

Municipal Library Notes - July 2023.

Spotlight on: Trees

By Christine Bruzzese, Director, Municipal Library

Trees are part of the urban landscape, providing shade, beauty and reminding us of the changing seasons and the importance of nature. Trees can not only be found in parks but on city streets in many neighborhoods.

The Department of Parks and Recreation published **Great Tree Walk Guide: The Great Trees of New York City** in 1990. The Great Tree Program was established in 1985 by the Parks Department "to identify and preserve New York City's oldest, largest and otherwise most unique trees." General background information on the Great Tree Program and the caring of trees is given. Then comes the fun part: descriptions of the unique, famous and not-so-famous trees in each of the five boroughs.

A description of the trees in Forest Park and Crocheron Park:





Front page of pamphlet from the vertical files: A Guide to Street Trees of New York City. Publication date: circa 1983 to 1989.

Municipal Reference Library Notes 1943 Civilian Defense

By Christine Bruzzese, Director, Municipal Library

Historically, Municipal Reference Library Notes were not published in July and August. The look back at Notes 100 years ago will resume with the September 2023 newsletter. However, it's interesting to step back 80 years to 1943 when New York City was affected by World War II.

The September 1943 issue featured a description of **New York City at War: Emergency Services** by Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia. This report explains the air raid protection services set up by City government in the event of an enemy attack on New York City. It was thought that a definite plan would reassure citizens that the <u>City</u> was prepared and protected. Here is the article:



MUNICIPAL REFERENCE LIBRARY NOTES -Volume XXIX September 1943 Number 7 _____ LOCAL CIVILIAN DEFENSE covers the essential details of present practice and regulations in this Division. A report by Mayor F. H. LaGuardia dated July 1, 1943, describes the Emer-Introductory sections describe the Federal and State defense organizations and gency Services set up by the City. New the Protection Services of New York York City at War comprises the first City. full story of the air-raid protection serv-Volunteers in the Public Works Di-vision number 30,694. The largest quota ices which the largest city in the United States has established for its citizens and of the civilian defense is allocated to the in which 432,000 of them are taking part Police Emergency Division, consisting of as volunteers. The report is submitted to 147,714 air-raid wardens, 15,050 emerreassure the people of New York as to gency taxi corps, 36,908 fire watchers and their safety. 46,985 building directors. A chart explains the organization of the many services and their relationship one CITY SHERIFF to another. A table of expenditures indicates a total of more than three millions Many city employees and the citizens of dollars invested to assure full protecinterested in good government should tion of a large and important city. The get real satisfaction in reading the first personnel of the War Council and War Annual Report of the City Sheriff for the Cabinet are named, and the total of inyear 1942, submitted by John J. Mcdividual volunteers in each of the pro-Closkey, Jr., the incumbent of the office tection services is enumerated. The text won through competitive civil service. He elaborates these facts, enlivened with some relates fully the details of reorganization photographs of equipment. of this Office wherein the duties, func-Copies may be secured upon request tions and powers of the formerly elected to the Mayor's Office, City Hall. five county sheriffs were consolidated into * * * an efficiently administered unit. Certain duties with respect to the custody and Simultaneously, there is issued by the City of New York, Citizens Defense transportation of criminal prisoners had Corps, Public Works Division, a Manual been transferred by law to the Departfor Public Works Officers, 1943, which ment of Correction. The establishment of PUBLISHED monthly, except during July and August, by The New York Public Library for circu-lation among the officials and employees of the City of New York. Price: \$2.00 a year; 20 cents a copy. Entered as second-class matter December 18, 1914, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under Act of August 24, 1912. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized. Rebecca B. Rankin, Librarian, Municipal Reference Library, Room 2230 Municipal Building. Telephone: WOrth 2-6607 and 2-6608. Open 9 a. m. to 5 p. m.; Saturdays to 1 p. m.

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