STUDENTS POLLED
ALL URGE ACTION

A random survey of student opinion about the appearance of the lot and what can be done about it indicates a surprising degree of unanimity with plans for a park. Though the park project was mentioned in some of the interviews they all suggested it themselves in one form or another.

Carol Jansen, a senior, commented: "I think it (the lot) is disgusting. It rules the whole atmosphere at Stern because it gives a dirty appearance and is not conducive to serious attendance classes. If we can't put a building up, put in some grass and trees and make a place for students to study and perhaps to have lunch. You could even have terraces there."

Athletics at Home

Debbie Alston said: "It's a shame and a disgrace. Really it's like looking at the backyard before you hit the barn. You know what they could do? Throw out the trash cans and put up a volleyball net and make a recreation area out of it. The girls go to Julie Nishman to play now. There is no reason why that lot can't be made to accommodate them."

You mean the parking lot?" asked Shona Laskowski. "If they aren't going to make a school out of it they ought to make a park out of it — you know, with flower beds, grass and trees. That could have picnic tables there and by doing that alleviate the outrageous conditions in the college."

Members of the faculty and administration who were interviewed agreed with the park plan on the condition that the construction of a new building had definitely been postponed. Mrs. Tove Lichtenstein felt the park or playground suggestion was an excellent idea that would offer the students a way to show interest in the school and hopefully encourage consideration of the new campus.

Assistant Registrar Steve Weitz pointed out that all suggestions for the lot depend on the final building plans, but if the building is positively put off, he would like to see the administration put there to relieve cafeteria congestion.

One student who has been active in planning the park had this to say: "It would be foolish to put off any longer to build a park. Even if plans for the new building did go through, there is no need to spend the money involved in the decision-making process options we could still get plenty of good use out of the lot before they begin to set. That lot is just as attractive an element to the appearance of the school, and we need such a positive idea, every day that goes by without a park seems a great waste."

Stern Tolerance Ends — Action Begins

To some, an Observer hearing the words "Extra Extra!" might look familiar. The Observer Board of 1966 had the singular privilege of using it to announce the imminent construction of a new building to house urgently needed classroom facilities.

Subsequent Observers announced it too — each time expecting momentary action. This Observer Board, firmly believing the highest University officials, announced it only a month ago.

Sadly, it soon became apparent that someone was encouraging a credibility gap. Though we begged for total honesty and frankness, instead we were given hopes and dreams labeled as reality.

Concerned members of the student body devised plans for a small park in the empty lot next to the college building as a creative last resort after repeated disappointments to their hopes for a new building to house classrooms, offices, lecture halls, kitchen and dining hall facilities and a library.

TUPR first announced plans for a $45 million eleven story structure in 1966. However, as Dr. Belkin told student leaders in June 1968, revisions in building plans prompted by faculty complaints caused delay.

By the time the architect's sketches were ready for submission to the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, exigency of the Viet Nam war had frozen government allocations for educational construction. The University was reluctant to proceed while unsure of government support. The Observer published a special issue on proposed immediate building plans in 1967 based on information from a meeting with the President of the University. As time went on it became clear that government funds were to be frozen for a long period.

The college purchased a small police station and revamped it for student use in lieu of a new building.

Avoid news of relaxing government curbs on educational expenditures this spring, student leaders dropped plans for the park's construction as University authorities announced that digging would commence in June. When June passed with no signs of construction plans for a park began to seem distant. Architects' drawings illustrated a modest low cost recreational area which could afford a place for students to relax or study wherever the weather permitted.

Subsequently student officials met with Dr. Belkin and the result of their conversation was the announcement in the Sept. 17, 1968 Observer of a ground-breaking ceremony. Further investigation reveals that funds are yet not cleared and that despite promises by University personnel, shells will not rise beginning excavation.

Aim of Park

The park is planned as one feature of a program encouraged by the members of the Student Council and other student leaders to improve living and studying conditions for students. All of them are working with the idea of utilizing available facilities to their maximum potential. Student Council President Beverly M. Kolodt said of the park plan today: "If the new building is not to be an immediate reality, at least let's make use of the facilities at hand."

The purpose of the park is to relieve the physical appearance of the main building area and to afford a place for students to escape the crowded conditions in the school building.

Alternative to Protest

The park plan is regarded by many as a creative, constructive alternative to student protests and protests over repeated disappointments to hopes for a new building. Student involvement in the actual construction of the park should help to relieve morale and encourage school spirit.

The park could aid efforts to create a visible student Union building out of the annex on thirty-fifth street between Lexington and Third Avenue which presently houses classrooms, department offices, and a recreation facility.

Other planned improvements to existing facilities include rearrangement of lobbies in the dormitory building to provide a more pleasant and colorful area for students to congregate and enjoy their guests.

The public seldom forgives twice. Stern students have been tolerant beyond bounds; another delay and they will rebel. Therefore, although Dan Mistry, who has spearheaded our efforts, has succeeded in scheduling a long overdue meeting of the Legal Council Mr. Sidney Schust, President Dr. Belkin, Director of Public Relations Mr. Sam Herschberg, Administration, faculty and student representatives, we cannot wait. Since the results of the meeting on the twenty-fourth of October probably, we must immediately mobilize every facility in anticipation of a park, paid for by University funds, built with University labor, under University cooperation, and constructed by the University student community.
EXTRA! EXTRA! STERN BUILDS PARK AS CREATIVE PROTEST

Park Key
Plans Shown

The essential features of the park, as seen in the diagram, are an amphitheater, several study cubicles, four lounging patios, numerous benches, picnic tables, "trees," "shrubs," a "pond" and a "stream." The entire park is laid in green "grass" (gravel), with a blue "stream" (gravel) wandering through it.

Yale Gibber, Architect

Mr. Yale Gibber, Curator of Monsey, New York, the park's architect, said in an interview, "I designed the plans. I first considered the limited budget. It should cost between $800 and $1,200." He felt that it should be easy to construct in students could build it. He specifically used gravel and wood so that very little upkeep or care would be necessary.

Observer Layout Editor, Liz Kesten, amplified the idea to conform to additional information about the land guidelines.

Perl Keller, co-chairman of the Materials Committee (with Debbde Album), felt that her committee's input helped plan slightly to ease building procedures.

Entrance Through Building

There will be an entrance to the park from the teachers' lounge at the very back of the lot area (1). The reason for a back entrance is that opening the front fence would necessitate hiring another guard and the risk of unwanted outsiders would always be present. By leaving the entrance at the back, all those wishing to enter the park will first have to go through the school building to the back hallway and then out through the lounge.

4 ft. Path

One enters (1, numbers refer to diagram) the park through the back door of the school building, past the fire escape and onto the landscaped path (4). The path is approximately 4 ft. long and winds past a clump of bright green fir "trees" (2) and several benches (3).

Bridges Over Stream

The door walls on the right (5) will be painted on bright stripes to send a cheerful air to the park. The amphitheater (6) slopes down. Accessible by a path (7), are green rows of chubby block seats (8), that accommodate nearly one hundred students.

Path: The amphitheater (6) are four cement block partitions (9) "planted" by brightly painted can "trees." Between the partitions are "shrubs" (10) "planted" by green can "trees." A wooden "bridge" (12) bounds a blue "stream" (11), to the left of the path.

At both ends, where the "stream" will be crossed, the path (4), bridges (13) will be constructed.

In the middle of the central path are four brick paths (10) with tables and chairs. A cement and wood partition will separate the planning from the right side of the park, so that students who want to study while the amphitheater is in use will not be disturbed. A large metal "art thought" (12) will stand near benches (9) directly to the left of the path.

Green barrel "trees" (11) will be planted between the paths.

A brick entrance (13) will connect the patio and the landscaped path (4).

Fences will have murals on the walls of the adjoining buildings (14) on each side, painted in connection with the New York City Cultural Affairs Mural Painting Project.

Mr. Gibber, the park's designer, expressed the hope that the project would beautify the area. Student leaders hope it will alleviate the "出し part Hamen created by the present condition of the lot.

STERN BUILDS PARK AS CREATIVE PROTEST

Save Oct. 27th! Help Build

THE OBSERVER

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Enthusiasm Essential

The park planned for the lot next to the college building is being sponsored jointly by the Stern College Student Council and The Observer. Coordinators of the project are Beverly M. Koval, Dave Butler and Liz Kesten who will be assisted by the members of two parent committees. The promotion committee will set a goal of $1,200.00 and the publicity committee will make the purpose and importance of the park understood and create general enthusiasm among students.

According to Mr. Yale Gibber, architect for the project, the park will cost approximately $1,200.00. Business managers Yolle Brandriss, Tracy Winterman and Ruth Bernard will arrange to sell tickets for the project. It will be an entrance to the park.

During the coming week, Biggs Singer, Sarah Bolen and Leah Becker will enlist girls for the work crews. Volunteers are needed for all phases of the work including cleaning the ground, planting the trees, leveling the areas to be used for the parked amphitheater and benches, and spreading the gravel "stream." Foremen will lay the "stream" and lay the smaller blocks to form benches and the amphitheater.

Yoshiva Men Needed to Help

There is a special committee headed by Ruth Lewisson and Maryl Sinko to recruit students from Yoshiva to help with the strenuous cleaning and building tasks.

Alice Wald and Maryl Cherrick will coordinate the efforts of the work crews by preparing a schedule of all work to be done. Each worker will be informed as to the tasks he will be performing and what tools will be available.

Refrigeration will be added throughout the day to those working on the park. Daily Butter, who has volunteered to secure food and secure girls to staff the refreshment stand.

An outdoor rally will be held Sunday evening following completion of the park. Yeshiva Sinko and Barbara Gold are preparing a program for the evening which will include speeches by members of the administration and student leaders, and entertainment. At the rally the chairmen of the fund-raising committee will launch a "penny drive" for the project. "Hope that a college whose students are willing to do their share to improve their school."