History of Wadsworth Holmesbrook Park

Holmesbrook Park totals 58.3 acres and is set in a secluded valley hidden on the west side of the City of Wadsworth. The area is reminiscent of being in a vast natural park. The Park extends north and south from College Street to I-76.



Holmes Brook running through the park

Holmesbrook Park is named after John Holmes, a migratory squatter from Montreal, Canada. After discovering coal in the hillsides, he built a small cabin and lived there with his Native American wife.

Holmesbrook Valley was rich in wildlife and housed many beech, hickory, maple, oak and other varieties of trees, which can still be seen today.

In 1895, sandstone was cut from a quarry and a bridge was constructed over Holmes Brook on the south side.

In the mid 1900s, with the area quickly being developed, a local businessman purchased the valley and built a small pond and cabin as a retreat for weekend and summer visits.

In the 1970s, the City obtained the property for one of its parks. A parking area was built off College

Street, and land was cleared for natural grasses to grow. An asphalt foot path and bridge were added for smooth hiking and biking. With the help of local boy scout and girl scout troops, the main trail has been extended by clearing paths throughout the dense foliage.

A Wadsworth wonder, Holmesbrook Park continues to be developed with the goal of extending the trail to Friedt Park and beyond.



Paved pathway at entry



One of many paths that wind through the park



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Shelter reservations:

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For volunteering opportunities, please contact:



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