

HUBBARD PARK

National Register Nomination

Meriden, Connecticut
Connecticut Historical Commission,
Hartford, Connecticut

Project Data

Date: 1997
Size: 1,800 acres
Result: Nomination Approved

Project Description:

Hubbard Park was chosen for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places because of its historic integrity as identified in the Connecticut Historical Commission's Historic Municipal Parks Survey. The following tasks were undertaken to properly complete the nomination: 1) Historical research, 2) Existing conditions inventory, documentation and analysis, and 3) Historic resource evaluation.

Hubbard Park is a fine example of the natural style of American park design flourishing in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Its 800 acres have been apportioned since the Park's inception in 1897 between a craggy wooded nature preserve to the north and a more pastoral open landscape with water features to the south. The designer's hand is more obvious in the south, but no less essential in the north where paths and overlooks seem to fit effortlessly into the steep and varied terrain.

Olmsted Associates is credited with visiting the property and making layout recommendations. The designers were little-known municipal employees selected by Walter Hubbard (1828-1911), industrialist, philanthropist and Park namesake. Though the Park has grown to 1,800 acres and altered slightly over the years, it has retained a large measure of its historic landscape integrity. EDC Principal Thomas Elmore co-authored the nomination, with David F. Ransom, Architectural Historian, while with another firm.



Hubbard Park, Mirror Lake – 1997