Olmsted's West Side Points of Interest

Please enjoy your Self-Guided Mobile Audio Tour of Olmsted's West Side, presented by Rich Products and powered by Tourwand.com. The 11 points of history and interest have been identified in the photos below, the map on the back and on the tour signs throughout Buffalo’s West Side.

Originally called The Front, Front Park was once the most popular recreational destination in the city and a prominent Buffalo icon. As with Delaware Park, Olmsted himself chose the location, but with a different vision in mind. While Delaware Park was to conjure up the sights and sounds of nature, Front Park was to emphasize the natural elements that were unique to Buffalo: the Niagara River and Lake Erie. The park's spectacular view of the waterways from its commanding bluffs, Olmsted wrote, “would be peculiar to Buffalo and would have a character of magnificence.” Grand, regal, and more formal than many other Olmsted landscapes, The Front was designed for “stately ceremonies,” “civic display,” and other public events. Once the park was opened in the 1870s, it quickly became Buffalo’s most popular park with more than 5,000 visitors on the weekends and over 1,000 visitors on weekdays.

Step 1 > From your mobile device, type in tourwand.com/olmsted
Step 2 > Select ‘Olmsted’s West Side’ and the thumbnail image/3-digit tour number
Step 3 > Enjoy the various points of interest around the west side, in any order you would like

#300 Fort Porter
#301 Perry Monument (War of 1812)
#302 Front Park Terrace
#303 Front Park Entrance
#304 Prospect Hill Parks (Prospect & Columbus)
#305 The Circle (now Symphony Circle)
#306 Days Park
#307 Ferry Circle / Richmond Avenue
#308 Colonial Circle / Richmond Avenue
#309 The Richardson Olmsted Complex
#310 Scajaquada Creek / Jesse Kregal Trail

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Research and written by Jim Mendola, volunteer historian/archivist, and Daniel Leopold, historian intern
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