Engineering

Map and Plan Preservation Project
THE VAULT

Home to more than 43,300 maps/plans, 44 index books, 501 abstract books and 3,048 notebooks which are fundamental historical resources documenting the physical development of the City of Newton from the 18th century to the present.
F.L. Olmsted – founder of American Landscape Architecture

NEWTON CENTRE PLAYGROUND
Preliminary Plan

Scale of Feet

F.L. OLMS TED & O. LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS
BROOKLINE, MASS. MARCH 20TH, 1891.

THE DESIGN

The ground covered by this plan is a depressed area, much of it constantly water-soaked, subject to be flooded and unsuitable to be built upon. While in private hands and subject to transfer in small parcels, it was liable to become a public eyesore and a menace to the health of the community. Partially for this reason, and partly because it is well situated and well adapted to be economically formed into a much needed playground, possession of it has been acquired by the city. To adapt the ground to its intended use, it is proposed to establish a system of thorough underground drainagewith a lower outlet than now exists. This system, however, is not intended to convey the water now flowing through the property in constant streams by open ditches. It is intended that this water shall be carried, so far as space is available, by channels making, as nearly as practicable, the character of natural brooks. In order to leave a large area of unbroken turf for ball games, these brook channels are to be laid out near the borders of the property. The existing walled ditch for carrying the waste water of the old aqueduct, near the western end of the property, is to be done away with where it crosses the meadow, the new brook channel being adapted to answer the same purpose.

From the straight walk shown on the drawing, following the line of the aqueduct, an unobstructed view of the ball ground will be commanded. Other walks shown are designed to be used for rambling, but are so laid out as to serve as means of convenient communication between the entrances from public streets and different features of interest within the ground. Parts of the ground not needed for games and athletic exercises are to be treated with a view to securing as much beauty as practicable, of a natural character.
Sewer and Water Ties
Smilie Plans – Subdivision and Creation of Garrison St.
ATLAS
OF
THE CITY OF
NEWTON
MASSACHUSETTS

F. W. BEERS

1874