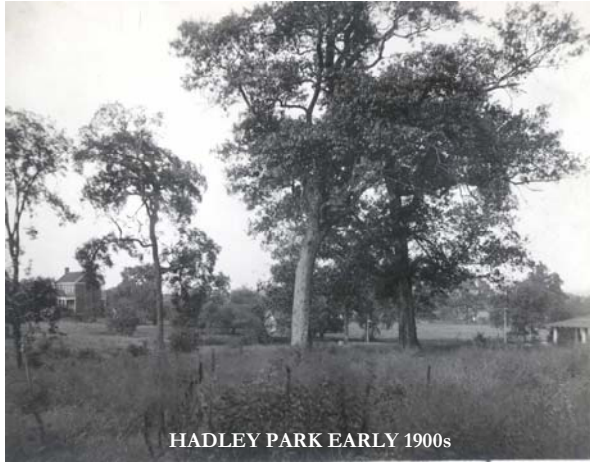


HISTORIC HADLEY PARK

An Important Place In History

At the request of President George Gates of Fisk University and other leaders of the North Nashville community, the Park Board purchased the park in May 1912 for \$20,000 which was furnished by Mayor Hilary Howse and the city council and dedicated it on July 4, 1912. Purchase records identify the park as the Harding property, but it contained the home of the Hadley family whose plantation became the site of Tennessee State University at about the time the park was purchased.



HADLEY PARK EARLY 1900s

Mayor Howse in 1912 described Hadley Park as the first public park for black citizens by any city in the world, and that hyperbole probably is accurate insofar as it relates to Tennessee and the South. Park Board member Major E. C. Lewis named it Hadley Park, but did not identify the Hadley he intended to honor. The city's black newspaper at the time assumed Lewis meant the Hadley family, John L. Hadley specifically, a white, slave-owning family which had lived on the site and which had helped former slaves adjust to freedom. That assumption probably was accurate, but it is possible that Lewis intended to honor Dr. W. A. Hadley, a pioneer black physician with whom Lewis had worked during the 1897 Centennial.

The Board in 1912 approved the use of the park as the site of a public library, converted the Hadley house into a community center, installed benches and play equipment, and employed Benjamin Carr, Jr. as caretaker with Lucille Lacour becoming the first playground supervisor. The Works Progress Administration during the 1930s built the park entrance gates and improved recreational facilities, and the Park Board in 1943 built shower facilities for the use of black servicemen.

Excerpt from the *Parks of Nashville: A History of the Board of Parks and Recreation* by Leland R. Johnson

Metropolitan Board of Parks and Recreation

Justice Adolpho A. Birch, Jr., Chairperson
Ms. Jenny Hannon, Vice Chairperson
Ms. Susan S. Jones
Mr. Lamont Carter
Mr. Stan Fossick
Mr. James Lawson
Mr. Edward Kindall


511 Oman Street
Nashville, TN. 37203
Phone: (615) 862-8400
Fax: (615) 862-8414
www.nashville.gov/parks

Bill Purcell, Mayor
Roy E. Wilson, Director

Hadley Park Community Center
1037 28th Avenue North
Nashville, Tennessee 37207
Phone: 862-8451

OPERATING HOURS

Monday - Thursday, 6:00 a.m. until 8:30 p.m.
Friday, 6:00 a.m. until 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

 862-8400

metro  parks

HADLEY PARK COMMUNITY CENTER



Something for Everyone



The Hadley Park Recreation Center provides a wide range of programs and services to all members of the community. Activities and services for everyone from preschoolers to senior citizens are offered at the center throughout the year. With a year-round indoor pool, state of the art fitness center, indoor walking track, gymnasium, computer lab, game room, crafts area, meeting rooms, tennis facilities and senior activity area, Hadley Park is able to provide a wide range of activities to meet the needs of the entire community.

Programs and activities for adults, families and seniors are scheduled daily. In addition to open play and open swim times, activities offered at Hadley include organized sports, fitness classes, individualized training, arts classes, dance, aquatic fitness, swim classes and much more. A complete schedule of activities is available at the recreation center.

Youth after-school and summer programs are offered when schools are not in session and operate under a "drop-in" policy. Metro Parks cannot accept any custodial responsibilities for children attending these activities. Children

between the ages of 6 and 14 can participate in an organized program that includes competitive sports, organized games, cultural arts, environmental awareness and fitness activities. More information on these programs is available at the recreation center.

Program Activities

The program at Hadley is built around a core set of activity types including competitive youth and adult sports, organized games, cultural arts, environmental awareness and fitness. **Sports** include softball, track and field, tennis, basketball, volleyball, soccer and flag football. **Games** such as table tennis, billiards, roller-skating, card tournaments, relay races and table games are also part of the program. Offerings in the area of **Cultural Arts** include dance, drawing, music, drama and multi-cultural events. **Environmental awareness** is through the Outdoor Environmental Recreation program, "People Exploring Nature" summer camp as well as *Boy and Girl Scouting* programs. Our core programs emphasize **fitness** for all age groups through group exercise classes, walking/hiking groups, and weight training.



FITNESS MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The Hadley Park Fitness Center offers daily, monthly and annual memberships. The rates allow patrons to utilize the fitness center equipment. Individual fees may also apply to specific classes and the aquatic center. *Fees become effective April 13, 2006*



DAILY RATES

Adult Daily Rate: \$2.00

Teens (13-16) Daily Rate: \$1.00

Senior (62 and older) Daily Rate: \$1.00

MONTHLY MEMBERSHIPS

Adult Monthly Membership: \$25.00

Teens (13-16) Monthly Membership: \$15.00

Senior (62 and older) Monthly Membership: \$15.00

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS

Adult Annual Membership: \$250.00

Teens (13-16) Annual Membership: \$150.00

Senior (62 and older) Annual Membership: \$150.00

Fitness Center Regulations

Children 12 years of age and under will not be admitted to the Fitness Center. Teens between the ages of 13 and 16 will be admitted to the Fitness Center, only if they are accompanied by an adult.

Individuals 17 years of age and over must pay the adult fee.