



# 2017 HALS Challenge

## Documenting City or Town Park(s)

The **Historic American Landscapes Survey (HALS)** was created in 2000 to document our country's dynamic landscapes. Much progress has been made in identifying cultural landscapes but more work is needed to document these designed and vernacular places.

For the **8<sup>th</sup> annual HALS Challenge**, we invite you to document a historic city or town park. In 2016, the National Park Service celebrated its centennial with the **FIND YOUR PARK** movement to spread the word about the amazing national parks and the inspirational stories they tell about our diverse cultural heritage. Find Your Park is about more than just national parks! It's also about local parks and the many ways that the American public can connect with history and culture and make new discoveries. With more than 80% of Americans living in urban areas, urban parks are becoming more important than ever.

Perhaps the city or town park you choose to document may:

- +be so popular that it is threatened by overuse;
- +be challenged with incompatible additions or updates;
- +suffer from neglect and deferred maintenance;
- +be unnoticed with its significance unappreciated;
- and/or
- +be documented to encourage its preservation.

There are many fascinating historic city and town parks in all 50 states. People from every state are hereby challenged to complete at least one HALS *short format history* to document these beloved resources.

### Preservation Through Documentation!

**Short format histories\* should be submitted to HALS at the National Park Service no later than July 31, 2017. For more information, contact Chris Stevens, 202-354-2146, [Chris\\_Stevens@nps.gov](mailto:Chris_Stevens@nps.gov)**

**Cash prizes\*\* will be awarded to the top 3 entries.**

**IMPORTANT: See next page for tips and updates to the HALS Challenge rules and to the digital HALS Short Format History Template.**

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Roeding Park, HALS CA-59, Fresno, CA

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## LUNGS OF THE CITY

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Ala Moana Park, HALS HI-21, Honolulu, HI

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Wilcox Park, HALS RI-1, Westerly, RI

\* HALS Short Format History guidelines, brochure and digital template may be downloaded from the HALS website:

[www.nps.gov/hdp/standards/halsguidelines.htm](http://www.nps.gov/hdp/standards/halsguidelines.htm) NOTE: There are changes to digital template for the 2017 HALS Challenge!!!

\*\* Winners will be announced at the HALS Subcommittee meeting at the 2017 Annual ASLA Meeting and Expo in Los Angeles.

Employees of the National Park Service, American Society of Landscape Architects, and Library of Congress may submit HALS Short Format Historical Reports, but are ineligible for prizes.

## HALS CHALLENGE TIPS AND RULES

### **NEW FOR 2017: 2017 HALS CHALLENGE: DOCUMENTING YOUR FAVORITE CITY OR TOWN PARKS**

Please contact your state ASLA Chapter's volunteer HALS Liaison if possible when you have selected a site to document for the HALS Challenge to be sure no one else is already preparing a HALS historic report for it. HALS Liaisons' contact information may be found by clicking the orange HALS Chapter Liaisons tab on the following website: <http://asla.org/HALS.aspx>. If your chapter's volunteer HALS Liaison position is vacant, please consider volunteering yourself or suggesting it to a colleague who may be interested.

### **NEW FOR 2017: TIPS REGARDING THE HALS SHORT FORMAT HISTORY TEMPLATE**

Please do not stray from the formatting supplied in the **updated** HALS Short Format History Template. This digital template is intended to maintain consistency among all donated HALS short format historical reports and simplify the process for you. The template is a table, and you may enter text and graphics in the appropriate cells. You may insert additional rows as necessary depending on the amount of graphics/captions. There is no need to add "section breaks." Please delete the provided instructions from the template as you go.

Please submit your final report(s) in MSWord Format (not PDF). If your file is too large for email please use a service like Google Drive, Hightail, or make arrangements with the HALS office to use the NPS ftp site.

### **NEW FOR 2017: TIPS REGARDING THE HALS COPYRIGHT RELEASE FORM**

**Materials must be copyright-free to be included within the Library of Congress collection.** The HABS/HAER/HALS collection is in the public domain, therefore, the authors/delineators, although given credit for their work, do not retain copyright. Completed copies of our HALS Release and Assignment Form(s) must accompany all donated HALS histories to cover you the historian(s) (author) and your accompanying existing conditions photographs with captions included in the report, if any. **HALS Challenge entries will not be accepted without a digitized or paper copy of our release form, hand-signed by the primary author of the report!!!**

### **NEW FOR 2017: TIPS AND RULES REGARDING REPORT GRAPHICS**

**No more than ten (10) digital photographs may be included at the end of each HALS Challenge entry. These may ONLY consist of digital, existing-conditions photographs taken by the author(s) of the site being documented.** Your research should still include analyzing historic drawings and photos of the landscape you are documenting. Historic graphics are often the most important primary source for analytically writing about a historic landscape. Due to complicated and frustrating copyright restrictions, we are banning the reproduction of all historic graphics within HALS Challenge entries. Historic graphics may still be referenced and described in the text with their repository source named. A thoroughly written analysis is even more useful to readers than a reproduced copy of historic graphic itself, and all copyright issues may be avoided. This is a writing competition!

If you have any questions about how to use the template or regarding copyright issues, or site selection please contact Chris Stevens, NPS-HALS, [chris\\_stevens@nps.gov](mailto:chris_stevens@nps.gov)

## JUDGING AND RATING SCALE

### **Judging**

The jury will consist of historians from the NPS HABS/HAER/HALS programs.

**Rating Scale** (100 POINT MAXIMUM + up to 5 point BONUS)

**Appropriate Statement of Significance and Site History (25 Point Maximum)**

**Appropriate Physical Description of Landscape (25 Point Maximum)**

**Clarity and Supporting Nature of Photo Graphic(s) and Caption(s). New Requirement: Judiciously limit the number of graphics to no more than 10 existing-conditions photographs taken by the author(s) of the site. (10 Points Maximum)**

**Depth of Research and Proper Citations/Sources (20 Points Maximum)**

**Overall Quality and Clarity of Writing (20 Points Maximum)**

**Bonus Points (5)** Measured/Interpretive Drawings and/or Large Format Photography to accompany the history