Help the Friends Build Cannonball Gardens

Project Goal \$125,000

Mason City Parks to contribute initial \$25,000 in 2014.

Friends of the 457 to raise the remainder in grants, contributions, and donations from the North Iowa Community.

Contributions can be for specific items and fitted with a brass plaque of recognition, such as;

\$5,000 or more: One of 6 walls. \$2,000 or more: Benches. \$1,000 or more: Lamppost. \$500 or more: a brick step. \$100 or more: Engraved brick. Under \$100: Tree or shrubbery with name on Recognition Board

Recognition Applications may be picked up at City Hall or requested from: CB Gardens, 365 Sumac Rd, Mason City, IA 50401 dandawilson@netconx.net or downloaded from www.friendsofthe457.org

All checks made payable to Cannonball Gardens 365 Sumac Rd Mason City, IA 50401. For additional information call: Dennis Wilson 641-423-5328 or Bob Berggren 641-420-1999.

EDUCATIONAL CENTER TOPICS

Iowa Railroad History

- * Iowa Railroad Trackage Map
 - * 1852: First Iowa Railroad.
 - * First 4 railroads in Iowa.
- * 1856: 68 miles to Iowa City.

ORPHAN TRAINS

- * Operated 1854 to 1929.
- * Transported 250,000 West.
 - * lowa received 10,000
- * Greatest mass movement of children in history of nation.

EAST PARK HISTORY

- * 1908: First Park Commission.
- * 1909: Landscape artist hired.
- * 1909: Willow Creek rerouted.
- * 1915: Zoo opens with two alligators, two foxes and three wolves.



Cannonball Gardens

A Friends of the 457 Project

In Cooperation With The Mason City Parks Department



The Friends of the 457 is a dedicated group of volunteers organized in 2004 to restore and preserve the the M&StL 457, an historic 1912 steam locomotive, known in the community as the Rotary Cannonball.



CANNONBALL GARDENS EAST PARK, MASON CITY, IOWA

PRESERVATION

- Stabilization of Site
- Minimize Future Erosion
 - Permanent Retention

EDUCATIONAL CENTER

- Iowa Rail History
- Orphan Train History
 - East Park History

PARK BEAUTIFICATION

- Attractively Landscaped Area
 - Relaxing Terraces
 - Enhance Path and Trail Network Within Park