

VLR- 6/14/00 NRHP- 8/14/00
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NPS Form 10-900

FINAL
ARCHIVES

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Lee Memorial Park

other names/site number Lee Park DHR File # 123-83

2. Location

street & number 1832 Johnson Road not for publication

city or town Petersburg vicinity _____

state Virginia code VA county Independent City code 730 Zip 23803

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets _____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] 6/30/2000
Signature of certifying official Date

Virginia Department of Historic Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is: _____ other (explain): _____

entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the
National Register

See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action _____

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u> 2 </u>	<u> 2 </u> buildings
<u> 3 </u>	<u> 2 </u> sites
<u> 2 </u>	<u> 0 </u> structures
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u> objects
<u> 7 </u>	<u> 4 </u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>Recreation and Culture</u>	Sub: <u>Outdoor recreation</u>
<u>Landscape</u>	<u>City Park</u>
<u>Landscape</u>	<u>Conservation area</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>Recreation and Culture</u>	Sub: <u>Outdoor recreation</u>
<u>Landscape</u>	<u>City Park</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th and Early 20th Cenury American Movements
 Other: Naturalistic Landscapes _____

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick _____
roof tin, asphalt _____
walls weatherboard _____

other stone, earth, plant material, water _____

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or a grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

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Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

- Community Planning and Development
- Ethnic Heritage – European
- Ethnic Heritage – Black
- Landscape Architecture _____
- Social History _____

Period of Significance 1921-1940

Significant Dates 1921
1935-1940

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder City of Petersburg, VA
Petersburg Garden Club

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: _____

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Ca. 300 acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting	Northing	Zone Easting	Northing
1	_____	2	_____
3	_____	4	_____

See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Donald G. Jones, Ph. D., Policy and Planning Group Manager

Organization: Cultural Resources, Inc. date March 30, 2000

street & number: 705 Caroline Street telephone 540-370-1973

city or town Fredericksburg state VA zip code 22401

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name City of Petersburg, c/o B. David Canada, City Manager

street & number City Hall, Room 201, 135 N. Union Street telephone 804-733-2301

city or town Petersburg state VA zip code 23803

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7. Summary Description:

Lee Memorial Park is a 300-acre park located at the southern edge of the City of Petersburg and lying mostly west of the Willcox Lake reservoir. In 1921, the City of Petersburg designated 462 acres as Lee Memorial Park and actively developed the park during the 1920s with roads, trails, a swimming area and bathhouse, picnic tables, and baseball diamonds. During the Great Depression the Petersburg Garden Club, under the guidance of Mrs. Donald Claiborne Holden, was authorized by the Works Progress Administration to create the Lee Park Wild Flower and Bird Sanctuary. Local women were responsible for maintaining the sanctuary and it provided work for unemployed women while at the same time preserving and protecting native wildflowers being lost due to residential development and other activities. Beginning in December of 1935, crews of African-American women began to clear ravines to create the wildflower preserve that eventually included 25 acres. They planted and labeled flowers, cleared trails, planted trees and shrubs and created a bird sanctuary. The legacy of this project was preserved in the Lee Park Herbarium through the collection of numerous species of plants as a permanent record of the flora of the sanctuary. By 1940, economic conditions in Petersburg had improved and the WPA ceased funding the Lee Park Wild Flower and Bird Sanctuary. The park continued to be a popular recreational area until the lake was closed in the early 1950s to avoid integration. Portions of the park were later sold to residential developments and other interests, reducing the park to its current 300 acres. Most of the areas covered by the WPA wildflower and bird sanctuary have remained largely unaltered and the park still contains most of the plant habitats that existed during the 1930s.

Contributing Resources (structures and landscape features):

Two contributing buildings: the park superintendent's house and the bathhouse.

Three contributing structures: Willcox Lake reservoir, the Civil War earthworks and the park's system of roadways, paths and trails

Two contributing sites: the park's general topography and the Lee Park Wild Flower and Bird Sanctuary.

Noncontributing Resources (structures and sites):

Two noncontributing buildings: Two cinderblock outbuildings at 1616 Defense Road

Two noncontributing sites: Willcox Lake Pavilion picnic area and Cooper Field, a modern ballfield

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Narrative Description

Lee Memorial Park encompasses approximately 300 acres located along the southern edge of Petersburg, Virginia. The park is relatively long (north to south) and roughly rectangular in shape. It is bordered generally on the north by Interstate 85; on the west by Baylor's Lane and Defense Road; on the south by Norfolk & Southern Railroad tracks; and on the east by Johnson Road, Defense Road, and a line along the east bank of Willcox Branch north of the Willcox Lake dam. Willcox Lake (approximately 18 acres in size) occupies the eastern edge of the park. With the exception of several recreational areas, most of the remaining acreage is wooded.

The topography of the park varies considerably. Willcox Lake was formed ca. 1895 by damming a branch of Lieutenant Run; the east and west banks of the lake are extremely steep and are notched with deep ravines. The central and western portions of the park are mostly level to gently sloping land, but the southern end slopes more steeply down to the headwaters of Willcox Lake.

The park is bounded by city streets, an interstate highway, and railroad tracks along much of its perimeter; thus relatively few houses abut the property. Access to the main interior portion of the park is provided by one main road that basically forms an extension of Baylor's Lane where it crosses Defense Road in the north-central portion of the park. Baylor's Lane apparently was bordered on both sides by the park until the City of Petersburg sold the northwest corner of the park where the Virginia National Guard building currently stands.

The main access road enters a relatively level cleared area. East of the entrance road is the Willcox Lake picnic pavilion; on the west is a portion of the Dimmock Line, Civil War earthworks that run across Lee Park east to west on both sides of Willcox Lake. The entrance road then passes through a cut in the earthworks (not gated), extends south through the center portion of the park, past Cooper Field (a modern baseball/softball facility) west of the road. The wooded area east of the road is the location of a Works Progress Administration (WPA) wild flower preserve that was created between 1935 and 1940; west of the road is the bird sanctuary that also was created as part of this WPA project. A branch off of this main road runs directly south (toward the railroad tracks), down to the headwaters of Willcox Lake, but the main road loops eastward toward the lake, then north and west, intersecting with itself near Cooper Field. Along the eastern portion of this loop, the road runs along the edge of the ravines that line the lake, providing a number of scenic views; much of the planting activities associated with the WPA wild flower preserve took place on the hills and in the ravines in this section of the

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park. A series of trails branch off from the loop road and extend across the east-facing slopes of Willcox Lake and down into the ravines.

East of the main entrance to the park, past the Willcox Lake pavilion, is a wood frame house (1616 Defense Road) with two large cinderblock outbuildings. This house, which sits atop a hill directly above and in line with the Willcox Lake dam, once served as the Park Superintendent's residence. Brick stairs descend the steep slope down from the house to the dam and lake; the slope is covered with mature ornamental plantings that also date to the WPA project. On the opposite (east) side of the dam is a long, rectangular wood frame building that was constructed as a bathhouse for the Willcox Lake swimming area in the 1920s.

Historic Context for Lee Memorial Park

The natural resources in the area of Lee Memorial Park have been attractive to a variety of people since prehistoric times. Located approximately 1.5 miles south of the Appomattox River between headwater branches of Lieutenant Run, a tributary of the Appomattox, Lee Memorial Park is situated at the intersection of major physiographic, geologic, and botanical zones. The Fall Line (where the Piedmont region intersects the Coastal Plain) is an extremely rich area in terms of the types and densities of sites throughout all prehistoric periods. No prehistoric sites have been recorded within the boundaries of Lee Memorial Park, although a number of such sites are in the surrounding region.

A variety of interesting geologic specimens and fossils apparently have been recovered by local residents from in and around the stream bed of the Willcox Branch, that leads from Willcox Lake to Lieutenant Run. The area also has been known for its rich and varied botanical resources at least since the late seventeenth century, when Rev. John Bannister, a noted Virginia naturalist, lived in the area. Other noted Virginia naturalists who visited this region included Dr. James Greenway (cf. Kober and Ware in press). Thus, the natural landscape of Lee Memorial Park and the surrounding area has had an important influence on the developing cultural landscape of the park.

European Settlement

Europeans began to settle the region by the mid-seventeenth century, and the Petersburg area initially was founded as a frontier outpost on the Appomattox River. Most of the area was dedicated to agriculture and animal husbandry throughout the late seventeenth

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and eighteenth centuries. Before the American Revolution, however, settlement had reached the point that several towns were incorporated, including the town of Petersburg in 1748. After the American Revolution, Petersburg expanded by incorporating several nearby towns into it, including Blandford and Pocahontas.

While the population and economy of Petersburg continued to expand, the outlying areas, including the area of Lee Memorial Park, were still devoted primarily to agriculture. As Virginia became a hotly contested battleground in the early 1860s, the pace of activity on the land quickened considerably, and the Civil War period is reflected in the landscape of Lee Memorial Park.

Civil War

Situated 21 miles south of Richmond on the Appomattox River, Petersburg served as the primary railroad center for the Confederate capital. Rail lines converged on Petersburg from all directions, from City Point to the northeast, Norfolk to the southeast, and Lynchburg and the Great Valley to the west. Essential supplies and war materiel arriving in Petersburg were then transported the short distance north to Richmond via the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad, or the turnpike that linked the cities. Petersburg was thus essential to supplying the beleaguered capital, a fact of geography that would bring severe fighting to this area before the war was over (Sommers 1981: 2-3).

Confederate military commander Robert E. Lee recognized the strategic value of Petersburg early on, and in the summer of 1862 he sent engineering officers Lt. Colonel Walter H. Stevens and Colonel Jeremy Francis Gilmer to lay out the basic design of an extensive system of fortifications to protect Petersburg from Union assault. The job of implementing this plan fell to Captain Charles Dimmock. During the following months, Dimmock directed the labors of a large workforce of soldiers and conscripted slaves from Virginia and North Carolina. When completed, the "Dimmock Line" comprised an arc of earthworks 10 miles long, bristling with 55 artillery batteries, covering Petersburg on the east, south, and west (Henderson 1998: 55-56, 105-06).

Until the Federal forces arrived on the doorstep of Petersburg in the summer of 1864, however, life along the Dimmock Line was quiet and routine. In fact, the lines were thinly manned by local reserve units while Lee's Army of Northern Virginia campaigned to the north. But as Ulysses S. Grant's attentions turned once again toward Richmond, Petersburg's defenses bustled with activity. In what is now Lee Memorial Park, the north-south course of Wilcox Branch formed a natural break in the Dimmock Line. As a

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result, two strong points were situated on the heights on either side of the stream valley: Fort Walker (Battery No. 35) to the east, and Battery Pegram (Battery No. 36) to the west. Fort Walker was named for Colonel Reuben Lindsay Walker, whose III Army Corps Artillery Brigade defended this stretch of the line. Likewise, Lt. Colonel William J. Pegram—whose artillery battalion defended the position—lent his name to Battery Pegram. In addition to the artillerymen, the stretch of earthworks that traversed what is now Lee Memorial Park was manned by Virginia, Florida, Alabama, and Mississippi infantry units of Major General William Mahone's Division in Lt. General A. P. Hill's III Army Corps (Sommers 1981: 212-14).

While the portion of the Dimmock Line encompassed by Lee Memorial Park saw no direct military activity during the siege of Petersburg in 1864-65, Confederate troops used the sheltered course of Willcox Branch to cover their movements against the Federals during the battles of Jerusalem Plank Road (June 22, 1864) and the Weldon Railroad/Globe Tavern (August 18-21, 1864) (Horn 1991). Thus, the portion of the Dimmock Line preserved within the boundaries of Lee Memorial Park is a stark reminder of the hostilities that occurred throughout the region.

Public Acquisition

After the war the Dimmock Line lay deserted, while the surrounding lands reverted to agriculture. But as Petersburg grew in the latter years of the nineteenth century, so did its demand for water. In 1894 the city bought 1,700 acres of Willcox watershed land from Julius Johnson and Thomas Cavanaugh, then dammed Willcox Branch to create a reservoir, known as Willcox Lake. This acquisition eventually led to the development of Lee Memorial Park.

The City of Petersburg and the New Park

The City of Petersburg annexed this large Dinwiddie County tract in 1921, increasing the land area of the city by one third, and consequently securing the tax revenue of Walnut Hill, an affluent new suburb. That same year, Petersburg City Council designated a 462-acre portion of the Willcox watershed lands—intentionally including a section of the Dimmock Line—as Lee Memorial Park. The establishment of such a large city park close to developing suburbs was a common occurrence from the late nineteenth century through the early twentieth century. Land in outlying areas was both available for

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purchase and inexpensive, and streetcar and trolley lines allowed for direct access from these new suburbs to the new parks (Jones 1994 242-243).

The City of Petersburg actively developed Lee Memorial Park as a recreational area in the 1920s, building roads and trails through the park and developing the northern portion of Willcox Lake as a swimming area with a large bath house located on the east end of the dam (cf. Alliance Insurance Company 1934). A bus turnaround located off of Defense Road (just outside the park boundaries) provided many city and suburban residents easy access to these new recreational opportunities. Typical of such public facilities throughout the South during the Jim Crow era, the lake and other recreational facilities were segregated and African Americans were excluded. Petersburg's white citizens, however, made full use of the new walking trails, baseball diamonds, and picnic tables provided at public expense (Kober and Ware in press).

The New Deal and the WPA

This era of civic prosperity, however, would not last. Petersburg was hit hard by the Great Depression, and the failure of numerous local businesses and industries threw hundreds of residents out of work. Local relief organizations were overwhelmed during the early 1930s, and it took the federal initiatives of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal to make any meaningful strides against unemployment and poverty in Petersburg. One of these programs, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), was utilized by the National Park Service extensively in developing national parks across the country, including maintenance work on the Dimmock Line earthworks in Lee Memorial Park (then owned by the Park Service); the CCC also assisted with the construction of some trails throughout the park. Yet another ambitious and productive New Deal program, the Works Progress Administration (WPA), played a greater role in developing the landscape of Lee Memorial Park.

Enacted in 1935, the WPA was funded with a \$1.4 billion appropriation, the largest federal domestic initiative to that time. At its peak, the WPA employed 3.5 million Americans in a variety of federal jobs, from large public works projects to artistic, literary, and historical endeavors. Washington administrators recognized that women, particularly those trying to support families, faced a particularly daunting economic challenge; in response, a Women's Division of the WPA was created to focus on improving their standard of living. The Women's Division would ultimately come to play an important role in shaping the landscape and character of Lee Memorial Park.

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The Petersburg Garden Club

A founding member of the Petersburg Garden Club, Mrs. Donald Claiborne Holden embodied the growing interest in the study and preservation of Virginia's botanical resources in the 1930s. She was also a tireless worker and strong leader who would help Lee Memorial Park become an early model for environmental conservation. Late in 1935, the local WPA administration in Petersburg authorized the creation of the Lee Park Wild Flower and Bird Sanctuary, to be created and maintained through the efforts of local women with primary funding through the WPA and supplementary support from the city. Under Holden's direction, the sanctuary would provide labor for unemployed female heads of households, while preserving and protecting native wildflower species rapidly succumbing to grazing, logging, and residential development (Kober and Ware in press).

Lee Memorial Park was an ideal location for the sanctuary. On the boundary between two geological and floristic zones, the Petersburg area was a "rich botanical meeting ground," where certain southeastern species reached their northern limits, and other Piedmont species approached their eastern distributional bounds. The park was also characterized by a number of different habitats, with large, densely wooded areas, upland fields, deep ravines, lake margins, and stream beds (Kober and Ware in press).

Beginning in December 1935, crews comprised of unemployed African-American women began the laborious task of clearing the ravines bordering Willcox Lake for a wildflower preserve that ultimately would encompass 25 acres. Working in groups under white female supervisors, the women planted and labeled flowers, cleared trails past wildflower groupings, planted trees and shrubs for ornamental purposes in the sanctuary and for erosion control in burned-over areas, and created a bird sanctuary with rustic bird houses, feeding stations, and sheltering evergreens. By the summer of the following year they had created a "full-fledged" nature preserve, attracting visitors and scholars from across Virginia and beyond (Kober and Ware in press).

A few men helped with heavy jobs such as building bridges and shelters and constructing a few trails, but the sanctuary project was accomplished almost entirely by women workers under female direction. Although the work was seasonal and intermittent, the sanctuary project could employ over 100 unemployed women at any given time, providing what was often the sole income for many needy families. Despite its economic and environmental benefits, however, the project was not without its critics. The NAACP and the African-American press complained that there was an obvious

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discrepancy between the work conditions of the black women laborers and their white supervisors, as indicated by a 1930s photograph of women working on the sanctuary in Lee Park (Figure 1). One of the WPA workers, Catherine Johnson, complained of unfair treatment: "I had to dig, and dig shrubbery, and go up very steep hills," she recalled.

This made my breath short. My weight is 200 lbs., I just had to stop to rest between digs. It was for this reason the Supervisor cut me off. She put on my slip 'Careless Worker.'

The day before I was cut off, I sawed wood all day with a crosscut saw: Martha Jane Buford at one end and I at the other end. After sawing wood, we had to stack it to be burned when it was cold. It was very cold that day. The white workers sat by the fire all day, picking pine tags for making baskets and hats. We were not allowed to stop to warm until lunchtime. This is the truth! No one knows but the one who goes through with it. We poor folks had to work this way or get nothing to do. We wanted to tell someone but didn't know where to go, because all the supervisors were white. (Martin-Perdue and Perdue 1996:200)

Conditions may sometimes have been less than ideal for the women laborers, but to the public at large the sanctuary was a New Deal success story. By the summer of 1939, WPA workers had transplanted more than 365,000 plants, including 8,000 trees and 37,000 shrubs, from 1,500 acres of city-owned woodlands, laid miles of pine-needle paths, labeled nearly 500 different plant types, and planted over one million honeysuckle roots to prevent erosion on fire-damaged stream banks. The bird sanctuary was located in the west-central portion of the park, the main wild flower preserve extended across most of the central portion of the park down to the edge of the lake, and the honeysuckle was planted for erosion control along Baylor's Lane, Defense, Road, Johnson Road, the the Willcox Branch (Figure 2). Additional acreage was planned for the wild flower preserve, but the program came to an end before it could be implemented.

Led by young guides from disadvantaged families, thousands of visitors toured the wildflower and bird preserves. Overall, the Lee Park Wild Flower and Bird Sanctuary was an impressive example of a cooperative venture supported by federal and municipal governments, local businesses, and private organizations. In fact, Lee Park was considered such a success that it served as the model for other sanctuaries throughout Virginia, including those in Charlottesville, Hopewell, Danville, and Norfolk (Kober and Ware in press).

Fortunately, the legacy of this project was preserved in the form of the Lee Park Herbarium. During the course of the WPA project, Donald C. Holden, who also was the horticultural chairman of the Petersburg Garden Club, had coordinated the collection of

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numerous species of plants as a permanent record, in the form of a herbarium, of the flora of the sanctuary. It is not known how many species were collected and pressed, but today 294 different species of plants are represented in the collection, known as the Lee Park Herbarium, including twelve rare or imperiled species, including white fringed orchis, yellow pitcher plant, bog buttons, and small whorled pogonia.

What made this herbarium collection truly unique, however, were the complementary color watercolor images executed by Petersburg artist Bessie Niemeyer Marshall. Ms. Marshall, who has been described as "a 20th-century master of botanical illustration," painted 238 watercolors of botanical specimens represented in the Lee Park Herbarium (Figure 3). Ms. Marshall was paid a commission for her work, partly with WPA funds (Kober and Ware in press); as her husband was becoming increasingly ill, she became responsible for providing economic support for her family.

This "uncommon pairing" of botanical specimens and illustrations won the Garden Club of Virginia's prestigious Massie Medal 1948 and form extensive and richly detailed documentation of the individual species planted in the Lee Park Wild Flower Sanctuary (Figure 4). The Petersburg Garden Club recently rehabilitated the Lee Park Herbarium and its accompanying watercolors; the plant specimens and watercolors are now housed at Centre Hill Mansion in Petersburg in an acid-free and climate controlled environment. A history of Lee Memorial Park and a catalog of the watercolors are soon to be published by the University Press of Virginia (Kober and Ware in press).

World War II

By 1940, economic conditions in Petersburg—and across the nation—had improved to the point that many New Deal programs were gradually phased out, and the WPA ceased funding the Lee Park Wild Flower and Bird Sanctuary. Although the Petersburg Garden Club strove to maintain the sanctuary through the early 1940s, the lack of specific funding for this matter made that difficult. The park, however, continued to be a popular recreational area for the city for the next decade.

Post World War II

Up until 1953, Lee Memorial Park was extremely popular with the white residents of Petersburg. The Walnut Hill neighborhood, just north of the park, had developed rapidly as one of the most fashionable areas in the city to live and streetcar access ensured a steady stream of visitors to the park. The segregationist policies and attitudes of 1950s

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Petersburg (and throughout much of the southern United States), however, resulted in the park being closed.

In 1953, a group of African-American Petersburg citizens filed suit to integrate swimming at Willcox Lake. The city resisted, however, closing the facilities altogether rather than allow access to blacks. A federal hearing on the matter was postponed indefinitely, and the lake never reopened for swimming. Although the passive recreational areas of the park remained opened to the public, the closing of the swimming area led to the rapid decline of the park. Over the following years, the city sold portions of the park to residential developments, a public golf course, private clubs, commercial interests, and the federal government, reducing the park from its original 462 acres to its current area of 331 acres.

In 1973, the National Park Service returned its 24-acre holdings, including the remnants of the Dimmock Line fortifications, to the City of Petersburg. Plans for rejuvenating the park by building new athletic fields, fitness trails, a boat rental dock, and horse show grounds were scrapped in 1976, while budgetary limitations prevented the city from adequately maintaining the roads and trails, and providing necessary policing for the more isolated sections of the park. The resulting increase in vandalism and crime led to a decline in public usage, and the city subsequently chained off a section of park road to prevent vehicle access to the secluded bottomlands (Kober and Ware in press).

When the park was at its peak in popularity for active recreation, the passive recreational elements of the Lee Park landscape had remained essentially untouched. The declining use of the park, while unfortunate from a civic perspective, ultimately had a beneficial effect on the landscape. Only limited activities were instituted in the park that could have seriously affected the integrity of the wild flower sanctuary, even as its existence faded from public awareness. The city has conducted some timbering in the upland wooded areas, and the extreme northern portion of the park was used as a landfill up until the 1970s.

Most of the areas covered by the WPA wild flower and bird sanctuary project, however, have remained largely unaltered. Some wetland habitats have been lost to beaver dams and the raising of the lake, and meadow habitats have given way to plant succession, yet the park still contains most of the plant habitats that existed during the 1930s. Recent botanical surveys have recorded over 500 species of vascular plants in the Willcox Branch watershed, including 175 species of the original 294 identified in the Lee Park Herbarium, such as the rare red milkweed and fern-leaved false foxglove (Kober and

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Ware in press). Similarly, the integrity of the park's historic resources, particularly the Dimmock Line fortifications that had been preserved by the National Park Service, and the bath house at the Willcox Lake dam, have been spared the impacts of development and heavy public use.

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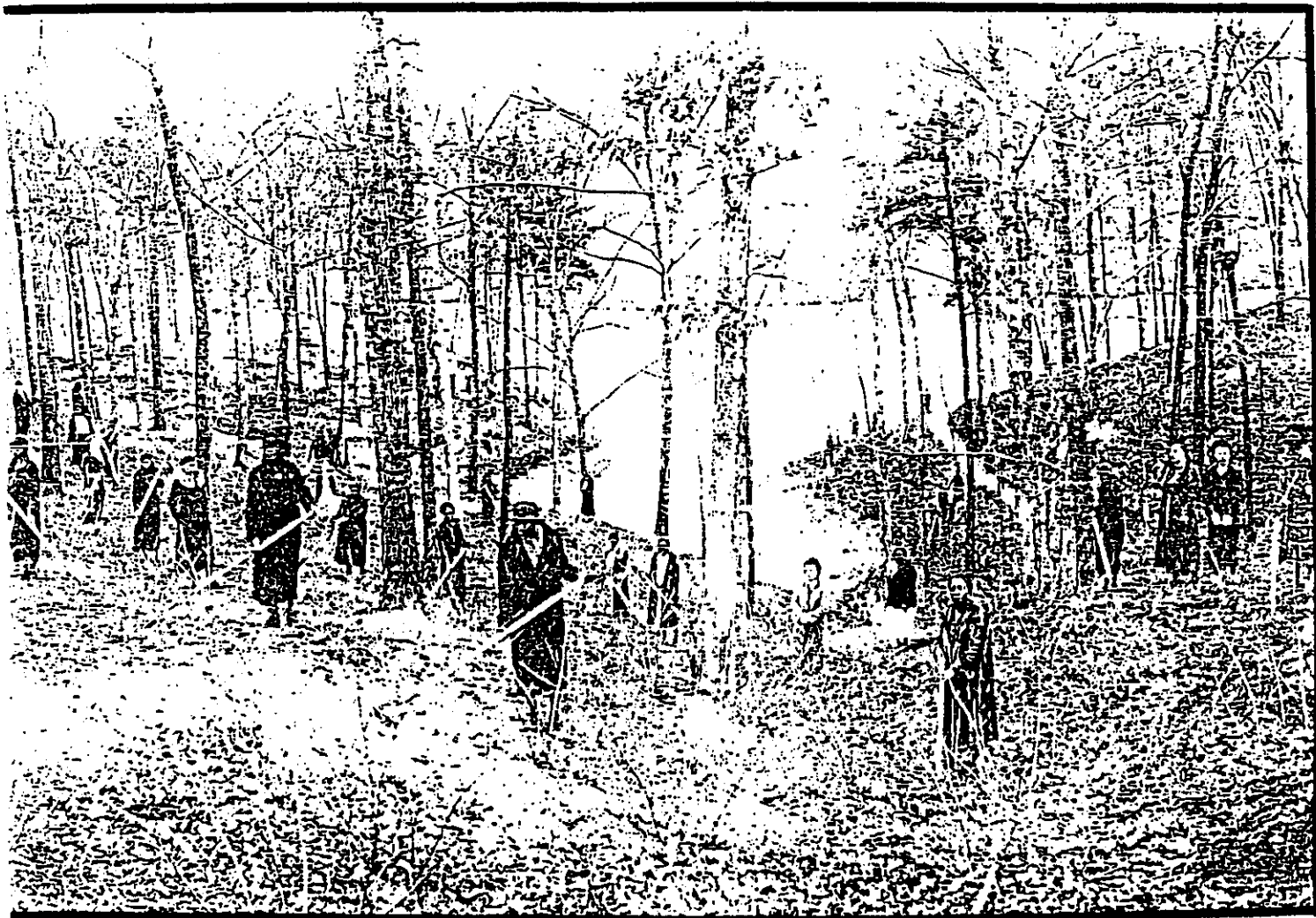


Figure 1. Ca. 1930s photograph showing women working in the Lee Memorial Park wild flower preserve, a WPA Women's and Professional Division project.

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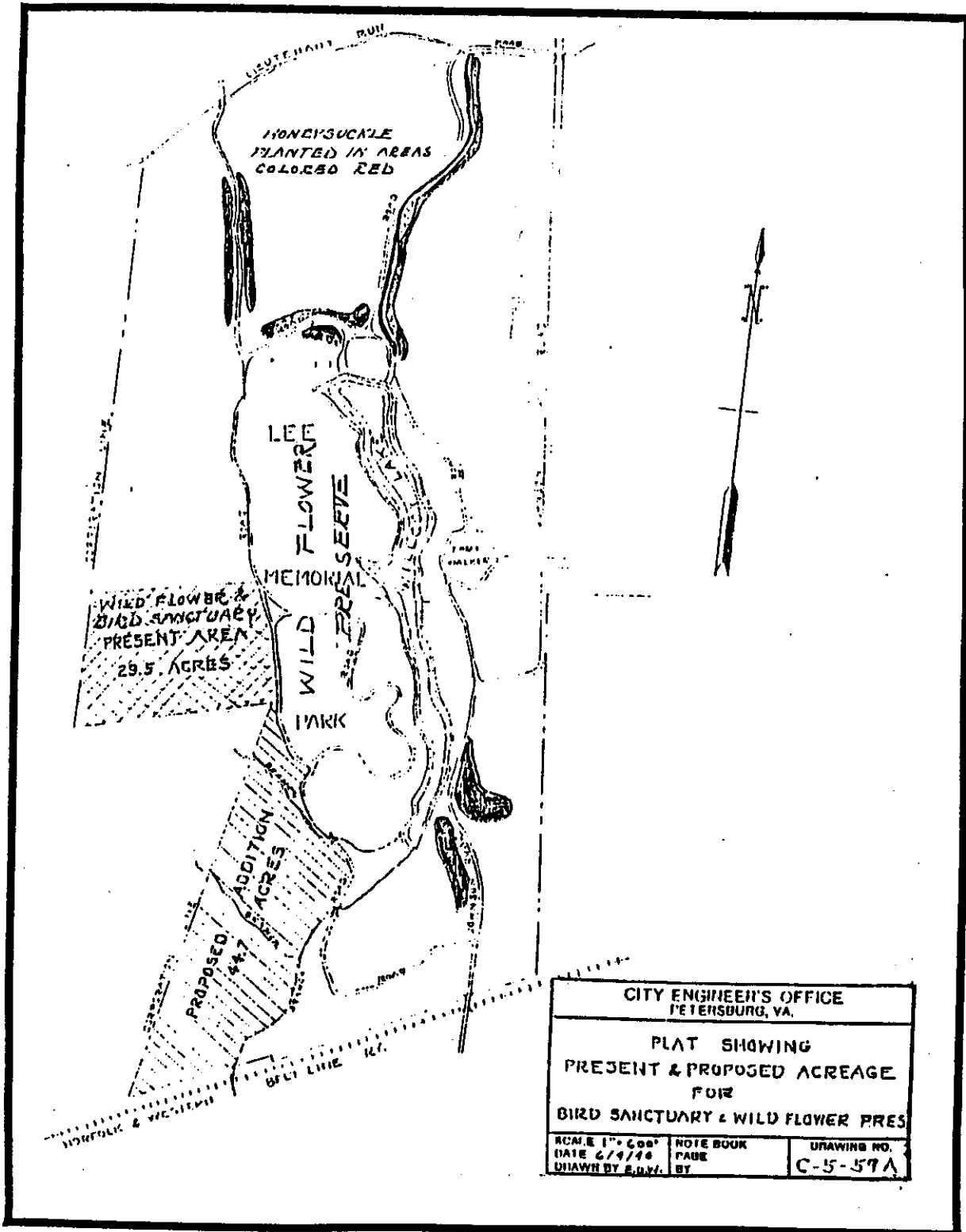


Figure 2. 1940 City Engineer's map of Lee Memorial Park showing the location and extent of the wild flower preserve, wild flower and bird sanctuary, honeysuckle plantings, and proposed addition to the wild flower preserve.

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Figure 3. Bessie Marshall and examples of her watercolors. A, B, and C are from a 1951 article in the Portsmouth Star; the source and date of D are unknown.

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NUMBER	WPA COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC	SPECIMEN	WATERCOLOR	REPRODUCED
1					
2	Herbarium Collection	updated scientific or corrected name			
3		of plant shown in watercolor			
4					
5					
6	1.01 (1.1)	maybe composite of # 3, # 4, # 5		Y	N
7	1.02 (1.2)	Deerberry	Vaccinium stamineum L.	Y	N
8	1.03 (1.3)	Dwarf Early Blueberry	Vaccinium pallidum Aiton	Y	N
9	1.04 (1.4)	Swamp Black Blueberry	Vaccinium fuscalum Aiton	Y	N
10	1.05 (1.5)	Dwarf Early Blueberry	Vaccinium pallidum Aiton	Y	N
11	1.06 (1.6)	Black Huckleberry	Gaylussacia baccata(Wang) K. Koch	OTHER	Y
12	1.07 (1.7)	Blueberry	Vaccinium tenellum	OTHER	Y
13	1.08 (1.8)	Dangleberry	Gaylussacia frondosa (L.) T. & G.	Y	Y
14	1.09 (1.9)	Dangleberry	Gaylussacia frondosa (L.) T. & G.	Y	N
15	1.1 (1.10)	Trailing Arbutus	Epigaea repens L.	Y	Y
16	1.11	Prince's Pine	Chimaphila umbellata (L.) Barton	Y	Y
17	1.12	Spotted Wintergreen	Chimaphila maculata (L.) Pursh	Y	Y
18	1.13	Slagger Bush	Lyonia mariana (L.) D. Don	Y	Y
19	1.14	Swamp Feltet Bush	Leucothoe racemosa (L.) Gray	Y	Y
20	1.15	Sweet PepperBush	Clethra alnifolia L.	Y	Y
21	1.16	Swamp Azalea	Rhododendron viscosum L.	Y	Y
22	1.17	Mountain Laurel	Kalmia latifolia L.	Y	Y
23	1.18	Pine Weed	Hypericum gentianoides (L.) BSP.	Y	Y
24	1.19	St. Peter's Wort	Hypericum stans (Michx.) Adams & Robson (L.)	Y	Y
25	1.2 (1.20)	St. Andrew's Cross	Hypericum hypericoides (L.) Crantz	Y	Y
26	1.21	Lizard's Tail	Saururus cernuus L.	Y	Y
27	1.22	Yellow Eyed Grass	Xyris caroliniana Wall.	Y	Y
28	1.23	Cat-Tail	Typha latifolia L.	Y	Y
29	1.24	Meadow Beauty	Rhexia sp.	Y	Y
30	1.25	Narrow-Leaved Sundrops	Oenothera fruticosa L.	Y	Y
31	1.26	Narrow -Leaved Sundrops	Oenothera fruticosa L.	Y	Y
32	1.27	Rose -Pink	Sabatia angularis (L.) Pursh	Y	Y
33	1.28	Pennywort	Obolaria virginica (L.) BSP.	Y	Y
34	1.29	Soapwort Gentian	Gentiana saponaria L.	OTHER	Y
35	1.3 (1.30)	Hairy Pipewort	Lachnocaulon anceps (Waller) Morony	Y	Y
36	2.01 (2.1)	Jack-in-the Pulpit	Arisaema triphyllum (L.) Schott,	Y	Y
37	2.02 (2.2)	Arrow Arum	Pellandra virginica (L.) Schott & Endlicher	Y	Y
38	2.03 (2.3)	Skunk Cabbage	Symplocarpus foetidus (L.) Nuttall	Y	Y
39	2.1 (2.10)	Virginia Wild Ginger	Hexastylis virginica (L.) Small	Y	Y
40	2.11	Blue Flag	Iris virginica L.	Y	Y
41	2.12	Slender Blue Flag	Iris prismatica Pursh	Y	Y
42	2.13	Crested Iris	Iris cristata L.	OTHER	Y
43	2.14	Blue-Eyed Grass	Sisyrinchium mucronatum Michx.	Y	Y

Figure 4. Inventory of the Lee Park Herbarium (on file with the Petersburg Garden Club).

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	NUMBER	WPA COMMON NAME	WPA SCIENTIFIC	SPECIMEN	WATERCOLOR	REPRODUC
44	2.15	Yellow Colic Root	Aletris aurea Walt.	Y	Y	
45	2.16	Colic Root	Aletris farinosa L.	Y	Y	
46	2.17	Green Brier	Smilax glauca Walt.	Y	Y	
47	2.18	Bamboo	Smilax laurifolia L.	Y	Y	
48	2.19	Sessile-Leaved Bellwort	Uvularia sessilifolia L.	Y	Y	
49	2.2 (2.20)	False Asphodel	Tofieldia racemosa (Walt.) BSP.	Y	Y	
50	2.21	Bunch Flower	Melanthium virginicum L.	Y	Y	
51	2.22	Indian Cucumber Root	Medeola virginiana L.	Y	Y	
52	2.23	Carolina Lily	Lilium michauxii Poitr	Y	Y	
53	2.24	Turk's-Cap Lily	Lilium superbum L.	OTHER	N	
54	2.25	Day Lily	Hemerocallis fulva (L.)	Y	Y	
55	2.26	Dog's Tooth Violet	Erythronium americanum Ker	Y	Y	
56	2.04 (2.4)	Arrowhead	Sagittaria longirostra (Micheli) J. G. Smith	OTHER	Y	
57	2.05 (2.5)	Pickering-Weed	Pontederia cordata L.	Y	Y	
58	2.06 (2.6)	Polypody	Polypodium virginianum L.	Y	Y	
59	2.07 (2.7)	Ebony Spleenwort	Asplenium platyneuron (L.) D. Eaton	Y	Y	
60	2.08 (2.8)	One-Flowered Cancer-Root	Orobanche uniflora L.	Y	Y	
61	2.09 (2.9)	Galax	Galax urceolata Poir. Brummitt	Y	Y	
62	3.01 (3.1)	False Ipecac	Porteranthus trifoliatus (L.) Britton	Y	Y	
63	3.02 (3.2)	Red Chokeberry	Aronia arbutifolia (L.) Elliott	Y	Y	
64	3.03 (3.3)	Shad Bush	Amelanchier canadensis (L.) Medicus	Y	Y	
65	3.04 (3.4)	Wild Cherry	Prunus serotina Ehrh.	Y	Y	
66	3.05 (3.5)	Wild Plum	Prunus sp.	Y	Y	
67	3.06 (3.6)	Low or Pasture Rose	Rosa carolina L.	Y	Y	
68	3.07 (3.7)	Five Fingers	Potentilla canadensis L.	Y	Y	
69	3.08 (3.8)	Wild Strawberry	Fragaria virginiana Duchesne	Y	Y	
70	3.09 (3.9)	No Common Name	Rubus bifrons Tratt	Y	Y	
71	3.1 (3.10)	Dewberry	Rubus sp.	OTHER	Y	
72	3.11	Dewberry	Rubus hispidus L.	Y	Y	
73	3.12	Dwarf Thorn	Crataegus uniflora Muenchh.	Y	Y	
74	3.13	Hawthorn	Crataegus flabellata (Bosc) K. Koch	Y	Y	
75	3.14	Deptford Pink	Dianthus armeria L.	Y	Y	
76	3.15	Star Chickweed	Stellaria Media	OTHER	Y	
77	3.16	Bouncing Bet	Saponaria officinalis L.	Y	Y	
78	3.17	Spring Beauty	Claytonia virginica (L.) BSP.	Y	Y	
79	3.18	Bloodroot	Sanguinaria canadensis L.	Y	Y	
80	3.19	Yellow Root	Xanthorrhiza simplicissima Marshall	Y	Y	
81	3.2 (3.20)	Wild Columbine	Aquilegia canadensis L.	Y	Y	
82	3.21	Silky Leather Flower	Clematis ochroleuca Aiton	Y	Y	
83	3.22	Silky Leather Flower (seeds)	Clematis ochroleuca Aiton	Y	N	
84	3.23	Rue Anemone	Thalictrum thalictroides (L.) Eames & Bovin	Y	Y	
85	3.24	Buttercup	Ranunculus bulbosa sp.	OTHER	Y	
86	3.25	Hepatica	Hepatica americana (DC.) Ker	Y	Y	

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87	3.26	Wild Hydrangea	Hydrangea arborescens L.	Y	Y	
88	3.27	Early Saxifrage	Saxifraga virginensis Michx.	Y	Y	
89	4.01 (4.1)	Violet Wood Sorrel	Oxalis Violacea	OTHER	Y	
90	4.02 (4.2)	Wild Crane's Bill	Geranium maculatum L.	Y	Y	
91	4.03 (4.3)	Jewel Weed	Impatiens capensis Meerburg	Y	Y	
92	4.04 (4.4)	Rattlesnake Master	Erygium yuccafolium Michx.	Y	Y	
93	4.05 (4.5)	Wild Carrot	Daucus carota L.	Y	Y	
94	4.06 (4.6)	Meadow Parsnip	Thaspium barbinode (Michx.) Nutt.	Y	Y	
95	4.07 (4.7)	Angelica	Angelica venenosa (Greenway) Fernald	Y	Y	
96	4.08 (4.8)	Purple Milkwort	Polygala sp.	Y	Y	
97	4.09 (4.9)	Purple Milkwort	Polygala sp.	Y	Y	
98	4.1 (4.10)	Orange Milkwort	Polygala lutea L.	Y	Y	
99	4.11	Pink Milkwort	Polygala incarnata L.	Y	Y	
100	4.12	Pink Milkwort	Polygala incarnata L.	Y	Y	
101	4.13	Wild Field Pansy	Viola rafinesquii Greene	Y	Y	
102	4.14	Primrose-Leaved Violet	Viola primulifolia L.	Y	Y	
103	4.15	Bird-Foot Violet	Viola pedata L.	Y	Y	
104	4.16	Common Blue Violet	Viola sp.	Y	Y	
105	4.17	Green Milkweed	Asclepias viridiflora Raf.	Y	Y	
106	4.18	Butterfly Weed	Asclepias tuberosa L.	Y	Y	
107	4.19	Swamp Milkweed	Asclepias incarnata (L.)	Y	Y	
108	4.2 (4.20)	Milkweed	Asclepias rubra L.	Y	Y	
109	4.21	White Milkweed	Asclepias variegata L.	Y	Y	
110	4.22	Clasping-Leaved Milkweed	Asclepias amplexicaulis Smith	Y	Y	
111	4.23	Indian Hemp	Apocynum cannabinum L.	Y	Y	
112	4.24	Pariwinkle	Vinca minor L.	Y	Y	
113	5.01 (5.1)	None Given	Tetragonotheca helianthoides L.	Y	Y	
114	5.02 (5.2)	Pussy Toes	Antennaria solitaria Rydberg	Y	Y	
115	5.03 (5.3)	Pussy Toes	Antennaria plantaginifolia L.	Y	Y	
116	5.04 (5.4)	Robin's Plantain	Erigeron pulchellus Michx.	Y	N	
117	5.05 (5.5)	Rosin-Weed	Silphium trifoliatum L.	Y	Y	
118	5.06 (5.6)	Rosin-Weed	Silphium compositum Michx.	Y	Y	
119	5.07 (5.7)	Leopard's Bane	Arnica acaulis (Walt.) BSP.	Y	Y	
120	5.08 (5.8)	Small's Squaw Weed	Senecio anonymus Wood	Y	Y	
121	5.09 (5.9)	Golden Ragwort	Senecio aureus L.	Y	Y	
122	5.1 (5.10)	Wooly Elephant's-Foot	Elephantopus tomentosus L.	Y	Y	
123	5.11	Whorled Tickseed	Coreopsis verticillata (L.)	Y	Y	
124	5.12	Rattlesnake-Weed	Hieracium venosum L.	Y	Y	
125	5.13	Thistle	Cirsium discolor (Willd.) Spreng.	Y	Y	
126	5.14	Maryland Golden Aster	Heterotheca mariana (L.) Shinnars	Y	Y	
127	5.15	Golden Knee	Chrysogonum virginianum L.	Y	Y	
128	5.16	Golden-Knee	Chrysogonum virginianum L.	Y	Y	
129	5.17	American Feverfew	Parthenium integrifolium L.	Y	Y	

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130	5.18	Blazing Star	<i>Liatris squarrosa</i> (L.) Michx.	Y	Y	
131	5.19	Blazing Star	<i>Liatris spicata</i> (L.) Willd.	Y	Y	
132	5.2 (5.20)	Snakeroot	<i>Ageratina aromatica</i> (L.) K & R	Y	Y	
133	5.21	Hyssop-Leaved Throughwort	<i>Eupatorium hyssopifolium</i> L.	Y	Y	
134	5.22	Joe-Pye-Weed	<i>Eupatoriadelphus fistulosum</i> (Barrett) K & R	Y	Y	
135	5.23	White-Topped Aster	<i>Sericocarpus asteroides</i> (L.) BSP.	Y	Y	
138	5.24	White-Topped Aster	<i>Sericocarpus linifolius</i> (L.) BSP.	Y	Y	
137	5.25	Silver Aster	<i>Aster concolor</i> L.	Y	Y	
138	5.26	Stiff-Leaved Aster	<i>Aster linariifolius</i> L.	Y	Y	
139	5.27	Large-Flowered Aster	<i>Aster grandiflorus</i> L.	Y	Y	
140	5.28	Aster	<i>Aster undulatus</i> L.	Y	Y	
141	5.29	Black-Eyed Susan	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i> L.	Y	Y	
142	5.3 (5.30)	Tall Cone Flower	<i>Rubecia laciniata</i> L.	Y	Y	
143	5.31	Hairy Wood Sunflower	<i>Helianthus atrorubens</i> L.	Y	Y	
144	5.32	Narrow-Leaved Sunflower	<i>Helianthus angustifolius</i> L.	Y	Y	
145	6.01 (6.1)	Common Day Flower	<i>Commelina communis</i> L.	Y	Y	
146	6.02 (6.2)	Wild Yam Root	<i>Dioscorea villosa</i> L.	Y	Y	
147	6.03 (6.3)	Trumpet-Creeper	<i>Campsis radicans</i> (L.) Bureau	Y	Y	
148	6.04 (6.4)	New Jersey Tea	<i>Ceanothus americanus</i> L.	Y	Y	
149	6.05 (6.54)	Morning Glory	<i>Ipomoea purpurea</i> (L.) Roth	Y	Y	
150	6.06 (6.6)	Morning Glory	<i>Ipomoea</i> sp.	Y	Y	
151	6.07(6.7)	Wild Potato Vine	<i>Ipomoea pandurata</i> (L.) Meyer	Y	Y	
152	6.08 (6.8)	Ivy-Leaved Morning Glory	<i>Ipomoea hederacea</i> Jacquin	Y	Y	
153	6.09 (6.9)	Scotch Broom	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i> (L.) Link	Y	Y	
154	6.1 (6.10)	Partridge Pea	<i>Cassia chamaechrista</i> L.	Y	Y	
155	6.11	Judas Tree (Red Bud)	<i>Cercis canadensis</i> L.	Y	Y	
158	6.12	Samson's Snakeroot	<i>Psoralea psoralioides</i> (Walt.) Cory	Y	Y	
157	6.13	Samson's Snakeroot	<i>Psoralea psoralioides</i> (Walt.) Cory	Y	Y	
158	6.14	Trailing Bushclover	<i>Lespedeza</i> sp.	Y	Y	
159	6.15	Butterfly Pea	<i>Cliitoria mariana</i> L.	OTHER	Y	
160	6.16	Wild Indigo	<i>Baptisia tinctoria</i> (L.) R. Br.	Y	Y	
161	6.17	Mimosa	<i>Albizzia julibrissin</i> Durazzini	Y	Y	
162	6.18	Goat's Rue	<i>Tephrosia virginiana</i> (L.) Persoon	Y	Y	
163	6.19	Blus Lupine	<i>Lupinus perennis</i> L.	Y	Y	
164	6.2 (6.20)	Pink Wild Bean	<i>Strophostyles umbellata</i> (Willd.) Britton	Y	Y	
165	6.21	Pencil-Flower	<i>Stylosanthes biflora</i> (L.) BSP.	Y	Y	
166	6.22	Pencil-Flower	<i>Stylosanthes biflora</i> (L.) BSP.	Y	Y	
167	6.23	Carolina Vetch	<i>Vicia caroliniana</i> Walt.	Y	Y	
168	7.01 (7.1)	Lady's Thumb	<i>Polygonum pennsylvanicum</i> L.	OTHER	Y	
169	7.02 (7.2)	Lady's Thumb	<i>Polygonum pennsylvanicum</i> L.	OTHER	Y	
170	7.03 (7.3)	none given	<i>Buchnera americana</i>	Y	Y	
171	7.04 (7.4)	Phlox	<i>Phlox pilosa</i> L.	Y	Y	
172	7.05 (7.5)	Pokeweed	<i>Phytolacca americana</i> L.	Y	Y	

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173	7.06 (7.6)	Flowering Spurge	<i>Euphorbia corollata</i> L.	Y	Y
174	7.07 (7.7)	Whorled Loosestrife	<i>Lysimachia quadrifolia</i> L.	Y	Y
175	7.08 (7.8)	Passion-Flower	<i>Passiflora incarnata</i> L.	Y	q
176	7.09 (7.9)	Bastard Toad-Flax	<i>Comandra umbellata</i> (L.) Nuttall	Y	Y
177	7.1 (7.10)	Purple Foxglove	Pennell	Y	Y
178	7.11	Turtle-Head	<i>Chelone glabra</i> L.	Y	Y
179	7.12	Common Mullein	<i>Verbascum thapsus</i> L.	Y	Y
180	7.13	Fern-Leaved Foxglove	<i>Aureolaria pedicularia</i> (L.) Raf.	Y	Y
181	7.14	Smooth False Foxglove	<i>Aureolaria virginica</i> (L.) Pennell	Y	Y
182	7.15	Hairy Ruellia	<i>Ruellia caroliniensis</i> (Gmelin) Seudel	Y	Y
183	7.16	Mountain Mint	<i>Pycnanthemum flexuosum</i> (Walt.) BSP.	Y	Y
184	7.17	Mountain Mint	<i>Scutellaria elliptica</i> Muhl.	Y	Y
185	7.18	Hairy Skullcap	<i>Scutellaria elliptica</i> Muhl.	Y	Y
186	7.19	Heal-All	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i> L.	Y	Y
187	7.2 (7.20)	Larger Skullcap	<i>Scutellaria integrifolia</i> L.	Y	Y
188	7.21	Lobelia	<i>Lobelia sp.</i>	Y	Y
189	7.22	Great Lobelia	<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i> L.	OTHER	Y
190	7.23	Lobelia	<i>Lobelia puberula</i> Michx.	N	Y
191	8.01 (8.1)	Flowering Dogwood	<i>Cornus florida</i> (L.)	Y	Y
192	8.02 (8.2)	Red Maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i> L.	Y	Y
193	8.03 (8.3)	Persimmon	<i>Diospyros virginiana</i> L.	Y	Y
194	8.04 (8.4)	Prairie Willow	<i>Salix humilis</i> Marsh.	Y	Y
195	8.05 (8.5)	Chinquapin	<i>Castanea pumila</i> (L.) Miller	Y	Y
196	8.06 (8.6)	Hazlenut	<i>Corylus americana</i> Walt.	Y	Y
197	8.07 (8.7)	Tag Alder	<i>Alnus serrulata</i> (Ait.) Willd.	Y	Y
198	8.08 (8.58)	Witch-Hazel	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i> L.	Y	Y
199	8.09 (8.9)	Spice Bush	<i>Lindera benzoin</i> (L.) Blume	Y	Y
200	8.1 (8.10)	Tulip Tree	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i> L.	Y	Y
201	8.11	Swamp Magnolia	<i>Magnolia virginiana</i> L.	Y	Y
202	8.12	Strawberry Bush	<i>Euonymus americanus</i> (L.)	Y	Y
203	8.13	Holly	<i>Ilex opaca</i> Ait.	Y	Y
204	8.14	Winterberry Holly	<i>Ilex verticillata</i> (L.) Gray	Y	Y
205	8.15	Fringe-Tree	<i>Chionanthus virginica</i> L.	Y	Y
206	8.16	Elderberry	<i>Sambucus canadensis</i> L.	Y	Y
207	8.17	Japanese Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera japonica</i> Thunberg	Y	Y
208	8.18	Trumpet Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i> L.	Y	Y
209	8.19	Coral-Berry	<i>Symphoricarpos orbiculatus</i> Moench	Y	Y
210	8.2 (8.20)	Button Bush	<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i> L.	Y	Y
211	8.21	Partridge Berry	<i>Mitchella repens</i> L.	Y	Y
212	8.22	Bluets	<i>Houstonia caerulea</i> L.	Y	Y
213	8.23	Large Houstonia	<i>Houstonia purpurea</i> L.	Y	Y
214	9.01 (9.1)	Crane Fly Orchis	<i>Tipularia discolor</i> (Pursh) Nuttall	Y	Y
215	9.02 (9.2)	Adam-and-Eve	<i>Aplectrum hyemale</i> (Willd.) Torrey	Y	Y

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216	9.03 (9.3)	Grass-Pink	Calopogon tuberosus (L.) BSP.	Y	Y	
217	9.04 (9.4)	Snake-Mouth	Pogonia ophioglossoides (L.) Ker	Y	Y	
218	9.05 (9.5)	Spreading Pogonia	Cleistes divaricata (L.) Ames	Y	Y	
219	9.06 (9.6)	Large Whorled Pogonia	Isotria verticillata (Willd.) Raf.	Y	Y	
220	9.07 (9.7.1)	Small Whorled Pogonia	Isotria medeoloides (Pursh) Raf.	Y	Y	
221	9.072 (9.7.2)	Small Whorled Pogonia	Isotria medeoloides (Pursh) Raf.	N	Y	
222	9.073 (9.7.3)	Small Whorled Pogonia	Isotria medeoloides (Pursh) Raf.	N	Y	
223	9.08 (9.8)	Rattlesnake Plantain	Goodyera pubescens (Willd.) R. Br.	Y	Y	
224	9.09 (9.9)	Green Adder's Mouth	Malaxis unifolia Michx.	Y	Y	
225	9.1 (9.10)	Twayblade	Liparis liliifolia (L.) Lindley	Y	Y	
226	9.11	Showy Orchis	Orchis spectabilis L.	Y	Y	
227	9.12	Ragged Fringed Orchis	Habenaria lacera Michx. Lodd	Y	Y	
228	9.13	White Fringed Orchis	Habenaria blephariglotis (Willd.) Hooker	OTHER	Y	
229	9.14	Yellow Fringed Orchis	Habenaria ciliaris (L.) R. Br.	Y	Y	
230	9.15	Greenwood Orchis	Habenaria clavellata (Michx.) Sprengel	Y	Y	
231	9.16	Yellow Lady's Slipper	Cypripedium calceolus L.	Y	Y	
232	9.17	Pink Lady's Slipper	Cypripedium acaule Ait.	Y	Y	
233	9.18	Ladies' Tresses	Spiranthes sp.	Y	Y	
234	9.19	Pitcher Plant	Sarracenia purpurea L.	Y	Y	
235	9.2 (9.20)	Yellow Trumpet	Sarracenia flava L.	Y	Y	
236	9.21	Alamasco Lily	Zephyranthes atamsco (L.) Herbert	Y	Y	
237	9.22	Star Grass	Hypoxis hirsuta (L.) Coville	Y	Y	
238	10.01 (10.1)	Everlasting	Gnaphalium obtusifolium L.	Y	N	
239	10.02 (10.2)	Water Plantain	Alisma subcordata Raf.	Y	N	
240	10.03 (10.3)	Carolina Elephant's Foot	Elephantopus carolinianus Raeusch	Y	N	
241	10.04 (10.4)	Alum Root	Heuchera americana L.	Y	N	
242	10.05 (10.5)	Indian Pipes	Monotropa uniflora L.	Y	N	
243	10.06 (10.6)	Southern Lobelia	Lobelia georgiana McVaugh	Y	N	
244	10.07 (10.7)	Aster sp.	Lactuca floridana (L.) Gaertner	Y	N	
245	10.08 (10.8)	Water Pennywort	Hydrocotyle umbellata L.	Y	N	
246	10.09 (10.9)	Tick Trefoil	Oesmodium sp.	Y	N	
247	10.1 (10.10)	Shrubby St. John's-Wort	Hypericum perforatum L.	Y	N	
248	11.01 (11.1)	Stiff-Leaved Aster	Astae linariifolius L.	Y	Y	
249	11.02 (11.2)	Wild or Blue Lupine	Lupinus perennis L.	Y	Y	
250	11.03 (11.3)	Morning Glory	Ipomoea purpurea (L.) Roth	Y	Y	
251	11.04 (11.4)	Partridge Berry	Mitcheilla repens L.	Y	Y	
252	11.05 (11.5)	Bluets	Houstonia caerulea L.	Y	Y	
253	11.06 (11.6)	Bouncing Bet, Soapwort	Saponaria officinalis L.	Y	Y	
254	11.07 (11.7)	Flowering Dogwood	Cornus florida L.	Y	Y	
255	11.08 (11.8)	Sweet Pepperbush	Clethra alnifolia L.	Y	Y	
256	11.09 (11.9)	Bird-Foot Violet	Viola pedata L.	Y	Y	
257	11.1 (11.10)	Swamp Holly	Ilex decidua Walt.	Y	Y	
258	11.11	Grass Pink	Calopogon tuberosus (L.) BSP.	Y	Y	

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	NUMBER	WPA COMMON NAME	WPA SCIENTIFIC	SPECIMEN	WATERCOLOR	REPRODUCED
259	11.12	Yellow Lady Slipper	Cypripedium calceolus L.	Y	Y	
260	12.01 (12.1)	Pale-Leaved Sunflower	Helianthus strumosus L.	Y	N	
261	12.02 (12.2)	New York Ironweed	Vernonia noveboracensis (L.) Michx.	Y	N	
262	12.03 (12.3)	Slender Bush Clover	Lespedeza virginica (L.) Britton	Y	N	
263	12.04 (12.4)	Lion's-Foot	Prenanthes serpentaria Pursh	Y	N	
264	12.05 (12.5)	no label	none	Y	N	
265	12.06 (12.6)	no label	none	Y	N	
266	12.07 (12.7)	no label	none	Y	N	
267	12.08 (12.8)	no label	Prionopsis senifolia	Y	N	[=Haplopappus ciliatus (Nutt.) DC ?]
268	12.09 (12.9)	Ground-Cherry	Physalis virginiana Miller	Y	N	
269	12.1 (12.10)	Slender Flat-Topped Golden Rod	Solidago tenuifolia Pursh	Y	N	
270	12.11	no label		Y	N	
271	12.12	Virginia Knotweed	Polygonum virginianum L.	Y	N	
272	12.13	Loosely-Flowered Goat's Rue	Tephrosia spicata (Walt.) T. & G.	Y	N	
273	12.14	Virginia Willow	Itea virginica L.	Y	N	
274	12.15	Horse Mint	Monarda punctata L.	Y	N	
275	12.16	Spiderwort	Tradescantia virginiana L.	Y	N	
276	12.17	No label	none	Y	N	
277	12.18	Bugle-Weed	Lycopus virginicus L.	Y	N	
278	12.19	Sensitive Pea	Cassia nictitans L.	Y	N	
279	12.2 (12.20)	Hercule's Club	Aralia spinosa L.	Y	N	
280	12.21	Button Snakeroot	Liatris graminifolia (Walt.) Willd.	Y	N	
281	12.22	Small Flowered Agrimony	Agrimonia parviflora Aiton	Y	N	
282	12.23	Cinquefoil	Potentilla recta L.	Y	N	
283	12.24	no label	none	Y	N	
284	12.25	Cardinal Flower	Lobelia cardinalis L.	Y	N	
285	12.26	Wild Pink	Silene caroliniana Walt.	Y	N/A	
286	12.27	Black-Eyed Susan	Rudbeckia hirta L.	Y	N/A	
287	12.28	Thistle	Cirsium sp.	Y	N/A	
288	12.29	Beard Tongue	Pentstemon canescens Britton	Y	N/A	
289	12.3 (12.30)	Purple Foxglove	Agalinis purpurea (L.) Pennell	Y	N/A	
290	12.31	Dittany	Cunila organoides (L.) Britton	Y	N/A	
291	12.32	Yellowed-Eyed Grass	Xyris caroliniana Walt.	Y	N/A	
292	12.33	Bamboo Brier	Smilax laurifolia L.	Y	N/A	
293	12.34	Larger Witherod	Viburnum nudum L.	Y	N/A	
294	12.35	Cowbane	Oxypolis rigidior (L.) Raf.	Y	N/A	
295	12.36	Heart-Leaved Alexanders	Zizia aptera (Gray) Fernald.	Y	N/A	
296	12.37 I	Ladies' Tresses	Spiranthes cernua (L.) Richard	Y	N/A	
297	12.37 II	no label	no label		Y	
298	12.38	Grass-Leaved Golden Aster	Heterotheca graminifolia (Michx.) Shinnars	Y	N/A	
299	12.39	Beech-Drops	Epifagus virginiana (L.) Barton	Y	N/A	

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	NUMBER	WPA COMMON NAME	WPA SCIENTIFIC	SPECIMEN	WATERCOLOR	REPRODUCED
300	12.4 (12.40)	Naked-Flowered Tick Trefoil	Desmodium nudiflorum (L.) DC.	Y	N/A	
301	12.41	no label	no label			
302	12.42	no label	no label			
303	12.43	Moth Mullein	Verbascum blattaria L.	Y	N/A	
304	12.44	Black Medick	Medicago lupulina L.	Y	N/A	
305	12.45	Monkey Flower	Mimulus ringens L.	Y	N/A	
306	12.46	no label	no label			
307	12.47	Fringed Loosestrife	Lysimachia ciliata L.	Y	N/A	
308	12.48	Button Snakeroot	Liatris graminifolia (Walt.) Willd.	Y	N/A	
309	12.49	Slender Ladies Tresses	Spiranthes gracilis (Bigelow) Beck	Y	N/A	
310	12.5 (12.50)	no label	no label			
311	12.51	no label	no label			
312	12.52	Water Hemlock	Cicuta maculata L.	Y	N/A	
313	12.53	Black Haw	Viburnum prunifolium L.	Y	N/A	
314	12.54	Yellow Jessamine	Gelsemium sempervirens (L.) Jaume Saint-Hilaire	Y	N/A	
315	12.55	Blue Stemmed Goldenrod	Solidago caesia L.	Y	N/A	
16	13.01 (13.1)	*Strawberry Bush	Euonymus americanus L.	Y	N/A	
17	13.02 (13.2)	Wavy-Leaved Aster	Aster undulatus L.	Y	N/A	
318	13.03 (13.3)	*Wild Carrot	Daucus carota L.	Y	N/A	
19	13.04 (13.4)	Lobelia	Lobelia puberula Michx.	Y	N/A	
20	13.05 (13.5)	*Round-Leaved Thoroughwort	Eupatorium Rotundifolium	Y	N/A	
21	13.06 (13.6)	Thimbleweed	Anemone virginiana L.	Y	N/A	
22	13.07 (13.7)	*Swamp Milkweed	Asclepias incarnata L.	Y	N/A	
23	13.08 (13.8)	Flat-Topped Goldenrod	Solidago graminifolia (L.) Salisb.	Y	N/A	
24	13.09 (13.9)	*Spreading Aster	Aster patens	Y	N/A	
25	13.1 (13.10)	*White Campion	Lychnis alba Miller	Y	N/A	
26	14.01 (14.1)	Common Bellwort	Uvularia perfoliata L.	Y	N/A	
27	14.02 (14.2)	Red Choke-Berry	Aronia arbutifolia (L.) Elliott	Y	N/A	
28	14.03 (14.3)	Resin Flower	Silphium trifoliatum L.	Y	N	
29	14.04 (14.4)	Cornel-Leaved Aster	Aster infirmus Michx.	Y	N	
30	14.05 (14.5)	Ground Pine	Lycopodium digitalatum A. Br.	Y	N	
31	14.06 (14.6)	Running Cedar	Agalinis purpurea (L.) pennell	Y	N	
32	14.07 (14.7)	no label	no label	Y	N	
33	14.08 (14.8)	no label	no label	Y	N	
34	14.09 (14.9)	no label	no label	Y	N	
35	14.1 (14.10)	no label	no label	Y	N	

Summary Statement of Significance

Lee Memorial Park, a 300-acre park on the southern edge of the City of Petersburg, Virginia, was established in 1921. The park is comprised of a variety of features that (1) reflect a local example of national trends in park landscape design and (2) represent a relatively rare physical manifestation of an important, but little known, women's work relief program of the Works Progress Administration (WPA). Under the WPA and the Petersburg Garden Club, unemployed African-American women cleared land, built trails, planted and labeled flowers and planted shrubbery to create the Lee Park Wild Flower and Bird Sanctuary. Lee Memorial Park is therefore significant, at the local level, under Criteria A and C for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. All of the park's features, including structures, road and trail systems, the Lee Park Wild Flower and Bird Sanctuary and the ornamental and erosion control plantings exhibit a high degree of integrity.

The Park Landscape

The public park movement in the United States began in the mid-nineteenth century following European, particularly British, antecedents. The prevailing landscape design during this period was the picturesque, naturalistic style. Toward the end of the nineteenth century, the picturesque gave way to "wilderness" as the ideal landscape (Jones 1994:61). During the early twentieth century, the wilderness ideal was implemented most prominently by the newly formed National Park Service (est. 1917). The Park Service implemented their landscape program in national parks throughout the country through a variety of federal work programs, including the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Works Progress Administration (McClelland 1993). The landscape designs of municipal parks often represented local or regional versions of these national trends. Such was the case with Lee Memorial Park.

The Wilderness Landscape

The acquisition of 1700 acres of the Willcox watershed in 1894 by the City of Petersburg reflected the new environmentalism of the late nineteenth century, a uniquely American phenomenon (Jones 1994:41-42; Robertson 1997:9). The Industrial Revolution had transformed American society and the landscape; urban centers grew rapidly and extensively in response to new industry, and former agricultural land was quickly being converted to new urban uses. Municipal planners set out to protect remaining open land for a variety of public benefits, including the protection of the public water supply and the creation of public parks. Often these efforts went hand in hand.

A study of public parks in Massachusetts revealed that the creation of many large

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municipal and regional parks in the late nineteenth century were, in effect, initiated by the construction of public water supply systems (cf. Jones 1994). Streams located in outlying areas were dammed to form reservoirs, and large areas of land around these reservoirs—known as the watershed—were brought into the public domain to protect the water supply from pollution and development. Tying the countryside to the urban centers, these watersheds became the focus of some of the earliest debates on open space conservation in the United States (Jones 1994:54). In part to justify such large undeveloped landholdings, many cities, including Petersburg, eventually converted a portion of the publicly-held watershed lands to public parks. Lee Memorial Park was carved out of a portion of the watershed.

Three particular features of the Lee Memorial Park landscape reflect national trends in park development in the early twentieth century. Two of these stem directly from the wilderness tradition in park landscape design: the concept of natural scenery as a monument to local pride and the display of native flora for scientific and educational purposes. The third landscape feature, recreation, reflected attempts to encourage the public to visit the parks while providing opportunities for active recreation in addition to the opportunities for passive recreation usually associated with scenic parks. These landscape features are discussed below in the order in which they were introduced into the park landscape.

Lee Memorial Park as a Symbol of Local Pride

The natural, undeveloped landscape of the watersheds, such as that at Lee Memorial Park, fit well into the “wilderness” tradition for park landscapes popular at the turn of the century. In many cases, the natural landscape of the newly-formed parks became monuments to local pride, in the same manner that the scenic landscapes of Yellowstone (est. 1872), Yosemite (1891), and other national parks served as monuments to the nation (Jones 1994:255). Lee Park was designed more specifically as a monument to a particular aspect of Petersburg’s history.

The City of Petersburg intentionally included a portion of the Dimmock Line (the Civil War earthwork fortifications that bordered the southern fringe of the city) when selecting a 462-acre tract of the Willcox watershed for the creation of Lee Memorial Park. This new park was dedicated to the people of Petersburg and to “the memory of Gen. R.E. Lee as a testimony to his defense of Petersburg, 1864–1865, to his greatness as a soldier, and to his nobility as a man” (Kober and Ware in press).

Lee Park was created during a period, which began in the late nineteenth century, of social and cultural reflections on the Civil War. Some portions of the American public, particularly Southerners, were looking back with nostalgia to the Civil War era, a time

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ostensibly characterized by virtues that seemed to be eroding in the face of urbanization, industrialization, and immigration. Rivalled only by George Washington in the public imagination, Robert E. Lee reached the height of his reputation as a hero during this period.

Local examples of memorials to the Civil War and its Confederate soldiers included the construction of Blandford Church (1901) by the Ladies Memorial Association of Petersburg, and the creation of the Pennsylvania Monument in 1909 on Wakefield Avenue. Other groups across Virginia also were clearly influenced by the emerging "cult of character" surrounding Lee. The Arlington Association was formed in 1921 to preserve Lee's home near Washington, D.C.; the Robert E. Lee Memorial Foundation sought to restore his birthplace at Stratford, in Westmoreland County; and Washington & Lee University in Lexington sponsored a Lee Memorial Fund and Lee Memorial Movement to raise money for a variety of purposes. This memorialization movement peaked in the South when a gigantic likeness of the general was carved into the face of Stone Mountain near Atlanta, Georgia (Connelly 1977:123-28, 142). Lee Memorial Park represents a cultural landscape, rather than a building or monument, dedicated as a memorial to Robert E. Lee.

Active Recreation

Public parks created in the late nineteenth century, whether in the picturesque or wilderness styles, were designed primarily to provide the burgeoning city populations with access to nature as a respite from the ills of urban living (Jones 1994:49-50). In the early twentieth century, facilities for active recreation slowly joined passive recreational features in park landscapes. Whereas passive recreation depended primarily on natural, or at least "naturalistic" landscape, active recreation required various structures and facilities, such as swimming areas, ball fields, and playgrounds. Lee Memorial Park contains landscape features and built elements reflecting both passive and active recreational uses of the park.

The City of Petersburg developed Lee Memorial Park for passive recreation in the 1920s, building 4.5 miles of road and 3.5 miles of trails (Kober and Ware in press), but the City also introduced a number of facilities for active recreation. With the construction of a bathing pavilion, a portion of Willcox Lake—which no longer served as a reservoir—was opened to swimming, and baseball fields and picnic shelters also were constructed in the park. Typical of such public facilities throughout the South during the Jim Crow era, the lake and other recreational facilities were not open to African Americans. Petersburg's

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white citizens, however, made full use of the new walking trails, baseball diamonds, picnic tables, and swimming area that had been provided at public expense (Kober and Ware in press).

Scientific Display of Native Flora

The popularity of "wilderness" as the ideal landscape was also mirrored by increased scientific interest in native flora and fauna at the turn of the century (Jones 1994:41; Robertson 1997:9; Folsom 1992:10). Numerous organizations and governmental agencies dedicated to scientific study and protection of the environment were founded by the turn of the century, among them the American Forestry Association (1876), the U.S. Geological Survey (1879), the Sierra Club (1892), and the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society (1895). Parallel to this, a number of parks were developed specifically for research and education on native plants; these include the Arnold Arboretum in Boston and the New York Botanical Garden (both 1891) and the Brooklyn Botanic Garden (1910), among many others (Folsom 1992:9).

In national, state, and municipal parks, displays of native plants were integrated into the overall landscape design of the park. The National Park Service developed policies and guidelines for the role of native plants in the landscape designs for public parks, including policies for excluding all exotic flora and fauna from the parks and developing "museum wild plant gardens" (McClelland 1993:4, 155).

The first wild flower garden was planned around the lookout at Glacier Point in Yosemite as a collaborative effort between the Educational and Landscape Divisions in 1925. It was not until the end of 1929 that wild gardens were considered a regular feature. (McClelland 1993:158)

Such museum gardens, also called "interpretive gardens," were included in national monuments in the 1930s (McClelland 1993:159).

In the 1930s, Park Service activities were supplemented through a variety of U.S. Government programs developed to provide work relief for those left unemployed by the Great Depression. Plans for such work projects were developed by each federal agency in accordance with the Employment Stabilization Act of 1931 (McClelland 1993:177). As the Depression continued, the federal government initiated a number of New Deal programs, including the Public Works Administration (PWA) and the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC, initially under the Emergency Conservation Work Program)

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in 1933, the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA) in 1934, and the Works Progress Administration (WPA) in 1935.

Both the PWA and the CCC provided extensive assistance to the National Park Service by construction facilities in and making landscape improvements to national parks. Under FERA, the National Park Service took on the role of coordinating "nationwide recreational planning" and developing model recreational parks. The intention was to turn model parks over to state park systems upon their completion (McClelland 1993:195). The WPA, however, was administered at the state level with requisite local sponsorship. Thus, the influence of WPA work programs on public parks depended primarily on the needs and wants of each municipality. In Petersburg, the Lee Park Wild Flower and Bird Sanctuary was created and implemented between 1935 and 1940 as a work relief project sponsored by the Petersburg Garden Club and the City of Petersburg under the aegis of the WPA's Women's and Professional Projects Division.

The Lee Park Wild Flower and Bird Sanctuary

The Lee Park Wild Flower and Bird Sanctuary is perhaps the most significant element in the landscape of Lee Memorial Park. This sanctuary was created under the federal WPA Women's and Professional Projects Division, administered by the Virginia state WPA Women's Division director, sponsored by the Petersburg Garden Club, and implemented by local women employed under the WPA program. Thus, the sanctuary not only represents important developments in park landscape design; it also represents a relatively rare cultural landscape manifestation of a federal program created, administered, and implemented by women.

The WPA Women's and Professional Projects Division

The WPA program was initiated in 1935 with a \$1.4 billion appropriation by Congress with the intention of providing work relief for 3.5 million unemployed people (Badger 1989:201). Harry Hopkins, who had led the earlier FERA efforts, was named Director of the WPA, and he named Ellen S. Woodward as WPA Assistant Administrator and Director of the WPA's Women's and Professional Projects Division. Woodward was a talented and effective administrator dedicated to providing women with work relief and training opportunities; she was also politically astute enough to realize that a large aspect of her job required her to dispel the notion that women neither deserved relief nor could handle a variety of jobs previously held only by men. In close and continual contact with the First Lady, Eleanor Roosevelt, Woodward used every opportunity available through

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her job with the WPA and her involvement with the Democratic Party and numerous women's rights groups to champion the causes of non-discrimination and women's rights (Swain 1995:54, 63, 73).

In December 1935, Hopkins sent a bulletin to all state WPA offices requiring that "the Directors of the Division of Women's and Professional Projects in all states and districts shall be a woman" (quoted in Swain 1995:59). In Virginia, Ella Graham Agnew was selected for this position; Agnew was a former missionary, YWCA worker, and was considered a "pioneer in rural education" (Swain 1995:58; Heinemann 1983:91). In 1933, Agnew had advocated CCC camps for women, and although "this idea never took hold in Virginia...she proposed another form of conservation work for women: creating wildflower and bird sanctuaries" (Kober and Ware in press).

The City of Petersburg and the Petersburg Garden Club

The City of Petersburg and the Petersburg Garden Club led to the development of a local women's relief project designed to create a wildflower and bird sanctuary in Lee Memorial Park. The City of Petersburg owned the land and maintained the park. The Petersburg Garden Club, founded in 1925 as a local branch of the Garden Club of Virginia (Kober and Ware in press), had horticultural interest and expertise and, importantly, was an organization comprised of women. Mrs. Donald Claiborne Holden, one of the founding members of the Petersburg Garden Club, embodied the growing interest in the study and preservation of Virginia's botanical resources in the 1930s. She also was a tireless worker and strong leader who would help Lee Memorial Park become an early model for environmental conservation.

The precise impetus for initiating the Lee Park sanctuary is unclear, but late in 1935, the WPA authorized the project with the Petersburg Garden Club and presumably the City of Petersburg (who owned and maintained the park) as local co-sponsors (Kober and Ware in press). Holden was named supervisor, and local women were pulled from the relief rolls to construct the sanctuary. The project continued for five years, finally ending in 1940 when no additional funds for the project were authorized.

The Lee Park Wild Flower and Bird Sanctuary

Lee Memorial Park was an ideal location for the sanctuary. Local amateur and professional naturalists already knew of the general area for its rich botanical resources (Harvill 1972:28-29). On the boundary between two geological and floristic zones, the

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disadvantaged families, thousands of visitors toured the site. Upon reading one of Holden's recent articles on the sanctuary, for example, Arthur Bevan, State Geologist of Virginia, wrote to Holden requesting directions to the sanctuary so that he and his wife, "being enthusiastic lovers of birds and our native plants" particularly to see the "spring migration of warblers" (Bevan 1939).

In fact, Lee Park was considered such a success that it served as the model for other sanctuaries throughout Virginia, including those in Charlottesville, Hopewell, Danville, and Norfolk (Key 1939:25-25; Kober and Ware in press), and several, if not all, of them became popular with tourists and naturalists alike. In 1938, Cecil F. De La Barre, President of the Virginia Wildlife Federation, wrote to Holden thanking her for information she had provided that would appear in an upcoming issue of *Virginia Wildlife* and requesting additional information on the Petersburg, Hopewell, and Norfolk sanctuaries (De La Barre 1938). The Hopewell sanctuary was located adjacent to the municipal airport at Sims' Lake (The Hopewell News 1938); the Norfolk sanctuary later expanded to become the Norfolk Azalea Gardens, site of Virginia's annual Azalea festival (Heinemann 1983:91).

Overall, the Lee Park Wild Flower and Bird Sanctuary was an impressive example of a cooperative venture supported by federal and municipal governments and local organizations; in fact, the WPA programs in general were "well received" in Virginia (Heinemann 1983:101). It is not known how many sanctuaries were constructed in other states under the WPA Women's and Professional Projects Division, but at least one other sanctuary (the Bowman's Hill Preserve in Bucks County, Pennsylvania) was constructed under the WPA Women's and Professional Projects Division (Smith 1995:28-29). However, neither the total number of sanctuaries constructed under this program, nor their current states of preservation, is known.

In 1940, the City of Petersburg compiled a map of Lee Park showing the "present & proposed acreage" for the sanctuary. The map shows that that the "wild flower preserve" extended across the entire central portion of the park, between Willcox Lake and the western extension of the central loop road through the park; the "wild flower and bird sanctuary" occupied a rectangular 29.5-acre area in the west-central corner of the park; and an area of 44.7 acres was marked off in the extreme southwestern portion of the park for an expansion of the preserve and sanctuary. In addition, the map is annotated to show areas where extensive amounts of honeysuckle had been planted to help control erosion.

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In addition, an herbarium containing pressed, dried plant specimens of 294 species of plants found or planted in Lee Park was compiled as part of the WPA project. Also, Bessie Niemeyer Marshall, a local artist, was commissioned by the Petersburg Garden Club (and partially paid with WPA funds) to paint botanical watercolors of many of these specimens. Both the herbarium and the collection of watercolors are in excellent condition having recently been rehabilitated and rehoused in an acid-free and climate-controlled environment by the Petersburg Garden Club; they are currently being curated by the Petersburg Garden Club at Centre Hill Mansion in Petersburg.

The 1940 map, the herbarium, and its accompanying watercolors provide an excellent documentary record of the Lee Park Wild Flower and Bird Sanctuary. The 1940 map essentially documents the maximum extent of the WPA Women's Division activities in Lee Park, because the sanctuary project received no additional funding after that year. Thus, the Lee Park Wild Flower and Bird Sanctuary, along with other landscaping activities conducted as part of the project, extended across most areas of the park. Of the 294 plant species documented in the Lee Park Herbarium, 175 species (or 60 percent) have been identified in Lee Park during recent botanical surveys of the park.

It is important to note that "landscaping" projects, including the construction of sanctuaries, represented a small percentage of the projects conducted under the WPA Women's and Professional Projects. Over half of the projects conducted under this program were sewing projects; others included household assistance, nursing, librarianships, and types of work that were traditionally defined as "women's work" (Swain 1995:79-87). One of the most significant aspects of the sanctuary projects, by contrast, is that such landscaping work was generally considered to be "men's work." Thus, the Lee Park Wild Flower and Bird Sanctuary served to illustrate that women could perform outdoor labor, expanding the traditionally confining roles for women.

The construction of these sanctuaries under the WPA represented a small percentage of the total number of WPA projects developed for women and the sanctuary projects employed only a small percentage of women who obtained work relief through the WPA. However, the sanctuary projects are important in that they represent perhaps the only significant physical modifications to the landscape undertaken by the WPA Women's and Professional Projects Division, similar to the public works landscape efforts undertaken in national parks (cf. McClelland 1993). Thus, the Lee Park Wild Flower and Bird Sanctuary serves as a physical manifestation of this important, but little known program of the New Deal era: the provision of work relief for women that helped expand the traditionally-defined roles for women.

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Integrity of Landscape Features in Lee Park

Lee Memorial Park is significant under Criteria A and C for listing in the National Register of Historic Places as a historic district on the local and national levels. This district comprises a park landscape with a variety of landscape features that (1) reflect a local example of national trends in park landscape design and (2) represent a relatively rare physical manifestation of an important, but little known, women's work relief program of the Works Progress Administration.

Contributing Elements

In all, the Lee Memorial Park Historic District contains eight (8) contributing elements (structures and landscape features). These are:

- Willcox Lake
- Civil War earthworks
- Bath house
- Park Superintendent's house
- The Lee Park Wild Flower and Bird Sanctuary
- The general topography and vegetation in the park
- The road and trail system
- The park itself (as a memorial)

Of these contributing elements, the structures and landscape features that specifically represent a local example of national trends in park landscape design are:

- Willcox Lake (as a reservoir converted to a scenic park landscape element);
- Civil War earthworks (incorporated into the park landscape as a "memorial");
- Road and trail system (which provides pedestrian access through the park landscape);
- Bath house (at the east end of the Willcox Lake dam, reflecting active recreation)
- Park Superintendent's house (1616 Defense Road)
- the general topography and vegetation (reflecting the wilderness tradition and use of the park for passive recreation);
- the Lee Park Wild Flower and Bird Sanctuary (representing modification of the natural landscape to "enhance" its wilderness characteristics and reflecting the growing scientific and educational interest in native flora and fauna); and
- the park itself along with its name (reflecting 1920s memorialization of the Civil War).

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Incorporated within these park landscape features are features that specifically represent the women's work relief program of the Works Progress Administration include:

- the Lee Park Wild Flower and Bird Sanctuary (which was cited across the central portion of the park);
- road and trail system (a large portion of which was already in existence as part of the park transportation system when the sanctuary was created, but was incorporated into and expanded upon during the WPA program); and
- additional ornamental and erosion-control plantings (accomplished by the WPA work relief program throughout other areas of the park, including the areas of honeysuckle planted in the northern and southeastern extremes of the park).

All of the structures and features listed above exhibit a high degree of integrity. Overall, the park boundaries have changed only slightly since the park was first created in the 1920s. Of the original 462 acres, 331 acres (or 72 percent) remain within the current park boundaries; ca. 300 acres comprise the historic district and the remaining 31 acres are modern recreational facilities on Johnson Road that are excluded from the historic district. The general wooded nature and natural topography of the park is still very much in evidence. The Civil War earthworks are in excellent condition, although they have become wooded over and have slumped slightly from erosion. The "loop" road system through the central portion of the park has not been altered, beyond simple grading and other routine maintenance); and at least one trail (and possibly others) constructed in the park are visible. The actual swimming beach at the north end of Willcox Lake was inundated when the level of the lake was raised, but the bath house still stands and is in good condition. Similarly, the Park Superintendent's house at 1616 Defense Road (uphill from the west end of the Willcox Lake dam) still stands and is in good condition.

The wild flower and bird sanctuary that occupied much of the central portion of the park also is considered to exhibit a high degree of integrity, in that the natural topography and vegetation still remains largely unaltered. Although the metal markers that once identified various plant specimens in the park are no longer visible (and may be gone entirely), the herbarium and accompanying watercolor images, well preserved and curated by the Petersburg Garden Club, provide extensive documentation of the plant species that were included in the sanctuary. Of the 294 plant species documented in the Lee Park Herbarium, 175 species (or 60 percent) have been identified in Lee Park during recent botanical surveys of the park.

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Non-contributing Elements

Lee Memorial Park consists primarily of landscape features as opposed to buildings, monuments, or other constructions. However, the park does contain several non-contributing structures within the park boundaries that are not considered to adversely affect the historic integrity of the park landscape as a whole nor of any specific significant landscape element within the park. The non-contributing structures are:

- Willcox Lake pavilion (the picnic area located just east the central entrance road);
- the two cinderblock outbuildings at 1616 Defense Road; and
- Cooper Field (a modern ballfield located just west of the entrance road and north of the bird sanctuary area).

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Section Photo List **Page** 38

The following information is the same for all photographs:

Property: Lee Memorial Park
Location: City of Petersburg, Virginia
Photographer: Donald G. Jones
Date of Photographs: March 16, 2000
Negative Number: 18110
Negatives filed at Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Virginia

Photo 1 of 16: Civil War earthworks (Dimmock Line), looking northwest

Photo 2 of 16: Civil War earthworks (Dimmock Line), looking west

Photo 3 of 16: Civil War earthworks (Dimmock Line), looking north

Photo 4 of 16: Center road and area of WPA Bird Sanctuary, looking northwest

Photo 5 of 16: Area of WPA Wild Flower Preserve, looking east from Cooper Field

Photo 6 of 16: Loop road through WPA Wild Flower Preserve, looking west

Photo 7 of 16: Ravine and Willcox Lake in WPA Wild Flower Preserve, looking east

Photo 8 of 16: Area of WPA Wild Flower Preserve and Willcox Lake, looking northeast

Photo 9 of 16: Willcox Lake from the dam (and former swimming area), looking southwest

Photo 10 of 16: Willcox lake and bathhouse from WPA Wild Flower Preserve, looking north

Photo 11 of 16: Willcox Lake dam and bathhouse, looking east

Photo 12 of 16: Bathhouse at east end of Willcox Lake dam, looking northwest

Photo 13 of 16: Park Superintendent's house (1616 Defense Road) from Willcox Lake dam, looking west

Photo 14 of 16: Ornamental plantings at west end of Willcox Lake dam (and Park Superintendent's house at 1616 Defense Road on top of hill), looking west.

Photo 15 of 16: Willcox Lake Pavilion, looking east.

Photo 16 of 16: Cooper Field, looking west.

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Geographical Data

UTM References:

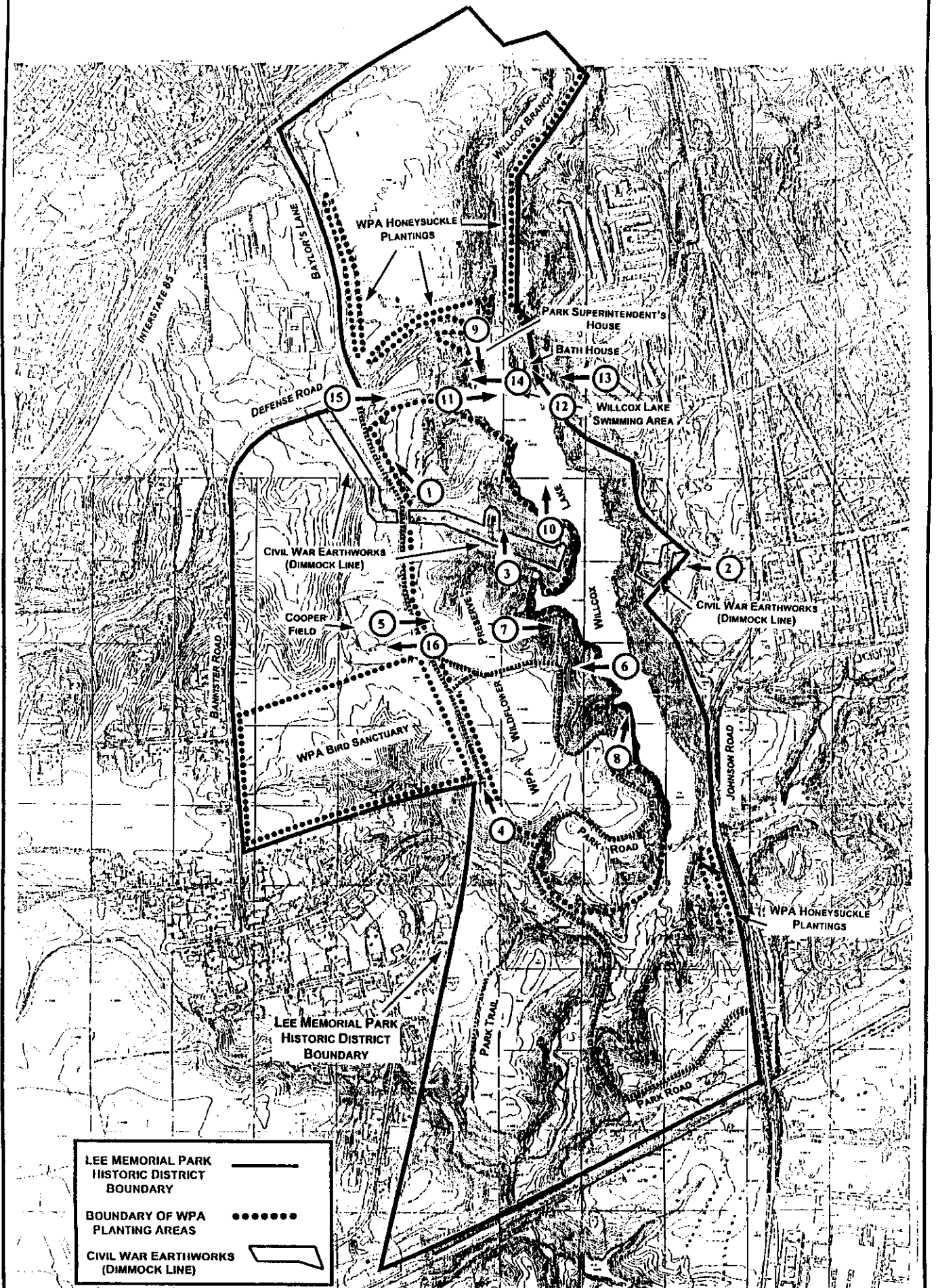
	<u>Zone</u>	<u>Easting</u>	<u>Northing</u>
1. (A)	18	286100	4120470
2. (B)	18	286450	4120680
3. (C)	18	286910	4118780
4. (D)	18	286270	4118500
5. (E)	18	285990	4119160

Verbal Boundary Description

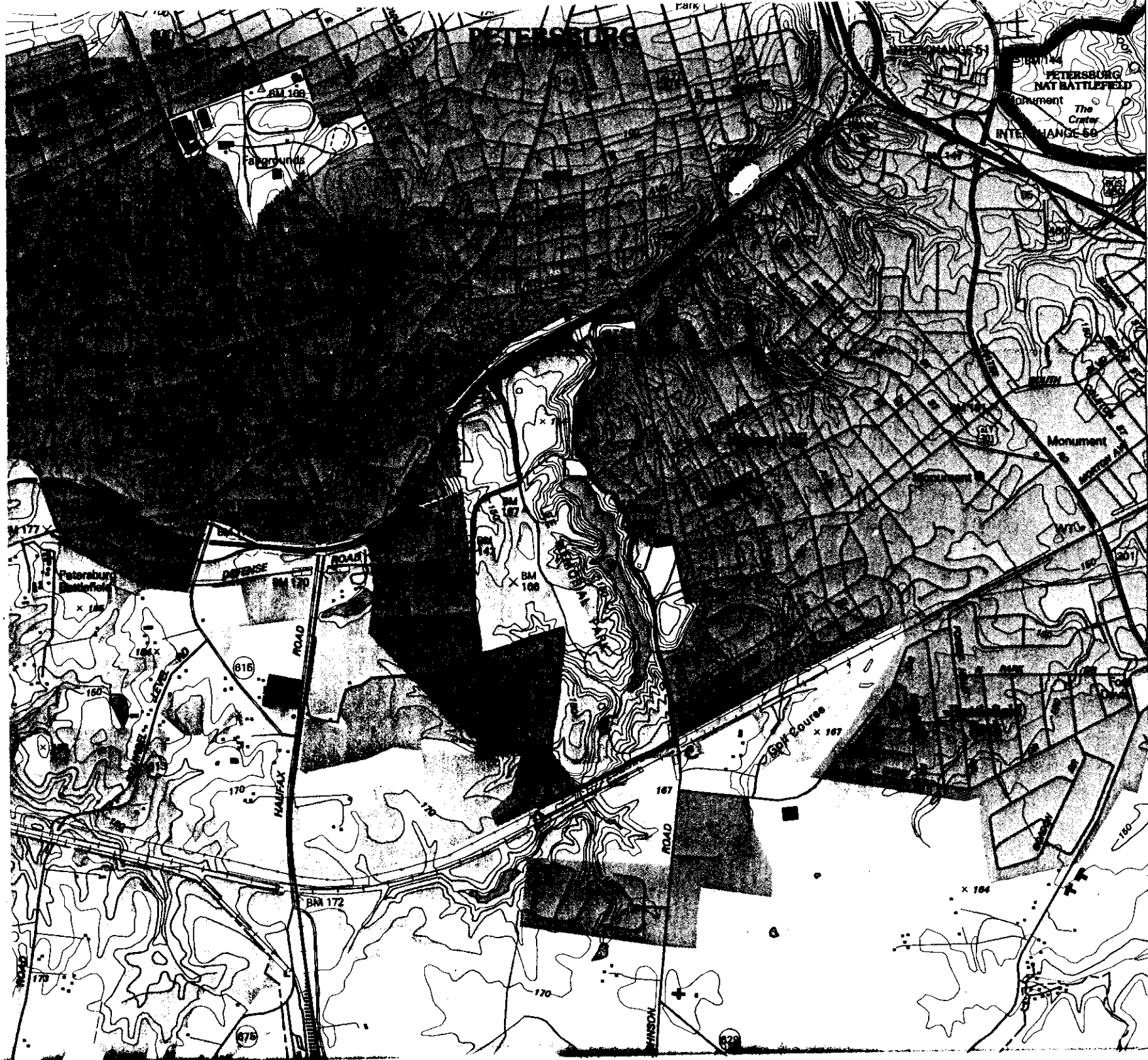
The north boundary is Interstate 85, the west boundary extends from Interstate 85 south along Baylor's Lane to Defense Road then to Bannister Road; from Bannister Road the boundary turns east following the existing Lee Park boundary (behind a row of houses), then turns south extending to the Norfolk & Southern Railroad tracks; the southern boundary extends along the Norfolk & Southern Railroad tracks to Johnson Road; the eastern boundary runs north from the Norfolk & Southern Railroad tracks along Johnson Road, then veers west (toward the lake) following the 154-foot contour line along the top of the lake slope up to Defense Road, then extends northwest along Defense Road to the existing Lee Park boundary where it turns north following the existing Lee Park boundary along the west-facing slopes of Willcox Branch northwest to Interstate 85.

Boundary Justification

The boundary of the Lee Memorial Park nomination primarily follows the existing boundary of Lee Park, most of which is also the historic boundary for Lee Memorial Park. Thus, the nomination encompasses about 300 acres of the historic 462-acre park. Most of the 131 acres of the original park not included in this nomination were sold by the City of Petersburg and have been extensively modified (e.g., the construction of the Virginia National Guard building on Baylor's Lane); another small section of the park not included in the nomination (a portion at the intersection of Johnson Road and Defense Road) contains extensive and modern recreational facilities.



LEE MEMORIAL PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT BOUNDARY	—————
BOUNDARY OF WPA PLANTING AREAS
CIVIL WAR EARTHWORKS (DIMMOCK LINE)	—————



4122

4121

12' 30"

4120

LEE MEMORIAL
PARK
PETERSBURG, VA

UTMs

A. 18 286 100 E
18 4120 470 N

4119

B. 18 286 450 E
18 4120 680 N

C. 18 286 910 E
18 4118 780 N

D. 18 286 270 E
18 4118 500 N

4118

E. 18 285 990 E
18 4119 160 N