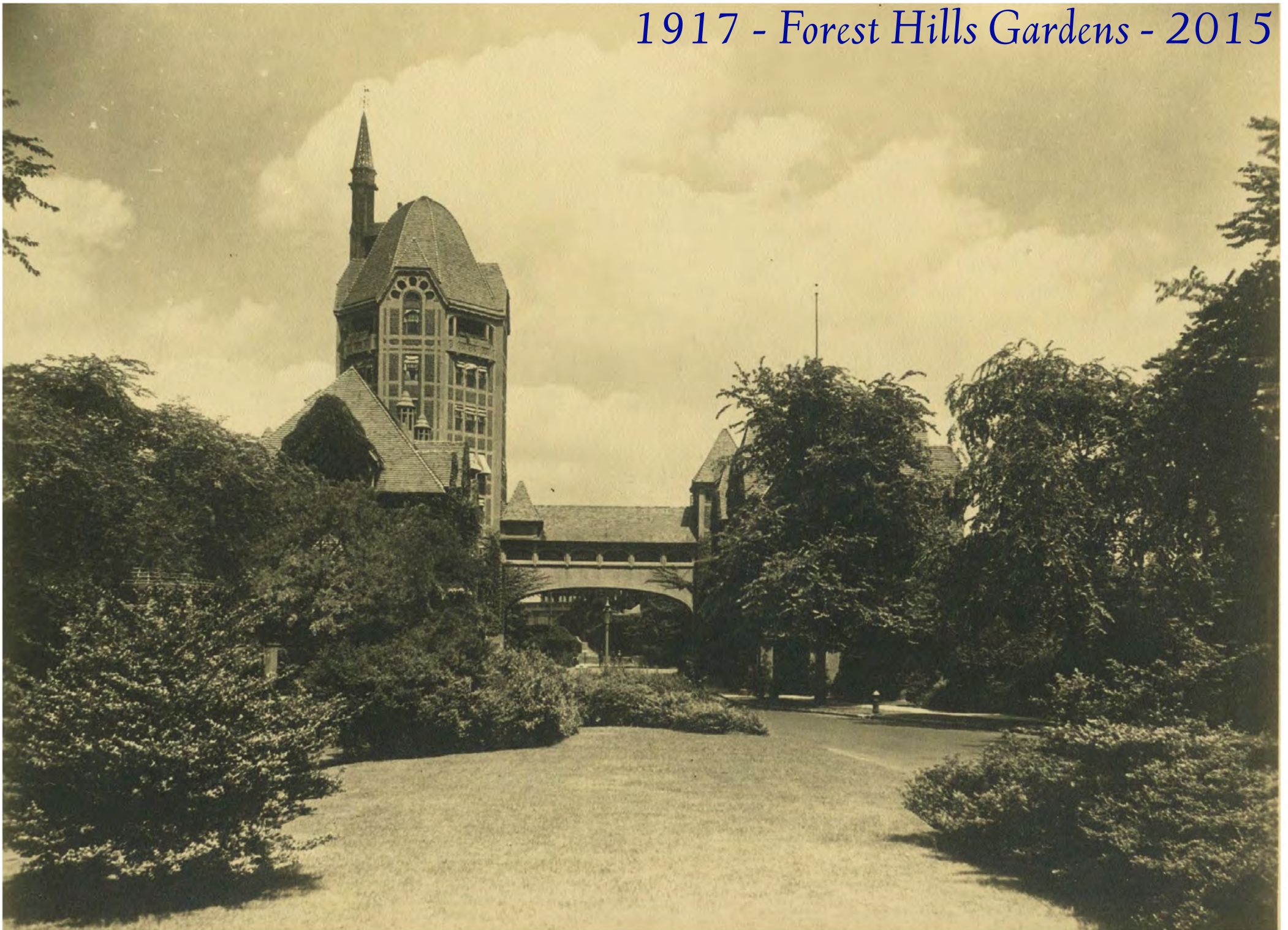


*1917 - Forest Hills Gardens - 2015*





# Forest Hills Gardens, 1917

William E. Coleman, president of the Hills Gardens Taxpayers Association

As part of its mission to serve in the preservation of and education about Forest Hills and Forest Hills Gardens, the Taxpayers Association has developed this 2015 calendar for residents and friends. The calendar is illustrated with a series of 18 photographs of Station Square and of Gardens parks, homes, and landscaping that were taken in 1917. (Use of the photographs, reproduced from an album in the Gardens Corporation archives, is gratefully acknowledged.)

The 98 year old photographs illustrate an important time in the history of Forest Hills Gardens. The bi-weekly *Forest Hills Gardens Bulletin*, which the Sage Foundation Homes Company had been publishing since September 1915, provided residents with local news and events and photographs of newly constructed homes. The focus of community concern was profoundly altered during the first week of April 1917, however, when the United States, joining the Allied Powers, declared war against Germany. During the rest of 1917 and until the armistice was declared on November 11 of the following year, the war in Europe became the constant concern of Gardens residents.

By early May, the *Bulletin* reported that two rifle companies of 150 men had formed and were drilling in fields along Queens Boulevard. Later in the month, the Church-in-the-Gardens sponsored a Navy-Night, with proceeds going towards “mufflers and wristlets knit by members of the Women’s Guild and others for Uncle Sam’s jackies.” The June 2nd *Gardens Bulletin* announced that on Tuesday, June 5th, registration for the “selective draft” would be at P.S. 101 from 7 a.m. until 9 p.m., “between which hours all men between the ages of 21 and 31, with no exceptions, are required to register”. The July 4th celebration, with a marching band, rifle-companies and the dedication of the flagpole on the Green, was an important community affair. But the major event of the day was the appearance of Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, who spoke in Station Square. As the *Bulletin* noted, the former president was “cheered by the thousands crowding around him, as he eloquently pleaded for whole-hearted allegiance to the America of Washington and Lincoln.” Another important Gardens event later in 1917 was “Rainbow Night”, on September 29th, when 1200 soldiers-in-training arrived by train from Camp Mills, Mineola and were welcomed for dinner in 300 Forest Hills homes.

But while the war in Europe was raging, Forest Hills continued to evolve as a community. Beginning with home of Eugene Schoen on Olive Place and ending with that of Guyon L. C. Earle on Greenway South, the *Bulletin* in 1917 published photographs of 22 new residences. The Gardens Players staged several performances in 1917, the Gardens Club flourished, and the Taxpayers Association sponsored a series of monthly lectures for Gardens residents. And sometime during that same year, an unknown photographer produced a splendid portfolio of some 30 views of Forest Hills Gardens.

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Note: This introduction is composed in Deepdene typeface, designed by the typographer and publisher, Frederic W. Goudy, to memorialize the decade (1913-1923) when his Village Press was located at 40 Deepdene Road, Forest Hills Gardens.

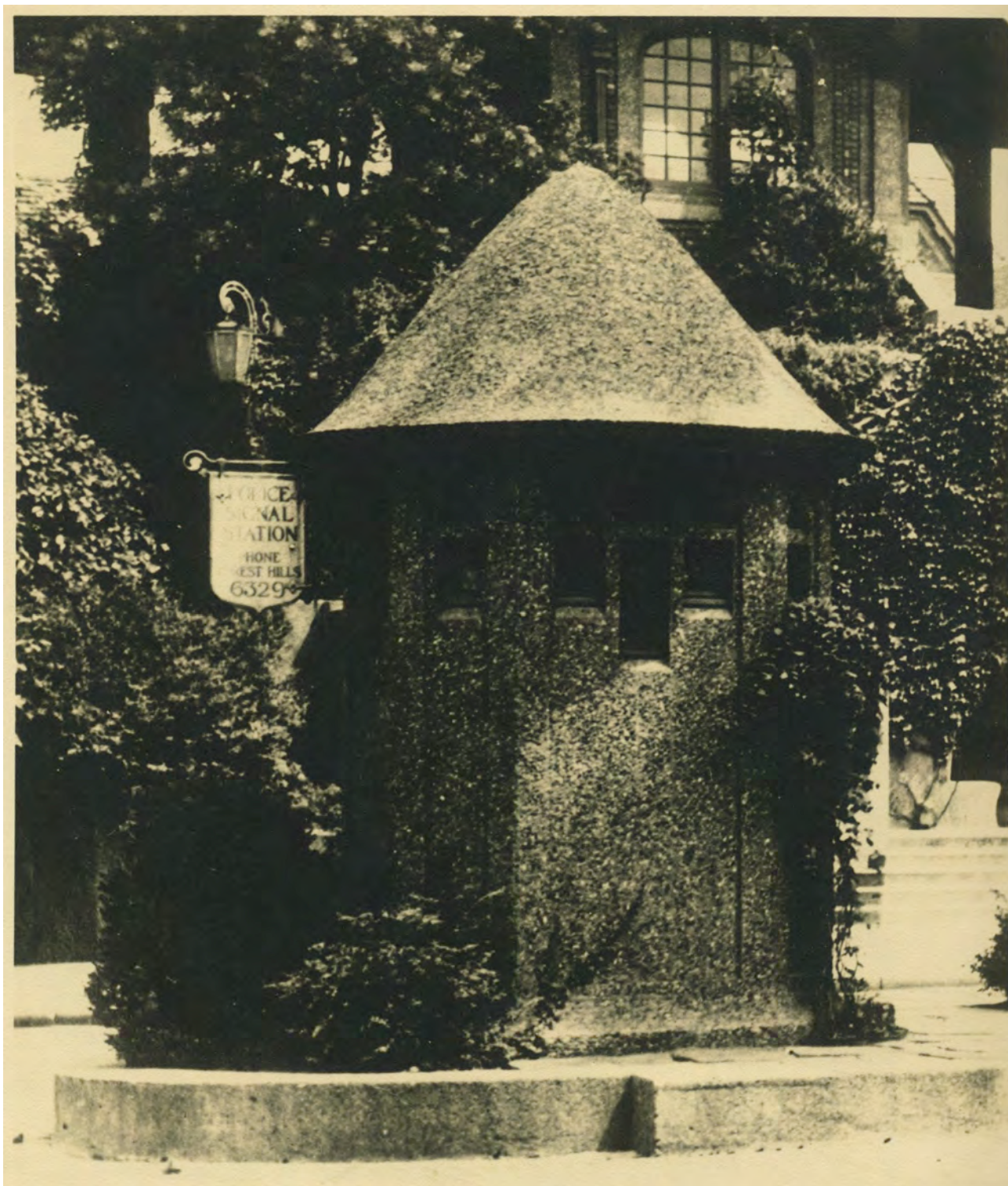


**Station Square: panorama**

The eminent architectural historian Robert A. M. Stern has called Station Square, “one of the finest public spaces in America.” The railroad station, the Forest Hills Inn, and the stores and apartments in the Square were designed by Grosvenor Atterbury and constructed c. 1910, while the Olmsted Brothers did the plantings.

# JANUARY 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				New Year's Day 1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 Martin Luther King Day	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



### **Station Square: Police Booth**

Grosvenor Atterbury's original design for Station Square provided for a fountain set in a small traffic island in the center of the Square. About 1916, the island was extended, two kiosks were added, and the fountain was converted into a planter. Because the nearest police station at the time was in Elmhurst, the kiosk nearest Continental Avenue, pictured here, served as an outpost and call-in station.

# FEBRUARY 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 Lincoln's Birthday	13	14 Valentine's Day
15	16 Presidents' Day	17	18 Ash Wednesday	19 Chinese New Year	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28



### **Olivia Park**

Olivia Park is one of four locations in Forest Hills Gardens whose name honors Margaret Olivia Slocum Sage, the philanthropist whose wealth funded the creation of our model community. (The other three places are Slocum Crescent, Standish Road, named for her eminent ancestor Myles Standish, and Russell Place, named for her husband Russell Sage.) The park is a kettle hole, that is, a depression formed 14,000 years ago, when a piece of ice broke away from the retreating glacier that formed Forest Hills, excavating the hollow that was subsequently named to honor our founding benefactor.





# MARCH 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				
Palm Sunday						

Purim

Daylight Savings Time  
begins at 2 a.m.

Palm Sunday

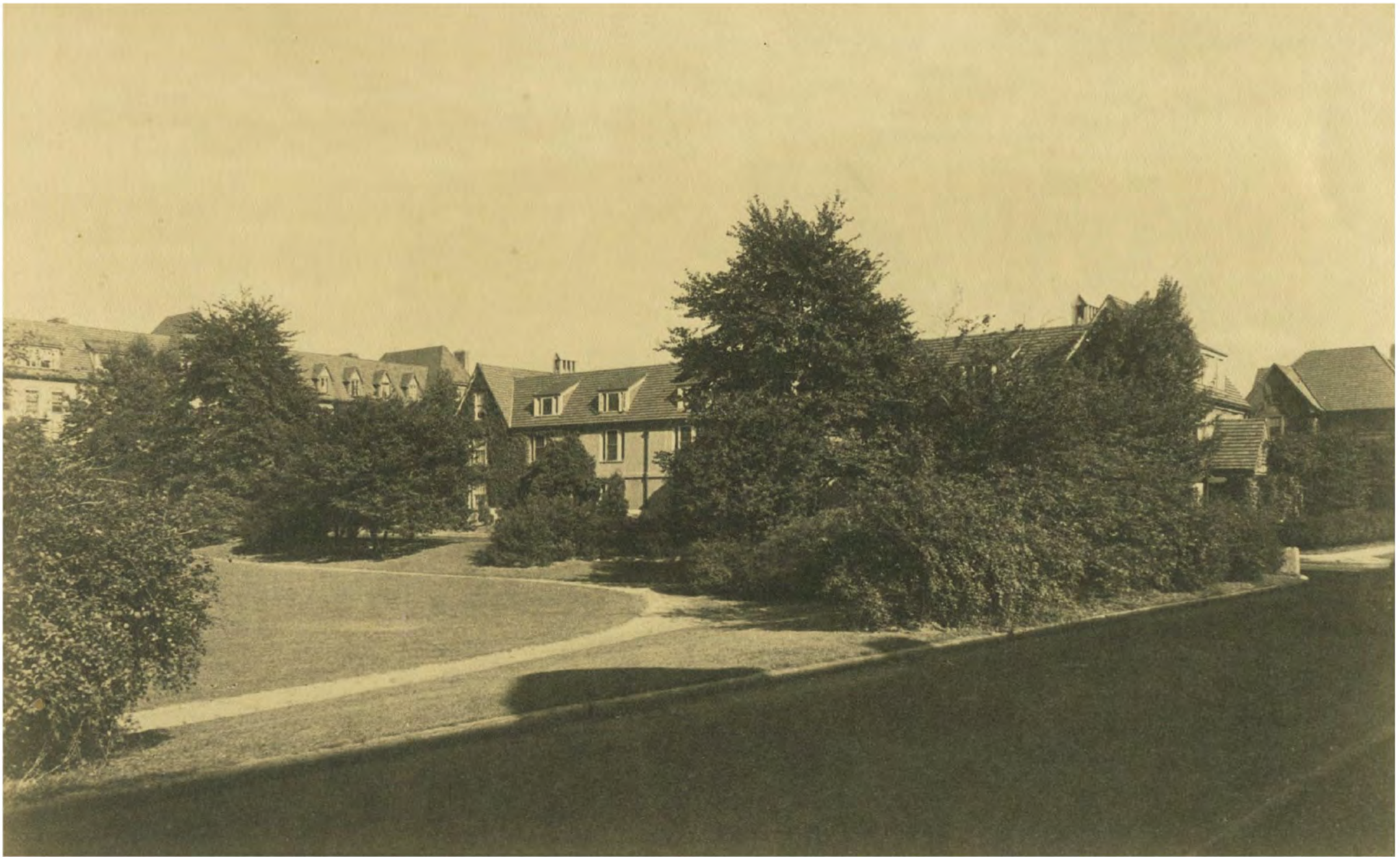


### **Slocum Crescent**

One of the earliest rows of houses constructed in Forest Hills Gardens, the Slocum Crescent group illustrates a principle of community planning characteristic of Forest Hills Gardens. Instead of clustering row houses just in the streets surrounding Station Square, Grosvenor Atterbury designed housing rows in streets throughout the Gardens: at the upper end of Beechknoll Road, on Ingram Street, Summer Street, and towards the end of Puritan Avenue. As a result, the Gardens has evolved with each section containing a mixture of housing types.

# APRIL 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Passover (first day)	2	3 Good Friday	4
5 Easter Sunday	6	7	8	9	10	11 Last day of Passover
12	13	14	15 Tax Day	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		



### **Hawthorne Park**

The photograph pictures a place where residents in one of the more densely populated parts of the Gardens could enjoy rest, sunlight, and gardens. A few generations ago, however, the park was largely used as a ball field. The remedy -- the planting of a number of large trees and, in the 1980s, the installation of cement walkways -- did little to solve the problem. A plan is being considered to restore Hawthorne Park to its original design.

# MAY 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Mother's Day						
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	Memorial Day					
31						



*Olive Place*

### **Olive Place**

With its curbsless sidewalks, its garden-in-the-middle-of-the-road (aka the Olive Pit), and its half-hidden shortcut from Slocum Crescent to Groton Street, Olive Place is one of the more interesting streets in the Gardens.

# JUNE 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
				Ramadan (first day)		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Father's Day						
28	29	30				



### **Tea Garden**

One of the amenities of Forest Hills Gardens during the golden years of the Forest Hills Inn, the Tea Garden has become largely a memory for the elder citizens of our community. Hopeful rumors regularly circulate, however, suggesting the imminent rehabilitation of the storage yard and its resurrection as the Tea Garden.



# JULY 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 Independence Day
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



**Overhill Road / Greenway North**

The Forest Hills Gardens Bulletin (April 22, 1916) described the home on the other side of Greenway North as “among the first detached houses designed for Forest Hills Gardens by Grosvenor Atterbury and John Almy Tompkins ... in collaboration with Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr.” In later years, the home was significantly enlarged.

# AUGUST 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



### Station Square

The photographs show two of the several streetlamps designed by Grosvenor Atterbury to decorate and to illuminate Station Square. The first is at Burns Street and the Square and the second at the intersection of Continental Avenue and Burns Street. Note that the passageway across Continental Avenue has not yet been constructed in this photo. In addition, the apartment house at 20 Continental Avenue has not been constructed. Before 20 Continental was built in 1931, the property was used for tennis in the warm months and for ice skating in the winter.

# SEPTEMBER 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Labor Day	8	9	10	11	12
13 Rosh Hashana (sundown)	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 Yom Kippur (sundown)	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			



### **Atterbury Lanterns, Station Square**

Two other lanterns designed by Grovenor Atterbury depict a dashing commuter, hurrying to catch his Long Island RailRoad train and a witch riding on a broomstick. Like the other Atterbury lanterns in Station Square, these are topped by birds: the first by what seems to be a crow and the second by a songbird.

# OCTOBER 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Columbus Day	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 Halloween



*Church-in-the-Gardens*

**The Church-in-the-Gardens**

A photograph of the Church-in-the-Gardens illustrates the month of November. Dedicated in October 1915, the church was a gift of Mrs. Russell Sage to the community.



# NOVEMBER 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Daylight Savings Time ends at 2 a.m.	2	3 Election Day	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 Veterans Day	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving	27	28
29	30					



**Station Square: Christmas  
Tree and Fireplace**

The December 29th, 1917 issue of the bi-weekly *Forest Hills Gardens Bulletin* reported that carols had been sung "...with this year the added feature of women's voices enhancing the beauty of a novel singing festival in Station Square. The Men's Chorus did its part as usual as ... their cavalcade wound its way through the curving streets of the Gardens, with Santa Claus strewing gifts among the children, while the chimes of Christmas blended with the singing to delight both old and young along the way."

# DECEMBER 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Hanukkah (first night)						
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
				Christmas Eve	Christmas Day	Kwanzaa (first day)
27	28	29	30	31		
				New Year's Eve		

# Gardens Gate

Continental Avenue / Harrow Street

