



**CITY OF BIRMINGHAM  
MUSEUM BOARD AGENDA**

**556 W MAPLE**

**Thursday, April 7, 2016**

**6:30 PM**

***Mission Statement:** The Birmingham Historical Museum & Park will explore meaningful connections with our past, in order to enrich our community and enhance its character and sustainability. Our mission is to promote understanding of Birmingham's historical and cultural legacy through preservation and interpretation of its ongoing story.*

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Roll Call**
- 3. Introduction of Guests**
- 4. Approval of the Minutes**
  - A. Minutes of March 3, 2015
- 5. Announcements**
- 6. Unfinished Business**
  - A. 2017-2020 Strategic Plan Review Process and Timeline
- 7. New Business**
  - A. Historic Light Fixture Selection for WiFi Pole
  - B. Street Name Change Request Review-Mill Race
- 8. Communication and Reports**
  - A. Director Report
  - B. Member comments
  - C. Public comments
- 9. Next Regular Meeting : May 5, 2016; Special Meeting April 21, 2016**
- 10. Adjournment**

NOTICE: Individuals with disabilities requiring accommodations for effective participation in this meeting should contact the city clerk's office at (248) 530-1880 (voice), or (248) 644-5115 (TDD) at least one day in advance to request mobility, visual, hearing or other assistance. *APPROVED MINUTES OF THE MUSEUM BOARD MEETINGS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE AND ON THE CITY WEBSITE AT [www.bhamgov.org](http://www.bhamgov.org).* City of Birmingham, 151 Martin, Birmingham, MI 48009; 248.530.1800. Persons with disabilities that may require assistance for effective participation in this public meeting should contact the City Clerk's Office at the number (248) 530-1880, or (248) 644-5115 (for the hearing impaired) at least one day before the meeting to request help in mobility, visual, hearing, or other assistance.

*Las personas con incapacidad que requieren algún tipo de ayuda para la participación en esta sesión pública deben ponerse en contacto con la oficina del escribano de la ciudad en el número (248) 530-1800 o al (248) 644-5115 (para las personas con incapacidad auditiva) por lo menos un día antes de la reunión para solicitar ayuda a la movilidad, visual, auditiva, o de otras asistencias. (Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964).*

Draft



CITY OF BIRMINGHAM  
MUSEUM BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
THURSDAY, March 3, 2016  
6:30 PM

Members Present: Russ Dixon, Tina Krizanic, Marty Logue, Gretchen Maricak, Kate Montgomery, Caitlin Rosso, Jeff Wilmot

Student Members Present: Nayri Carman

Members Absent: Kate Montgomery, Caitlin Rosso

Administration: Museum Director Leslie Pielack

Guests: None

Mr. Dixon called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

**Approval of the Minutes  
Minutes of February 4, 2016**

**MOTION:** by Wilmot, seconded by Maricak:

To approve the minutes of February 4, 2016.

**VOTE:** Yeas, 5  
Nays, 0

**Unfinished Business**

A. The Museum Board took up the matter of the Agenda structure and some modifications suggested by Mr. Dixon. By consensus, it was agreed that adding a **Call to Order** item, an **Announcements** item, and a **Next Regular Meeting** item would be beneficial to the board.

**New Business**

A. The existing 2013-2016 Strategic Plan goals were reviewed to determine if they should be continued in the 2017-2020 Strategic Plan.

**MOTION:** by Wilmot, seconded by Maricak:

To approve the following Goals for the 2017-2020 Strategic Plan, as recommended by the Museum Board:

**Goal I:** Enhance community access, appeal, and engagement, resulting in increased utilization of BHMP and broader appreciation for its cultural contribution to the region

**Goal II:** Provide stewardship and management of the museum's collection of artifacts, archives, and buildings, in accordance with established professional museum practice.

**Goal III:** Increase funding to assure financial stability and sustainability, and increase the capacity of BHMP to serve its mission through fundraising, board development, and building relationships and volunteer resources.

**Goal IV:** Define a unified message and marketing plan by using a variety of marketing media to further develop the museum's brand and to increase awareness, interest, and attendance.

**VOTE:** Yeas, 5  
Nays, 0

B. The Museum Board reviewed the emerging issues relating to the landscape of the park and the need for a long-term strategy going forward.

**MOTION:** by Maricak, seconded by Krizanic:

To establish an overall strategy for a preliminary Master Plan for the museum park that incorporates identification and protection of its historic and natural resources, that integrates planning with city goals and other public access requirements, and that is aligned with the museum's mission and ongoing Strategic Plan implementation.

**VOTE:** Yeas, 5  
Nays, 0

## **Communication and Reports**

A. Director Pielack shared updates to the Director Report. The RFP for the bell project is scheduled to be posted on Friday, March 4. The expected timeline is that the pre-bid meeting with the architect will be held March 23 and the bids will be due on April 13. The bidders will be reviewed using the city's standard process and must meet all the city requirements; the architect will also review the recommended contractor, and the Museum Board will be asked to hold a special meeting on Thursday, April 21 to review and approve the bidder. If approved, the Museum Board's recommendation would then go for final approval by the city commission at its May 9 meeting, which would allow a tentative start date for the project of May 15. The anticipated schedule for the project is 2-3 weeks, weather permitting. The final step would be installation of the brick pavers in the concrete around the bell structure. A program for raising additional funds through engraved pavers has been approved by the Friends and the Rosso Family Foundation, is reviewing as well. It would also allow for recognition of the school superintendents. The

projected fundraising program would begin around the middle of March, closing around May 1. There would be options for additional future paver fundraisers.

B. Ms. Krizanic suggested that there might be an advantage to advertising in the program book for the upcoming Ice Show event May 15 at the Ice Rink. This would help raise awareness of the bell project, the museum's pending name change, and reach a different audience. The Friends will take the matter up at their next meeting to consider funding an ad.

C. Mr. Dixon pointed out that there is now a quorum for the Historic District Study Committee, and therefore would not be a need for the Museum Board to form a subcommittee to look into a cemetery book or similar matters. In regards to the historic features survey for the museum park, he feels an outside consultant with special expertise may be needed.

D. There were no public comments.

Mr. Dixon adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

**DATE:** April 7, 2016  
**TO:** Museum Board  
**FROM:** Leslie Pielack, Museum Director  
**SUBJECT:** Mill Race Road Name Change Request

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**Street Name Change Request Review Policy**

The City of Birmingham has adopted a Street Name Change Request Review policy in response to a recent request by residents on Mill Race Road to change the name of their street to Lakeside Court. To appropriately respond to this and other similar resident requests, the City has adopted a policy for multi-departmental and multi-board review and input for the commission to consider in making its decision.

**Museum Board Role**

The Museum Director and Museum Board will be asked to submit recommendations with other departments as these requests arise. The Museum Director will provide a written report, and the Museum Board will review the report and requested street name change and provide input through a motion and vote, which will be recorded and included with other departmental reviews for commission consideration. The commission requires timely input in order to make a decision within the limit of 90 days.

**Mill Race Road Name Change Request**

A report was provided to the City Manager's office by the Museum Director before the review policy was finalized. It contains the information available on the historic context for this site and the origin of the historic name of the street. It is available for reference to assist the Museum Board in sharing its recommendations on this pending request.

Suggested Resolution: To share the following points for consideration to the City Commission regarding the Mill Race Road Name Change Request Review:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_



Leslie Pielack &lt;lpielack@bhamgov.org&gt;

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## Millrace Rd. Street Name Change Request - Staff and Board input needed

1 message

**Joellen Haines** <jhaines@bhamgov.org>

Thu, Mar 17, 2016 at 12:05 PM

To: Jana Ecker <Jecker@bhamgov.org>, Matthew Baka <mbaka@bhamgov.org>, Lauren Wood <Lwood@bhamgov.org>, Laura Pierce <lpierce@bhamgov.org>, Leslie Pielack <lpielack@bhamgov.org>, Mark Gerber <Mgerber@bhamgov.org>, Carlos Jorge <Cjorge@bhamgov.org>, Don Studt <Dstudt@bhamgov.org>, John Connaughton <Jconnaughton@bhamgov.org>, Gary Gemmell <Ggemmell@bhamgov.org>, John Heiney <Jheiney@bhamgov.org>, Yvonne Taylor <ytaylor@bhamgov.org>, Paul O'Meara <Pomeara@bhamgov.org>, Bruce Johnson <Bjohnson@bhamgov.org>  
Cc: Joe Valentine <Jvalentine@bhamgov.org>

Following the City Commission approval on March 14, 2016, of the Street Name Change Review Policy (see attached), the Commission has directed staff to have the Birmingham Historical Museum, Historic District Commission and the Historic District Study Committee, and well as, "relevant agencies and city boards impacted relative to the street name change," provide a review and recommendation regarding the impact to the City. It was brought up during the Commission meeting that because Millrace Road is directly adjacent to a City park, the Parks and Recreation Board should also review and provide a recommendation.

Please set your meetings and add this to your respective agendas. I have attached information already compiled if you would like to include and forward to the Boards. Their review and recommendation should follow the procedures set in place by the attached policy. Special attention should be given to the time frame of 90 days starting March 14, 2016. The reviews (reports) should be sent to me for presentation to the City Commission no later than May 31, 2016 to meet this deadline for the June 6, 2016 Commission meeting.

The main petitioner, James Rousseau, should also be contacted and made aware of the upcoming meetings. His contact information is difficult to read, but his phone number is [248-730-2423](tel:248-730-2423).

City staff have also been directed to provide a report on the administrative impact of this suggested change within their own respective departments. This department report must also be done before May 31, or earlier if possible. Thank you for your assistance in handling this request.

—  
Joellen LaBaere Haines, MPA  
Assistant to the City Manager  
City of Birmingham  
151 Martin St  
Birmingham, MI 48009  
[248-530-1807](tel:248-530-1807)  
[jhaines@bhamgov.org](mailto:jhaines@bhamgov.org)

*"There are amazingly wonderful people in all walks of life; some familiar to us and others not. Stretch yourself and really get to know people. People are in many ways one of our greatest treasures."*

- Bryant H. McGill

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### 5 attachments

**20160314 Policy for Street Name Change Request.pdf**

93K

**Full packet documents Millrace Rd.pdf**

1480K



**4d - Mill Pond Historic District summary page.pdf**

110K



**Historical dist map with detail.docx**

409K



**Color aerial Quarton Lake.pdf**

3764K



# MEMORANDUM

Office of the City Manager

**DATE:** February 24, 2016

**TO:** Joseph A. Valentine, City Manager

**FROM:** Joellen Haines, Assistant to the City Manager

**SUBJECT:** Street Name Change Review Policy With Revisions

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The following policy is a revised version of the Street Name Change Review policy that was presented at the February 22, 2016 City Commission meeting. This revised policy incorporates the changes recommended by the Commission during the meeting and include the following:

1. Change number 1 to read: "Initial requests and petitions for consideration of street name changes shall contain support from a minimum of 60% of the property owners on the street and be filed with the City Clerk in order to be considered."
2. Change the second bullet point under number 2 to: "a review and recommendation from the Historic District Commission and ~~not~~ the Historic District Study Committee."
3. Expand the bullet point regarding reports from other agencies to include, "Reports from other relevant agencies and city boards impacted relative to the street name change (e.g. U.S. Post Office, Parks and Recreation Board, etc.)."

The Street Name Change Review Policy provides a procedure to follow to consider administrative and historical implications of each submitted request, and provides a means of review by the City Commission prior to making a decision to set a public hearing as provided for in the City Charter Chapter XI, Section 7 under Street Names.

## SUGGESTED RESOLUTION:

To adopt the proposed Street Name Change Review Policy, and

To submit the November 18, 2015 request for the street name change of Millrace Road to Lakeside Court for review in accordance with the Street Name Change Review Policy.





## **STREET NAME CHANGE REVIEW POLICY**

The City of Birmingham recognizes the need to provide a review policy to evaluate requests to change a street name in the City. The Street Name Change Review Policy has been provided to establish a process whereby a street name change request can be reviewed for historical and administrative considerations prior to the City Commission making a decision to set a public hearing and implementing the provisions of the City Charter, Chapter XI, Section 7.

The following procedure shall comprise the policy for the review of street name change requests in the City.

1. Initial requests and petitions for consideration of street name changes shall contain support from a minimum of 60% of the property owners on the street and be filed with the City Clerk in order to be considered.
2. Upon receipt of a valid request or petition an internal review will be conducted to gather information to provide to the City Commission for consideration within ninety (90) days. The request shall undergo a review process which shall include, but is not limited to:
  - A review and recommendation from the Birmingham Historical Museum
  - A review and recommendation from the Historic District Commission and the Historic District Study Committee
  - City Staff review by each department regarding administrative considerations
  - Reports from other relevant agencies and City boards impacted relative to the street name change (e.g. U.S. Post Office, Parks and Recreation Board, etc.)
3. Once the request has been circulated through this review process, the findings and recommendations will be compiled and presented to the City Commission in the form of a report, with notification of the date of the City Commission meeting provided to the requesting/petitioning parties.
4. Upon review and consideration of the report, the City Commission may either set a public hearing in accordance with Chapter XI, Section 7 of the City Charter, or decline a public hearing following a review of information prescribed by this policy.



## MEMORANDUM

Office of the City Manager

**DATE:** February 18, 2016

**TO:** Joseph A. Valentine, City Manager

**FROM:** Joellen Haines, Assistant to the City Manager

**SUBJECT:** Street Name Change Review Policy

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The decision to develop a Street Name Change Review Policy was made in response to a request submitted to the City Manager's Office on November 15, 2015 via a petition from all five homeowners on Millrace Road to have their street name changed from Millrace Road to Lakeside Court. An initial memo was submitted to the City Commission by Museum Director Leslie Pielack, which detailed a brief history of the street and its historical references.

At the January 25, 2016 City Commission meeting, the Commission voted to have staff develop a policy to consider street name change requests. This policy would provide a review by the Historical Museum, the Historical District Study Committee, City Departments, and other agencies as may be necessary to determine the street name change's impact on the city, along with associated costs. The City Commission decided to table all requests for street name changes until a street name change policy is adopted by the City Commission.

In response to the City Commission's request to develop a review policy, the City has developed a Street Name Change Review Policy which provides a procedure to follow to consider administrative and historical implications of each submitted request, and provides a means of review by the City Commission prior to making a decision to set a public hearing as provided for in the City Charter Chapter XI, Section 7 under Street Names.

### SUGGESTED RESOLUTION:

To adopt the proposed Street Name Change Review Policy, and

To submit the November 18, 2015 request for the street name change of Millrace Road to Lakeside Court for review in accordance with the Street Name Change Review Policy.



## **STREET NAME CHANGE REVIEW POLICY**

The City of Birmingham recognizes the need to provide a review policy to evaluate requests to change a street name in the City. The Street Name Change Review Policy has been provided to establish a process whereby a street name change request can be reviewed for historical and administrative considerations prior to the City Commission making a decision to set a public hearing and implementing the provisions of the City Charter, Chapter XI, Section 7.

The following procedure shall comprise the policy for the review of street name change requests in the City.

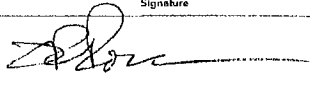

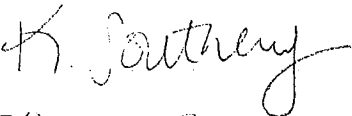
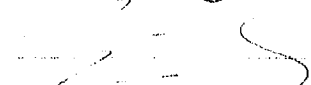

1. Initial requests and petitions for consideration of street name changes shall be filed with the City Clerk.
2. Upon receipt of such request or petition, the request shall undergo a review process which shall include, but is not limited to:
  - A review and recommendation from the Historical Museum
  - A review and recommendation from the Historic District Commission and/or the Historic District Study Committee
  - City Staff review by each department regarding administrative considerations
  - Reports from other agencies impacted relative to the street name change
3. Once the request has been circulated through this review process, the findings and recommendations will be compiled and presented to the City Commission in the form of a report, with notification of the date of the City Commission meeting provided to the requesting/petitioning parties.
4. Upon review and consideration of the report, the City Commission may either set a public hearing in accordance with Chapter XI, Section 7 of the City Charter, or decline a public hearing following a review of information prescribed by this policy.

To City Council Birmingham, Michigan.

We the home owners on Millrace Road petition the City of Birmingham to change the name of our street to Lakeside Court. Our street is not a road, but a cul-de-sac, and by having it named a "road" creates confusion for drivers looking to get to Maple Road.



Submitted  
Nov. 18, 2015  
by James Rosser  
James@Rosseru.

Name	Address	Phone Number	Signature
JAMES R. ROSSFAC	190 MILLACE RD	248 7302423	
EMILY CAMIENEC	240 MILLACE RD	248-5636866	
KATHRYN SWITHBY	250 MILLACE RD	586 871-5139	
Lijuan Hwang Augusta	260 MILLACE RD	248 471 0779	
Marcia Klugauk	280 Millrace	408-9316	



# Millrace Park



Disclaimer: The information provided herewith has been compiled from recorded deeds, plats, tax maps, surveys and other public records. It is not a legally recorded map or survey and is not intended to be used as one. Users should consult the information sources mentioned above when questions arise. FEMA Floodplain data may not always be present on the map.



**L. Brooks Patterson**  
**Oakland County Executive**

Date Created: 11/25/2015



1 inch = 200 feet

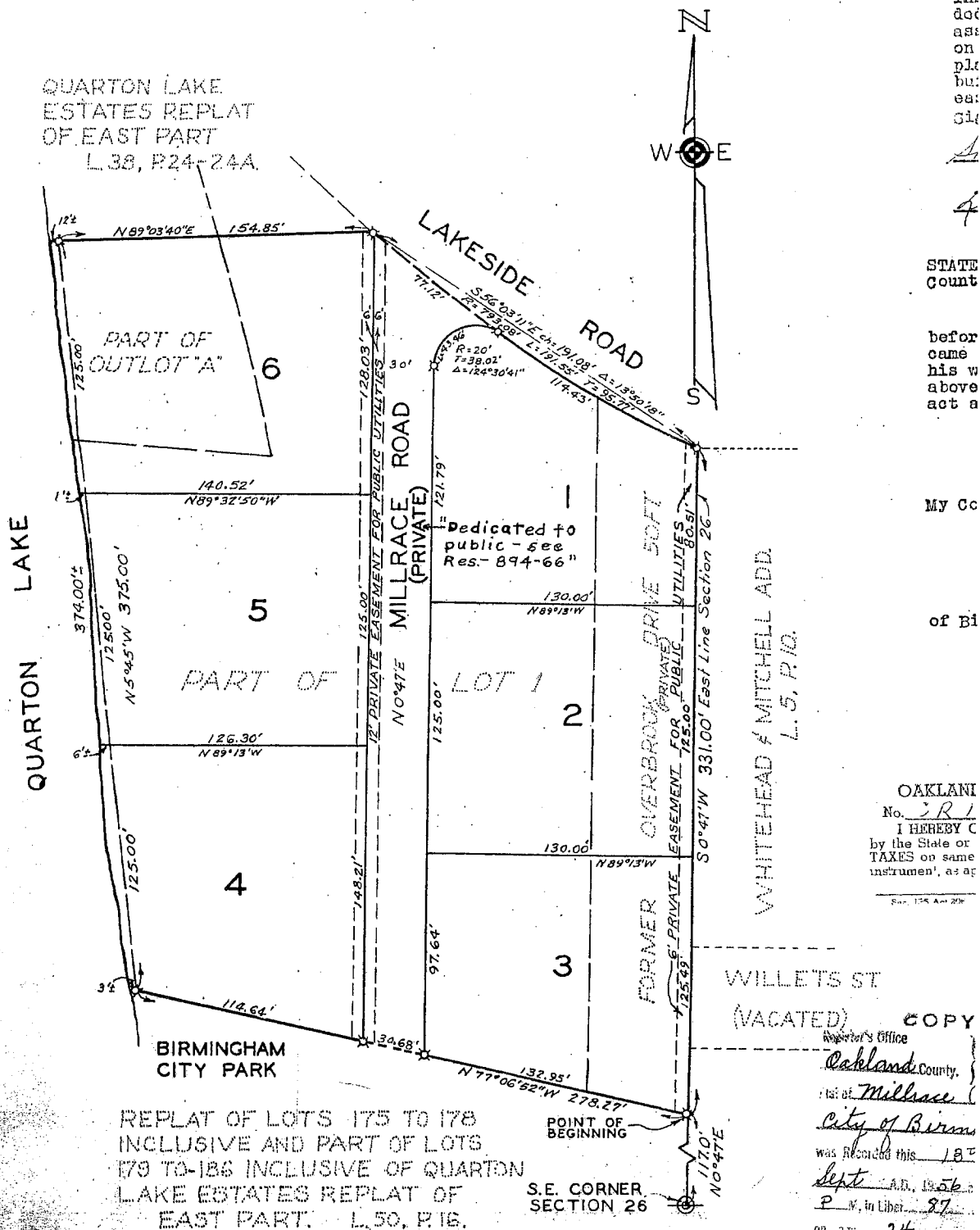


# "MILLRACE PARK"

A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE S.E.1/4  
OF THE S.E.1/4 OF SECTION 26, T.2N., R.10E.,  
CITY OF BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY,  
MICHIGAN.

SCALE 1"=50'  
50 25 0 50

ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN FEET AND DECIMALS THEREOF  
DISTANCES SHOWN ALONG ARCS ARE CURVILINEAR MEASUREMENTS











MILL POND  
BIRNINCHAW

60 COPIES  
OF CAVE DET.

To: Joellen Haines

From: Leslie Pielack

RE: Mill Race, Mill Pond, and Associated Historic District

Date: November 25, 2015

The history of the area known as Quarton Lake near Maple Road is connected to the earliest settlement period of Birmingham. The lake is actually a former mill pond, actually called “**Mill Pond**” for many years and seen on old maps.

Originally, there were two outlets from the **Mill Pond**; a branch of the Rouge River and the **Mill Race**. (A mill race is the swift water channel used to turn the mill.) A saw mill (built in 1835), and a later a grist mill (added slightly later along the mill race), were important for the early success of the community. The grist mill was built by **Roswell T. Merrill**, after whom Merrill Street is named. Actually, Merrill had purchased this valuable tract of land from **Benjamin Pierce**, one of the first four founders of Birmingham (Pierce Street is named for him). When old documents and photos refer to the ‘**Old Mill**,’ it is this grist mill that is pictured.

Flour was milled there into the later 19<sup>th</sup> century, first producing a flour named *Pioneer Flour*, with the mill referred to as *Birmingham Mills*. Later, the flour produced there was sold as *Moss Rose Brand*.

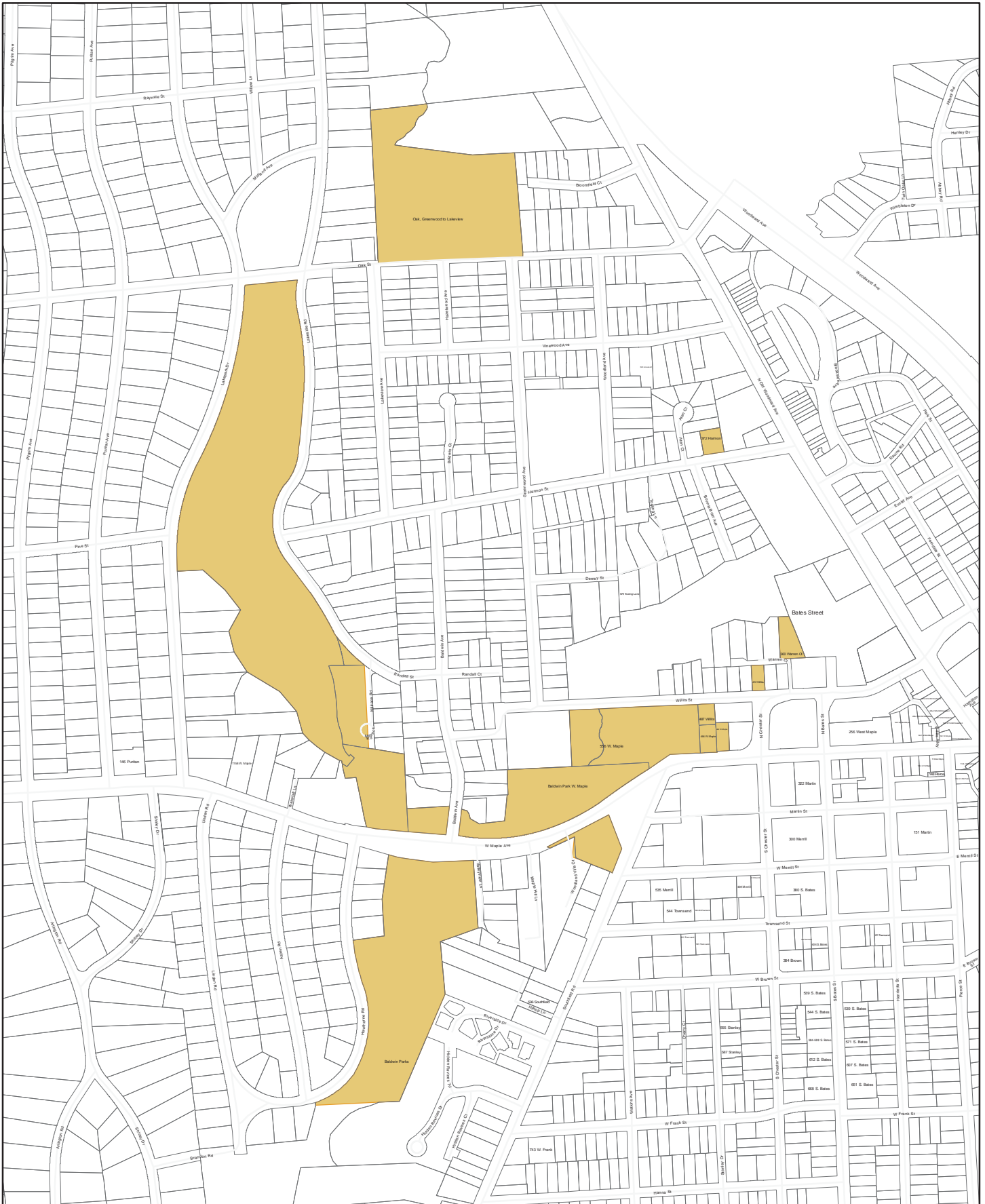
In 1918, a larger lake was formed by the building of a dam as part of the land development of *Quarton Lake Estates*. The former mill race apparently became a part of the Rouge River’s course diverted by the dam. Quarton Lake was named for the Quarton family that owned the land when the property was subdivided.


The role of the mills in the founding of Birmingham and its successful economy for its first 100 years is an important part of our story. The physical place where mill sites were located contributes to Birmingham’s sense of place and heritage. The street ‘Mill Race,’ is named for the mill race, which was in that location, and Birmingham’s **Mill Pond Neighborhood** and **Historic District** also reflect this history. Maple Road was also originally named **Mill Road** until the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Pielack

# Mill Pond Neighborhood



 Mill Pond Neighborhood



10500 100 Feet



## Mill Pond Historic District



Legal Description:	T2N, R10E, SEC 26 QUARTON LAKE ESTATES REPLAT OUTLOT A EXC THAT PART PLATTED INTO 'MILLRACE PARK SUB', ALSO OUTLOT B, ALSO LOTS 1 TO 6 INCL OF 'QUARTON LAKESIDE SUB'
Designation:	Historic District

The Mill Pond (now named Quarton Lake) and Rouge River were undoubtedly a major factor in the settlement of the Birmingham area. Several Mills were built during the 1800's along the banks of the river both north and south of the Mill Pond. In November of 1918 a new dam was built at the south end of the pond. This dam was constructed to replace an old dam to the north east. The old dam was removed, and the course of the river was altered so it flowed in a southeasterly direction from the new dam to join the east branch of the river at Baldwin Avenue. All traces of the flumes, raceways, and tail races were removed. Once used as the town "swimming hole" the lake is now lined with trees and used as a park with a walking trail around.







**DATE:** April 7, 2016  
**TO:** Museum Board  
**FROM:** Leslie Pielack, Museum Director  
**SUBJECT:** Light Fixture Design-Park WiFi Project

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### **WiFi Project Requirements & Funding**

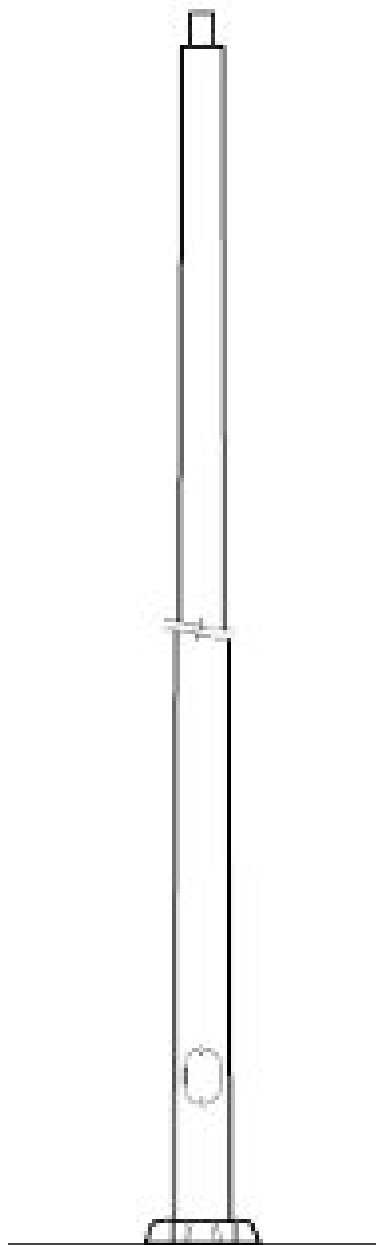
The Museum's 2013-2016 Strategic Plan includes objectives for making the park at the museum more user-friendly for the public. One method of accomplishing this involves providing WiFi access to visitors within the park. WiFi was expanded in the immediate vicinity of the Allen and Hunter Houses in 2014. In 2015, the pond area received attention for the removal of invasive plants and was seen as a desirable location for public use. The City's IT Department requested a determination from Netch, a communications specialist, regarding providing WiFi access in the pond area. To provide this access, two poles would need to be installed; one southwest of the pond and one along Willits between the pond and the sidewalk on the north side of the pond. Each pole would provide an access point that communicates with the existing WiFi at the Allen and Hunter Houses. In addition, the pole to the southwest of the pond would benefit from electrical connection run at the same time as the underground cable for the access point, thus providing for electrical service for lighting as part of a potential public seating area.

In August and October of 2015, the Birmingham Bloomfield Cable Board authorized grant funds to the City of Birmingham for the installation of public WiFi to improve public access to content for enhanced education and enjoyment of the museum grounds. The funding covered the proposed cost for all the construction and the provision of two poles and a light fixture, specified by Netch.

### **Recommended Light Fixture Substitution and Administrative Review for Historic District**

The initial specification for the light fixture was originally communicated to be of one type only, which was of modern design with fins. However, with additional research, we learned that other, more historically appropriate fixtures were available for this project. An administrative review with Matthew Baka and Jana Ecker of the planning department resulted in a recommendation that meets the specifications required of the project.

**Suggested Resolution:** To approve the historic style (SWB-NS) lamp fixture recommended by the City of Birmingham's Planning Department for installation on the museum grounds to provide lighting on the public WiFi access point light pole southwest of the pond, to be attached to the recommended pole, and to approve the use of the pole without the light fixture for WiFi access on the museum grounds adjacent to Willits Avenue, north of the pond.



**SAL-6R4.5-16'**  
6" - 4 1/2" dia.  
tapered shaft  
Up to 20'



Recommended fixture: SWB-NS

Pole as specified; to be powder-coat painted black.

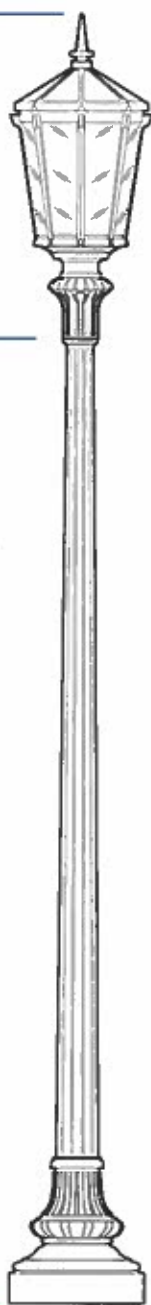


# SWB-NS Estate No Spikes

Luminaires: Lanterns - 8 Sided

Luminaire Height: 40"  
Octagon: 18"

Eight sided highly decorative lantern with exceptional dignity and elegance. Mates tastefully with a variety of posts, period and contemporary, and melds beautifully with modern, or, traditional surroundings on streets, plazas, or, promenades.



Features a high-strength cast aluminum structure with polycarbonate panels. Hood is hinged for easy relamping.



For Ordering Information see reverse.



SWB-NS is designed to utilize a wide range of light sources, including High Intensity Discharge (HID), Compact Fluorescent, Induction and others. These light source families provide the highest efficiency in lumen output, service life and energy use.

Shown with 12 ft. aluminum pole.  
Catalog #: SAL-W-12'

**Sentry**  
ELECTRIC

## SWB-NS Estate No Spikes

Sentry Electric LLC  
185 Buffalo Avenue, Freeport, New York, 11520  
Telephone: 516.379.4660 Fax: 516.378.0624  
[www.sentrylighting.com](http://www.sentrylighting.com) [info@sentrylighting.com](mailto:info@sentrylighting.com)



This treeline is now mostly gone, since we removed invasive growth in the fall.

Approximate location of unlighted pole north of pond adjacent to Willits Ave.



The pole is located north of a deciduous tree and west of a Dawn Redwood. It is down the slope on the lower level of the park area, visible mostly from Willits side and the lower lawn.



**DATE:** April 7, 2016  
**TO:** Museum Board  
**FROM:** Leslie Pielack, Museum Director  
**SUBJECT:** Director Report

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Museum Name Change—The change to **The Birmingham Museum** was finalized on March 14 by the commission. At the same time, the commission approved the wording change of the mission statement. On March 28, the ordinance language was changed to reflect these final approvals.

Commissioner Visit—On Wednesday, March 30, Commissioners Bordman and DeWeese met with museum staff and toured the facilities. Commissioners Boutros and Harris will be re-scheduled.

Budget Hearings—The City of Birmingham budget hearings are scheduled for Saturday, April 16. The museum is tentatively scheduled for 12:45 PM, but if the hearings proceed quickly, the museum may be reviewed earlier.

Park Wi-Fi Improvements, Invasives, and Pond Plantings—The Wi-Fi poles will be installed when the fixture order is finalized; it will take approximately a week, once the materials are all in/delivered. Regarding future landscape planning, the appropriate scope of work for a historic survey is currently being researched by city staff.

John West Hunter Digitized Photograph Images—The Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society has agreed to share copyright for use of digital images of heretofore unknown photographs of Birmingham founder John West Hunter. Under the shared use agreement, the museum can use the images, provided they credit the OCPHS. Other collaborative opportunities are being explored, but include the American Association for State and Local History's national conference in September, 2016, in which the Birmingham Museum and the OCPHS Wisner House are on a special tour. (Our portion is focused on how we are updating our museum and responding to changes in audience needs.)

Bell Project—The final bids are due on April 13 and the Museum Board has agreed to meet on April 21 for a special meeting to review the recommended bidder.

School Tours—School tours will be underway beginning May 18. This year, staff are introducing a hands-on activity within the Allen House. In addition, we will be conducting a pilot project with Quarton teachers to come into the classroom with a pre-exposure activity to enhance the site visit.