1900

Brochure: Arboretum

Buffalo State College

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Color photo by Dr. Joseph Manch
Established on the
Buffalo State
University Campus

The Maud Gordon Holmes Arboretum was established on the campus of the Buffalo State University College in 1962 when a Scotch Elm was ceremoniously planted by the Eighth District Federated Garden Clubs of New York State, Inc.

An encouraging response to the establishment of the Arboretum was cited in an editorial which appeared in the Buffalo Evening News on November 6, 1962. "The need to preserve Buffalo's outstanding tree population is underscored again by the start of an Arboretum on the Campus of State College.

Buffalo has been working ... to replace trees lost to blight and other conditions. In this vital effort the Arboretum should serve as a fine source of inspiration as well as of beauty and botanical education. We commend all who have lent their assistance to this excellent project in a community long famed for its stately trees."

On the second anniversary of the planting of the first sapling, the College campus was formally established as the site of the Maud Gordon Holmes Arboretum in honor of Mrs. Edward B. Holmes, "an inspiring patron of the horticultural arts and civic beautification." Mrs. Holmes was the founder of the Garden Center Institute of Buffalo and its spirited leader for 27 years. She stimulated interest in horticulture that resulted in many beautification projects in Western New York and left a heritage of beauty such as the Arboretum. At the dedication ceremony of the bronze plaque, a bequest from Mrs. Holmes' estate was presented to provide for the anticipated growing Arboretum program.

One example of an Arboretum undertaking is the Mirror Lake (Japanese Garden) Delaware Park project. In cooperation with government, business and civic organizations, thousands of dollars of time and material were donated toward the completion of this project.

Other projects:
- William Street - Ten block area
- Peace Bridge Entrance
- Allen Street Neighborhood
- Frederick Law Olmsted Tribute

While the Arboretum has been fortunate to have expanded through the plantings donated by the Eighth District Federated Garden Clubs of New York State, Inc., members of the Western New York Nurseryman's Association, and others, many more gifts and bequests are necessary if the enduring project envisioned for the Maud Gordon Holmes Arboretum is to be realized.

To enable many more persons and organizations to become a part of this significant work, the Board of Directors of the Arboretum has established a membership structure. It will be through the monetary membership contributions of individuals and organizations that this generation and the generations to come will be assured of a treasure of beauty and resource for botanical studies.

NOTE: An insert will be included which will list the types of membership and their requested donations.