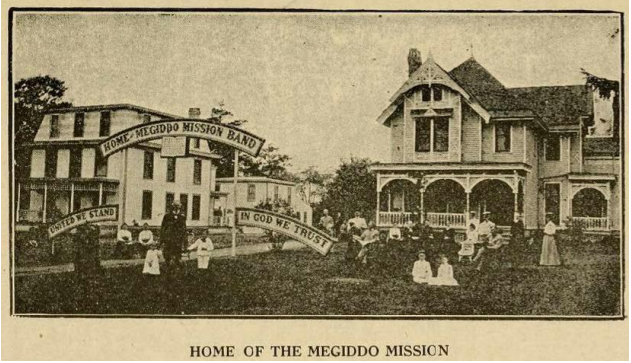


Megiddo Boat (c. 1901-1904)
L.T. Nichols, the founder the Megiddo Church, used his own personal wealth (which came from several inventions) to build a 53-stateroom boat. With approximately 90 residents on board the boat travelled up and down the Mississippi River spreading the Word. The boat eventually was stuck on some sandbars and was sold when repairs became too costly. Nichols subsequently moved the Church to Rochester, where he had relatives.



Megiddo Mission (c. ND)
The Megiddo Mission at 593 to 481 Thurston Road was one of the earliest developments in the Thurston Road Community. The mission was founded in 1904 on five acres of land in an area which at that time was just outside the City of Rochester limits.



Megiddo Church (c. 2013)
The Megiddo Church at 500 Thurston Road was completed in 1907, and remains an integral part of the Thurston Road neighborhood.



Presbyterian Home (c. 1927?)
The Presbyterian Home for the Aged, located at 245-256 Thurston Road, was dedicated in 1927 as a home for 60 elderly men and women.



19th Ward Community Association
The 19th Ward Community Association was formed in 1965 and has had a long-time home on Thurston Road. It now is located at 216 Thurston, but for many years was located at 447 Thurston across from the Megiddo Church.



Louie Thromoulos (c. 1928)
Louie's Sweet Shoppe was beloved for both its candies and its Curb Service.



Crowley Plumbing & Heating
Crowley Plumbing & Heating at 334 Thurston Road has been operating in the neighborhood since 1928.



Hunts Hardware (c. 1925)



Hunts Hardware (c. 2013)
Hunt's Hardware has been operating at 390 Thurston Road since 1914. It is still an important resource for unique and hard-to-find materials for historic buildings.



Civic, Municipal and Social Institutions (c. 2013)

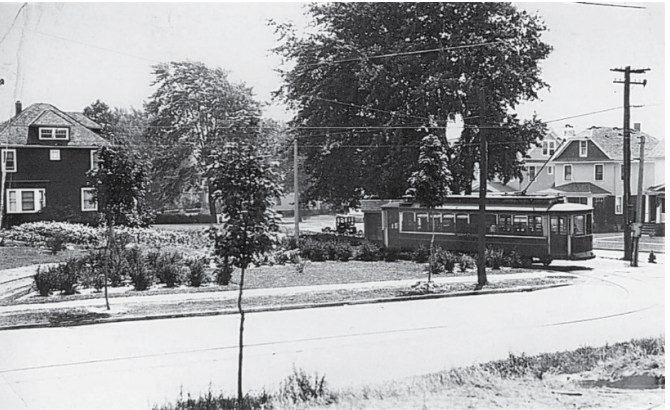
In addition to businesses and other commercial entities, Thurston Road hosts many civic, municipal and social institutions which are important to the entire 19th Ward, including the U.S. Post Office, the Urban League, and the Southwest YMCA.



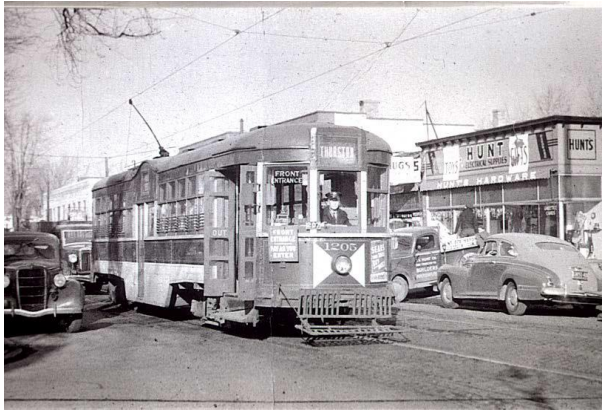
Thurston Road Trolley (c. 1903-1920)
This photo from the Albert R. Stone Negative Collection shows a man boarding Streetcar 513 of the Thurston Road Line in a snowstorm.



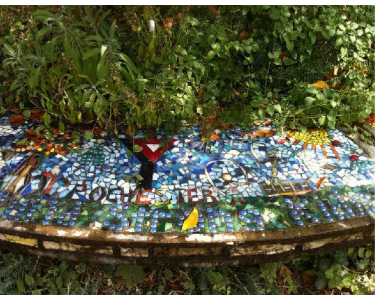
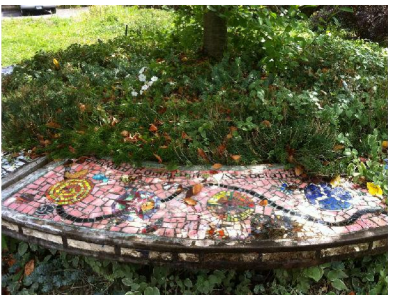
Thurston Road Trolley Tracks (c. 1930s)
This photo is taken looking south on Thurston Road, toward the intersection with Brooks Street.



Thurston Road Trolley Turnaround (c. 1930s)
The Thurston Road trolley turnaround was located at the northeast corner of the Thurston/Brooks intersection, where the Rite Aid is located today.



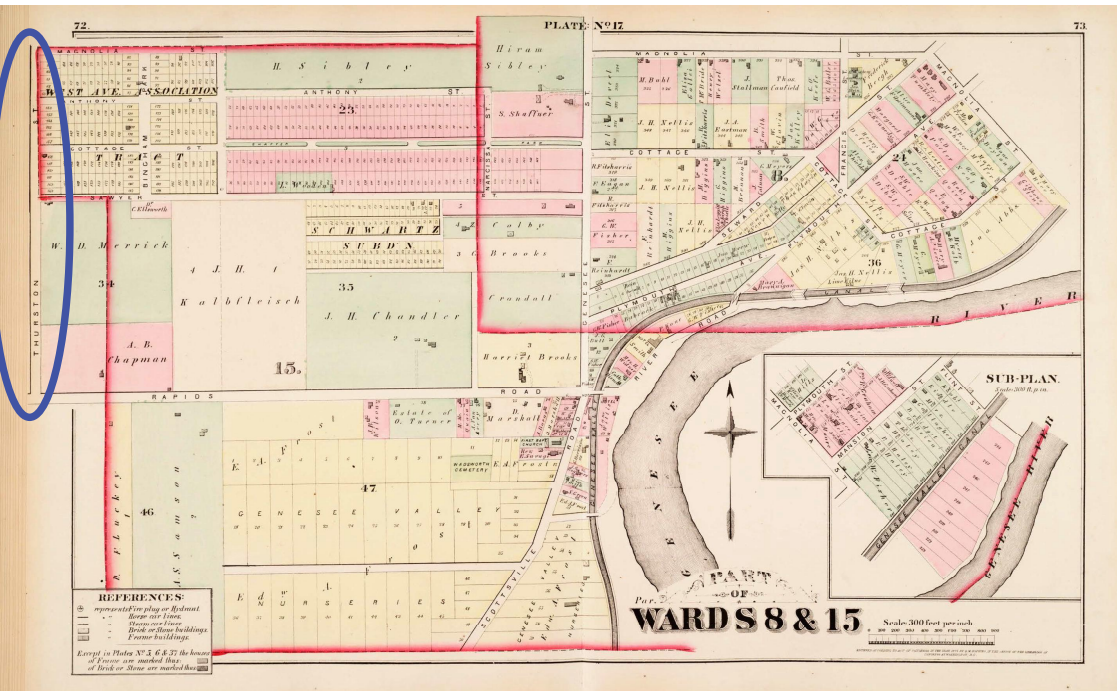
Thurston Road Trolley (c. 1940)
The last trolley ran down Thurston Road on December 24, 1940.



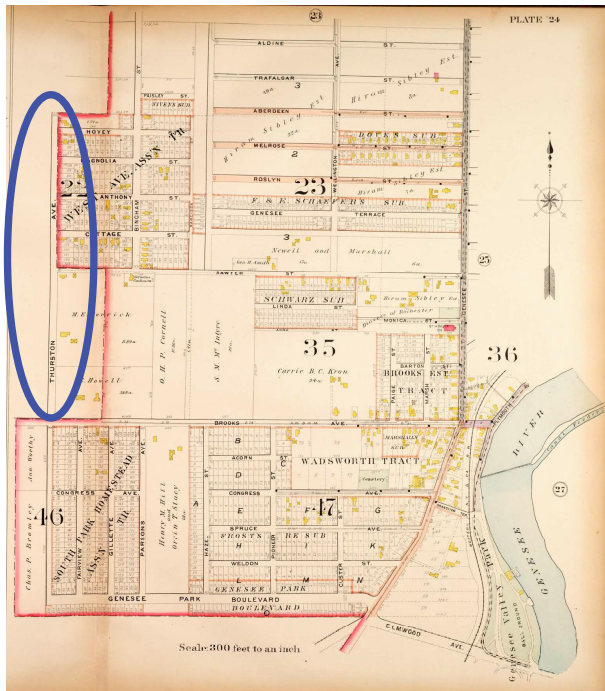
19th Ward Community Garden (c. 2013)
The 19th Ward Community Garden was constructed at 330 Thurston Road in 1992 by the 19th Ward Grounds Group, a network of community members with an interest in gardening. The site had been home to the Knowles Service Station for more than 40 years, and then a Donut Shop and a Family Beverage Center for awhile, before the building was torn down. The Grounds Group spent two years working with city officials to clean up the vacant lot.

The committee then secured grant funding with a vision to make the lot a place of community art within a community garden. The design for the space was done through extensive community input. The park includes a round bench with eight mosaic tiled seats, each designed and constructed by various institutions in the 19th Ward. Tiles along the circumference of the round bench include names of all of the streets in the 19th Ward.

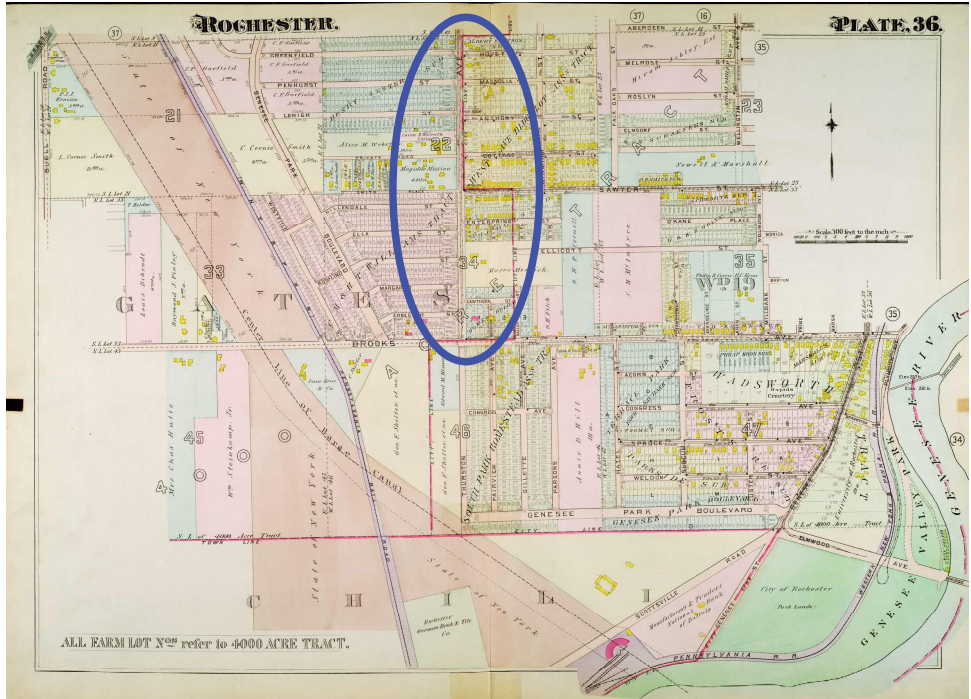




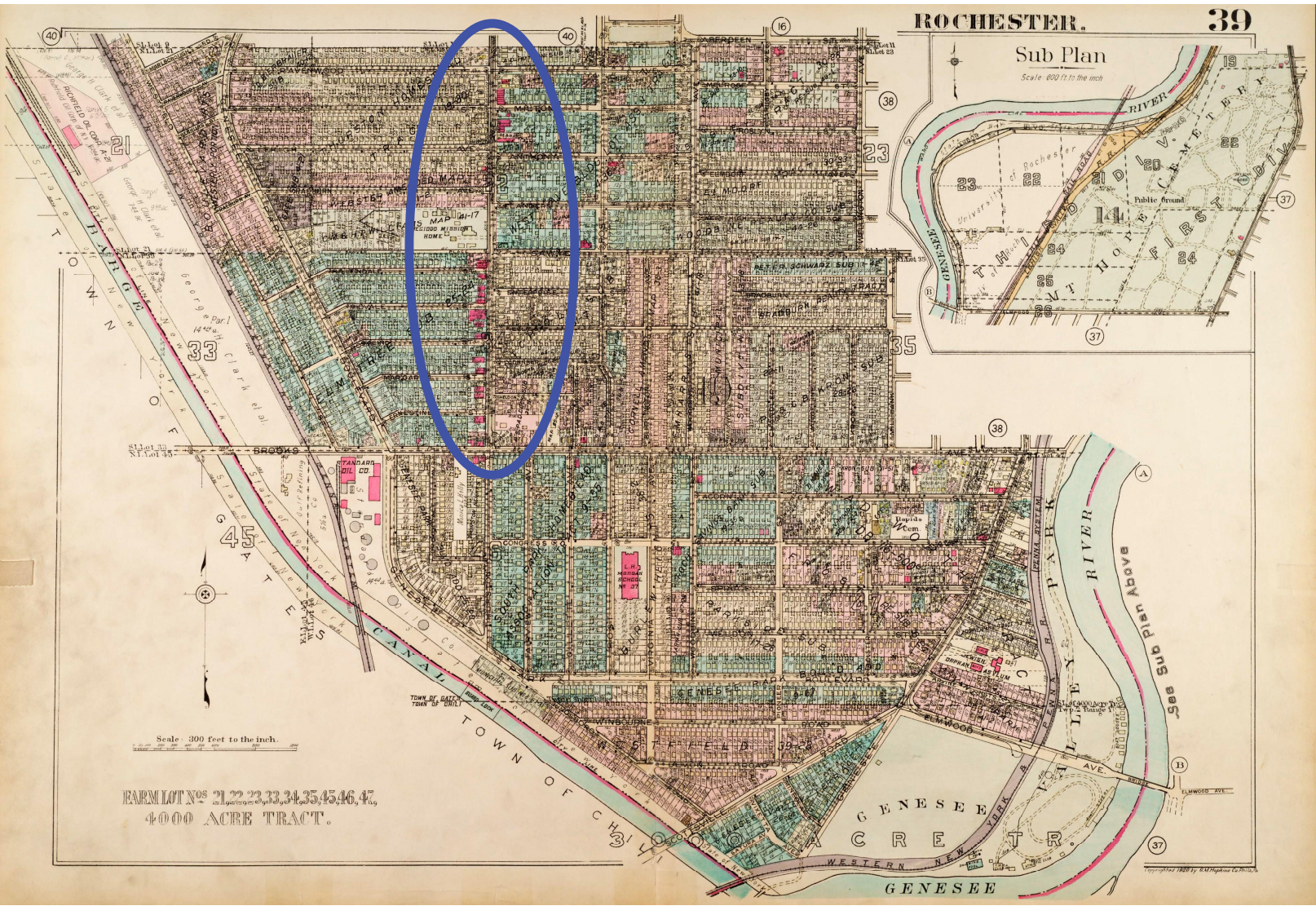
1875



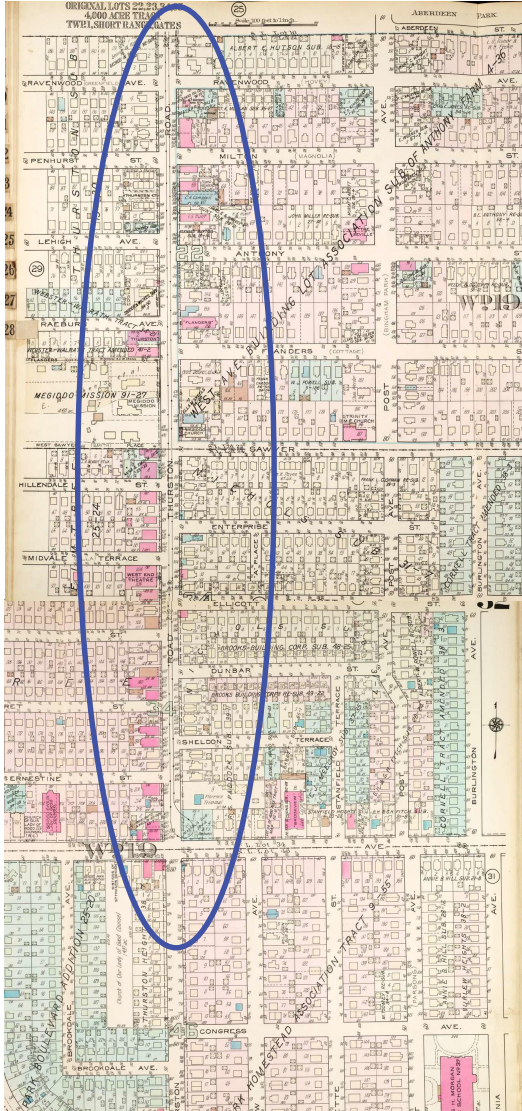
1900



1910



1926



1935

1875

Development in the Thurston Road area had not taken off yet. While some land subdivisions had been platted out, there were very few buildings.

1890s - 1900

By the late 1890s the City of Rochester was beginning to grow and large tracts of land and parts of small estates outside the City were being subdivided to meet the demand for single family housing.

1900 - 1920

L.T. Nichols founded the Megiddo Mission on five acres of land on the west side of Thurston Road in 1904, in an area that was still outside the City limits. He began buying plots and building dozens of homes. This density of population encouraged the New York State Railways to extend a trolley line down Thurston Road with a turnaround at the intersection with Brooks Avenue. In 1917 the City of Rochester began extending sewer and water lines to the neighborhood, and paving streets and sidewalks which encouraged bustling commerce in the new neighborhood.

1920 - 1960s

The Thurston Road neighborhood became a prosperous and desirable neighborhood. Businesses and civic institutions proliferated. Some that are remembered fondly include Louie's Sweet Shoppe, Mel Merrill's Five & Dime, Hunt's Hardware and the West End Theater.

Beginning in the 1960s the migration of black populations from the inner City and from the South, and the resulting racial tensions and race riots, began to change the demographics of the Thurston Road neighborhood.

1965

The 19th Ward Community Association was formed with the stated goal to "preserve the 19th Ward as a desirable residential community open to all who can afford to maintain a home," with the hope that this would prove a model for a racially integrated neighborhood within a stable residential area. The association formed a Real Estate Center which trained volunteers to help buyers and sellers get together without the assistance of realtors, in an effort to counteract "block-busting" techniques used by some real estate salesmen.

1992

The 19th Ward Community Garden was constructed at 330 Thurston Road. The garden contains a circular bench with mosaic tiles representing several institutions in the 19th Ward, and the names of every street in the ward.

2013

Thurston Road continues to be a viable residential, social, and economic hub in the 19th Ward, although there are some vacancies.