



### Resources by State

Frederick Law Olmsted and the Olmsted firm— together— had nearly 6,000 commissions. Working in 47 out of the 50 states, their work has literally shaped the American landscape. A wide range of resources examine specific landscapes in specific states. As you complete your research, remember to review our website and the websites of conservancies and friends groups.

#### **Alabama**

- *The Olmsted Vision—Parks for Birmingham*. A publication about the Early Years and Today. Marjorie White and Heather McArn. Introduction by Charles Beveridge. Birmingham Historical Society, 2006.
- *Hand Down Unharmd: Olmsted Files on Birmingham Parks 1920–1925*. Birmingham Historical Society. Foreword by Arleyn Levee. Introduction by Marjorie L. White. Birmingham Historical Society, 2008.
- [Mountain Brook: A Historic American Landscape](#). Birmingham Historical Society, 2014.
- [Shades Creek: Flowing Through Time](#). Marjorie L. White. Birmingham Historical Society, 2019.
- [Birmingham, The City Beautiful: Compliments of G Ward](#). Marjorie White. Birmingham Historical Society, 2021.
- [Birmingham's Olmsted Legacy \(Newsletter\)](#). Birmingham Historical Society, Jan. 2022.
- *A Park System for Birmingham*. Olmsted Brothers. Originally published by the Birmingham Park and Recreation Board, 1925. Republished by Birmingham Historical Society, 2005.
- Troy University, see [www.olmsted.org](http://www.olmsted.org), Shared Spaces.

#### **California**

- *A Vision Achieved: Fifty Years of the East Bay Regional Park District*. Mimi Stein. East Bay Regional Park District (1984) ISBN 0-914531-01-8 (Paper). Early chapters cover Olmsted Sr's trip to California and discussion of the Olmsted-Hall Report.

- *Eden by Design: The 1930 Olmsted-Bartholomew Plan for the Los Angeles Region*. Greg Hise and William Deverell. Afterword by Laurie Olin. University of California Press, 2000.
- *Old Torrance: Olmsted Districts*. Bonnie May Barnard, Save Historic Old Torrance. Arcadia Publishing, 2006.
- *Piedmont Way and the Berkeley Property Tract*. The Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association (1995). Introduction by Lesley Emmington Jones. PO Box 1137, Berkeley, CA, 94701 (510) 841-2242
- [Report of State Parks Survey of California](#). Frederick Law Olmsted Jr. (1929).
- NAOP Reprints: *Report of the Director of the Survey to the California State Park Commission*, Frederick Law Olmsted [Jr.], December 29, 1928
- [Report on Proposed Park Reservations for East Bay Cities](#). Olmsted Brothers (The Olmsted-Hall Report, 1930).

### Connecticut

Preservation Connecticut and the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office initiated a state-wide project to expand landscape documentation and stewardship and to shed light on current challenges in land conservation, public access to open space for health and recreation, social equity, landscape stewardship and education. The Olmsted Network encourages other SHPOs to follow CT's lead. [Learn more!](#)

### Delaware

- *Within the Reach of All—An illustrated History of Brandywine Park*. The 119-page book details the founding of the park and Olmsted's role. It has more than 80 illustrations, many vintage images from the park's early years, and includes an 8-page color section. Contact [fowp@dca.net](mailto:fowp@dca.net).

### District of Columbia

- *The National Mall: Rethinking Washington's Monumental Core*. Nathan Glazer & Cynthia R. Field, editors. The Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, 2008.
- *The Washington National Mall*. Peter R. Penczer. Oneonta Press, Arlington, VA, 2007.
- *The Mall in Washington*. Edited by Richard Longstreth. National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC, 2002.
- [1902 McMillan Plan Online](#)
- [Historic Preservation Report for McMillan Slow Sand Filtration Plant, EHT Tracerics, Inc., 2010](#)
- [Rock Creek Park, Report by Olmsted Brothers](#), 1918.

### Georgia

- *Residential Work of the Olmsted Firm in Georgia, 1893–1937*. Lucy Lawliss. Magnolia Essays Number 1 (Spring 1993), Southern Garden History Society.

- *Historic Grant Park*. Jennifer Goad Cuthbertson and Philip M. Cuthbertson. Arcadia Publishing, 2011.
- [\*Atlanta's Olmsted Linear Park\*](#). Spencer Tunnell and Jennifer Richardson. Arcadia Press, 2022.

## Illinois

For online information about Chicago parks, visit [www.chicagoparkdistrict.com](http://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com)

- *The City in the Garden: A Photographic History of Chicago's Parks*. Julia S. Bachrach, with a foreword by Bill Kurtis. The Center for American Places, in association with the Chicago Park District, 2001.
- *Olmsted in Chicago*. Victoria Post Ranney, 1972.
- *Frederick Law Olmsted in Chicago*. An article by NAOP and The Olmsted Papers Project, 2011.
- [\*Preliminary Report upon the Proposed Suburban Village at Riverside, Near Chicago, by Olmsted, Vaux, & Co., Landscape Architects. September 1, 1868.\*](#)
- *The Chicago World's Fair of 1893: A Photographic Record*. With text by Stanley Applebaum. Dover, New York, 1980.

## Kentucky

- [\*Country Houses of Louisville 1899–1939\*](#). Winfrey P. Blackburn, Jr. & R. Scott Gill. Butler Books, Louisville, 2011.
- The website of the Louisville Olmsted Parks Conservancy, [www.olmstedparks.org](http://www.olmstedparks.org)

## Maryland

- *Baltimore's Public Landscapes: The Olmsted Influence -- A Driving Tour Through Northern Baltimore*.
- *Baltimore's Public Landscapes: From Private Estates to the Public Domain—A Driving Tour of West Baltimore's Olmsted Legacy*.
- *Charles Street: A Boulevard Revisited*.
- *From Private Estates to the Public Domain—A Driving Tour of West Baltimore's Olmsted Legacy*.
- *Report Upon the Development of Public Grounds for Greater Baltimore, 1904*.
- *Report and Recommendations on Park Extension for Baltimore, 1926*.
- *Waterfront and Neighborhood Parks--A Driving Tour of Southern Baltimore's Olmsted Legacy*.
- [\*Olmsted Research and Resources in Maryland\*](#).
- [\*Olmsted Works in Maryland, Spring 2022\*](#).

These resources are available through the Friends of Maryland's Olmsted Parks & Landscapes: [www.olmstedmaryland.org](http://www.olmstedmaryland.org)

- *Olmsted's Sudbrook: The Making of a Community*. Melanie Anson. Foreword by Charles Beveridge. Sudbrook Park, Inc., 1997 (reprinted 2005).
- *Baltimore's Patterson Park*. Tim Almaguer. Arcadia Publishing, 2006.

## Maine

- *Designing the Maine Landscape*. Theresa Mattor and Lucie Teegarden, with a preface by Earle Shettleworth Jr. and foreword by Charles E. Beveridge. Down East Books and the Maine Olmsted Alliance for Parks & Landscapes, Camden, ME, 2009.
- Archives, [Maine Olmsted Alliance for Parks and Landscapes](#).

## Massachusetts

- *Frederick Law Olmsted and the Boston Park System*. Cynthia Zaitzevsky. Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, Cambridge, 1982.
- *Franklin Park*. Julie Arrison. Arcadia Publishing, 2009.
- *The Olmsted National Historic Site and the Growth of Historic Landscape Preservation*. David Grayson Allen. University Press of New England and Boston: Northeastern University Press, Hanover (NH) and London, 2007.
- NAOP Reprints: *Frederick Law Olmsted: Report of the Landscape Architect to Charles H. Dalton, Esq., Chairman of the Park Commission—Boston (1883)*.
- The website of the Emerald Necklace Conservancy: [www.emeraldnecklace.org](http://www.emeraldnecklace.org)
- [Immersion: Living and Learning in an Olmsted Garden](#). Nola Anderson. Damiani, Bologna, 2021.
- [World's End: A Panoramic Tour of Olmsted's Masterpiece](#). Mark Roessler. Leveller's Press, 2021.

## Missouri

- *Henry Shaw's Victorian Landscapes: The Missouri Botanical Garden and Tower Grove Park*. Carol Grove. University of Massachusetts Press in association with the Library of America Landscape History, 2005.

## New Jersey

- *Olmsted Parks in New Jersey*. Jeanne Kolva. Schiffer Publishing Ltd., Atglen, PA, 2011.
- *Branch Brook Park*. Kathleen P. Galop and Catharine Longendyck. Arcadia Publishing, 2007.
- [Cultural Landscape Report for Branch Brook Park](#). Rhodeside & Harwell. Newark, NJ, 2002.
- *Cadwalader Heights: The History of an Olmsted Neighborhood: Trenton, New Jersey*. Glenn R. Modica. Bucks Digital Printing, Trenton, N.J., 2007.

## New York

### Buffalo

- [\*The Best Planned City in the World: Olmsted, Vaux, and the Buffalo Park System\*](#). Francis R. Kowsky. Library of American Landscape History, 2013.
- NAOP Reprints: "Said The Site Is Bad. Olmsted Threw a Brick at The Park Board," article from the Buffalo Morning Express, May 5, 1897, page 9.
- *Olmsted's Elmwood: The Rise, Decline and Renewal of Buffalo's Parkway Neighborhood, A Model for America's Cities*. Clinton E. Brown and Ramona Pando Whitaker. Buffalo Heritage Press, 2022.
- For online information on the Buffalo Park System, visit [www.buffaloolmstedparks.org](http://www.buffaloolmstedparks.org)
- [\*Olmsted in Buffalo and Niagara\*](#). Lynda Schneekloth, Robert Shibley & Thomas Yots. The Urban Design Project, School of Architecture and Planning, University of Buffalo, 2011, 108 pages.

### Niagara Falls

- [\*Planning the Niagara Reservation\*](#). Charles E. Beveridge.
- [\*In Defense of Niagara: Frederick Law Olmsted and the Niagara Reservation\*](#). Francis R. Kowsky.

### New York City

- [\*Hell on Color, Sweet on Song: Jacob Wrey Mould and the Artful Beauty of Central Park\*](#). Francis R. Kowsky with Lucille Gordon. Fordham University Press, NY, 2023.
- [\*Before Central Park\*](#). Sara Cedar Miller. Columbia University Press, NY, 2022.
- *The Central Park: Original Designs for New York's Greatest Treasure*. Cynthia Brenwell. New York City Municipal Archives. Abrams, NY, 2019.
- *Central Park: The Birth, Decline, and Renewal of a National Treasure*. Eugene Kinkead. WW Norton & Company, Inc., NY, 1990.
- *The Central Park Book*. Elizabeth Barlow with Vernon Gray, Roger Pasquier, Lewis Sharp. The Central Park Task Force, 1977.
- *Frederick Law Olmsted's New York*. Elizabeth Barlow. Praeger Publishers, Inc., NY, 1972.
- *The Park and the People: A History of Central Park*. Roy Rosenzweig and Elizabeth Blackmar. Cornell University Press, Ithaca, NY, 1992.
- *Seeing Central Park: The Official Guide to the World's Greatest Urban Park*. Sara Cedar Miller. Abrams, New York, 2009.
- *Central Park: An American Masterpiece*. Sara Cedar Miller, with a preface by Kenneth T. Jackson and an epilogue by Elizabeth Barlow Rogers. Abrams, NY, in association with the Central Park Conservancy, 2003.
- *Prospect Park: Olmsted and Vaux's Brooklyn Masterpiece*. David Colley. Princeton Architectural Press, 2013.
- *Central Park: An Anthology*. Ed. Andrew Blauner. Bloomsbury, NY, 2012.

## Oregon

- *Portland's Olmsted Vision, 1847–1915: A Study of the Public Landscapes Designed by Emmanuel T. Mische in Portland, Oregon*. Kenneth James Guzowski. Master's Thesis, University of Oregon, 1990.
- *Report of the Park Board, Portland, Oregon, 1903, with the Report of Messrs. Olmsted Bros., Landscape Architects, Outlining a System of Parkways, Boulevards and Parks for the City of Portland*. Portland: Portland Park Board, 1903.
- [\*Greenscapes: Olmsted's Pacific Northwest\*](#). Joan Hockaday. Washington State University Press, Pullman, 2009.
- *Olmsted in the Pacific Northwest: Private Estates and Residential Communities, 1873–1959: An Inventory*. Catherine Joy Johnson. Friends of Seattle's Olmsted Parks, Seattle, 1997.
- [\*Forest Park: Exploring Portland's Natural Sanctuary\*](#). Marcy Cottrell Houle. Oregon State University Press, Corvallis, 2023.
- [\*A Generous Nature: Lives Transformed by Oregon\*](#). Marcy Cottrell Houle. Oregon State University Press, Corvallis, 2019.
- [\*The Legacy of the Olmsted Brothers in Portland, Oregon\*](#). William J. Hawkins III. 2014.

## Pennsylvania

- *Capital's Utopia: Vandergrift, Pennsylvania, 1855–1916*. Anne E. Mosher. Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, 2004.

## Rhode Island

- [\*The Blue Garden: Recapturing an Iconic Newport Landscape\*](#). Arleyn Levee. Giles, 2019.

## Washington

- [\*Olmsted in Seattle: Creating a Park System for a Modern City\*](#). Jennifer Ott. History Ink, 2019.
- *West Capitol Campus Historic Landscape Preservation Master Plan*, Washington State Capitol, Olympia. General Administration, State of Washington; Arbutus Design LLC; Mithun, June 2009.
- [\*Volunteer Park City Landmark Nomination, Seattle, WA, November 2011\*](#).
- [\*Greenscapes: Olmsted's Pacific Northwest\*](#). Joan Hockaday. Washington State University Press, Pullman, 2009.
- *Olmsted in the Pacific Northwest: Private Estates and Residential Communities, 1873–1959: An Inventory*. Catherine Joy Johnson. Friends of Seattle's Olmsted Parks, Seattle, 1997.
- Forthcoming: Biography of John Charles Olmsted, Joan Hockaday.

## Wisconsin

- *Milwaukee County Parks*. Laurie Muench Albano. Arcadia Publishing, 2007.
- [\*The Milwaukee River Greenway\*](#). Written and collected by Eddee Daniel with a chapter on “Frederick Law Olmsted’s Influence: Riverside Park and the Greenway Concept,” Virginia Small. Available to purchase from [BookBaby.com](#) or author: [eddee@eddeedaniel.com](mailto:eddee@eddeedaniel.com)
- *In the Park with Olmsted- A Vision for Milwaukee*. Exhibit Catalog. With contributions by Annemarie Sawkins, Virginia Small, Michael Carriere, and Martha Chaiklin. Charles Allis and Villa Terrace Art Museums, Milwaukee, 2022.