

1907

*The Ottawa Improvement Commission*

*Ottawa* December 19th, 1907.

Sir:-

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report of the Ottawa Improvement Commission for the nine months ending the 31st March, 1907.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

SECRETARY.

Hon. W. S. Fielding.

Minister of Finance.

OTTAWA.

THE OTTAWA IMPROVEMENT COMMISSION

Statement of Receipts and Expenditures up to 31st March, 1907

R E C E I P T S

	For 9 mos. ending <u>31st, Mar. '07</u>	<u>Total</u>
Balance on hand 1st. July, 1906	\$ 1,750.97	
Government Grant.....	45,000.00	\$ 465,000.00
Debentures.....	42,618.24	256,930.45
Interest.....		1,320.31
Miscellaneous.....	50.00	2,704.74
On deposit Saving Bank, Bank of Ot- tawa	<u>5,000.00</u>	
	\$ 94,419.21	\$ 725,965.50
	6,750.97	
	<u>87,668.24</u>	

E X P E N D I T U R E

	For 9 mos. ending <u>31st, Mar. '07</u>	<u>Total</u>
Princess Louise Vista.....		\$ 5,864.14
Road Rideau Hall Grounds.....		1,053.86
City Streets.....		15,512.24
Storage Shed.....		2,246.52
Minto Bridge.....		41,152.74
Minto Bridge Maintenance.....	\$ 166.06	3,725.69
Baxter Property.....		5,420.73
Keefer Property.....		2,350.64
Keefer and McKay Lots, N.E.....	1,214.73	1,214.73
C.A.R. Subway.....		13,197.24
Causeway over Dow's Lake.....		24,315.25
Cartier Square.....		213.34
King Edward Avenue.....	690.13	<del>7,227.52</del>
" " Maintenance.....	1,980.35	7,308.40
" " Park.....	4,381.90	12,120.23
Rideau Canal Driveway Maintenance.....	8,888.14	39,289.82
" " ".....	690.13	168,608.03
National Park.....	33,828.72	91,247.48
Strathcona Park.....	1,826.24	45,605.18
" " Maintenance.....	1,039.20	1,297.97
Rockliffe Park.....	1,254.58	5,660.57
" " Maintenance.....	2,022.62	5,832.80
Somerset St. Park.....	2,828.93	3,410.74
" " " Maintenance.....	39.00	39.00
Glenow Avenue.....	76.13	23,013.30
Monkland Avenue.....	141.66	5,653.18
Green and Maple Islands.....	631.72	7,290.58
Pattersons Creek Parks.....	4,338.83	4,338.83
Contingencies.....	666.12	5,439.10
Office Expenses.....	211.70	2,790.45
Printing and Advertising.....	9.75	864.02
Syenite.....		3,514.75
Road Machinery.....	95.00	11,597.38
Interest.....	528.70	1,869.63
Debentures.....	21,455.00	64,365.00
	\$ 88,335.26	\$ 719,881.55
	6,083.95	6,083.95
Balance on hand.....	\$ 94,419.21	\$ 725,965.50

R E P O R T  
O F  
THE OTTAWA IMPROVEMENT COMMISSION

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For The Nine Months Ended The 31st March, 1907.

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As will be seen by the financial statement attached, the sum of \$42,618.00 was received for debentures during the period covered by this report, three more having been sold to the Bank of Ottawa. There now remains only one to be disposed of, the last of the series of sixteen issued under the Act of 1903.

The expenditure for construction was \$49,998.84 and for maintenance and repairs, \$14,135.42.

The work done was as follows:

KING EDWARD AVENUE - \$690.13.

At the northern end of the avenue the sodding of the boulevard was completed and a row of elm trees planted on each side of the roadway.

KING EDWARD AVENUE PARK - \$4,381.90.

The work done consisted in grading and finishing the walks with shale and in grading, levelling and sodding the surface of the park. A fountain composed of concrete was constructed in the middle of the park and three sets of concrete steps were placed on the avenue side of the park opposite the streets running west - Maple trees were planted at intervals along the walks intersected flower beds were laid out - Along the southern boundary of the park a small plantation of ever-green shrubs was made -

CLIFTON AVENUE - \$76.13.

Some dead elm trees were taken out and new ones put in their place - The roadway from Concession St. to Bank St. was rolled.

MONKLAND AVENUE - \$141.66.

The expenditure was for quarrying and breaking some

stone to be used next year on the roadway.

RIDEAU CANAL DRIVEWAY - \$690.13.

A part of the land just beyond the subway and lying between Pretoria and Strathcona Avenues, was graded, levelled and sodded - About 2,100 cubic yards of filling was deposited near the end of Hutchmore St., near the Rideau Canoe Club house, to raise to the proper level some low lying ground at this place.

FATTERSON'S CREEK PARKS - \$4,338.83.

A stone wing wall was built on each side of the bridge crossing the creek at O'Connor St. Over 1,200 lineal feet of dry stone wall, 3 feet wide on top and 7 feet high were built around the sides of that portion of the creek reaching from Clemor Avenue to the Canal. The wall around the sides of the creek was backed by quarry filling drawn from the quarry on the government reserve on Bell St. The bed of the creek was cleaned and the material taken out was used to fill in behind the wall.

STRATHCONA PARK \$1,826.24

That part of the boulder wall facing the river and extending from Somerset St. to within a hundred yards of the southern end of the park, was finished, and about 1,300 lineal feet of concrete coping placed on top of the wall - The southern part of the park, reaching south from Somerset St., was graded, levelled and sodded, forming an area of about two acres to be used as a playground. The elevation at this end was terraced and the slopes sodded. A walk 8 feet wide was set out around the playground and along the top of the terrace and covered with syenite screenings from the crusher. A set of concrete stairs was built in the slope of the terrace - Elms and maples were planted along the walk and edges of the playground, and a length of about

-3-

300 feet of macadamized roadway constructed -

SOMERSET ST PARK \$2,828.93.

This park, containing a little over two acres, forms the square lying between Somerset, Bay, McLaren and Lyons Streets. The site was graded, levelled and covered with good soil, on which about 6,500 square yards of sodding were laid. A walk, 8 feet wide, was set out near the outer edges of the park running along the four sides and parallel to the streets - Two other walks extending diagonally across the square from its four corners were laid out. These walks were covered with finely broken white stone (feldspar) and form a pleasing contrast with the green sward. A circular fountain made of concrete with an inside diameter of 24 feet, was placed in the centre of the park and the necessary connections made with the city water service. A rockery was built around the fountain and four sets of concrete steps reaching from the ground to the top of the basin were constructed. On either side of the fountain two large circular flower beds were laid out. Five sets of concrete steps, three on Lyon St. and one each on Somerset and McLaren Sts., were placed at points where the level of the park is above the street level. At each of the entrances to the park a concrete foundation was set in the ground to serve as a base for a large flower vase - Maple trees were planted on the border of the outer walk, and a few of the trees which were planted some years ago on the street line were removed and placed in a better location.

ROCKLIFFE PARK \$1,254.58.

A fence of iron pipe and wire, about 2,700 feet in length, was built along the road reaching from the street car pavillion to the National Park, and opposite the street car pavillion was placed an iron gate with a brass railing leading to it. Two summer houses and a kiosk were put up and about a dozen of rustic benches of ornamental design

built around the trunks of trees in different parts of the park.

It is interesting to note that when in Ottawa last Spring, Prince Arthur visited Rockcliffe Park on several occasions, on one of which, April 22nd, 1906, in company with His Excellency, Earl Grey, Mr. H. N. Bate, Chairman of the Commission, Commissioners Jos. Riopelle and C. R. Cunningham, and Dr. Wm. Saunders, Director of Dominion Experimental Farms, he planted three blue spruces. The trees are growing well and will be indicated by tablets bearing the name of the Prince and the date of planting.

NATIONAL PARK - \$53,828.72.

One mile of macadamized road, extending from the bridge near McKay's or Hemlock Lake to the Rifle Range, was completed and on either side was laid a line of 3" agricultural tiles to provide proper drainage. A row of elm trees, spaced 45 feet apart, was planted along each side of the mile of roadway. Along the bank of the river several large gullies, caused by landslides in former years, were filled in, about 20,000 cubic yards of material being used for this purpose. Stone drains running from the South to the Ottawa River, were laid at intervals across the park. These drains are 4 feet deep by 2 feet wide and have, in all, a length of about 10,000 feet. It is expected that these drains will prevent any further trouble from landslides and provide ample drainage for the park.

Some 200 tons of stone were quarried in the vicinity of the park and half of it broken up for use on a roadway around McKay's Lake, the other half having been used for the drains. The ravine extending from the lake to the river, and which is thickly studded with large trees, was underbrushed and cleaned up.

GREEN & MAPLE ISLANDS \$ 631.72

A quantity of earth filling &c. was deposited on the islands and some grading and levelling done.

MAINTENANCE \$14,135.42

A force of laborers and sub-foremen were employed as usual in taking care of the different works. The expenditure for this service was as follows:

Strathcona Park -----	\$1,039.20
Rockliffe Park -----	2,022.62
King Edward Ave.-----	1,980.38
Somerset St. Park-----	39.00
Rideau Canal Drvy.---	8,888.14
Hinto Bridge -----	166.08
Total -----	\$ 14,135.42

The Commission learned with sincerest regret of the death of Sir William H. Hingston, which occurred on the 17th February 1907. Sir William was appointed to the Commission on June 17th 1902, and although his public and professional duties made large demands on his time, he always took a deep interest in the Commission's operations. His death is a loss not only to his fellow members, but to the medical profession and the public life of Canada in both of which he had attained high and honored rank.

By the death of Mr. Robert Surtees, C.E., which occurred on the 29th September, 1906, the Commission was also deprived of the services of a most capable officer - When the Commission was organized in December, 1899, Mr. Surtees was appointed Engineer, and, until failing health obliged him, some months before his death, to relinquish his labors, he designed all the Commission's works and superintended their execution, discharging his duties in a most efficient and satisfactory manner.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman.

Secretary.

Ottawa, December 11th, 1907.