

## Centennial Park



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### Location

Centennial Park is a 5.6 acre park located at 10th Street and River Avenue in the heart of downtown Holland.

### History

Centennial Park was originally set aside as the village market area, but was redeveloped and dedicated to park use in 1876. Located between 10th and 12th Streets and River and Central Avenues, this 5.6 acre park contains pedestrian walkways, gazebo with restrooms, tulip beds, a fountain, reflecting pool and many mature shade trees. The Veterans Memorial, a Michigan Historic marker honoring Dutch settlers in Michigan and a statue of Albertus Van Raalte are located here. This park has also contained a seasonal tropical plant display since the Victorian era and serves as a major performance venue.

Following Gov. James J. Bagley's suggestion to plant commemorative centennial trees marking the country's 100th year, the Market Square was turned into a seven acre park in 1876. In 1876 public parks were a new concept. Holland was one of the first Michigan cities to adopt a park plan. Maple trees were chosen for this site.

Originally, a jail was located on the northwest corner across from the Holland Museum. It was a necessary fixture in the early days of the park, following July 4th celebrations and other festivities when several revelers were retained.

In 1902 Teunis TenHouten, a Dutch Immigrant, donated a rustic 20 foot fountain of rock, which was placed at this facility. The fountain was designed and built by Johannes Van Lente. Underground restrooms were added in 1904. In 1907 the bandstand was built on top of the restrooms. 1988 Mayor Philip Tanis directed a Buy-a-Brick campaign that paved the walks in this park. In 1991 the Holland Area Home Builders Association contributed a gazebo. Also, in 1991 the City of Holland installed Victorian lighting throughout the park to continue with the Victorian park theme of this facility.

### Amenities

- Gazebo (available for rental for wedding ceremonies)
- Restrooms

## **Centennial Park**

Published on City of Holland Michigan Official Website (<http://www.cityofholland.com>)

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### **Gazebo and Park Reservation Information**

Please call the Parks Office at 616-928-2450 for more information about reservation availability.

Cost of rental for the Gazebo is:

Resident: \$75 per 1-1/2 hours

Non-Resident: \$150 per 1-1/2 hours

**Source URL (retrieved on 2012-05-10 18:20):** <http://www.cityofholland.com/parksandcemeteries/centennial-park>