FORT LINCOLN PARK

SITE OVERVIEW
ENHANCE A VIBRANT COMMUNITY HUB

REVIVE THE EXISTING LANDSCAPE & PARK

CELEBRATE THE RICH SITE HISTORY

ENCOURAGE AN INTERGENERATIONAL EXPERIENCE

CREATE A MODEL NEIGHBORHOOD AMENITY
FORT LINCOLN PARK
HISTORIC OVERVIEW - TIME LINE

BATTLE OF BLADENSBURG: On the hill that will one day become Fort Lincoln, Commodore Joshua Barney and his troops hold off the British, before being overcome. The British force advance to burn the White House.

THE NATIONAL TRAINING SCHOOL FOR BOYS opens on the former site of Fort Lincoln on January 13, 1870. Part of the Bureau of Prisons, it was “an institution committed to the task of retraining and redirecting youths who have violated the laws of the United States and the District of Columbia.” (U.S. Bureau of Prisons, 1953) It closes in 1968.

THEODORE HAGANS, an eminent local businessman and Civil Rights leader is selected by the District to lead the redevelopment of Fort Lincoln. In 1984, after Hagans dies in a plane crash, his daughter, Dr. Michelle Hagans takes over the Fort Lincoln Redevelopment Corporation.

Fry & Welch Architects design the Fort Lincoln (Thurgood Marshall) Elementary School which is completed ca. 1975 and demolished in 2020.

Landscape architect M. Paul Friedberg designs Fort Lincoln Commemorative Park, which is completed in 1980 and survives with integrity today.

“Once let the black man get upon his person the brass letters, U.S., let him get an eagle on his button, and a musket on his shoulder, and bullets in his pockets, and there is no power on earth which can deny that he has earned the right to citizenship in the United States.” - Frederick Douglass


PAINTING BY CHARLES WATERHOUSE (1844)

FORT LINCOLN is constructed as part of a series of fortifications to defend the capital which include Fort Totten and Fort Reno among others. When African Americans are admitted to the U.S. Army two years later, many are assigned to the Defenses of Washington.

THE FORT LINCOLN URBAN RENEWAL AREA, a new community to be developed on the former reform school site is announced by LBJ to help relieve housing shortages. The plan calls for 4,500 housing units for different income and family sizes. It additionally calls for new schools and community amenities including a library, health center, fire station and rail transit.

“Washington needs and deserves the best in community planning - and this new development can be the best of communities. It should offer a full range of educational, recreational, and other public services to the citizens of every station.” - Lyndon Johnson.

“Fort Lincoln Urban Renewal Area” District of Columbia, National Capital Planning Commission, Redevelopment Land Agency
FORT LINCOLN PARK
SITE ANALYSIS - HISTORIC CORE

THE SITE OFFERED FRIEDBERG UNIQUE ADVANTAGES:

1. IRREGULAR FORM, NOT DEFINED BY THE GRID OF THE CITY.
2. TOPOGRAPHIC VARIATION AND SIGNIFICANT GRADE CHANGES.
3. PANORAMIC VIEWS FROM VIEWER SUPERIOR LOCATIONS.
4. RICH EMBEDDED HISTORY.

HISTORIC CORE

FORT LINCOLN COMMEMORATIVE PARK
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT: M. PAUL FRIEDBERG
ARCHITECT: JEROME LINDSAY
COMPLETED 1980

FORT LINCOLN PARK COMMUNITY CENTER SITE
FORMER THURGOOD MARSHALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SITE (DEMOLISHED 2020)
NOT CONTRIBUTING
FRY & WELCH ARCHITECTS
COMPLETED CA. 1975
DEMOLISHED 2020

NOT CONTRIBUTING
THEODORE HAGANS CULTURAL CENTER AND POOL
ARCHITECT UNKNOWN
DATE UNKNOWN, RENOVATED CA. 2009
FORT LINCOLN PARK
CONTEMPORANEOUS FRIEDBERG DESIGNS

JACOB RIIS HOUSES
PLAYGROUND
NEW YORK, NY
1965

67TH STREET
PLAYGROUND
NEW YORK, NY
1967

PEAVEY PLAZA
PARK & FOUNTAIN
MINNEAPOLIS, MN
1975

LORING GREENWAY
PUBLIC SPACE & FOUNTAIN
MINNEAPOLIS, MN
1976

PERSHING PARK
PUBLIC SPACE & WATER FEATURE
WASHINGTON, DC
1981
FORT LINCOLN PARK
M. PAUL FRIEDBERG LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

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FORT LINCOLN PARK
DESIGN INTENT AS ESTABLISHED BY M. PAUL FRIEDBERG

LANDSCAPE AS STAGE
FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT
WITH SEAMLESS CONNECTIVITY

NEW TYPOLOGY:
“PARK / PLAYGROUND”
VISITORS ARE BOTH ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS & OBSERVERS
PLAY IS INDEPENDENT AND COLLECTIVE FOR ALL AGE GROUPS

— CFA MEETING MINUTES APRIL 21, 1976
FORT LINCOLN PARK
EXISTING CONDITIONS: HISTORIC CORE

SPECIAL SQUARE & RECTANGLE PATTERN
PICNIC AREA ADJACENT TO PAVILIONS

SQUARE PAVER, RUNNING BOND
AMPHITHEATER TERRACE

HEXAGON PAVER
AMPHITHEATER

SPECIAL SQUARE & RECTANGLE PATTERN
CORNER DETAIL; PICNIC AREA ADJACENT TO PAVILIONS

SQUARE PAVER, DIAMOND BOND
AMPHITHEATER PLATFORM AND ENTRY BATHROOM AREA

FORT PLAY AREA BRICK SCRAMBLE PAVERS
FORT LINCOLN PARK
EXISTING CONDITIONS: HISTORIC CORE

TYPICAL PAVILION

THORNLESS HONEYLOCUST PLANTING AREA - EXPOSED SOIL
BRUSHED CONCRETE; PAD FOR TRADITIONAL BENCH
TYP. CONCRETE DOUBLE COLUMNS
BRUSHED CONCRETE BENCH
EXPOSED AGGREGATE CONCRETE
WOOD AWNING OVERHEAD
FORT LINCOLN PARK
EXISTING CONDITIONS: HISTORIC CORE

- Primary pathways: Square concrete
- Secondary pathways: Asphalt paving
- Green horizontal plane: Unique light fixtures, integrated bike racks
- Amphitheater / Plaza
HISTORIC CORE
FORT PLAY AREA - EXISTING CONDITIONS

- RAILROAD TIE WALLS
- SYNTHETIC TURF PLAY TERRACE
- OPEN PLAY LAWN
- ‘BRICK SCRAMBLE’ PAVING
- RAILROAD TIE WALLS & CLIMBING ELEMENTS
- FEATURE MOUND; MISSING 2 SLIDES
FORT LINCOLN PARK RENEWAL

• EMBRACE A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO STEWARDSHIP AT FORT LINCOLN PARK THAT UNDERSTANDS AND VALUES ITS INHERENT AND UNIQUE NATURAL, HISTORIC, AND CULTURAL ASSETS

• ESTABLISH A “HISTORIC CORE” AREA WITHIN FORT LINCOLN PARK TO GUIDE INTERVENTION

• REHABILITATE THE INTEGRITY OF M. PAUL FRIEDBERG’S 1980 LANDSCAPE DESIGN INSIDE THE HISTORIC CORE WITHIN A CONTEMPORARY CONTEXT OF ACCESSIBILITY AND SECURITY

WHEN APPLYING THE STANDARDS OF REHABILITATION:

• BALANCE ACTIVITY & PROGRAMMING ACROSS THE ENTIRE PARK - “THE PARK JUST GOT BIGGER!”

• REFINE & REINFORCE PATH NETWORK TO IMPROVE FUNCTION AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS

• REINTERPRET ORIGINAL PLAY AREAS AS SAFE AND ACCESSIBLE AMENITIES

• REJUVENATE SOILS, LAWNS, AND SITE PLANTINGS. ASSESS ORIGINAL AND EXISTING TREE LOCATIONS & HEALTH TO ESTABLISH A PROPOSED PLANTING STRATEGY THAT ENSURES FUTURE CANOPY COVER

• REUSE, REFURBISH, OR REPLACE SITE FIXTURES AND FURNISHINGS WHILE IMPROVING SAFETY AND UNIVERSAL ACCESSIBILITY.
"The Park Just Got Bigger!"

**Community Center**
- Create accessible connections to the community
- Create a seamless connection to the existing park.
- Open fields for informal active play
- New outdoor classrooms, demonstration kitchen, fitness spaces, and flexible amphitheater.
- New playground (2-5 year olds)
- New planting and sustainable features including increased canopy cover, meadows, rain gardens, and green roofs

**Historic Core**
- Rehabilitate Fort Play Area
- Existing fountain structure to remain
- Rehabilitate pavilion structures and paving
- Preserve and rejuvenate existing trees and enhance the design intent with new planting
- Rehabilitate damaged paving
- Renovate pathways to improve accessibility

**Theodore Hagans Cultural Center**
- Create accessible connections to the community
- Create seamless connections to park pathways and new fitness trail
- Expand the community garden
- Rehabilitate the pool deck
FORT LINCOLN PARK
EXISTING AND PROPOSED TREES

- CANOPY DECIDUOUS
- EVERGREEN
- FLOWERING
- EXISTING TREE

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- FORT LINCOLN DRIVE
- COM. JOSHUA BARNEY DRIVE
- WOODLAND

EXISTING TREE

EXISTING AND PROPOSED TREES

WOODLAND

FT. LINCOLN DRIVE

COM. JOSHUA BARNEY DRIVE

WOODLAND

EXISTING TREE
FORT LINCOLN PARK
PROPOSED SPECIES

- RED MAPLE
- SERVICEBERRY
- FLOWERING DOGWOOD
- HACKBERRY
- YELLOWWOOD
- THORNLESS HONEYLOCUST
- WITCH HAZEL
- TULIP POPLAR
- AMERICAN SYCAMORE
- LOBLOLLY PINE
- VIRGINIA PINE
- SCARLET OAK
- NUTTAL OAK
- PIN OAK
- NORTHERN RED OAK
- LITTLE LEAF LINDEN
- BALD CYPRESS
- YOSHINO CHERRY
CLEAR INVASIVES AND UNDERSTORY TO RETURN TO ORIGINAL DESIGN INTENT

REPAIR AND REPLACE PAVING AS NECESSARY; PROVIDE TREE PROTECTION FOR EXISTING TREES

REPLACE ASPHALT PATH

REPAIR AND REPLACE BRICK PAVING AS NECESSARY

REGRADE RAMP FOR ADA ACCESSIBILITY

REPLACE ASPHALT WITH SQUARE-PRESSED CONCRETE

NEW GRILLS AND PICNIC TABLES

REMOVE “PLOP” PLAYGROUND

EXISTING PATH

NEW ADA RAMP

REPAIR PAVERS IN PODIUM AREA

PRIMARY ACCESS TO NEW BUILDING; RETAINING WALLS AND RAMPS

RAMP CONNECTION FROM SPINE TO PRIMARY RAMPING SYSTEM

FORT PLAY AREA

FULLY RESTORE FOUNTAIN; ALT. ONLY RESTORE BRICK

HEXAGON ASPHALT PAVERS; NEW BLEACHERS

NEW FITNESS TRAIL; PERMEABLE ASPHALT

FOREST EDGE PLANTING

4 NEW FITNESS STATIONS
HISTORIC CORE
FORT PLAY AREA - PROPOSED

PLAY MOUND:
REPLACE BRICK SCRAMBLE,
REPLACE 2 SLIDES;
REPLACE TIMBER CLIMBERS

ADD TIMBERFORM
CLIMBING ELEMENT
REPLACE TIMBER
WALL /CLIMBING &
BALANCE ELEMENTS

SEESAW

ENGINEERED
WOOD FIBER (EWF)

ADD TIMBERFORM
BALANCE ELEMENT

MUSICAL PLAY ELEMENTS

ADD EXTERNAL CIRCULATION
LAWN
RESTORE BRICK SCRAMBLE
NEW ADA ACCESS

REPLACE TIMBER WALL;
ADD PLAY STRUCTURE WITH ADA BRIDGE CONNECTION

RENEW BRIDGE, ALT. ONLY RESTORE
DAMAGED BRICK WORK

RENOVATE FOUNTAIN;
FOUNTAIN EQUIPMENT ROOM AND STORAGE
HISTORIC CORE
FORT PLAY AREA - PROPOSED

1. CLIMBING ELEMENT - TIMBERFORM
2. MUSIC PLAY - TUBULAR BELLS
3. BALANCE BEAMS / BENCHES - TIMBERFORM
4. BRIDGE CONNECTION - TIMBERFORM
5. SEESAW - TIMBERFORMS
6. LOG STACK, EARTHCASE
THEODORE HAGANS CULTURAL CENTER
LANDSCAPE STRATEGIES

- FOREST EDGE PLANTING
- NEW FITNESS TRAIL; PERMEABLE ASPHALT
- FITNESS EQUIPMENT
- NEW CONCRETE WALK
- FOREST EDGE PLANTING
- NEW FITNESS TRAIL; PERMEABLE ASPHALT
- NEW RAMP
- NEW CONCRETE WALK
- NEW FENCE AROUND POOL
- EXPANDED POOL DECK
- NEW CONCRETE WALK
- COMMUNITY GARDEN; + 8 RAISED BEDS (4X8 FT)
+ PICNIC TABLE
+ NEW ENTRY GATE
- RETAINING WALL WITH 8 FT BLACK CHAIN LINK FENCE
- HEXAGONAL ASPHALT PAVERS INDICATE PEDESTRIAN ZONE

- BENCHES ALONG WALK
- FITNESS EQUIPMENT
- NEW CONCRETE WALK
- NEW RAMP
- NEW FENCE AROUND POOL
- EXPANDED POOL DECK
- NEW CONCRETE WALK
- COMMUNITY GARDEN; + 8 RAISED BEDS (4X8 FT)
+ PICNIC TABLE
+ NEW ENTRY GATE
- RETAINING WALL WITH 8 FT BLACK CHAIN LINK FENCE
- HEXAGONAL ASPHALT PAVERS INDICATE PEDESTRIAN ZONE
THEODORE HAGANS CULTURAL CENTER
LANDSCAPE STRATEGIES

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COMMUNITY GARDENS

ADA ACCESSIBLE GARDEN BEDS

HEXAGONAL ASPHALT PAVERS INDICATE PEDESTRIAN ZONE
FORT LINCOLN PARK
FURNISHINGS

[Images of park installations and activities]

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