Hennepin County Library Robbinsdale Branch

The view is to represent the proposed location of the Robbinsdale Library and provides a view of the improvements to the building grounds. The entry has been designed in the main grand in appearance and is to serve as a focal point to the Library. On the sides of the building an open covered reading area is provided to those who wish to enjoy the weather while reading. The library will house the Robbinsdale City Museum and a library of old and rare books. The Robbinsdale Library building is a structure that represents more of the historical and cultural past of Robbinsdale and Minnesota. This building has been saved to represent this and has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Current use is to house the collection of Robbinsdale memorabilia for both the city's growth and its people. The present issue for the city has been to continue its growth for the future needs of the community while recognizing its past. The county has proposed that the North route of the Light Rail Transit system go through the city along an existing railroad corridor next to the library. The decision of where to provide a stop for the LRT which could benefit the downtown area the most is in debate. Graeser Park could solve this issue while strengthening its focus as a cultural center for the city. Proposed is the move and relocation of the library next to the Cultural Learning Center.

Rock Garden

The Rock garden is the focal point to the site and provides historical significance. The view provided represents the proposed design improvements with the structures and expanded gardens to the right. The design for the park is expanded on the original idea of the garden and the area along the roadside. To accommodate the community with the park they renovate and expand the experience enjoyed in the park. A proposed center is to create a unique park that has a character of its own. To assure the park grounds become a present landscape with both natural and formal gardens to scenic through. The rock garden lies in the garden and provides an accessible circulation to the doors, and out of the park. To strengthen the focus of the community the existing viewing platform will be expanded to include more display gardens for the park. A small naturalistic area provides space for community activities such as theater, art, and horticultural courses and displays for the public.

Attended to the building are two greenhouses to provide the plant materials required by the gardens. This building will provide the community with a facility for year-round use of the park while giving a focus to the cultural character of the community. The park also has been the picnic place for the community where the large groups could gather for their special day. To meet the needs for today while keeping in the style of the park a picnic shelter is provided to accommodate these large groups. Other facilities which exist on the site are the stone picnic tables and the "beehive" fireplace oven standing as the icon of the park. It is proposed to move the remaining pieces from the ruins of the park to this site. They currently stand in the cloverleaf entry ramps of Highway 100 and Highway 5.

Section/Elevation
Historical Analysis: Style

Graeser Park
Robbinsdale, Mn.
The City of Robbinsdale is a "fully developed" first ring suburb located in the Northwest Suburban Sector of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan area. The City is also situated entirely within the Metropolitan Council Urban Service Area (MUSA). It is bordered by three suburban municipalities: these being Brooklyn Center, Crystal, and Golden Valley; and one major central city, Minneapolis.

Due to its location, Robbinsdale offers its residents convenient accessibility to all parts of the metropolitan region and particularly the Minneapolis central business district. This geographic placement has provided residents with a wide range of choice in both employment, shopping, and recreational opportunities. In addition, the City is located in the rapidly developing northwest sector of Minneapolis, which places it directly in the path of strong growth pressures. Thus Robbinsdale benefits from a northwest locational demand factor for housing, services, and transportation.

Graeser Park is located in the northwest corner of the City of Robbinsdale. It is bounded by two major highway corridors, Highway 100 to the south and Highway 169 to the west. On the west boundary is County Road 8 which is also a frequently used arterial route. To the north boundary meanders Lakeland Ave. which is a residential collector that provides access to the park. Along this northern boundary is a residential neighborhood which has easy access to the park. All access to the park is by automobile or pedestrian routes along County Road 8. This facilitates the main entry to be on County Road 3.

Site Context
Physical Analysis: Features

LEGEND

A. Fireplace from Queried Limestone
B. Stone Picnic Tables—Queried Limestone
C. Viewing Platform—Queried Limestone
D. Rock Garden—Queried Limestone
E. Vegetation Buffer
F. Drainage Flow
G. Seasonal Winds

GRAESER PARK
Robbinsdale, Mn.
Graeser Park
Robbinsdale, Mn.
Photos of Park in 1940

Original Master Plan

GRAESER PARK
Robbinsdale, Md.