

**Historic Resources Survey  
City of McMinnville  
Yamhill County, Oregon**

**Site Information**

**Site Address**

140 NW Park Drive

**Owner at Time of Survey**

City of McMinnville

**Map/Tax Lot**

R4420AD09800

**Current Zoning**

R-2 FP

**Special Tax Assessment**

No

**Downtown Historic District**

No

**Subdivision Name**

**Block**

**Lot**

**Lot Size**

**Quadrant**

NW

**Site Number**

**Aerial Number**

J-10 & J-11

**Resource Classification**

A

**Resource Number**

266

**Historic Significance**

**Historic Information**

**Date of Construction**

1906-10

**Early Additions/ Remodels**

subsequent changes

**Builder/Architect**

J.A. Gilbertson

**Historic Name**

McMinnville City Park

**Original Use**

Recreational

**Common Name**

McMinnville City Park

**Present Use**

Recreational

**Condition of Structure**

**Comments (at time of Survey)**

**Building Type**

**Outbuildings**

Library, swimming pool,  
fountain, comfort stations

**Building Style**

**Stories**

**Porch**

**Basement**

**Roof Style**

**Roof Type**

**Moved**

**Demolished**

**Year/Date**

**Permit Number(s)**

**Additions/ Alterations**

**Resource Information**

**Recorded By**

Elizabeth Shellin Atly

**Date**

3-26-1984

**Sources**

Joe Dancer's Park Commission Notes,  
Telephone Register

Historic Resource Survey  
City of McMinnville  
Yamhill County, Oregon

Statement of historical significance and description of property:

A266

In October 1906, 24 people contributed \$100 each (two contributed \$200) to purchase land for a city park (total amount \$2400). In 1907 park bonds were sold totaling \$7100. Four and one half acres were purchased from the Jones and Adams tract and 4 acres from the B. Brower tract. In June 1908, contractor and landscape gardener J. A. Gilbertson was employed for \$50 to lay out and plan the grounds. Plans included a grandstand, playground and lake, a sprinkling system, water tower (for water pressure for irrigation). Water was pumped from the Cozine Creek with a 5hp motor and a 4" line. Tennis courts were also in the plan.

A pavilion was built in 1908 on the site of the present day pool. The building was demolished in 1922, after serving many years as a locus of community activities. The windows were sold and used in construction of a chicken house.

In 1910 more park bonds were authorized amounting to \$3000. A bandstand was built in 1911. The park included a pond and a small zoo where bears, deer and other animals were kept. In 1917, the animals were sold. A butcher took one of the deer. A \$3500 bond issue was passed in that year for a park driveway, concrete for the pond, and comfort stations in the lower park.

Construction of the Soper fountain was approved in 1927. \$8500 of bonds were issued for purchase of the Star Mill property including the millrace, the millpond, and water rights. The old pool was donated to the Garden Club for a sunken garden, which was never built.

Ralph Wortman donated a monkey pod tree to the park in 1939.

**Historic Resource No. A266**



Photos April 2001



Original 1983 Survey Photo