

Friends of Longford Park

Mapping the Park

Lesson Plan

Approximate duration:	One hour.
Suitable for:	Key Stage 2 and 3.
Learning objective:	To use maps to identify how the park has changed.
Overview:	<p>Children use old maps and their personal observations of the park to identify how it has changed and consider how it might change in the future.</p> <p>The Timeline activity could be undertaken before doing this in order that children understand how the Park changed from being a private home to a public area.</p>
Location:	Southern area of the park including the former Longford Hall and the formal gardens.
Materials required:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Copies of 1894 and 1933 maps• Worksheet• Pens• Paper

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Session Plan: Give children a copy of the 1894 and 1933 ordnance survey maps. Ask them to identify how the Park changed between 1894 and 1933.

Key to these changes was the change in use from a private home to a public park. The 1894 map refers only to Longford Hall whereas in 1933 map is clearly marked Longford Park. A range of facilities were introduced for the general public after Stretford Council bought the land from the Rylands family. Examples include:

- Bowling greens
- Putting green
- Tennis courts
- Bandstand
- Drinking fountains (D.Fn)
- Toilets (marked as lavatories or Lav)
- The lake in front of the Hall was slightly enlarged
- An open-air school was built
- The well (marked W) north-west of the Hall was removed
- Greenhouses formerly used for growing food north of the Hall were removed (areas in crosshatching)

Then ask them to walk around the park, particularly the area around the former Longford Hall, and look at the 1933 map and compare it with their observations of the present-day park. What is no longer there? Examples include:

- Longford Hall itself
- The lake immediately south of Longford Hall
- The bandstand south-west of Longford Hall
- The various public lavatories (some marked Lav)
- The various drinking fountains (marked D.Fn)
- Flagstaffs (marked F.S.)
- The putting green south of Longford Hall
- Glass roofed surround around the bowling green and conservatory on Longford Hall

What does the park have now that it did not in 1933? Examples include:

- Play areas for children
- Pets Corner
- Car park
- Gardens on the site of the former Longford Hall

