

Mad About Parks: The Past, Present & Future of Madison's Parks

Madison has a beautiful selection of city parks which incorporate charm and natural beauty into the surrounding area. Here we will examine the improvements being made to several parks, while also learn about how these parks came into being

Tenney park

Tenney park is slated for a new playground and an upgraded hockey rink for the winter. The lagoon, meanwhile, is scheduled to be scrubbed out, like many parks around Madison.



New Field, Vendors, etc



In a stunning series of renovations, which the city has committed \$1.3M to, Breese Stevens has had improved seating, a new field and space for food carts & vendors. This has helped the city attract major performing artists as well as pro ultimate and soccer clubs

New Shelter & Courts



Among the changes James Madison park is undergoing are a new park shelter and volleyball courts moved next to the basketball courts.

James Madison Park occupies an historic site, where Wisconsin Territory Governor James Doty first plotted out Madison's urban development and proposed a canal be dug to unite Lakes Mendota and Monona. While it has gone by various names over the years, it officially became James Madison Park in the 1950s.

Boathouse

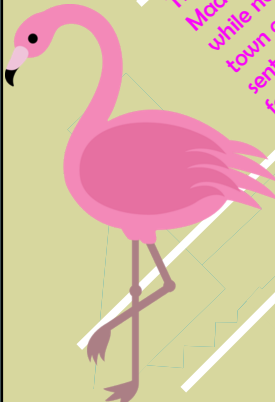


A proposal is in play for a new boathouse at Law Park, a la Frank Lloyd Wright's (now demolished) boathouse where the UW Crew team used to house its boats. Another new feature is a land bridge to connect the park to the blocks west of John Nolen dr.



Legend

- Major Streets
- Parks & Natural Areas
- Landmarks
- New Developments
- Park Icons:
 - Sports Venue
 - Park Shelter
 - Playground
 - Skating Area
 - Boat Rental



The (plastic) flamingo is Madison's City Bird and, while not native to Madison or Wisconsin, represents the city's silly and forward thinking attitude

Brittingham Park has been a favorite boating & picnicing destination in Madison since 1904. Thomas Brittingham donated \$7500 for the construction of a public bath house.

Source Data:
"The Rise of Capital East": <https://madison.com/the-rise-of-capitol-east>;
"Brittingham Park History": <http://www.cityofmadison.com/parks/find-a-park/history.cfm?id=1139>
"Wright again": https://madison.com/ct/entertainment/city_life/wright-again-many-frank-lloyd-wright-designs-for-madison-were