



NOTABLE TREES OF CENTRAL PARK
 Shown on the map above is a selection of Central Park's notable trees. Beginning in 1969 the Friends of Central Park have given professional care to many of them and to hundreds of other trees as well. This work, made possible by generous contributions from concerned citizens throughout the country, saved irreplaceable trees from the ravages of neglect and environmental stress, and set the standard for the extensive tree care program that the Central Park Administration has undertaken and continues today.

Publication of this map was made possible by generous gifts from

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and in memory of
 DORA A. DENNIS
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SOURCES: Egbert L. Viele, *Topographical Map of the City of New York, New York, 1865*; *New York City and County Map*, Charles Magnus, publisher, New York, 1854; *Map of the City of New York and Island of Manhattan (the Commissioners' Maps)*, surveyed by John Randel, Jr., New York, 1811; Bernard Ratzer, *Plan of the City of New York*, surveyed 1766-67, London, 1776.

The site chosen for Central Park was a rocky, broken tableland crossed by five streams—Vista Rock and Great Hill. Natural elevations in the park ranged from 140 feet at Vista Rock to sea level at Harlem Creek. The tableland dropped to the Harlem Flats at the northern end of the park. The Cliff was the site of the fortifications of 1776 and 1814. Harlem Meer occupies the site of the salt marsh of Harlem Creek. The Pond, Ball Field, Lake, Conservatory Water, East Meadow, Pool, and the Loch all occupy valleys.

The Sheep Meadow and the North Meadow occupy tableland, and the New Reservoir was built in a basin formed by the North Branch of the Saw Kill.

Manhattan had developed piecemeal until the Commissioners' Plan of 1811 created a grid extending northward to 155th Street, which gave Central Park its long rectangular shape. The Plan left space for parks, squares and markets in the city. Of these only Tompkins Square, Union Square, Madison Square and Manhattan Square remain. As the city developed and streets were graded, hillsides were cut away and valleys filled. Manhattan's original topography is still to be found in Central Park, although considerably altered.