

Finding the Location of Federation Grove

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Historical Context

Although Ohio had been predominately forested when European settlers first arrived, much of the land in the state had been cleared by the early 1900s for farming, pastures, homesteads, and feeding iron furnaces needed for building cities. By about 1910, forest coverage in Ohio had dropped from an estimated 95% to only 10%.¹ In 1911, Ohio state lawmakers gave counties the authority to establish metropolitan park districts as the nation began to understand the importance of preserving natural resources.² In 1921, the Akron Metropolitan Park District (A.M.P.D.), now called Summit Metro Parks, was formed, and Harold Wagner was appointed Director-Secretary of the Park District in 1925. Wagner began coordinating large reforestation projects, and established tree nurseries within the Park District, including one in Everett and another in the Virginia Kendall area.³ Most of the large-scale tree planting efforts ended after 1936, and during the 1940's, plants primarily left the Everett Nursery in the form of donations.³

One of these reforestation efforts, although small in magnitude, had historical interest. It was called Federation Grove. Recent knowledge of the grove had been limited to a drawing found in the Cuyahoga Valley National Park (Fig. 1). Although this 1955 drawing indicated Federation Grove was within Virginia Kendall Park, its specific whereabouts was unknown. The purpose of this study was to examine historical documents in an effort to piece together its story and relocate the grove. In the process of performing this research, another reforestation effort, called Forum Forest, was uncovered; a smaller effort ensued to find the location of that forest within Cuyahoga Valley National Park.

Federation Grove

In 1935, the Akron Metropolitan Park Board of Commissioners passed a resolution giving approval to the Akron and Summit County Federation of Women's Clubs for planting a memorial grove of trees (Fig. 2).⁴ The grove was to be planted in Virginia Kendall State Park, and was named, "Federation Grove," in honor of the Federation's past presidents (Figs. 3-5).⁵⁻⁷

The Akron and Summit County Federation of Women's Clubs was organized in 1893, and remained active for well over 100 years, until it was dissolved in 2010.⁸ The Federation raised money for various charities and causes, worked on community-related projects, and lobbied for political reform. The group had a strong Conservation Committee, and along with state organizations, advocated for reforestation throughout the state of Ohio as early as 1924³ and into the 1950's⁹⁻¹⁰.

On April 14, 1935, the Federation of Women's Clubs held their first tree planting ceremony at the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) barracks in Virginia Kendall State Park to celebrate Federation Grove.^{7,11} As described in Figs. 5-6, local dignitaries were present along with nearly 100 attendees, and the Boys Scouts participated in the event.^{7,11} During the ceremony, one tree was planted at the CCC barracks to commemorate Mrs. Katherine B. Claypool, the first president of the Federation. This tree was to be transplanted later to Federation Grove, which was located in different area of the park, where another 21 trees honoring the Federation's past presidents had all been placed in April 1935. Copper plates bearing the names of the past presidents were hung on the trees.

Thereafter, as each Federation president left office, a tree was planted in Federation Grove in her honor.¹²⁻²⁴ This tradition continued for 20 years, and by 1955, 35 Federation presidents had been honored with tree plantings in Federation Grove, Figs. 7-8.²³⁻²⁴ The list of past presidents of the Akron and Summit County Federation of Women's Clubs who were honored in Federation Grove is shown in Appendix A, along with the years that they served as president.

The arrangement of the first 25 trees planted in Federation Grove is displayed in a blueprint (Fig. 9) that was generated in 1940.²⁵ It is evident in the sketch that the trees were not planted in straight rows. The sketch shows different symbol sizes for the various trees, presumably to represent different tree sizes in the grove. Fig. 9 also shows that Federation Grove was located next to a property line to its west, indicated vertically on the left as "Prop line" with arrows pointing to the dashed line. An arcing foot path also appears in the sketch, which is consistent with the curvilinear nature of the trail network developed in the 1935 master plan to follow the general shape of the ledges outcropping in the Virginia Kendall landscape.²⁶

The legend on the sketch in Fig. 9 indicates that either an elm tree or a maple tree was planted in honor of each of the past presidents. However, Federation Meeting Minutes from May 6, 1936, (Fig. 10¹²) indicate that a tulip tree was planted in honor of Mrs. Maud DeVaughn (tree # 18), whereas Fig. 9 indicates that tree #18 was an elm tree. Although maple tree species were not specified in Fig. 9, Federation Board Meeting Minutes from May 25, 1937, indicate that a red maple was planted for Mrs. Lee R. Kanaga (tree #24).¹³

The sketch of Federation Grove was updated in 1950 (Fig. 11²⁷), and revised again in 1955 (Fig. 1), after additional trees were planted. Both of these sketches displayed identically-sized symbols for each tree in the grove. The placement of the trees in Figs. 1 and 11 was very similar to that in Fig. 9, with an exception being tree #4, which was positioned originally on the property line in Fig. 9. The legend for the diagrammatic sketch was further expanded in 1955 (Fig. 1) to include the years during which each Federation president served in that capacity. Again, only elm and maple trees were listed in the legends of Figs. 1 and 11. Maple tree species were not indicated in these figures, although the term, “hard maple,” was used to describe the tree planted for Mrs. E. G. Templeton (tree #29).¹⁹ Hard maple is used to refer to the Sugar Maple and the Black Maple.²⁸

The 1940 sketch (Fig. 9) was the only one found with a scale (1 inch = 40 feet) that could be used to determine the size of Federation Grove. It appears likely that the same scale was used in all versions of the sketches. Using that scale, the final size of Federation Grove with its 35 trees in Fig. 1 was estimated to have a depth of 300 ft from the northernmost tree to the southernmost tree, along a line parallel to the property boundary. The property boundary is labeled as “A.M.P.D. property line” in this figure. The width of the grove was determined from the property line to the easternmost tree, and was estimated to range from a width of 160 ft along its northern boundary to a width of 190 ft along its southern boundary.

Some trees planted in Federation Grove were replaced over the years after they had died, or if observed to be in poor condition. For example, it was reported on May 20, 1947, that some trees were in need of replacement,²⁹ although identification of the specific trees was not provided. Additionally, the maple trees that were planted in 1935 honoring Mrs. A. L. Morgenroth (tree #11), Mrs. James Taylor (tree #15), and Mrs. Hermine Z. Hansen (tree #17) had died, and were replaced in 1955.^{23,30}

Due to the introduction of Dutch elm disease near Cleveland in the 1930's,³¹ it seems likely that elm trees in Federation Grove were affected by this disease. Indeed, a modified (and fourth) version of the Federation Grove sketch (Fig. 12³²) appears to support this. Although this sketch is dated June 1950 in the lower right corner, there is a rectangular, blue stamp visible beneath the legend showing a date of receipt of November 22, 1957. As suggested by the handwritten red ink near the legend in Fig. 12, eleven of the original 20 elm trees were replaced with maple trees. That would leave a total of nine elm trees and 26 maple trees in Federation Grove.

Federation Grove is located in the Virginia Kendall area on the north side of Old Truxell Road and east of Camp Manatoc, according to Former Chief Ranger Robert Yehle, who led park visitors to the grove in the early 1970's.³³ The GPS coordinates near the southwest corner of the grove is N41.220199, W81.523002. The location and extent of Federation Grove is indicated by the starred, pink area on the map in Fig. 13. This

location is consistent with the property line, or the A.M.P.D. boundary, shown in the sketches in Figs. 1, 9, and 11-12. Other than that boundary line, the sketches provided no other clues regarding the location of the grove. We suspect the entrance walk in the sketches is the section of Old Truxell Road that had been permanently rerouted slightly to the south in the early 1930's.³³ No additional park records were found documenting the specific location of Federation Grove.

Aerial survey photos of Camp Manatoc and the western section of Virginia Kendall State Park had been taken on August 2, 1933. Fig. 14³⁴ is a 1933 aerial photo of that area, and the Federation Grove site is indicated by "FG" on the photo. The photo shows that the Federation Grove site was treeless in 1933, which is consistent with what would be expected. Aerial photos from the 1950's show reforestation did occur subsequently in that same area.

Site Visit: In July 2019, the authors identified red maple and sugar maple trees of various sizes and ages in Federation Grove, along with three elm trees. The diameter at breast height (DBH) was measured for two elm trees and one large red maple tree at the site. Multiplying the DBH in inches by the growth factor for that particular tree species provides an estimated age of the tree.³⁵ Based on this calculation, the two elm trees were calculated to be 58 and 71 years old, respectively. The 71-year old elm would have been planted around 1958, if a 10-year old tree had been planted in the grove. However, the 71-year old tree was found in a section of the grove where the last elm was planted in 1941. Thus, even the older elm tree appeared to be too young to have been an original planting in Federation Grove. There could be two reasons for why the tree appears to be too young: 1) The published growth factor is not an exact number, but is an estimate, that is known to vary due to differences in the local environment where the trees are growing.³⁵ 2) The original elm trees in the grove died from Dutch elm disease, and the current trees in the grove site sprouted naturally from elm seeds.

In contrast, the estimated age of the measured red maple tree was within an acceptable range for the tree to have been an original planting in Federation Grove. Its age was estimated to be 73 years old. If that tree was 10 years old when placed in the grove, it would have been planted around 1956. The red maple was in the southwest corner of the grove. It is plausible that this red maple could have been the tree planted in honor of Mrs. W. C. Parsons (tree #1). Tree #1 was originally an elm tree planted in 1935, but was replaced with a maple tree, as noted in the 1957 sketch (Fig. 12). As a result, the size and age of the red maple tree appears to match the timing of its planting in the grove.

Conclusion: The authors feel confident that the general location of Federation Grove has been correctly identified, although the exact borders were not delineated. The

relocation of the grove was based on a combination of the following: interviews with a former park ranger, meeting minutes from the Akron and Summit County Federation of Women's Clubs, period newspaper articles, a key property line on the diagrammatic sketches, aerial photographs, and tree species found at the site that were documented to have been planted in the grove. Further confirmation of the location may be obtained as described below.

Recommendations for Future: The inscribed copper plaques bearing the names of the Federation's past presidents were observed to be loosely attached to the trees in Federation Grove in the early 1970's.³³ It is recommended that the area be surveyed with a metal detector to locate any remaining copper plates that may have fallen to the ground; the location of the grove could be confirmed if any plaques are found.

In addition, field work could map the existing trees and potentially identify specific trees and to whom they were dedicated. However, this may be difficult given unclear documentation of trees being replaced over time. Trees could be cored for ageing to aid in estimating the year the trees were planted, since estimations by diameter can be unreliable.

The authors recommend the Park's cultural resource staff evaluate the significance of Federation Grove to determine its importance. The grove falls within the boundaries of the Virginia Kendall cultural landscape but was not mentioned or included as part of the cultural landscape inventory. The Park may wish to bring more attention to this area and rededicate Federation Grove to the Akron and Summit County Federation of Women's Clubs and their past presidents.

Forum Forest

While researching Federation Grove, a tree planting effort that was sponsored by another women's club was uncovered. The 1935 resolution of the Akron Metropolitan Park Board of Commissioners also granted permission to the Garden Forum of Greater Akron for planting a memorial forest in the Park District (Fig. 2).⁴ According to the resolution, the forest was to be planted in Everett. Garden Forum Executive Board meeting minutes indicate a tree would be planted for each garden club at no cost to their organization.³⁶

The Garden Forum of Greater Akron was founded in 1932 to unite and foster collaboration between area garden clubs³⁷ but has since been disbanded. The Akron Garden Club was a member of the Garden Forum and was a strong supporter of the A.M.P.D. In 1928, the Akron Garden Club campaigned on behalf of the Park District for a 0.10-mill levy, which was passed. Prior to that, the A.M.P.D. did not operate on its own tax revenue, but instead shared funding from Summit County's general fund.² The Garden Forum advocated for reforestation, and community forests were recognized at

that time as an effective way of replacing trees in Ohio.⁹ In the 1930's, the Garden Forum encouraged its numerous garden clubs throughout the region to plant trees, as part of a city-wide beautification effort.^{36,38}

Garden Forum Meeting Minutes and newspaper articles (Figs. 15-18) announced that a tree planting ceremony was to be held in the Akron Metropolitan Park District on April 28, 1935.^{36,38-42} The forest was named, "Forum Forest," and was to be planted "on" or "at" Furnace Run^{36,39-42} "in Everett."^{4,36} Reference 42 indicates that Harold Wagner placed a map on display at the M. O'Neill Company showing how to reach Furnace Run.

During the ceremony on April 28, 1935, 79 trees planted in Forum Forest (Fig. 19).³⁶ The trees represented each individual garden club within the forum, as well as their officers. These tree plantings at Forum Forest were anticipated to become an annual event.^{36,38} However, a review of Garden Forum meeting minutes from 1936 to 1943 showed no further discussion of Forum Forest. The Garden Forum continued to sponsor tree plantings in subsequent years at other locations, including repeated plantings at Perkins Park at least through 1943.^{36,43}

No records were found indicating the specific location of Forum Forest, nor the species of trees that had been planted there in 1935. Aerial survey photos from 1933 and the 1950's were examined but provided no clear evidence of its location in Everett. A stand of trees on the south side of Everett Road and east of the Everett Road Covered Bridge was inspected by the authors, but the trees in this small area were too young and clearly not "on Furnace Run," so this area was rejected as being the site of Forum Forest. Another area along the north bank of Furnace Run and east of Riverview Road was briefly considered. There was an absence of trees in that area in the 1933 aerial photos and substantial tree growth evident in the 1950's photos. However, Reference 26 indicated that this area did not have plantings from the Everett nursery. Without further information, the search for Forum Forest was dropped.

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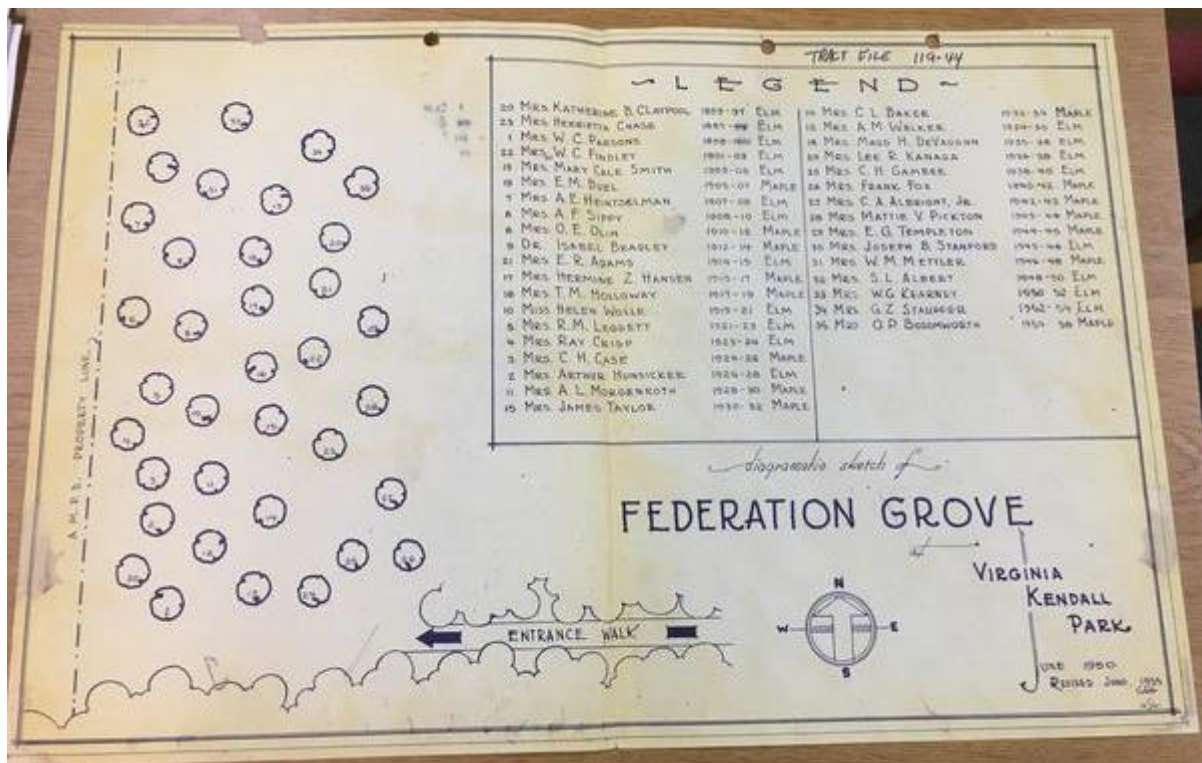


Fig. 1. Diagrammatic sketch of Federation Grove, with a handwritten revision date of June 1955 in the lower right corner.

April 18, 1935
Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners
Summit Metro Parks

RESOLUTION
OF
THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF
SUMMIT METRO PARKS

Resolution #21-1935

It was moved by Mr. Laursen, seconded by Mr. Douglas, that

WHEREAS, the Secretary has tentatively approved a memorial grove at Virginia Kendall State Park for the Summit County Federation of Womens Clubs, and a memorial forest at Everett for the Garden Forum,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a memorial grove at Virginia Kendall State Park for the Summit County Federation of Womens Clubs and a memorial Forest at Everett for the Garden Forum be approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no memorial trees for individuals be planted on Park District property.

The vote being:

L. A. Laursen - Aye
T. A. Douglas - Aye
M. M. Kindig - Aye

Fig. 2. Akron Metropolitan Park District Board of Commissioners Resolution for planting a memorial tree grove at Virginia Kendall State Park, as well as a memorial forest at Everett.⁴

Special Board Meeting.
April 3, 1935.

A special meeting of the board of trustees was called Wednesday A.M. at ten o'clock preceeding the regular meeting of the Federation.

Mrs. Kinsey presented the matter of planting the trees for past presidents and Mrs. Mulcahy moved that the trees be planted at Virginia Kendall Park on Sunday afternoon April 14th. The motion was seconded and carried.

Mrs Kester moved that we omit the reading of the amendment to the constitution which pertains to the length of the term of office of the president. This motion carried.

Mrs. Mulcahy's motion that we wait till Monday, our regular board meeting, to decide on action regarding the moving of the National Housing Commission from the Builders' Exchange Building to the Tower Building was seconded and carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10;30 A.M. Ten members were present.

Respectfully submitted

Mrs. C. Heintz

Rec. Secretary.

Fig. 3. Minutes of Special Board Meeting of the Akron and Summit County Federation of Women's Clubs on April 3, 1935.⁵ The motion passed in favor of planting trees in honor of their past presidents.

Federation Of Clubs Plans Tree Ceremony To Honor Presidents

Board Of Trustees Votes To Recognize Former Heads Of Organization On April 7; Elect Officers Same Month

By MARION GEYER

AKRON and Summit County Federation of Women's Clubs will further its civic work by planting 22 trees in several public places with appropriate ceremony on Sunday, April 7. The trees will be planted to honor 22 past presidents of the federation. They are Mrs. Katherine B. Claypool, Mrs. Henrietta Chase, Mrs. W. C. Parsons, Mrs. W. C. Findley, Mrs. Mary Cale Smith, Mrs. E. M. Buel, Mrs. A. E. Heintzelman, Mrs. A. F. Sippy, Mrs. O. E. Olin, Dr. Isabel Bradley, Mrs. E. R. Adam, Mrs. Hermine Z. Hansen, Mrs. T. M. Holloway, Miss Helen Wolle, Mrs. R. M. Leggett, Mrs. Ray Crisp, Mrs. C. H. Case, Mrs. Arthur Hunsicker, Mrs. A. L. Morgenroth, Mrs. James Taylor, Mrs. C. L. Baker and at the time of the planting, Mrs. A. M. Walker, present head, who will have become immediate past president.

This matter was discussed at a meeting of the board of trustees of the federation Monday at the Y. W. C. A. Mrs. Walker named Mrs. L. L. Kinsey, chairman, to be assisted by Mrs. G. B. Little and Mrs. M. J. Gibans. According to present plans the trees will bear a marker telling the name of the woman in whose honor the tree was planted and the date of her presidency.

Plans were also discussed for the annual President's day which will be observed by the federation on Wednesday, April 3. Program for this meeting will be arranged by the newly created department of gardening. Invitations to attend the meeting are being mailed to all presidents of affiliated clubs.

Next meeting of the board will be held Monday, April 8, so that a president may be elected from the new board, members of which will be selected on President's day. This board meeting is being advanced one week so the new federation president can attend the state convention in Columbus, April 10, 11 and 12.

Mrs. Walker has also appointed a committee to work on amendments to the constitution. Mrs. E. C. Eckroad is chairman. Others are Mrs. A. W. Heintz and Mrs. E. F. Stumpf.



MRS. KING

DR. RODGERS

DR. SWIFT

Garden Group Gives Program

CUYAHOGA View Garden club will sponsor a style show Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock in the Better Housing Bureau in Cuyahoga Falls. Spring costumes will be displayed with special emphasis on garments for women.

ORGANIZATIONS CLAIM ATTENTION—Health education is a mutual interest shared by Dr. Edith Hale Swift of Detroit, Mich., and Dr. Mildred Rodgers of New Castle, Pa., both of whom appeared before groups of Akron women Monday evening at the Y. W. C. A.

As health chairman of the National Business and Professional Women's club, Dr. Rodgers was here to address a dinner meet-

al Women's club held its dinner meeting on the fifth floor.

Another speaker before the business women was Miss Pearl Von Au of Maryland, state auditor of the organization. A. M. Walker, president of Akron and Summit County Federation of Women's Clubs, and Miss Alta Morgan, president of club, also spoke briefly on the program. In her talk Mrs. King referred to the fact that she is president as the "baby" of the state federation and continued

Fig. 4. Akron Beacon Journal article on March 19, 1935, announces Akron and Summit County Federation of Women's Clubs plans for planting trees.⁶

Federation Honors Past Heads With Tree Planting Ceremony

TWENTY-TWO trees will be planted Sunday afternoon by Akron and Summit County Federation of Women's Clubs in a section of Virginia Kendall park to be known in the future as "Federation Grove." Mayor I. S. Myers will present the trees and Mrs. A. M. Walker, past president of the federation, will accept them. Rev. Hugh K. Galloway, pastor of North Hill U. P. church, and vice president of the Akron Ministerial association, will give the invocation. Rev. J. W. Fitzgerald of the Catholic church in Peninsula, O., also will give a short talk.

Copper plates bearing the names of past presidents of the federation will be placed on the trees. Harris Mother Singers will give several numbers under the direction of Mrs. C. A. Wellbaum.

Boy scouts will assist the federation in directing guests to the tree planting service. They will be stationed along the way. Mrs. L. L. Kinsey is chairman of the committee in charge of the rites, assisted by Mrs. George Little, Mrs. E. F. Stumpf, Mrs. Lee R. Kanaga and Mrs. Donald D. Isham.

MRS. Z. E. SARGISSON had charge of the program given at a meeting of Beta Study club Wednesday evening at the Mayflower hotel. Miss Elsie Chandler gave a current events talk, and Miss Katherine Pepper told Scandinavian folk stories. Mrs. Jane Ahrendt discussed handcraft, and Miss Mabel Beck gave a biographical sketch.

Women of Moose, Akron chapter, No. 254, will meet Monday evening at 8 o'clock at 124 S. Main st. Degree teams will practice.

Fig. 5. Akron Beacon Journal article on Saturday, April 13, 1935, announces the tree planting ceremony of the Akron and Summit County Federation of Women's Clubs.⁷



Fig. 6. Akron Beacon Journal article on Monday, April 15, 1935, describes the first tree planting ceremony of the Akron and Summit County Federation of Women's Clubs in Virginia Kendall State Park.¹¹

AKRON METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT
207 SOUTH BROADWAY
AKRON 8, OHIO

BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
W. A. WOODLING, CHAIRMAN
H. G. METZGER, VICE CHAIRMAN
W. L. SEMON
H. S. WAGNER, DIRECTOR-SECRETARY

September 19, 1955

Mrs. John Griffith
350 Archwood Avenue
Akron 1, Ohio

Dear Mrs. Griffith:

We are enclosing herewith two copies of the sketch of Federation Grove in Virginia Kendall Park, brought up to date.

The damaged trees # 11, 14, and 15 have been replaced and new trees #33, 34, and 35 have been planted and identified as shown on the sketch. There will be no charge for this.

We apologize for our delay in sending you this sketch and information and hope that we have not inconvenienced your group greatly.

With very best wishes, I remain,

Sincerely,

H. S. Wagner,
Director-Secretary

HSW/jm

Fig. 7. Correspondence from Harold Wagner, September 19, 1955,²³ to a member of the Akron and Summit County Federation of Women's Clubs, regarding tree plantings in Federation Grove. Thirty-five new trees were planted, and damaged trees were replaced. The three damaged trees were all maple trees.

Margaret Stevens Wins State Federation Office

By POLLY PAFTHAS
Beacon Journal Club Writer

THE AFTERNOON Federation meeting was going along as scheduled. Reports were being given and final details were being cleaned up.

Then a-la-radio and TV style, Mrs. Marion J. Miller, retiring president, interrupted the program to make a special announcement.

Word had just been received that Mrs. Margaret Stevens, out-going first vice president, had been elected president of the Northeast District of Ohio Federation of Women's Clubs at the convention in Columbus.

Attending the annual event is Mrs. Charles Albright, who also has held the state office and is a past president of Akron and Summit County Federation of Women's Clubs.

After the meeting, Mrs. Alvin G. Wolf, new Federation president, and Mrs. George C. Grant, new first vice president, left for Columbus to take in last night's and today's sessions.

★

BUT LET'S get back to the beginning of Wednesday's meeting to the Sheraton-Mayflower ballroom—the last of this club year.

The morning program was as full as a May basket.

Mrs. C. E. Gamble, parliamentarian, installed the new officers. Serving with Mrs. Wolf and Mrs. Grant are Mrs. Waldo L. Swann, second vice president; Mrs. B. Dean Cappellet, recording secretary; Mrs. Earl F. Howard, treasurer; Mrs. D. E. Wilhelm, corresponding secretary, and Mrs. Ellwood Zinsbach, assistant secretary-treasurer.

Board members are Mrs. Herman L. Atkinson, Mrs. William L. Lasser, Mrs. John D. Maloney, Mrs. Carl T. Peterson, Mrs. George T. Poole, Mrs. Robert G. Sparks and Mrs. George Thompson.

★

THE INSTALLATION was followed by the tree award. In Federation Grove at Virginia Kendall Park, 35 trees are planted honoring the Federation's past presidents. A token, symbolic of a maple tree, was presented to Mrs. George P. Bosomworth, president in 1964.

Then a \$25 check was turned over to Lesley Perrell, Akron U art student, by Mrs. Weston Lennon, chairman of the arts division of the Federation's Fine Arts Department.



MRS. MARGARET STEVENS
... named district Federation president

Heads Clubs In 9 Counties

Fig. 8. Highlighted section of Akron Beacon Journal article on May 6, 1956, indicates 35 trees had been planted in Federation Grove.²⁴ The 35th tree honors Mrs. George P. Bosomworth.

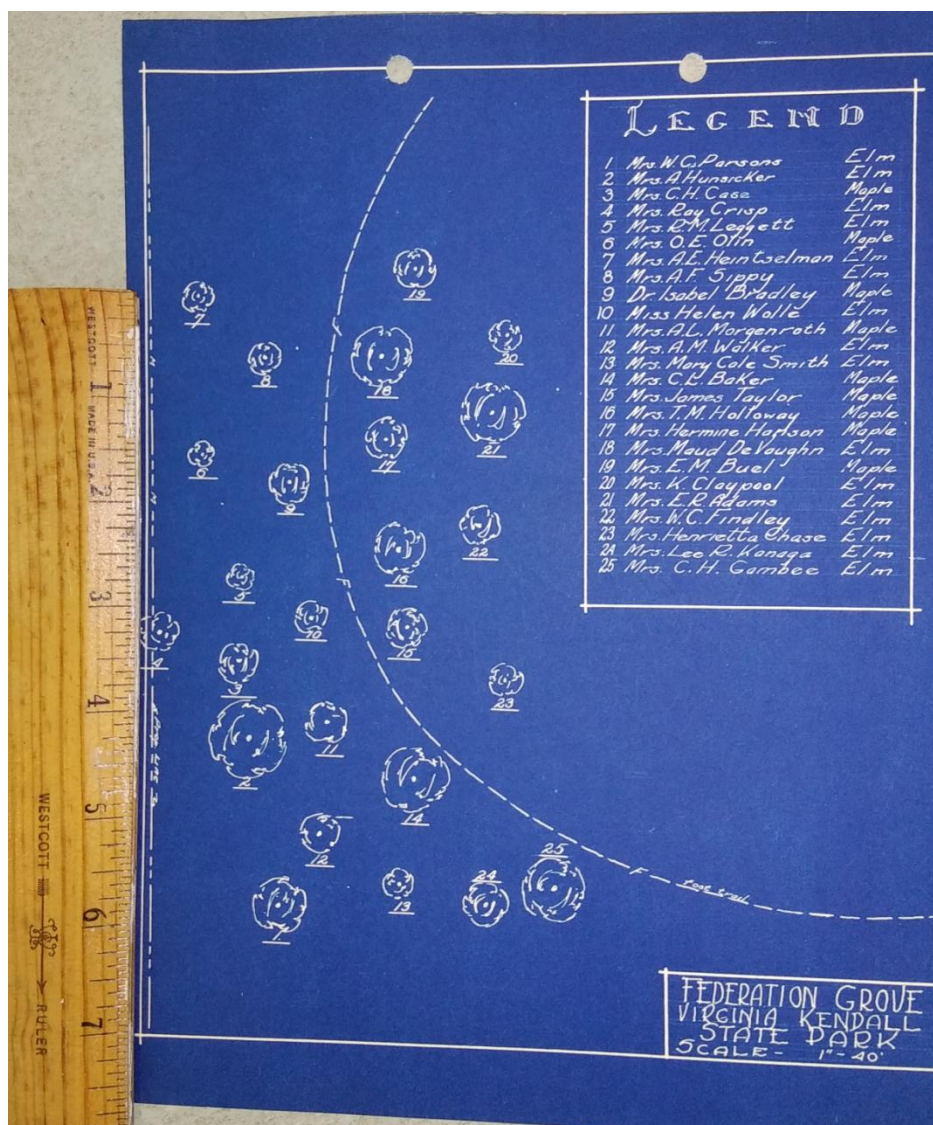


Fig. 9. Federation Grove blueprint, which is dated June 28, 1940 on the back.²⁵ Note the property line, indicated as "Prop line" with arrows pointing to the vertical dashed line along the left. A scale of 1 inch=40 feet is shown in the lower right corner.

Federation Day.
May 6, 1936.

The last meeting of the club year took the form of a picnic at Virginia Kendall Park.

The morning hours were used in the ceremony of planting a tulip tree in honor of the retiring President, Mrs. Maud De Vaughn and a walk through the park under the leadership of Mr. Chas. Bryant, principal of South High School, authority on plant life and rock formation.

After a picnic lunch in the Boy Scout Lodge, the minutes of the April meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer's report showed a balance of \$441.14.

Letters from the Girl Scouts and the American Red Cross were read.

There being no further old business the gavel was turned over to the new president, Mrs. Lee Kanaga. Mrs. Kanaga announced the State Convention being held in Toledo May 12 to 15 and asked for an expression of opinions on the question of inviting the State Federation to hold the 1937 convention in Akron.

Miss Hoff moved that such an invitation be extended and if it be found that the 1937 convention had already been arranged for, to extend it for 1938. The motion was carried.

It was announced that the Art Institute lectures would be discontinued till next October.

Mrs. L. L. Kinsey, Conservation chairman and her committee, were responsible for the day's program.

She announced that five acres of land had been set aside at the County Home for the purpose of starting a County Nursery and Mr. J. A. Weyhant, superintendent of

Fig. 10. Meeting Minutes of the Akron and Summit County Federation of Women's Clubs on May 6, 1936,¹² describe planting a tulip tree in Federation Grove.

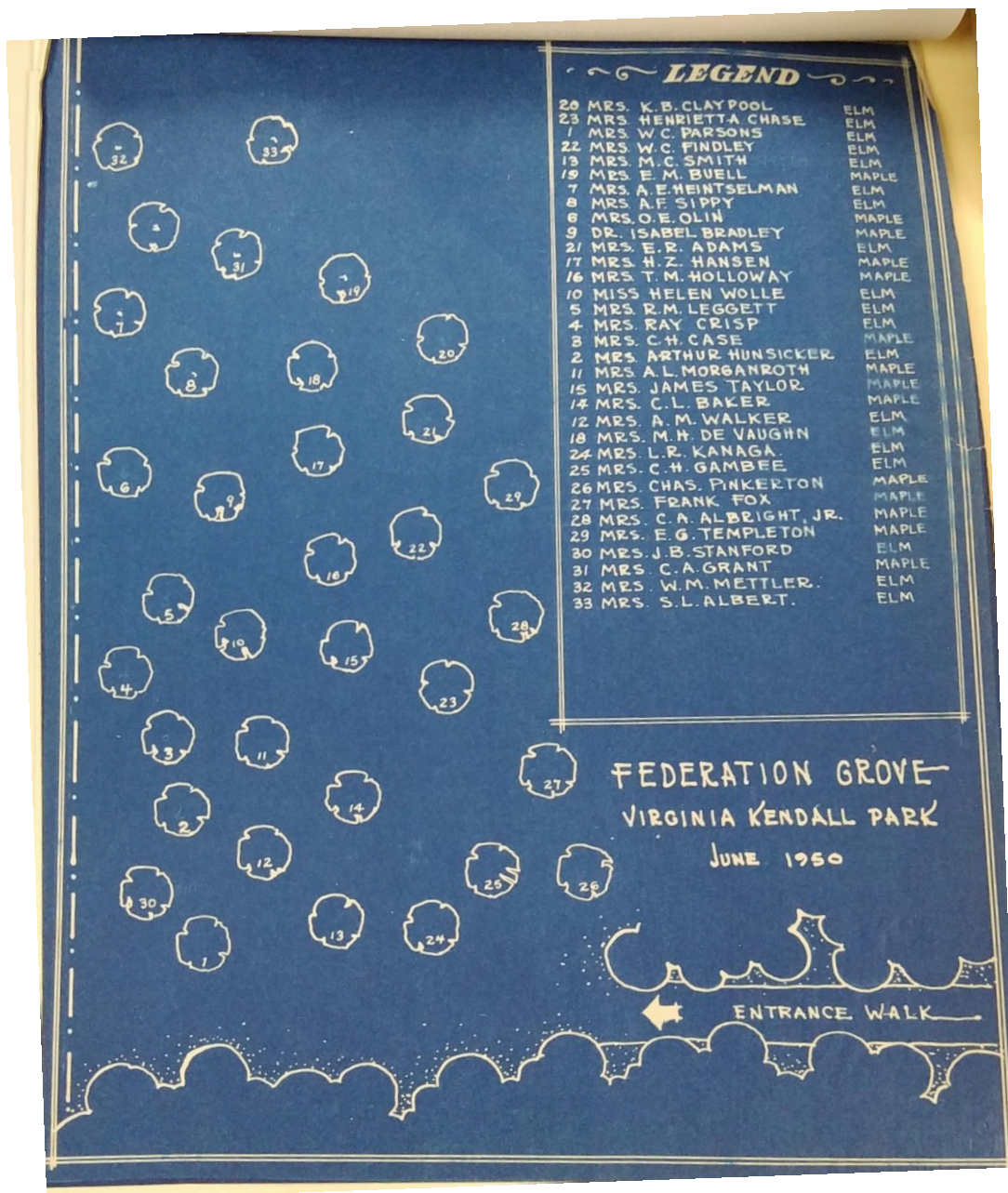


Fig. 11. Federation Grove blueprint, dated June 1950.²⁷

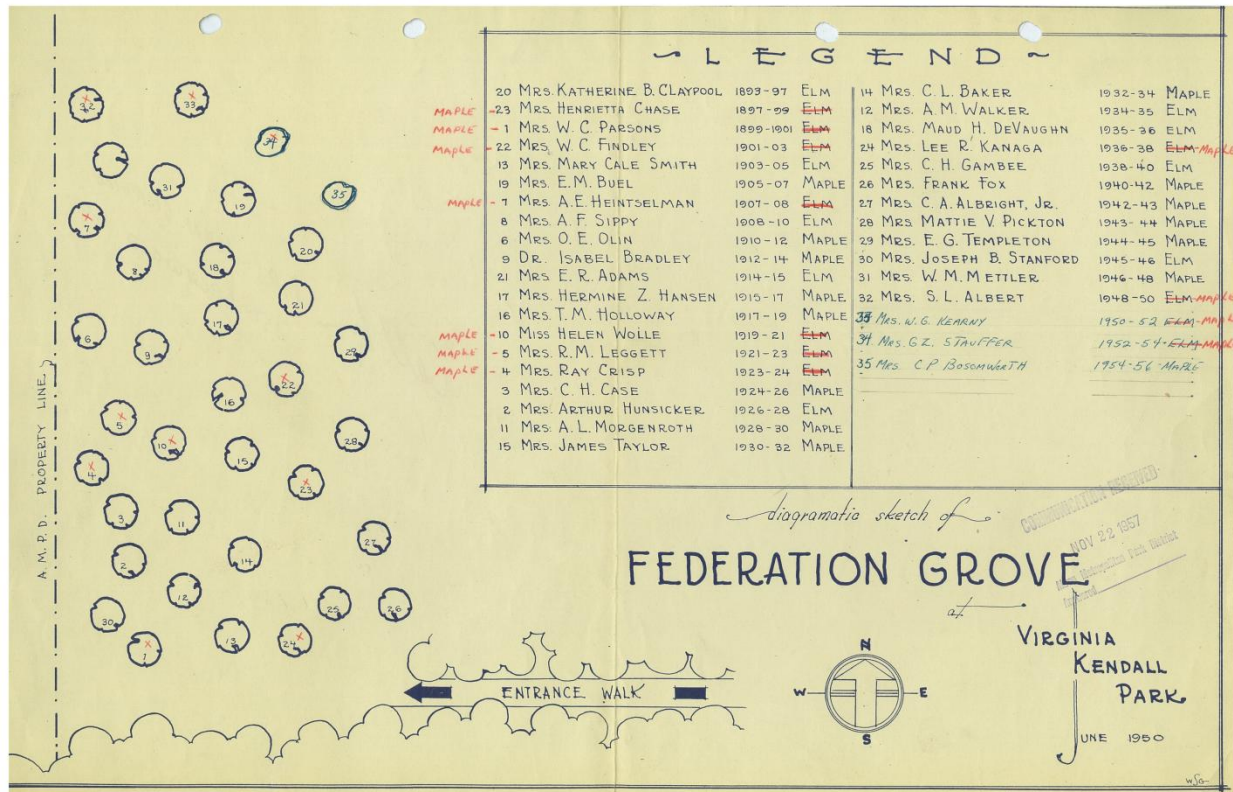


Fig. 12. Diagrammatic sketch of Federation Grove appears to document in handwritten red ink in the legend that eleven elm trees were replaced with maple trees. Although the version of this sketch is dated June 1950, there is a square blue stamp visible beneath the right side of the legend showing a date of receipt of November 22, 1957.³²



Fig. 13. Map of current day landscape shows the location and extent of Federation Grove, which is indicated by the starred pink area.

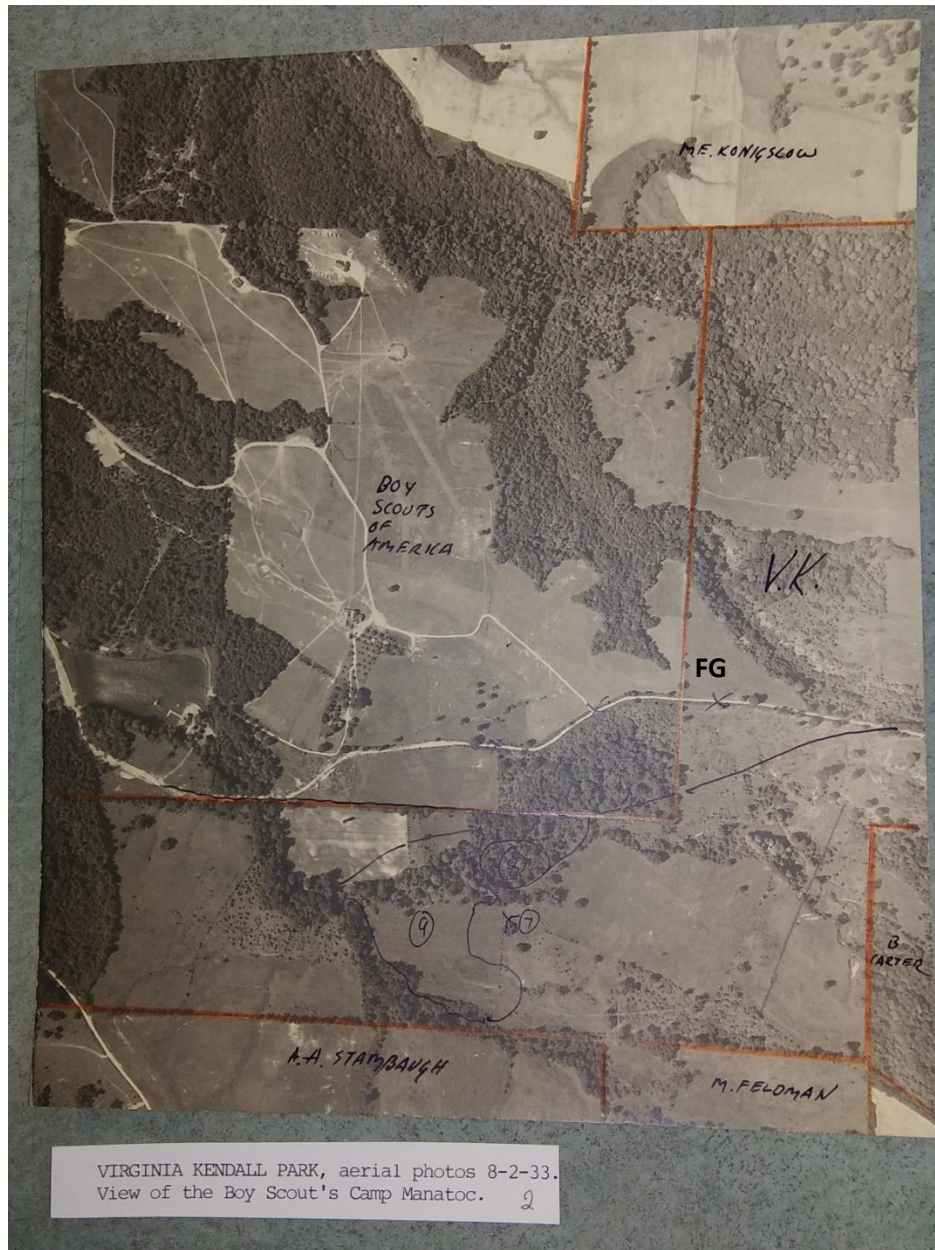


Fig. 14. Aerial survey photo of Boy Scouts Camp Manatoc and western section of Virginia Kendall State Park, taken on August 2, 1933.³⁴ Property lines in 1933 are shown in red. Federation Grove is designated as "FG". Note that this area is denuded of trees, except for three trees on the red property line between the grove location and the Boy Scouts Camp.

as well as Garden Clubs. Letters giving details will be mailed to clubs.

A new club just organized, the Garden Section of the Business Women's Club is giving a benefit bridge party April 26 & 27th at Business Women's Club, money to be used for buying shrubbery and plants to help with the beautification program. Co-operation was asked. Mrs. Jannet is in charge of the Tickets for the Forum.

From the Locator Committee came the announcement that the Forum will have a forest tree planting - it will be known as "Forum Forest" and tree planting will continue from year to year. It is located on Furnace Run in the Metropolitan area at Everett. Discussion followed. A vote was taken and it was decided to have the planting Sunday April 28th, at 3 o'clock. Mrs. Kingman urged that clubs have delegates present on this occasion.

Junior League is planting a tree at the Mary Day Nursery the last of this month. Fairlawn is planting 30 trees. Mrs. Kingman urged all clubs to plant trees.

Fig. 15. Akron and Summit County Garden Forum meeting minutes on April 11, 1935.³⁶
Highlighted area is about the Forum Forest tree planting to be held on April 28, 1935.



Fig. 16. Akron Beacon Journal article on April 12, 1935,³⁸ announces Akron Garden Forum tree planting to be held on April 28, 1935.

Head Of Ministerial Association Assists With Forum Tree Planting Ceremony

REV. E. R. BROWN, president of Akron Ministerial association and pastor of First Methodist Episcopal church, will assist with the Akron Garden forum forest planting which takes place in Furnace run of Metropolitan park Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock. The ceremony is open to the public. A bugler from Goodyear Heights scout troop will sound taps at the opening, after which Rev. Mr. Brown will deliver the invocation.

Mrs. J. W. Kingman, president of Akron Garden forum, will present the trees to H. W. Wagner of Metropolitan park board. Presidents of the 50 affiliated garden clubs will each turn a shovel of dirt as a part of the ceremony.

Main address will be given by Donald Gray of Cleveland, landscape architect.

Two wedding anniversaries were celebrated by the Burn's Cronies club Wednesday evening. The group honored Mr. and Mrs. John McNair who celebrated their 40th

anniversary, and Mr. and Mrs. H. Jones, Cole av., who have been married for 20 years. The affair took place at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Houston, 1349 Wilbur av., with 40 guests attending. The evening was spent informally with gifts presented by the club to the anniversary couples.

Saranac tribe, I. O. R. M. will hold a short business session Monday evening at 7 o'clock. A benefit bridge bingo party has been arranged for afterward to which the public is invited.

Fig. 17. Further details announced on April 27, 1935, in Akron Beacon Journal for the Akron Garden Forum forest planting ceremony.³⁹

50 Groups To Aid In Tree Planting

Garden club members and officials, representing 50 clubs are to gather at Furnace Run in Metropolitan park district Sunday at 2 p. m. to share in a tree planting ceremony.

The event is part of the beautification campaign that has been carried on by the Akron and Summit County Garden Forum for several months.

Next week, the general committee under Mrs. L. L. Kinsey expects to begin the work of checking the accomplishments of the drive throughout the county. A complete report is to be prepared for submission to national headquarters of the "Cleanup and Beautification Campaign" in Washington.

Fig. 18. Fifty garden clubs to be represented at Furnace Run for the Akron Garden Forum forest planting ceremony in April 1935.⁴⁰

May 9, 1935.

The Akron + Summit County Garden Forum met in the Mayflower Hotel on Thurs, May 9, 1935 at 9:30 a. m.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Treasurer reported \$117.45 in the Treasury.

Mrs. Boudy of the Educational Committee reported 65 visits to the Center last month. She named the Hostess Clubs for the coming month and told of those donating money for books. A total of \$8.50 was given this month, \$50 of which was taken from the Forum Reserve Fund, to be used in the Circulating Library.

Mrs. Shusser wants the books that she loaned to the Center to be placed in the Circulating Library.

A series of Broadcasts is being given each Tuesday morning at 10:45 a. m. by the Board of Education on Station W. A. D. C.

Donald Gray's Garden Book will be on sale at the close of the meeting for 11 cents.

Mrs. S. N. Phillips of the Locater Committee told of the Forum Tree Planting on April 27 which was very impressive. There were 79 trees planted, one for each club and one for each Forum officer.

The second Tuesday of each month will be set aside for a pilgrimage of the gardens of the city. Several gardens to be

Fig. 19. Akron and Summit County Garden Forum meeting minutes on May 9, 1935.³⁶ Highlighted area describes the Forum Forest tree planting that was held on April 28, 1935. Note the meeting minutes have the wrong date for the tree planting ceremony.

Appendix A:
Past Presidents of Akron and Summit
County Federation of Women's Clubs
Honored in Federation Grove

Past Presidents	Years Served
Mrs. Katherine B. Claypool	1893-1897
Mrs. Henrietta Chase	1897-1899
Mrs. W. C. Parsons	1899-1901
Mrs. W. C. Findley	1901-1903
Mrs. Mary Cale Smith	1903-1905
Mrs. E. M. Buel	1905-1907
Mrs. A. E. Heintselman	1907-1908
Mrs. A. F. Sippy	1908-1910
Mrs. O. E. Olin	1910-1912
Dr. Isabel Bradley	1912-1914
Mrs. E. R. Adam	1914-1915
Mrs. Hermine Z. Hansen	1915-1917
Mrs. T. M. Holloway	1917-1919
Miss Helen Wolle	1919-1921
Mrs. R. M. Leggett	1921-1923
Mrs. Ray Crisp	1923-1924
Mrs. C. H. Case	1924-1926
Mrs. Arthur Hunsicker	1926-1928
Mrs. A. L. Morgenroth	1928-1930
Mrs. James Taylor	1930-1932
Mrs. C. L. Baker	1932-1934
Mrs. A. M. Walker	1934-1935
Mrs. Maud H. DeVaughn	1935-1936
Mrs. Lee R. Kanaga	1936-1938
Mrs. C. H. Gambee	1938-1940
Mrs. Frank Fox	1940-1942
Mrs. C. A. Albright, Jr.	1942-1943
Mrs. Mattie V. Pickton	1943-1944
Mrs. E. G. Templeton	1944-1945
Mrs. Joseph B. Stanford	1945-1946
Mrs. W. M. Mettler	1946-1948
Mrs. Sydney L. Albert	1948-1950
Mrs. W. G. Kearney	1950-1952
Mrs. George Z. Stauffer	1952-1954
Mrs. G. P. Bosomworth	1954-1955