



**“CREEKSIDE
COMMONS PARK”**
Chelsea’s First Park on Mill Creek



2011 RUDY BRUNER AWARD PROJECT DATA



PROJECT DATA

Please answer questions in space provided. Answers to all questions should be typed or written directly on the forms. If the forms are not used and answers are typed on a separate page, each answer must be preceded by the question to which it responds, and the length of each answer should be limited to the area provided on the original form.

NOTE: This sheet and a selected image will be sent to the Committee in advance.

Project Name Creekside Commons Location Chelsea, MA

Owner City of Chelsea

Project Use(s) Urban Playground / "Outdoor Classroom"

Project Size 1 acre Total Development Cost \$1.4 million

Annual Operating Budget (if appropriate) _____

Date Initiated Community Visioning began 1999; Fundraising 2006 Percent Completed by December 1, 2010 100%

Project Completion Date (if appropriate) Park opened in August 2009

Attach, if you wish, a list of relevant project dates _____

Application submitted by:

Name Roseann T. Bongiovanni Title Associate Executive Director

Organization Chelsea Collaborative, Inc.

Address 318 Broadway City/State/Zip Chelsea, MA 02150

Telephone (617) 889-6080x111 Fax (617) 889-0559

E-mail RoseannB@chelseacollab.org Weekend Contact Number (for notification): (617)283-2849

Perspective Sheets:

Organization	Name	Telephone/e-mail
Public Agencies <u>City of Chelsea</u>	<u>Jay Ash, Chelsea City Manager</u>	<u>(617)466-5985</u>

Architect/Designer _____

Developer John M. Corcoran and Company Peter Mahoney (781)718-9408

Professional Consultant _____

Community Group <u>Chelsea Green Space/Chelsea Resident</u>	<u>Luis Perrone</u>	<u>(617)889-5174 (Spanish translation required)</u>
<u>Chelsea Green Space/ Chelsea Resident</u>	<u>Madeleine Scammell</u>	<u>(617)461-9548</u>
Other <u>Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center</u>	<u>Tina Axiotakis</u>	<u>(781)258-7173</u>

Please indicate how you learned of the *Rudy Bruner Award for Urban Excellence*. (Check all that apply).

- Direct Mailing
 Magazine Announcement
 Previous Selection Committee member
 Other (please specify)
- Professional Organization
 Previous RBA entrant
 Online Notice
 Bruner/Loeb Forum

Anne Frenning Kossuth

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Signature  Date December 13, 2010

2011
RUDY BRUNER AWARD
PROJECT
AT-A-GLANCE



PROJECT AT-A-GLANCE

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NOTE: This sheet and a selected image will be sent to the Committee in advance.

Project Name _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

1. Give a brief overview of the project.

2. Why does the project merit the *Rudy Bruner Award for Urban Excellence*? (You may wish to consider such factors as: effect on the urban environment; innovative or unique approaches to any aspect of project development; new and creative approaches to urban issues; design quality.)

2011 RUDY BRUNER AWARD PROJECT DESCRIPTION



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Please answer questions in space provided. Answers to all questions should be typed or written directly on the forms. If the forms are not used and answers are typed on a separate page, each answer must be preceded by the question to which it responds, and the length of each answer should be limited to the area provided on the original form.

1. Describe the underlying values and goals of the project. What, if any, significant trade-offs were required to implement the project?

2. Briefly describe the project's urban context. How has the project impacted the local community? Who does the project serve? How many people are served by the project?

2011 RUDY BRUNER AWARD AWARD USE



AWARD USE

Please answer questions in space provided. Answers to all questions should be typed or written directly on the forms. If the forms are not used and answers are typed on a separate page, each answer must be preceded by the question to which it responds, and the length of each answer should be limited to the area provided.

Please separate this page from the rest of the application. Award Use should be submitted in a sealed envelope along with the application materials. It will not be used in judging entries or be seen by members of the Selection Committee.

Please describe how *Award* monies will be used to benefit the project. (The *Award* check will be made out to the Applicant unless otherwise specified.)

** This statement should be signed by the applicant. Photocopies or facsimile copies of the statement with original signature is acceptable. Award Use statement should be submitted in a sealed envelope along with the application materials.

Name and Title

Date

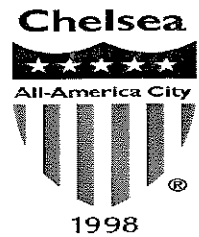
Perspective Sheets

1. Jay Ash, City of Chelsea
2. Peter Mahoney, John M. Corcoran and Company
3. Luis Perrone, Chelsea Green Space / Chelsea Resident
4. Madeleine Scammell, Chelsea Green Space / Chelsea Resident
5. Tina Axiotakis, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center



CITY OF CHELSEA

Executive Office
City Hall, Room #302, 500 Broadway
Chelsea, Massachusetts 02150
Telephone (617) 466-4100 / Fax (617) 466-4105
Email: jash@chelseama.gov



Jay Ash
City Manager

December 13, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

Chelsea Commons Park is remarkable. The once fallow site which sat idle for half a century has come alive and captured the energy of so many who now enjoy the one-of-a-kind public play space. Perhaps the only thing more remarkable than its unique features is the partnership that came together to make it happen. Especially in older places like Chelsea, which was fully built-out long ago, reclaiming any space is a feat. However, in this case, champions among us decided that creating just any space was not enough of a feat to celebrate.

A joy of my job is to see the results when selfless people embrace a vision and work tirelessly to achieve it. At the onset, the idea of such a marvelous park seemed like one of those visions produce in a charrette, you know, "let's dream, but don't expect the dream to become reality because there's no way to fund the thing."

Chelsea Green Space was determined to not let its incredible vision become a victim of a lack of funding. Already buoyed by the agreement it had struck with the property owner, John M. Corcoran & Co., and the City to secure an acre to build a park, Green Space challenged those partners, and itself, to do something that would be spectacular. After several conferences among the partners and separately with residents and other community stakeholders, it was decided that a most ambitious fundraising effort would take place to give Chelsea something it truly deserved, but could never have the temerity to believe could happen.

The deserved part is more than rhetoric. In this environmental justice community, Chelsea's destiny has always seemed to be to try to survive the negative consequences of hosting heavy industry and other uses typically considered to be "for the public good." "Public good" has not always meant "Chelsea's good," as land, air and water contamination has robbed generations of a positive connection with its environment. Personally, I didn't realize that I was growing up in a waterfront community, because the only time I ever saw the water was while driving over the Tobin Bridge! I can remember my lungs burning the day I tried to jog through one portion of town. The smell of rubber at another location still seems to be in the air when I drive by the plant, even though that plant shut down decades ago. In short, generations of local residents have had the same connection to our environment as I had, one that may only be described as amazing in its negativity.

So, with that context, it is both easy to see why many would doubt such a park project could take off, but understandable why so many would have a dream of a better connection with its environment. Green Space and the City set off to convince the doubters that things could be better.

Private fundraising by Green Space was tremendously advanced by a challenge grant issued by the Smith Family Foundation. A public match was secured through a successful State grant application. The resulting Chelsea Commons Park is an impressive space, supported by an even more fabulous story of it coming into being. A brownfield now transformed into a stunning play space, accomplished by grassroots advocacy, business consciousness, philanthropy charity and government action.

The announcement of the park project brought Governor Deval Patrick to town. As important as his visit was, those supporting the new park could not have been more pleased to see who attended its opening: scores of families who were both excited and in awe of what they now could enjoy.

Most appreciatively,


Jay Ash
City Manager



**JOHN M. CORCORAN
AND COMPANY**

Creating Communities Since 1951

December 13, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

John M. Corcoran & Company has shared an excellent relationship with the City of Chelsea over the past 8 years. As a leading regional developer of multifamily housing, Corcoran understands the value of having strong leadership and vision within a municipal government. The relationship that Corcoran has developed with the City of Chelsea, Chelsea Green Space and the Chelsea Collaborative has led to the improvement of an abandoned urban dumping area, the creation of 238 new rental homes, the equivalent of 8 full time jobs, and the creation of the state of the art Creekside Commons Park.

In 2005, after working with the City on a project in another part of Chelsea that Corcoran did not move forward with, the City's leadership introduced Corcoran to the Parkway Plaza and Creekside Commons redevelopment project. The project, a mixed-use redevelopment of the former Parkway Plaza shopping center, incorporated new retail, restaurant and residential development as well as the redevelopment of the Mill Creek waterfront and the development of Creekside Commons Park.

Corcoran's project, Parkside Commons, included the development of a 238 unit multifamily residential rental project on 4 acres, which became the first large scale LEED certified multifamily rental project in New England. An important component of the project was the environmental remediation of a 1-acre parcel located between Corcoran's project and a newly constructed public walkway along Mill Creek. Corcoran handled the environmental clean-up and subsequently donated the land to the City for the construction of Creekside Commons Park. The environmental remediation and the donation of land were valued at approximately \$750,000. In addition, Corcoran agreed to maintain the Park in perpetuity.

Today, as a result of the vision and leadership within the City of Chelsea, residents of Parkside Commons, the surrounding neighborhoods and all of Chelsea are able to enjoy this incredible community asset.

Respectfully,

Peter Mahoney



I have been working with the Green Space Committee for about two years. I got involved with the Chelsea Collaborative because I care about immigration rights and also care about injustices in the transportation system. I put my energy and passion to ensure that Chelsea has a safe environment, and that environmental and social justice is achieved in my community. I keep working on Green Space projects because I believe in democratic participation and in Green Space, everyone's ideas and opinions are considered and respected.

Though my participation in Green Space, I had the opportunity to participate in the community design process for the new Creekside Commons Park. I was part of the focus group with elderly residents in an elderly housing building where we gave our input about what we wanted to see in the park. Some of the things we wanted in the park was a Bocce court and horseshoes and I am happy because these ideas were incorporated into the new park. I participated in the last phase of construction as well. We worked with landscape architect to plant the trees, flowers and bushes for the garden. It was really positive for me that residents like were included in the design and creation of the park. I felt proud to be part of something that gave life to the area where I live.

My neighborhood has many new modern buildings and businesses. Before the park was created, there was an empty lot that did not go with the new modern neighborhood. The Creekside Commons Park brought new life to the area. The park is used by every kind of resident. Elderly, adults, youth and children can be seen in the park each day. The park is different than any other park because it has a musical garden that I see the children enjoy. I play Bocce in the park and I meet there with my friends to sit and talk. One of the most important things about the park is that it connects the neighborhood with the Mill Creek walkway where I like to walk on the path to enjoy nature.

Recently the park was vandalized. I felt very upset when this happened. The other elderly residents that enjoy the park were also upset. I organized some people and we made signs to prevent the vandalism from continuing. Since we put up the signs there has not been any more vandalism. We went around to ask neighbors to call the police tip line if they saw any destruction in our park.

My vision of the park is to have more security. Because it is new it is not on a police patrol route. It would be good if the police could go by every once and awhile to show their presence. I would also love it if there were a solar powered trash barrel and a public recycling bin. This would help with the park maintenance and would help to teach people about the importance of recycling and keeping the park and creek clean. I would love to see some signs to teach people about the importance of keeping our park in good condition and to encourage people to use the Mill Creek Walkway. I would like to build on the success of the park to continue the Green Space mission to increase Chelsea resident's access to the waterfront. We could expand the project to expand the path on the other side of Broadway to follow further along Mill Creek. My vision is to have a bridge to walk to Revere from the Chelsea side of the creek.

I would like to invite you to come see our park because it is one thing to hear about it and another thing to live it.

Luis Perrone
(617)889-5174

Creekside Commons Park

Reflecting on my relationship with the Creekside Commons Park brings to mind the children's book series, The Chronicles of Narnia. What I remember most is the dark old home of the Professor, and the wardrobe. It is not so much the adventures in Narnia that are bright in my memory, but the fact that Lucy and her siblings were able to create a fantasy world while living a challenged life. It was after all, wartime England. Damp, dark, cold. And the young children were sent to live far away from their parents.

As a child the age of Lucy, I lived with my father on Cape Cod. Growing up on the Cape was in many ways a dream. I appreciated the adventure found in salt marshes, vast ocean beaches and the freedom to wander perhaps better than some of my peers, as my other home was the City of Chelsea, where my mother lived. When in Chelsea, I was not allowed to walk alone or wander from our building. There was no place outside to play, and I mostly I sat indoors, reading books, or imagining what Narnia lay within my mother's closet.

Now more than 30 years later, I live down the street from my mother in the City of Chelsea. My sister still lives on the Cape with her husband and their six-year old children, Anders and Ella. They regularly come to visit Grammy, Auntie and Uncle in the city. I remember well when Anders said to me when visiting our brick row house with no yard at the age of four, "I am not accustomed to spending so much time inside, Auntie. I really need to go outside. I want to go home to the country." I was shocked both by his use of the word "accustomed" and his ability to express the feelings I always had as a child in Chelsea but could never articulate.

When the Creekside Commons Park was built, everything changed. Anders and Ella came to Chelsea early this fall and I tried to explain the park to them. An ice skating rink? A climbing structure? Climbing rocks? A waterfall? Musical instruments? No way... they couldn't believe it. When my mother and I drove them to the Creekside Commons, we parked strategically behind Beth Israel Community Health Center so they couldn't see the park from the lot. We had to walk behind the Health Center, down the dark and windy path (our wardrobe) and then they saw it, this magical, colorful land appeared before their eyes. I had to run to keep up with them, leaving my mother behind. Anders and Ella immediately went to the big climbing structure, then migrated to the waterfall area. It was a warm fall day and the water area with the pump, dams and pools kept them busy for a long time. A young single mother and her son joined us. Her son, about 3 years old, had bright orange hair the color of the mushrooms, and I took many photos of him in his soaking wet jeans. They kids figured out how to make water squirt from chutes in the ground and then dodge it (or not).

As my mother and I sat on the bench watching, we were joined by a father and his 2 year old son who he was keeping occupied to allow his wife a break with their newborn at home. The father admitted since the new baby arrived, the older son had watched more videos than they would prefer, but the park was a great place to take him, and not too far from their home in Revere. After a full two hours, with parents and young kids coming

and going, three teen-agers arrived on skateboards and climbed to the top of the structure. Teenagers are like magnets for Anders and Ella. They too went to climb, going higher and faster than they had previously. Anxious Auntie hovered near enough to catch a falling kiddo. My concern was alleviated when I realized how aware of Ella and Anders the teenagers were, and attentive. I went to sit with Grammy while everyone played. In fact, my mother and I went to play the musical instruments, until Anders and Ella joined us. Then we drank from the water fountains and decided it was time for lunch.

My niece and nephew are much happier to visit Chelsea now. They know there are kid friendly things to do, and opportunities to play outside, and they appreciate the city. I am just incredibly grateful that Roseann Bongiovanni and the Chelsea Collaborative had the imagination to envision such a place, and the ability to make it more than just a fantasy. There is no reason a kid in Chelsea should be stuck indoors when we have Creekside Commons Park, and a child in Chelsea can be proud of where they are growing up.



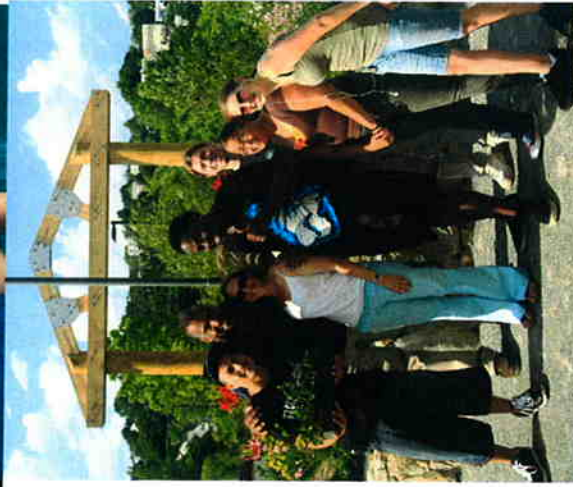
Madeleine Kangsen Scammell
December 12, 2010

As an employee of the BIDH-CHELSEA MCCN (Beth Israel Deaconess Healthcare-Chelsea Medical Care Center North) for nearly 12 years and a local resident, I take a lot of pride in this area. When a walking path was created along the Chelsea Creek, several staff and I were ecstatic. It provided an excellent area to walk and enjoy the flora and fauna (that I usually never gave a second thought to); and allowed us to get in physical exercise on our lunch breaks from here in the clinic which was difficult otherwise given the area with main roads and heavy traffic. That is when I first met Roseann Bongiovanni who stopped a coworker and me while enjoying the path to ask our thoughts and express her joy in seeing people enjoying it.

I then waited in anticipation for the new park area to be built and completed. I am now the mother of two. My son would ask daily if the park was done yet for several weeks. We have thoroughly enjoyed all the features of this great new park from the climbing area and water play area to the musical area and meditation area. My children look forward to coming to the park where I meet them with their grandmother on my lunch break or after work. The shaded area is awesome through the summer heat and ice skating with no snow or ice has been a great time for all. It's hard to drag them away. We even got to enjoy some adult play with Roseann and her husband in the bocci and horseshoe area. We look forward to the upcoming spring time to do it all again.

In an area that is often called depressed or low income, it is refreshing to find that someone gave their heart and soul to make improvements that could be enjoyed by so many people of all ages and backgrounds. It seemed to get the ball rolling and pride and improvements seems to be catching in the area because of it.

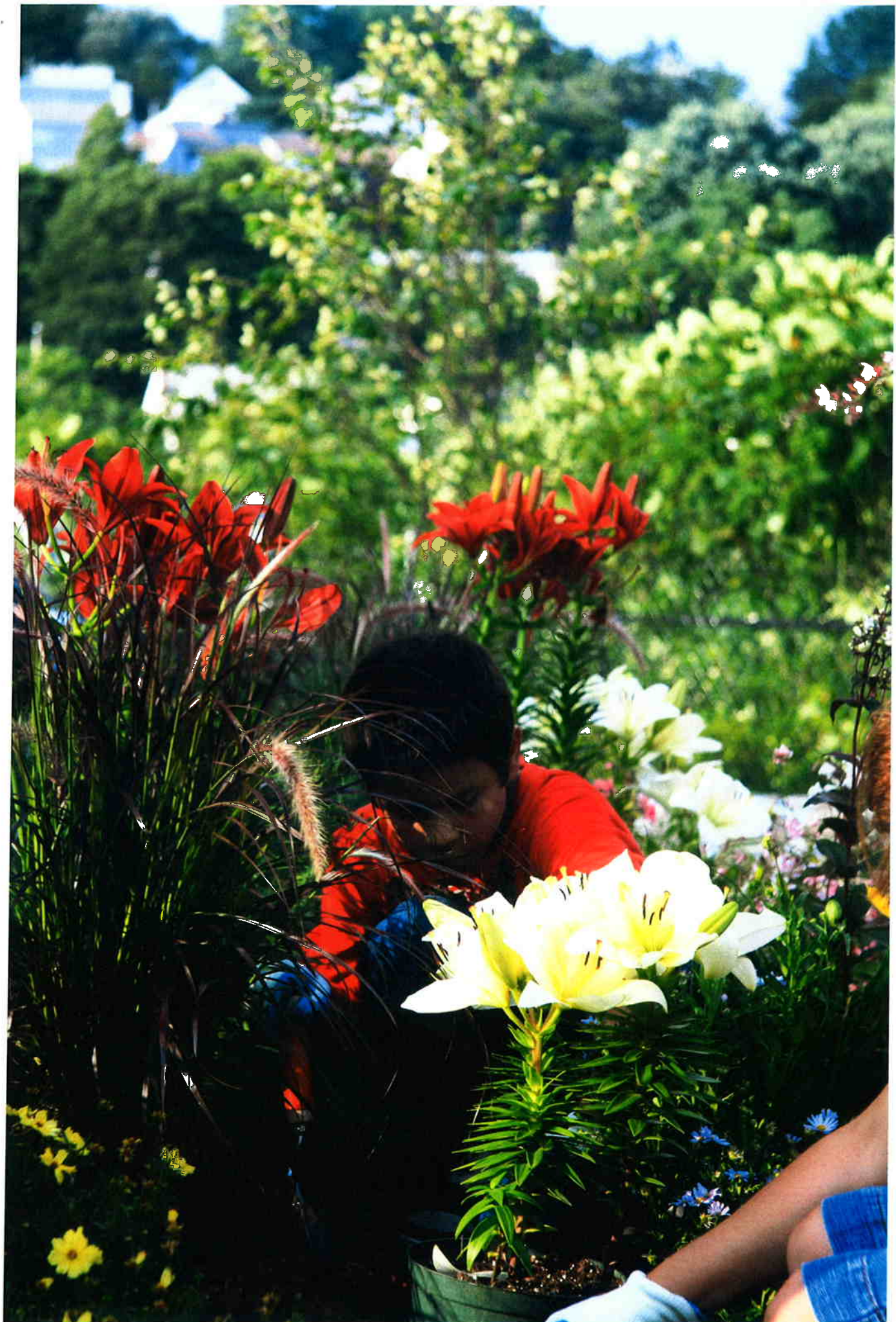
Tina Axiotakis
(781)258-7173

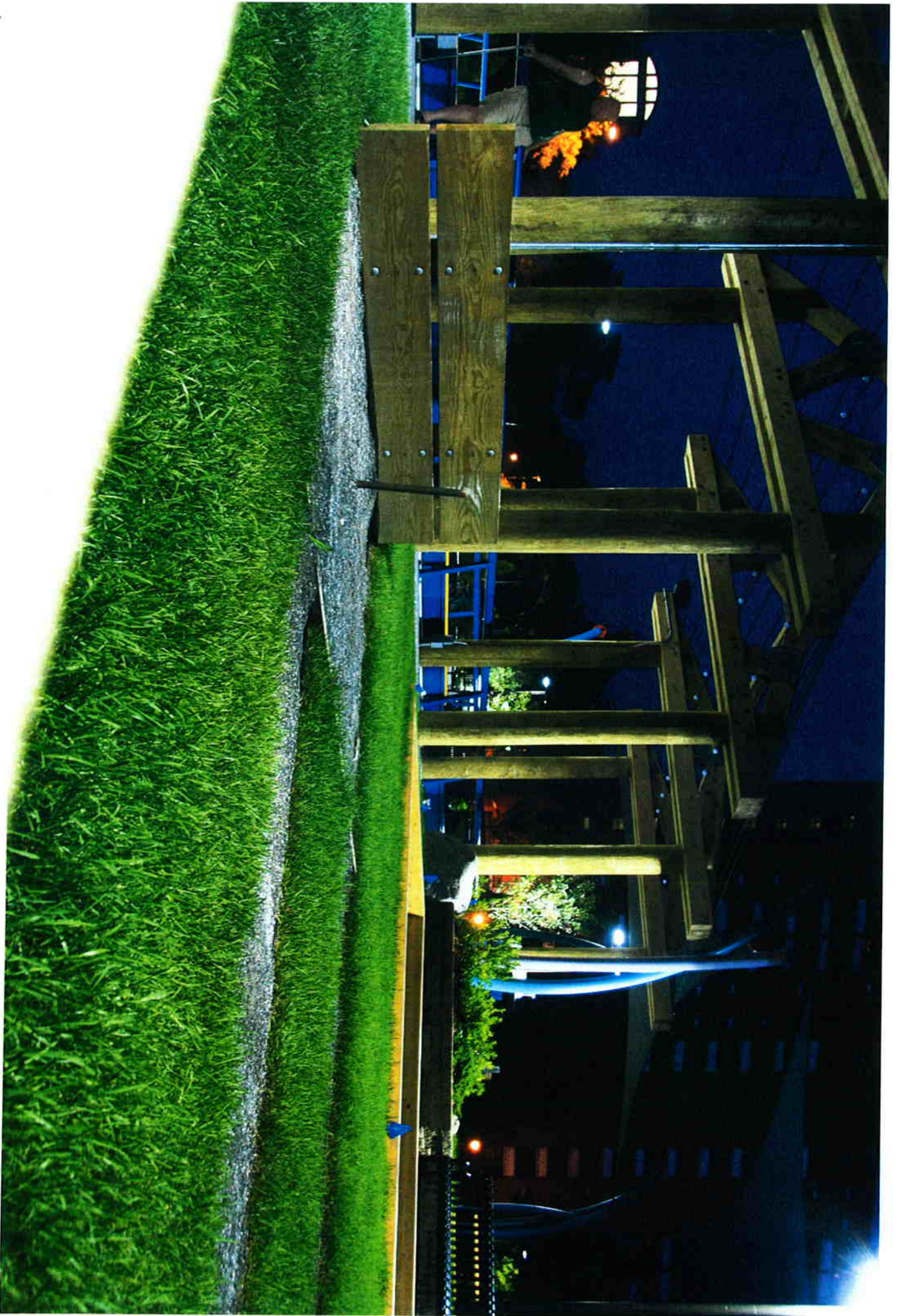


“CREEKSIDE COMMONS PARK”

Chelsea’s First Park on Mill Creek













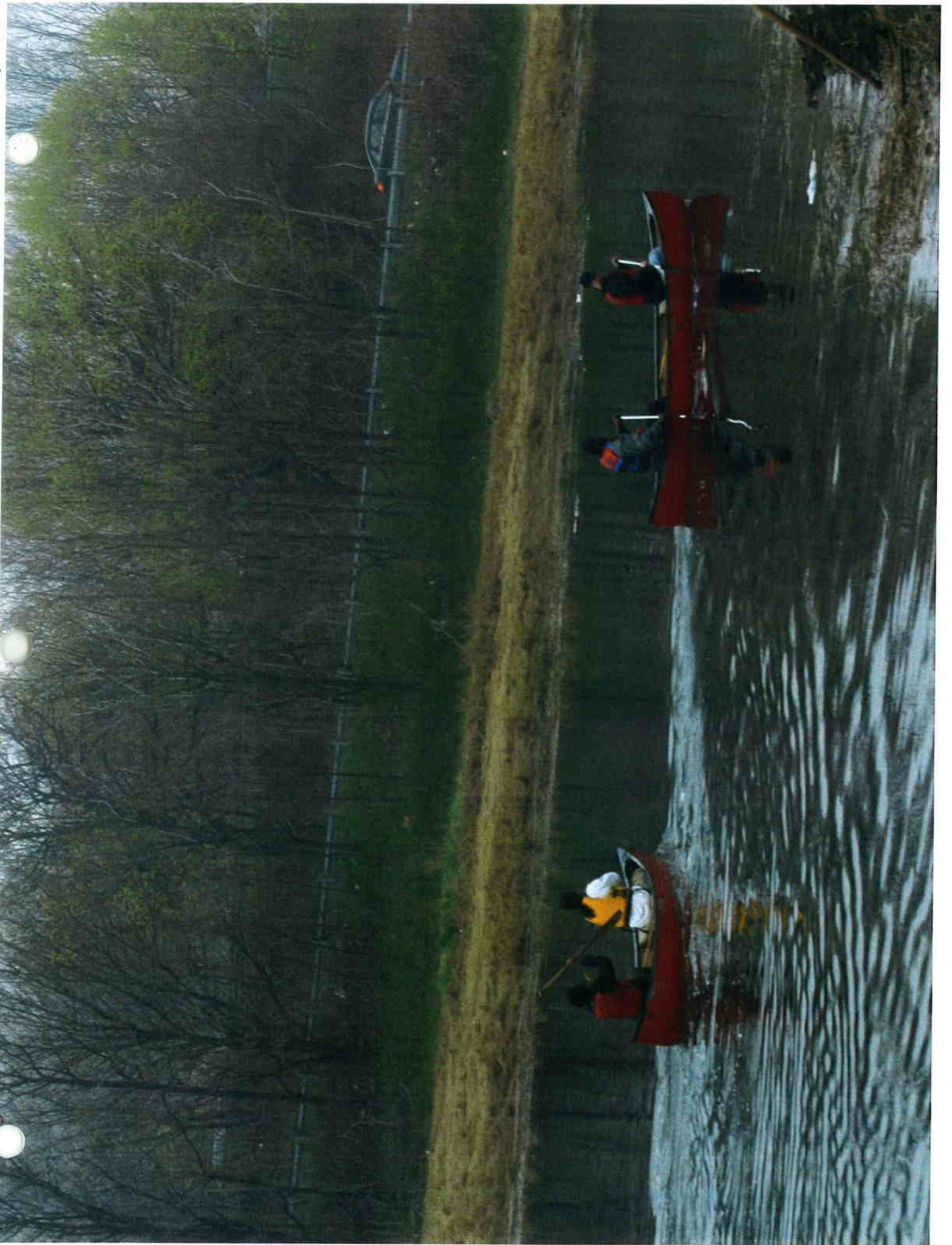




Bilingual Signage along Mill Creek Walkway



YOUTH CANOEING ON MILL CREEK



The Raceway Plaza & Mill Creek





CHELSEA CREEK

100 Views. 100 Stories. 100 Puppets.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

URBAN WILD

COMMUNITY BUILDING

CONNECTION

WORKING WATERFRONT

RIVERWAY

PUBLIC SPACE

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ART



Started in 2004 as part of Art & Community Landscapes, "Re-Storying Chelsea Creek" was a community-based arts project to increase the involvement of residents in the restoration and stewardship of the Chelsea River. The project was led by artist-in-residence Mark Dannenhauer, who engaged community members in photography, storygathering, and poetry that "re-storied" Chelsea Creek and supported the ongoing mission of the Chelsea Creek Restoration Partnership.

The Chelsea Creek Restoration Partnership's mission is to build public awareness; improve public access; seek environmental stewardship; and transform Chelsea Creek into an environmental, recreational, educational and economic resource for East Boston, Chelsea, and the region.

CHELSEA CREEK RESTORATION PARTNERSHIP

- » Chelsea Green Space and Recreation Committee
- » Urban Ecology Institute
- » East Boston Chelsea Creek Action Group
- » Neighborhood of Affordable Housing

"Re-Storying Chelsea Creek" was supported by Art & Community Landscapes (ACL), a program that supports site-based art as a catalyst for increased environmental awareness and stewardship. ACL is a national partnership between the National Endowment for the Arts, National Park Service and New England Foundation for the Arts, with additional funding from Anonymous.

Artist-in-residence Mark Dannenhauer conceived "Re-storying Chelsea Creek" as a collection of multi-dimensional stories that could convey Chelsea Creek's rich natural and cultural history into the ongoing public discussions about the Creek's future. Using the concept of story, the project was designed to engage local residents and businesses in a series of activities to re-tell the Creek's history, and at the same time, create new stories and new opportunities for community participation in its environmental restoration.

The project included a series of exhibits and events which chronicled Chelsea Creek through photography (100 views), storygathering (100 stories), and puppet-making (100 puppets). Exhibit sites included Atlantic Works Gallery, Boston City Hall, Chelsea City Hall, East Boston High School, Orient Heights Library, Logan International Airport and Meridian Street Bridge.



TY. ART. PARTNERSHIP. RESTORATION. STORIES. EDUCATION. CULTURAL PHOTOGRAPHY. YOUTH. ARTISTIC.
PUPPETS. WORKING WATERFRONT. URBAN. INDUSTRIAL. ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE. FUTURE.



Chelsea Creek—as the Chelsea River is commonly called—is bordered by East Boston, Chelsea and Revere and flows into Boston Harbor. Three hundred years ago, a system of estuarine salt marshes edged Chelsea Creek. Today, only small traces of these extensive marshes remain, replaced by industrial and commercial uses.

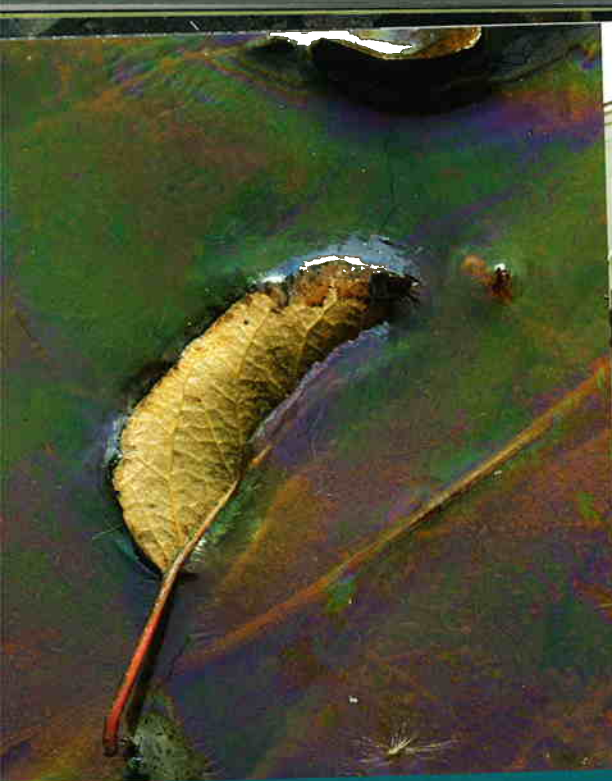
Chelsea Creek is an active commercial hub and is integral our region's economy. Did you know that all the fuel for Logan International

Airport is stored along the banks of the Chelsea Creek? Chelsea Creek is also a chronic target of environmental injustice and related public health concerns. The Creek hosts nearly 80% of the region's heating oil and road salt for more than 250 Massachusetts' communities.

Unlike most of Boston Harbor where public access is nearly ubiquitous, expanding public enjoyment of the waterfront in Chelsea and East Boston was, for many years, only a distant memory. Through the advocacy of

Chelsea Creek Restoration Partnership, the tide of public access is slowly beginning to turn. The Partnership is reclaiming land along the creek both literally, in terms of environmental restoration projects like the Condor Street Urban Wild and Mill Creek interpretive trail, but also culturally through public art. "Re-Storying" is a new way to encourage, create and utilize public access to Chelsea Creek, its natural and cultural history, its meaning for the community in everyday life, and the possibilities for its restoration.

VISION



0 VIEWS. Using telephoto, wide-angle or other lenses and a variety of cameras, the community was invited to participate in a series of Photo Walks in and around Chelsea Creek. The Walks attracted a diverse cross-section of the community who in turn captured nearly 2000 images of an astonishing range of subjects, from issues of environmental injustice and the Creek's flora and fauna, to industrial process and community.

"We grew up, worked, married, had children and lost sight of our surroundings. We get together, children marry, and for the first time in many years we take a look around at our surroundings and realized the changes that have taken place."—Lucy Del Muto, lifetime resident

100 STORIES. Throughout the project the voices of the community were recorded as they re-told their memories and helped frame the outlines of Chelsea Creek's sense of place. Stories were gathered about personal and industrial history, environmental advocacy and restoration, and many other elements reflecting the devotion and sense of place that residents feel for Chelsea Creek, past, present, and future. The result is a dialogue that is at once a remembrance and a catalyst for civic engagement and environmental justice.

"We compared the plants and birds. At Piers Park you could only find the common birds like the pigeon...but right here [at the Urban Wild] you can find cormorants and a red-tailed hawk flying by."—Carlos Pemberthy, observing wildlife

RIGHT PICTURE



PARADE

LIGHT. HABITAT. VIEWS. IMAGINE. CREATIVE. LISTEN. HISTORY. MEMORY. CULTURE. REMEMBER. DIALOGUE. STORY. CRAFT. PARADE. DESIGN. FUN.

NO PUPPETS. Parading through the community at the annual Chelsea River Revel, the puppets served as narrators and observers of the re-storying. They acted as a bridge between people and place, enabling the community to become the bird, the fish, the flora, the Creek. The puppets became actors retelling the history and the future of the Creek. Like beacons, they relayed these messages from Chelsea Creek to the neighborhood streets.



...ene's father told me that on a moon night they got as much as eighty barrels of sand, that's all the diggers put together... it was all white sandy beaches and you could swim from side to side."

... Gambale, remembering Chelsea Creek



DANCE



AT THE NEW ENGLAND FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS

neactively supports the movement of people, ideas, and resources in the arts within New England and beyond, makes vital
ons between artists and audiences, and builds the strength, knowledge, and leadership of the region's creative sector. NEFA
profit organization that operates with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts, the New England state arts
, and from corporations, foundations, and individuals. For more information please visit www.nefa.org.

NEFA apoya de forma creativa los movimientos artísticos e ideas iniciados por individuos o comunidades proveyendoles de
recursos artísticos dentro de los Estados de Nueva Inglaterra y alrededores. La institución también crea conexiones entre artistas
y audiencias, fortalece el conocimiento, y el liderazgo creativo de sectores de la población. NEFA es una organización sin fines de
lucro que opera con fondos del Fondo Nacional para las Artes, agencias artísticas de Nueva Inglaterra, corporaciones, fundaciones
e individuos. Para más información visite el sitio de Internet www.nefa.org

LA FUNDACION DE ARTES DE NUEVA INGLATERRA





**A GREEN SPACE AND
ACTION COMMITTEE**

way
02150
180
acollab.org

URBAN ECOLOGY INSTITUTE

355 Higgins Hall
140 Commonwealth Ave.
Chestnut Hill, MA 02467
617-522-0592
www.urbaneco.org

**NEIGHBORHOOD OF
AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

Chelsea River Action Group

143 Border Street
East Boston, MA 02128
617-567-5882
www.noahcdc.org

ANNENHAUER

Residence
Community Landscapes
bocker.com





HELSEA CREEK

(EL ARROYO DE CHELSEA)

100 Imagenes. 100 Historias. 100 Marionetas.

JUSTICIA PARA EL MEDIO AMBIENTE

VIDA SILVESTRE EN LA CIUDAD

FORTALECIMIENTO DE LA COMUNIDAD

LAZOS Y CONEXIONES

UNA COSTA ACUATICA QUE PRODUCE

ACCESO AL RIO

ESPACIOS PUBLICOS

DESARROLLO ECONOMICO

ARTE



to de revitalización del arroyo de Chelsea (Creek) fue un proyecto artístico de base comunitaria que comenzó en el 2004, como parte de "Paisajes Artísticos de la Comunidad" con el objetivo de fomentar el compromiso y la participación de los residentes en la restauración y mantenimiento del arroyo. El proyecto fue liderado por el artista Mark Dannenhauer, quien involucró a los miembros de la comunidad en actividades fotográficas, historias orales y marionetas gigantes, con la misión de promover el objetivo de conservación de la Asociación de Restauración del Arroyo de Chelsea.

El objetivo de la Asociación de Restauración del Arroyo de Chelsea (CCRP) es fomentar la conciencia del medio ambiente, promover el acceso comunitario, buscar la transformación del medio ambiente y transformar al arroyo de Chelsea en un recurso natural, recreacional, educacional y artístico para la población de East Boston, Chelsea, y las regiones vecinas.

LA ASOCIACIÓN DE RESTAURACIÓN DEL ARROYO DE CHELSEA (CCRP):

- » Comité de Recreación y Espacios Naturales de Chelsea
- » Instituto de Ecología Urbana
- » Grupo de Acción del Arroyo de Chelsea en East Boston
- » Vecindarios de Viviendas Accesibles

El proyecto de restauración del arroyo de Chelsea fue patrocinado por el programa "Paisajes Artísticos de la Comunidad" (ACL) que apoya las manifestaciones artísticas en áreas locales como forma de promover el compromiso y la conciencia en la preservación del medio ambiente. La asociación ACL es una alianza nacional entre el Fondo de Patrocinio de las Artes, el Servicio de Parques Nacionales y la Fundación para las Artes de Nueva Inglaterra, con fondos adicionales de donantes anónimos.

El artista residente Mark Dannenhauer creó este proyecto como una colección de una serie de historias diversas que pudieran de alguna manera reflejar la riqueza natural y la historia cultural para incluirlas en la discusión acerca del futuro de la zona acuática de la ribera del río Chelsea. Usando el concepto de historia oral, el proyecto fue diseñado para comprometer e involucrar a residentes y comerciantes locales en una serie de actividades para que contaran su experiencia personal de cómo fue criarse y vivir en Chelsea. A través de estas historias se crearon también nuevas experiencias y oportunidades para la participación comunitaria en el proceso de restauración.

El proyecto incluyó una serie de exhibiciones y eventos que relataron la historia del arroyo de Chelsea a través de la fotografía (100 imágenes), relatos y anécdotas (100 historias) y la creación de marionetas o títeres (100 marionetas). Los centros de exhibición incluyen la Galería "Atlantic Works", La Alcaldía de Chelsea, la Escuela Superior de East Boston, La Biblioteca Pública de Orient Heights, el Aeropuerto Internacional Logan y el Puente de la calle Meridian.

ARTES



ARTE. SOCIEDAD. RESTAURACIÓN. HISTORIAS. EDUCACIÓN. CULTURAL. FOTOGRAFÍA. JUVENTUD. ARTÍSTICO. FOTOGRAFÍA. LINEA DE COSTA DE TRABAJO. URBANO. INDUSTRIAL. JUSTICIA AMBIENTAL. RESTAURACIÓN. FUTURO.



de Chelsea (Chelsea Creek) como la gente ante lo llama, esta bordeado por East Boston, Revere para desembocar en las aguas de la Boston. Trescientos años atrás, un riquísimo biológico de agua salada bordeaba el estuario. Hoy en día, solo permanecen pequeños. Lo que fue en un momento un pantano rico en vida acuática. Industrias y productos invasieron la zona y reemplazaron la vida

sobre la ribera del río de Chelsea? Además de eso, la bahía de Chelsea y sus afluentes acuáticos han sido históricamente el objeto de injusticia y daño al medio ambiente, causando problemas preocupantes para la salud pública. La costa de Chelsea guarda aproximadamente el 80% del aceite usado en la calefacción y la sal para los caminos que se usan en más de 250 comunidades en Massachusetts.

A diferencia de la Bahía de Boston, en donde el acceso público es algo muy común y corriente, la idea de que la comunidad pudiera disfrutar la zona costera de Chelsea e East Boston, fue por muchos años un recuerdo distante.

Gracias a la labor de defensa de la Asociación de Restauración del Arroyo de Chelsea, esta situación está comenzando a cambiar. La Asociación está reclamando la porción de tierra a lo largo de la zona costera de Chelsea no solo para la revitalización del medio ambiente como en el caso de la reserva natural de la calle Condor o el arroyo Mill, sino también en el aspecto cultural a través del desarrollo artístico.

El proyecto artístico es una nueva forma de promover, crear y utilizar el acceso público en la zona acuática de Chelsea, su historia cultural y natural, su significancia para la vida y el desarrollo de la comunidad en su vida diaria y las posibilidades de restauración.

de Chelsea es una zona urbana activamente que forma parte de la economía de la bahía. Usted que toda la gasolina que se en los aviones del aeropuerto Logan se guarda



100 IMAGENES. Usando una cámara de varios ángulos de enfoque y una variedad de formas de capturar imágenes, la comunidad tuvo la oportunidad de incorporarse a este proyecto participando de caminatas para sacar fotografías de la zona costera y acuática de Silvestre. Estos paseos en la naturaleza atrajeron un muy variado sector de la comunidad, quienes de a poco y en distintos momentos lograron capturar más de 2000 imágenes de una fabulosa diversidad visual, desde asuntos que tienen que ver con la justicia del medio ambiente y la riqueza animal y vegetal de la zona hasta el proceso y las consecuencias del proceso industrial en la comunidad.

“Comparamos las plantas y los pájaros. En el Parque Piers solo podíamos encontrar pájaros muy comunes como las palomas... sin embargo aquí (Reserva Silvestre Urbana) puedes encontrar gorriones y halcones de cola roja volando libremente” —Carlos Pemberthy

“Creemos, trabajamos, nos casamos, tuvimos hijos y perdimos de vista a nuestro alrededor. Cuando nos pusimos viejos y nuestros hijos se casaron e hicieron sus propias vidas, nos dimos cuenta de los profundos cambios en nuestro alrededor que nunca habíamos visto” —Lucy Del Muto, residente

100 SONIDOS. A través del proyecto se grabaron las voces de miembros de la comunidad quienes recontaron sus historias y recuerdos, ayudando a dar marco de referencia al proceso histórico del proyecto. Las historias incluyeron experiencias personales, datos de la historia industrial, procesos de defensa y restauración del medio ambiente y otros tantos elementos que reflejan la devoción y el sentido de pertenencia que los residentes tienen por la zona Silvestre acuática, su pasado, presente y futuro. El resultado fue un diálogo que es al mismo tiempo una oportunidad de recordar y una forma de participar e involucrarse en la justicia del medio ambiente.

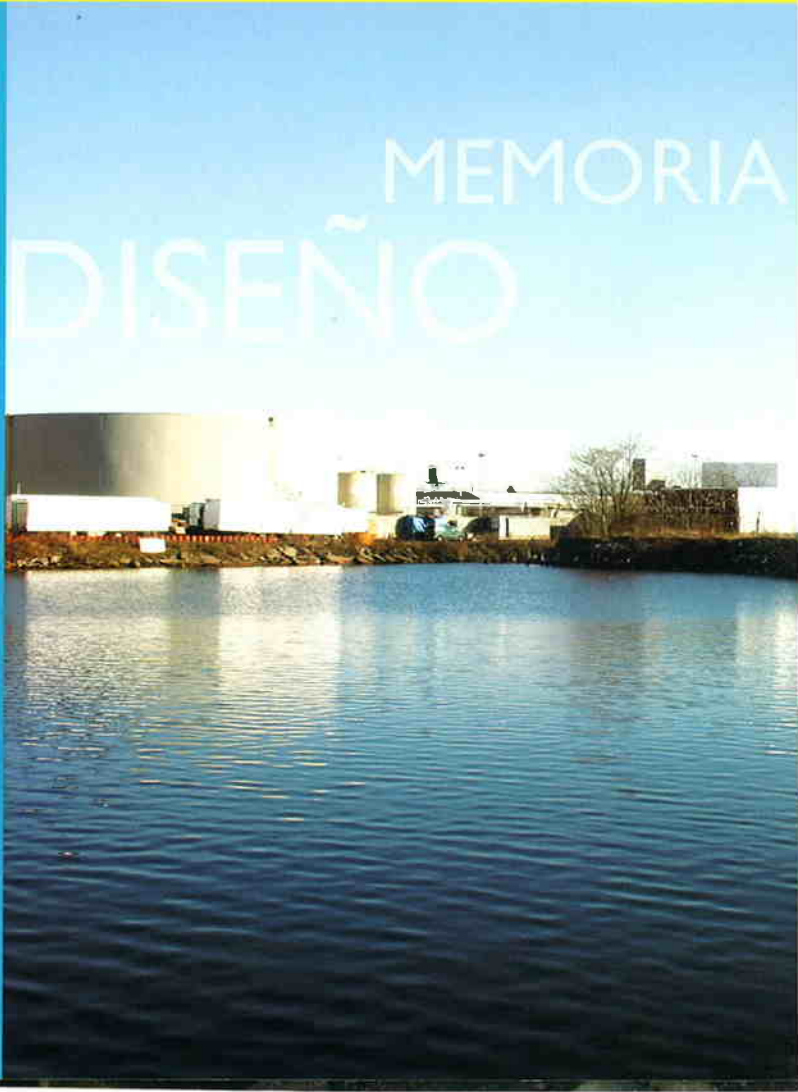


NIDAD. ARTE. NEXOS HUMANOS RESTAURACIÓN. HISTORIAS. CULTURAL. FOTOGRAFÍAS. JÓVENES.
 ICOS. VISIÓN. TITERES. COSTA ACUÁTICA CON VIDA. URBANO. INDUSTRIAL. JUSTICIA AMBIENTAL.
 LIZACIÓN. FUTURO.

100 TITERES. Los titeres se usaron como
 radores y observadores de esta actividad histórica
 participando en el desfile como parte del Festival River
 el en el Puente que une a Chelsea con East Boston.
 permitieron que la comunidad ingresara en una historia
 donde los habitantes pudieron experimentar en
 ma personal lo que significa ser un pajarito, un pez o
 misma costa acuática. Los titeres se convirtieron en
 ores contando su historia y la cultura de la costa.
 pagaron la historia del arroyo de Chelsea a todo
 vecindario.

padre de Eugene me contó que
 ando cambiaba la marea con la luna,
 día juntaron casi 80 barriles de ostras
 carbando en la arena... la playa era
 anca y limpia y se podía nadar de
 do a lado”

ony Gambale recordando la vida en el arroyo de Chelsea



MEMORIA
 DISEÑO



WHEN A THOUSAND THREADS ARE BROUGHT TOGETHER, AND BOUND TO EACH OTHER... **THEY BECOME A STRONG, UNBREAKABLE ROPE.**





Phone: 617-884-2416 Fax: 781-485-1403

Gov. Patrick presents
grant for local park

Chelsea
RECORD
Lights out on
power plant?

CHELSEA Green Space and Recreation Committee

ESTABLISHED IN 1994, the Committee came about to address a major concern to the residents of Chelsea: that two of the largest city parks would no longer exist.

In response to the city's need for better schools, two new school buildings were planned for construction on city property. Unfortunately, the new schools were going to take over the two largest parks in the city, leaving the residents with a serious lack of green space to enjoy.

When the Collaborative learned about the imminent loss of the parks, the Collaborative immediately organized a meeting of park users, youth, adults and others affected by this dilemma.

The group decided rather than protest the much needed new schools, they would instead form a grassroots organization that would combat the loss of open space, protect existing open space and create new parks and environmental opportunities...thus the Green Space and Recreation Committee was formed.

The committee was able to get the city to agree to provide an equal amount of open space for every square foot lost because of the construction – land that would be given back for every man, woman and child in the city to enjoy.

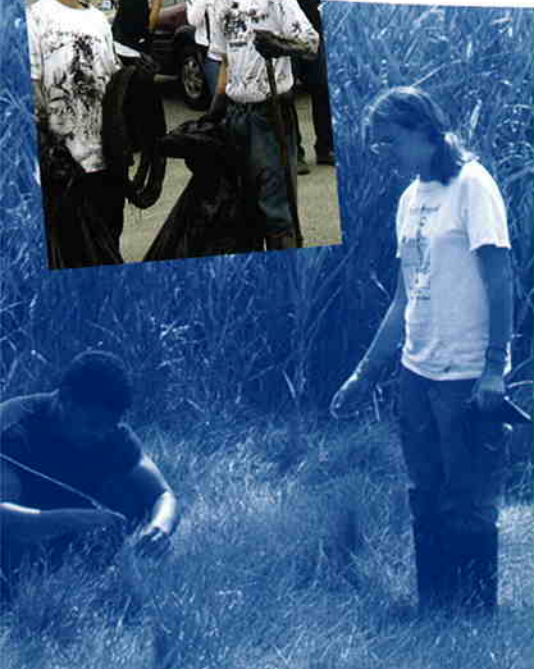
From those beginnings, the Committee came to see bigger problems than just acquiring new parkland. ✨

**“I was concerned about the power plant not only because of the environment,
but because the kids’ school was right there too.” – Juan Marrero**

PHOTOS: (Above) Mural painting at Earth Day event. (Facing Page) Youth Crew Members Lauren and Leo conducting field studies at Mill Creek. (Facing Page Inset) TJ and Jose cleaning up Mill Creek at our annual Earth Day event.

PROJECTS OF THE GREEN SPACE and RECREATION COMMITTEE

- ▶ **Revitalizing the Chelsea Creek.** For decades the Chelsea Creek and Mill Creek waterfronts were used for dumping, cut off from residents and offered little if any benefit to the community. Now, thanks to community pressure and ongoing dialogue, industries are cleaning up their act. Green Space has been able to work with developers and business owners to gain more open space and access to the waterfront. Now, you will see river walks, canoe launches, educational signage, restored wetlands, environmental murals and a beautiful new waterfront park.
- ▶ **Community Garden.** Green Space manages a garden for all in the community to enjoy. Living in urban areas has many benefits. Sometimes, though, homes and apartments offer little outdoor areas for gardening. Enter Green Space! Our Committee provides garden space for residents to grow fruits and vegetables that can be enjoyed throughout even the coldest of seasons.
- ▶ **Tree Planting.** Green Space plants at least ten new trees every summer. Partnering with the city and other non-profits, the youth engage residents and business owners in the process of planting and caring for a tree for years to come. Stroll down Broadway and see some of the trees planted by Green Space members!
- ▶ **Mill Creek Restoration.** Green Space knew that an abandoned shopping center, located next to Mill Creek, would one day be redeveloped. In anticipation of the redevelopment, Green Space met with dozens of residents and asked them what their vision for the area looked like. One aspect of the vision involved making the Mill Creek area much more of an ecological resource where people could go to see water, birds and fish. Green Space took up the challenge and restored an abandoned part of the Creek. Now, residents in the adjacent housing development watch egrets, heron and other waterfowl making the Mill Creek their home.
- ▶ **Fighting Environmental Injustices.** In 2007, a diesel-fueled power plant was being proposed for construction across the street from where all of Chelsea's students attend public elementary school. Thousands of residents banded together to protest, write letters, visit the Governor and get media attention to prevent the power plant from coming to Chelsea. It was a sweet victory when we learned our efforts were successful and there would be no power plant in Chelsea!



Juan Marrero

YOUTH ACTIVIST

"I was concerned about the power plant not only because of the environment, but because the kids' school was right there too. Chelsea's pollution is already bad, just thinking about adding more pollution to the area seemed crazy. I also didn't think it was fair that a power plant would be constructed in Chelsea but yet we wouldn't actually use the energy, other cities would. I got involved in Green Space through my friend Jarim. I began with looking at recycling. Then I realized that young kids like my age, should know about things that are happening in the city. We can pass on information to others. From there we can have a society that cares about our city and cleans it up."

¡Saludos desde/Greetings from



Chelsea Creek!

Greetings from Chelsea Creek



Saludos desde Chelsea Creek

*Greetings from
Chelsea Creek!*



*¡Saludos desde
Chelsea Creek!*



Greetings from
Chelsea Creek!

¡Saludos desde
Chelsea Creek!