



## **The Olmsted Network and the University of Virginia Press Announce Open Access Digital Edition of The Papers of Frederick Law Olmsted**

WASHINGTON (July 21, 2023)— To mark the conclusion of the “Olmsted 200: Parks for All People” bicentennial celebration, the Olmsted Network partnered with the University of Virginia Press’ Rotunda imprint to make [The Papers of Frederick Law Olmsted](#) available to all users free of charge. Thanks to a generous subvention from the Olmsted Network, with support from The Caroline Loughlin Fund, any user— whether independent scholar, landscape architect, parks professional or park lover— will now have open access to a vast collection of Olmsted’s written materials. This version of the Papers includes Volumes 1- 9 as well as Supplementary Series 1.

The Papers are the life’s work of series editor [Dr. Charles E. Beveridge](#), who worked for 40 years to select and organize the invaluable personal and professional papers of landscape architect and social reformer Frederick Law Olmsted. Completed in 2020, the Papers offer a unique perspective on American society in the 19th century.

Olmsted is famously known as the founder of American landscape architecture. He worked on New York’s Central Park and Prospect Park; D.C.’s U.S. Capitol Grounds; Boston’s Emerald Necklace; Atlanta’s Druid Hills; and numerous other landscapes in Chicago, Milwaukee, Buffalo, Louisville, Hartford and beyond. He laid the philosophical foundation for the later creation of America’s national and state park systems and thousands of local parks.

“The Olmsted Network is dedicated to championing Olmsted parks, places and principles through education, advocacy and stewardship,” said Olmsted Network President & CEO Anne “Dede” Neal Petri. “Working with UVA Press, we are pleased to make these papers available free of charge. Olmsted is a pivotal but still underappreciated figure in 19<sup>th</sup> century America whose focus on social justice, the built environment and democratic spaces has real relevance to today’s challenges. With this gift, we aim to spark research and writing across a wide range of topics. Going forward, the Olmsted Network will continue to champion Olmsted’s vision of parks for all people and ensure that every American has equitable and safe access to open spaces.”

The University of Virginia Press is just one of hundreds of organizations, across the country and abroad, who supported and celebrated Olmsted 200 in 2022.

"American history and architecture have been cornerstone subjects for UVA Press and its Rotunda imprint," said UVA Press director Eric Brandt. "In Frederick Law Olmsted, whose pioneering landscape designs helped shape the nation, these themes come together in a profoundly significant way. It is an honor to work with the Olmsted Network to bring the writings of this visionary American to the public in an innovative open-access resource."

The University of Virginia Press's Rotunda Digital Imprint was launched in 2002 with funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the Office of the President at the University of Virginia. Since 2004, it has published nearly three dozen publications, both born-digital and those based on letterpress originals, in three core areas: architecture, American history, and nineteenth-century literature and culture.

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The Olmsted Network (formerly the National Association for Olmsted Parks) is dedicated to protecting, preserving and championing the work and principles of Frederick Law Olmsted. Its international network of parks and places includes the Emerald Necklace Conservancy, Biltmore Estate, Bok Tower Gardens, Olmsted Linear Park Alliance, the Midway Plaisance Park Advisory Council, Birkenhead Park and more. For future events, Olmsted history, and commentary by experts and partner organizations, please visit the new [www.olmsted.org](http://www.olmsted.org).