The Emerald Necklace: Balancing Past, Present, and Future
Boston and Brookline, Massachusetts

Presenters
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Learning Objectives
1. Understand how to respect and protect historical integrity while addressing today's ecological and social concerns.
2. Experience the ecological restoration of a freshwater course and pond system that controls flooding, improves water quality, and enhances habitat.
3. Learn about the development of a management and maintenance strategy for a system of parks and parkways.
4. Learn how public/private partnerships can help bring back a park system in a tight economy through advocacy and fundraising.

Emerald Necklace Parks Master Plan the Common to Franklin Park 1894
The park system actually completed by 1895

General Plan of Franklin Park by Frederick Law Olmsted, 1885
Muddy River 1892 FLO Plan for the Parkway (as built plan) Showing The Riverway and Olmsted Park

Leverett Pond, Islands & Daisy Field ca. 1900

Ward’s Pond from Parkway ca. 1920s

Muddy River 1892 Plan - Olmsted Park (Frederick Law Olmsted)

Leverett Pond, Cove inlet & Bridge

Muddy River 1892 Plan - Riverway -Frederick Law Olmsted (as built plan)

The Riverway - Walmsley/Pressley Master Plan
Riverway under construction ca. 1892

Riverway from Longwood Bridge 1920

Riverway Islands ca. 1920

Riverway Islands and grass beach 1907

Plantings 28 years after construction 1924

Planting plans for Longwood Section of Muddy River in the Riverway Boston & Brookline sides 1893 – Frederick Law Olmsted

Pedestrian Bridge & Bridle Path Bridge

Bridle Path Bridge

Netherlands Avenue Bridge ca. 1907

Shelter in the Riverway ca. 1907
1879 Back Bay Fens Plan – Frederick Law Olmsted (first plan)

Back Bay Fens – Frederick Law Olmsted 1887 (as-built plan)

Charlesgate Arthur A. Shurtleff ca. 1924

The Bowker Overpass ca. 1965

Back Bay Fens- Agassiz Bridge 1897

Back Bay Fens- Agassiz Bridge 1897 (Agassiz Bridge Parks Report 1981)

Back Bay Fens- at Agassiz Road ca. 1969

Agassiz Bridge Parks Report 1981

Back Bay Fens – Frederick Law Olmsted 1887 (as-built plan)
Back Bay Fens – c. 1927 after dam constructed showing lagoon and fields, but before the rose garden. Design by Arthur A. Shurtleff later Shurtleff.

Back Bay Fens – Walmsley/Pressley Master Plan

Rose Garden and Lagoon completed ca. 1934

Back Bay Fens - Arthur A. Shurtleff 1921

Back Bay Fens - Arthur A. Shurtleff 1922

Arthur A. Shurtleff 1931
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Phase I Muddy River Improvements currently under construction

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