

WOODWARD PARK
2101 South Peoria Avenue
Tulsa
Tulsa
Oklahoma

HALS OK-20
OK-20

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN LANDSCAPES SURVEY
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

HISTORIC AMERICAN LANDSCAPES SURVEY

WOODWARD PARK

HALS NO. OK-20

Location: 2101 S. Peoria Ave, Tulsa, Tulsa County, Oklahoma
Lat: 36.132379 Long: -95.973730

Significance: A significant cultural center and landmark in Tulsa, Woodward Park was designated as Tulsa's second park in 1909. In the years since, the City of Tulsa has maintained many of the park's naturalistic features, while also adding formal, more structured elements. The park combines two eclectic styles: the park proper is in the Romantic or naturalistic style while the terraced Rose Garden is in a formal Renaissance eclectic style. The park is listed in the Oklahoma Landmarks Inventory.

History: The Woodward Park complex includes the Tulsa Rose Garden, Tulsa Garden Center, Tulsa Arboretum, Linnaeus Teaching Gardens, the Anne Hathaway Herb Garden, a Victorian conservatory, and an azalea garden (located in the lower rock garden).

The 45 acre park was originally purchased by the City of Tulsa in 1909, from Herbert E. Woodward. The land was a part of a 160 allotment given to Herbert's daughter, Helen Woodward (a Creek Indian), by the Five Civilized Tribes Indian Commission. The land remained largely unchanged, until the 1930s when the Works Projects Administration helped transform the area into a park. Landscape architect Arthur S. Phillips designed two rock gardens and pathways and a bridge, several benches, and two balustrades all of concrete rusticated to look like wood. The rock gardens are made of honeycombed limestone from northeast Tulsa. In the lower rock garden, azaleas were planted on a badly eroded hillside during the late 60s and early 70s to help prevent further erosion. Today, the azaleas number over 15,000.

Another landscape architect, C. Burton Fox, designed the rose garden in the Italian Renaissance style during the same period in the 30s. It contains a series of 5 terraced rose gardens, separated by ivy-covered walls. Around 5000 rose plants of 250 varieties are located within the garden.

In 1939, Tulsan Jewel Huffman started the Anne Hathaway Herb Garden, named after William Shakespeare's wife. It was originally operated and maintained by the Anne Hathaway Garden Club, but in 1982, Tulsa Parks Department's horticulturist took over its maintenance. A variety of herbs are located in the garden, including scented geraniums, sages, mints, basil, lemon, thyme, oregano, and thyme.

Sources: Parks Department, City of Tulsa, Oklahoma,
<http://www.cityoftulsa.org/recreation/parks/> (accessed May 1, 2009).

"Tulsa Garden Center," <http://www.tulsagardencenter.com/> (accessed May 1, 2009).

"Woodward Park Complex: Municipal Rose Garden,"
<http://www.tulsagardencenter.com/htdocs/WWParkComplex/wwpcomplex.htm>
(accessed May 1, 2009).

Historian: Steve Eilers, May 2, 2009
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Path to arch bridge (Steve Eilers, 2009).



Arch bridge and path up the hillside (Steve Eilers, 2009).

ADDENDUM TO:
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REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

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