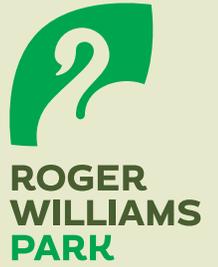


SELF-GUIDED TOUR OF NOTABLE BUILDINGS



ELMWOOD
NEIGHBORHOOD

WASHINGTON PARK
NEIGHBORHOOD

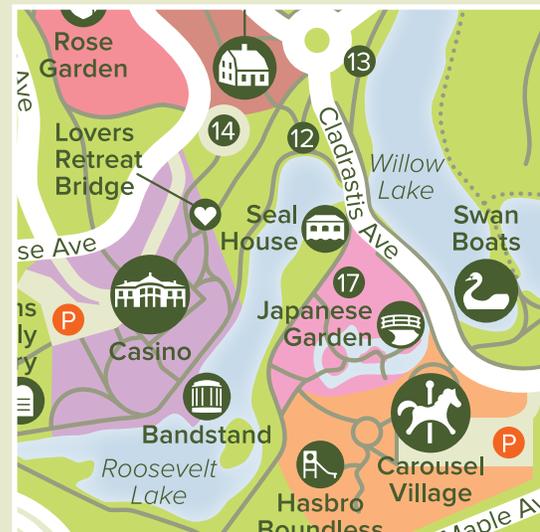
EDGEWOOD
NEIGHBORHOOD

- parking
- bus stop
- paved walking path
- unpaved walking path

Monuments & Sculptures

- 1 Juan Pablo Duarte
- 2 Haitian Independence Memorial
- 3 The Union Soldier
- 4 Abraham Lincoln
- 5 The Fighting Gladiator
- 6 Marconi Memorial
- 7 The Falconer
- 8 The Eagle
- 9 Sri Chinmoy
- 10 Lions Memorial
- 11 The Pancratiast (thinker)
- 12 Bowen R. Church (cornetist)
- 13 General Pulaski
- 14 Roger Williams
- 15 Ferdinand II
- 16 The Sentinel (dog)
- 17 Japanese Lantern

version 4: 05/16/2016



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Bandstand: In 1901, the Providence City Council appropriated funding for musical performances in the Park and the construction of a bandstand. The initial bandstand jutted out over Crystal Lake (Roosevelt Lake today) and resembled a fishing pier. This was replaced in 1915 with an ornate structure supported by a dozen Corinthian columns. The second bandstand had an ironic flaw -- its 30-foot diameter acoustical dome produced an echo -- so most bands chose to perform on the apron below. Although it looks like stone, the Bandstand is mostly wood. The current structure is an exact replica of the 1915 original -- echo included.



Betsey Williams Cottage: The Betsey Williams Cottage was built in 1773 by Nathaniel Williams for his son James, the father of Betsey. The one-and-a-half story, five-room, gambrel-roofed cottage was constructed on part of the land originally deeded to Rhode Island's founder, Roger Williams, by the Narragansett sachems Miantonomi and Canonicus. Unfortunately, the building is not accessible to the public today because of structural concerns.



Botanical Center: The Botanical Center, opened in 2007 and encompassing approximately 12,000 square feet, features the largest public indoor-display gardens in New England. More than 150 different species and cultivars of plants, including 17 different types of palms, grow in the four greenhouses. Outdoor garden displays include the Perennial Garden, Pine & Hosta Dell, the Winter Garden, Wooded Hillside Garden, Overlook Terrace, and the Rose Maze.



Carousel: Built in 1897 by the nation's premier carousel maker, the Riverside, RI factory of Charles I.D. Looff, the original merry-go-round featured carved wooden horses with tails made from real horse hair. In 1937, this was replaced by a Philadelphia Toboggan merry-go-round with 66 hand-carved horses. On this new carousel, riders would reach for traditional brass rings. On busy Sundays, as many as 8,000 waited in line for a ride. The Carousel at the park today, with fiberglass reproductions of antique animals, was installed in 1990.



Casino: Providence architect Edward T. Banning designed the Casino. Built in 1896, the Colonial Revival structure replaced the What Cheer Café owned by the Union Railroad Company. Construction of the Casino cost \$30,000 and was funded by proceeds from launch boat rides, row boat and ice skate rentals, and other park amusements. Today, the Casino is rented out for private events.



Dalrymple Boathouse: In 1896, philanthropist Clark Dalrymple funded the construction of this Queen Anne style boathouse, designed by Museum architects Martin and Hall. The building's style is typical of pavilions and boathouses at seaside and lake resorts across the country during this period and reflects a sense of "holiday" with details designed to evoke an air of gaiety. In the early 1900s, the boathouse functioned as a launching pad for boats during the summer and as a warming station and hot cocoa dispensary for ice skaters during winter months. The Boathouse now hosts the Parks Department administrative offices and community meeting space.



Museum of Natural History and Cormack Planetarium: Designed by the Providence firm of Martin and Hall in the French Chateau style, the Museum's striking yellow brick façade and its location at the highest point of Park landscape symbolized its role as the most prominent institution in the Park between 1900-1940. The facility was intended to house fine art as well as natural history collections, however, the construction of the RISD Museum and the naturalist background of the Museum's first director, James Southwick, had a long-term influence on the focus of the collection. The Museum opened in 1896. The Planetarium opened in 1953 and was the largest such facility in New England. The Navy's Seabees helped to construct the dome.



Temple to Music: In 1924, William T. Aldrich of Bellows & Aldrich, Boston, designed the Temple to Music in a natural amphitheater encircled by oaks on the shore of Cunliff Lake. Constructed of Vermont marble, the classical design was chosen to illustrate the parallel origins of music and architecture, in accordance with the wishes of its donor William Curtis Benedict, a prominent local olive oil merchant. The opening of the Temple to Music drew a crowd of 50,000 people to hear the U.S. Marine Band, Marie Sundelius of the Metropolitan Opera and the 284-member Providence Festival Chorus.

The program notes from the Temple dedication underscore the purpose of the new facility: *Here it is hoped that the people, to whom it is given, will gather for concerts, plays and other assemblies suitable in such an outdoor setting. It is theirs to have, to safeguard, and to cherish... It stands for the cultural interests of the community, which no city, however prosperous in a material sense, can afford to neglect. Its purpose is to minister to the inner and finer life, to stay man's heart and sustain his soul.*



Seal House: The Roger Williams Park Seal House, originally a shelter for the Zoo's sea lions, was constructed in 1938 along with a monkey house and an elephant house, as part of a Works Progress Administration project. The stone structure echoes rustic WPA designs built throughout the country during the Great Depression.