 00</u>	14 121 86
Rent - Burns Pullman Diner	600 00	
Jos Wms Field House	<u>44 00</u>	644 00

MUSEUM

Telephone - Personal calls		90
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GENERAL PARKS

Rents - Blackstone Boulevard	148 52	
Irving Avenue	78 00	
Land - 181 India St	200 00	
Neutaconkanut Park	51 00	
Plat 59 Seekonk River	<u>60 00</u>	537 52

MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE

Greens Fees etc	46 956 75	
Insurance for money stolen	908 50	
Commission - N E Telephone Co	<u>35 13</u>	<u>47 900 38</u>

TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR 63 204 66

Refund - Water R W P	2 465 90
" M Golf Course	527 55

FUNDS AND EXPENDITURES

Year Ending Sep 30 1954

ROGER WILLIAMS PARK

Expenditures

Personal Services - Salaries and Wages 149 240 77

Services Other Than Personal

Medical Services	67 75	
Fees not Classified - Auto Reg	87 00	
Postage Freight Express Advertising	10 00	
Printing and Binding	71 06	
Advertising	62 00	
Heat Light and Power	1 563 68	
Water	583 85	
Repairs to Automobiles and Trucks	233 45	
Repairs to Plant and Other Equipment	665 30	
Repairs to Buildings	3 242 79	
Maintenance and Servicing	66 90	
Repairs to Highways and Structures	4 057 00	
Laundry and Cleaning	5 50	
Miscel Services not Classified	356 05	
Band Concerts	1 240 00	12 312 33

Orders Encumbered Item I 8 138 22

Materials and Supplies

Stationery Printed Forms - Supplies	20 72	
Small Tools and Shop Supplies	28 39	
Motor Fuel	1 480 73	
Lubricants	215 26	
Tires and Tubes	30 66	
Repair Parts and Supplies - Automotive or Construction Equipment etc	1 062 89	
Medical Chemical and Lab Supplies	22 67	
Fuel	5 196 53	
Housekeeping Supplies - Minor Equip	975 78	
Food and Bedding for Animals	15 655 49	
Seed Fertilizer Trees and Shrubs	1 753 92	
Other Agricultural Horticultural and Landscaping Supplies	827 84	
Loam	495 00	
Gravel Sand and Stone	481 25	
Cement Plaster and Related Products	283 28	
Asphaltic Products	71 10	
Fabricated Metal Products	242 78	
Lumber and Hardware	1 879 57	
Paint and Painter's Supplies	443 55	
Pipe	50 95	
Hydrants Valves and Fittings	45 65	
Miscellaneous	67 08	31 331 09

Orders Encumbered Item II 64 70

FUNDS AND EXPENDITURES continued

Special Items - Liability Insurance 15 50

Capital Outlay

Trucks and Tractors	5 090 00	
Household Laundry and Refrig Equipment	46 65	
Purchase of Land	73 50	
Agricultural and Landscaping Equipment	<u>1 444 59</u>	6 654 74

Orders Encumbered - Item V 214 62

Other Structures and Improvements 200 80

Orders Encumbered - Item VII 5 050 43

Total Expenditures Roger Williams Park 199 755 23

Appropriation

Item 0	158 530 87	
Item I	24 557 00	
Item II	33 000 00	
Item III	15 50	
Item V	7 125 00	
Item VII	<u>7 500 00</u>	
	230 728 37	Total Appropriation
	<u>199 755 23</u>	Total Expenditures
	30 973 14	
	<u>13 467 97</u>	Orders Encumbered
	17 505 17	Balance 9/30/54

Christmas Display in Roger Williams Park

Total Expenditures 1 237 28

Appropriation

Item III	1 500 00	Total Appropriation
	<u>1 237 28</u>	Total Expenditures
	262 72	Balance 9/30/54

Total forward 200 992 51

FUNDS AND EXPENDITURES continued

Forward 200 992 51

ROGER WILLIAMS PARK

CHARLES H SMITH TRUST FUND

Personal Services - Salaries and Wages 36 145 65

Services Other Than Personal

Fees Not Otherwise Classified	4 00	
Postage Freight and Express	5 28	
Light and Power	750 35	
Water	1 807 41	
Repairs to Automobiles and Trucks	144 34	
Maintenance and Servicing	<u>153 03</u>	2 864 41

Materials and Supplies

Repair Parts and Supplies for Auto- motive or Construction Equipment	8 93	
Fuel	4 695 84	
Fertilizer Spray Disinfectants etc	49 31	
Bulbs Seed Shrubs Trees etc	2 563 11	
Agricultural and Horticultural Supplies	1 360 48	
Loam	122 50	
Lumber and Hardware	122 50	
Paint and Painter's Supplies	7 68	
Pipe	84 57	
Hydrants Valves and Fittings	<u>54 53</u>	9 069 45

Total Expenditures
Roger Williams Park Chas H Smith 48 079 51

Available

51 024 58	Balance 9/30/53
50 000 00	Allotted
<u>51 024 58</u>	Total Available
<u>48 079 51</u>	Total Expenditures
2 945 07	Balance 9/30/54

Total forward 249 072 02

FUNDS AND EXPENDITURES continued

Forward 249 072 02

GENERAL PARKS

Expenditures

Personal Services - Salaries and Wages 71 632 70

Services Other Than Personal

Fees not Classified - Auto Reg	16 00	
Light and Power	404 92	
Water	1 286 92	
Repairs to Automobiles and Trucks	329 93	
Repairs to Highways and Structures	504 86	
Miscel Services not Classified	<u>325 00</u>	2 867 63

Materials and Supplies

Motor Fuel	1 395 09	
Lubricants	179 72	
Tires and Tubes	96 43	
Repair Parts and Supplies - Automotive or Construction Equipment	751 28	
Fuel	463 18	
Seed Fertilizer Trees and Shrubs	138 00	
Agricultural Horticultural Supplies	550 42	
Asphaltic Products	27 00	
Lumber and Hardware	9 31	
Paint and Painter's Supplies	40 18	
Hydrants Valves and Fittings	2 20	
Meters and Meter Parts	<u>18 50</u>	3 671 31

Orders Encumbered - Item II 47 64

Capital Outlay

Shop and Plant Equipment	46 54	
Agricultural and Landscaping Equip	<u>1 256 23</u>	<u>1 302 77</u>

Total Expenditures General Parks 79 474 41

Appropriation

Item 0	75 522 86	
Item I	4 105 00	
Item II	7 530 86	
Item V	<u>1 316 50</u>	
	88 475 22	Total Apprriation
	<u>79 474 41</u>	Total Expenditures
	9 000 81	
	<u>47 64</u>	Orders Encumbered
	8 953 17	Balance 9/30/54

Total forward 328 546 43

FUNDS AND EXPENDITURES continued

MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE Forward 328 546 43

Expenditures -

Personal Services - Salaries and Wages 37 669 03

Services Other Than Personal

Telephone and Telegraph	218 27	
Fees not Otherwise Classified	4 00	
Printing and Binding	532 37	
Light and Power	558 84	
Water	527 55	
Repairs to Office Machinery, Furniture etc	17 31	
Laundry and Cleaning	<u>372 92</u>	2 231 26

Orders Encumbered - Item I - 2 76

Materials and Supplies

Stationery Printed Forms	161 28	
Small Tools and Shop Supplies	67 86	
Educational and Recreational Supplies	68 70	
Motor Fuel	629 60	
Lubricants	34 85	
Repair Parts and Supplies - Auto - Const	527 26	
Repair Parts and Supplies - Office Machinery, Furniture etc	11 08	
Fuel	822 44	
Housekeeping Supplies and Minor Equip	84 12	
Seed Fertilizer Trees Shrubs etc	1 116 22	
Other Agricultural Horticultural and Landscaping Supplies	170 35	
Gravel Sand and Stone	115 00	
Fabricated Metal Products	24 97	
Lumber and Hardware	28 16	
Paint and Painter's Supplies	<u>181 32</u>	4 043 21

Orders Encumbered - Item II - 115 45

Special Items - Liability Insurance 26 00

Capital Outlay - Agricultural and Landscaping Equip 487 75

Total Expenditures	
<u>Municipal Golf Course</u>	<u>44 457 25</u>

Appropriation

Item 0	38 027 75	
Item I	3 440 00	
Item II	4 755 00	
Item III	26 00	
Item V	<u>508 50</u>	
	46 757 25	Total, Appropriation
	<u>44 457 25</u>	Total Expenditures
	2 300 00	
	<u>118 21</u>	Orders Encumbered
	2 181 79	Balance 9/30/54
		Total forward 373 003 68

FUNDS AND EXPENDITURES continued

Forward 373 003 68

MUSEUM

Expenditures

Personal Services - Salaries and Wages 14 227 80

Services Other Than Personal

Telephone and Telegraph	276 96	
Postage Freight and Express	68 63	
Light and Power	760 80	
Repairs to Office Machinery, Furniture etc	20 15	
Repairs to Other Equipment	57 00	
Repairs to Buildings	9 887 63	
Laundry and Cleaning	21 00	
Dues and Subscriptions	34 00	
Miscel Services not Classified	<u>39 15</u>	11 165 32

Materials and Supplies

Stationery Printed Forms and Supplies	85 74	
Educational and Recreational Supplies	31 51	
Repair Parts and Supplies - Office Machinery, Furniture etc	4 80	
Medical Chemical and Lab Supplies	28 96	
Fuel	1 319 76	
Housekeeping Supplies and Minor Equip	112 64	
Other Agricultural Horticultural and Landscaping Supplies	37 12	
Lumber and Hardware	97 69	
Paint and Painter's Supplies	<u>117 49</u>	1 835 71

Capital Outlay -

Books Maps and Charts	52 40	
Educational and Recreational Equip	<u>50 00</u>	102 40

Total Expenditures Museum 27 331 23

Appropriation

Item O	16 139 80	
Item I	11 545 00	
Item II	1 977 60	
Item V	<u>102 40</u>	
	29 764 80	Total Appropriation
	<u>27 331 23</u>	Total Expenditures
	2 433 57	Balance 9/30/54

Total forward 400 334 91

FUNDS AND EXPENDITURES continued

Forward 400 334 91

ADMINISTRATION

Expenditures

Personal Services - Salaries and Wages 15 190 20

Services Other Than Personal

Telephone and Telegraph	1 284 54	
Postage Freight and Express	39 96	
Laundry and Cleaning	21 00	
Dues and Subscriptions	<u>13 50</u>	1 359 00

Materials and Supplies

Stationery Printed Forms and Supplies 115 58

Total Expenditures
Administration 16 664 78

Appropriation

Item 0	15 190 20	
Item I	1 385 25	
Item II	<u>125 00</u>	
	16 700 45	Total Appropriation
	<u>16 664 78</u>	Total Expenditures
	35 67	Balance 9/30/54

Total forward 416 999 69

FUNDS AND EXPENDITURES continued

Forward 416 999 69

DEXTER TRAINING GROUND - #87-97-6

Expenditures

Personal Services- Salaries and Wages 5 125 58

Other Expenditures 9 389 84 14 515 42

Orders Encumbered 430 20

Total Expenditures for the year
ending Sep 30 1954 431 515 11

FILED

JAN 7 12 26 PM '55

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
PROVIDENCE, R I