



The Emerald Necklace Conservancy

presents

“The Emerald Necklace: Restoring the Vision and Preserving the Olmsted Legacy”

A slide presentation on the history of Olmsted’s Emerald Necklace and efforts to preserve and protect this urban jewel.

The Emerald Necklace is one of our Commonwealth’s most significant treasures. Designed by **Frederick Law Olmsted**, long revered as **‘the father of landscape architecture’** the historic Emerald Necklace is a five-mile linear park system that wends its way from the Boston’s Back Bay Fens to Franklin Park in Dorchester, offering visitors over **1,000 acres of green and open space**, woodlands, wilderness and waterways, and unique structures along with a wealth and diversity of flora and fauna. Indeed, Olmsted himself – who also designed Central Park among other notable projects – considered the Emerald Necklace park system to be **his greatest achievement**.

Each of the six parks of the Olmsted-designed Necklace – the **Back Bay Fens, Riverway, Olmsted Park, Jamaica Park, Arnold Arboretum** and **Franklin Park** – has its own unique features and special landscape. By linking his park system to the already established parks of the Boston Common, Public Garden and Commonwealth Avenue Mall, Olmsted created a **“necklace”** of green space through the city. Guided by his democratic principles, he designed these parks as places for city dwellers of all economic means to come together to renew and refresh the spirit, away from the rigors of urban life.

Using **current and historic photographs**, the speaker will explore the history of the Emerald Necklace, the unique landscapes of each park and the vision and effort it took to create them, and the role of the Emerald Necklace Conservancy in preserving and protecting this treasure for generations to come.

**To schedule a presentation or to learn more, contact:
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