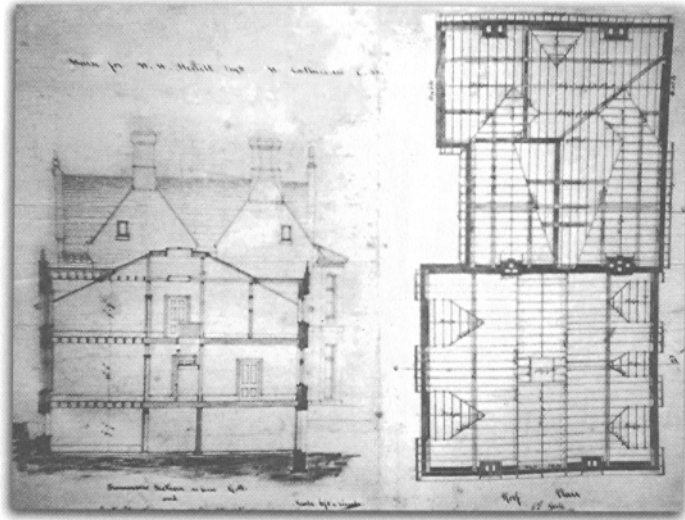


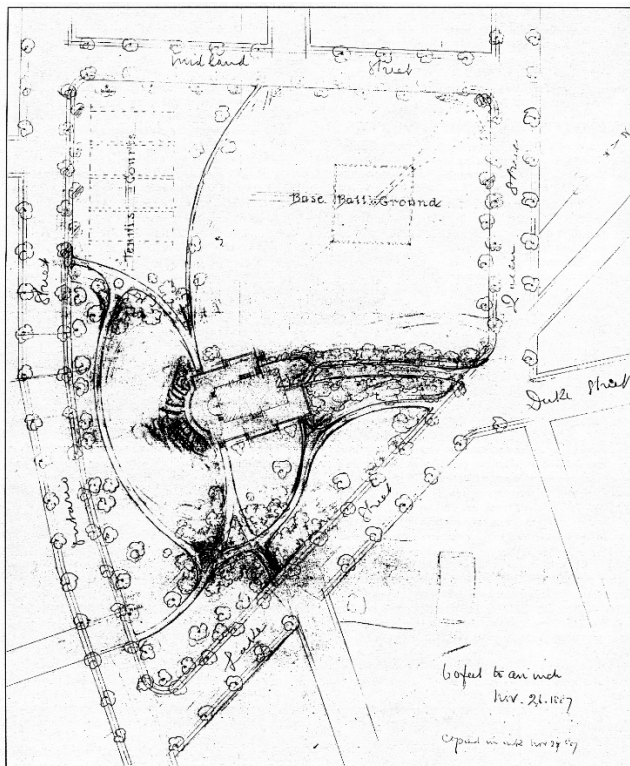
MONTEBELLO PARK

In 1860 the area we know as Montebello Park was owned by William Hamilton Merritt Jr. Here is the design for the home he planned to build there: It was to be called Montebello Place.

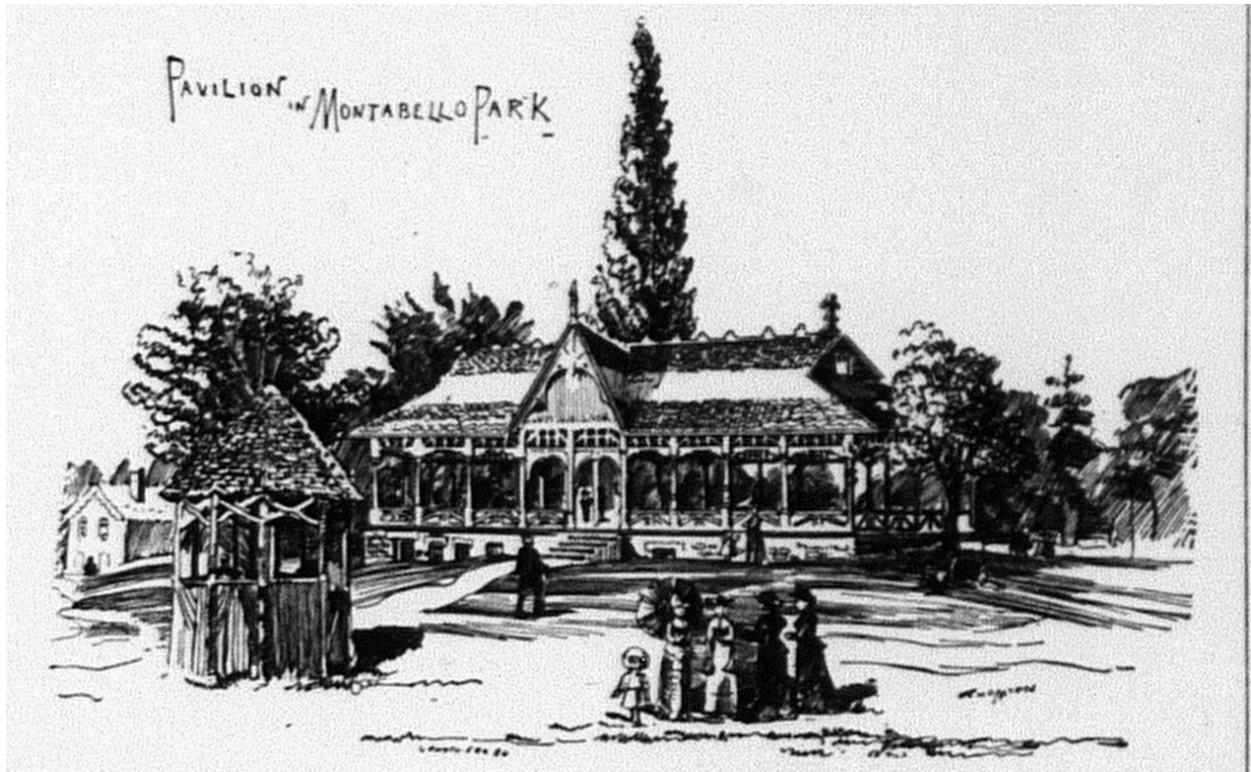


Young Mr. Merritt's death in 1861 dashed those hopes, and for many years the future of the property was uncertain. While awaiting its final disposition it was divided into garden plots available for renting. But ultimately the Merritt family agreed to sell the property to the city.

The city then engaged renowned landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted to design the new Montebello Park. Here is Olmsted's original plan for the layout of the park:



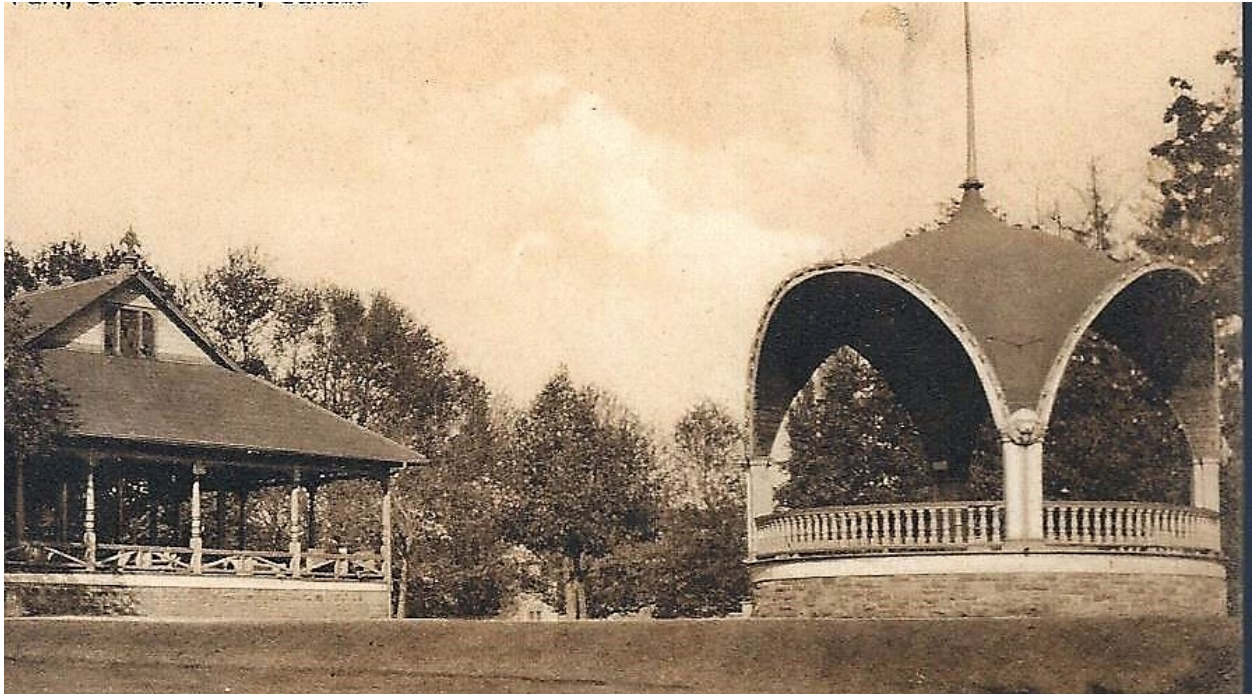
The key building in the new park was the pavilion, built on the foundations originally intended for the Merritt home. Here is a drawing of the Montebello Park pavilion as it looked in 1888, the year after the park opened.



Another important element was added to the park in 1906. Local builder E. C. Nicholson, inspired by a building he saw during a visit to the 1901 Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo . . .



came back to St. Catharines and designed the iconic Montebello Park band stand, opened in 1906



Another important element was added to the park with the establishment of the Civic Rose Garden in 1919. Here in March of that year *Standard* publisher Wm. B. Burgoyne plants the first rose.



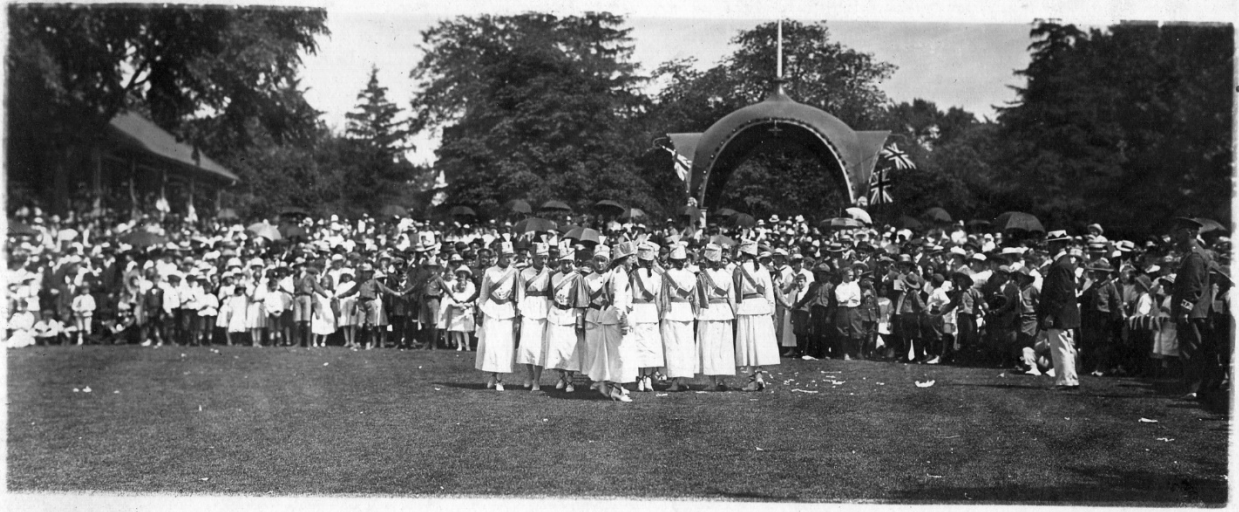
In its lifespan of some 140 years the park has become a great place for a picnic on a summer day



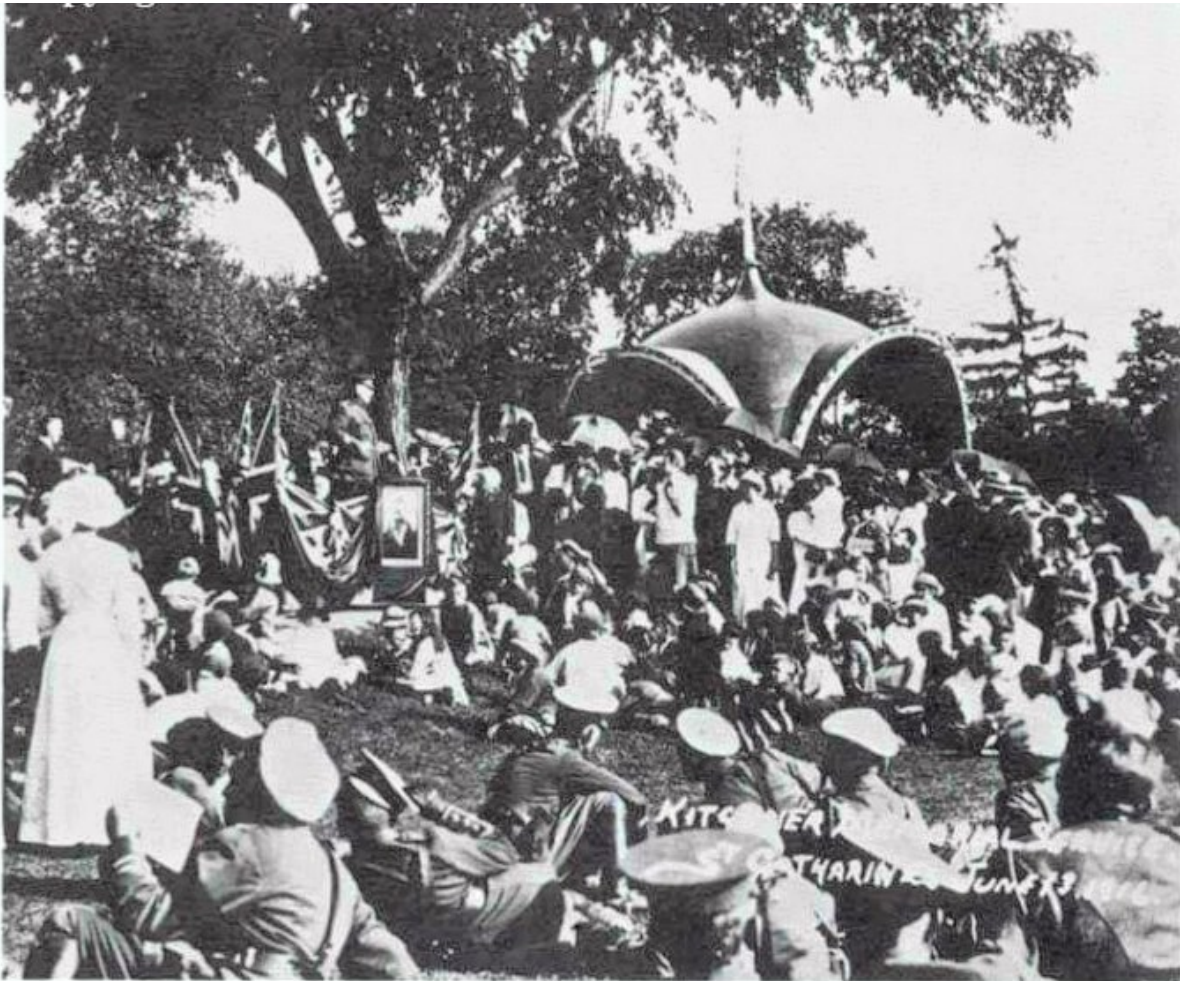
or for skating in the winter . . .



and all manner of civic occasions . . . this World War I patriotic gathering . . .



This memorial marking the death of Lord Kitchener during the First World War . . .



. . . and such yearly celebrations as the Grape and Wine Festival and the Folk Arts Multi-Cultural Festival. . .

