

FROM A PUBLICATION OF DECEMBER 1994—

The FREDERICK LAW OLMSTED SOCIETY of RIVERSIDE, ILLINOIS and the
RIVERSIDE PUBLIC LIBRARY PRESENT

A COLLECTION of BOOKS and OTHER MATERIALS DEDICATED to the
MEMORY of FREDERICK LAW OLMSTED and HIS LEGACY, THROUGH HIS
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE and HIS COMMUNITY DESIGN



The Frederick Law Olmsted Society
of Riverside Illinois

P. O. Box 65

Riverside, IL 60546

www.olmstedsociety.org

Riverside Public Library

1 Burling Road

Riverside, IL 60546

708-442-6366

www.riversidelibrary.org

The Frederick Law Olmsted Collection



At The Riverside Public Library

From the portrait by John Singer Sargent reproduced here by courtesy of the
Biltmore Estate in North Carolina.

To the design of Riverside by Olmsted and Vaux (c 1869) our Landmark Village
owes its unique beauty and amenities.

Olmsted Collection at Riverside Library

The Frederick Law Olmsted Society of Riverside in an Agreement with the Riverside Public Library has established a memorial to Frederick Law Olmsted, America's greatest landscape architect and the designer of the Village of Riverside. Riverside, certified as a National Historic Landscape District and designated a National Historic Landmark in 1970, is known internationally as the first example of a planned residential community. The memorial, a permanent collection of books and materials relevant to Olmsted and his works, was donated by the Frederick Law Olmsted Society to the Riverside Public Library.

The Olmsted collection, which is open to the public, includes the prominent display of a color portrait of Frederick Law Olmsted.

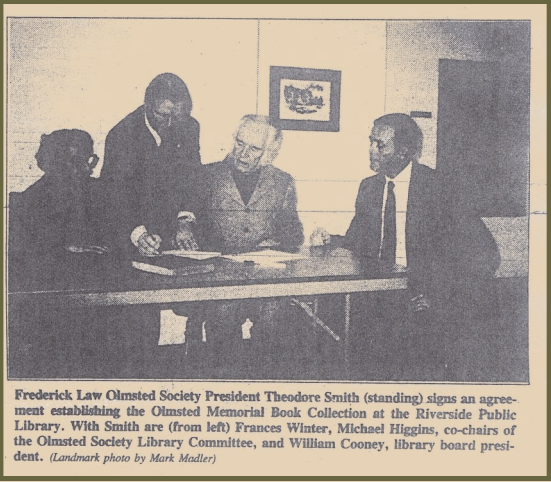
The collection has books on F.L. Olmsted himself, his associates, his writings, works and biography, landscape architecture and its history, famous landscapes and parks, as well as the people who influenced American landscape design. Also included is Riverside history, development and architecture as it relates to the landscaping, planning and design of Riverside and communities like it. Even the names of Riverside's streets are subjects for the collection since many were named for people who influenced Olmsted and his landscaping philosophy.

THE LANDMARK

RIVERSIDE, ILLINOIS

DECEMBER 17, 1988

VOLUME IV NO.24



Frederick Law Olmsted Society President Theodore Smith (standing) signs an agreement establishing the Olmsted Memorial Book Collection at the Riverside Public Library. With Smith are (from left) Frances Winter, Michael Higgins, co-chairs of the Olmsted Society Library Committee, and William Cooney, library board president. (Landmark photo by Mark Madler)

Library accepts Olmsted collection

By Mark Madler

Three years of negotiations between the boards of the Riverside Public Library and the Frederick Law Olmsted Society came to a close this past Tuesday evening, as an agreement creating the Olmsted Memorial Collection was signed.

Signing the document during a short ceremony before the Dec. 13 library board meeting were Olmsted Society president Theodore Smith, library board president William Cooney, the co-chairs of the Olmsted Society's Library Committee Michael Higgins and Frances Winter, and library secretary Dennis Kowalewski.

The collection of over 200 books, focusing on Olmsted, his writings, and landscape architecture, will be kept in a separate room on the third library's lower level.

"This is a lovely place," Smith said of the room. "It's really central, compared to being hidden down in a corner."

There will be table with chairs to allow studying to be done in the room.

According to head librarian Julia Faust, the books now in possession by the Olmsted Society will be brought to the library during the next few weeks.

The books will be processed and catalogued as time becomes available to the library staff, Faust said.

Higgins, who has been working on getting the collection into the library for the three years, explained its purpose:

"The idea was to dignify Riverside, to have something more to show visitors and students who come to see Riverside from all over; and allow our own residents to educate themselves."

Before the signing, Smith presented to the library a six volume set of books by Michaux and Nuttall that will become part of the memorial collection.

Reproduced on microfilm and available for reading and viewing is the complete collection of Olmsted's letters and writings. The Olmsted collection is located in the southwest corner of the main floor of the Riverside Public Library and has its own special study area.

There is a microfilm viewer available. Library staff are nearby to assist you, as there are first edition books and other valuable titles available for reference only.

Most materials are available for circulation with a local or RAILS library card.

The Olmsted area is open during regular library hours.