



**PLAQUES,
INSCRIPTIONS,
& MARKERS
OF CITY PARK**

NEWORLEANSCITYPARK.COM

Progress comes from support, and support brings forth commemoration. After over 150 years of progress, New Orleans City Park is full of plaques, bridges, monuments, and historical memorials which help us remember the architects of the park's past.

These markers are scattered throughout City Park's 1,300 acres, expressing thanks and recognition to the generous donors who have helped build the park, bit by bit, into the premiere attraction that is today. Every recognition tells a small story about the park's history, whether it be a \$192 gift from 1902 or a \$250,000 pledge received recently, each represents a piece of City Park's story.

Instead of traversing the area for hours on end in the search for historical markers, we have created a guide to take you from the 1900s to today, highlighting many, but not all commemorations. We encourage you to print this guide, and use it at your disposal as you tour our grounds.

A special thanks to Kevin Bozant who compiled the information and took the photographs.

Enjoy!

This document was created in two parts. The initial document was prepared in 2008 and has the above introductions listed. The current piece was compiled using the initial document and added items in 2012.

by Amanda Frentz, City Park Development Associate and Kimberly Jochum.

Details taken from:

Catherine Campanella *Images of America New Orleans City Park* Acadia Publishing: 2011

Sally and William Reeves *History of City Park New Orleans City Park* CPIA and Friends of City Park: 2000

And websites listed in descriptions

1900s



Pichot Stone Bridge

1902

29°59.091N 90°05.980W

Dedicated in the memory of Henrietta M. Leonie Pichot for her gift of \$192.00 to the Park in 1901.



Langes Bridge

1902

29°59.086N 90°05.721W

Dedicated in the memory of Angele M. Langes for her gift of \$650.00 to the Park.

Historical note: Angele and her mother died on the morning of July 4, 1898 when the French Steam Boat, the La Bourgogne, sank after colliding with a British ship in the North Atlantic.



A third stone bridge from around 1902 leads to Goldfish Island. It is unmarked and is just across Bayou Metairie from the Peristyle.



1910s



Fritz Jahncke Fountain
Plaque

1912

29°59.169 N 90°05.577W

The sons of Fritz Jahncke donated the fountain in front of NOMA in 1912. In 1928, Ernest Jahncke added the statue of 'Hebe' into the fountain. It was replaced in 1972 with 'Wave' by Lin Emery.



Owen/Butler memorial
Fountain Plaques

29°59.042N 90°05.824W

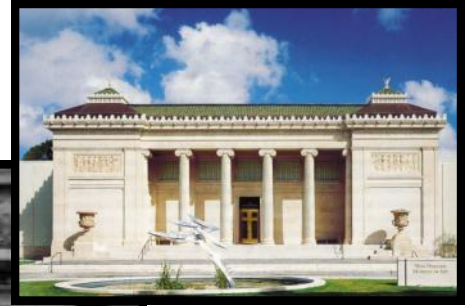
William Frazer Owen, Jr.
—1910

And

Patrick J. Butler—1994

This dual memorial is located along City Park Avenue near N. Hennessy Street. The original fountain and sculpture, 'Unfortunate Boot' was a memorial to Owen from his parents. It was replaced by the bronze statue of the water nymph, 'Chloe' in 1929. A 1994 restoration was dedicated to Butler.

1910s



NOMA Delgado Lintel
Inscription

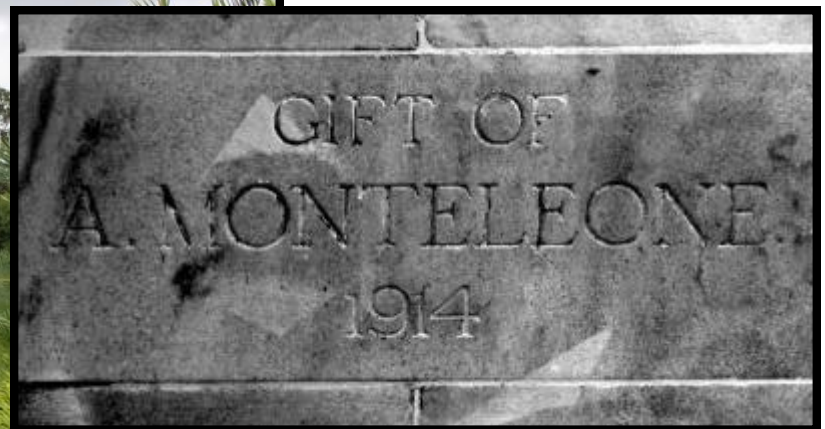
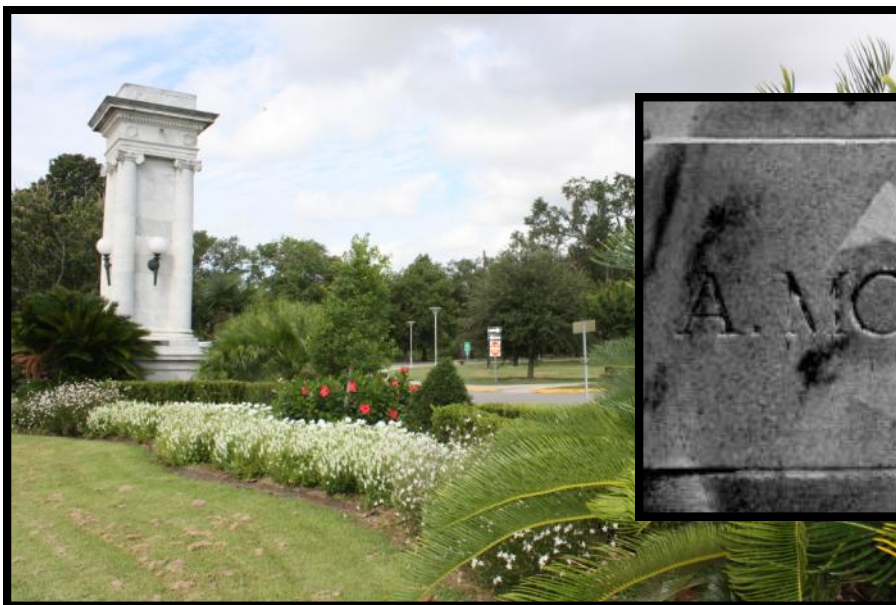
1910

29°59.179N 90°05.591W

NOMA Administrators
and Cornerstone

1910

29°59.174N 90°05.599W



Monteleone Pillars

1914

29°59.174N 90°05.599W

These two 25-foot marble pylons marking the Esplanade Avenue entrance the Park were erected in memory of park commissioner Anthony Monteleone. The pillars include 8 bronze lamps and 600 lbs. capstones. The inscription appears on the base of both pillars. In 2012, with money given by the Monteleone family, LED lights were added to each pillar.

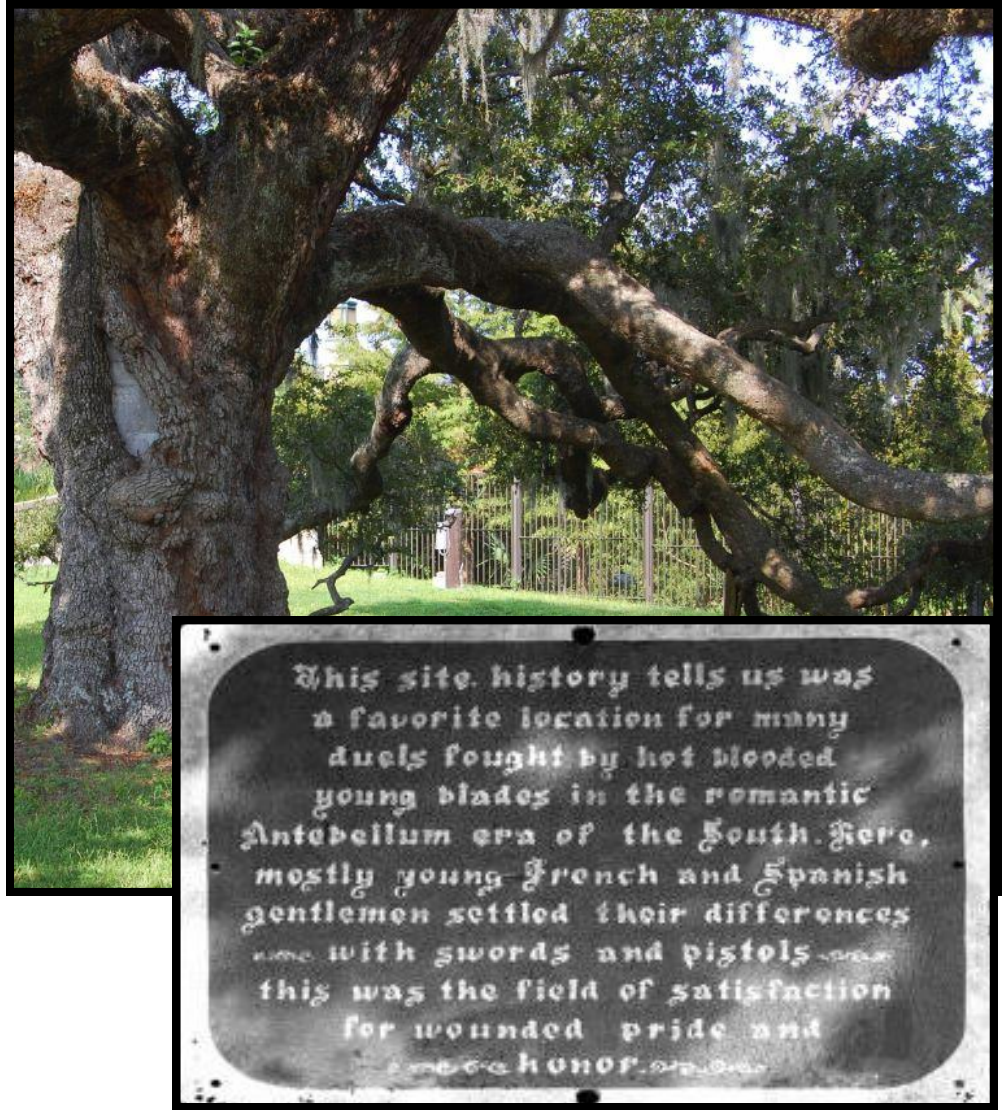
1910s

Dueling Oak Sign

29°59.091N 90°05.980W

Near the Park's remaining Dueling Oak. Three once were two Dueling Oaks. One was lost in 1949. When the oak was removed, it uprooted a pair of eyeglasses that were pronounced by a local optometrist to be a 100 years old; two large knives were also discovered. The remaining one sits near the entrance to the Bestoff Sculpture Garden.

This may be one of the last remaining examples of the signs, once found throughout the Park, that were hand painted by Mrs. Joy Luke.



Thomas Day Bridge

1911

29°59.085N 90°
05.700W

The modernistic concrete bridge south of the Casino Building is a memorial to Thomas Day who bequeathed \$1500 to the Park in 1910.

1910s



Popp Bandstand Inscription

1917

29°59.125N 90°05.741W

An inscription to John F. Popp encircles the exterior frieze of the rotunda.

Mr. John F. Popp was park visitor with a penchant for classic style architecture and music. He was determined to construct bandstand for the park that was harmonious with the other newly constructed buildings. The previous music platform had been rebuilt several times; the new bandstand was designed by architect Emile Weil. On July 4, 1917, Popp's Bandstand was dedicated at a wartime festival.

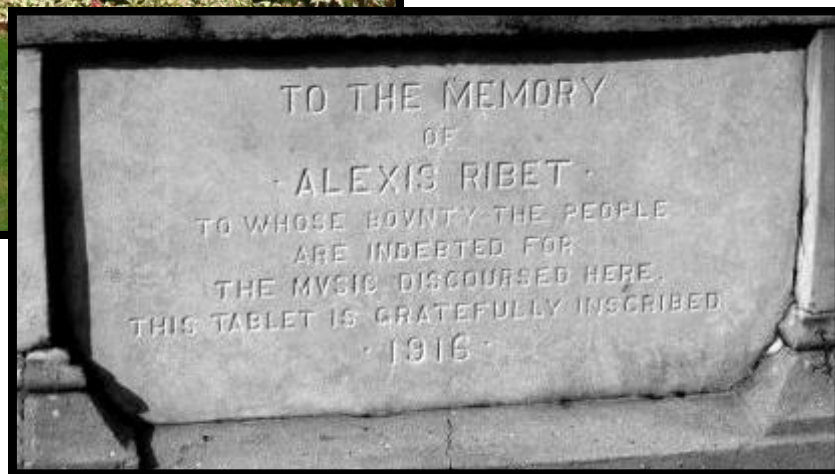


Ribet Memorial Stone

1916

29°59.124N 90°05.731W

This stone marker, in honor of Alexis Ribet, is located at the end of the bell-shaped apron attached to the bandstand facing the Casino Building.



1910s



Gragard Memorial Plaque

1918

29°59.214 N 90°05.750W

On May 13, 1891, Thomas A. Gragard was born in New Orleans where he lived for the entirety of his life. Gragard volunteered for the Marine Corps in 1917, soon after the United States entered WWI.

He is reported to have been cited with decorations for distinguished services in the operations at Chateau-Thierry wood. He was killed in action while assisting in an attack on the town of Boursches, Aisne, France. This memorial plaque is located between Victory Avenue and the sidewalk close to the Botanical Garden entrance.

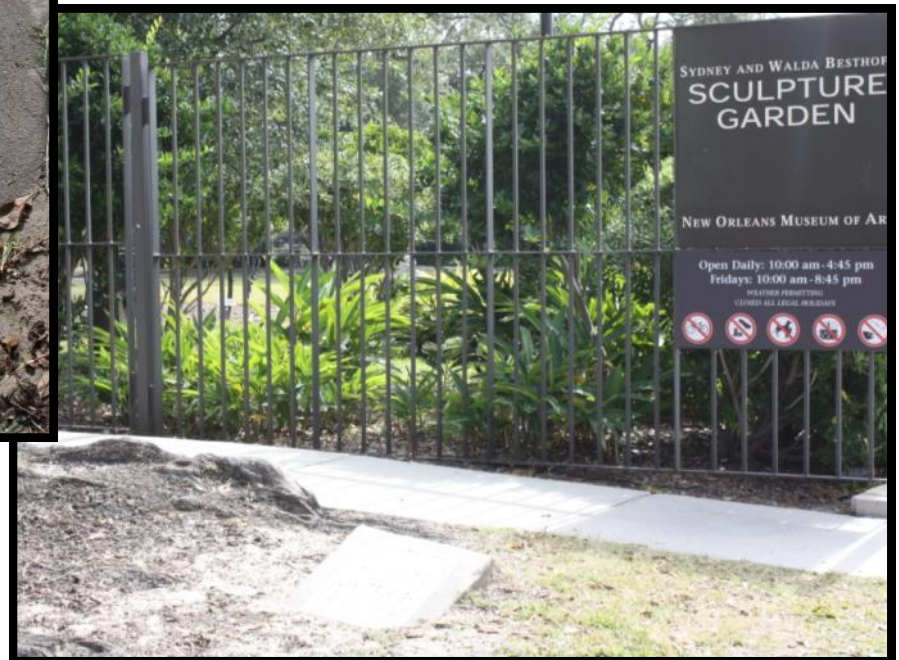


Cox Memorial - 1918 – Stone Plaque

1918

29°59.212N 90°05.734W

This memorial plaque is located between Victory Avenue and the sidewalk close to the Botanical Garden exit. Other than what is on the plaque, nothing was found on Walter Cox or Wallace Cox.



1910s



Brandburn Memorial – Stone Plaque

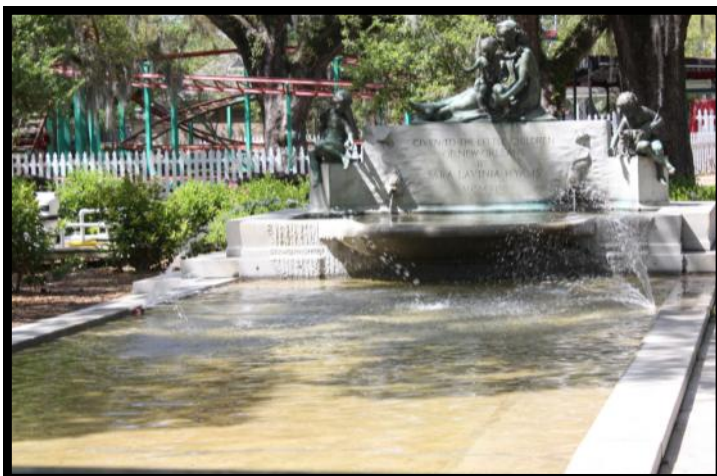
1918

29°59.147N 90°05.560W

Donald Bradburn fought in the St. Mihiel and Meuse-Argonne offensives in France. He died from wounds received in battle on October 21, 1918. This memorial plaque is located between Victory Avenue and the sidewalk close to the Botanical Garden entrance.



1920s



Hyams Fountain and plaques

1921

29°59.215N 90°05.944W

This fountain is just inside of the entrance gate to the amusement park. Dedicated to the children of New Orleans by Sara Lavinia Hyams. Ms. Hyams funded an identical fountain in Audubon Park.



1920s



Dreyfous Bridge Plaque & Cartouche

1924

29°59.135N 90°05.669W

Mr. and Mrs. Felix J. Dreyfous donated the beautiful Dreyfous Avenue Bridge to City Park, replacing a wooden bridge. This plaque and cartouche are repeated on the outside railings of the bridge. Mr. Felix J Dreyfous is one of eight original citizens who nurtured the park during its early years. Dreyfous spend half a century improving and advocating for City Park. Dreyfous is responsible for writing the parks original charter, verbiage for a legislative bill for park funding and distribution, created NOMA board of trustees and served on it.



Anseman Bridge Plaque

1928

29°59.068N 90°05.920W

The plaque on this bridge dedicated to Victor Anseman and the plaque was attached to the former bridge of the same location and name in 1928. The original bridge was replaced by the WPA in 1938. This is the bridge that stands today. This bridge crosses Bayou Metaire and has the cement inscription “WPA” and “1938” on both of its sides. Anseman, known as the “father of City Park”, was the catalyst in the creation of the parks governing board. He severed as volunteer manager and the first executive committee chairman.



1920s

Great War Memorial

No specific date known

29°59.034N 90°05.842W

This monument is located along City Park Avenue just east of the Pizzati Gate and celebrates war veterans.



1930s



Popp Fountain and Balustrade Inscriptions

1934

29°59.725N 90°05.917W

Some sources claim in 1924, Rebecca Grant Popp and Isabel Grant donated \$25,000 for a memorial fountain, the money paid for the fountain as well as several other several other projects. Other sources say the fountain was meant to be a memorial to Rebecca and John Popp, her husband who died in 1918, and was a gift of Rebecca Grant . Rebecca Grant died in 1928 and entrusted the City Park Board with \$25,000 allocated to the memorial. Mrs. Grant requested the Olmsted Brothers as the designers of the memorial. The central waterspout was designed by Erique Alferez, the head WPA artist.



Tad Gormley WPA Plaque

1935/36

29°59.420N 90°05.030W

Original known as City Park Stadium, it was re-named for Tad Gormley after his death in 1965. Francis Thomas “Tad” Gormley was athletic direction in City Park in 1938. Tad Gormley Sta-



dium has hosted various events from a Beatles concert to the Catholic Church communing in Eucharistic Congress. During fall weekends the stadium is full of local football fans watching their favorite high school team.

This plaque is located under the grandstand just inside the Marconi Drive entrance to the stadium.

The above art work by artist Michael Cain, placed on the building in 2005, was inspired by WPA style architect Enrique Alferez. They are steel, cast glass and neon pieces. There is an inscription reading, “As We Watch Grace in Motion, Our Spirits Rise Together.” The two pieces represent the athletes and audience celebrating competition. (<http://culturenow.org/entry&permalink=07569&seo=Synergy-of-Sport-Michael-Cain-Arts-Council-of-New-Orleans-and-Percent-for-Art-New-Orleans>)

1930s

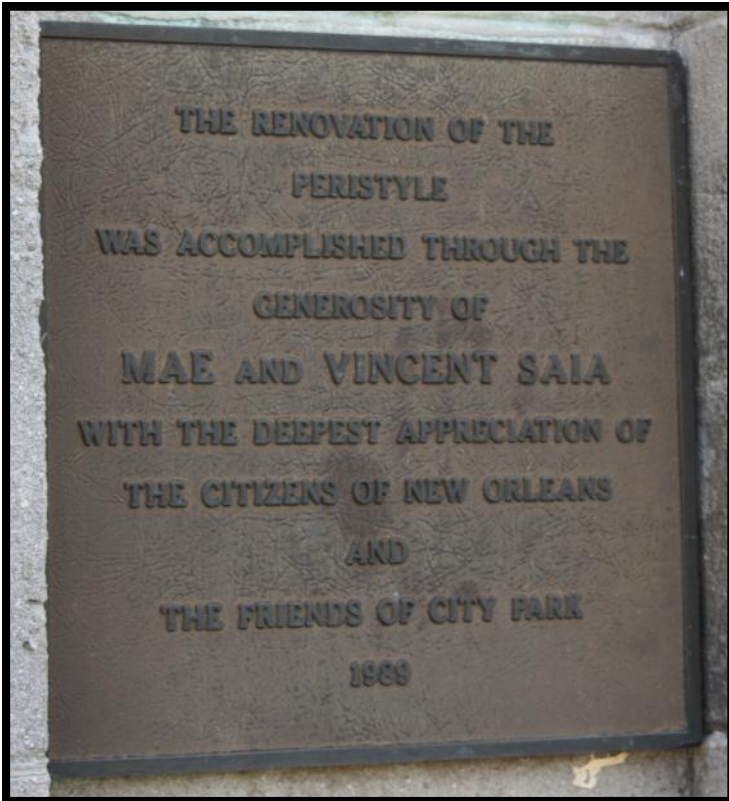


Peristyle Plaques

1. WPA Improvements 1935/36
2. Saia Renovation 1989

29°59.113N 90°05.839W

Architect Paul Andry was responsible for the design in 1906. The Peristyle was created as a platform for dancing. It was originally called the paristyleum, and was erected for the price of \$15,330 in 1907. The Peristyle was renovated in the 30s as part of the WPA work and then again in 1989 thanks to the generosity of Mea and Vincent Saia. It underwent another significant renovation in 2012.



1930s

FDR Mall Eagle Posts

1936-1937

Various places along Roosevelt Mall

Built by the WPA, 6 of these posts line Roosevelt Mall.



McFadden Girl Scout Cabin and WPA Plaque

1936

29°59.255N 90°05.648W

This plaque is embedded in the pavement near the southwest entrance to this arts and crafts style cabin donated to City Park by William Harding McFadden. The WPA plaque is mounted on the northwest exterior wall. Richard Koch and William S Wiedorn were the designers of the cabin blueprints, which were used to build it during the WPA improvement to City Park.



1930s

Couturie Forest Plaque

1938

30°00.133N 90°05.575W

This plaque is located just north of Harrison Avenue Circle on the edge of the Couturie Forest and Arboretum.



Grandjean Bridge Plaque

1938

29°59.225N 90°05.650W

This bridge, which crosses the bayou behind NOMA, is a memorial to former Park Commissioner, George H. Grandjean. Grandjean was the designer of the original lagoons. The bridge also contains the inscriptions "WPA" and "1938" on each side. It is the third bridge at this location.

The Grandjean Bridge crossed the Bayou behind the New Orleans Museum of Art. This is the third bridge at this location. The first was most likely made of wood and the second concrete or iron. The WPA constructed bridge has not needed any reconstruction since its creation over 70 years ago. George H Grandjean was a civil engineer and was responsible for creating an improvement plan for the park in 1894.



1940s



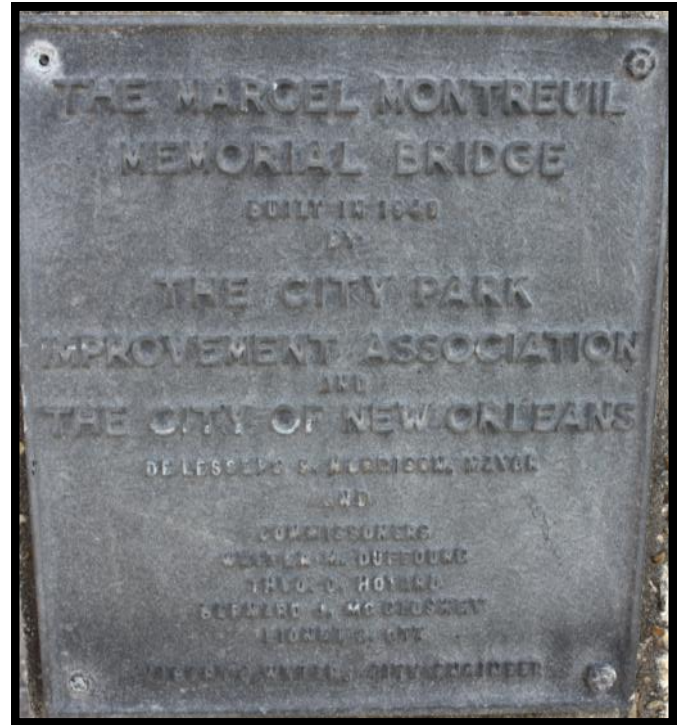
Montreuil Memorial Bridge Plaque

1949

29°59.353N 90°05.249W

This plaque was mounted on the right-hand, park facing guard rail of the Montreuil Bridge where it crossed Bayou St. John. The plaque has been removed.

Marcel Montreuil was park manager from 1934-1950 and a park commissioner from 1925-1950.



1950s



Montreuil Camellia Garden Stone

1952

29°59.136N 90°05.638W

Marcel Montreuil was park manager for 16 years. In 1952, the Men's Club established this Camellia Garden in his memory. Originally containing nearly 150 camellia shrubs, most have been relocated to make room for the sculpture garden. The stone sits directly in front of the remaining Dueling Oak on Dueling Oaks Drive near Dreyfous Avenue.

1950s

Storyland Plaque

1956

29°59.211N 90°05.862W

Dedication of Storyland to the Children of New Orleans in memory of Mr. and Mrs John W. Batt.



Fort St. John (Spanish Fort)

1959

29°59.586N 90°05.905W

Fort St. John, located on Bayou St. John near the intersection of Jay Street and Beaugard Avenue near the Lakefront, is more commonly known as Spanish Fort. In addition to its history as fortification, it was also the site of a very popular amusement park and resort, of the same name, in the 1800s. It closed down after the city extended the shoreline and Pontchartrain Beach became popular. Some of the carved horses from the Spanish Fort carousel are now believed to be among the 'Flying Horses' on the City Park carousel since they were both Murphy platforms. The fort has been under the protection of City Park since 1934.



1960s



Walter Jahncke Fountain Plaque

1961

29°59.151N 90°05.727W

This contemporary fountain just across from the Casino Building was donated by the family of Walter Jahncke in 1961. It originally had colored lights that changed with the spray patterns and was similar to a fountain on the Jahncke estate in St. Tammany.



Bacher Sundial Plaque

1963

29°59.106N 90°05.706W

The Bacher Sundial was donated to the Park by the family of City Park board member, Albert F. Bacher in 1963. The Plaque is missing.

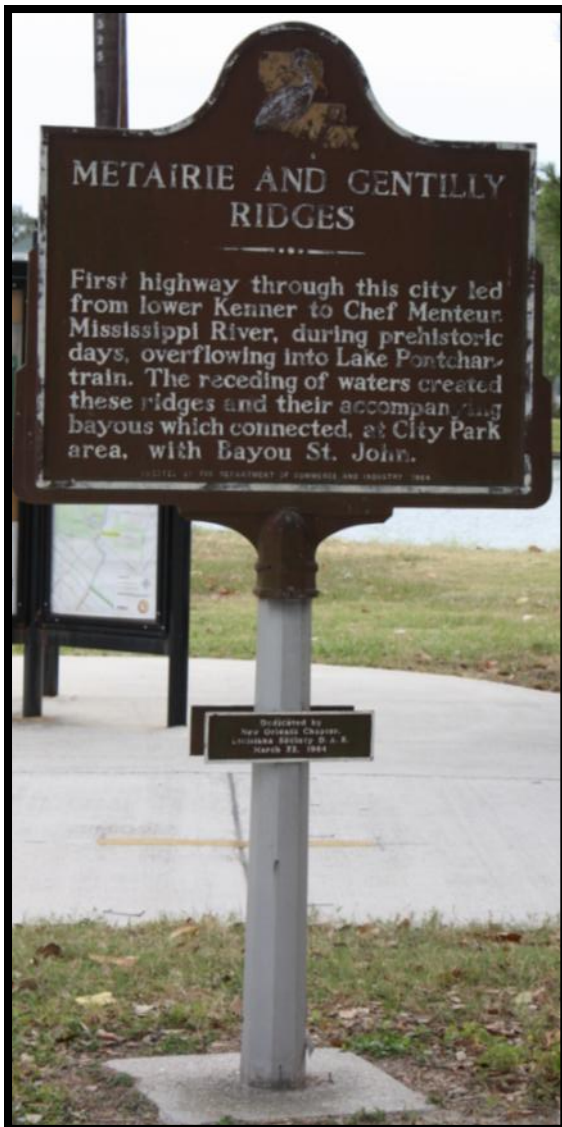
1960s

Harrison Avenue Bayou St. John Bridge Plaque

1964

29°59.969N 90°05.106W

This plaque was once found on the east end of the Harrison Avenue Bridge that crosses Bayou St. John. The plaque is missing.

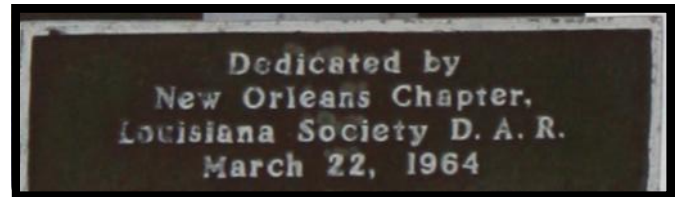


Metairie And Gentilly Ridges Historical Marker

1964

29°59.985N 90°05.463W

This marker stands at Carrollton Avenue and W. Moss Street along Bayou St. John.



1960s



Schoen Fountain Plaque

1968

30°00.686N 90°05.348W

The Schoen Family contributed the contemporary fountain in front of the golf house (Bayou Oaks) on Filmore Avenue near Wisner Blvd. The fountain commemorated Philip Schoen, longtime park board member and gold committee member. The fountain and clubhouse were demolished in 2008 in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

Wisner Tennis Center Cornerstone

1968

29°59.189N 90°05.894W

The Tennis Center was demolished in 2008 in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.



1960s



Allard Plantation markers

1968

29°58.990N 90°05.533W

This marker stands at Carrollton Avenue and City Park Avenue. along Bayou St. John.



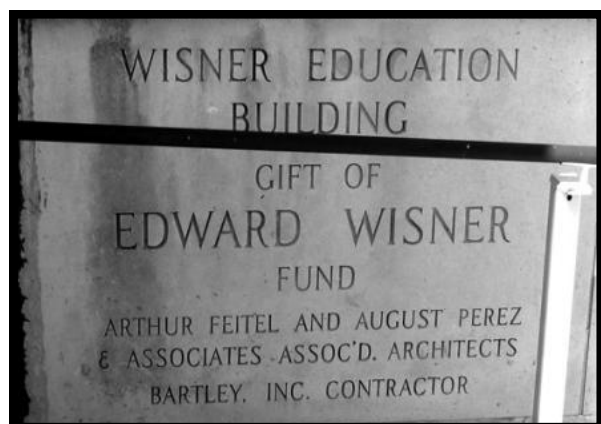
1970s



Wisner Wing of NOMA

1970/71

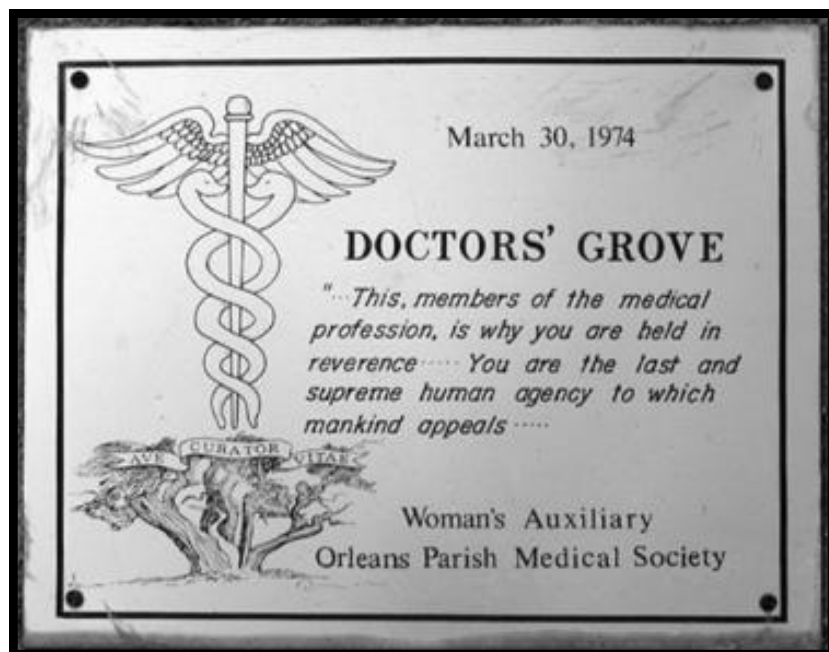
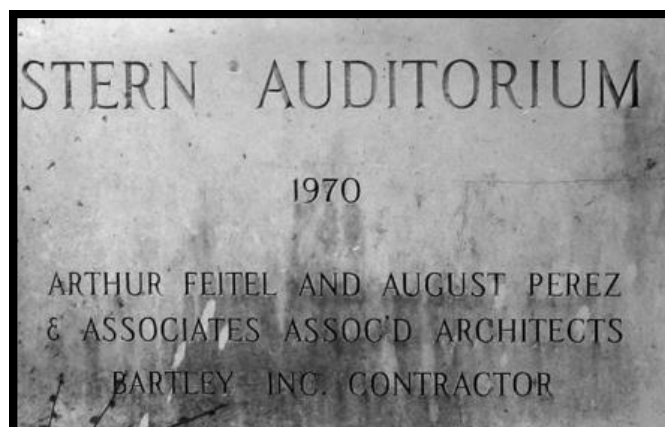
29°59.165N 90°05.602W



Stern Auditorium at NOMA

1970/71

29°59.195N 90°05.579W



Doctor's Grove Marker

1974

30°00.735N 90°05.896W

In 1973, the Women's Auxiliary of Orleans Parish Medical Society initiated plans to establish a Cypress grove between Filmore Avenue and Robert E Lee along Marconi Drive. Before Hurricane Katrina, the grove included as many as 500 trees with name tags of honored doctors and other deserving citizens. The plaque is missing.

1970s

Colony Grove Marker

1976

29°59.031N 90°05.752W

In 1976 the Daughters of the American Revolution provided trees that were native to the 13 original colonies for the establishment of a Bicentennial Memorial Garden near the McDonogh Oak. There was a tree for each of the 13 colonies. This plaque sits on City Park Avenue near Solomon Place. Very few original trees remain.



Engineers Grove Marker

1977

29°59.679N 90°05.800W

The Women's Auxiliary of the New Orleans Chapter of the Louisiana Engineering Society established Engineers' Grove in City Park. It was an effort to donate Magnolia trees to the Park in honor of local engineers. The marker was along Zachary Taylor Drive near Diagonal at the edge of NOLA City Park. The marker is currently missing.



1980s

Willhoft Plaque

1980

29°59.212N 90°05.800W

This Marian Ruth Willhoft memorial plaque located on the Rose Garden gates on Victory Avenue leading to the reflecting pool and conservatory. It was donated by Ruth's daughter, Martha C. M. Willhoft.

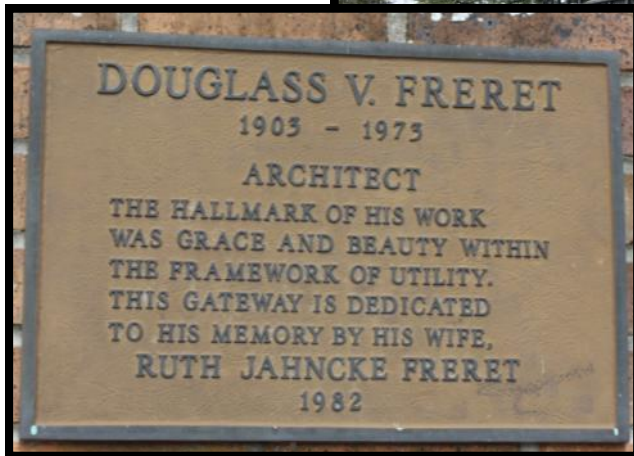


Freret Plaque

1982

29°59.215N 90°05.758W

The Douglass Freret plaque is located on the Rose Garden gate post closest to the Alferrez Grass Gates on Victory Avenue. It is donated in the memory of Douglas Frerets' wife Ruth Jahncke Freret.



Rotary International Plaque

1982

29°59.210N 90°05.829W

This plaque is located on the Rose Garden gates on Victory Avenue.



1980s



The Beatles Plaque

1984

29°59.420N 90°05.030W

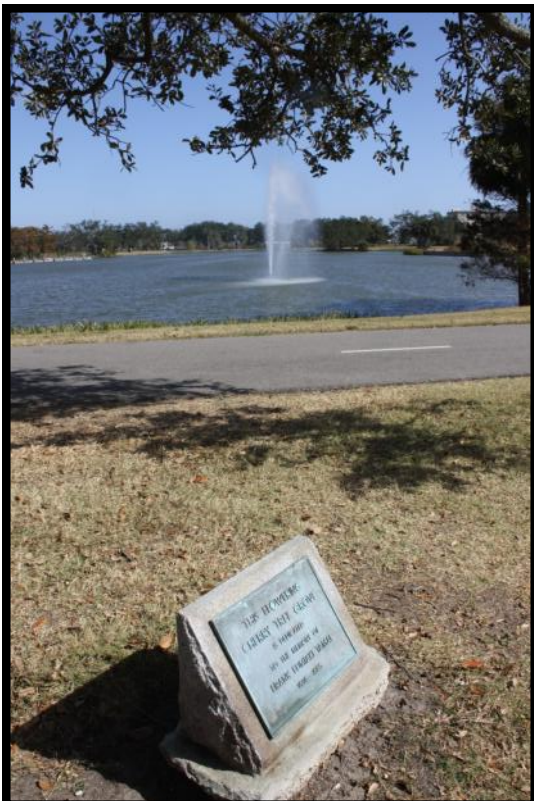
This plaque commemorates the 20th anniversary of The Beatles playing in Tad Gormley stadium in 1964. This plaque is located under the grandstand just inside the Marconi Drive entrance to Tad Gormley Stadium.

Cherry Tree Grove

1985

29°59.197N 90°05.565W

This memorial to Frank Tamai sits near the curb between NOMA and Big Lake. The memorial is listed on the Monumental task Committee's website as well.



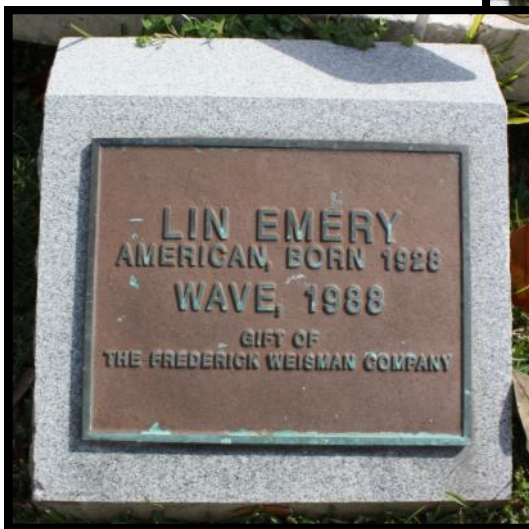
1980s

Lin Emery "Wave"

1988

29°59.174N 90°05.582W

In 1988, Frederick R. Weisman donated the Lin Emery kinetic sculpture. The piece is in the fountain in front of NOMA and has multiple parts that move with the wind.



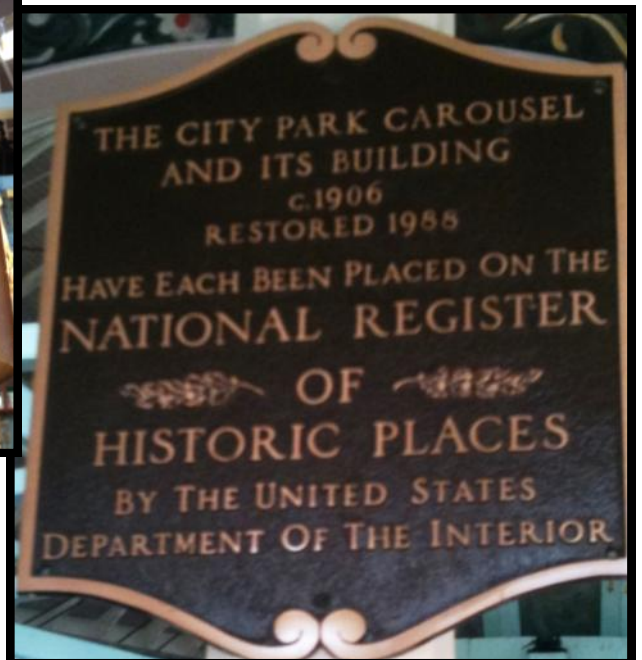
1980s

Carousel Historic Place Designation

1988

29°59.262N 90°05.931W

The carousel, also known as The Flying Horses, is the oldest ride in the Park. The lease for the Carousel has changed hands several times over the years. The Carousel itself dates back to 1906. The lease and carousel were sold to the park in the 1980s and the horses were restored soon after. It is on the National Register of Historic Places.



1990s

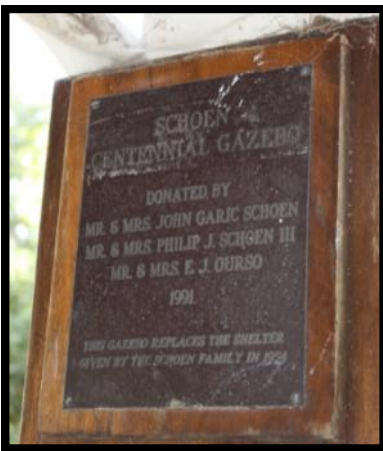
Schoen Centennial Gazebo

(Vixen Hill Gazebo)

1991

29°59.213N 90°05.951W

This gazebo is just to the left-hand side once inside the entrance of the amusement park. A structure built in 1954 was here before this gazebo was constructed in 1991.



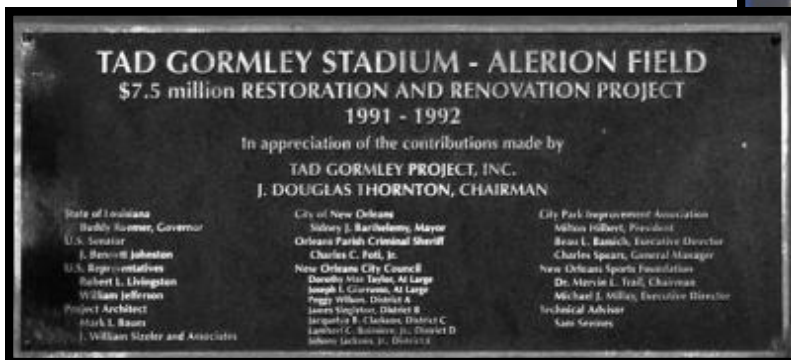
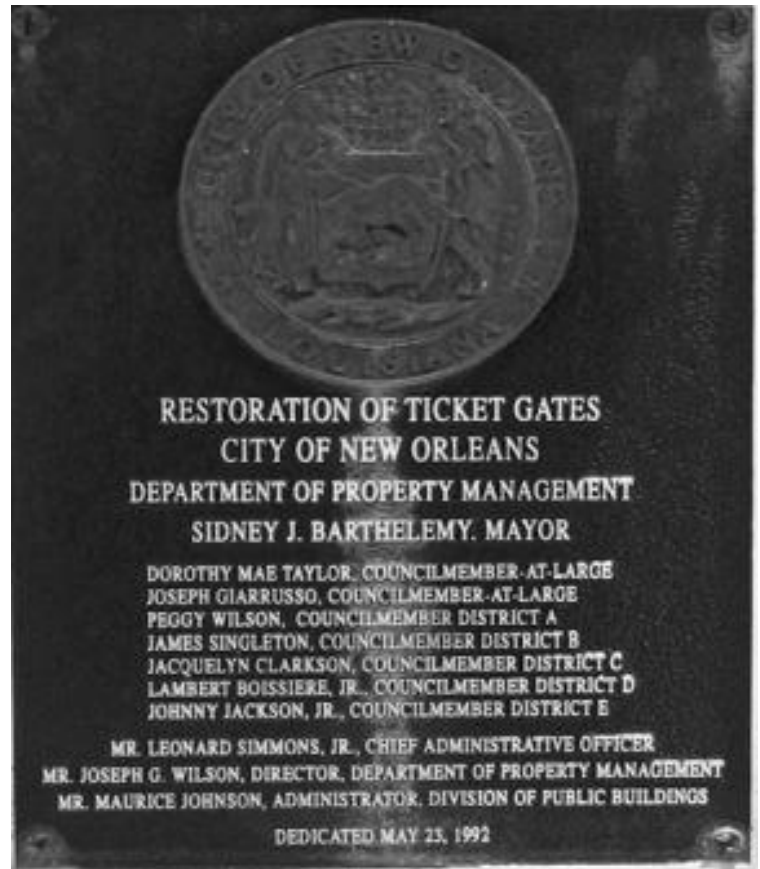
1990s

Tad Gormley Gate Restoration

1992

29°59.420N 90°05.040W

This plaque is located on the right gate post at the Marconi Drive entrance to Tad Gormley.



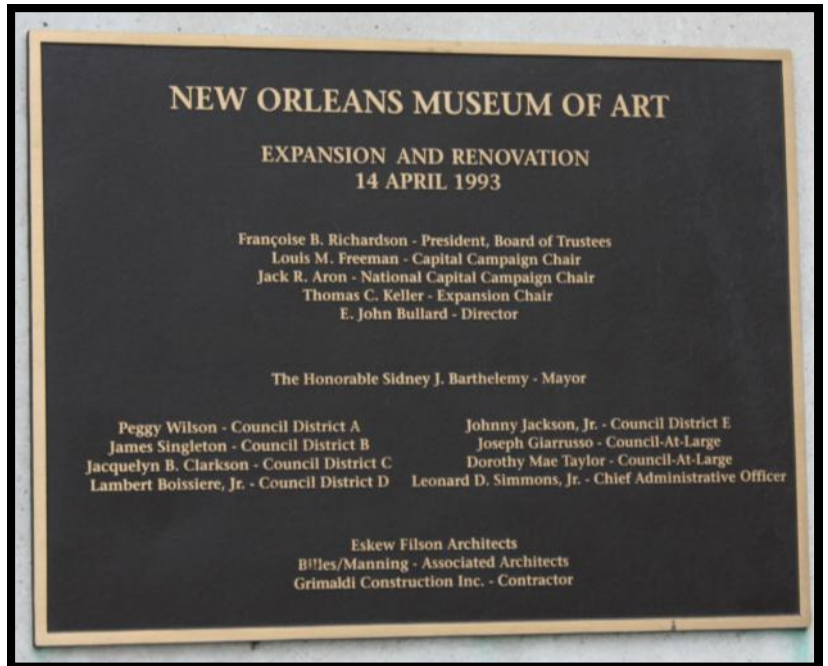
Tad Gormley Stadium Plaque

1992

29°59.420N 90°05.030W

These plaques are located under the grandstand just inside the Marconi Drive entrance to Tad Gormley Stadium.

1990s



NOMA Expansion and Renovation Plaque

1993

29°59.209N 90°05.587W

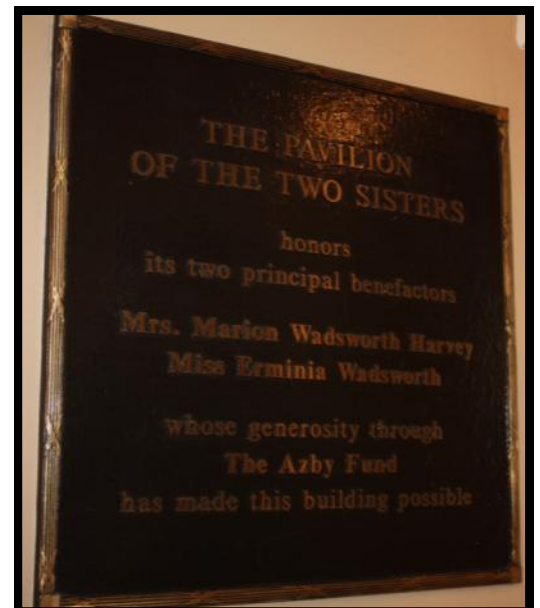
1993 brought the opening on the \$23 million expansion and renovation project to NOMA. The scale of the expansion and renovation, combined with amplified art acquisitions, positioned NOMA into the top 25 % of the nation's largest and most important fine art museums.



Pavilion of the Two Sisters Plaque

1994

29°59.221N 90°05.728W



1990s



John Scott—"Spirit Gates"

1994

29°59.168N 90°05.617W

The gates are located on the left side of the building.



Lark in the Park Gazebo

1995

29°59.221N 90°05.724W

This gazebo is located near the entrance to the Pavilion of the two Sisters and the Botanical Garden Gift Shop. It was paid for from funds raised from the 1995 Lark in the Park.

1990s

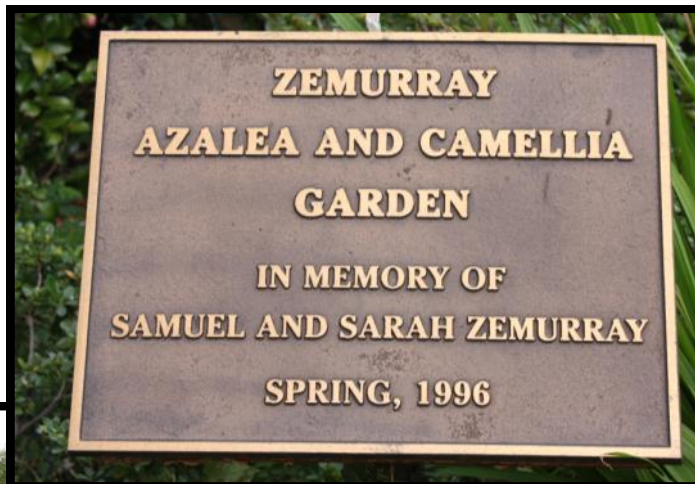


The Flute Player Plaque

1995

29°59.239N 90°05.706W

This plaque is located at the base of the fountain inside the Botanical Garden.



Zemurray Azalea and Camellia Garden Plaque

1996

29°59.227N 90°05.716W

This plaque is located on the right-hand side of the Pavilion of the Two Sisters.

1990s

Pierre Gustave Toutant Beauregard Statue Plaque

1999

29°59.039N 90°05.396W

The plaque is mounted on the southwest side of the Beauregard statue. The plaque recognizes that the statue has been added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1999.



The General Beauregard

Equestrian Statue, standing within a circular plot situated at the foot of Esplanade Avenue between Bayou St. John and the entrance to New Orleans City Park, was built in stages, with the base being dedicated on May 28, 1913 and the statue on November 11, 1915. Alexander Boyle's bronze statue depicts the Confederate General P. G. T. Beauregard astride a prancing horse. The entire ensemble stands a total of 27 feet in height. The dark gray granite base is 10 feet tall, rising from a one-foot foundation. The statue is 16 feet tall. (<http://www.flickr.com/photos/wallyg/2498059653/>)



Fletcher Plaque

1999

29°59.070N 90°05.410W

This memorial to Dr. Bobby H. Fletcher sits adjacent to the Big Lake Pump House.

2000s

Timken Center Plaque

2000

29°59.132N 90°05.703W

The Timken Center is commonly known as the Casino Building. It houses the Parkview Café, public bathrooms, and a gift shop. Parkview Terrace is upstairs and is a popular event space.



Pizzati Gate Rededication Plaque

2001

29°59.029N 90°05.887W

Originally called the Alexander Street entrance, the gate is located at City Park Avenue and Anseman Avenue. Steamboat Captain Salvadore Pizzati donated the archway in 1910. The structure also includes the inscriptions: 'Erected A.D. 1910' and 'Donated by Capt. S. Pizzati'. The Gate was rededicated in 2001 in memory of Edgar Luminais.

2000s



Blue Star Memorial By-Way plaque

2002

29°59.330N 90°05.763W

The plaque is located by the flag pole on the neutral ground along Roosevelt Mall. It was donated by the Federated Council of New Orleans Garden Club on April 26, 2002. Of the 14 Blue Star Memorial 'Highway' Markers in the Metro area, there are only 2 'By-Way-' markers. The other Blue Star Memorial is located in Lafreniere Park.

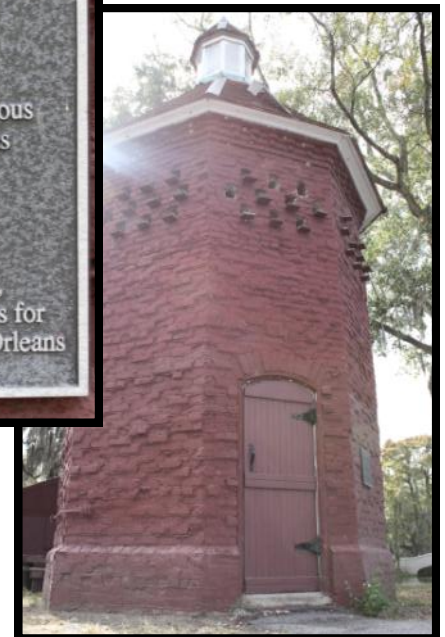
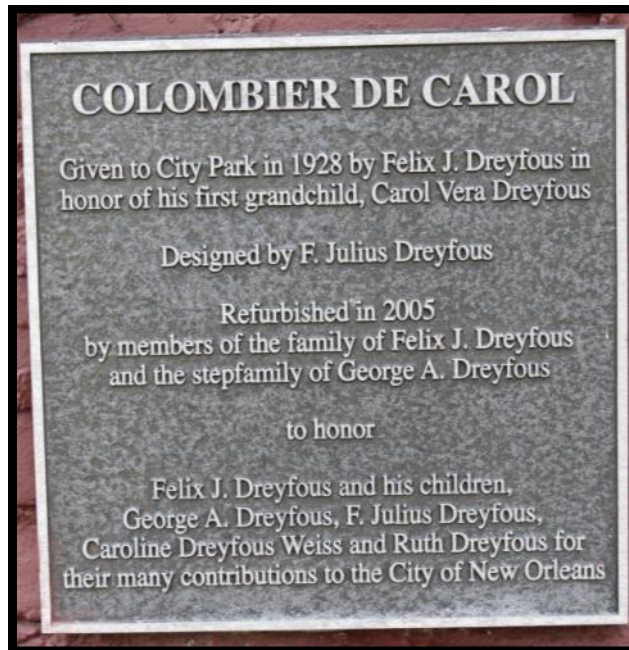


Colombier de Carol Plaque

2005

29°59.105N 90°05.673W

Known as the City Park Pigeonierre, it was designed by Felix Dreyfous and given to the park in 1928. It is located on Pigeon Island near the Casino Building. It was refurbished and the plaque was placed in 2005, shortly before Hurricane Katrina.



2000s



Rotary Club Plaque

2006-2007

29°59.146N 90°05.558W

This plaque recognizes the contributions that Rotary Clubs made towards the improvements to Lelong Avenue after Hurricane Katrina. These improvements included new trees, benches and sidewalk repairs. There is an identical plaque placed just across Lelong Avenue on the Big Lake side of the street.



Amusement Park Renovation Plaque

2007

29°59.212N 90°05.933W

This marker is located just inside the entrance to the amusement park. Renovations were made after damage from Hurricane Katrina and the Federal flood.



2000s

Stanley Ray Playground Arch

2008

29°59.135N 90°05.782W

The Stanley Ray Trust made a gift of \$250,000 toward the park's endowment to maintain the large playground along Dreyfous Avenue. The playground is now named the Stanley Ray Playground. A new arch designating the Stanley Ray Playground was erected in February, 2008.



Pan American Stadium Plaque

2008

29°59.629N 90°05.223W

This plaque is located just inside the entrance gate.



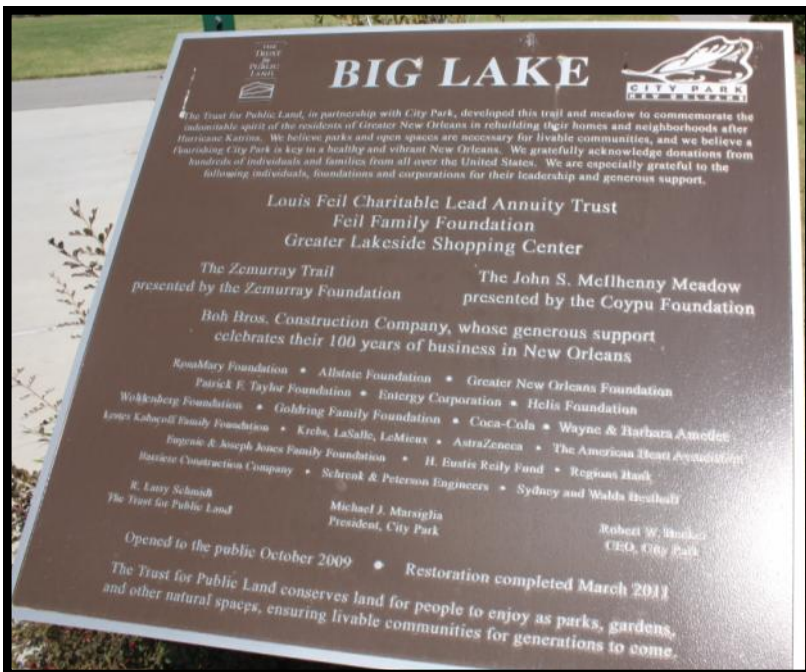
2000s

Big Lake Fountain Plaque

2009

29°59.210N 90°05.573W

This plaque is located near NOMA.



Big Lake Plaque

2009

29°59.096N 90°05.414W

This plaque sits near the corner of the Big Lake area near Wisner and Lelong.



2000s

Laborde Pump House Marker

2009

29°59.166N 90°05.392W

This stone marker names the Big Lake Pump House in memory of Margaret Bienvenu Laborde.



Grateful Labors Plaque

2009

29°59.130N 90°05.505W



2000s



Singing Oak Plaque

29°59.151N 90°05.409W

This plaque is located underneath the Trust For Public Land oak, also referred to as the Singing Oak. The artist, Jim Hart, used aluminum alloy and tuned the wind chimes to the Pentatonic scale. One chime is 14 feet long.



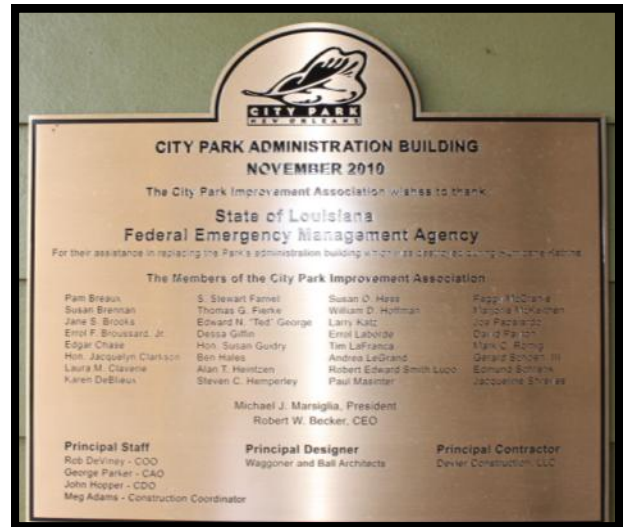
2010s

Rotary Soccer Field and Softball Diamond Plaque

2010

29°59.586N 90°05.905W

This plaque is located in the lobby of the Administration Building.



Administration Building Plaque

2010

29°59.588N 90°05.905W

This plaque is on the left-hand wall on the front patio of the building. This site was also the site of the previous Administration building destroyed in Hurricane Katrina.

2010s



NOLA City Bark Arch

2010

29°58.991N 90°05.534W

This arch is above the main entrance to the Dog Park.

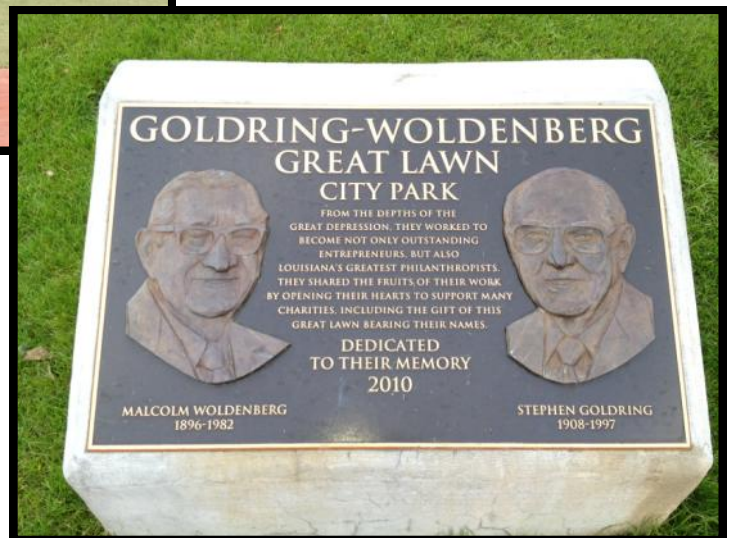


Goldring-Woldenberg Great Lawn
Plaque

2010

29°59.124N 90°05.832W

This plaque is at the Dreyfous side
of the Great Lawn.



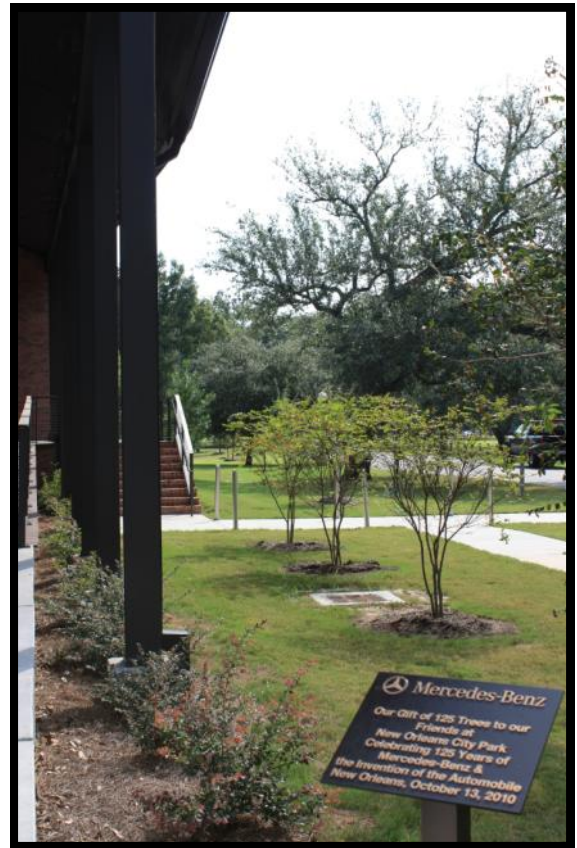
2010s

Mercedes-Benz Plaque

2010

29°59.593N 90°05.911W

This plaque is located near the Administration Building.



City Park/Pepsi Tennis Center Plaque

2011

29°59.586N 90°05.905W

This plaque is located on the left-hand side of the main entrance.

2010s



Arbor Room Plaque

2011

29°59.586N 90°05.905W

This plaque is located on the wall nearest Popp Fountain.