



The City in a Garden: A Photographic History of Chicago's Parks (Center for American Places - Center Books on Chicago and Environs)

By Julia Sniderman Bachrach

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Most people, specialists or not, typically think of New York City or Boston when considering the early development of parks and open spaces in American cities. Despite the size and importance of the Chicago park system, its history is less well known—even to many of those Chicagoans who regularly enjoy its facilities.

City in a Garden, developed in association with the Chicago Park District itself, changes that: its 184 large—format pages, packed with 140 images and a closely integrated text, provide the first official documentary chronicle of Chicago's parks. Thirty-one of the city's finest spaces are profiled, using photographs—both contemporary and historical—along with detailed vignettes and captions to trace their development. The visual treat of the book's fine-art duotones combines with its emphasis on narrative history to create a rich and magnificent exploration of a city's most beautiful sites.

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Editorial Review

Review

“An impressive new photographic history written by Julia Sniderman Bachrach. . . . The author opens with an inspiring historical essay, followed by profiles of 22 of Chicago’s 555 (!) parks. The profiles describe the social, political, and design history of each park, documenting the influence of politicians, patrons, landscape architects, and architects who were responsible for their initial creation or later improvements. . . . Well-written and beautifully illustrated.”--Scott Mehaffey, *Landscape Architecture*
(Scott Mehaffey *Landscape Architecture*)

“*City in a Garden* traces the story from the early 1800s when officials believed in keeping lakefront property open, to revolutionary parks emerging on the South Side, through the years when Grant Park served as a dumping ground for garbage and squatters’ shacks, to the late 1800s when A. Montgomery Ward fought to keep Chicago’s lakefront forever open, clear, and free. By 1934, Chicago had 22 independent park districts, all of them poor because of the Depression. In World War II, parks and recreation staff received Red Cross training. After the war, a period of park expansion set in. During the 1960s and ‘70s, recreation became the focus. In the early 1980s, the Park District was sued over inequitable distribution of resources and settled with a consent decree.”--Friends of the Park

(Friends of the Park)

“A lovely chronicle.”--*Chicago Magazine*
(Chicago Magazine)

“*The City in a Gardern* is a beautifully produced book with historical and contemporary photography that can only be classified as fine art. The historical information is fascinating. . . . This is an appropriate gift book for anyone interested in Chicago history or landscape design.”--Ann Kepler, *Midwest Engineer*
(Ann Kepler *Midwest Engineer*)

From the Inside Flap

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About the Author

Julia Sniderman Bachrach serves as a historian for the Chicago Park District.

Bill Kurtis, author of *Bill Kurtis on Assignment*, has worked as a journalist, a television news anchor, and the host of A&E Network series such as *American Justice* and *The New Explorers*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Keith McLeod:

A lot of people always spent all their free time to vacation or maybe go to the outside with them family or their friend. Were you aware? Many a lot of people spent many people free time just watching TV, or even playing video games all day long. In order to try to find a new activity that is look different you can read any book. It is really fun in your case. If you enjoy the book that you read you can spent the whole day to reading a book. The book *The City in a Garden: A Photographic History of Chicago's Parks* (Center for American Places - Center Books on Chicago and Environs) it is very good to read. There are a lot of those who recommended this book. They were enjoying reading this book. In the event you did not have enough space to develop this book you can buy the actual e-book. You can more simply to read this book from your smart phone. The price is not to fund but this book has high quality.

Mia Shaw:

The City in a Garden: A Photographic History of Chicago's Parks (Center for American Places - Center Books on Chicago and Environs) can be one of your beginner books that are good idea. We all recommend that straight away because this e-book has good vocabulary that may increase your knowledge in terminology, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nevertheless delivering the information. The copy writer giving his/her effort to put every word into joy arrangement in writing *The City in a Garden: A Photographic History of Chicago's Parks* (Center for American Places - Center Books on Chicago and Environs) although doesn't forget the main position, giving the reader the hottest and also based confirm resource details that maybe you can be among it. This great information can drawn you into new stage of crucial imagining.

Marvin Ober:

Many people spending their time period by playing outside along with friends, fun activity along with family or just watching TV the whole day. You can have new activity to shell out your whole day by reading a book. Ugh, do you consider reading a book really can hard because you have to bring the book everywhere? It ok you can have the e-book, getting everywhere you want in your Smart phone. Like *The City in a Garden: A Photographic History of Chicago's Parks* (Center for American Places - Center Books on Chicago and Environs) which is finding the e-book version. So , why not try out this book? Let's see.

Lisa Gregory:

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