

Use 19, 1976 St. A. Record

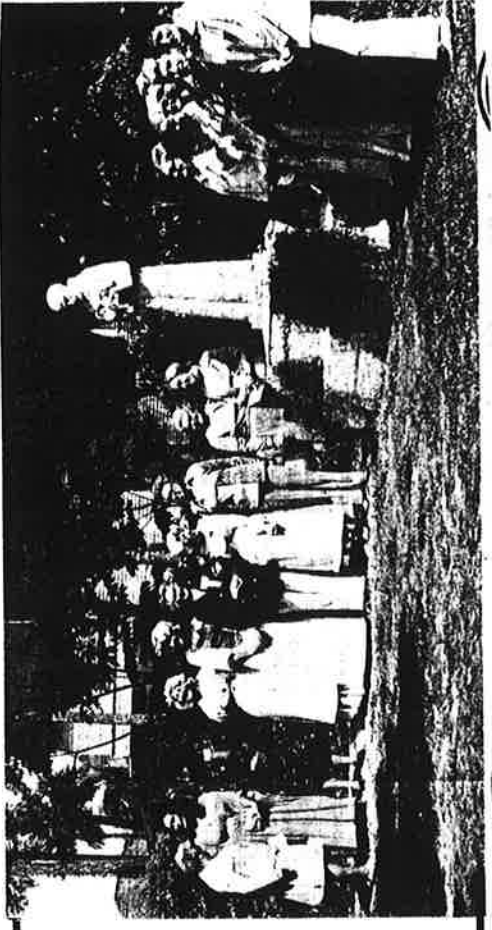
Altrusans' Park Top Bicentennial Project

The coveted Mamie L. Bass Service Award was presented this month to the Altrusa Club of St. Augustine for its St. Francis Park bicentennial project. Accepting the honors at the district three conference, held at the Palm Beach Breakers Hotel, were Diana Dixon, club president, and Becky Braaddock, alternate to the meeting.

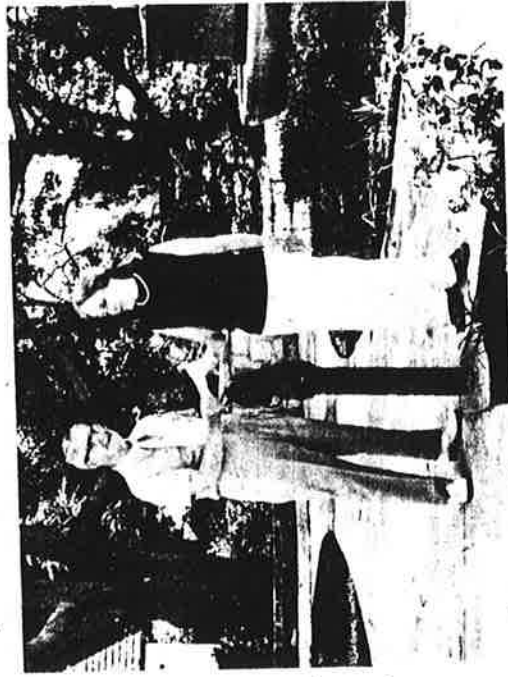
The local club's project was chosen from a field of entries from the 55 clubs in district three. The district includes Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia.

With the presentation of the district honors, the local club's 200th anniversary project is now eligible for the international Mamie L. Bass award. Winner of that honor will be announced in July 1977 at the international convention in Brighton, England.

St. Francis Park, on the corner of St. George and St. Francis streets, was completed in April of this year. The park, which includes a statue of St. Francis dedicated in April, adjoins the Ljambias House, the historical home over which the Altrusans serve as custodians. Plantings, walkways, a fountain and other features provide the park's tranquil setting.



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Altrusans Get Park Donation

St. Augustine resident Earl Masters presents \$100 to Mrs. Mel Longo, chairman of the bicentennial project for the Altrusa Club. Local Altrusans elected to develop a park next to the Ljambias House as their contribution to the 300th anniversary, and Masters was so impressed with the club's undertaking that he wanted to offer his personal support. He hopes his action will encourage others to do likewise, he points out.

Masters has a special interest in the park, he adds, because he is secretary to the board of trustees of the Ljambias House and a liaison between the Altrusa Club, which maintains the Ljambias House, and the St. Augustine Historical Society, which entrusted Altrusans with care of the historic structure.

Page 2, The St. Augustine Record, Wednesday, March 12, 1975

Altrusan Project Under Way

Work is well under way on St. Francis Park, the bicentennial project for the Altrusa Club of St. Augustine. The park, adjoining the Ljambias House on St. Francis Street, is being created by the Altrusans in this area because "we felt there was a need for a park at that end of the town, where there are none," explains Mrs. Mel Longo, Altrusa chairman for the project.

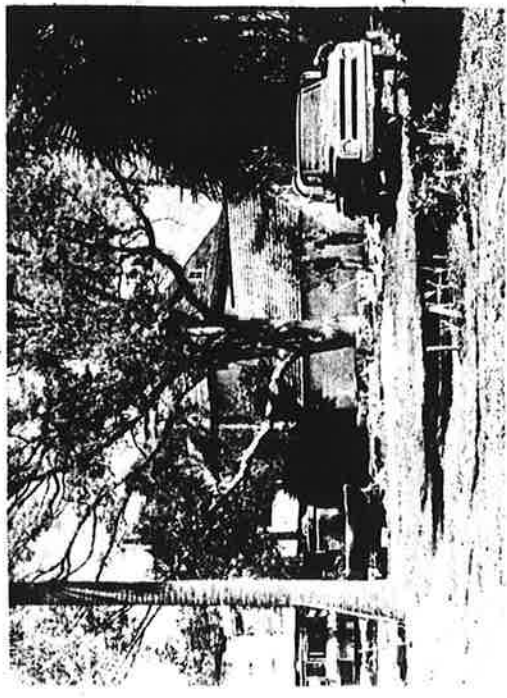
THE PROJECT IS a cooperative one, Mrs. Longo adds. The property was purchased by the St. Augustine Historical Society, with the commitment from the Altrusa Club that the club would beautify the area as a park.

Additional cooperation has come from the St. Augustine Technical Center. A student from that facility is assisting with the plantings.

FOCAL POINT of the park will be a fountain, placed in the center, with walkways leading to it. A second focal point will be a tree, where walkways will lead to shaded benches.

The fountain is an old horse trough, donated to the project. The plan for the park was developed by Ed Allen, Jacksonville agricultural specialist, and actual work on the project was begun last fall. The planning, however, was undertaken some time ago.

"We're working just as fast as we can," Mrs. Longo notes of the project, adding "we're open to donations... Anyone who wishes to contribute" is cordially invited to do so. Altrusans favor monetary donations over plants, however.



St. Francis Park is progressing

