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Britton, Nathaniel Lord

History of the New York
Botanical Garden

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HISTORY OF THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

N. L. BRITTON

Read September 6, 1915, on the occasion of the Twentieth Anniversary Celebration.

The need of a botanical garden in the City of New York was considered by the Torrey Botanical Club at its meeting of October 24, 1888, at which time Mrs. N. L. Britton described to the Club the Royal Gardens at Kew, England, following a visit made during that year for the purpose of studying the large collections made by Dr. H. H. Rusby in Bolivia in 1885, 1886, and at the next meeting of the Club, the following committee was appointed to further consider the subject: E. E. Sterns, Chairman, Arthur Hollick, Secretary, Thomas Hogg, H. H. Rusby, T. F. Allen, N. L. Britton, J. S. Newberry, Addison Brown. At a meeting of the Club held January 8, 1889, an appeal for a public botanical garden, presented by the committee, was adopted and ordered printed for general circulation. This committee obtained the consent of the Department of Public Parks to the establishment of a botanical garden, with adequate space in one of the city parks, if any individual or organization should provide sufficient means for the establishment of such a garden, and the committee subsequently sought subscriptions for this purpose. The project received wide commendation by the press and by influential citizens.

The committee was reorganized, owing to the illness of the Chairman, a few months later, by the election of Mr. Thomas Hogg as Chairman and the addition of Mrs. Charles P. Daly, Mrs. Lena Potter Cowdin and Mrs. Louis Fitzgerald, and at a meeting of persons interested, held at the residence of Mrs. Daly, 84 Clinton Place, which was addressed by her husband, Judge Charles P. Daly, and by members of the Committee, it was resolved to ask the necessary permission from the Legislature of the State of New York to enable the Department of Parks to appropriate land for a site in Bronx Park for the proposed garden. None of the parks in the present Borough of The Bronx had at that time been developed to any considerable extent and there was some discussion as regards the most favorable and desirable site, but the northern end of Bronx Park was agreed upon as the best.

An Act to provide for the establishment of such a garden, drawn by Judge Charles P. Daly and Judge Addison Brown, was introduced in the

Legislature on March 6, 1891, and became a law by the approval of Governor Hill on April 28, 1891. This Act established a corporation with the name "The New York Botanical Garden," "for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a botanical garden and museum and arboretum therein, for the collection and culture of plants, flowers, shrubs and trees, the advancement of botanical science and knowledge, and the prosecution of original researches therein and in kindred subjects, for affording instruction in the same, for the prosecution and exhibition of ornamental and decorative horticulture and gardening, and for the entertainment, recreation and instruction of the people." The incorporators were Seth Low, Charles P. Daly, John S. Newberry, Charles A. Dana, Addison Brown, Parke Godwin, Henry C. Potter, Charles Butler, Hugh J. Grant, Edward Cooper, Cornelius Vanderbilt, Nathaniel L. Britton, Morris K. Jesup, J. Pierpont Morgan, Andrew Carnegie, Thomas F. Gilroy, Eugene Kelly, Jr., Richard T. Auchmuty, D. O. Mills, Charles F. Chandler, Louis Fitzgerald, Theodore W. Myers, William C. Schermerhorn, Oswald Ottendorfer, Albert Gallup, Timothy F. Allen, Henry R. Hoyt, William G. Choate, William H. Draper, John S. Kennedy, Jesse Seligman, William L. Brown, David Lydig, William E. Dodge, James A. Scrymser, Samuel Sloan, William H. Robertson, Stephen P. Nash, Richard W. Gilder, Thomas Hogg, Nelson Smith, Samuel W. Fairchild, Robert Maclay, William H. S. Wood, George M. Olcut, Charles F. Cox, James R. Pitcher, Percy R. Pyne.

This Act of Incorporation authorized the Commissioners of Public Parks to set apart 250 acres of Bronx Park, after a fund of not less than \$250,000 should be obtained by the incorporators by subscription. A preliminary meeting of the incorporators was held on May 12, 1891, in the parlors of the American Geographical Society, 11 West 29th Street, for consultation as to organization and for the appointment of a Finance Committee and a committee on Constitution, By-Laws and Nominations, and another meeting was held on May 19, 1891, at the residence of Mrs. Louis Fitzgerald, 253 Lexington Avenue, at which time a committee of women was appointed to act with the incorporators, consisting of Mrs. C. P. Daly, Mrs. Samuel Sloan, Mrs. Muhlenberg Bailey, Miss Ann Livingston, Mrs. Harrison, Mrs. Morris K. Jesup, Mrs. Seth Low, Mrs. Arthur Brooks, Mrs. William G. Choate, Mrs. Winthrop Cowdin, Mrs. Prescott Hall Butler, Mrs. Edward Fiedler, Mrs. Edward Lauterbach and Mrs. Joel Wolfe. Judge Addison Brown made the first subscription of \$25,000, which was followed on December

7, 1891, by the subscription of \$25,000 by the Trustees of Columbia College, and, during the next three years, additional subscriptions were obtained. It was found desirable during this period of organization to ask the Legislature for several slight amendments to the Act of Incorporation, and these were granted by the Legislature of 1894 (Chapter 103, Laws of 1894). The corporation met on February 12, 1895, and elected its first board of managers.

At a meeting of the Managers on June 18, 1895, the President reported for the Finance Committee that the sum of \$250,000 required by the Act of Incorporation had been fully subscribed as follows:

Columbia College	\$25,000
J. Pierpont Morgan	25,000
Andrew Carnegie	25,000
Cornelius Vanderbilt	25,000
John D. Rockefeller	25,000
D. O. Mills	25,000
Hon. Addison Brown	25,000
Wm. E. Dodge	10,000
Jas. A. Scrymser	10,000
Wm. C. Schermerhorn	10,000
Hon. Chas. P. Daly	5,000
Oswald Ottendorfer	5,000
Samuel Sloan	5,000
George J. Gould	5,000
Helen M. Gould	5,000
John S. Kennedy	5,000
Wm. Rockefeller	5,000
Arnold, Constable & Co.	5,000
Morris K. Jesup	2,500
Mrs. Melissa P. Dodge	1,000
Tiffany & Co.	1,000
Hugh N. Camp	500
Total	\$250,000

At the same meeting, the Managers requested the President to notify the Commissioners of Public Parks of the completion of the subscription and to ask them to set apart 250 acres of land in Bronx Park for the use of the Botanical Garden as required by the Act of Incorporation,

and also to request the Board of Estimate and Apportionment to authorize the issue of an appropriation of \$500,000 for the erection of suitable buildings. It was referred to the Scientific Directors to agree with the Commissioners of Public Parks as to the 250 acres of Bronx Park, and a special committee on plans, consisting of Mr. Cornelius Vanderbilt, Dr. N. L. Britton, Professor L. M. Underwood, Mr. W. E. Dodge, and Judge Addison Brown, was appointed with power to agree with the Commissioners of Public Parks as to plans for grounds and buildings.

On July 31, 1895, the Commissioners of Public Parks, by resolution, approved the selection of a site in Bronx Park, and appropriated 250 acres of land in the northern part of the Park as shown on Map No. 568 of the Park Department. The first work accomplished immediately after this appropriation of land was the labeling of the larger trees standing in the area and the removal of dead trees. Public lectures were inaugurated on the evening of December 17, 1895, by Dr. Daniel Morris, Assistant Director of the Royal Gardens at Kew, who lectured at the American Museum of Natural History on "The Rise and Progress of the Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew, England." A topographical survey of the tract was commenced in August, 1895, by Mr. A. H. Napier, C.E., and, after his untimely death in the autumn, was completed by Mr. John R. Brinley and accepted by the Board of Managers on January 9, 1896; Mr. Brinley has served as Landscape Engineer of the Garden ever since. The first planting was the establishment of a temporary nursery near the eastern side of the grounds at a point just west of the present propagating houses, and in the spring of 1896, this nursery was enlarged and a border screen of trees was established along the Harlem Division of the New York Central & Hudson River Railroad; in the autumn of 1896, this border screen was continued around the northern and north-eastern boundaries of the Garden and the nursery was again enlarged. The tenth anniversary of this commencement of permanent planting was commemorated by the Torrey Botanical Club on May 23, 1906, at which time Dr. H. H. Rusby delivered an address upon "The History of Botany in New York City" (See *Torrey* 6: 106-111, 133-145). During 1896, the city constructed the Williamsbridge and Bronx Park sewer through the northern part of the grounds, and during this year the contractor with the city for the construction of the reservoir at Jerome Park built, by permission, a temporary railway across the northern part of the grounds, mainly on an elevated trestle, for the purpose of transporting great quantities of earth and rock from Jerome

Park to the meadows near Pelham Bay; this railway was in operation until 1904; traces of its position still remain in a cut between the propagating houses and the stable on the eastern side of the grounds and also in another cut east of the long lake.

On June 17, 1896, the Managers referred the preparation of the general plan of development to a commission, consisting of Dr. N. L. Britton, Director-in-Chief, Mr. Robert W. Gibson, who had been selected as the architect of the museum building and other minor structures, Mr. John R. Brinley, Landscape Engineer, Professor Lucien M. Underwood, of the Scientific Directors, Mr. Samuel Henshaw, Landscape Gardener, and Mr. Lincoln Pierson, Secretary of Lord & Burnham Company, who had been selected as architects of the horticultural houses, this commission to work in cooperation with the committee on plans previously appointed. Using the topographical survey and map prepared by Messrs. Napier and Brinley, this commission completed a general plan and description of it.* The Committee on Plans received the report of the Plans Commission on November 30, 1896, and on its recommendation the report of the Plans Commission and the accompanying general plan were adopted by the Board of Managers on December 14, 1896, subject to such changes and alterations as may hereafter be found necessary, and on January 11, 1897, the Managers directed the plans transmitted to the Commissioners of Public Parks. After some modifications requested by the Commissioners of Parks, the plans were approved by that body on June 21, 1897; on July 19, 1897, the Commissioners of Parks requested the Board of Estimate and Apportionment to issue \$500,000 in special bonds for the erection of buildings; this appropriation was duly made by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment on September 29, 1897. The first city appropriation for annual maintenance was made for the year 1899 in accordance with the provisions of the city charter (Laws of New York, 1898, § 613).

The plans thus approved included the system of driveways and paths, water supply, drainage, planting, the museum building, the first range of public greenhouses, the propagating house, stable, and minor structures. The first grading was done in the spring of 1896, in preparing the ground for the border screen along the railroad, and in August, 1896, some grading was done at the site now occupied by conservatory range no. 1, followed, in 1897, by a continuation of the work here and the filling of swampy places in the northern part of the grounds. Ground

* See *Bulletin, New York Botanical Garden*, 1: 23-46.

was broken for the museum building on December 31, 1897, and progress was made on this structure, Power House No. 1, and the stable during the following year. Ground was broken for the first range of horticultural houses on January 3, 1898. In April, 1898, the construction of the water supply system was commenced, by tapping a 36-inch city water main previously constructed through the grounds, in front of the museum building. The first laying of drain pipe was accomplished in the spring of 1898, by the construction of a porous pipe system in the valley occupied by the herbaceous garden.

The formation of the collections dates from October, 1895, at which time a collection of seeds was purchased for planting. In 1896, Hon. Seth Low, President of Columbia University and Chairman of the Scientific Directors of the Garden, obtained the consent of the Trustees of the University for the use of the greenhouses at the new site of the University at 116th Street and Amsterdam Avenue, for preserving tender plants, and the use of this structure was continued until the greenhouses at the Garden were completed. The first tender plant received was a palm given by Miss Louise Veltin. The Trustees of Columbia University also cooperated with the Garden in that year by permitting the Secretary and Director-in-Chief to occupy rooms for offices and collections in the President's house on the old site of Columbia University at Fourth Avenue and 49th Street, and here the first museum and herbarium specimens and books were accumulated. This accumulation went on rapidly during 1897 and 1898, and the specimens and books were stored at both the old and new sites of Columbia University; at the American Museum of Natural History, at the College of Pharmacy, in the Lorillard Mansion in Bronx Park by permission of the Park Department, and in the Terminal Storage Warehouse at the foot of 28th Street. In November, 1898, a house on Suburban (now 201st) Street, near Perry Avenue, in Bedford Park, was rented as an office and storehouse, and the use of this structure continued until the completion of the Museum Building, the first use of which for specimens and books was made on August 15, 1899. The Torrey Botanical Club presented its library and herbarium; this collection has been made the basis of a local herbarium, since greatly enlarged, illustrating the flora of the vicinity of New York.

Additions to the collections of books, plants and specimens have since been continuous, by purchases, by gifts from several hundred donors, by exchanges with many other institutions, and through exploration.

The library now contains nearly 27,000 bound volumes; over 20,000 specimens are contained in the museums; the herbarium consists of about 1,500,000 specimens; and some 13,500 kinds of plants are under cultivation in the grounds and greenhouses, represented by many thousand individual specimens.

Planting of the herbaceous grounds was commenced in April, 1897, and about 1,500 species were brought together there during that year. In October 1898, the removal of shrubs from the nurseries to form the fruticetum was begun and 195 species installed. The planting of the deciduous arboretum and of the pinetum was commenced in the spring of 1898. The border screen along the property line of Fordham University was partially planted in 1898 and some of the groups of shrubs near the Botanical Garden railroad station were installed in 1900. The herbaceous border in front of the border screen along the railroad was also commenced in 1900, and planted during this year and the next from the present 200th Street entrance to the present Mosholu Parkway entrance.

The houses needed to complete conservatory range no. 1, on which construction was commenced in May, 1901, were completed early in 1902, by means of an additional appropriation made by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment. In this same year, the approach to the terminal station of the Manhattan Railway Company at the southwestern corner of the grounds was constructed by the Garden and paid for by the railway company. The front approach to the museum building, commenced in 1901, was essentially completed late in 1902, including the two fountains and the marble seats at the lower end of the approach. The two concrete-steel tanks in the court of conservatory range no. 1 were completed in 1904.

The bronze statuary fountain immediately in front of the museum building was completed in July, 1905, constructed under designs submitted by Carl E. Tefft, sculptor, and approved by a jury appointed by the Council of the National Sculpture Society and also by the Art Commission of the City of New York.

The first bridge built was the single arch required to carry the main driveway over the Bronx River at the northern end of the Garden, commenced in May, 1903, and essentially finished at the end of that year. The bridge which carries the driveway and path system of the Mosholu Parkway into the Garden was commenced by the Department of Parks in the autumn of 1903. The five-arched long bridge carrying

the driveway and paths across the valley of the Bronx River was commenced in 1904 and completed in 1905. The granite bridge carrying the driveway and paths across the valley of the lakes was constructed during 1905. The approach to the bridge at the Woodlawn Road entrance was built in 1905 and 1906. The boulder bridge, which replaced the old wooden "Blue Bridge" over the Bronx River at the northern end of the Hemlock Grove, was commenced in the autumn of 1906, and completed in September, 1907, built entirely of rounded glacial drift boulders taken mainly from old stone walls within the grounds.

The concrete-steel bridge which spans the gorge of the Bronx below the water-fall was constructed by the Department of Parks in 1910, from designs prepared by Mr. Samuel Parsons, then Landscape Architect of the Department of Parks. A wooden bridge which spanned the river at a much lower level between the site of the new bridge and the water-fall, which had stood for many years and had become unsafe, was subsequently removed.

The bridge carrying the Bronx and Pelham Parkway over the Bronx River was constructed by the Department of Parks in 1905 and 1906, and was dedicated to Linnaeus on May 23, 1907, the two hundredth anniversary of his birth, with suitable ceremonies participated in by several New York institutions.

Construction of boundary fences was commenced in the spring of 1908, and the fence along the property line of Fordham University from the Elevated Railway station to the Southern Boulevard entrance was completed during that year. The fence along the western boundary of the Garden, along the right of way of the New York Central & Hudson River Railroad Company, was built during 1910 and 1911 by the Railroad Company at its own expense, after an agreement had been entered into between the City, the railroad company and the Garden, which provided that the telegraph wires strung on poles along this line should be placed in a conduit, which was also done at the expense of the railroad company. During the grading of the Bronx Boulevard along the eastern side of the grounds in 1910, a retaining wall was built by the Department of Public Works of the City from a point nearly opposite power house no. 2 to the northeastern corner of the grounds; construction of the boundary fence along the Bronx Boulevard from the southern end of this wall southward to the Garden nurseries was commenced during the summer of 1912 and completed during 1913.

Construction of conservatory range no. 2, facing the Bronx Boule-

ward on the eastern side of the grounds, and of its boiler house was commenced early in 1908, by means of additional city appropriations, and four greenhouses of this range, with the boiler house, were completed in 1909. Two additional greenhouses were added in 1910 and 1911, and another in 1912.

The lakes east of the museum building were formed during the years 1904 and 1905, by the flooding of marshes, which formerly occupied the valley containing them, by means of three low dams, and the regulation and grading of their banks.

The first city appropriation for the construction of driveways and paths was made available by a vote of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment on December 23, 1897, \$15,000 being then made available, and this was expended in 1899 in building the plaza facing the railroad station, the path connecting the railroad station with the museum building, and part of the driveway in front of the museum approach. Road building was continued in 1900 by continuing this driveway around the museum as far as the lakes, and building the road from the station plaza to the old position of the Southern Boulevard. All this work was accomplished by city contracts, and included the necessary drainage and grading. In 1900, another appropriation became available and a road 16 feet wide was built over the lines of an old dirt road from a point east of the museum building across the old "blue bridge" at the northern end of the hemlock forest. This crosses the grounds eastwardly to the stable and from a point near the stable southerly to the mansion and on to Pelham Parkway. It was intended that this road should revert to a path after the broad driveway through the grounds contemplated by the general plan should be constructed, and the portion of it from the lakes to near the stable has already so reverted; the rest of it is still used as a road, pending the completion of the 40-foot driveway. The portion of the driveway and path system surrounding conservatory range no. 1 was built by city contract in 1900 and 1902. During these years, paths were built by our own force near the museum building and through the herbaceous garden valley, and the road extending from the herbaceous garden south through the woods was similarly constructed in 1901 and 1902. The path from the Elevated Railway station to the Southern Boulevard entrance, along the property line of Fordham University, was built in 1903, as also the paths on the terrace of conservatory range no. 1 and the path connections of that building with the Southern Boulevard entrance. During the years 1903 and 1904, the driveways on both sides

of the Bronx River, north and east of the museum building, were built, and the driveway west and north of the museum building was constructed in 1904 and 1905, and during these years a large amount of path construction was accomplished at various points in the grounds. The river road, extending from the east end of the long bridge to the Newell Avenue entrance, was first opened for use in November, 1907, and the approach to conservatory range no. 2 was completed in 1908.

In 1907, a beginning was made in constructing the 40-foot driveway from a point near the stable southerly to the Bronx Boulevard, and work on this road was continued at intervals for several years and essentially completed in 1911, but it has not been practicable yet to open this driveway for use. Since 1908, work has been accomplished every year on the path system in various parts of the grounds, and it is now nearly completed throughout the original reservation.

All construction has been plotted on location maps, special attention having been given to thus recording the locations of water pipes and drain pipes. Record photographs showing original features of the grounds and the progress of planting and of construction have been preserved, the earlier ones taken by Mr. Cornelius Van Brunt, then Honorary Floral Photographer, and subsequent ones by Mr. George V. Nash, Head Gardener.

Pursuant to a request by the Board of Managers made November 9, 1914, the Board of Estimate and Apportionment of the City, on January 29, 1915, as authorized by an amendment to the Act of Incorporation of the Garden (Chapter 473, Laws of 1914), set apart and appropriated, by resolution, the portion of Bronx Park situated between the southern boundary of the land appropriated for the use of the Garden by the Commissioners of Public Parks in 1895, and the northern side of Pelham Avenue, with the exception of three small areas retained for the use of the Park Department. This additional land aggregates over 140 acres and makes the total present Garden reservation nearly 400 acres, including the large stone mansion on the eastern side of the Bronx River. Surveys and plans for the development of this additional land are at present being made and some work has been accomplished during the season in grading, drainage and the building of driveways and paths, as well as the care of the woodlands.

Instruction and investigation were inaugurated in 1896 by an agreement made with Columbia University on January 8th of that year, through which the University deposited its herbarium and botanical

library with the Garden, and which provided cooperative relations as regards advanced students. Upon the occupancy of the museum building in 1899 and the equipment of the laboratories, following the appointment on July 1st of that year of Dr. D. T. MacDougal as Director of the Laboratories, twenty students were registered, six of them from Columbia University. Advanced students have been given the privileges of the institution in every succeeding year, and their investigations have covered a very wide range of subjects. Public lectures on Saturday afternoons in the lecture hall of the Museum Building were commenced on April 14, 1900, and during this year seventeen such lectures were given in the spring course and the autumn course. A summer course was added in 1910, lectures being delivered that year on each Saturday afternoon from April 30 to November 19, and they have since been continued from early spring until late autumn. In the spring of 1905, a series of lectures and accompanying demonstrations to pupils and teachers of the public schools was organized, and has been continued during succeeding years. Docentry was organized in 1910, by arranging to provide guidance to visitors to the grounds, buildings and collections on every week day at three o'clock in the afternoon, and has since been continued.

The botanical exploration of little-known regions was inaugurated in 1898, when Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Heller were sent to Porto Rico, by means of a gift from Mr. Cornelius Vanderbilt, the first President of the Garden. Exploration has been continued ever since whenever funds have been available for this important work, and very valuable additions have thus been made to knowledge and to the permanent collections of the Garden, over 100 trips and expeditions having since been carried out.

During exploration work accomplished in Jamaica, it was found desirable for the Garden to have a temporary station on that island; in 1903, the buildings at the Cinchona Botanical Station of the Jamaica Government, located at an elevation of about 5,000 feet in the Blue Mountains, was rented for a term of ten years, at the rate of 60 pounds annually, the rental being used by the Jamaica Government for the upkeep of the establishment. Students from the Garden and from other American and British institutions were given the privileges of this station during these years, and it served an excellent purpose as an exploration base. At the end of the ten-year period, the British Association for the Advancement of Science took over the rental and is continuing this station as a botanical laboratory.

Investigations by members of the staff and students were commenced as soon as museum and laboratory facilities were provided in 1899, and have since been continued with such time as has been available beyond that required for administrative and curatorial duties, but this time has necessarily been limited.

Publication was begun by issuing the first number of the *Bulletin*, on April 15, 1896, and 32 numbers of the *Bulletin*, forming seven volumes and part of the eighth volume, have been issued. The series of *Contributions* was commenced in October, 1899, by the publication of Dr. MacDougal's paper "Symbiosis and Saprophytism"; this series has now reached No. 178, forming seven volumes and part of the eighth volume. The first number of the *Journal* was issued in January, 1900, and has now reached No. 188, forming fifteen volumes and part of the sixteenth. The publication of the *Memoirs* was begun on February 15, 1900, the first volume containing Dr. Rydberg's "Catalogue of the Flora of Montana and the Yellowstone National Park"; five volumes have been issued. The first part of *North American Flora* was issued May 22, 1905; twenty-four parts have now been issued. *Mycologia* was commenced in January, 1909, and is now in its seventh volume. All these publications have been aided by the income of the David Lydig Fund bequeathed in 1899 by Charles P. Daly.

Provisions for membership in the Garden, including Patrons, Fellows for Life, and Annual Members, were made by the Board of Managers at their meeting of March 4, 1896. Provisions for Benefactors, Life Members, Sustaining Members, and Fellowship Members were subsequently established.

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS—1895 TO 1915

Presidents

Cornelius Vanderbilt, 1895 to 1898 Addison Brown, 1910 to 1913
Darius O. Mills, 1898 to 1909 W. Gilman Thompson, 1913 to date

Vice-Presidents

Andrew Carnegie, 1895 to date Francis Lynde Stetson, 1914 to date

Treasurers

J. Pierpont Morgan, 1895 to 1899 Charles F. Cox, 1899 to 1911
Jas. A. Scrymser, 1911 to date

Secretary

N. L. Britton, 1895 to date

Elected Managers

Andrew Carnegie, 1895 to date	W. Gilman Thompson, 1902 to date
Charles F. Cox, 1895 to 1902	Robert W. de Forest, 1904 to date
Charles P. Daly, 1895 to 1899	Francis Lynde Stetson, 1908 to date
William E. Dodge, 1895 to 1903	N. L. Britton, 1900 to date
John I. Kane, 1895 to 1913	W. J. Matheson, 1911 to date
Darius O. Mills, 1895 to 1909	Thomas H. Hubbard, 1911 to 1913
J. Pierpont Morgan, 1895 to 1913	Myles Tierney, 1911 to date
Jas. A. Scrymser, 1895 to date	Edward D. Adams, 1912 to date
Samuel Sloan, 1895 to 1906	Henry W. de Forest, 1913 to date
Cornelius Vanderbilt, 1895 to 1898	Lewis R. Morris, 1914 to date
W. Bayard Cutting, 1897 to 1910	Louis C. Tiffany, 1914 to date
Samuel Thorne, 1900 to 1909	Daniel Guggenheim, 1914 to date
George W. Perkins, 1901 to date	J. P. Morgan, 1914 to date
Frederic R. Newbold, 1915	

Scientific Directors

N. L. Britton, 1895	Nicholas Murray Butler, 1902 to date
Addison Brown, 1895 to 1911	Charles F. Cox, 1903 to 1911
Charles F. Chandler, 1895 to 1910	Frederic S. Lee, 1903 to date
James F. Kemp, 1895 to date.	Henry A. Rogers, 1903
Robert Maclay, 1895, 1896	Henry N. Tift, 1904, 1905
W. Gilman Thompson, 1896 to 1901	Egerton L. Winthrop, Jr.,
Seth Low, 1895 to 1902	1906 to 1913
Lucien M. Underwood, 1895 to 1907	William J. Gies, 1911 to date
Charles B. Hubbell, 1897	R. A. Harper, 1911 to date
J. J. Little, 1898, 1899	Edward S. Burgess, 1912, 1913
Miles O'Brien, 1900 to 1902	Eugene P. Bicknell, 1913 to date
Henry H. Rusby, 1901 to date	Thomas W. Churchill, 1913 to date

Mayors of the City of New York

William L. Strong, 1895 to 1897	George B. McClellan, 1904 to 1909
R. A. Van Wyck, 1898 to 1901	William J. Gaynor, 1910 to 1913
Seth Low, 1902, 1903	Ardolph L. Kline, 1913
John Purroy Mitchel, 1914 to date	

Presidents of the Department of Public Parks

S. V. R. Cruger, 1895, 1896	Moses Herrman, 1906
Samuel MacMillan, 1897	Henry Smith, 1907 to 1909
George C. Clausen, 1898 to 1901	Charles B. Stover, 1910 to 1913
William R. Willcox, 1902, 1903	Louis F. LaRoche, 1913
John J. Pallas, 1904, 1905	Cabot Ward, 1914 to date

*Commissioners of Parks of the Borough of The Bronx**

August Moebus, 1898 to 1901	Henry Schrader, 1905, 1906
John E. Eustis, 1902, 1903	George E. Walgrove, 1906
William P. Schmitt, 1904	Joseph I. Berry, 1906 to 1909
John J. Brady, 1904	Thomas J. Higgins, 1910 to 1913
Thomas W. Whittle, 1914 to date	

GARDEN STAFF

Director-in-Chief

N. L. Britton, 1896 to date

Landscape Engineer

John R. Brinley, 1896 to date

General Assistant

George V. Nash, 1896 to 1900

Head Gardeners

Samuel Henshaw, 1897 to 1900 George V. Nash, 1901 to date

Honorary Curator of the Economic Collections

Henry H. Rusby, 1898 to date

First Assistants

D. T. MacDougal, 1899 to 1905 William A. Murrill, 1906 to date

Directors of the Laboratories

D. T. MacDougal, 1899 to 1905	Fred J. Seaver, 1908 to 1910
C. Stuart Gager, 1906, 1907	A. B. Stout, 1911 to date

* Invited to attend all meetings of the Board of Managers.

Assistant Curators of the Museums and Herbarium

P. A. Rydberg, 1899 to 1905	Robert S. Williams, 1906
Arthur Hollick, 1901 to 1905	Charles B. Robinson, 1906, 1907
Marshall A. Howe, 1901 to 1905	Norman Taylor, 1909 to 1911
Frank S. Earle, 1901 to 1904	Percy Wilson, 1910 to 1913
William A. Murrill, 1904, 1905	Margaret Slosson, 1914 to date

Curators of the Museums and Herbarium

John K. Small, 1899 to 1905	Arthur Hollick, 1906 to 1913
P. A. Rydberg, 1906 to date	Marshall A. Howe, 1906 to date
Fred J. Seaver, 1911 to date	

Curator of the Plantations

George V. Nash, 1900

Librarians

Anna Murray Vail, 1900 to 1907	John H. Barnhart, 1907 to 1912
Sarah H. Harlow, 1913 to date	

Superintendents of Buildings and Grounds

F. A. Schilling, 1900 to 1910	Arthur J. Corbett, 1911 to date
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Accountant

Walter S. Groesbeck, 1900 to date

Honorary Floral Photographer

Cornelius Van Brunt, 1900 to 1903

Consulting Chemist

William J. Gies, 1902 to date

Editorial Assistant

John H. Barnhart, 1903 to 1907

Assistant Directors

D. T. MacDougal, 1904, 1905	William A. Murrill, 1908 to date
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Museum Custodians

John A. Shafer, 1904 to 1908	Arthur J. Corbett, 1909, 1910
F. A. Schilling, 1911 to date	

Head Curator of the Museums and Herbarium

John K. Small, 1906 to date

Administrative Assistants

Percy Wilson, 1906 to 1909

Robert S. Williams, 1910 to date

Custodians of the Plantations

Norman Taylor, 1908

Richard C. Schneider, 1909

Honorary Curator of Mosses

Elizabeth G. Britton, 1912 to date

Bibliographer

John H. Barnhart, 1913 to date

Associate Curators of the Museums and Herbarium

Percy Wilson, 1914 to date

Francis W. Pennell, 1914 to date

Honorary Curator of Fossil Plants

Arthur Hollick, 1914 to date

