

UNGER PARK

PARK HISTORY

In the fall of 1972 the Open Space Council brought to a head the problem created by the borrow pit excavation of the Alberici Construction Company. The County Planning Commission recommended the Alberici restore and improve the area and dedicate it to the St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation.

In February 1974 the Alberici Company donated 93 acres of land to St. Louis County for park purposes. Part of the cash value of this donation was used as the local matching portion in a \$75,000 ~~developmental~~ Land and Water Conservation Fund grant to establish Meramec Bend County Park. In the fall of 1975, at the request of Alberici, the name of the park was changed to Edmund F. Unger Memorial County Park.

The Park was opened to the public on March 31, 1979.

Unger Park is included in the Meramec River Greenway. The Great Flood of 1993 did extensive damage to the park and the road has been closed at the lake parking lot. The boat ramp is no longer usable to the public. Following the flood, about 25 properties were acquired in the area between Interstate 44 and the river. A new trail has been constructed to connect the park with the City of Fenton's Meramec River trail.

EDMUND F. UNGER

In February 1974 the Alberici Company donated 93 acres of land to St. Louis County to establish Meramec Bend County Park. In the fall of 1975, at the request of Alberici, the name of the park was changed to Edmund F. Unger Memorial County Park. Unger had been vice president of J. S. Alberici Construction Company but had died of cancer on May 16, 1973 at the age of 55. Mr. Unger grew up in St. Louis and attended St. Louis University High School, where he later served on the board. He also served as co-chairman of the St. Louis Heart Association. He was married to Margaret Korte, and they lived at 12225 Carberry Place in Town and Country. The Ungers had two sons and two daughters. Edmund Unger was buried in Resurrection Cemetery.