

## About

This document contains important information about several playgrounds in Boston, including the name of the playground, the location, a brief description pulled from a website, and a link to the original image. This data was collected for Emily Mann's "Science of Play" class and is to be used as an example for how to build a [StoryMap](#). The [images](#) for the map are located in the "data" folder and pulled from various sites, which are credited in this document and the StoryMap.

## Sample StoryMap

Please find the sample StoryMap created for this course here:

<https://uploads.knightlab.com/storymaps/cb6cc275d5edffc5016e0757d6c37d3d/boston-playgrounds/index.html>

## Playground Information (Data for Map)

### **Statler Park**

243 Stuart St, Boston, MA 02116

Statler Park is a quarter acre park, situated in a triangle of land remaining from the criss-crossing of Columbus Avenue, Stuart Street, and Church Street in the Back Bay area of Boston.<sup>1</sup>

Link source:

Waymarking

<http://img.groundspeak.com/waymarking/display/e76d1cd5-6a08-42da-b144-5ecc2d781dfb.JPG>

### **Frieda Garcia Children's Park**

45 Stanhope St, Boston, MA 02116

Formerly an underutilized piece of land in the South End, client John Hancock tasked Halvorson Design with creating a found community space honoring neighborhood advocate, Frieda Garcia. Halvorson Design programmed two unique spaces within the site—a children's playground and a "brown bag" space—to accomplish John Hancock's goals and activate the oft-overlooked Stanhope Street.

The playground provides a safe, lively space for children of all ages and incorporates colorful mosaics inspired by South End children's drawings and designed by local artist, Lisa Houck.

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.waymarking.com/waymarks/WMGZWF\\_The\\_History\\_of\\_Statler\\_Park\\_Statler\\_Park\\_Boston\\_MA](http://www.waymarking.com/waymarks/WMGZWF_The_History_of_Statler_Park_Statler_Park_Boston_MA)

The brown bag space sits as a strong entry point on its western edge, drawing patrons from nearby cafes and restaurants to cross the street and linger.

In the years since it's opening, the park has successfully attracted retail spaces with a street-facing presence, and as a result, has activated Stanhope as a link between the South End and Back Bay neighborhoods.<sup>2</sup>

Link source:

Halvorson Design

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/550ae683e4b0714e2a52392c/55899d70e4b086631c87c235/55899da2e4b086631c87c3b8/1436883075223/FriedaGarciaPark+6.jpg?format=2500w>

### **Tiffany Moore Playground at Franklin Park Zoo**

1 Franklin Park Rd, Boston, MA 02121

When Franklin Park was built it lay well beyond Boston's populated center. Today it is an inviting open space amidst a city of over a half-million residents. The park, including the zoo and George Robert White Schoolboy Stadium, is currently 485 acres due to the construction of the Lemuel Shattuck Hospital in the 1950s.

Come visit the zoo, play a round of golf, picnic, perambulate, or play ball in Franklin Park's vast expanses of green.<sup>3</sup>

Link source:

Map of Play

[https://s3.amazonaws.com/playspacefinder.kaboom.org/photos/photos/000/070/783/large/0714-S321\\_FranklinPark\\_pg30.jpg?1389370029](https://s3.amazonaws.com/playspacefinder.kaboom.org/photos/photos/000/070/783/large/0714-S321_FranklinPark_pg30.jpg?1389370029)

### **Marcella Playground**

260 Highland St, Roxbury, MA 02119

Marcella playground located in Roxbury, MA is a \$1.8 M comprehensive renovation of a park surrounded by good housing density. Since the redesign of the park, all aspects of the park has been very well-used as observed during some site visits. Warner Larson facilitated several meetings involving all age groups in the community including a meeting at the park with the children and their parents for selection of the play type and equipment. The full renovation consisted of walking paths, new playground with splash pad, play structures for 2-5 and 5-12 year olds, performance stage, passive picnic areas, basketball and tennis courts, complete with a full sized baseball field and sports lighting thereby increasing the fields usage.<sup>4</sup>

Link source:

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.halvorsondesign.com/frieda-garcia-park>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.boston.gov/parks/franklin-park>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.warnerlarson.com/project/marcella-playground/>

City of Boston

[https://www.boston.gov/sites/default/files/marcella\\_park\\_of\\_roxbury.jpg](https://www.boston.gov/sites/default/files/marcella_park_of_roxbury.jpg)

### **Tadpole Playground**

131 Tremont St, Boston, MA 02111

The Boston Common Frog Pond sits at the heart of Boston Common, the oldest and most treasured public park in the United States. With a winter ice skating rink and learn to skate school, a reflecting pool in the spring and fall, and a summer spray pool and children's carousel, there are always fun and exciting activities for all to enjoy.

Join in the fun at one of the year-round Frog Pond events or stop by to enjoy the scenery, Wicked Free Wi-Fi and something delicious from the café.<sup>5</sup>

Link source:

Yelp, Kristine D.

<https://s3-media1.fl.yelpcdn.com/bphoto/rHGupqtmEOFWD4qXJZ3c3g/348s.jpg>

### **Arnold Arboretum**

Arborway, Jamaica Plain, Boston, MA 02130

The Arnold Arboretum serves humanity as a premier destination for deepening understanding and appreciation of the plant kingdom. The Horticultural Library contributes significantly to this mission, stewarding a research collection of some 25,000 volumes on botany, horticulture, urban forestry, and more. The Library also houses the Arnold Arboretum Archives, which preserves and shares the Arboretum's history, its critical role in plant exploration around the world, and some 40,000 photographs. One of Harvard's only libraries to be open to the public, you may visit Monday through Friday, though many resources including title listings, archival and contemporary photographs, and the complete run of our journal *Arnoldia* are freely accessible online.<sup>6</sup>

Link source:

Mommy Poppins

[https://static.mommypoppins.com/styles/image300x250/s3/tree\\_edit.jpg](https://static.mommypoppins.com/styles/image300x250/s3/tree_edit.jpg)

### **McLaughlin Playground**

239 Parker Hill Ave, Boston, MA 02120

Parker Hilltop Urban Wild is bordered by Parker Hill Avenue to the north, Fisher Avenue to the south, the New England Baptist Hospital (formerly Robert E. Brigham Hospital for Incurables) to the west, and McLaughlin Playground to the east. As a result of natural succession and limited maintenance resources, the open meadow at this site is transitioning into a woodlot. To the

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<sup>5</sup> <https://bostonfrogpond.com/>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.arboretum.harvard.edu/>

south of this site is a wooded orchard managed primarily by Earthworks Projects. Cement footpaths weave through the orchard allowing easy access for pedestrians and non-motorized vehicles. Parker Hilltop provides spectacular views of the city, ocean, and hills beyond. Neighbors can often be found sitting or playing frisbee in the grassy area below this site.<sup>7</sup>

Link source:

Walk Score

[https://pp2.walk.sc/t342/production/77201\\_mission\\_hill\\_playground\\_boston.jpg](https://pp2.walk.sc/t342/production/77201_mission_hill_playground_boston.jpg)

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<sup>7</sup> <https://www.boston.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation/urban-wilds-mission-hill#parker-hilltop-mclaughlin-woodlands>