



BACKGROUND INFORMATION

PARK OVERVIEW

Quail Hollow Park exists today as a natural escape. The historic estate remains true to its 1930s character, as evident in the Manor House, but the surrounding site has returned to a state that precedes even the Brumbaugh family. What was once a heavily worked, open farmland has become, once again, a vista of scenic forests, prairies, wetlands, and grasslands.

About one mile south of the Portage County line, on Congress Lake Road, a single sign can be found that designates the main and only public entrance to Quail Hollow Park. This park has become one of the few naturalized areas within the largely suburban Village of Hartville and rural expanses of Lake Township. It contains expanses of woodlands, meadows, marshes, wetlands, and a variety of ecological zones that house historic buildings, two residences, and numerous trails; all of which provide a glimpse into over 200 years of rich cultural and natural history.

From the main entrance, the winding drive continues east, where the Levitt House can be seen through the trees. Adjacent to this residence, a primitive group camp area, accommodates up to 30 people and includes a fire ring, parking area and picnic tables. Continuing east, a linear parking lot, small playground, basketball hoops and open greenspace surround a small pond to make up the area known as “Shady Lane.” Located at the center of the park, this open space offers recreation to the youngest of the visiting park guests.

The entrance drive continues further east past forests and prairie grass before reaching a clearing that overlooks the historic Manor House, Carriage House, and Caretaker’s House. These historic buildings are accompanied by several maintenance sheds, a fire circle, pavilion, herb garden and historic rock garden. Picnic areas are scattered throughout the park, situated adjacent to the Manor House, pond, and gardens, with grills and a vault restroom located nearby. These amenities provide quiet relaxation, as well as excellent views to the surrounding natural and historic elements that make up the heart of the park. Though the main circulation route dead ends at the Carriage House, a small drive continues on past the elms, to the Little House. Beyond the house, the northern portion of the park contains a bird sanctuary, vernal pools, and varying types of coniferous and deciduous trees.

Miles of mountain bike trails, equestrian trails, hiking trails, and multi-use trails are scattered throughout all areas of the park. Even the Buckeye Trail utilizes the extensive trail network prior to continuing north to Summit County. Cross country skiers utilize the entire trail system if the weather and trail conditions allow. The “Nature for All” Trail, composed of asphalt, is an interpretive trail, accessible to handicapped users.

Under Stark Parks management, multiple activities are offered at Quail Hollow Park. Park guests can tent camp in the group campground, fish or play basketball or volleyball at the Shady Lane Pond, explore the many trails, or experience the natural and historic features of the park through nature programming and historic tours.

PARK HISTORY







Quail Hollow Park offers a glimpse into the lives of the earliest inhabitants of Ohio, Stark County, and the Village of Hartville. Its lasting structures offer remnants of the past that give insight into the history of the Brumbaugh, Rubright and Stewart families that may have otherwise been lost.

The importance of understanding and preserving this history cannot be overstated. The maintaining of the preservation efforts at Quail Hollow Park will not only educate the public, but also generate respect for the legacy and hard work of those who made Stark County what it is today. The park and its history convey lasting value and accomplishment, critical to the sense of community and pride that are fundamental to the region’s quality of life and achievements. The history of the park gives life and meaning to each building and to the people associated with these structures that provide a tangible link to the past; the two work in tandem.



Stewart Farm – Aerial View 1950

HISTORIC TIMELINE



- 1807
- Conrad Brumbaugh settles in Stark County,
- 1807-1840
- He and his family build a small, two-story cabin, located nearby the present-day Brumbaugh Cemetery.

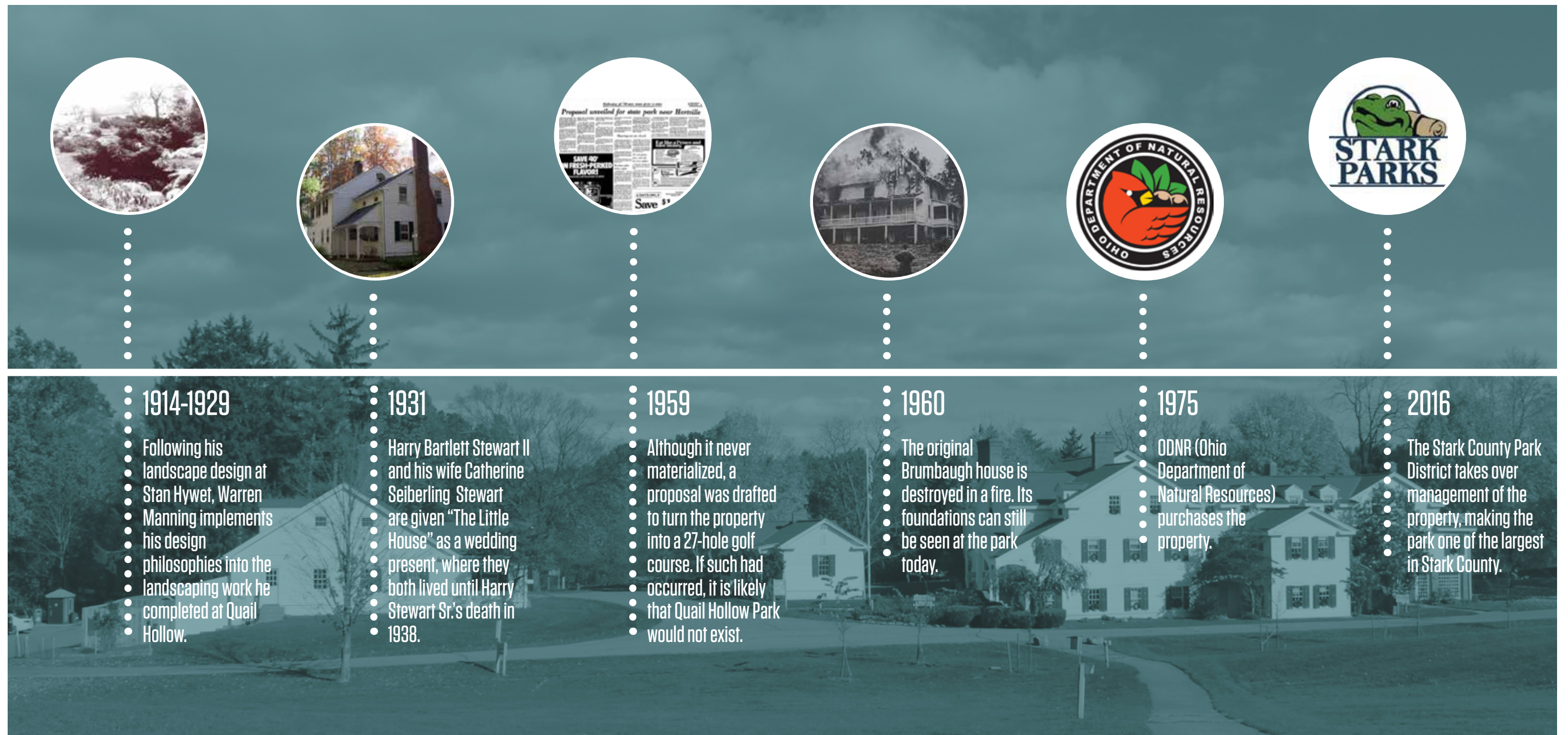
- 1842
- The Brumbaughs construct a much larger home on the ridge of a hill, in addition to a summer house, courtyard, and large barn.

- 1858
- Conrad Brumbaugh dies and is buried at the present day Brumbaugh Cemetery. His son Lewis and his wife care for the property in his place.

- 1867
- William and Mary Rubright purchase a portion of the present-day Quail Hollow.
- They construct the "red, white & blue" home which would become the present-day Manor House.

- 1901
- Harry Bartlett Stewart and his wife Minnie begin the acquisition of the property at Quail Hollow.
- Initially, the Stewarts used the homestead for a hunting camp.

- 1914-1929
- The "red, white & blue" house is expanded into the present-day manor house and completed in 1929. It housed 3 generations of the Stewart family.





112th YEAR — NO. 179 Established 1863 Massillon, Ohio 44646, Saturday, February 1, 1975

Colson freed Friday

Plans to devote time to religious work

By DON WATERS
WASHINGTON (AP) — Former Nixon administration aide Charles W. Colson, newly released from prison for Watergate crimes, says he plans to devote as much time as possible to religious work.

The onetime special counsel to former President Richard M. Nixon became a free man Friday when U.S. District Judge Gerhard A. Gesell ordered his one-to-three-year term for obstruction of justice reduced to the nearly seven months he has served.

"I'M VERY grateful to the

Warns de Ford' budg \$521

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ford announced today a \$52 billion federal budget for fiscal 1976 and said it would require a whopping \$12 billion deficit.

Addressing a news briefing on the budget, to be formally

U.S. REP. RALPH REGULA, (right), presents a federal check for \$1,600,000 Friday to Dr. Robert Yeater, (left) Ohio Director of Natural Resources, to pay for acquisition of 700 acres in Lake Township for Quail Hollow State Park. Looking on is the former landowner, H. B. (Bart) Stewart, who donated half the land's market value in making it available. Rep. Regula said the federal money came from the sale of offshore oil leases. Dr. Yeater said the state will develop the park in

HISTORIC TIMELINE

- Late 1700s – Early Hartville was inhabited by “mound builders,” a prehistoric group of native Americans who settled along Congress Lake. The Delawares, however, were the first major tribe known to inhabit the area until the early 1800s.
- 1807-1842 – Conrad Brumbaugh and his family settle in at the present-day Quail Hollow, where they build a small, two-story cabin just east of the present-day Brumbaugh Cemetery.
- **1842** – The Brumbaughs construct a much larger home on the ridge of a hill, in addition to a summer house, courtyard, and large barn.
- **1858** – Conrad Brumbaugh dies and is buried at the present-day Brumbaugh cemetery. His son Lewis and his wife care for the property in his place.
- **1867** – William and Mary Rubright purchase a portion of the present-day Quail Hollow. They construct the “red, white, and blue” home which would become part of the present-day Manor House.
- **1901** – Harry Bartlett Stewart and his wife Minnie begin the acquisition of the property of Quail Hollow. Initially, the Stewarts used the homestead for a hunting camp.
- **1914-1929** – The “red, white and blue” house is expanded into the present-day Manor House, which was completed in 1929. It housed three generations of the Stewart family. Their estate was expanded to include a Carriage House, caretaker’s house, church and multiple homesteads and farms over the course of their residence.
- **1914-1929** – Following his landscape design at Stan Hywet Hall, Warren Manning implements his design philosophies into the landscaping work he completed at Quail Hollow.
- **1931** – Harry Bartlett Stewart II and his wife Catherine Seiberling are given “The Little House” as a wedding present, where they both lived until Harry Sr.’s death in 1938.

- **1959** – Although it never materialized, a proposal was drafted to turn the property into a 27-hole golf course. This plan was one option of three that were developed as follows:
 1. The Manor House would become an interpretive nature center, with a day camp, picnicking facilities, and a par-three golf course.
 2. The property would be developed as a typical state park. The house would be remodeled to become an overnight lodge with an interpretive nature center, picnicking areas, and overnight camping.
 3. The property would become a recreation-oriented park with the Manor House becoming a clubhouse for a golf course. This plan would include vacation cabins and trails for horseback riding.

“The site was one of the most intriguing I have ever encountered in looking at literally hundreds of golf course sites. I have never seen a terrain so replete with natural green sites and potentially challenging golf holes. The natural flow of the land invites the creation of exceptionally beautiful sequences of holes.”

– Robert Trent Jones, Sr.
- **1960** – When Bart Stewart determined that the original Brumbaugh home was far beyond repair, he collaborated with the local fire departments in an effort to train its volunteer members via a controlled fire. The Hartville fire chief invited the Stark County, Uniontown, North Canton, Lexington, and Marlboro fire departments to come practice their firefighting techniques while safely razing the old home. Its foundations can still be seen at the park today.
- **1975** – ODNR purchased the property in 1975 making Quail Hollow Park, Stark County’s first state park. Harry Bartlett II (Bart) donated about half of the appraised value in arranging this purchase. This purchase ensured the preservation of a significant amount of natural, open space during a time of frequent developmental growth. As a part of the sale, the Stewart Family required preservation of the Brumbaugh Cemetery and a wildlife sanctuary along Pontius Street.

- **1982** – The estate, including the Manor House, Caretaker’s House, Carriage House, Little House and Cemetery, became certified as a property in the National Register of Historic Places. *“The boundaries have been drawn to include four related structures and the Conrad Brumbaugh family cemetery, or about 150 of the original 690 acres.”*

Statement of significance:

“The H.B. Stewart Property is significant as a composite of two architectural impulses – the eclectic revival mode practiced in architect-designed elite dwellings of the 1920’s as interpreted, uniquely here, through what is essentially a local house type, the vernacular Greek Revival or “Western Reserve” style. It is significant, as well, in that it translates the financial success of east-central Ohio business magnates into dwellings presumed appropriate to their station.”
- **2016** – Stark Parks signed a 30-year management agreement with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.



Quail Hollow Park – view from Great Lawn