

1993 Project Abstract

Abstract for the period ending June 30, 1995. This project was supported by the Natural Resources Trust Fund.

Title: Acquisition of Palace Restaurant Site on the Mississippi River

Program Manager: Albert D. Whitman
Organization: Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board
Legal Citation: ML 93, Capt. 172, Sec. 14, Subbed. 10 (k)
\$325,000

Statement of Objectives

Acquire and clear Palace Restaurant Site for future open space.

Results:

The former Palace Restaurant site is located at Lowry Avenue and Marshall Street NE on the easterly bank of the Mississippi River in the City of Minneapolis. It has been acquired in fee by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board. The site was vacant of buildings when acquired, but the bituminous parking lots which covered most of the site remained along with assorted debris. The site has been cleared of the bituminous and miscellaneous debris, graded and seeded. It has been protected from parking use by placement of posts and chains at strategic locations.

Project Results - Use and Dissemination:

This project now gives a valuable "window to the river" in Minneapolis. It is very important to the city and the immediate neighborhood. The immediate neighborhood has already committed some of its NRP funds for additional restoration of the bank and shore. It will be developed as a river oriented park in the future when funds become available.

I. Project Title Acquisition of Palace Restaurant Site on Mississippi River

Program Manager: Albert D. Wittman
 Agency Affiliation: Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board
 Address: 200 Grain Exchange
 400 South Fourth Street
 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415
 Phone: (612) 661-4822

A. Legal Citation ML 93 Chpt. 172, Sec. 14, Subd. 10(k)

Total LCMR Budget \$325,000
 Balance -0-

Appropriation language

(y) R oth -LP- 13 ACQUISITION OF PALACE RESTAURANT SITE ON MISSISSIPPI RIVER

This appropriation is from the Trust Fund to the Commissioner of Natural Resources for a contract with the Metropolitan Council for a sub-grant to the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board to acquire the Palace Restaurant property located on the east bank of the Mississippi for open space and recreational opportunities. This appropriation is contingent on this facility being designated part of the Metropolitan Regional Park and Open Space System.

B. LMIC Compatible Data Language

N.A.

C. Status of Match Requirement

N.A.

II. Narrative

Acquire the Palace Restaurant property located on the east bank of the Mississippi. Will provide future open space and recreational opportunities, including connections with local, regional, and national park systems.

III. Statement of Objectives

Acquire and clear Palace Restaurant site for future open space.

IV. Objectives

Acquire the Palace Restaurant site.

A. Title of Objective

Acquire the Palace Restaurant site

1. Narrative:

The Palace Restaurant site, which is now open land, is to be acquired by purchase or contract for deed from the present owner which is Norwest Bank.

2. Procedure:

An independent appraisal and environmental audit will be made. Negotiations will be conducted with the present owner for acquisition.

3. Acquisition:

Site clearance and safety and environmental protection	\$280,000
	<u>45,000</u>
	\$325,000

4. Timeline July 93 1/94 6/94 1/95 6/95

	x				
Acquisition - Completed					
Clearance, etc.		x-----x			

5. Status

a. The site was designated by Metropolitan Council as part of the Regional system on July 8, 1993

b. Acquisition has been completed in the amount of \$280,000

c. Clearance, site safety & environmental protection; removal of debris and other miscellaneous material have been completed in the amount of \$45,000

Rough grading and seeding.

Protection of site from cars and trucks.

Erosion protection of slope and shoreline by cleaning of shoreline, fill of eroded areas, and new vegetation.

To be completed ~~summer and fall of 1994, with any residual work~~ to be completed in spring of 1995.

Clearance and protection work to be in accordance with the Metropolitan Council's guidelines for stewardship of acquired but undeveloped land.

6. Benefits: The acquisition would provide open space and river access to a densely populated urban area, while stabilizing property values and improving the quality of life of the adjacent neighborhood.

V. Evaluation

The project will be evaluated through a long-range plan for the Upper River to be conducted by the Park and Recreation Board and continued neighborhood planning.

VI. Context

This project is in keeping with the City's long-term objective of establishing "windows" to the river. Other "windows" are Marshall-Terrace Park, recently improved with City funds; and the site of the former Gluek Brewery, acquired with City money and improved with LAWCON and City money; and the Grain Belt Brewery site, acquired with City money, with shoreline development to be with LCMR money.

VII. Qualifications

1. Program Manager - Albert D. Wittman,
Assistant Superintendent for Planning
Professional Engineer - B. Architectural Engineering; M.S. City Planning
2. NA

VIII. Reporting Requirements:

Semi-annual status reports will be submitted not later than January 1, 1994, July 1, 1994, January 1, 1995, and a final status report by June 30, 1995.