

GRANDMOTHERS' GARDEN

Plan For Rehabilitation

City of Westfield, Massachusetts

Project Data

Date: 1998

Size: 0.5 acres

Context: Western Massachusetts

Construction Date:

Phase I - 1999

Project funded through the
Massachusetts D.E.M.'s Historic
Landscape Preservation Grant
Program

Project Description:

Grandmothers' Garden is a 1/2-acre site nestled within a ten-acre municipal park. In 1934, the garden, affectionately known as Grandmothers' Garden, was designed by Thomas Desmond, Landscape Architect, and laid out in the Colonial Revival style, a style popularized by the restoration efforts in Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia. While many features of the original garden have disappeared, many remain including the bi-axial parterre garden with individual planting beds, stone wall, walkways, summer house and wishing well. Our work included historical research and documentation, a chronology of physical development, a photographic comparison, a site assessment with recommendations and budget projections, and construction drawings with specifications. EDC Principal Thomas Elmore was Principal-In-Charge and Project Manager for this plan while at another firm, which guided the rehabilitation of this historic design landscape. The plan provided specific improvement strategies to retain and improve the garden's integrity, appearance and relationship to the broader landscape.



Historic Image – ca 1940



Existing – Late Spring 1998



Under Restoration – Fall 1999



Grand Re-Opening – June 2000