

MOHAWK PARK
5223 East 41st Street
Tulsa
Tulsa
Oklahoma

HALS OK-26
OK-26

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN LANDSCAPES SURVEY
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

HISTORIC AMERICAN LANDSCAPES SURVEY

MOHAWK PARK

HALS NO. OK-26

Location: 5223 E 41st St, Tulsa, Tulsa County, Oklahoma.
Lat: 36.212379 Long: -95.915130

Significance: Tulsa's Mohawk Park is one of the oldest municipally owned parks in the country. In addition, it is the third largest municipal park in the United States. The 2820 acre park was established in the 1920s under the direction of W. O. Doolittle, the first park superintendent for the City of Tulsa. The park is a designated Oklahoma Landmark.

History: Included within the 2800 acre Mohawk Park, are two 18 hole golf courses spread across 312 acres: Woodbine and Pecan Valley, the Tulsa Zoo and Robert J. LaFortune North American Living Museum, and the Mary K. Oxley Nature Center. The majority of the park is in the Romantic or naturalistic style with large wooded areas, grassy fields, and a variety of streams and lakes. The two golf courses and the zoo in the park break from the naturalistic style.

The Woodbine course was built in the 1920s and then redesigned by Floyd Farley in 1934. Following Farley's design the course was rebuilt in 1936-37 by the Works Projects Administration, while the Pecan Valley Course was built a few decades later during the 1950s. The Woodbine course is one of only two courses in Oklahoma built by the WPA.

Located on 84 acres within Mohawk Park is The Tulsa Zoo and Robert J. LaFortune North American Living Museum. Approved by the Tulsa Park Board in May of 1927, the Tulsa Zoo opened in 1928. After starting out with only 35 animals, the Zoo now houses 2,800 animals of 500 different species, most of which are endangered. The Robert J. LaFortune North American Living Museum exhibits archeological, ethnographical, mineral, paleontological materials, and non-living zoological specimens mostly from the Americas.

The Mary K. Oxley Nature Center was established during the late 1970s. The Oxley Nature Center occupies 800 acres and serves as a nature preserve and wildlife refuge. There are fourteen miles of hiking and walking trails that traverse the Nature Center property.

Mohawk Park is one of the largest municipal parks in the country and offers a variety of entertainment options for the citizens of Tulsa.

Sources: Mary K. Oxley Nature Center, <http://www.oxleynaturecenter.org/> (accessed September 15, 2009).

Parks Department, City of Tulsa, Oklahoma,
<http://www.cityoftulsa.org/recreation/parks/> (accessed August 29, 2009).

Tulsa Golf: Mohawk Park, <http://www.tulsagolf.org/courses/mohawk-park/>
(accessed September 15, 2009).

Tulsa Zoo and Living Museum, <http://www.tulsazoo.org/> (accessed September
15, 2009).

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Hole at Mohawk Golf Course (<http://www.tulsagolf.org/courses/course-photos/Mohawk-Park-Courses/Woodbine-combination-of-Hole-7-8-5359/>, accessed September 15, 2009).



Picnic area (<http://www.incog.org/Environmental/waterquality/images/Mohawk.JPG>, accessed September 15, 2009).