TOWNSCAPES AND CITYSCAPES

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In the nineteenth century, the environment of America’s Western Reserve offered examples of three very different entities: a large city, an important county seat, and a small rural town. Not surprisingly, the degree to which each of them participated in the movements which were at the cutting edge in the years which bracketed the turn of the century reflected their size and sophistication. In Youngstown, where moguls had very strong connections with their counterparts in Cleveland and other large cities, progressive ideas and the City Beautiful Movement resulted in improvements like Mill Creek Park. In Warren, one dominant family of wealth and sophistication set the pace for the entire community. Rural Kinsman, however, seemed unaffected by any of the sweeping national movements, except that of evangelical religion. Each, in its own way, contributed to the historical landscape of the Gilded Age in the Western Reserve.