NR District

7-Clifton

48. Date

49. Revision Date(s)

Ohio Historic Preservation Office Ohio Historical Center Columbus, Ohio 43211

5. Other Name(s)

OHIO HISTORIC INVENTORY

. No. HAM-1607-7	4. Present Name(s)	Sur-Franchischer Spirit	HAM-1607
2. County Hamilton	Probasco Fountain 5. Other Name(s)	and the second s	160
3. Location of Negatives	5. Other Name(s)	. 1961 . Section of John S.)7-7
MPAHP		A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR	_
3. Specific Location	16. Thematic Category E, J	28. No. of Stories	
West side Clifton Avenue	17. Date(s) or Period	29. Basement? Yes 🗆	Hamil
at Woolper Avenue	1887	30. Foundation Material	Hamilton
7. City or Town If Rural, Township &		Support Sectional of Joseph	ton
Cincinnati	Function	31. Wall Construction	
3. Site Plan with North Arrow PROBASCO	19. Architect or Engineer Samuel Hannaford & Sons	32. Roof Type & Material	100
FOUNTAIN	20. Contractor or Builder	SZ. HOST Type & material	
IFTON		33. No. of Bays Front Side	4
'HO6L	21. Original Use, if apparent		Pre
WOOLPER	Fountain 22. Present Use	34. Wall Treatment	oba
	Fountain	35. Plan Shape circular	Probasco
Mª ALPIN	23. Ownership Public ⊠	36. Changes Addition □	3
). Coordinates	Private 🗆	(Explain Altered ☐ in #42) Moved ☐	Fou Fou
Lat. Long.	24. Owner's Name & Address, if known	37. Condition	nt
U.T.M. Reference		Interior	Fountain
1 6 7 1 4 4 4 0 4 3 3 6 2	City of Cincinnati	Exterior_good	
Zone Easting Northin	D 111 0	38. Preservation Yes ⊠	
	Public? No 🗆	Underway? No □	
	26. Local Contact Person or Organization Yes MPAHP	39. Endangered? Yes ☐ By What? No ⊠	
1. On National Yes 2 12. Is It Register? No S Eligible?	Yes M MPAHP No □ 27. Other Surveys in Which Included		
3. Part of Estab. Yes 💆 14. District	Yes ☑ Cincinnati City Planning Com-	40. Visible from Yes ⊠	1
	mission & Miami Purchase Asso-	Public Road? No □	
15. Name of Established District		41. Distance from and Frontage on Road	1
Olyton ave. H.D.	Inventory August, 1978. (over)		
12. Further Description of Important Featu			Ģ
This 10' high fountain is m	marked by a decorative, mushroom-like cap		9
that tops a single, thick,	fluted column which shoots a stream of into the air. Water drips from the		Offiler Maille(s)
water approximately one loc	way between the crown and the ground,		9
and from the basin to a sma	all pool at the fountain's base. It is		100
said the fountain was cast	to be used by all who would pass it. Th	e	3
_small cup is for the birds,	the catch basin for man, (over)		
43. History and Significance		5 -1 - 5 - 1007 UT	
An inscription on the fount	cain reads "Henry Probasco, to the People	of Clifton, 1887, "I was	
Thirsty and Ye Gave Me Drin	nk." Henry Probasco, who's Clifton resid	ence is listed in the	1
Sons designed the fountain	ve Cincinnati the Tyler Davidson fountai 's pedestal and base. The Probasco fount	ain contributes to the	1
		(over)	
44. Description of Environment and Outbu		ectional buildings	
Primarily residential area	comprised of mixed style, scale, and fun	octional bullulings.	
			1
15. Sources of Information		As Bronared by	-
Personal observation		46. Prepared by Tuttle/Owens	
National Register nomination	on form	47. Organization	1
The state of the s			

27. (continued)

Crowe, Michael. A Preliminary Documentation of the Career of Samuel Hannaford (1835-1911). Master's Thesis, University of Cincinnati, 1977.

Cincinnati City Planning Commission. <u>Inventory and Appraisal of Historic Sites, Buildings</u>, and Areas. November, 1960.

Works Projects Administration. Cincinnati: A Guide to the Queen City and Its Neighbors. Cincinnati: Weisenhart Press, 1943.

42. (continued)

the pool below for horses, and the run-off for dogs.

43. (continued)

character of Clifton Avenue and environs. The Probasco Fountain is located within the proposed Clifton Avenue Historic District. (N.R. Pending)

Missing Core Documentation

Property Name
County, State
Drobosco Founts

Probasco Fountain Hamilton, Ohio **Multiple Property Name**

Reference Number

80003077

Hannaford, Samuel, & Sons

Thematic Resource in Hamilton

County

natic Resource in Hamilton

The following Core Documentation is missing from this entry:

___ Nomination Form

X Photographs

___ USGS Map

Please refer to the map in the Multiple Property Cover Sheet for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000626

National Register of Historic Places

Note to the record

Additional Documentation: 2014

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: PROPOSED MOVE			
PROPERTY Probasco Fountain NAME:			
MULTIPLE Samuel Hannaford and Sons TR in Hamilton County NAME:			
STATE & COUNTY: OHIO, Hamilton			
DATE RECEIVED: 01/31/14 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 02/24/14 DATE OF 16TH DAY: 03/11/14 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 03/18/14 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:			
REFERENCE NUMBERS: 80003077			
REASONS FOR REVIEW:			
APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: Y			
COMMENT PERIOD WAIVED: N REDUCED: N			
ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 3/7/2014 DATE			
ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:			
The City Plans to move the fountain approx. Seven feet to protect it from traffic on the nearty street. The proposed move is approved - see			
traffic on the nearly street. The proposed more is approved - see			
letter from the National Register to SHPO dated 3/7/2014.			
RECOM./CRITERIA Accept proposed move			
REVIEWER Patrick Andres DISCIPLINE Historian			
Phone			
DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N			
If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.			





January 29, 2014

Ms. Carol D. Shull, Keeper of the National Register National Park Service National Register of Historic Places 1201 Eye Street, NW (2280) Washington DC 20005

Re: Probasco Fountain (Pre-Approval of Move), Hamilton County, OH

Dear Ms. Shull:

The Ohio Historic Preservation Office is requesting pre-approval of the proposed relocation of the Probasco Fountain in Cincinnati, Hamilton County, Ohio. The Probasco Fountain is individually listed in the National Register (80003077) as part of the Samuel Hannaford/Samuel Hannaford & Sons Thematic Resources in Hamilton County, 1858-1900 and is a contributing object in the Clifton Avenue Historic District nomination (78002074). The following documentation is being submitted:

- 1. The reasons for the move
- 2. The effect on the property's historical integrity
- 3. The new setting and general environment of the proposed site, including evidence that the proposed site does not possess historical or archeological significance that would be adversely affected by the intrusion of the property
- 4. Photographs showing the proposed location.

All appropriate notification procedures have been followed for the new nomination submissions.

At their December 6, 2013 meeting the Ohio Historic Site Preservation Advisory Board recommended that the relocation of the Probasco Fountain be pre-approved in anticipation of the fountain remaining listed in the National Register after the move. It is the opinion of the Ohio Historic Preservation Office that there is no feasible alternative for preservation of the Probasco Fountain in its current location. Based upon the enclosed documentation it appears that when the Probasco Fountain is moved, every effort should be made to reestablish its historic orientation, immediate setting, and general environment.

Once the property is moved, the Ohio Historic Preservation Office will submit to the Keeper for review:

- 1. A letter notifying her of the date the property was moved
- 2. Photographs of the property on its new site
- 3. Revised maps, including a U.S.G.S. map
- 4. Acreage
- 5. Verbal boundary description.

If you have questions or comments about these documents, please contact the National Register staff in the Ohio Historic Preservation Office at (614) 298-2000.

Sincerely,

Lox A. Logan, Jr.

Executive Director and CEO

State Historic Preservation Officer

Enclosures

Probasco Fountain (Pre-Approval for Relocation), Hamilton County, OH Restoration and Relocation of the Probasco Fountain

We are providing supplemental information as requested.

 The Probasco Fountain is located in the city of Cincinnati, Ohio in the neighborhood of Clifton and sits in the public right-of-way on the west side of Clifton Avenue between Mcalpin Avenue and Warren Avenue and is located adjacent to the Clifton Cultural Arts Center property (formerly the Clifton School) at 3711 Clifton Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45220. The proposed relocation remains within the public right-of-way.

Approximate Latitude:

39° 9'1.96"N

Approximate Longitude:

84°31'6.75"W

- 2. The Probasco Fountain is owned and operated by the City of Cincinnati. The fountain was last restored in 1980. Ongoing maintenance of the fountain is difficult because of the location of the fountain next to a busy street. Current grading conditions around the fountain cause pooling of run-off water. This in turn hastens the deterioration of the subgrade masonry vault which sits directly below the fountain. There is some indication that the south side of the fountain is settling. The need for substructure repair and specialized restoration in a difficult location, will not allow for the restoration to be done in place. The fountain will be dismantled and taken off site for restoration while utility work is completed and reassembled. In preparation to begin a capital project for the restoration of the fountain, community engagement process was started.
- 3. Henry Probasco presented the fountain as a gift of gratitude to the people of Clifton in 1887. "A public fountain with ornamental trough for horses and other animals, of Quincy granite and bronze". The fountain was placed at the center of the Village of Clifton, within the roadway of a wider Clifton Avenue. The selected location was adjacent to the Resor Academy and Literary Institute, that also housed Village Council. The Resor Academy was demolished in 1903, and Clifton School (now the Clifton Cultural Arts Center) was completed in 1907.
 The fountain remains in its original location, however, narrowing of the road happened sometime between 1947 and 1980 and Clifton Avenue is now confined to the east side of the fountain. The street narrows to minimum drive lane widths to accommodate the fountain's location. The narrowing of Clifton Avenue significantly altered the fountain's relationship to its surroundings

Clifton Town Meeting, the Clifton neighborhood council, agreed to form a committee to gauge community interest in restoring the Probasco Fountain. The Committee set up a series of meetings to gather community input for the project. Through the Community process it became clear that, in its current location, the fountain is not accessible, not safe and unable to function as it was intended. The result of the community engagement process was agreement to restore and relocate the fountain.

The committee identified that the fountain was historically a utilitarian, street fountain that was intended to serve the people of the community with fresh water. The community appreciates the significance of its historic location, but also realizes that in its current location, the fountain will never be able to function as it was intended. To reiterate its intention and return the

Probasco Fountain (Pre-Approval for Relocation), Hamilton County, OH Restoration and Relocation of the Probasco Fountain

fountain to proper stature and purpose, the community proposes to relocate the fountain within the pedestrian way. The chosen location places the fountain prominently in the walkway near the crest of Clifton Ave. increasing its visibility and approach. The walk way will widen to allow circulation all the way around the fountain and create a place where travelers can pause along their path. This proposal increases accessibility to the fountain, improves safety for pedestrians and drivers, defines the fountain as a contributing element within the streetscape and maintains and complements its historic integrity.

The move to the north is in an effort to preserve an 80 year old oak tree approximately 45 feet southwest of the fountain.

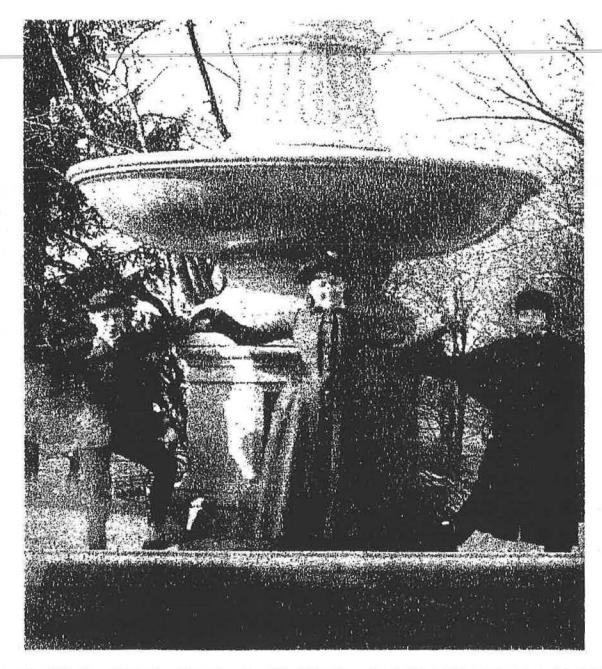
The restoration of the fountain includes cleaning the granite body of the fountain repairing mortar joints and protecting it, cleaning of bronze component, repairing broken and missing pieces, replacing the bell jet water feature to return the fountain to its original condition and function. The plan includes placing a marker in the pavement at the center point of the fountain's original location. Lighting will be added to highlight the fountain and provide modest illumination to seating areas. The paving of the sidewalk will be raised to improve drainage around the fountain and create a curb height at the roadway that would not allow a car to drive over the curb. We are proposing use of granite cobble stones within the pavement to reduce the mass of concrete and add character to the paving while maintaining an accessible sidewalk. A railing will be added along street edge designed to be open enough to view the fountain but secure this edge for pedestrians.

We are currently in the design phase of the project. Final selections on materials. We anticipate completing the design shortly and then work through the myriad of details required to bid the project and begin restoration and construction in 2014. Our goal is to complete the project late in 2014.

The Clifton Community very much wants to retain the fountain's historic designation. Your help and guidance in achieving that is appreciated.

4. There are no recorded archaeological sites in the area of the fountain currently, or within the proposed relocation (which is a very small distance from existing). The adjacent property had been the Resor Academy which was demolished 1903 and replaced with the Clifton School in 1907. The estate property to the north has recently been subdivided and development of the residential sites is in progress. Directly adjacent to the south of the fountain is a 100 feet wide (north to south) by 20 feet deep (to the west) Greater Cincinnati Water Works easement into the Clifton School property (now the CCAC). This contains a significant system of large water mains. Relocating the fountain slightly to the north moves the

fountain away from this easement and the work associated with maintaining the water mains.



THE PROBASCO FOUNTAIN

A report on the condition of the fountain, with recommendations

BRASHEAR BOLTON, ARCHITECTS
MCKAY LODGE, FINE ARTS CONSERVATION LABORATORY

For the Department of General Services, City of Cincinnati, Ohio

Probasco Fountain Report

prepared by

Brashear Bolton, Inc. 1106 Race Street Cincinnati, Ohio 45220 (513) 961-8377 (513) 345-2104 Fax Brashear@ISOC.NET

and

McKay Lodge Fine Arts Conservation Laboratory, Inc. 10915 Pyle-South Amherst Road Oberlin, Ohio 44074 (440) 774-4215 (440) 775-1368 Fax

August 1998

INDEX

- I. INTRODUCTION
- II. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS
- III. HISTORIC BACKGROUND
- IV. CURRENT CONDITIONS
- V. RECOMMENDATIONS
- VI. COST ESTIMATES

INTRODUCTION

The Probasco Fountain is a granite and bronze drinking fountain located on the west side of Clifton Avenue just north of McAlpin Avenue. The last major overhaul occurred over 20 years ago, in 1974. In addition, over the years, other changes have been made to the fountain, as well as to the adjacent streets, sidewalks and curbs.

The City of Cincinnati's Department of General Services, Division of City Facilities Management, has commissioned Brashear Bolton, Architects, and McKay Lodge, Fine Arts Conservation Laboratory, to evaluate the condition of the fountain, and to determine what measures should be taken to preserve and restore the fountain.

This report contains our findings.



Figure 1. An early photograph of the Probasco Fountain.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Brashear Bolton and McKay Lodge have inspected the fountain and examined documents and photographs in order to determine the original configuration of the fountain, how it was used, and its physical and functional relationship with Clifton Avenue.

Through the years, important elements have been removed, and inappropriate elements added to the fountain. Its physical relationship with the street has also changed to the point where this relationship is now awkward and arbitrary.

We recommend that the fountain, to the greatest extent practical, be restored to its original configuration, and that its relationship with Clifton Avenue be strengthened so that the original purpose and significance of the fountain is evident.

The fountain is in good condition. We recommend that stone elements be cleaned, that minor defects in the stone be repaired and restored, and that bronze elements be cleaned and coated. The subterranean vault under the fountain should be cleaned and coated, and a sump pump installed to remove water. Alterations should be made to the water supply system to prevent staining of the bronze dome and the stone, and to the electrical system to make cleaning more convenient and the fountain safer.

Vehicular access to the fountain should be provided in order to facilitate maintenance.



Figure 2. A pre-1907 picture of the fountain with students from the Resor Academy.

HISTORIC BACKGROUND

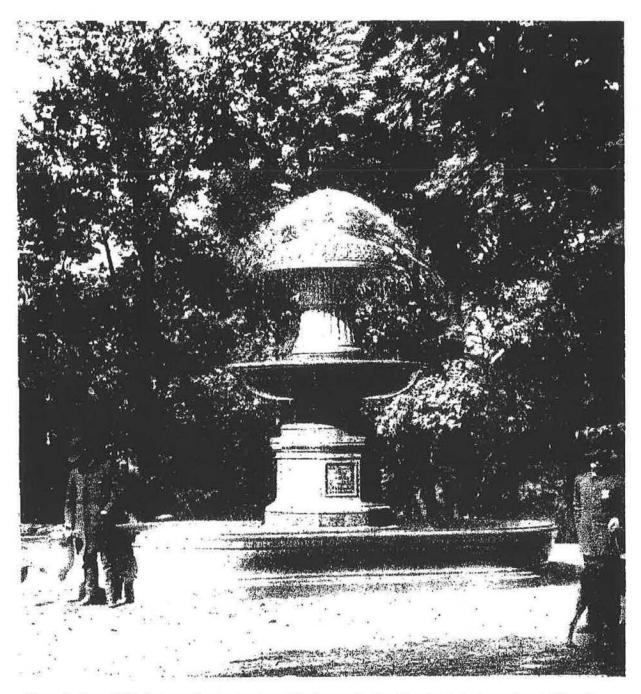


Figure 3. A pre-1897 photograph, showing the original water display. The view is to the northwest. When the fountain was constructed, the Resor Academy was where the present Clifton School now stands. The Resor Academy contained the Clifton Town Hall, the police and fire force headquarters, and a small jail.

This report is not meant to include a comprehensive historical study of the Probasco Fountain. We have examined aspects of its history only in order to understand how the fountain was meant to function, and to determine its original configuration and subsequent alterations.

The Probasco Fountain was dedicated in 1887, and was a gift to the people of Clifton from Henry Probasco. Probasco was a hardware merchant, the mayor of Clifton, and lived on a large estate in Clifton. He also gave the Tyler Davidson Fountain on Fountain Square to the people of Cincinnati in the name of his brother-in-law, Tyler Davidson

Samuel Hannaford, a local architect who designed Cincinnati City Hall and Music Hall, among many other local buildings, is credited with designing the fountain. The Probasco Fountain is smaller, but almost identical in shape to two sixteenth-century fountains in St. Peter's Square in Rome.

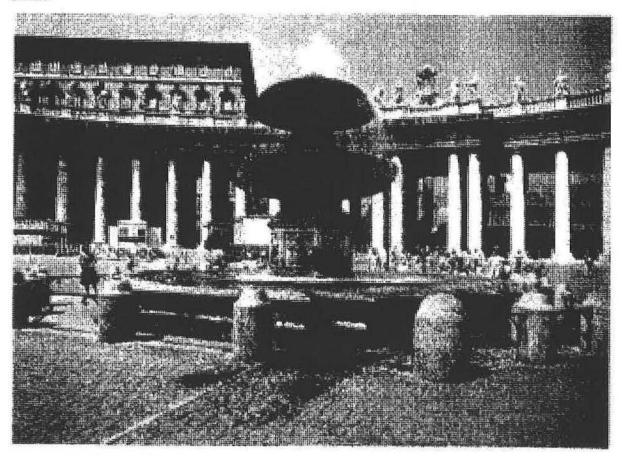


Figure 4. One of the two fountains in St. Peter's Square in Rome, upon which the design of the Probasco Fountain was based

Changes to the Surroundings

When construction on the fountain was completed in 1887, it was in the center of the Village of

Clifton. The Resor Academy and Literary Institute, which held the Village Council Hall, used for council meetings, lectures and entertainment, was located where the present Clifton School now stands. A clock tower, a basement jail, and a firehouse behind the academy were part of the complex. In 1896, the village was annexed to the City of Cincinnati and the Academy and Council Hall were taken over by the City of Cincinnati. The Academy was demolished in 1903, and construction of the present Clifton School was completed in 1907.



Figure 5. This photograph is taken from a post card collection in the Cincinnati and Hamilton County Public Library. The setting is almost park-like in its serenity - especially compared to today's busy thoroughfare. Gradually, more and faster vehicles have been funneled into a much narrower roadway. The western curb of Clifton Avenue here was several feet west of the fountain. Today it is on the eastern edge of the fountain. Most of the houses on Clifton Avenue in 1887 are still standing. The character of the neighborhood, aside from the influences of the automobile, is largely intact.

It is clear that the fountain was meant to be functional - to provide drinking water for horses, dogs and people using Clifton Avenue. The original ordinance passed by the Village of Clifton on August 6, 1886, called for the construction of "a public fountain with ornamental trough, for horses and other animals, of Quincy granite and bronze." The earliest photographs of the fountain we have found (see Figures 1-5) show it to have been located well into Clifton Avenue. It was part of the road, used by the animals and people who used the road. The street pavement completely surrounded the fountain, and the west curb of Clifton Avenue was several feet to the west of the fountain.

Clifton Avenue was narrowed between 1887 and now. We believe that this narrowing occurred in at least two stages. The earliest pictures of the fountain show a curb about ten feet to the west of the west face of the fountain. A granite curb flush with the west face of the fountain was installed sometime later and is still visible. The present curb is located immediately to the east of the fountain. A 1947 drawing by the City of Cincinnati's Department of Public Works shows the west curb of Clifton Avenue located flush with the west side of the fountain. Sometime between then and 1980, the curb was moved to the east side of the fountain. The street pavement has

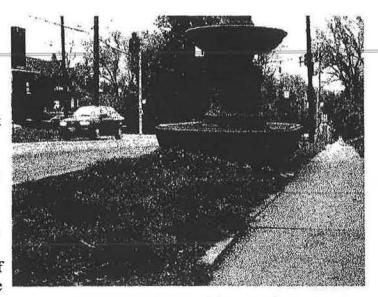


Figure 6. The present curb is to the left (east) of the fountain. An earlier granite curb can be seen in the foreground, at the left edge of the sidewalk, which was once the edge of the roadway.

been raised above the base of the fountain, so that the fountain is separated by both the curb and the elevation change from the street. We are not certain why Clifton Avenue was narrowed over the years. We assume that the fountain's functional relationship with the roadway became more and more tenuous with the coming of the automobile and disappearance of the horse and buggy.

Correspondence and documents in the Board of Education files record a long and serious discussion in the early 1960's between the Cincinnati School Board, City Traffic Engineers, and Clifton residents about a proposed widening of Clifton Avenue and realignment of the Woolper Avenue and Clifton Avenue intersection. This proposed realignment required the relocation of the fountain, either to a traffic island or to the front yard of the school. Community opposition evidently caused abandonment of this plan.

Changes to the Fountain

Photographs taken since 1887, as well as records of meetings concerning the 1974 renovation of the fountain, provide evidence of changes to the fountain.

Early photographs show the fountain equipped with a bell jet. This bell jet could be adjusted to cause the water to sheet horizontally, and resulted in the hemispherical water display seen in Figures 3 and 8. The display complemented the shape of the upper bronze dome and the upper stone bowl. The bell jet could be adjusted to control the size and the arc of the water display, and used a lower pressure and smaller volume of water than that presently used.

Some time after the completion of Clifton School in 1907, the bell jet was either replaced by or

Probasco Fountain (Pre-Approval for Relocation), Hamilton County, OH

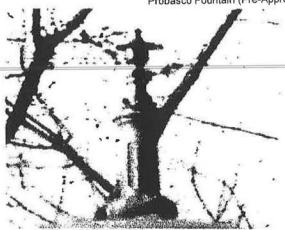


Figure 7. The original bell jet.

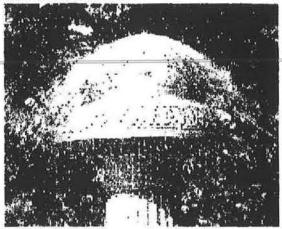


Figure 8. The original water display.

covered by a bronze hemisphere of about four inches in diameter. At the same time, a small perforated bronze cup was placed at the stem of the jet. This configuration can be seen in Figure 7. We are not certain why these modifications were made. We suspect that the water would strike the inside of this hemisphere and fall into the bronze cup. Some of the water would overflow from this cup, and some would flow through the perforations. The resulting display would have been much more subdued than that generated by the bell jet. It is possible that the pressure of the water supplied to the fountain increased, and this change in the display may have been made to contain the spray as automobile traffic on Clifton Avenue increased. This

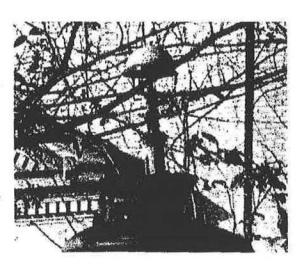


Figure 9. The bronze hemisphere.

hemisphere was in place in 1969. It was most likely removed in the 1974-1980 renovation. The water now falls from the open pipe over the bronze dome.

Figures 10 and 11 show a small (approximately 18-inch by 12-inch) rectilinear shelf on the west side of the lower basin. In the enlargement, Figure 11, two dippers can be seen chained to the fountain. Figure 13 is a current photograph of the rim of the lower basin where the dipper shelf once was installed. A widening of the rim of the lower basin, and tool marks on this widened area, indicate where this shelf was located. The tool marks provided a roughened surface for the shelf's mortar bed. On either side of the widened area, bronze pins to which the dipper chains were attached remain. The dippers were used to collect water from the spout in the center of the bronze rosette on the pedestal (see Figure 12). The rim of the lower basin of the fountain was shaped to hold this shelf, so the shelf, pins and dippers were part of the original fountain.

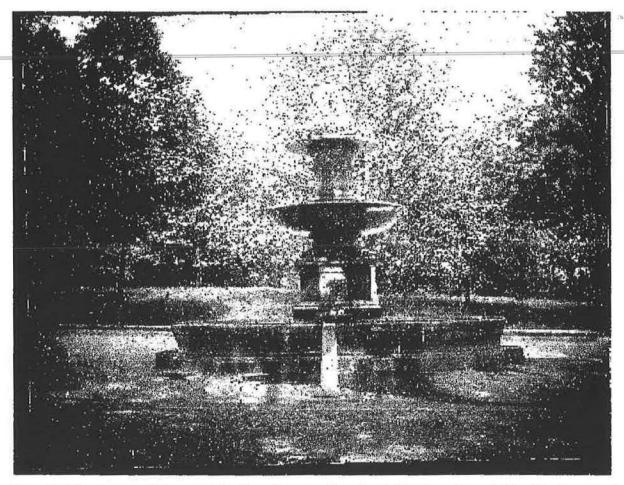


Figure 10. The only early photograph taken from the west we have found. The stone dipper shelf and the dippers and chains can be seen in the enlargement (Figure 11). Note the curb approximately ten feet west of the fountain, the stone post, and the level grade around the base of the fountain.

The modeled shape of the shelf, as it appears in Figure 11, as well as the tool marks for its mortar setting bed seen in Figure 13, indicate that the shelf was made of stone. The dippers are lighter in tone than the bronze rosette, and were probably made of tin.

Two small bronze pins are now anchored in the center pedestal on either side of the rosette (see Figure 12). The purpose of these pins is unclear. They were not in place when the photograph for Figures 10 and 11 was taken, and may have been used as hangers for the dippers after the stone shelf was removed.

The stone post, seen in Figures 10 and 11, between the west edge of the fountain and the west curb of Clifton Avenue, likely served as a bollard to prevent carriages and cars from passing between the curb and the west side of the fountain, and to keep horses from stepping or evacuating on or in the manhole to the access tunnel. It is not evident in other early photographs.

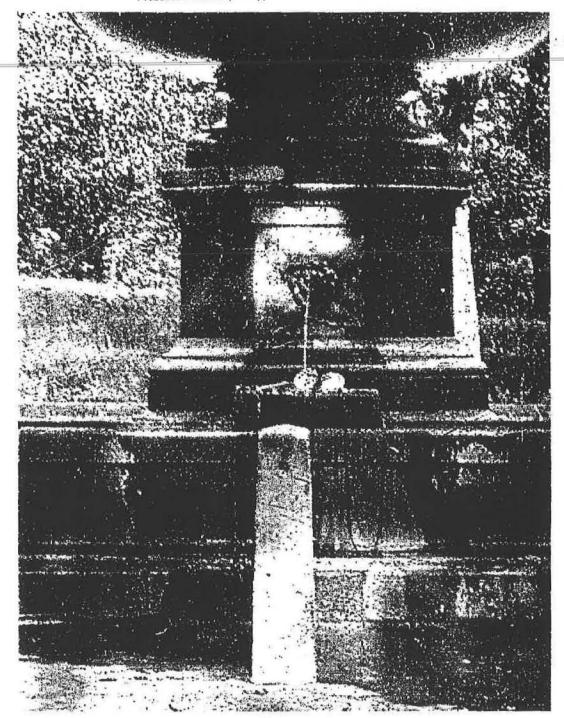


Figure 11. An enlargement of details in Figure 10. Two dippers, which appear to be made of tin, rest on the shelf. The chains, which attach the dippers to the small bronze pins on the lower basin rim are barely visible, as is the manhole cover. The pins on either side of the rosette, which are in place today, are not seen in this photograph.

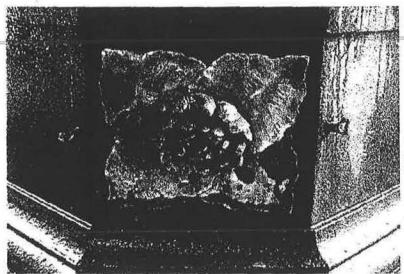


Figure 12. A current photograph of the center rosette. The two bronze pins on either side of the rosette are not part of the original fountain, and were probably added when the dipper shelf was destroyed or removed.

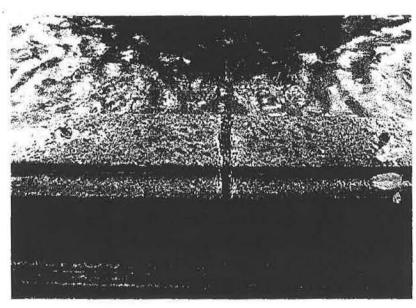


Figure 13. A current photograph showing where the dipper shelf was located. Note the bronze pins, to which the chains seen in Figure 11 were attached, and the tool marks on the widened rim of the lower basin for anchoring the mortar setting bed for the shelf.

1974 - 1980 Renovations

The fountain underwent a series of renovations between 1974 and 1980. The bronze dome was removed, cleaned and coated by a restoration specialist, who also cleaned and repaired the stone. Additional work by the City was funded with donations from the Clifton Community. This work included landscaping, adding a small paved area, and the installation of the curb on the east side of the fountain. Portable underwater lights and new electric service were added to the fountain.

CURRENT CONDITIONS

Stone

- The polished flutes on the upper pedestal and the polished underside of the upper bowl are encrusted with a dried mineral deposit.
- Some of the stone on the south side of the pedestal has spalled. It appears that some of this spalling has been repaired, but the repaired areas do not match the original stone, and additional spalling has occurred since these repairs were made.

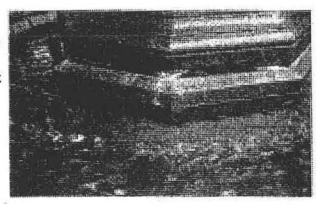


Figure 14. Spalled stone and previous repairs.

- A small piece of stone at the southwest corner of the base of the lower bowl is missing, and the resulting void has been filled with a material which does not match the original stone.
- The grade adjacent to the fountain base slopes from the south end up 13 inches to the north end of the fountain. The north end of the granite base is covered by about 13 inches of topsoil, and part of the west side of the base is covered with topsoil. A curb has been placed against the base on the east side of the fountain. The stone covered with topsoil and curb have become discolored. The portion of the stone below grade is more likely tospall than that above grade. Water is more likely to saturate the

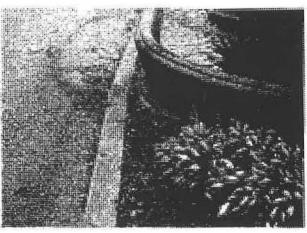


Figure 15. Topsoil covering the north base of fountain.

stone where the stone comes in contact with topsoil. When this water freezes, this stone is more likely to spall. The fountain was originally set on level grade, with the entire base

visible on all sides.

- Penetrations made through the stone for an electrical conduit are chipped and rough.
- Some joints have been filled with black elastic caulk, which does not match the existing joint material, and have failed.
 Other joints have been pointed with grout which does not match the original grout.
- The stone dipper shelf of the original fountain is missing.



Figure 16. Inappropriate pointing.

Bronze and Metal

- In the 1974 renovation, the bronze dome was covered with a clear coating. This coating has failed. It has worn from the high points of the details of the dome and become insoluble and opaque elsewhere. The natural patina and color of the bronze is obscured.
- The dome has become stained with a mineral deposit from the water.
- The original top jet is missing.
- The cup at the base of the top jet is not part of the original fountain.
- The dippers and chains from the lower bowl are missing.

Water Display

- CURRENT: The majority of the water enters the fountain through the top jet. Water falls from an open pipe into the bronze cup at the base of the jet, through the cup and over the bronze dome into the upper granite bowl, from where it falls into the lower basin.
- ORIGINAL: The original jet dispersed most of the water past the bronze dome directly to the upper bowl and lower basin. The shape of the water display complemented the shape of the domes and the upper bowl. The original water display, as seen in Figure 3, cannot be achieved because of the missing bell jet.

The rosette on the west side of the fountain is disconnected from the water display.

Plumbing

Water service enters the vault from the east, from a tap to a main in Clifton Avenue. A half-inch copper line from the service entry goes to a valve under the access hatch west of the fountain back through the shaft of the center pedestal and up to the top jet. A three-eighths-inch copper line to the rosette on the west side of the pedestal has been disconnected from the rosette, and is coiled inside the shaft.

Water is not recirculated through the fountain, but drains from a three-inch diameter standpipe in the lower basin, and one-inch standpipes in the dog bowls. These standpipes are connected to the storm water system in Clifton Avenue.

- The larger standpipe in the lower basin is not original, is made of plumbing fittings not meant to be visible, and has deteriorated.
- The plumbing contains no filters. Water supplied to the fountain contains minerals, which are deposited on the bronze and stone elements of the fountain.

Electrical

New wiring and lighting were installed as part of the 1974 - 1980 renovation. Portable lights are placed underwater in the lower basin and upper bowl.

Electric service from an existing pole south of the fountain enters the south wall of the access tunnel. From this point, junction boxes are mounted on the wall of the tunnel, and a conduit passes down the tunnel and up through the center pedestal, through the granite pedestal wall into the lower basin and upper bowl to serve portable lights.

The lights are controlled by a photoelectric cell on a cabinet on the pole south of the fountain.

There are no electric pumps or lights in the vault.

Access Tunnel and Vault

A 24-inch high pressure water main passes through the lower part of the access tunnel just east of

the manhole entry.

- The walls and ceiling of the access tunnel and vault are made of granite blocks, and are in good condition. The waterproof coating on the face of these surfaces, however, is in need of renewal.
- Water, scrap pipe and scraps of wood and other debris have collected on the floor of the access tunnel and vault.
- There is no lighting in the access tunnel or vault.

Structural

The fountain is in excellent structural condition. There are no stress cracks in the stone or bronze, either in the main body of the fountain, or in the portions of the foundation which we inspected in the vault and in exterior excavations. It is likely that the stone foundation for the entire fountain is as deep as the foundations for the vault.

Setting

Branches of a deciduous tree to the west overhang the fountain to within three feet of the top. This and other trees around the fountain crowd the structure. Their leaves accumulate in the basins and clog the basin drains.

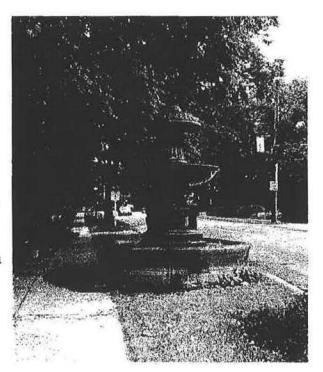


Figure 16. Overhanging trees.

- Changes to the grade around the fountain have resulted in almost one foot of the base of the structure being buried in topsoil, or covered by the street curb. The original proportion and scale of the fountain have been obscured by these changes to the surrounding grade.
- Maintenance of the fountain requires ladders, hoists and other equipment, and is inconvenient because of the difficult vehicular access.
 Maintenance vehicles park on the grass and have damaged some of the plantings.



Figure 18. Curb and topsoil covering the base of the fountain.

Plantings and landscaping beds around the fountain are difficult to maintain, inconsistent
with the original purpose, history and visual presence of the fountain, and inhibit access to
the fountain by pedestrians and service personnel.

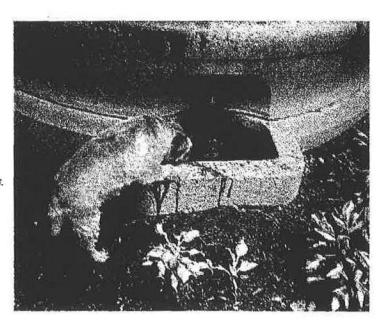


Figure 19. The dog bowl with plantings.

RECOMMENDATIONS

General

We have formed our recommendations with the goal of achieving the following objectives:

- 1. Defects in the finishes of the fountain should be corrected and stabilized.
- 2. Measures should be taken to facilitate maintenance of the fountain.
- 3. Renovation of the fountain and its setting should re-establish and preserve the qualities of the fountain which make it an important artifact of the time and culture which produced it.

The practical and utilitarian reasons for the presence of the Probasco Fountain on Clifton Avenue no longer apply. At the time of its construction, Clifton had just changed from a rural area to a village. The buggy and the horse--along with the need for a drinking place for the animals--have disappeared. Moreover, water is now distributed to all citizens by the municipal water system. Clifton Avenue now carries a greater volume of faster moving traffic than existed when the fountain was built. Traffic engineers, for purely functional reasons, would prefer to remove the fountain from its present position obtruding upon that flow of traffic.

But the Probasco Fountain was not a solely utilitarian object, even when it was built. Now, as in 1887, the elegantly-shaped, interestingly-detailed and well-crafted structure is a symbol for the community. It informs us of our past, and offers a focus for our present. For these reasons, it is important to restore the fountain and to recall its relationship to the street.

Our specific recommendations are as follows:

Stone

Soiling of the stone elements should be removed by washing with natural bristle scrub brushes and a solution of non-ionic detergent and filtered water. (TRITRON XL-80N, Union Carbide Corporation.) Mineral Deposits on the upper pedestal and the underside of the upper basin may require application of ProSocCo 101 Lime Solvent, or other similar approved commercial product. Application of any acid-based cleaner, such as lime solvent, will require testing to determine a dilution of the cleaner which will remove the deposits without affecting the polish of the stone. Additional soil removal may be

achieved by misting the stone with filtered water, and daily scrubbing with brushes and detergent over a period of three to five days to soften and remove grime.

- Spalling stone should be monitored photographically over a period of time to determine if the spalling process is complete and the stone has stabilized, or if the spalling is ongoing.
- Replacement of stone repairs or patching of failed stone should be undertaken only after it has been determined through photographic monitoring that the spalling is ongoing, and only when these conditions are unsightly or if failure to act would result in further damage to the stone. Failed and unsightly repairs to spalled stone should be removed mechanically with the slightest force possible. If necessary, diamond bits with small rotary grinders may be employed to remove failed repairs. Replacement of stone losses should be done with a cementitious, color- and texture-matching repair material which is compatible with the substrate, such as System 45, Edison Coatings, Inc., Waterbury, CT, (203) 597-9727, or approved equal.
- Caulking and failed mortar pointing should be carefully removed from stone joints. The
 joints should be carefully cleaned, and a mortar mix of one part white portland cement,
 one part slaked lime, and five parts sharp masons sand, colored to match the existing clean
 granite, should be used for repointing.
- Holes made in the granite for conduits should be patched with expanding grout, and topped with the aforementioned System 45, or equal.
- Areas of the stone base which have been covered with topsoil and curbing should be cleaned in the same manner as the remainder of the stone, as described above. Stains in these areas may require extensive cleaning, and may not be easily removed. After exposure and weathering, these areas may return to a color tone similar to the remainder of the stone.
- A stone dipper shelf as close in shape as possible to the original should be produced and installed in the same location as the original. The shelf should be attached to the fountain rim with an epoxy-based mortar, such as Flexi-weld 520, Edison Coatings, or an approved equal. A standard, lime-based or acrylic-modified mortar may not have sufficient bonding strength to resist vandalism.

Bronze

 The failed coating on the bronze dome should be removed by the application of a paint stripper such as 3M SafStrip, Peel Away, or an approved equal. The dome should then be washed with detergent and water, and a coating of microcrystalline wax applied with heat to resist corrosion. The coating should be a mixture of BeSquare 195 and Kindt-Collins Microcrystalline Beeswax, or approved equal.

- The rosette should be cleaned and coated in this same manner.
- The bronze cup at the base of the jet should be removed. If the spherical base of the original jet is not in place under this cup, a similar base should be reconstructed to match the original.
- The dippers appear to be made of tin. We suggest that the dippers and chains be replicated, stored and displayed with the Clifton Community organization, and perhaps installed for special civic events.

Water Display

- An adjustable bell jet (PEM 20, #22), similar in appearance and capable of achieving the
 affects of the original jet, should be installed. Such jets are manufactured by PEM
 Fountain Company, Box 32565, Richmond Hill, Ontario, Canada, L4C OA2, (905) 8893201.
- The plumbing for the rosette should be connected.

Plumbing

- All plumbing in the vault should be replaced. A water pressure regulator should be installed on the supply line. A cartridge filter (Grainger 2p277) should be installed to remove minerals causing staining of the bronze and stone.
- We recommend the installation of an electric solenoid valve, hardwired to the remote junction box, to turn the fountain off during the late night and early morning hours.
- The overflow drain pipes in the lower basin should be replaced with overflow pipes manufactured by PEM, or approved equal.
- Screens should be fabricated and installed over the orifices between the lower bowl and the dog bowls.
- The vault should be cleaned, and a water resistant, cementitious coating should be

applied to the walls and ceiling. A sump fitted with a sump pump should be hard wired to an exterior junction box.

Electrical

- Existing electrical junction boxes and conduits should be removed from the fountain and the vault. Waterproof junction boxes should be installed, and two lights should be installed in the vault and hardwired to the exterior junction box.
- Lights should be installed in the pavement around the fountain. These flush-mounted lights should be operated with a photo-electric cell.

Setting

- Topsoil should be removed from the fountain base, so that the entire base of the fountain is exposed.
- Clifton Avenue should be lowered where it abuts the fountain, so that the grade of Clifton Avenue is level with the bottom of the base of the fountain. The grade of Clifton Avenue should slope up to the east and north as gradually as possibly. Catch basins or a trench drain should be installed to the east of the fountain.
- All landscaping and sod should be removed at a distance of at least 25 feet from the north, south and west sides of the fountain. A small, hard-surfaced plaza should be constructed around the fountain. This pavement should be level with the bottom of the base of the fountain, so that the original height and scale of the structure is maintained. To the greatest extent practical, the fountain should be accessible by pedestrians.
- Vehicular access, for use only by service vehicles, should be provided to the plaza.
- The fountain plaza should be on the same level as Clifton Avenue. To separate vehicular traffic from the plaza and the fountain, we recommend that bollards be placed as far east of the fountain as possible while still maintaining safe traffic flow, and to the north along the east edge of the plaza to the north edge of the plaza. A precedent for this arrangement exists in St. Peter's Square, where bollards protect the sixteenth-century fountains.
- The deciduous tree presently overhanging the fountain should be removed

The greater the distance between the east side of the fountain and the bollards to the east of the fountain, the better. This separation can be achieved through two measures.

The first of these alternatives would be relatively inexpensive and easy to accomplish. The west curb line of Clifton Avenue could be extended, in a straight line from a point approximately one hundred feet north of the fountain to McAlpin Avenue. Presently, this curb line slants from a point one hundred feet north of the fountain. This alignment can be seen in Figure 20, and was done by the City as part of the 1974 remodeling. Straightening the west curb of Clifton Avenue in this manner would provide three to four feet of separation between the street and the fountain, and would maintain the existing three traffic lanes. (See Figure 21)

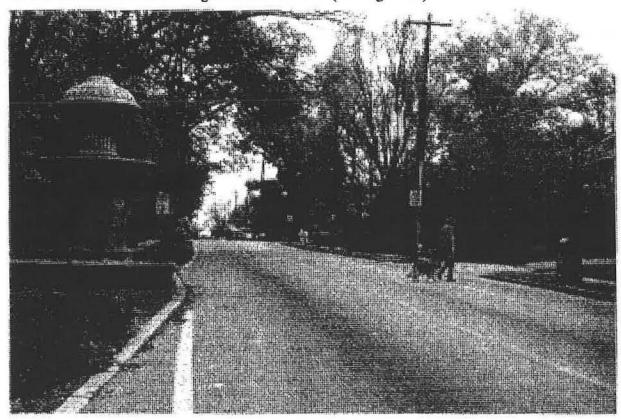
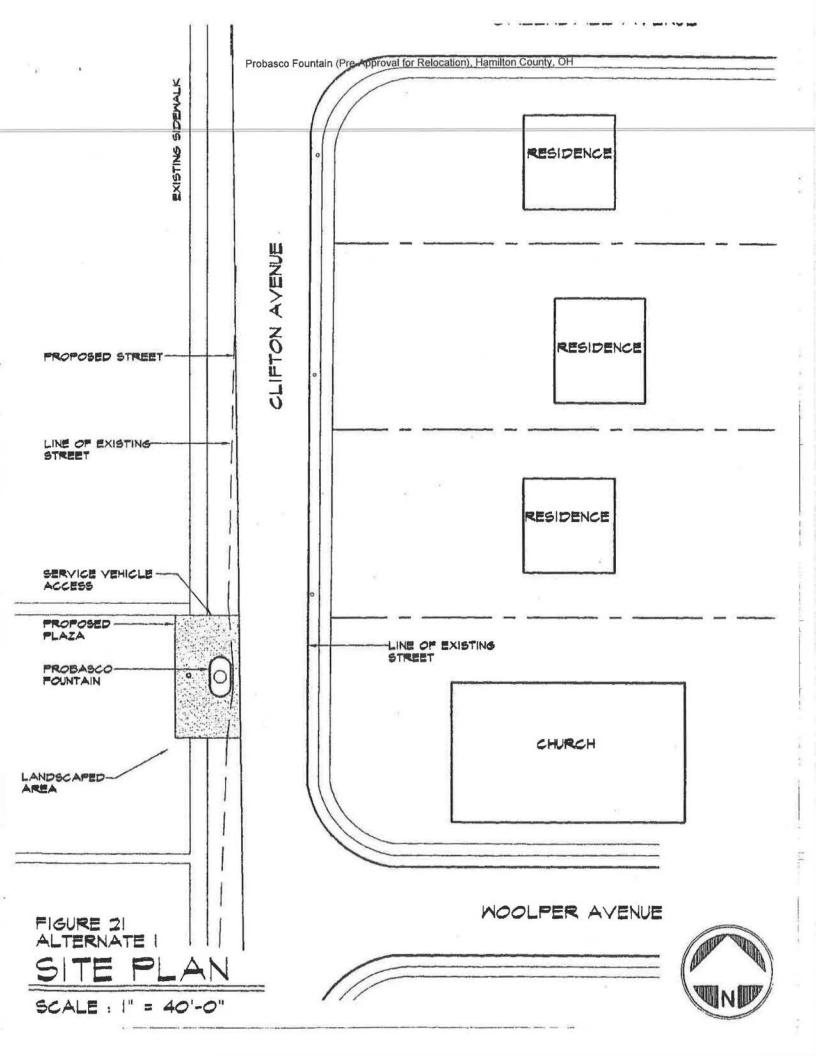
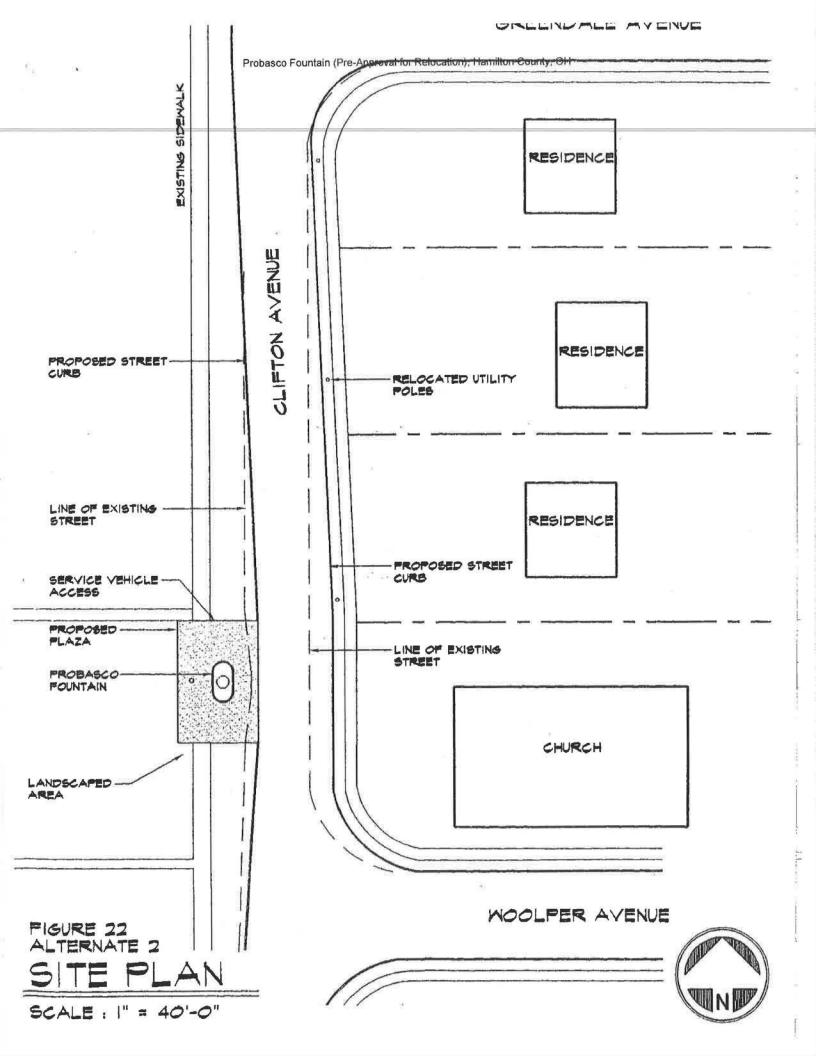
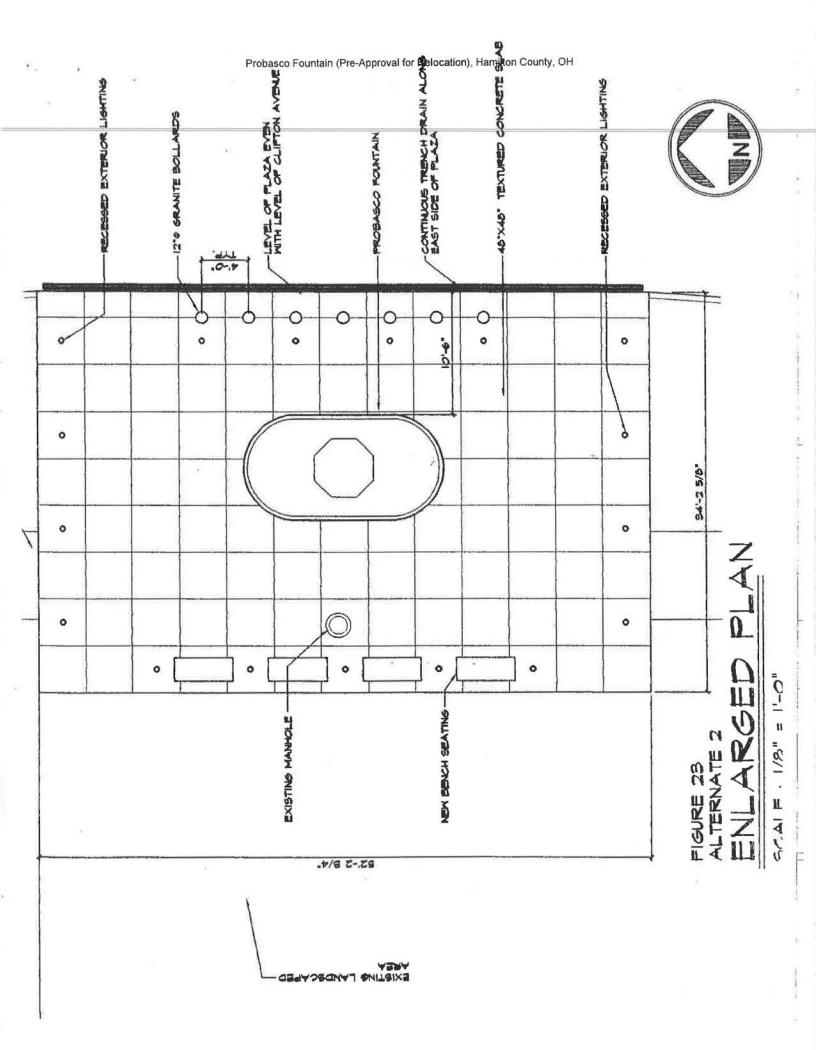


Figure 20. A view looking north on Clifton Avenue past the fountain. The west curb of the street was moved west in 1974, so that it now abuts the lower basin. Moving the curb back to the east, so that it aligns with the existing curb to the north, would provide about three or four feet of separation betwen the fountain and the street, while neither losing nor diminishing the existing traffic lanes.

A second alternative would involve the movement of Clifton Avenue an additional four feet to the east. This is illustrated in Figures 22 and 23, and would require the movement of the east curb of Clifton Avenue, as well as the movement of the utility poles and street lighting fixtures on the east side of the street. It would also require the acquisition of relatively small slivers of three parcels.







COST ESTIMATES

1. Clean stone, including base presently covered with topsoil with TRITON XL-80N and ProSocCo 101. \$7,000 2. Monitor spalled stone photographically. \$2,400 3. Patch spalling stone and remove unsightly repairs. Remove improperly pointed joints, and repoint. Patch holes in pedestal after conduit removal. \$6,750 4. Fabricate and install new granite dipper shelf. Granite to match lower basin. \$800 Bronze 1. Remove failed coating from bronze dome and rosette. Apply coating of BeSquare 195 and Kindt-Collins Microcrystalline Beeswax. Remove the bronze cup from the base of the jet. Fabricate and install a spherical base to match the original. \$8,640

Water Display

2.

Stone

1. Fabricate and install a bell jet to match the original. \$1,980

Fabricate or purchase bronze chains and stainless steel

dippers to match the originals.

\$62

Plumbing

1.	Remove and replace all copper plumbing to the fountain. Install a water pressure regulator in the supply line. Install a cartridge filter in the supply line. Connect the water supply line to the rosette. Install an electric solenoid valve in the water supply line, hardwired to a remote junction box. Replace overflow pipes in the lower basin with pipes manufactured by PEM. Fabricate and install filter screen plugs for the orifice between the lower basin and the dog bowl.	\$8,150
2.	Remove debris and water from vault. Install a sump and pump, hard wired to exterior junction box. Clean walls and ceiling of vault, and coat walls and ceiling with waterproof cementitious coating.	\$7,485
Electi	rical	
1.	Install two lights in vault and replace all junction boxes in vault with waterproof junction boxes.	\$2,400
2.	Furnish and install light fixtures, conduit and wiring in pavement surrounding fountain. (15 lights.)(See Figure 23.)	\$13,200
Setti	ng	+
1.	Remove topsoil around fountain and install concrete plaza around fountain. (1770 square feet)	\$15,000
2.	Furnish and install benches on plaza. (4)	\$4,000
3.	Furnish and install trench drain between plaza and street.	\$2,500
4.	Remove trees overhanging fountain.	\$200
5.	Alternate A. Extend the west curb line of Clifton	

Avenue, from a point approximately 100 feet	
the intersection of Clifton Avenue and McAlpin Avenue. (See Figure 21.) Remove pavement and repave Clifton Avenue where it abuts the fountain plaza so that it is level with the plaza.	\$65,000
Alternate B. Shift Clifton Avenue six feet to the east, from Greendale to Woolper. (See Figure 22.) Relocate utility poles and sidewalk on the east side of Clifton Avenue. Estimate does not include the	
cost of property acquisition.	\$160,000
Furnish and install granite bollards between Clifton Avenue and the fountain plaza. (See Figure 23)	
(7 bollards)	\$8,500
with Alternate A	1.45,567.00
with Alternate B	240,567.00
	north of the fountain, in a straight line, south to the intersection of Clifton Avenue and McAlpin Avenue. (See Figure 21.) Remove pavement and repave Clifton Avenue where it abuts the fountain plaza so that it is level with the plaza. Alternate B. Shift Clifton Avenue six feet to the east, from Greendale to Woolper. (See Figure 22.) Relocate utility poles and sidewalk on the east side of Clifton Avenue. Estimate does not include the cost of property acquisition.

COST ESTIMATES

Stone

- Clean stone, including base presently covered with topsoil with TRITON XL-80N and ProSocCo 101.
- Monitor spalled stone photographically.
- 3. Patch spalling stone and remove unsightly repairs.
- 4. Remove improperly pointed joints, and repoint.
- 5. Patch holes in pedestal after conduit removal.
- Fabricate and install new granite dipper shelf.
 Granite to match lower basin.

Bronze

- Remove failed coating from bronze dome and rosette.
 Apply coating of BeSquare 195 and Kindt-Collins Microcrystalline Beeswax.
- 2. Remove the bronze cup from the base of the jet. Fabricate and install a spherical base to match the original.
- 3. Fabricate or purchase chains and dippers to match the originals.

Water Display

- 1. Fabricate and install a bell jet to match the original.
- Connect the water supply line to the rosette.

Plumbing

- Remove and replace all copper plumbing to the fountain.
 Install a water pressure regulator in the supply line.
 Install a cartridge filter in the supply line.
- 2. Install an electric solenoid valve in the water supply line, hardwired to a remote junction box.
- Replace overflow pipes in the lower basin with pipes manufactured by PEM.
- Fabricate and install filter screen plugs for the orifice between the lower basin and the dog bowl.
- Remove debris and water from vault. Install a sump and pump, hard wired to exterior junction box.
- Clean walls and ceiling of vault, and coat walls and ceiling with waterproof cementitious coating.

Electrical

- Install two lights in vault and replace all junction boxes in vault with waterproof junction boxes.
- Remove lights and conduit from lower and upper basin.
- 3. Furnish and install light fixtures in pavement surrounding fountain.

Setting

1. Remove topsoil around fountain and install concrete plaza around fountain. (1770 square feet)

\$15,000

2. Furnish and install benches on plaza. (4)

\$4,000

3.	Furnish and install trench drain between plaza and street.	\$2,500
4.	Remove trees overhanging fountain.	\$200
5.	Alternate A. Extend the west curb line of Clifton Avenue, from a point approximately 100 feet north of the fountain, in a straight line, south to the intersection of Clifton Avenue and McAlpin Avenue. (See Figure 21.) Remove pavement and repave Clifton Avenue where it abuts the fountain	
	plaza so that it is level with the plaza.	\$65,000
6.	Alternate B. Shift Clifton Avenue six feet to the east, from Greendale to Woolper. (See Figure 22.) Relocate utility poles and sidewalk on the east side of Clifton Avenue. Estimate does not include the cost of property acquisition.	\$160,000
7.	Furnish and install granite bollards between Clifton Avenue and the fountain plaza. (See Figure 23) (7 bollards)	\$8,500

Total with Alternate A

Total with Alternate B

August 6, 1998

Mr. Joel Koopman, Senior Architect Division of City Facility Management Department of General Services 705 Central Avenue Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Dear Mr. Koopman:

Probasco Fountain Report

Enclosed is a draft of our report on the Probasco Fountain. I have sent a copy of this draft to Tom Podnar at McKay Lodge. He is to furnish cost estimates for the work listed in the final section, and make final recommendations on the rest of the report.

Please review this draft. We will make final changes as soon as we hear from you.

Also, please let us know how many copies of the final report you want us to furnish to you.

Very truly yours,

Ralph D. Bolton Brashear Bolton

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	Photos	Page	1

Probasco Fountain (Pre-approval for move)
Name of Property
Hamilton County, OH
County and State
Samuel Hannaford/Samuel Hannaford & Sons
Thematic Resources in Hamilton County,
1858-1900
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Probasco Fountain

Hamilton County, OH

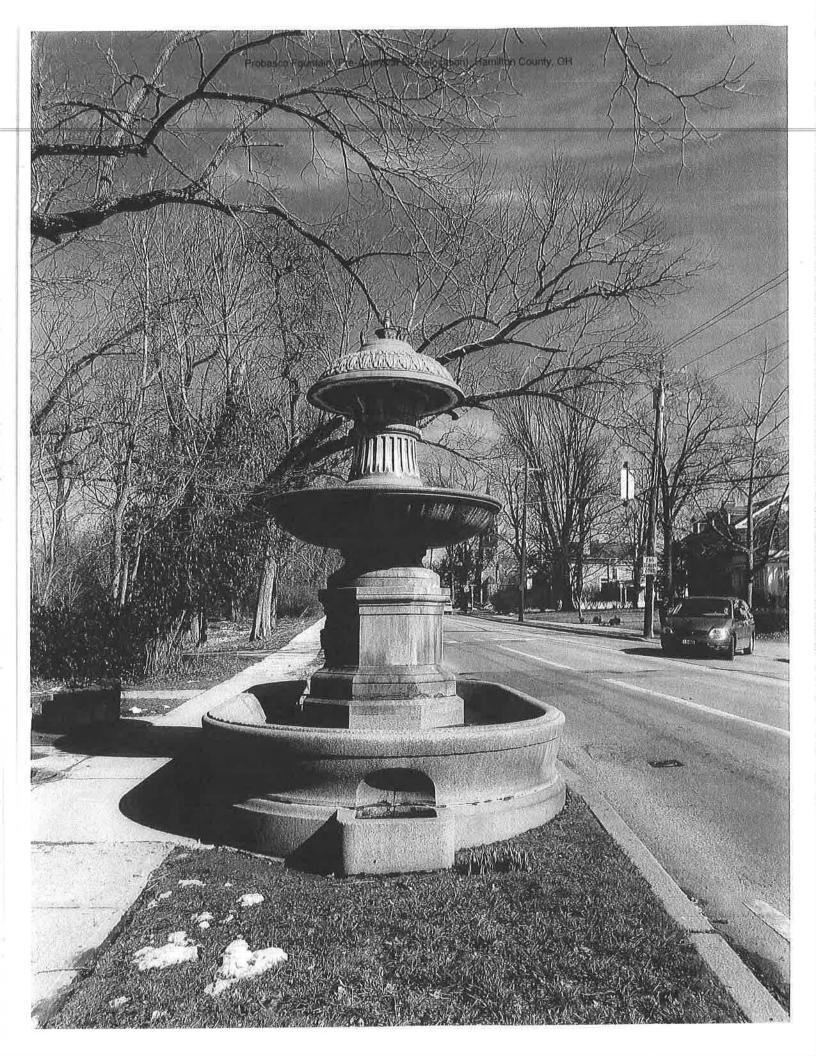
Jamie Accurso, City of Cincinnati

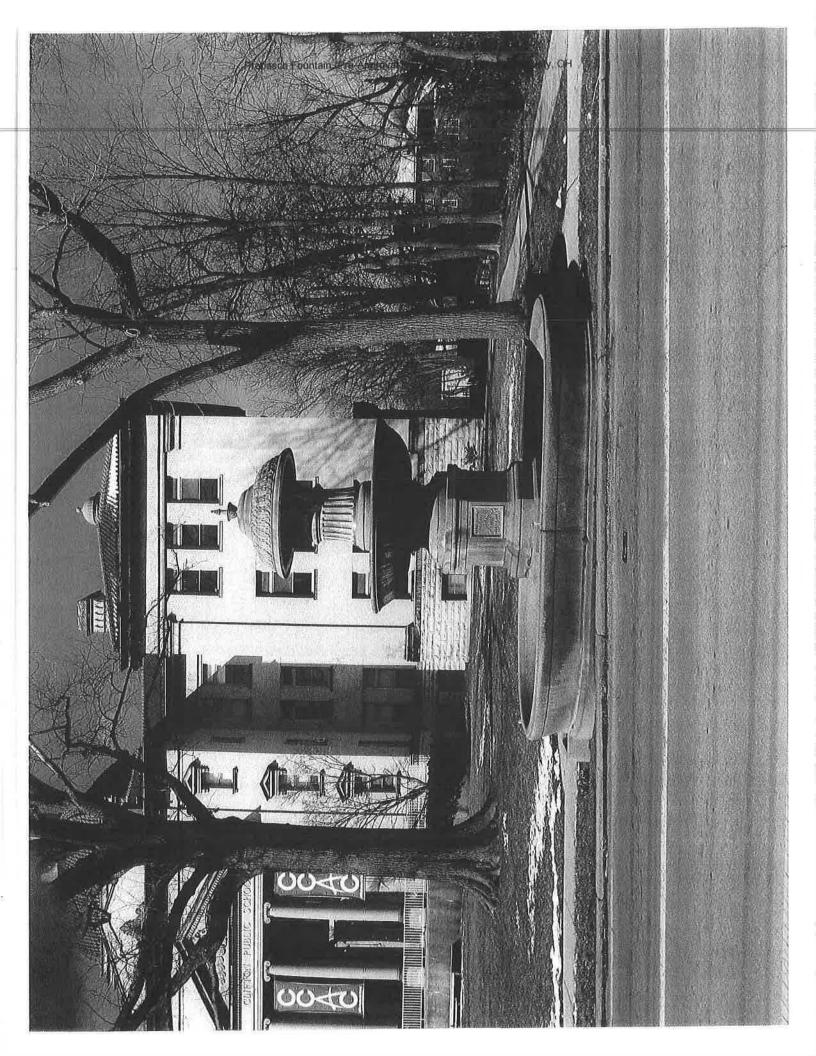
November 2014

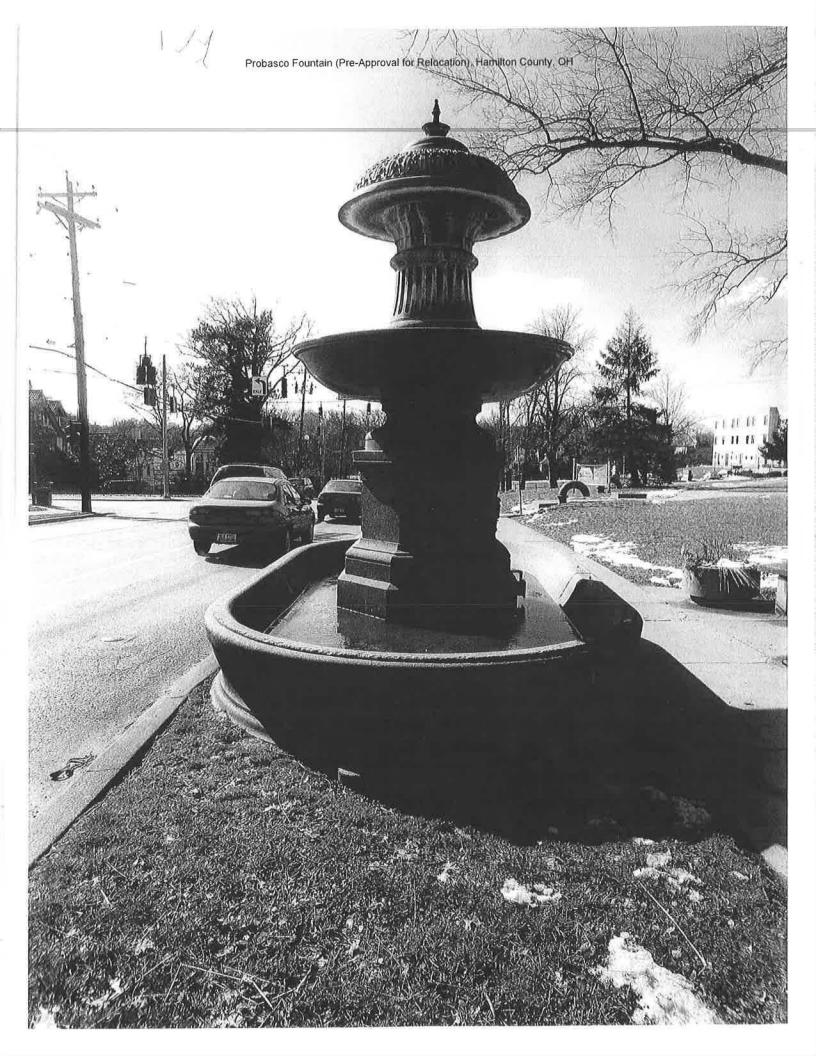
Photo #1 View of Probasco Fountain looking north

Photo #2 View of Probasco Fountain looking west

Photo #3 View of Probasco Fountain looking south

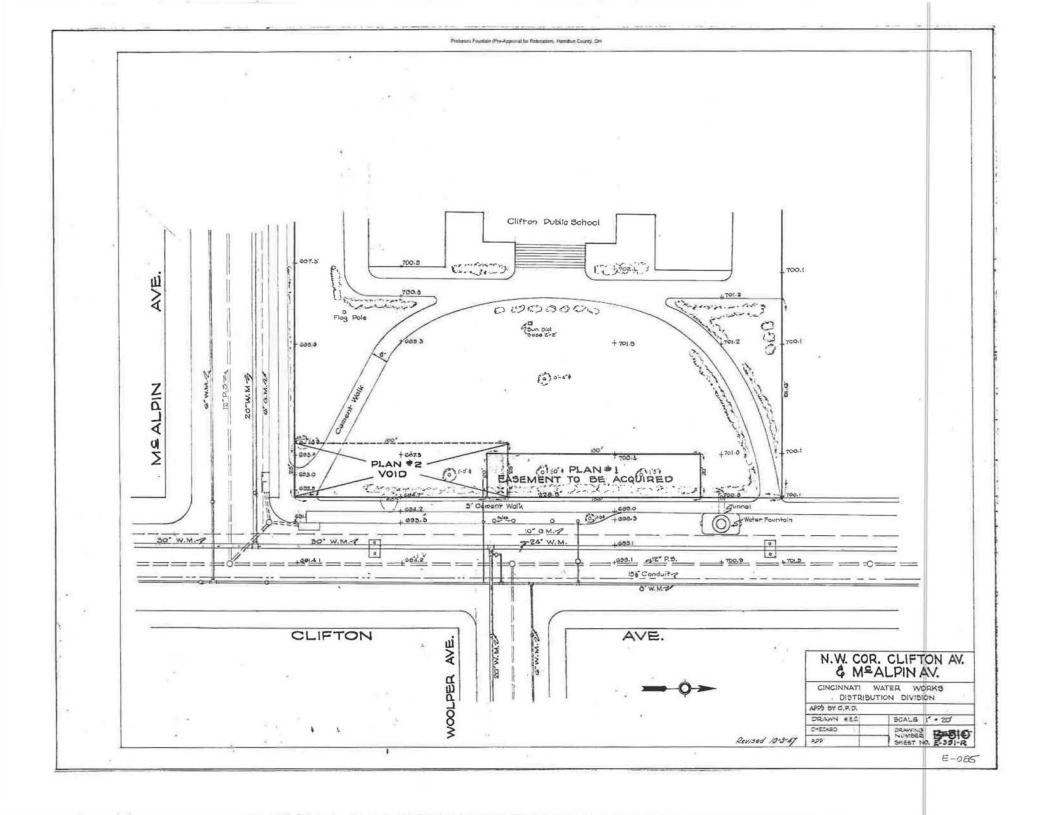


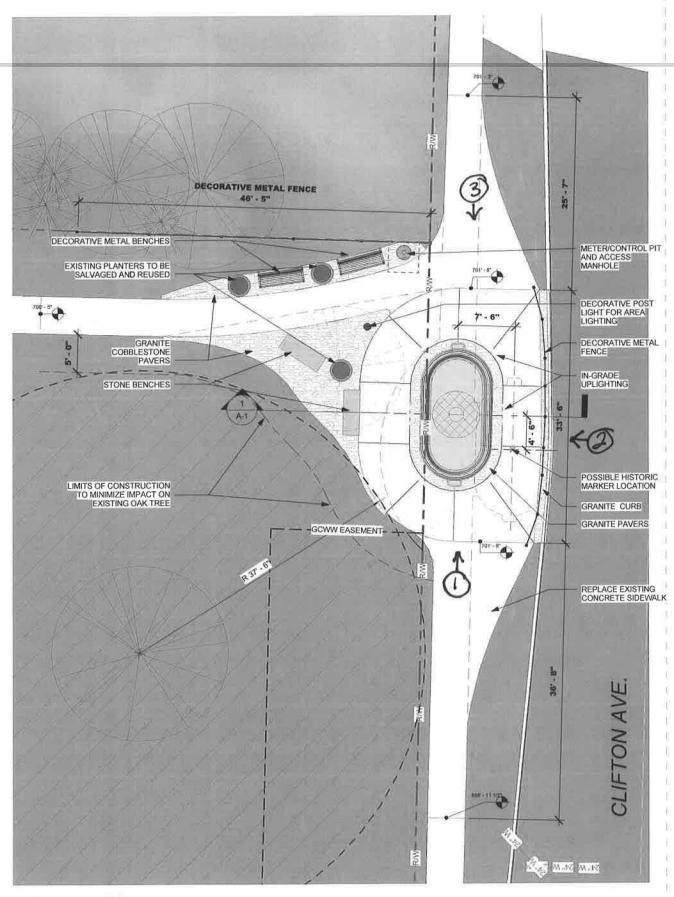






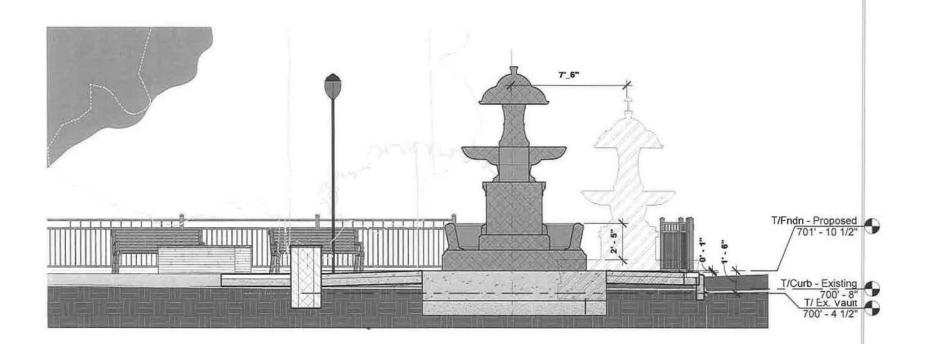


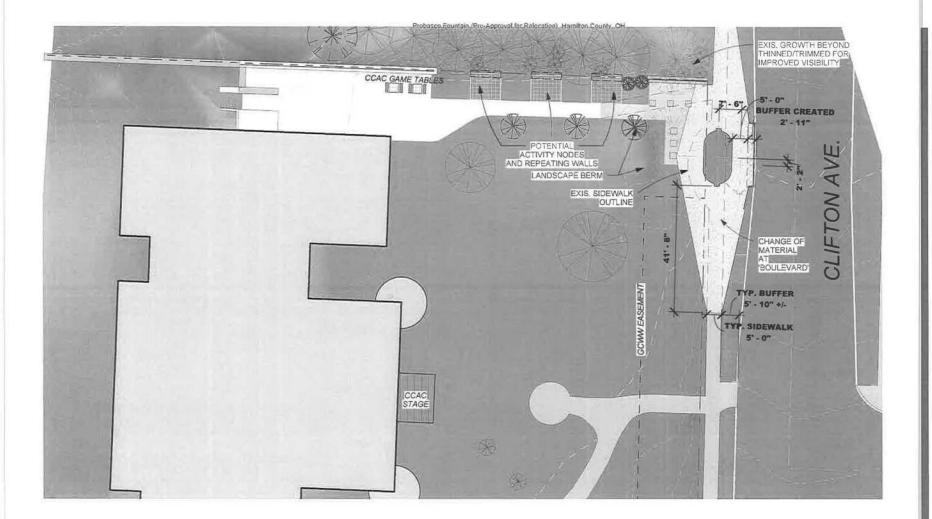




Site - Proposed 1/8" 1/8" = 1'-0"







Site - Proposed 1-20 1" = 20'-0"

Probasco Fountain Relocation

City o	of Cine	cinnati
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Project number	2013304	Date	10/04/2013
Drawn by	CKNI	Scale	1" = 20"-0"

1 E-W Looking North 1/4" = 1'-0"

Probasco Fountain Relocation

City of Cincinnati

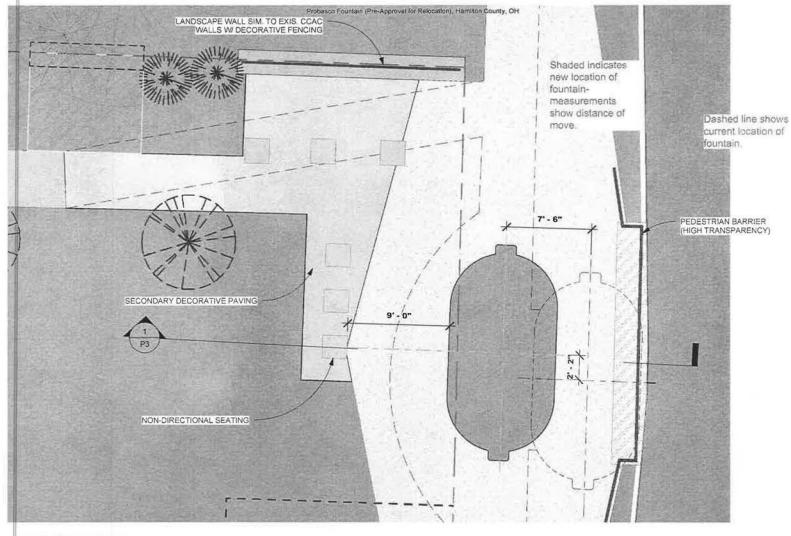
Project number	2013304	Date	10/04/2013
Drawn by	CKNI	Scale	1/4" = 1'-0"

Site - Proposed 3/16" 3/16" = 1'-0"

Probasco Fountain Relocation

City of Cincinnati $\frac{Prc}{Dri}$

roject number	2013304	Date	10/04/2013
Drawn by	Author	Scale	3/16" = 1'-0"



Site - Proposed 3/16" 3/16" = 1'-0"

Probasco Fountain Relocation

City of Cincinnati Pro

roject number	2013304	Date	10/04/2013
rawn by	Author	Scale	3/16" = 1'-0"



Probasco Fountain Hamilton County, Chio 1 of 3



Probasco Fountain Hamilton County, Ohio 2.f3



Probasco Fountain Hamilton County, Ohio

3 of 3

National Register of Historic Places Memo to File

Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.

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National Register Write-up Federal Register Entry	Send-back Re-submit	