

Youngstown's Mill Creek Park

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Youngstown's Mill Creek Park, which celebrated its centennial in 1991, displays the self-assurance of the Gilded Age that encouraged pursuit of big designs and dramatic, romantic landscapes and places. The site, a deep hemlock gorge with escarpments of sandstone, became the palette for preservation of antique buildings, fanciful steel bridges, rustic and medieval design interpretations constructed from its inception until the 1917. Like so many construction projects of the Gilded Age in the Western Reserve, the proprietors or investors combined the sophisticated design skills of the best of local designers, Charles Schweinfurth and W. B. Ellis, and the most sought after of nationally prominent designers, H. W. S. Cleveland, Charles Eliot, E. Sherman Gould and the firm of Shepley Rutan and Coolidge.