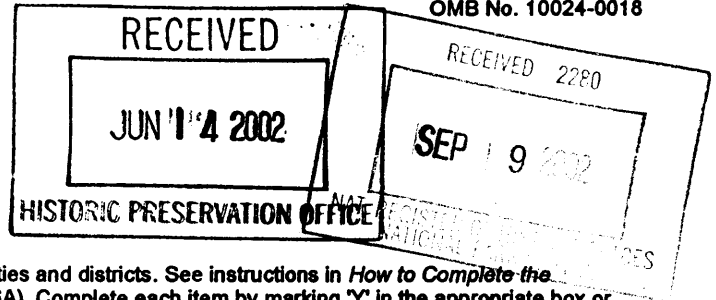


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "Y" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Goffle Brook Park

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Goffle Road, between Lafayette and MacFarlan Avenues not for publication

city or town Borough of Hawthorne vicinity

state New Jersey code NJ county Passaic code 031 Zip code 07506

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title [Signature] Date 8/21/02
Assistant Commissioner, Natural & Historic Resources /DSHPO
State of Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper [Signature: Gibson H. Beall] Date of Action 11/1/02

Goffle Brook Park

Name of Property

Passaic County, New Jersey

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local (county)
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
0	1	buildings
7	0	sites
10	10	structures
0	0	objects
17	10	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

1

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

- LANDSCAPE: park
- LANDSCAPE: unoccupied land
- LANDSCAPE: natural feature (brook)
- TRANSPORTATION: road related (vehicular)
- RECREATION AND CULTURE: outdoor recreation
- GOVERNMENT: public works: waterworks

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

- LANDSCAPE: park
- RECREATION AND CULTURE: outdoor recreation
- LANDSCAPE: natural feature (brook)
- TRANSPORTATION: road related (vehicular)
- GOVERNMENT: government office (John W. Rea House)
- RECREATION AND CULTURE: monument/marker
- GOVERNMENT: public works: waterworks

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

N/A

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation N/A

walls N/A

roof N/A

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See attached Continuation Sheets.

Goffle Brook Park

Passaic County, New Jersey

Name of Property

County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark 'x' in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

*Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1927 - 1952

Significant Dates

1927; 1931; 1932; 1939; 1952

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Gallagher, Percival, Landscape Architect

Olmsted Brothers, Landscape Architects

Criteria Considerations

(Mark 'x' in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- Criteria A through G checkboxes and descriptions.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

Primary location of additional data:

- Previous documentation checkboxes and descriptions.

- Primary location checkboxes and descriptions.

Name of repository: Library of Congress; Olmsted Archives, Brookline, MA; Passaic County Dept of Parks; Passaic Cty Historical Society; Hawthorne NJ Public Library; Paterson NJ Public Library.

Goffle Brook Park
Name of Property

Passaic County, New Jersey
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Approximately 103 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

1	8
---	---

5	7	0	9	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	5	3	5	1	2	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Zone

Easting

Northing

2

1	8
---	---

5	7	0	6	2	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	5	3	4	7	2	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

3

1	8
---	---

5	7	0	3	4	5
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	5	3	3	4	9	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Zone

Easting

Northing

4

1	8
---	---

5	7	0	2	6	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	5	3	2	5	6	5
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mary Delaney Krugman, President; Samantha Butler and Michele Boyd, Project Assistants

organization Mary Delaney Krugman Associates, Inc. date January 15, 2002

street & number 36 Park Street telephone (973) 746-2810

city or town Montclair state New Jersey Zip code 07042

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name County of Passaic, State of New Jersey

Passaic County Administration Building Ed Smyk, County Historian (973) 881-3192
street & number 402 Grand Avenue telephone Main: (973) 881-4000

city or town Paterson state New Jersey Zip code 07505

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 at seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
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Goffle Brook Park
Borough of Hawthorne
Passaic County, New Jersey

Section number 7 Page 1

SECTION 7 - DESCRIPTION

General

Goffle Brook Park (the Park) is a long, narrow park of approximately 103 acres that cradles the north-south course of the Goffle Brook (formerly known as Wagaraw Brook) for approximately 1-3/4 miles through the Borough of Hawthorne, in Passaic County, New Jersey. The Park was created, for the most part, during the period 1928-1950 as part of the Passaic County Park System, in accordance with the design developed by Olmsted Brothers, Landscape Architects, of Brookline, Massachusetts. The design was executed using labor from various work relief programs during the 1930s.

Location and Setting

Goffle Road forms the entire western boundary of the Park. On the east, it is bounded by May Street, Brookside Avenue, the Hawthorne High School athletic fields, and Bamford, First, and Second Avenues. On the southwest, the Park abuts industrial property. The Hawthorne Boys Club property and a small shopping center are situated on the southeast. Surrounding the Park are neighborhoods consisting primarily of modest late 19th and early 20th Century single-family homes. Some commercial and public works buildings are found along Goffle Road, primarily near the intersections at Rea Avenue and Goffle Hill Avenue in the northern portion of the Park.

Topography

The Goffle Brook basin forms the heart of the long, narrow tract of parkland. The land is alluvial near the streambed, consisting of poorly drained soils in the flood plains. Along the westernmost slope where the parkland rises to meet Goffle Road, the soils consist of deep well drained and moderately coarse-textured soils known as the Riverhead series – gently sloping, sandy loam found in valleys adjacent to the rough stony Highlands.

Just across Goffle Road is the east slope of the ridge that rises steeply above the Park, where deposits of glacial outwash material are found near the surface. These deposits are derived from granitic gneiss and lesser amounts of conglomerate, sandstone, and shale. The ridge itself is a rock outcrop, where bedrock rises near the earth's surface. The area along the ridge provided much of the brown sandstone and other stone used for local construction. Stone quarries operated here for many decades, and large outcrops of sandstone glacial rocks are still visible. East of the Park is urban land: areas developed for residential, commercial, and industrial use, where 40-80% of the soil has been altered. The landscape is composed of mixed terrain; wide sweeps of lawn alternate with wooded areas.

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Goffle Brook Park
Borough of Hawthorne
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Section number 7 Page 2

Park Layout

Four streets traverse the Park in an east-west direction – Goffle Hill Road, and Rea, Warburton, and Diamond Bridge Avenues. These divide the Park into identifiable sections that are not only convenient for purposes of this narrative, but also coincide with the certain references in administrative documents of the Passaic County Park Commission.¹ These sections are described below in sequence, beginning with the northernmost section and ending with area at the south end of the Park.

Section 1 Intersection of Goffle Road, Lafayette Avenue, and Goffle Hill Road

The northernmost section of the Park is a small triangle of 4.65 acres² formed at the intersections of Goffle Road, Lafayette Avenue, and Goffle Hill Road. Deep Vall Brook, a west tributary, passes under Goffle Road at this point and flows eastward to join the Goffle Brook just before it flows under the bridge at Goffle Hill Road.

Two pumping stations, ca. 1915 [contributing structures] (see Photos 1, 2, and 3) face the Goffle Road opposite the Hawthorne Water Supply headquarters. They were constructed for the Hawthorne Water System. Here the parkland has been cleared on both sides of the stream, although some border areas are covered with scrubby bushes and grasses and do not appear to be cultivated.

Section 2 Between Goffle Hill Road and Rea Avenue

Between Goffle Hill Road and Rea Avenue, the Park consists of 16.86³ acres. The north portion of this section includes **Van Winkle Pond** [contributing site], a former millpond that covers approximately 2 acres (see Photos 4 and 5). At the southern end of Van Winkle pond is the **Arnold Dam** (1936) [contributing structure] – a gravity dam 120' long and roughly 3-1/2' thick faced with granite ashlar (see Photo 5).⁴ A **metal truss-like footbridge** (hereinafter "**Arnold Dam footbridge**," c. 1980s) [non-contributing structure] (see Photo 5) spans the brook approximately 35' south of the dam and just west of the point at which Van Winkle Avenue meets the Park.

The brook flows southward from the dam and footbridge between casually landscaped areas (see Photo 6) traversed by a network of footpaths that follow the course of the brook. Where Florence and First Avenues terminate at the Park border, a footpath leads across an open area to a **wood frame footbridge** (hereinafter "**Florence Avenue footbridge**," c. 1980s) [non-contributing structure]

¹ These divisions are not necessarily consistent with the Olmsted Brothers park design plan, which divided the Park into a "Southern Portion" (below Rea Avenue) and a Northern Portion.

² "Goffle Brook Park, P.C.P.C. Inventory, March 8, 1940," WPA Files, Passaic County Park Commission, New Jersey. Passaic County Parks Department, Paterson, NJ. Except for several rear yards that were added to the park acreage in 1946, the park boundaries appear to have remained unchanged since this inventory was made, given the research to date. Since those parcels were minor additions, they are not reflected here.

³ "Goffle Brook Park, P.C.P.C. Inventory, March 8, 1940."

⁴ "Goffle Brook Park, P.C.P.C. Inventory, March 8, 1940."

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Goffle Brook Park
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(see Photo 7). This second footbridge is constructed with post and rail side railings. In addition its usual function as a means to cross over the brook, it also guides pedestrian circulation away from the rear yards of the houses along First Avenue (see Photo 8). This Park is narrowest in this location.

Between the point at which Florence Avenue terminates in the Park on the east, the brook divides into two channels – an eastern (auxiliary) channel (see Photo 9) and a western (main) channel (see Photo 10). The auxiliary channel bends sharply eastward and away from the main channel at the point of dividing, then turns sharply again at a masonry retaining wall north of the bridge and continues southward along the east Park boundary, leaving a large section of raised ground between the two channels (see Photo 13). At the time of photo documentation, the auxiliary channel was completely dry, although the streambed was strewn with large rocks, tree trunks and branches, and other debris that would indicate that powerful and swift currents had raked the area in the past. The main channel appeared to be between one foot and two feet deep, and approximately 10-12 feet wide at this point.

Rea Avenue crosses the Park at this point, spanning both channels with two small bridges: on the east, **County Bridge #106** (1911; c. 1990s) [a non-contributing structure] (see Photo 9); and the western channel is spanned by **County Bridge #107** (1911) [contributing structure] (see Photo 10).⁵ (See more detailed discussion of this subject below, "Circulation: Bridges.")

Section 3 Between Rea Avenue and Warburton Avenue

The parkland between Rea and Warburton Avenues contains 19.72 acres,⁶ thereby making it the largest of all the Park sections. A baseball diamond with outfield [non-contributing structure] is located within the Park immediately south of Rea Avenue at its intersection with Goffle Road. The Dutch stone vernacular **John W. Rea House** (ca. 1837) [contributing building] (see Photo 11)⁷ is located just south of the diamond and faces Goffle Road at the point at which Nelson Avenue intersects it on the west. It is within the Park boundaries and is owned by the County of Passaic. There is a **small picnic ground** [non-contributing site] containing five wooden picnic tables, a modern pavilion, a park bench, and several pieces of play equipment southeast of the Rea House on the west bank of the brook (see Photo 12).

The main and auxiliary channels of the Goffle Brook channels reunite approximately 50' south of the Rea Avenue bridges, across the brook from the picnic ground (see Photo 13). Trees, either singly or in clumps, line the east and west banks of the brook, but gently sloping lawn areas compose the remainder of the parkland on both sides. At a point opposite the intersection of Vreeland and Bamford Avenues and just north of the chain link fence that marks the boundary of the Hawthorne

⁵ The Rea Avenue Bridge #106 has been altered as a result of repairs made due to storm damage.

⁶ "Goffle Brook Park, P.C.P.C. Inventory, March 8, 1940."

⁷ Mary Delaney Krugman, Preparer, *The John W. Rea House, Hawthorne, Passaic County, NJ*, National Register Nomination form dated April 15, 1999. Listed on the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places (1999).

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Goffle Brook Park
Borough of Hawthorne
Passaic County, New Jersey

Section number 7 Page 4

Board of Education property, the brook takes an abrupt westerly turn. The brook is shallow and wide at this point, and there are several small islands in the stream (see Photo 14).

A substantial pedestrian bridge west of Vreeland Avenue (hereinafter "Vreeland Avenue footbridge," date unknown) [non-contributing structure] spans Goffle Brook near the northwest corner of the Board of Education property (see Photos 15 and 16). It has a concrete deck with asphalt road surface, which rests on exposed steel I-beam stringers. The west abutment is concrete, while the east abutment is constructed primarily of ashlar, with evidence of concrete repairs having been made over time. There are several large pieces of discarded concrete elements along the east bank of the brook.

The Hawthorne Board of Education's athletic complex occupies the entire length of the brook's east bank from the northwest corner of the property to Warburton Avenue. It is a narrow strip of unimproved landscape filled with weed trees and scrubby growth. Given the general lack of access or landscaping improvements, the area apparently serves only as a visual buffer between the Goffle Road and a small, rather intimate lawn area furnished with a park bench on the west bank, just north of the intersection of Warburton Avenue and Goffle Road (see Photo 17). There is a substantial difference in elevation between the road surface and the level of the brook at this point. A concrete staircase (1939) [contributing structure], constructed in a series of four runs of varying lengths, provides access into this basin from the intersection above it (see Photo 18).

The view of the Warburton Avenue Bridge⁶ (1928 – 1931) [contributing structure] visually dominates this section of the Park (see Photo 19) (see detailed description under "Circulation" below). The Hawthorne High School building and athletic fields immediately adjacent to the Park are easily seen from the east end of Warburton Avenue bridge span (see Photo 20 and Drawing Composite "Passaic County Plan of Proposed Bridge on Warburton Avenue over Goffle Brook").

Section 4 Between Warburton Avenue and Diamond Bridge Avenue

The 11.56 acres⁹ of parkland between Diamond Bridge and Warburton Avenues, is a study in contrast: the north portion of this section is entirely wooded (see Photo 21). The south portion is composed of gently sloping lawns along the west bank to Goffle Road, although the narrow east bank is wooded, forming a natural landscape barrier. This wooded bank protects the Park from the sight of buildings that push against the Park's east boundary.

Just south of Warburton Avenue, the Goffle Brook widens as it passes through a basin formed between the east Park boundary, where it rises steeply to meet the rear yards of houses on Brookside Avenue, and the west boundary, where it rises to meet Goffle Road. In this flat area, the brook forks into two channels – one that follows the hillside to the east, the other that flows to the west, where it

⁶ Passaic County Bridge #1600105, as it is identified in New Jersey Department of Transportation, *The New Jersey Historic Bridge Survey*, prepared by A. G. Lichtenstein & Associates, Inc. (1994).

⁹ "Goffle Brook Park, P.C.P.C. Inventory, March 8, 1940."

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passes through **two freestanding brown sandstone abutments** (late 19th Century) [contributing structures] (see Photo 21). The land between the two channels shows evidence of storm damage – fallen trees, rubble, and other type of debris consistent with flooding. A cleared area through the woodland on the west bank marks the route of a roadway that was carried across the Goffle Brook by a bridge at this location.¹⁰

At approximately the midpoint of this section of the Park, the wooded area emerges into one defined by undulating lawns that slope gently down to the banks of the stream (see Photo 22). On the opposite bank the parkland remains thickly wooded, which screens the lawn area from the view of rear yards of houses located along Brookside Avenue. The east bank continues to rise steeply from the streambed up to the rear yards of those houses, and shows signs of severe erosion where the main (west) channel brook bends eastward to rejoin the auxiliary east channel. This section of the Park ends where the roadbed of Diamond Bridge Avenue rises to meet the bridge span (see Photos 22 and 23).

Section 5 Between Diamond Bridge Avenue and the Southern Park Boundary

The southernmost portion of the Park is located between the south taking line and Diamond Bridge Avenue and consists of 50.54 acres.¹¹ Until recently, the **Diamond Bridge Avenue Bridge** (ca. 1931) [contributing structure] (see Photo 36) formed the line of demarcation between this section of the Park and the one immediately to its north (see description under "Vehicular Circulation" below). A new concrete bridge with a pedestrian underpass is now under construction and will eventually replace the existing concrete bridge (see Photo 37).¹²

South of Diamond Bridge Avenue the parkland on both sides of the brook is marked by sweeping expanses of gently sloping lawn areas (see Photo 24). East of the brook, there are **three baseball diamonds** [contributing site] (see Photo 25), **two football/soccer fields** (ca. 1980s) [non-contributing], and an **enclosed dog run** (c. 1980s) [non-contributing]. A **parking area and a picnic grove with a concession stand** (1984) [non-contributing] (see Photos 38 and 39) are located adjacent to the baseball fields and are accessed by a drive from Diamond Bridge Avenue. A **bronze plaque mounted on a concrete base** (1984) [non-contributing] commemorates the 1984 park rehabilitation (see Photo 39). West of the brook, the land opens to the largest open area in the entire Park (see Photo 26). Like many other areas of the Park along Goffle Road, there is a sharp dip where the land drops quickly away from the level of the road, then slopes gently eastward toward the brook, indicating where the natural topography has been sculpted.

¹⁰ This road predated the Park and was in use up to the time of the construction of the Warburton Avenue Bridge (1929) (see below, 1930 Aerial View #2, which marks the location as "A Small Bridge"). Fairchild Aerial Surveys, Inc., Aerial Photograph of Goffle Brook Park dated 9 December 1930, Olmsted File #9160, Olmsted National Historic Site, Brookline MA. No other indications of the roadway or bridge are extant.

¹¹ "Goffle Brook Park, P.C.P.C. Inventory, March 8, 1940."

¹² Construction on the replacement bridge was begun in Autumn 2001.

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A **historic marker and memorial plaza (1952)** [contributing site] is located adjacent to Goffle Road and overlooking the Park, about halfway between Diamond Bridge Avenue and the south boundary (see Photos 27 and 28). The marker is a bronze plaque that locates the site of the "John George Ryerson House," reportedly the vicinity of an encampment of Revolutionary War troops under the command of General Lafayette.

The topography of the southwest perimeter differs considerably from other sections of the Goffle Road boundary (see Photo 29). Unlike the more typical "sculpted dip" away from the roadway into the Park, here several large grassy knolls rise along the west perimeter.

The southwest corner is marked by a heavily wooded rise, around which the Park entry drive curves from Goffle Road to a parking area and an **enclosed playground** (c. 1980s) [non-contributing site] with an assortment of play equipment adjacent to a soccer field (see Photo 30). The soccer field occupies about 25% of the open lawn area, the remainder gently undulating northward to Diamond Bridge Avenue (see Photo 31).

The southernmost Park boundary is drawn just south of the enclosed playground, where the stream takes a 90° turn west along a retaining wall adjacent to a complex of industrial buildings, small shopping area, and the Hawthorne Boys' Club facilities. These are all located on the opposite bank of Goffle Brook, outside of the Park boundary.

Circulation System

Vehicular Circulation

Roads

Goffle Road forms the entire west boundary of the Park. Although not within the Park boundary, it offers visual access to the Park and its various environments, as well as provides vehicular pullout areas along the roadside adjacent to the Park.

In Section 1 (the northernmost end of the Park), access is very limited, although there is a **pullout and parking area** adjacent to the two pumping stations.

In Section 2 (Goffle Hill Road to Rea Avenue), access to the Park near Van Winkle Pond is gained by a small parking area near Goffle Road, and by the streets immediately adjacent to the Park: **Van Winkle, Genevieve, Florence, First, and Second Avenues** where they front on the Park.

In Section 3 (Rea to Warburton Avenues), the **west side of Bamford Avenue** fronts directly on the Park providing access and street-side parking. A **driveway from Goffle Road and parking lot**

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on the grounds of the Rea House provides access to the ball field and the small picnic area near the brook.

In Section 4 (Warburton to Diamond Bridge Avenues), there is no apparent road access except from Goffle Road, although roadside parking is not provided in that area.

Access to Section 5 (the southernmost portion) is via a winding asphalt-paved drive beginning opposite the intersection of MacFarlan Avenue with Goffle Road, which leads to a small parking lot adjacent to the soccer field and playground near the brook (see above). There is also an entry drive on the east boundary from Diamond Bridge Avenue southward to a small parking area near the baseball diamonds.

Bridges

Five bridges traverse the Park in an east-west direction, two of them are contributing resources; three are non-contributing.¹³

The Goffle Hill Road Bridge (1999) [non-contributing structure]: This recently constructed concrete span resting on concrete substructure, with modern guide rails (see Photo 5, background). It replaced a prefabricated modular steel bridge¹⁴ at that site.¹⁵

The two Rea Avenue Bridges: 1) **County Bridge #106¹⁶** [non-contributing structure] (see Photo 9 and Drawing of Passaic County Bridge #106) was originally constructed in 1911, together with the west bridge. It is a concrete span approximately 32' long with steel stringers that rests on concrete abutments. It carries a two-lane asphalt roadway and concrete sidewalks across the auxiliary channel of the Goffle Brook and measures approximately 4'10" from the streambed to the bottom of the stringers. It has double-course modern steel guide rails on both sides.¹⁷ 2) **County Bridge #107¹⁸** [contributing structure] (see Photo 10 and Drawing of Passaic County Bridge #107), also constructed in 1911, is similar in the construction of its deck and abutments, but is higher up from the water's surface, measuring approximately 6' from the streambed to the bottom of the stringers. It is approximately 20' long. It appears highly intact. The pipe-and-rail railings, which have posts capped with round metal finials, appear to be original.

¹³ Even the non-contributing bridges, however, are in highly visible locations where the scale of approaches, bridges, and road geometry would have significant visual effects on the appreciation of the Park.

¹⁴ In common engineering parlance, this bridge type is known as an "Acrow" bridge, named after the company that produces them, the ACROW Corporation of America, Carlstadt, New Jersey.

¹⁵ Records of County of Passaic, Department of Engineering. Paterson, New Jersey. Telephone interview with staff engineer for Hawthorne area by Preparer, April 17, 2001.

¹⁶ Passaic County Bridge #1600106.

¹⁷ The existing metal guide rails were installed to replace those washed away by the floodwaters of Hurricane Floyd (September 1999). Mary Delaney Krugman, Preparer, Telephone interview with Aura Mayer, Principal Engineer/Bridges, Passaic County Department of Engineering, Paterson, NJ (17 April 2001).

¹⁸ Passaic County Bridge #1600107.

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Goffle Brook Park
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The Warburton Avenue Bridge (1928-1931)¹⁹ [contributing structure]: This is a single-span encased stringer bridge, 44 feet long and 30 feet wide (see Photo 19 and Drawing Composite "Passaic County Plan of Proposed Bridge on Warburton Avenue over Goffle Brook"), which carries the two-lane Warburton Avenue and sidewalks across the Goffle Brook (see Photo 32). Its concrete substructure is finished with arched fasciae, which gives it the appearance of an arch span. The upstream (north) side of the west embankment is faced with riprap. Battered octagonal posts mark the termini of the standard-design balustrade. A bronze plaque with the names of the Passaic County Board of Chosen Freeholders, 1929, is affixed to the interior face of the center post in the southern balustrade (see Photo 33). The tops of the octagonal posts show evidence of lamps and standards, which have since been removed. This bridge is visible from Goffle Road, the main Park thoroughfare, and from the grassy park area immediately north of the span. It is one of the Park's most important architectural features.

Diamond Bridge Avenue Bridge²⁰ (currently under construction) [non-contributing structure] (see Photo 37): This bridge replaced a contributing bridge (1931).²¹ It crosses the brook in an east-west direction. Like its predecessor, it is constructed of reinforced concrete; the prior pedestrian underpass has been reconstructed in the same location and at approximately the same height in the new bridge.

The 1931 bridge was faced with concrete and was 43' long and 30.1' wide (see Photos 34 - 36). It carried a two-lane roadway and sidewalks along both sides. The New Jersey Historic Bridge Survey described this 1931 bridge as follows:

"The encased stringer bridge supported on a concrete substructure is nicely detailed with pebble-dash finish panels on the abutments, fascias, and posts...."

"...The fascia stringers are finished with bush-hammer textured panels that match those that accent the posts of the concrete balustrades. The same detail is repeated at the corners of the abutments.... It is well preserved."

On the top of several of the posts, a circlet of iron approximately 3" in diameter is embedded in the concrete within a footprint left by a now-removed light fixture. A small pedestrian walkway passes underneath the bridge in a north-south direction along the west interior abutment wall (see Photo 36). A modern beam guide rail is mounted on the interior side of the metal hand railing. Two deteriorated light fixtures are mounted between the stringers above the walkway at either end. The Diamond Avenue Bridge is highly visible from both north and south of the span, due to the large open spaces

¹⁹ Passaic County Bridge #1600105, as it is identified in New Jersey Department of Transportation, *The New Jersey Historic Bridge Survey*, prepared by A. G. Lichtenstein & Associates, Inc. (1994).

²⁰ Passaic County Bridge #1600104, as it is identified in New Jersey Department of Transportation, *The New Jersey Historic Bridge Survey*, prepared by A. G. Lichtenstein & Associates, Inc. (1994).

²¹ This bridge was replaced after the draft National Register nomination had been submitted. Because of the history and significance of the 1931 bridge, the Preparer has chosen to retain portions of the text that relate to this structure, in spite of its loss, for recordation purposes.

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between it and Goffle Road – the main Park thoroughfare on the west. The pedestrian underpass provided a vertical separation between pedestrian and vehicular traffic.

Pedestrian Circulation

Pedestrian circulation is facilitated throughout the Park in a variety of ways. First, there is the network of **pathways** [contributing structures], including paved, dirt, and grassy paths. The only paved footpaths are found in Section 2, near Van Winkle Pond and along the east bank between the two footbridges constructed there (see Photos 5 and 7). Dirt pathways exist in Section 2 along the west bank, between the southernmost footbridge and the grassy area north of Rea Avenue (see Photo 8). Grassy paths appear as a network of flat lanes criss-crossing the grassy slopes primarily in Sections 4 and 5 (see Photo 22).

There are also **three footbridges** crossing the Goffle Brook: one each at the Arnold Dam, Florence Avenue, and Vreeland Avenue (see Photos 5, 7, and 16). The three footbridges differ from one another in materials, design, and scale.

The **sidewalks** at the sides of the Rea, Warburton, and Diamond Bridge Avenue bridges provide pedestrian as well as vehicular circulation in an east-west direction across the Park. There also was a **pedestrian underpass** under the 1931 Diamond Bridge Avenue Bridge (see Photo 36), which allowed a vertical separation between north-south pedestrian circulation and east-west vehicular circulation.

Finally, the **1939 concrete staircase** [contributing] provides pedestrian access from Goffle Road down a steep grade to the bridge-viewing place north of Warburton Avenue (see Photo 18).

Vegetation/Landscaping

The **vegetation found in the Park** [contributing site] consists of grasses and a variety of shrubs and trees – both evergreen and deciduous – that require little maintenance. At the time of the photo documentation, there was no evidence of formal perennial or annual (flower) beds in any Park location. Although no landscaping plan has been discovered to date, much of the vegetation has been attributed to the period of the park's development (1927-1952).²²

The Park includes a variety of environments, established not only by the plant materials used, but also by the **grading and topography** itself [contributing]: vast open spaces in the southernmost portion, undulating lawns, groves of trees, meadows, as well as tended playing fields laid out for a variety of sports – baseball, football, soccer, etc. Adjacent to Goffle Road and overlooking the lawn,

²² Luciano Miceli, FASLA, *Commentary Concerning Existing Vegetation at Goffle Brook Park*, report prepared on behalf of the Please Save Our Parkland Committee dated 30 October 2001. The Miceli Report has been filed as a supplement to, but not a part of, this document. To date, no park landscaping plan from the period of significance has been located; however, the files of the Works Progress Administration (see below) contained a list of plant materials used in Project #4242 (1938), which Mr. Miceli compared with current specimens in the park.

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the formal plaza with its brown sandstone wall and historic marker is furnished with benches and surrounded by a manicured evergreen border (see Photo 27). The Park also has heavily wooded areas, with rough terrain in some places (see Photo 21). These areas, while often within voice range of nearby residential neighborhoods, offer visitors the feeling of being far removed from the sculpted, civilized landscapes found in other sections of the Park.

Van Winkle Pond is a predominant water feature of the northern end of the Park. At its shoreline are planted a variety of trees, and its grassy banks offer unobstructed access to the water's edge and interaction with its aquatic environment. Several species of water birds were seen in or near the pond and brook (see Photos 5 and 6).

Finally, the environment in and immediately adjacent to the **Goffle Brook** [contributing] has its own special character. The brook is the focal point of the Park and a highly dynamic feature in this bucolic landscape.

Vistas and Views

The most predominant view of Goffle Brook Park is from Goffle Road – the north-south arterial that forms its west boundary. Because the parklands drop away from the road to the brook – a drop in elevation that ranges from 5 feet to over 20 feet along its length – travelers along this road are permitted an unobstructed view of the Park's sweeping open lawns and playing fields as well as glimpses into its more intimate landscaped areas. Moving from the southern portion northward toward the Warburton Avenue Bridge, the view changes from open lawns to the heavily wooded areas south of the bridge, then changes once again with the open spaces that surround the historic John W. Rea house.

The most dramatic vistas can be found in the southern portion of the Park (see Photos 23, 24, 26, 29, and 31) where, at one time and from many different viewpoints, the Park visitor can appreciate the meandering brook, flat lawn areas, gentle grassy knolls, and trees both near and distant. In the northern portion of the Park, Van Winkle Pond also provides dramatic vistas and views (see Photos 4 and 5). From Goffle Road and areas adjacent to the dam, the views encompass both water and sky and where, in one glance, one can capture the water cascading over the spillway and reflections of the landscape on the distant water's surface.

There are more intimate views as well, such as a glance southward from the Van Winkle Avenue footbridge (see Photo 5), and at Brookside, just south of the Rea Avenue Bridges (see Photo 13). There is also the view that rewards the visitor who descends the stairway west of the Warburton Avenue Bridge, where a graceful arch spans the Goffle Brook (see Photo 19).

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Summary Statement

Goffle Brook Park is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under **Criterion A** for its associations with the City Beautiful Movement and the American Parks Movement as they unfolded in Passaic County and, more particularly, in the Borough of Hawthorne, New Jersey; and for its associations with the work relief programs during the years of the Great Depression (1933-1939), particularly those of the Works Progress Administration (WPA) and the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS). Goffle Brook Park is also eligible under **Criterion C** as a landscape designed by a master, i.e., the firm of Olmsted Brothers, and specifically Percival Gallagher, landscape architect, a principal designer and partner in the Olmsted Brothers firm.

The events and trends that shaped the creation of public parks in the last half of the Nineteenth and the first half of the Twentieth Centuries transformed the face of America, particularly during the period of the Great Depression (1929-1941). The American Parks movement, with its roots in the 19th Century, expanded into the 20th Century, enhanced by the City Beautiful movement (1890s – 1920s). With the onset of the Great Depression, state and federal work relief programs – most notably President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's Works Progress Administration (WPA) – fostered great public works programs that helped American communities of all sizes realize a more beautiful, more healthful, and efficient "city beautiful" of their own. Goffle Brook Park – a site selected and later designed by the prominent firm of Olmsted Brothers, Landscape Architects, Brookline, Massachusetts – is a notable example of a park created during that period. Begun in an era of affluence, it was completed by the hands of WPA workers in an era of want.

Historical Overview

The creation of County Park systems in the State of New Jersey was first permitted under enabling legislation passed in 1895.¹ This legislation was a product of several historical trends that together inspired the creation of public parks in the United States.

The Early Roots of Landscape Architecture

To early European settlers, who needed to clear land for homes, crops, pastures, and industries necessary for survival, the American wilderness presented a formidable challenge, rather than an amenity. In the early 19th Century, citizens of the young republic began to see the natural landscape as an inspiration for a new identity based on democratic ideals and America's unique qualities and resources, as exemplified in the works of the Hudson River School painters and the writers Ralph Waldo Emerson and Henry David Thoreau. Andrew Jackson Downing (1815-1852) translated this American romanticism to a formal school of landscape architecture with his premise that humans were deeply affected by their environment.² Downing's writings ultimately had an extraordinary influence on the American countryside.³ Ardent Downing follower A.J. Davis used Downing's principles in the design of Llewellyn Park, West Orange, New Jersey (1857) – reportedly the earliest of a new

¹ New Jersey, "An Act to establish public parks in certain counties in this state, and to regulate the same," Chapter XCI, General Public Laws (1895).

² See also A. J. Downing, *Landscape Gardening and Rural Architecture*, 7th Ed. 1865. Rpt. (New York: Dover Publications, Inc., 1991); and A.J. Downing, *The Architecture of Country Houses*, 1850. Rpt. (New York: Dover Publications, Inc., 1969).

³ Newton, 261.

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form of planned suburban enclave – where nature was artfully sculpted to optimum aesthetic effect and integrated into the park-like design.⁴

Public Health Concerns and the Development of Public Parks

Urban growth in the late 18th and 19th Centuries was unplanned, chaotic, its densities unchecked. In the aftermath of the 1832 cholera epidemic, English and American reformers looked for ways to create a more healthful city environment. In the 1840's Downing, along with fellow writer William Cullen Bryant, " ...began pleading...for recognition of society's responsibility to the burgeoning population of working people."⁵ After a second major cholera epidemic swept through the city in 1849, advocates for better sanitation argued for open spaces in crowded cities.⁶ New York City's response to the growing public health crisis was to sponsor a competition in 1858 for the design of Central Park. Frederick Law Olmsted (1822-1903), together with Calvert Vaux, submitted the winning design, launching Olmsted's career as America's foremost landscape architect.⁷

The City Beautiful Movement

The Chicago World's Columbian Exposition of 1893 further stimulated public interest in civic design. "The spatial core [of the Fair] demonstrated, as nothing else had done for a century or more, what a wonderfully unifying force is exerted by a well-structured outdoor space."⁸ (Not surprisingly, one of the planners of this exposition was landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted.) Journalist Charles Mulford Robinson, who covered the Fair for Chicago's *Post-Express*, became a tireless advocate of thoughtful planning. The term "City Beautiful," Robinson's watchword, evolved into a movement that ushered in an era of unprecedented concern with the organization of the urban built environment. As a planning consultant, Robinson worked closely with the landscape architects who sought to artfully sculpt the urban topography while meeting public needs.⁹ Architects, social reformers, landscape architects, and government officials collaborated to create "beautiful" cities that met other societal needs as well.¹⁰

The State and National Parks Movements

The movement to preserve state parks (1864-1933) began with the 1864 cession of the Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Big Tree Grove – then part of the public domain – to the State of California "for public use, resort and recreation."¹¹ Frederick Law Olmsted Sr. prepared a preliminary report for the California Commissioners prior to their formal acceptance of this transfer, which was the first carefully reasoned philosophical justification for the public preservation of great natural scenery on the basis of its unique capacity to

⁴ William H. Pierson, Jr., "Andrew Jackson Downing Villa, Cottage, and Landscape – Part III: Houses for the Middle Class," *American Buildings and Their Architects: Technology and the Picturesque, The Corporate and the Early Gothic Styles*, Vol. II (New York: Oxford University Press, 1978), 389–431: 422–425; see also John R. Stilgoe, *Borderland: Origins of the American Suburb 1820-1939* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1988).

⁵ Newton, 268.

⁶ Schuyler, 60.

⁷ Irving D. Fisher, *Frederick Law Olmsted and the City Planning Movement in the United States*, 1976, Reprint (Ann Arbor MI: UMI Research Press, 1986), 3.

⁸ Newton, 368.

⁹ Newton, 424–425.

¹⁰ Newton, 426.

¹¹ Newton, 555.

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enhance human psychological, physical and social health.¹² The designation of a scenic region near the headwaters of the Yellowstone River in 1872 began a parallel movement to establish national parks (1872-1929). Urged on by the writings of naturalist John Muir, public support for the preservation of America's precious wilderness areas continued to grow. In 1890 more valuable lands were protected as federal parkland, and in 1891, Congress passed the Forest Reserve Act, giving the President power to reserve lands for public use.¹³ The National Park Service was formed in 1916 to manage hundreds of thousands of acres of public parkland.

In 1895, Essex County, New Jersey, was the first in the nation to establish a county park commission, applying the principles of the state parks movement in a regional scale.

Frederick Law Olmsted and His Successors

The mid-19th Century movement to create public parks came at a time of transition in the United States. The economy was moving from an agrarian to an industrial one, from a rural to an urban society. Dramatic lifestyle changes were accompanied by extraordinary technological innovations, and waves of immigrants flooded into American cities. Such upheaval spawned a growing nostalgia and longing for a simpler life in the country.

Frederick Law Olmsted (1822-1903), however, remained a strong advocate for city life, believing the city to be the manifestation of civilization's progress.¹⁴ He inherited from the New England Transcendentalists the goal of social reform and from the philosophy of German idealism his aesthetic theory for park design and city planning. He believed that humankind's achievement in progress, morality and unity could be achieved only through and with nature, not in antagonism to it.¹⁵

Olmsted, also known as the father of American landscape architecture, was a central figure in the crusade for open space planning. He was troubled by the inequity of life in America, and believed that parks were an essential part of a reformist program that would provide for the poor "...an education to refinements and taste and the mental and moral capital of gentlemen."¹⁶ He believed that society could be reformed through the aesthetic impulse, and that the form of the city could be rationally reconstructed to meet the social and aesthetic needs of the city.¹⁷

"In a society characterized by an extraordinary mobility and by a vague sentimental nostalgia for 'nature,' Olmsted provided a rationale for creating rural parks within the city. Using the aesthetic reasons of romantic idealism, he gave his art a social purpose that indicated his keen understanding of the problems confronting an urban society whose orientation is the market place."¹⁸

¹² Library of Congress, comp. "Documentary Chronology of Selected Events in the Development of the American Conservation Movement," *The Evolution of the Conservation Movement 1850-1920*, American Memory Collections, Internet site <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/amrvhtml/conshome.html> (Washington: U.S. Library of Congress, accessed 6 September 2000).

¹³ Newton, 523.

¹⁴ Fisher, 3.

¹⁵ Fisher, 3-4.

¹⁶ Schuyler, 66.

¹⁷ Fisher, 4.

¹⁸ Fisher, 149.

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F. L. Olmsted, Sr. went on to design a number of city parks, including Morningside, Prospect, and Riverside Parks in New York City; Jackson and Washington Parks, Chicago; and the grounds of the Capitol in Washington, DC. Olmsted returned to his native New England to plan the Boston Park system. He worked out of his Brookline, Massachusetts, office from 1883 until his retirement in 1895. His son, Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. (1870-1957), and his stepson and nephew, John Charles Olmsted (1852-1920), quickly moved to assume joint leadership of the firm after their father's retirement. The firm thereafter was called "Olmsted Brothers."

F.L. Olmsted, Jr. was Harvard educated and had apprenticed with his father on two major projects – the 1893 Columbian Exposition in Chicago, and "Biltmore," the impressive North Carolina estate of George W. Vanderbilt. He established the first formal training program in landscape architecture at Harvard University in 1900 and was a charter member of the American Society of Landscape Architects. He maintained a lifelong commitment to conservation, and drafted the language for the legislation that established the National Park Service in 1916.¹⁹

Olmsted Jr.'s stepbrother, John Charles Olmsted, was senior partner in the firm from 1898 until his death in 1920. He served as first president of the American Society of Landscape Architects in 1899. Though skilled in art, architecture, engineering, and photography, John Charles had a flair for business management that produced thousands of new commissions around the country.²⁰

Percival Gallagher (___ -1934) was a partner in Olmsted Brothers. He was also project manager and principal designer for the PCPC projects and many others in northern New Jersey. Gallagher studied at Harvard's Bussey Institution and entered the Olmsted office as an apprentice in 1894 – a year before Olmsted Sr.'s retirement. After a brief stay with another firm, Gallagher remained at the Olmsted firm from 1906, later becoming a full partner in the firm. He was reported to be the mainstay of the firm's operations until his untimely death in 1934. He was respected as one of the foremost designers in his profession, having had enormous creative skills, and described as an "artist to the core."²¹ One of his projects favored by landscape architects was "Ormston," the residence of J.E. Aldred near Glen Cove, Long Island, New York, where he worked with Edward Clark Whiting (also with Olmsted Brothers) to design a landscape that complimented a stone residence designed by Bertram Grovenor Goodhue.²²

In all, Olmsted Brothers firm handled approximately 3,500 projects from 1895-1960 – 65 years of practice. The firm grew rapidly under the brothers' leadership, particularly during the years 1890 to 1920. To accommodate the increase in activity a rambling complex of offices was added to the family residence. At its peak in the early 1930s – the same years that the firm was working to design the Passaic County Park System – the firm of Olmsted Brothers employed a staff of almost 60 workers. F.L. Olmsted Jr., the last surviving family member of the firm, retired in 1949.²³

¹⁹ National Park Service, "Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site: Background."

²⁰ National Park Service, "Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site: Background."

²¹ Newton, 429.

²² Newton, 429-430.

²³ National Park Service, "Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site: Background."

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The Creation of the Passaic County Park System

In 1895, the Senate and General Assembly of New Jersey passed legislation that enabled counties having populations of more than 200,000 to establish county park commissions, acquire property, issue bonds, develop parklands, and maintain and regulate them, among other things.²⁴ The justice of the Supreme Court presiding in each county appointed its commissioners. The Act further provided: "... That all lands taken or held under this act for the purpose of public parks shall be forever kept open and maintained as such ..."²⁵

Essex County was the first county in the nation to create a county park commission (1895), establishing its commission the same year the enabling act was adopted. Hudson County followed in 1902. Union County reportedly formed its commission in 1921.²⁶ By 1928, the Counties of Camden, Bergen, and Passaic were also moving forward on the creation of their own park systems.²⁷

The movement to establish a Passaic County Park System was initiated by the Passaic County Planning Association at its annual meeting held May 26, 1925. One year later, sixteen prominent citizens petitioned the New Jersey Supreme Court for the appointment of a preliminary park commission, which was subsequently sworn in on July 3, 1926.²⁸

The Preliminary Commission was empowered to conduct a survey of lands for possible park sites, and prepare a comprehensive plan for their acquisition, development, and maintenance. Since the creation of the park system needed voter approval, it was important to develop a well-reasoned plan and garner public support before putting the question on the ballot.

For this task, the Commission chose one of the most prestigious landscape architects and planners in the United States. Following the lead of Essex and Union Counties, the PCPC engaged the firm of Olmsted Brothers, Landscape Architects, of Brookline, Massachusetts, to prepare a master plan to identify the public need for a park system, to evaluate potential sites to be acquired for parkland, and to prepare a report that could be used to generate public support. The Olmsted Brothers report was submitted to the Commissioners on July 9, 1927.²⁹

In its opening paragraphs, Olmsted Brothers identified the prime reasons for the investment of public funds in the creation of a county park system:

"...The need for public parks to provide for the happiness and well-being of people has fortunately become pretty well established, and it hardly needs the argument that was once necessary. As a sound investment of public funds, the time has long passed when any doubt prevailed as to whether or not a park was merely luxury or a financial benefit of continuously growing value. Wherever established the public park has enhanced land values and it is well

²⁴ New Jersey, "An Act to establish public parks in certain counties in this state, and to regulate the same," Chapter XCI, *General Public Laws, Session of 1895*.

²⁵ New Jersey, *General Public Laws, Session of 1895*, 182.

²⁶ Floyd W. Parsons, E.M., Ed. *New Jersey: Life, Industries and Resources of a Great State* (Newark: New Jersey State Chamber of Commerce, 1928), 227.

²⁷ Parsons, 227.

²⁸ Passaic County [NJ] Park Commission. *Report for 1928-1929*: 7.

²⁹ Olmsted Brothers, Landscape Architects. *Report to the Passaic County Park Commission*. Report submitted July 9, 1927. Olmsted Brothers Papers. Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, DC.

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understood that no other public expenditure tends to appreciate in value, in stead of depreciating, with the passage of time, as do other public works...³⁰

The report noted the already dense populations in Passaic County cities. It also noted important changes that were going to affect the future well-being of the area, e.g., the completion of the Holland Tunnel, the proposed "Hudson River Bridge" (later named the George Washington Bridge), and the resulting highways that were naturally to follow these transportation improvements, and the recent authorization to create a State highway system.³¹ Already between 1910 and 1920, the population of Passaic County had increased by 30% overall. The population of Hawthorne, located just north of the densely populated, industrial and commercial center of Paterson, had grown by 34% – somewhat more than the county average.³²

"It is incumbent on some authority to secure for the future some small portion at least of the surrounding hills and green country which to many seem something of a permanent nature, since they have always been, but which will surely vanish or become withdrawn from the public enjoyment as the expansion of urbanization proceeds....

"...[C]rowded populations, if they would live for health and happiness, must have space for air, for light, for exercise, for rest, and for the enjoyment of that peaceful beauty of nature which, because it is the opposite of the noisy ugliness of towns, is so wonderfully refreshing to the tired souls of townspeople."³³

The Olmsted Brothers report suggested that the Goffle Brook area was an appropriate site for a "Broad Open Meadow Park." This kind of park "... should be spacious, gentle in topography, pastoral in landscape character and fitted with a variety of recreational opportunities and out-of-door enjoyments ... particularly important for large gatherings of people." Goffle Brook area was still "...open land and offered the opportunity for a spacious park of gentle topography suitable for general park purposes for the people living nearby in Paterson, Prospect Park and Hawthorne." It recommended that at least 100 acres be acquired in that location.³⁴

On November 8, 1927, the voters of Passaic County approved the referendum for the creation of a permanent county park commission. With the appointment of the new commissioners ten days later, the work of the PCPC began in earnest. The Commission hired Frederick W. Loede, Jr. as executive engineer and secretary to the PCPC, who brought an important professionalism to PCPC planning.³⁵ In its first report, the PCPC published a map of the lands being acquired for the county park system (see below, "Map of Passaic County NJ Showing Lands to be acquired for the County Park System.").

³⁰ Olmsted Brothers, *Report to the Passaic County Park Commission*, 1-2.

³¹ Olmsted Brothers, *Report to the Passaic County Park Commission*, 3.

³² Olmsted Brothers, *Report to the Passaic County Park Commission*, 25-26.

³³ Olmsted Brothers, *Report to the Passaic County Park Commission*, 3-4.

³⁴ Olmsted Brothers, *Report to the Passaic County Park Commission*, 11-12.

³⁵ At the time, Loede was working on the *Regional Plan of New York and Its Environs*, published in 1928; Loede joined the PCPC as of July 1, 1928.

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Goffle Brook Park

Early Plans and Acquisition of Lands (1929-1931)

Goffle Brook received early consideration by the PCPC. There was concern for the already evident contamination of the natural beauty of the brook (see Photo H-14). Development was rapidly encroaching onto the fields adjacent to the brook, and refuse was often found dumped into the stream. The area, however, had retained much of its rural feeling, nonetheless (see Photos H-1 and H-2).

The Commissioners established the goal of acquiring 115 acres, more or less, in this area. It expressed pride at its first acquisition of a tract at Diamond Bridge Avenue and Goffle Road consisting of 24.9 acres upon which was located the house owned by the Lanza family (a/k/a/ the "Ryerson-Lafayette House" (see Photo H-3).³⁶ Other early land acquisitions included a small pond near the intersection of Goffle Road and Goffle Hill Road (the "Van Winkle Pond").

The PCPC's program for Goffle Brook Park, according to its first report, was:

"... [T] he preservation of Goffle Brook within the limits of the County. Paths for pedestrians and horse riders will be laid out and where the land opens up into broader fields, tennis courts and other recreation features will be provided. Small natural ponds will be maintained primarily for scenic effect and may be used for ice-skating in the winter."³⁷

On October 10, 1929, Loede and Olmsted Brothers presented the PCPC a map of the Goffle Brook area to be included within the takings line, which the Commission adopted, along with its official name: "Goffle Brook Park."³⁸

In spite of the Great Depression, the PCPC continued its work on Goffle Brook Park and the others – obtaining property appraisals, negotiating with landowners, working with the Borough of Hawthorne to vacate streets – mapped and existing – within the takings line (for general reference concerning existing streets, see maps below "1932 Goffle Brook Park, South" and "1932 Goffle Brook Park, North."³⁹

E.M. Prellwitz, assistant in Olmsted Brothers, documented several areas of the park in 1931 (see Photos H-5 through H-13), noting several features of the area. Of particular interest were the water features – a body of water known as DeGray's pond at the southern end of the park⁴⁰ and Van Winkle Pond in the northern section.

³⁶ Passaic County [NJ] Park Commission. *Report for 1928-1929*, 32. Because the name "Ryerson House" and "Lafayette Headquarters" are used almost interchangeably in the documentation, for the purposes of convenience only, this structure shall be referred to throughout this document as the "Ryerson-Lafayette House" except where referred to otherwise in a direct quote in the references.

³⁷ Passaic County [NJ] Park Commission. *Report for 1928-1929*, 32.

³⁸ PCPC, *Minutes* (10 October 1929).

³⁹ Price & Lee Co., *The Price & Lee Co.'s New Map of the Borough of Hawthorne N.J.* Newark NJ: Price & Lee Co., 1932; 1933; 1942; 1943; 1949; 1950; 1952; and 1956. The U. S. Library of Congress.

⁴⁰ According to an essay by Walter Lucas, Hawthorne Borough Historian, DeGray's Pond was reportedly named for Richard DeGray, who purchased the property formerly owned by John Francis Ryerson at 40 Wagaraw Road, Hawthorne, NJ, in 1800 (*Passaic County Record of Deeds*, Book B, Page 113, cited in Walter A. Lucas, "Early History of New Jersey," *Hawthorne Tercentenary Souvenir Book* (Hawthorne, NJ: Borough of Hawthorne, 1964), 10. J.F. Ryerson was a Loyalist whose property was confiscated and sold by the state of New Jersey in 1779. *Passaic County Record of Deeds*, Book A, Page 224, cited in Lucas, "Early History of New Jersey," 10.

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Olmsted Brothers, using the topographical drawings supplied by Loede, began work on the design for Goffle Brook Park.

There were a number of challenges that faced the park plan. The Borough of Hawthorne owned or occupied a sizeable area of the proposed parkland. The first was some 3 acres in the northernmost portion of the park at the intersection of Goffle Hill Road, Lafayette Avenue, and Goffle Road, where two pumping stations for the Hawthorne Water Company and the police station stood (see Photos 1-3; H-15 and H-16). This was resolved in November 1930, when the Borough of Hawthorne agreed to transfer the parcel but retain the water rights, which satisfied the Commissioners. The police station was soon to be demolished in any case, as a new community center was being planned.

The almost 10 acres held by Hawthorne's Board of Education just north of Warburton Avenue, however, presented a more difficult problem (see Photo H-10 and Olmsted #9160-9, "Sketch of Board of Education Lands showing Relocation of Channel"). Without this parcel, the north and south portions of the park would be cut off from one another – a substantial interruption to any plans for comprehensive park circulation. Although the PCPC's plans for that area included athletic fields – just as did those of the Board of Education – the Commission's offer of "priority" being given to Hawthorne students for the use of the fields was not sufficient to convince Hawthorne to turn it over to the park. Everyone understood that the course of the brook would have to be changed to accommodate fields in any event, so Olmsted Brothers went about designing the site plan for an athletic complex in that location, including playing fields, stadium, field houses, tennis courts, viewing stands, etc. (see Olmsted #9160-12 "Preliminary Grading Plan – Southern Portion and #9160-12 Detail Sheet (Interpretive Graphics)").

The Board of Education stood firm, however, and refused to relinquish the property to the PCPC. The issue was finally resolved in November 1935, when a land swap of approximately 2-1/2 acres was finalized – the PCPC releasing land near Bamford and Vreeland Avenues in exchange for the same acreage along Goffle Brook, thus guaranteeing an uninterrupted journey from one end of the park to the other.

The most difficult task, however, was the acquisition of homes and businesses within the park takings line. Of the 115 acres within the original boundaries, 98.9 acres were privately owned.⁴¹ In order to create the greensward and recreation areas it wanted, the PCPC had to either buy these properties or acquire them by condemnation. Some of these properties were fairly new, but three brown sandstone Dutch vernacular houses on Goffle Road were regarded as community landmarks: the John W. Rea House (ca. 1840), also known as "Doremus House"; the Vreeland House (ca. 1760), and the Lanza house (ca. 1750), also known as "Lafayette's Headquarters" and as the "Ryerson" House after its first owner, John George Ryerson.⁴² (See more detailed discussion below, "The Three Dutch Houses: Preservation and Loss in Goffle Brook Park.")

Lanza was one of the first to sell his 29-odd acres in the southern portion to the PCPC. The Estate of Adam Vreeland sold its property December 1929. The Knapiks, owners of the former John W. Rea House, operated a tavern and hotel in that building under the name the "Knapik Inn" (also known as the "Goffle Inn") since 1920. The price they wanted for their corner lot of less than 5 acres was \$48,000 – a price that was not

⁴¹ PCPC, *Minutes* (5 November 1930).

⁴² Lucas, "Early History of New Jersey," 11.

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acceptable to PCPC.⁴³ Thus the Knapiks joined the relatively small number of property owners that had to settle with a condemnation award.⁴⁴

By November 5, 1930, the PCPC summed up the progress of its land acquisitions with regard to the 115 acres within the takings line for Goffle Brook Park. Of the 98.9 acres in private hands, 94.8 acres had already been acquired. Still remaining to be acquired were 3.1 acres held by the Borough of Hawthorne; 9.8 held by the Board of Education; and 3.2 acres were mapped but undeveloped streets. The PCPC noted that the Borough of Hawthorne was going to keep two "wells" [pumping stations] on the parcel located at Goffle Hill Road and Lafayette Avenue, although it would transfer the land to the park.⁴⁵

Existing roads that were to be retained within the taking line were Goffle Hill Road, and Rea, Warburton, and Diamond Bridge Avenues. New roads were proposed for the southern portion of the park connecting Maitland Avenue, MacFarlan Avenue, and the area southeast of Diamond Bridge Avenue. Roads to be vacated were Florence Avenue (west of 1st Avenue); Nelson Avenue from Goffle Road to within 100' of 1st Avenue; Lillis Place from Nelson Avenue south; Vreeland Avenue between Goffle Road and Bamford Avenue; 250' at the west end of Cedar Avenue; Hall St. from Cedar Avenue south; South Avenue from Hall Street to within 133' of May Street; and the western end of Llewellyn Avenue.⁴⁶

Most of the PCPC's efforts to acquire and consolidate lands within the taking lines had been completed by the end of 1931. In April of that year, Hawthorne passed an ordinance vacating the streets and deeding ownership to the PCPC and notice to vacate had been served on all tenants except those who were contesting their condemnation awards⁴⁷ In July 1931, most of the houses and outbuildings already acquired were sold at public auction.⁴⁸ In September, the Knapiks (Rea House) and the Lanzas (Ryerson-Lafayette House) were given notice to vacate by October 1 and November 1, respectively, although a PCPC engineer was to occupy the Ryerson-Lafayette House at a nominal rental.

In December 1931, the Olmsted firm presented its most comprehensive scheme for the grading and general development of the southern portion of the park, from Rea Avenue to the southern boundary, which was forthwith approved by the PCPC.⁴⁹ The way was now clear to begin the next phase of park development.

Designing the Park (1928 – 1932)

While land was acquired for the park, the design process was carried out with the firm of Olmsted Brothers. Percival Gallagher represented the Olmsted firm in the Goffle Brook Park project. Gallagher worked closely with Frederick Loede, PCPC's Engineer and Superintendent. Among the duties of the Olmsted firm were designing changes in the existing topography to meet park goals; the development of vehicular and pedestrian

⁴³ As comparison, the PCPC acquired 29 acres from Lanza in prime parkland for \$63,000. PCPC *Minutes*. Eventually they were awarded \$21,000 in a condemnation proceeding.

⁴⁴ PCPC *Minutes* (14 April 1931).

⁴⁵ PCPC *Minutes* (30 October 1929).

⁴⁶ PCPC *Minutes* (5 November 1930).

⁴⁷ Families still contesting their awards: Knapik, Prince and Vermuelen.

⁴⁸ PCPC *Minutes* (23 July 1931). The properties auctioned were Goffle Road: #421-495 (barns only); 497-501; 569-575 (with garage); 577-583 (with garage); 585-595 (with garage); 639-641 (with garage); 643-649 (with garage); 715-751 (with barns); Rea Avenue: #99-101; 1st Avenue: #156; 160; Hall Street: #156-168; 170-176; 178-184; 186-196; 189-195.

⁴⁹ Olmsted drawing #9160-16, "Goffle Brook Park, Grading Plan for Southern Portion." Olmsted National Historic Site.

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circulation systems; designing park structures (road bridges, footbridges, gazebos, field houses, etc.); selecting locations for and design of park entrances, scenic vistas, playing field areas, etc.; and fashioning a design solution to intrusion of the Board of Education parcel on a unified park scheme, i.e., designing the layout of the proposed athletic complex and mapping the relocation of the channel of Goffle Brook where necessary to accomplish park goals.⁵⁰

Topography

After the acquisition of the properties and demolition of structures within the takings line, the next step in the planning of the park was to design changes in the existing topography – which included open farm fields, woodlands, and wetlands – to create an integrated parkland (see “Goffle Brook Park - Aerial Photo 1930,” Nos. 1-4 and Photo H-1).⁵¹

In general, the entire north-south length of the park – from Lafayette Avenue on the north to the southern boundary opposite MacFarlan Avenue – sloped towards the Passaic River basin south of Hawthorne. The change in elevation was gradual, dropping less than 20 feet along Goffle Road on the park’s western boundary.

From east to west, however, the changes in elevation were much more dramatic and irregular as the terrain dropped down to the brook and up the opposite side. Over the course of centuries the brook had carved a broad, fertile flood plain with steep banks that previously limited development along its length. For the most part, this flood plain remained as marshy fields used as farmland and for grazing (see Photos H-10 and H-11).

In the portion south of Diamond Bridge Avenue (see Olmsted #9160-6-pa14), the map clearly shows the Ryerson-Lafayette House located west of one of three small rises or adjacent to Goffle Road. These areas of high ground rose sharply from the marsh near the stream. The summits of these small rises on the western boundary were 95 feet (at the SW corner), 87 feet (between the SW corner rise and the rise adjacent to the Ryerson-Lafayette House), and 85 feet (at a point just E of the Ryerson-Lafayette House) above sea level.⁵² The elevation of the brook in that section was only 50 feet, which resulted in a 35- to 45-foot rise from the surface of the water to the top of the rises.

The map also shows several wetland areas in this southernmost section. A large marshland occupied the center, and a smaller marshy channel ran west of the brook at the base of a small slope that followed the streambed. Just west of the soon-to-be-vacated Hall Street section, there was a small pond tucked at the base of a steep slope (see Olmsted #9160-6-dc7).

Between Diamond Bridge and Warburton Avenues, the land between the two steep banks on either side narrowed considerably, and the brook was hemmed in by Brookside Avenue at the crest of the eastern bank

⁵⁰ The original proposal made to the PCPC by Olmsted Brothers for the scope of work for park design for the Passaic County Park System has not been found to date. The information presented here has been gathered from a review of correspondence between the PCPC and the firm held in the manuscript collections of the Library of Congress, Washington, DC, and drawings held in the collections of the Olmsted National Historic Site, Brookline, Massachusetts, as well as the minutes of the PCPC.

⁵¹ The existing conditions were documented in a series of topographical maps prepared by the PCPC dated 24 November 1930, which were found in the Goffle Brook Park files at the Olmsted National Historic Site as documents #6-dc1 through -dc7; #6-pa1 through -pa18; #6-sht 4-pt1; and 6-sht7-pt1.

⁵² All elevations cited herein are calculated with reference to sea level, although that reference shall be omitted for convenience from this point forward.

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and by Goffle Road on the west (see Olmsted #9160-6-pa4). The portion just south of where the Warburton Avenue Bridge was then being constructed was a glen traversed by a small road that dipped down to the streambed and was carried across on two brown sandstone abutments that remain extant (see Photo 21).

From Warburton Avenue northward, the land gradually becomes flatter and the steep banks and rises that mark the southern portion no longer flank the brook until, at the intersection of Lafayette Avenue and Goffle Road, the brook and parkland are at approximately the same elevation.

The Olmsted firm focused much attention on smoothing out the rough topography. Sections prepared for certain areas of the grading plan⁵³ show the high level of intervention proposed for the topography (see below two detail views, Olmsted drawings #9160-22-sht 2 and #9160-27sh2). A comparison of the 1930 topographical map (see Olmsted #9160-06-pa14) near the southwestern corner with the grading plan for the same area (see Olmsted #9160-16 on composite sheet "Drawings Showing Proposed Relocation of the Ryerson House) demonstrates the dramatic impact that the Olmsted Brothers plan would have on the park. The sometimes-rugged terrain was transformed into graceful curves, rounded summits, and gently sloping fields – a trademark of the Olmsted design philosophy.⁵⁴

The grading plan for the southern portion of the park (see Olmsted #9160-12 and detail view on separate sheet) was an ambitious one. In the forwarding letter, Olmsted Brothers outlines the work that lay ahead:

"...The grading all along the side calls for a very considerable amount of fill material, but we do not see how this can well be avoided and still secure satisfactory results. Of course a very large amount of the material will come out of the pond excavation and this may readily be increased if necessary by going a little deeper... Along the Goffle Road side you will note that we have shown the Lafayette House turned around at right angles and facing the park, which will represent one of the final stages in the completion of the work. With a dotted line we have indicated the adjustment of the plan to this building in its present location. [See Drawings of Proposed Relocation of the Ryerson House.] Along the brook we have indicated several places where sloping beaches might be constructed down into the water as affording admirable play places for children."⁵⁵

Circulation

The circulation patterns through the park were important to Olmsted Brothers, for they were regarded as essential to park enjoyment and unity. At the outset, the designers were faced with three major cross roads traversing the park: Goffle Hill Road and Rea, Warburton, and Diamond Bridge Avenues. Combined with the narrowness of the parkland in some places, these crossings were substantial obstacles – both visual and physical – to the park's integrity.

⁵³ Olmsted Brothers Drawing #9160-16, "Goffle Brook Park, Grading Plan Southern Portion" (15 December 1931). Files of Olmsted National Historic Site.

⁵⁴ See generally Charles Beveridge and Carolyn F. Hoffman, Eds., *The Papers of Frederick Law Olmsted, Supplementary Series Volume I, Writings on Public Parks, Parkways, and Park Systems*. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1997.

⁵⁵ E. Prellwitz, Olmsted Brothers, Letter to Frederick W. Loede, Jr., Engineer and Superintendent, PCPC, dated February 11, 1932. Passaic County Parks Department, Paterson, NJ.

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The **Goffle Hill Road** crossing at the northern end of the park presented the least difficulty, since it was north of Van Winkle Pond, a major water feature; it also visually separated the parcel where the two pumping stations stood from the pond and greater parkland. The two small Rea Avenue bridges were also of little consequence, because the road bypassed the useable meadow south of the road and the relatively unusable band of parkland north of it. The new **Warburton Avenue Bridge**, however, was a large, imposing design executed in concrete, which was located in one of the narrowest sections of the park. Given the sharp difference in elevations between the roadbed and the brook, the road was carried across the span high above the park. Its imposing design and attractive lighting provided an interesting, almost sculptural, focal point that the firm used to inform its design for other bridges in the park.

The **Diamond Bridge Avenue Bridge** would need to be replaced, however, if the circulation pattern were to function well in the southern portion. The existing bridge appeared to have been built across the meadow in the late-19th or early 20th-Century. It was narrow and low to the water; iron stringers supported the deck and metal railings infilled with intersecting lacing were installed along the sides (see Photos H-6 and H-7).⁵⁶ Loede was eager to replace this bridge to allow sufficient clearance for a bridle path as well as pedestrians to pass underneath it. He sought the support of Olmsted Brothers, as well as contributions from the Passaic County Freeholders and County engineer:

“...Such a change would mean the raising of the present roadway about five or six feet, and put a higher barrier across the park on both sides of Diamond Bridge Avenue, than at present existing. The raising of the bridge and widening of the span will, of course, give easier and safer access to both parts of the park, and will avoid the necessity of crossing the traffic on Diamond Bridge Avenue. I just want to be sure that this theory is better than to leave the road as it now is, requiring the crossing of same and still leaving a barrier across the park, but a lower one.”⁵⁷

Given certain logistical complications, Loede later had second thoughts about the bridle path under the bridge, and eventually decided that allowing for pedestrian passage underneath it was sufficient. Olmsted Brothers recommended that the new bridge be faced with concrete, so that it would be compatible with the new Warburton Avenue Bridge. In July 1930, the firm forwarded a design proposal for the Diamond Bridge Avenue Bridge (see Olmsted #9160-4sht1). The bridge constructed by PCPC was greatly informed by the Olmsted design (see Photos 34 and 36), with some modifications: where the Olmsted Brothers design called for nine relatively short bays and a variation in the width of the posts across the span, the bridge as built was composed of five longer bays with posts of equal size. There is evidence that the Diamond Bridge Avenue Bridge carried lighting fixtures similar to those on the Warburton Avenue Bridge when it was completed ca. 1931.

Although transverse roads presented challenges to the designers, the need for a circuit drive within the park was considered essential. Percival Gallagher addressed this issue in his letter to Frederick Loede dated 4 November 1931:

“You have asked my opinion as to the necessity of roads from the point of design in the general plan for the development of Goffle Brook Park.... My first reply to your inquiry was that

⁵⁶ Drawings for a concrete bridge at that location dated 1916 are in the files of the Passaic County Department of Engineering, Paterson, NJ,⁴ however apparently that design was never executed.

⁵⁷ Frederick W. Loede, Jr., Engineer, PCPC, Letter to Percival Gallagher, Olmsted Brothers (2 April 1930).

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because the park area was a series of pieces separated by cross highways I felt that the driveway passing through its length would tend to give unity to the park as a whole. There are so many sections in which the boundary of the park is hidden by rows of houses backing up against it that except along Goffle Road there is no continuous boundary road from which views could be had into the park. Furthermore, the traffic on Goffle Road is rather heavy and it moves rather swiftly, so that the road itself does not present suitable opportunity for one motoring leisurely to enjoy the views into the park.

"I think therefore that the park offers an opportunity for the motorist who is seeking a pleasant drive at a moderate speed...."⁵⁸

Gallagher notes the difficulties of this concept, however, in the narrowest section of the park – the area above Rea Avenue:

"...[W] hile the road in the narrower portions seems to occupy ground that might otherwise be used by people on foot, there are only one or two places where the omission of the road would leave a unit of ground large enough for ordinary play purposes. Above Rea Avenue particularly the drive seems to occupy the available narrow park area east of the brook, but on the other hand I have wondered what this space could better be used for that for a road... I think in this entire upper section ... the proposed road develops a park frontage along which a person can pass and look either way on to parkland, and, as I said before, *the entire line creates a thread, or better backbone, on which the entire has been hung.* [emphasis added]."⁵⁹

Although undecided about the merits of the "single thread" through the entire park, apparently the two were in full agreement on the desirability of a park drive in the broad expanses of the southern portion. Between Diamond Bridge and Rea Avenues, Gallagher was willing to concede that perhaps Bamford Avenue would offer a reasonable substitute for a drive within the park, since it would carry circulation directly between those streets, with only the relatively short block parallel to Brookside Avenue interrupting park views. However, Gallagher regarded the area north of Warburton Avenue – land still held by the Board of Education – as an important link between the southern and northern portions:

"...[H] ere is an opportunity to carry the drive under Warburton Avenue and so secure the one opportunity of uniting the sections of the park and of creating that continuity of effect which the road as a whole is intended to provide."⁶⁰ [See graphic of Olmsted #9160-19A.]

Also important to the design was the network of **pedestrian and bridle paths** – also being constructed by the PCPC in the Garrett Mountain park (see Photo H-17) that would promote a variety of uses with the park and provide easy access to all areas. The Olmsted Brothers preliminary plan (see Olmsted #9160-12) was interlaced with a lacework of curvilinear pathways that wound through the topography in a manner characteristic of Olmsted design. Gravel was the material proposed for the footpaths, as seen in the "Study for Foot Bridge" (see Olmsted #9160-25), which shows the approach to the footbridge as "gravel walk." The material proposed for

⁵⁸ Percival Gallagher, Olmsted Brothers, Letter to Frederick Loede, Jr., Engineer and Superintendent, PCPC dated 4 November 1931. Olmsted Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

⁵⁹ Gallagher, Letter to Loede, 4 November 1931.

⁶⁰ Gallagher, Letter to Loede, 4 November 1931.

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the bridle path, no doubt would be the same as that proposed for the same feature in the park at Garrett Mountain.

A good example of the diversity of ways in which the park can be experienced can be seen in the Olmsted plans for the approach to the "summer house" and overlook (see Olmsted #9160-16, "Detail View ... showing Overlook and Summer House"); see further discussion below). The curvilinear foot/bridle path, which could be entered from Goffle Road, wound up the hill through a variety of topography – on the west, the path was relatively flat as it followed the contours of the road; on the north, the pathway curved gradually east and south as it approached the summit; but on the south, the path followed a raised trail that dropped off sharply at the sides and down to the park fields. The southwest corner of the park is also the site of one of the main entrances to the southern portion – the future location for a field house.

Park Structures

In addition to the transverse bridges that were "in but not of" Goffle Brook Park (see above, "Circulation"), there were other structures that would play a role in the development of the park. The **three historic brown sandstone houses** were the only buildings of all those within the takings line that were to be retained – perhaps for park uses, perhaps for the use by one of the non-profit groups that had expressed interest (see below, "The Three Dutch Houses: Preservation and Loss in Goffle Brook Park"). Olmsted Brothers' preliminary plan shows these structures as remaining *in situ*, except for the Ryerson-Lafayette House, which was to be rotated 45° counterclockwise so that it faced into the park (see composite "Drawings Showing Proposed Relocation of the Ryerson House (1930—1932)").

Olmsted Brothers proposed several new structures as park enhancements – "places of congregation and rest" as Olmsted Sr. once described them.⁶¹ On the summit of the rise in the southwest corner, the firm proposed a "summer house" and overlook (see Olmsted #9160-16, Detail View ... Overlook and Summer House),⁶² which was accessible only on foot or horseback.

In addition, near the area set aside for ball fields, Olmsted Brothers proposed a **field house** as a focal point of the main eastern entry to the southern portion.⁶³ A roundabout in front of the field house allowed for cars to drop off passengers, with a limited number of parking spaces near the entrance to the building (see Olmsted #9106-18, "Study for Change in Road Line Between Diamond Bridge Avenue and South Avenue").

Footbridges were required at a number of points in the plan. In the southern portion alone (from Rea Avenue to the southern boundary), Olmsted's pathways crossed over the brook at five points, not including the pedestrian crossing adjacent to the park drive at the lower end of DeGray's pond (see Olmsted #9160-12). The footbridges were designed in a rustic manner, using rough-sawn timber planks measuring 4' x 8" for the decking and peeled Northern White Cedar for the posts and rails. Footbridges of the same design were constructed for

⁶¹ Charles E. Beveridge and Carolyn F. Hoffman, Editors, *The Papers of Frederick Law Olmsted, Supplementary Series Volume I, Writings on Public Parks, Parkways, and Park Systems* (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1997), 94. The idea of the "lookout" was featured in some of F.L. Olmsted's other park plans, notably that of Prospect Park, Brooklyn, NJ.

⁶² No design for this summerhouse has been discovered to date.

⁶³ No design for the field house has been discovered to date.

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several, if not all of the parks in the Passaic County Park System (see Olmsted #9160-25, "Study for a Footbridge."⁶⁴

As part of its plan for the circuit drive, Olmsted Brothers prepared a proposal for a **third concrete bridge** in the park (see Olmsted #9160-26, "Sketch for a Concrete Bridge in Park Drive"). It is likely that this bridge was to be constructed at the lower end of DeGray's pond, where the Park Drive crossed over the pond outlet in a very prominent location. This bridge would have become a major aesthetic feature of the landscape around the pond, had it been built.⁶⁵ It is interesting to note here the firm's intention to establish an integrated design scheme for vehicular bridges within the park's boundaries by repeating the use of concrete and building on the design elements – concrete balustrade, posts with flat panels, and arch – already established in the substantial new bridge at Warburton Avenue.

Board of Education Property

As early as November 1930, the Board of Education expressed reluctance over relinquishing control of the property it owned within the taking line north of Warburton Avenue.⁶⁶ If the Board continued to refuse to consider acquisition of that land, it would have destroyed the unity of the park — with or without the circuit drive. It therefore fell to Olmsted Brothers to prepare several plans for a solution that was both pleasing and functional.

The Board of Education lands were little more than marshy wetlands through which the Goffle Brook meandered, curving first eastward, then returning to the west to pass under the new Warburton Avenue Bridge (see Olmsted #9160-6-dc5). In February 1931, Loede sketched out a rough drawing of the problem and a possible solution in the relocation of the channel, which he sent to Olmsted Brothers (see Olmsted #9160-9).

This solution was reflected in the Olmsted firm's "Preliminary Plan for the Southern Portion," dated June 1, 1931 (see Olmsted #9160-12 and detail view). In those drawings, the firm had translated Loede's rough sketch into a plan for multi-function fields, viewing stands, tennis courts, with the "school site" placed on the east side of Bamford Avenue. Finally, with the question of ownership still up in the air, the firm presented two more-developed alternative schemes that showed curving drives, multi-use playing fields in several sizes, a large viewing stand on the western side of the football field, tennis courts, a field house/gymnasium, and a school building in addition to the central high school building (see Olmsted #9160-19A and -19B, "Development of School Lands in Relation to the Parkway").

The two alternatives varied in the placement of Bamford Avenue, which Olmsted Brothers hoped would constitute a segment of a peripheral road on the eastern boundary of the park. Plan 19A shows that street in its existing location, between the proposed school building and the fields, with pedestrian tunnels that would take the students across to the athletic complex. Plan 19B shows Bamford Avenue diverted eastward around the high school building to Parmalee Avenue – a plan that would have resolved the issue of having students crossing what the Olmsted firm hoped would become part of the park drive.

⁶⁴ H. S. Dutcher, Photographer, Photograph Album of the Parks in the Passaic County Park System (circa 1940). Files of the Passaic County Park Commission, Paterson, NJ. Dutcher's photo album of the parks of the Passaic County Park System ca.1939 showed several such footbridges, notably in Weasel Drift Park.

⁶⁵ The circuit drive has not been constructed to date and DeGray's pond was filled ca. 1981.

⁶⁶ PCPC Minutes (25 November 1930).

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Building the Park (1931 – 1939)

The majority of the parkland had been acquired and the grading plans for the southern portion of Goffle Brook Park had been completed and approved when the deepening economic Depression put a stop to the Olmsted firm's design work for Goffle Brook Park. The PCPC lacked the funds to hire the manpower to grade and build park infrastructure, much less landscape it. It soon could take advantage of low-cost labor provided under the work relief programs created by the State of New Jersey and later by the federal government.

The first relief program that offered help to the PCPC was the **Emergency Relief Administration (ERA)**, passed into law by the New Jersey legislature on October 13, 1931.⁶⁷ The PCPC was quick to jump at the opportunity, noting at its meeting two weeks later its plans to apply for ERA workers. Bertram H. Saunders, Passaic County Director of the New Jersey Emergency Relief Administration, appeared before the PCPC at its meeting of October 29 and suggested that it prepare a program of road work to be done, and that the application for reimbursement from the State Relief Fund be made to the Passaic County Board of Chosen Freeholders,⁶⁸ but the Freeholders showed no interest in the proposal. The PCPC then approached the Borough of Hawthorne to hire local workers through its ERA allotment promising that, if the Borough agreed to pay for labor services through ERA, the PCPC would pay for all "supervision, equipment and truck hire, etc."⁶⁹ This proved more fruitful.

By December 9, the PCPC had begun clearing the ground in the southern portion with "unemployed" help and was enlarging the grading plan with a view to carrying out the work as far as possible.⁷⁰ On December 12, 1931, the PCPC authorized Olmsted Brothers to prepare a final grading plan for the parklands south of Diamond Bridge Avenue.⁷¹

The PCPC struggled to maintain its park development in spite of the economic downturn, but by early 1932, it was forced to take more drastic steps. On January 7 the PCPC suspended work at the Dey Mansion for lack of funds. On January 16, Loede told Olmsted Brothers that he was "almost certain" that all bridle paths could be eliminated from [the southern] portion of the park.⁷² Finally, on February 6, the PCPC was forced to cease all construction and reduce salaries due to its financial straits.⁷³ The Olmsted Brothers prepared a status report for work on all parks under the PCPC supervision, stating that all plans for Goffle Brook Park had been completed and would be forwarded as soon as possible.⁷⁴

With neither funds nor manpower to execute them, all plans for the Passaic County parks were at a standstill. The PCPC offered remaining park buildings as housing to help alleviate local conditions and provide

⁶⁷ "Unemployment Relief." Additional Laws of 1931 enacted by the New Jersey Legislature, Chapters 394-405; J. R. 18.

⁶⁸ PCPC Minutes (October 29, 1931).

⁶⁹ PCPC Minutes (12 November 1931).

⁷⁰ E. M. Prellwitz, Olmsted Brothers, "Report of Visit, December 9, 10." Olmsted Correspondence File #9160, Goffle Brook Park (1931). Olmsted Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress.

⁷¹ Frederick W. Loede, Jr., Letter to Percival Gallagher, Olmsted Brothers (12 December 1931). Olmsted Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress.

⁷² Frederick W. Loede, Jr., Superintendent of PCPC, Letter to Percival Gallagher, Olmsted Brothers (16 January 1932).

⁷³ PCPC Minutes (6 February 1932).

⁷⁴ E. M. Prellwitz for Percival Gallagher, Olmsted Brothers, Letter to Frederick Loede, Jr., Engineer and Superintendent, PCPC (10 February 1932). Olmsted Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress.

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some meager revenue, including the Ryerson-Lafayette House, the former Cussac House at the northern end of the park, the Rea House, and by mid-1933, the former Post House.⁷⁵

In 1933, however, things changed for the better. Franklin Delano Roosevelt was sworn in as President on March 4, ushering in the "New Deal" – an economic program intended to turn the desperate American economy around. Within the first one hundred days of his administration, he created a myriad of relief programs. Leading them was the **Federal Emergency Relief Act**, which appropriated \$500 Million for direct relief to states, cities, towns, and counties. Harry Hopkins, who headed this program, as well as the **Civil Works Administration (CWA)** that grew out of it, correctly estimated that the unemployed wanted work rather than a mere dole...⁷⁶

Formed in November 1933, the CWA held a fund of \$400,000,000 expressly for the purpose of providing "...regular jobs on public works for four million unemployed men and women throughout the United States," of which over \$6 million was allocated to projects involving parks and playgrounds.⁷⁷ Under this program, 120,000 men and women were assigned to the State of New Jersey, with 6,321 people being assigned to Passaic County.⁷⁸ When classified by the amount of money involved, the second largest group of work projects included parks and playgrounds.⁷⁹

The CWA was among the first of the Federal assistance programs of which the PCPC took advantage, beginning in late 1933. Although the PCPC attempted to leverage funds for the development of the Board of Education's athletic fields in accordance with the Olmsted Brothers plan, the unresolved issue of the Board's ownership of land near the brook was still troublesome. However, the PCPC successfully garnered assistance for "engineering plans and supervision" in Goffle Brook Park under **CWA Project #492**, along with seven other successful applications.⁸⁰

The CWA program was discontinued in April 1934, later to be replaced by the Works Progress Administration. In May 1934, Loede reported to the Commissioners that the value of services provided the PCPC under the CWA program totaled \$123,610.49, including \$30,593 to Goffle Brook Park.⁸¹

The **Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)** – one of the most successful and well-remembered programs of the New Deal – was created in May 1933. Its aim was to put some 500,000 unemployed youths between the ages of 18-25 to work in America's forests, parks, and rangelands. Faced with the discontinuance of CWA funds, the PCPC first turned to this program to augment its resources. It lobbied intensively, albeit unsuccessfully, for the establishment of a CCC camp somewhere within the Passaic County Park System, in spite of the fact that it did not meet the federal regulations for such a program.⁸²

⁸³ PCPC Minutes (March 24, 1932), 314.

⁷⁶ Samuel Eliot Morison, *The Oxford History of The American People* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1965), 956.

⁷⁷ New Jersey, Emergency Relief Administration, *Emergency Relief in New Jersey October 13, 1931- April 15, 1936*, Final Report to the Governor and to the Senate and General Assembly (1936), 41.

⁷⁸ NJ ERA, *Emergency Relief In New Jersey*, 42.

⁷⁹ The largest amounts were spent on street and roadwork. NJ ERA, *Emergency Relief in New Jersey*, 44.

⁸⁰ PCPC Minutes, (December 21, 1933). As the year closed, CWA projects were underway throughout the Passaic County Park System including Garret Mountain Reservation, Weasel Brook Park, Goffle Brook Park and Preakness Valley Park. Additionally, Preakness Valley Park was approved for a restoration of the Dey Mansion.

⁸¹ PCPC Minutes (11 May, 1934).

⁸² PCPC Minutes (8 March 1934). As reported by Loede to the Commissioners, these regulations required that "1) All work performed by CCC Units must be in the nature of flood control, the prevention of soil erosion and fire protection. 2) No work will be permitted in any incorporated

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The year 1934 also proved to be a positive one for the PCPC. As of April 27, it received the proceeds of a long-awaited \$175,000 bond issue. These funds enabled it to at last pay the Olmsted firm's invoices, which had remained unpaid since February 1932. Since the plans for the southern portion of Goffle Brook Park had been fully completed, Olmsted Brothers turned its attention instead to grading and landscaping plans for the Dey Mansion grounds in August 1934.

The work relief programs of the early years of the Depression provided substantial benefit to the development of the Passaic County Park System. As of May 1935, \$34,088 had been spent by the CWA and the ERA on Goffle Brook Park projects and a total of \$171,794 had been spent within the Passaic County Park System as a whole. However, the benefits of these programs to the PCPC in last half of the 1930s were even more dramatic.

During Spring 1935, the Federal Government established the Works Progress Administration (WPA) as a distinct entity from the Federal Emergency Relief Administration – a sweeping program that helped put America not only back to work, but created some of the most impressive public works projects ever undertaken in the United States. It was this program, more than any other, that created the Passaic County Park System that visitors appreciate today. Over the course of the next five years, workers of the WPA, using the plans formulated by Olmsted Brothers, transformed the lands of Goffle Brook Park in a series of eight projects. The first project was begun in November 1935:

WPA Project #1-188 (begun November 12, 1935; completed December 23, 1936.) This project was for the "...general development of Goffle Brook Park...by completing Park Road grading and brook relocation, general grading, grading of foot paths, excavating for lake, reconstruction of Dam and Lake, constructing foot bridges [see Photo H-24] and general cleaning up..."⁸³ In July 1936, the Minutes of the PCPC report "...good progress was made on all three W.P.A. projects with the Arnold Dam in Goffle Brook Park completed [see Photo H-23 - Arnold Dam under construction], the shovel having completed the excavation of the lake below Diamond Bridge Avenue [see Photos H-21 and H-22] and [is] now engaged in the completion of the excavation for the enlargement of the Arnold Pond."⁸⁴

As of November 1935, approximately 700 men assigned by the WPA were working on projects in Goffle Brook Park, Weasel Brook Park, and Garret Mountain Reservation."⁸⁵

The road was not always smooth, however. The PCPC still was expected to make a proportional financial contribution to these projects – a contribution that, although relatively small, was often still hard to come by. In April 1936, the NJ Legislature disbanded the NJ Emergency Relief Administration and by July the WPA projects in Goffle Brook Park were shut down due to lack of funds. WPA projects that were completed, underway, or awaiting approval totaled \$641,392, of which the PCPC was to contribute \$49,512. A supplemental application to the WPA was submitted and pending and in August 1936, WPA projects once again started up and continued uninterrupted until the beginning of World War II. These projects included:

municipalities. 3) Work must be done only in parks of the larger reservation type and 4) a program lasting six months or one year must be assured." The PCPC never was approved for a CCC camp.

⁸³ Works Progress Administration, New Jersey, Letter to PCPC, WPA Project #1-888, November 7, 1935, 1.

⁸⁴ PCPC Minutes (July 1, 1936).

⁸⁵ PCPC Minutes (November 27, 1935).

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WPA Project # 1-726 (begun August 24, 1936; completed January 15, 1937) – Storm Drainage in Goffle Brook Park. The project was to "...lay storm drain in Goffle Brook Park section E of Goffle Rd. between Maitland and Diamond Bridge Avenue." As part of this project, "the brook banks were graded down and the material wheeled back to fill the old brook channel. Also the lake banks which were not completely graded by project #188 were completed by this project." The work was finished ahead of schedule and remaining funds were utilized to employ a group of men to grade nearby areas within the park.⁸⁶

WPA Project # 1-837 (begun September 21, 1936; completed May 21, 1937) - "Clearing and Grading of Goffle Brook Park, east of Goffle Rd between Maitland and Goffle Hill Road, between Maitland Avenue and Diamond Bridge Avenue..." Among the work undertaken was "... to cut the garbage bank off near Rea Avenue and fill in the low spot near it"; piles of topsoil were moved to various areas near Goffle Road and Goffle Hill Road; "the bank along Goffle Road was cut down more than was contemplated in some places, the cut being three to four feet near the Vreeland House. This was done to get a longer slope to the brook and to get enough fill to cover the low area at the foot of the bank..."; and "the brook was changed just below Warburton Avenue to make that area drain better...thereby lowering the water table and also getting more material to cover the low parts."⁸⁷

WPA Project #1365-16 (begun September 13, 1937; completed June 9, 1938) –This project accomplished the seeding of a small area near Van Winkle Lake, the excavation of paths, and installation of some drainage. The Final Report noted that this project "...was probably the poorest managed WPA project we have ever sponsored. The personnel was much too large ... and the supervisory force did not give the foreman proper cooperation which broke down the moral [sic] of the project."⁸⁸

WPA Project # 3114-16 (begun May 9, 1938; completed August 2, 1939) – This project involved topsoil stripping, earth fill, path and road construction in Goffle Brook Park. The Final Report describes cost savings in the purchase of crushed stone for the paths, due to the fact that during construction, a "great deal" of stone was gathered up and placed in the paths, which required only a thin layer of crushed stone over the base layer of fieldstones. The report notes that, although "brownstone" was specified, it was necessary to buy "shoulder stone" to complete the paths, due to the fact that the "crusher project [was] shut down."⁸⁹

WPA Project # 4242-16 (begun August 29, 1938; completed November 23, 1938) – This project was for the preparation of planting beds and the planting of trees and shrubs. In all, 5,122 specimens were planted (see list entitled, "Goffle Brook Planting, WPA Project #4242, Fall-1938" below).⁹⁰

WPA Project # 4243-16 (begun August 29, 1938; completed June 21, 1939) – This project involved the entire park area, and was to "... [c]onstruct graded foot paths, prepare and seed entire park south of Rea Avenue except area east of Goffle Brook below Diamond Bridge Avenue and construct

⁸⁶ PCPC, Final Report on WPA Project #1-726 (29 June 1937). Passaic County Parks Department, Paterson, NJ.

⁸⁷ PCPC, Final Report on WPA Project 1-837 (June 10, 1937). Passaic County Parks Department, Paterson, NJ.

⁸⁸ PCPC, Final Report on WPA Project #1365-16 (29 September 1939). Passaic County Parks Department, Paterson, NJ.

⁸⁹ PCPC, Final Report on WPA Project #3114-16 (29 September 1939). Passaic County Parks Department, Paterson, NJ.

⁹⁰ PCPC, Final Report WPA Project #4242-16 (15 December 1938). Passaic County Parks Department, Paterson, NJ.

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proposed path drainage system. In addition to any other project specifically approved." The final report described this as a "very well operated project where very nearly all the work contemplated was finished." It also noted the satisfactory completion of three footbridges.⁹¹

WPA Project # 5755-16 (begun March 27, 1939; completed June 29, 1939) – This project was for the demolition of the Ryerson-Lafayette House wing (see Photo H-4 showing house after removal of the wing), the demolition of the Vreeland House and the re-roofing of the Knapik Inn [Rea House]. The Final Report notes that "... before work was started on the Vreeland House, there was considerable objection to taking it down, therefore this part of the project was abandoned and permission obtained from the WPA to use the money for the construction of a flight of concrete steps from the intersection of Goffle Road and Warburton Ave..." In addition, the entire area north of Goffle Hill Road was cleared and about 2/3s of the area was grubbed. Due to unanticipated deterioration of the Rea House, some of the gutters had to be rebuilt in addition to the construction of a new roof.⁹²

The involvement of the WPA with Goffle Brook Park faded at the end of 1939. Citing an "apparent lack of interest in the Borough of Hawthorne ... when the present WPA projects are completed, no new WPA projects are to be filed."⁹³ By August 1939 all WPA projects in Goffle Brook Park were completed, thus ending Goffle Brook Park's involvement with the WPA program.

Because of the impending war, the ability to carry on with relief projects anywhere in the park system diminished. Loede reported to the Commissioners that no new projects were submitted during 1940, nor were any new projects started due to the dwindling balance in the Capital Fund. He summed up the financial rewards gained since the inauguration of the WPA program in 1935: a total of 35 PCPC projects were completed, accounting for a total federal government expenditure of \$1,125,208.04, of which only \$178,270 was provided by the PCPC. Taken together, the projects totaled 13,604 "man-months" of work. The eight projects undertaken at Goffle Brook Park alone totaled an actual cost of \$462,410.25, to which the PCPC contributed a relatively modest \$60,816.89.

Loede also noted that, prior to the WPA activities, the PCPC participated in ten programs under either the CWA or ERA, to which the government contributed \$228,231.58 and the PCPC \$30,644.28. This brought the total amount of the expenditures on the Passaic County Park System under work relief programs of the 1930s to almost \$1.4 million. Much of this can be credited to Loede's exemplary efforts as PCPC Superintendent.

Loede concluded his report as follows:

"The work done by and through the various relief agencies has been largely responsible for the development of the Passaic County Park System, through which five park units have been made available to some degree for use by the general public."

He noted, however, the work yet to be done:

⁹¹ PCPC, Final Report, WPA Project #4243-16 (29 September 1939). Passaic County Parks Department, Paterson, NJ.

⁹² PCPC, Final Report WPA Project # 5755-16 (October 2, 1939). Passaic County Parks Department, Paterson, NJ.

⁹³ PCPC Minutes (December 20, 1938).

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"Goffle Brook Park has been almost completely landscaped, playgrounds and play areas need to be developed, park benches installed, the road completed, shelter houses constructed and additional work done on planting before it can be considered completed."

Park Development Postscript – The War Years and Later (1940-1950)

Funds soon grew tight once again for the PCPC, as the Board of Chosen Freeholders appropriated only \$30,000 – less than half the amount requested – for the fiscal year 1940.⁹⁴ Some belt-tightening measures were initiated. By March 1941, with only a little less than \$7,000 in its accounts, drastic measures were required. The PCPC suspended its last remaining WPA project at Garrett Mountain Reservation.⁹⁵ It cut its maintenance force and suspended all maintenance in Goffle Brook Park, except for essential work around Van Winkle Pond to be performed by a single caretaker.⁹⁶ Signs were to be posted that all using the park were doing so "at their own risk."⁹⁷ Even the PCPC's own secretary had to be let go, with Frederick Loede assuming the duties of that post as well as his own.⁹⁸ The PCPC discouraged the Daughters of the American Revolution, William Paterson Chapter (DAR), from using the Ryerson-Lafayette House, saying that it had no funds for restoration.⁹⁹

With America's entry into World War II in December 1941, all non-essential work in the parks was stopped. While the nation focused on mobilizing for the war, the PCPC turned attention on the Vreeland House, which was reportedly in a very dilapidated state and had narrowly escaped demolition a few years earlier.¹⁰⁰ In February 1942, it found the structure to be a hazard and approved its removal; by March 20 that year, the Vreeland House was gone, its "salvageable material" stored.¹⁰¹ In 1943, the Rea House became the headquarters for the Hawthorne [Civil] Defense Council and also for a Boy's Club (see Photo H-19) in the interests of reducing juvenile delinquency.¹⁰²

The Goffle Brook, having had its natural course altered, its marshes filled, and its banks smoothed over during the past decade of WPA projects, reasserted its power in July 1945, when, after several days of heavy rain, it broke its banks in a rampage through the park.¹⁰³ The flood washed out a number of footpaths and approaches to the pedestrian bridges, and some of the trees and shrubs were washed away. The brook "filled up in places, washed out banks, formed new channels and left considerable debris all over."¹⁰⁴ A newspaper account noted that:

"The rustic bridges [designed by Olmsted Brothers] in Goffle Brook Park, frail as they appear, held up in wonderful shape even though the water is over the floors of each. The waters

⁹⁴ PCPC Minutes (15 March 1940).

⁹⁵ Garrett Mountain Reservation, WPA Project #4998.

⁹⁶ PCPC Minutes (7 March 1941).

⁹⁷ PCPC Minutes (14 April 1941).

⁹⁸ PCPC Minutes (11 June 1941).

⁹⁹ PCPC Minutes (21 November 1941).

¹⁰⁰ See more detailed discussion below in "Three Dutch Houses – Preservation and Loss."

¹⁰¹ PCPC Minutes (20 March 1942). Research to date has not discovered the whereabouts of this material.

¹⁰² PCPC Minutes (24 November 1943). This is the first mention of the use of the Rea House as a Boys Club – a use that continued uninterrupted at least through 1964. Hawthorne, New Jersey, *Hawthorne Tercentenary Souvenir Book* 1964.

¹⁰³ Penny Pennington, "The Rains Came Again," *Paterson [NJ] Morning Call* (19 July 1945): 1, 24; "Flash Flood Washes Down Hillsides, Fills Cellars And Spreads Over Wide Area," *Paterson [NJ] Morning Call* (20 July 1945): 1, 10; "Hillcrest, Haledon, Hawthorne Suffer Worst Damage," *Paterson [NJ] Evening News* (20 July 1945): 1, 11.

¹⁰⁴ PCPC Minutes (25 July 1945).

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also reached the highest point of the arches on the stone [sic] bridges on Lafayette, Warburton, and Rea Avenues.¹⁰⁵

Repair work for the flood damage was focused on the clearing, cleaning, widening, and deepening of the channel, and later excavating Van Winkle Pond.¹⁰⁶ Apparently, the footbridges did not fare as well as the news reports indicated, for in summer 1946, Loede was specifically recommending that repairs be made to the Goffle Brook footbridges damaged by the 1945 floods.¹⁰⁷

The year 1950 witnessed the final chapter in the story of the Ryerson-Lafayette House, as the PCPC moved to reconsider its use for park purposes in light of its deteriorated state, proposing a park overlook with a memorial plaque in its stead.¹⁰⁸ Although the PCPC allowed time for a last ditch effort by local supporters to raise private funds for its restoration, in the first week of October, the PCPC received a letter from the group conceding that its efforts to raise funds had failed.¹⁰⁹ On October 28 at 1:30 p.m., a fire of unknown origin swept through what remained of the Ryerson-Lafayette House, rendering it a total loss. The PCPC collected \$1,600 in insurance proceeds. The remains of the house were removed from the site in December. In 1952, the PCPC constructed a memorial plaza at the site of the Ryerson-Lafayette House, where a bronze memorial plaque was installed (Photo 27 and 28) and where it remains today.

The Three Dutch Houses: Preservation and Loss in Goffle Brook Park

The fate of three historic brown sandstone Dutch vernacular residences is yet another aspect of the Goffle Brook Park's rich history that merits attention. All three of these houses – the John W. Rea House, also known as the "Doremus House" (ca. 1840) (see Photo H-19 and 11),¹¹⁰ the Ryerson-Lafayette House (ca. 1750) (see Composite of drawings for #HABS-NJ-165 Photos H-3 and H-4), also known as "Lafayette's Headquarters,"¹¹¹ and the Vreeland House (ca. 1760) (see Composite of drawings for #HABS-NJ-258 and Photo H-20)¹¹² – were located on Goffle Road very near the roadway. All three were highly visible to passers-by and had long been local landmarks.¹¹³

¹⁰⁵ "Flash Flood Washes Down Hillsides, Fills Cellars And Spreads Over Wide Area," 10.

¹⁰⁶ PCPC Minutes (10 October 1945; 14 November 1945).

¹⁰⁷ PCPC Minutes (14 August 1946).

¹⁰⁸ PCPC Minutes (15 March 1950; 22 March 1950).

¹⁰⁹ PCPC Minutes (10 October 1950).

¹¹⁰ "The John W. Rea House (Doremus House), 681 Goffle Road, Hawthorne, Passaic County, New Jersey" (ca. 1835). HABS Survey No. NJ-178 (July 17, 1936); Mary Delaney Krugman, Preparer, *The John W. Rea House, Hawthorne, Passaic County, NJ*, National Register Nomination form filed April 15, 1999. Listed on the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places (1999). Extant.

¹¹¹ "Lafayette Headquarters (Ryerson House), Hawthorne, Passaic County, New Jersey" (1750? 1707?). HABS Survey No. NJ-165 (July 16, 1936). Destroyed by fire 1950. According to Lucas, its first owner was John George Ryerson. Lucas, "Early History," 11. There are a number of conflicts about the history of this building, some of which are reflected in the HABS documentation, i.e., the date of original construction and the associations with General Lafayette's encampment in the vicinity during the Revolutionary War. Although the 1936 HABS survey gave it the historic name of "Lafayette's Headquarters," the narrative text avoids the question, restricting its remarks to describe the contents of a sign placed there by the Daughters of the American Revolution and "local tradition." It is the only narrative of the four HABS surveys in Hawthorne to be stamped on each page with the words: "Data not compiled and not guaranteed by Library of Congress." The Hawthorne Borough Historian Walter Lucas later debunked this as a myth in his essay "Early History of New Jersey."

¹¹² "The Vreeland House, Goffle Brook Park, Passaic Avenue [sic], Hawthorne, Passaic County, New Jersey" (ca. 1760). HABS Survey No. NJ-258 (July 17, 1936). The correct street address of "Goffle Road" is reflected on the drawings and elevations that accompany the narrative HABS report. Demolished 1942.

¹¹³ A total of four Hawthorne properties were documented by HABS, three of which were located within Goffle Brook Park. The fourth was "The Judge John S. Van Winkle House" (ca. 1760) located at 868 Goffle Road opposite Van Winkle Pond. It was documented three years later than the others. Like them, it was a Dutch vernacular residence constructed of brown sandstone. Extant. HABS Survey No. NJ-531 (February 21, 1939).

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During the land acquisition phase, all of the existing structures in Goffle Brook Park were slated for demolition or removal. A few local organizations became concerned for the future of the three historic houses and began to lobby for their preservation. Of these, the Mawhinney Post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars based in Hawthorne (VFW) was the most persistent.

As early as March 1930, the VFW approached the PCPC to appeal for the preservation of the Rea House as a museum, but the PCPC could make no commitments until the ownership had changed hands. In May 1931, with Knapik's condemnation proceedings nearing an end, the VFW once again approached the Commission, this time bearing a petition with 800 signatures to convert the Rea House to use as a meeting space for the VFW and other "patriotic societies." Again the idea was put on hold. In September 1931, with the Rea House and Ryerson-Lafayette House soon to be vacated, the PCPC finally opened the door to discussions on the Rea House use with the VFW. Six months later, the VFW again lobbied the Commission for the use of the premises, appearing with a delegation of twelve members to request permission to operate it as a memorial building. This time, the Rotary Club of Hawthorne sent along its support for the application.¹¹⁴ Finally, the PCPC gave permission for the VFW post to use one room on the second floor, with the right to use a main floor room occasionally for meetings.

PCPC records say very little about the Vreeland House (see HABS Drawings for "The Vreeland House") – the second of the three – that was located on the east side of Goffle Road at a point about equidistant between the Rea House and Warburton Avenue. According to the HABS documentation, its condition in 1936 was described as "fair."¹¹⁵ Edo Van Marselis, a fourth-generation resident of the American Colonies and prominent landowner, reportedly built this picturesque home ca. 1760. Apparently this structure was never seriously considered for park uses and therefore appeared rarely in PCPC discussions.

As of September 1931, the third – the Ryerson-Lafayette House (see HABS Drawings for "The Lafayette House") – was to be rented to one of the park engineers at a nominal sum while it awaited its future.¹¹⁶ Local tradition placed Lafayette's encampment at this location, which gave it a certain historic significance.¹¹⁷ In November that year, the PCPC received an inquiry from the Hawthorne Women's Club about the future use for the Ryerson-Lafayette House and its interest in helping to furnish a room in the house.¹¹⁸

The PCPC, however, had its own plans to use the Ryerson-Lafayette House for park purposes. In a letter to Percival Gallagher, Loede discussed the possibility of creating "a small parking space or a slight widening of the road near the Lafayette House...to take care of people who wish to stop at this point. The future of the Lafayette House has not as yet been definitely decided, however indications are that it will be retained and restored either as a museum or as a small concession and comfort station."¹¹⁹ Given the economic situation, however, all funds had dried up for such plans by February 1932, and the Ryerson-Lafayette House was given over to housing for dispossessed families.¹²⁰

¹¹⁴ PCPC Minutes (28 January 1931).

¹¹⁵ "The Vreeland House," HABS-NJ-258 (17 July 1936), 1.

¹¹⁶ PCPC Minutes (14 September 1931).

¹¹⁷ This claim was treated with some cautious skepticism in the HABS documentation (see above), and was later debunked by the Borough Historian, Walter Lucas, in his essay "Early History of New Jersey."

¹¹⁸ PCPC Minutes (12 November 1931).

¹¹⁹ Frederick W. Loede, Jr., PCPC Superintendent, Letter to Percival Gallagher, Olmsted Brothers (16 January 1932).

¹²⁰ PCPC Minutes (24 March 1932).

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Two years passed before anything was done concerning the three Dutch houses in the park. In July 1934, Paterson architect Charles H. Benjamin stepped forward and offered to conduct a survey to estimate the cost of needed repairs and draw up plans and specifications for the Rea House, the former Vreeland House, and the Ryerson-Lafayette House for \$200.00, which the PCPC accepted¹²¹ "...with a view to reconditioning and restoring them to sound physical condition." Benjamin returned to report the following estimates: Rea House - \$7,036.25; Vreeland - \$10,442.75; and Ryerson-Lafayette - \$15,744.75¹²²

With these estimates in hand, the PCPC announced that no repairs whatsoever were to be made to the Vreeland House. The rationale given was that, since the PCPC planned to re-use the nearby Rea and Ryerson-Lafayette Houses, the Vreeland House was not needed. Such an expenditure of funds on a building not included in the park's long-range development plan was unwarranted. Tenants would be allowed to remain in the building indefinitely, however, until the park's development dictated its removal.¹²³

In the mid-1930s, the **Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS)** was established under the WPA. The PCPC had become proficient at leveraging the benefits of other state and federal work relief programs, so when approached by Harry T. Stephens, Passaic County HABS Supervisor, in April 1935, the Commission readily authorized the documentation of the Dey Mansion in Preakness Valley Park, the Ryerson-Lafayette House, and the "stone house next north to it" – apparently the Vreeland House.¹²⁴ This work was carried out during 1935; the final HABS reports were dated July 1936.

With the documentation underway, Stephens apparently learned of the PCPC's ultimate intention to demolish the Vreeland House. In November, he forwarded a special recommendation that the PCPC "retain and preserve [it] as a fine example of early American architecture." The Commissioners replied that although they had no funds to restore it at present, neither did they have immediate plans to demolish it.¹²⁵

In August 1937, the U.S. Department of the Interior transmitted certificates naming the Dey Mansion Washington Headquarters, the "General Lafayette Headquarters" (the Ryerson-Lafayette House), and the Rea House, as "possessing exceptional historic or architectural interest."¹²⁶

In July 1938, with Goffle Brook Park nearing completion of its physical development, the PCPC considered the possibility of using WPA assistance to put the existing park structures to use. The PCPC Goffle Brook Park Committee inspected them and returned to the Commission with its report and recommendations:

"THE LAFAYETTE HOUSE [Ryerson-Lafayette House]: There is little to this building to make it useable as a park structure of any kind except the possibility of a shelter and public toilet facilities. As Lafayette's Headquarters it has historic interest. [The HABS documentation and its filing] in the Library of Congress gives it architectural interest. The kitchen wing is in a very bad

¹²¹ PCPC Minutes (26 July 1934).

¹²² PCPC Minutes (27 September 1934).

¹²³ PCPC Minutes (25 October 1934).

¹²⁴ PCPC Minutes (25 April 1935). In light of later correspondence with Mr. Stephens, a conclusion may be drawn that this other structure is the Vreeland House.

¹²⁵ PCPC Minutes (27 November 1935).

¹²⁶ PCPC Minutes (August 11, 1937). The National Park Service/HABS did not transmit a certificate of historic interest for the Vreeland house until May 1939.

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state of repair ... [and] is within a few feet of the edge of Goffle Road and should [it] be widened which seems an eventuality, a corner of the building would have to be torn down ... [to rebuild it] on the easterly side of the house would entail considerable expense. *The Committee recommends that the kitchen wing be torn down and that the main structure be repaired in accordance with the plans prepared by Architect Charles H. Benjamin in 1934, restoring the house for use as a public shelter with toilet facilities* [emphasis added].

"VREELAND HOUSE: This building is being rented for \$12.50 per month. No repairs are being made. In 1934, Architect Charles H. Benjamin reported [it] in very bad condition, floor beams being unsafe.... The building has no historical interest but has an architectural interest being cited by local architects as the best in the park. The Engineer does not consider this building useable as a park structure nor needed if one structure is retained in the southerly portion and another in the northerly portion. *The Committee considered the expense involved in this building as unwarranted and because of its not being considered useable as a park structure, recommends the demolition of it, same to be done as a WPA project* [emphasis added].

"KNAPIK INN [John W. Rea House]: Now partly rented at \$15.00 per month and partly used free of charge by the U.S. Riparian Survey. Building substantially sound, roof in bad shape. Because of its location recommended by the Engineer as suitable for park headquarters with possible shelter and toilet facilities, storage space for maintenance force and adaptable as living quarters for maintenance foreman or park superintendent. ... *The Committee recommends that the Engineer prepare a WPA project for conditioning the building in accordance with [Architect Charles H. Benjamin's] plans making such changes as are required to put it in use as a suitable park structure* [emphasis added].¹²⁷

The years of inattention had taken their toll on the three Dutch houses in Goffle Brook Park, even as WPA projects transformed the parkland round them in accordance with the Olmsted Brothers plan – sculpting ragged farmland and meadows into gentle slopes and playing fields, marshes into lakes, installing drainage systems, creating footpaths and bridges, seeding lawns, and planting trees and shrubs. While the Dutch stone Dey Mansion in Preakness Valley Park – also part of the Passaic County Park System – was favored for restoration as a historic house museum, the three Dutch vernacular structures within Goffle Brook Park received little attention.

In September 1938, the PCPC made what was to be its last application to the WPA: a project for the demolition of the Ryerson-Lafayette House kitchen wing, the demolition of the Vreeland House, and the re-roofing of the Knapik Inn [Rea House]. The following January, the tenant vacated the Vreeland House and public notice of the project's scope was given to permit the public an opportunity to express its views. Loede later reported the Daughters of the American Revolution, William Paterson Chapter, offered the only public comment: it urged that everything possible be done to keep the historic buildings intact. At that same meeting, he presented the "blue line" drawings of the Vreeland, Rea, and Ryerson-Lafayette Houses, which had been forwarded to the PCPC by HABS officials.¹²⁸

¹²⁷ PCPC Minutes (29 July 1938).

¹²⁸ PCPC Minutes (17 February 1939).

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By the end of March 1939, the Ryerson-Lafayette kitchen wing had been removed and the re-roofing begun at the Rea House when the Commissioners suddenly announced a change of heart with regard to the Vreeland House, apparently at the "request of a few citizens"¹²⁹:

"Upon considering the matter further, it was felt that it might be the better policy at this time to refrain from razing the former Vreeland House and it was decided ... to take whatever steps are necessary to protect the building in its present state."¹³⁰

Loede quickly revised the project¹³¹ so as to substitute the construction of a flight of concrete steps (see Photo 18) at the intersection of Warburton Avenue and Goffle Road and the clearing and grubbing of 4.5 acres north of Goffle Hill Road for the demolition of the Vreeland house.¹³² A few weeks later, a HABS "certificate of historic interest" for the Vreeland house arrived at the offices of the PCPC.¹³³

The re-roofing and painting of the Rea House was completed by June 1939.¹³⁴ The Vreeland house was demolished in March 1942; all its salvageable materials were reported stored, although no location was given.¹³⁵

After World War II, several non-profit groups once again stepped forward to appeal for the preservation of the historic buildings and requested that they be utilized for their organizations and other public purposes. The Hawthorne Defense Council began to use the Rea House in 1944 along with the Hawthorne Boys Club (see Photo H-19).¹³⁶ About the same time, the DAR made another request to the PCPC to use the Ryerson-Lafayette House so that it might be restored; the PCPC favored the request, but said it had no funds with which to proceed.

Largely unoccupied and not maintained for over 30 years, the Ryerson-Lafayette House grew increasingly derelict. By 1950 it was uninhabitable. The PCPC resolved that it was no longer suitable for park uses and spoke of demolition. Soon after a local group of supporters failed to raise funds to preserve it,¹³⁷ the Ryerson-Lafayette House was destroyed by fire (see discussion above, "Park Development Postscript – The War and Post-War Years (1940-1950)").¹³⁸ In 1952, a memorial plaza marking the site was constructed and a bronze plaque installed.

¹²⁹ PCPC Minutes (27 February 1942).

¹³⁰ PCPC Minutes (31 March 1939). It is perhaps noteworthy that the PCPC Minutes of that date reflect a request by the New Jersey Commission on Historic Sites for a photograph of the Dey Mansion Washington Headquarters to be used as part of a proposed pictorial exhibit at the 1939 New York World's Fair.

¹³¹ WPA Project No. 5775.

¹³² PCPC Minutes (14 April 1939).

¹³³ PCPC Minutes (26 May 1939).

¹³⁴ PCPC Minutes (7 July 1939); WPA Project No. 5775, Final Report.

¹³⁵ PCPC Minutes (20 March 1942).

¹³⁶ The Boys Club requested transfer of the Rea House for its use; the PCPC would not sell the structure but allowed the Club to use it at will.

¹³⁷ Willard L. DeYoe, "Appeal to Save the Lafayette House From Ignominious Ruin At Hands of Park Commission," *Paterson [NJ] Morning Call* (25 and 26 October 1950), 2.

¹³⁸ "Ryerson House in Hawthorne Razed by Fire," *Paterson [NJ] Morning Call* (30 October 1950), 1. Local affection for the Ryerson-Lafayette House was apparently passionately felt; its destruction by fire remains in the memories of long-time residents as one of the great losses of park history. Perhaps in an attempt to defuse the frantic preservation efforts, Hawthorne Borough Historian Walter Lucas was drafting a well-researched challenge to the claim that this house was Lafayette's Headquarters around the time of the house's final destruction. Lucas's research placed the site of Lafayette's encampment near the DeGray property at 40 Wagaraw Road, Hawthorne, formerly owned by John Francis Ryerson – about 1 mile away from the Goffle Road Ryerson-Lafayette house, which was built by his cousin, John George Ryerson. See Lucas, "Early New Jersey History," 11.

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The John W. Rea House is the only one of the original three Dutch houses that remains extant to date. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1999 at the behest of a local non-profit group known as the "Please Save Our Parkland Committee," under the leadership of local engineer John Lacz.¹³⁹

Goffle Brook Park Today

There are aspects of the Olmsted Brothers plan that were never executed, due to the financial conditions of the Depression that challenged the development of the Passaic County Park System. Among these missing elements are 1) the bridge proposed for the south end of DeGray's Pond; 2) the overlook and summer house on the hill at the southwestern corner; and 3) the field house south of Diamond Bridge Avenue. A fragment of the circuit road can be seen leading into the parking area at the south end near the baseball diamonds, where the installation of a portion of the Hawthorne sewer system in the early 1930s cleared the way for the drive.

In spite of these missing elements, Goffle Brook Park today retains many of the features incorporated into the Olmsted plans as executed by the work relief programs of the 1930s: 1) the boundaries still follow those originally mapped by the firm; 2) the reshaping of the topography into a series of vistas and curving hillsides was a primary element of the design that opened the view of the brook to the public right-of-way on Goffle Road; 3) the small houses and other structures that intruded on the parklands scoped out by the Olmsted firm were demolished, creating a greensward uninterrupted, for the most part, by any structure save that of the picturesque 19th Century Rea House; 4) the traces of paths that follow the original plans for bridle paths can still be seen traversing the gently sloping lawns, although the gravel pathways are now overgrown with grass; 5) Van Winkle Pond is still held in check by the Arnold Dam and it remains an important water feature of the park; 6) the athletic complex and relocation of the Goffle Brook near the high school were constructed much as Olmsted Brothers, working with Frederick Loede, laid them out; and 7) the baseball diamonds – although oriented somewhat differently – are in the exact location proposed by Olmsted and approved by the PCPC in the 1930s (see Olmsted Drawing #9160-12 and Photo 25); and finally, much of the landscaping installed as part of the WPA projects in the park is still extant and, after almost 65 years, lend texture, color, structure, and natural beauty to the parkland.¹⁴⁰

The park has experienced some changes over time: DeGray's Pond at the southern end, which reportedly suffered from chronic silting problems over the years, was drained and the area filled during the park's rehabilitation in the early 1980s, funded by a grant from the National Park Service (see Photo 39).¹⁴¹ A football field and children's playground now occupy the site of the former lake (see Photos 30 and 31). A baseball field was constructed just north of the Rea House at Rea Avenue. A masonry concession stand, play equipment, and picnic tables were constructed very near the location of the proposed Olmsted Brothers field house (see Photos 38 and 40), as well as a dog run at the southeastern end of the park. Instead of the six pedestrian bridges across the brook, there are only three today: the Olmsted rough timber bridges were washed away in various floods and have been replaced with three footbridges – a metal truss-like bridge at Van Winkle Pond (see Photo 5); a wooden one near Florence Avenue (see Photos 7 and 8) – and a utilitarian bridge with concrete deck and metal

¹³⁹ Krugman, "The John W. Rea House" Nomination to the National Register.

¹⁴⁰ Miceli, List of species observed 31 July and/or 30 August 2001, taken from "Goffle Brook Planting, WPA Project #4242, Fall 1938" in *Commentary Concerning Existing Vegetation at Goffle Brook Park*.

¹⁴¹ The Goffle Brook Park rehabilitation was financed in part by a grant from the National Park Service under the provisions of the Urban Park and Recreation and Recovery Act of 1978 (Title X, Public Law 95-825). See also LAN Associates, comp., Aerial Map of Goffle Brook Park showing project area under construction at south end of park dated 16 January 1981, and filed with the Passaic County Planning Board, Paterson, NJ.

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guide rails, hidden from sight at the far corner of the high school playing fields (see Photo 15 and 16). The most recent change (in progress) is the replacement of the Diamond Bridge Avenue Bridge (see Photo 37).

Conclusion

Goffle Brook Park is the product of several highly significant associations, all of which have left their mark on the landscape not only of the park itself, but also on the landscape of Passaic County history. These associations make it eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, first under **Criterion A**, as a result of its associations with the Parks Movement and the City Beautiful Movement, a pattern of events that evidence trends in planning and community development that have been important to our history; second, also under **Criterion A**, because of its associations with the 1930s public works programs sponsored by, among others, the Works Progress Administration, which executed some of the most highly significant public works projects in the history of the United States; and third, under **Criterion C**, because Goffle Brook Park's design, which has retained its integrity over time, is the work of Percival Gallagher, noted landscape architect of Olmsted Brothers, Landscape Architects, of Brookline, Massachusetts, a highly significant American landscape architecture firm.

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Chronology

- 1895** County Park enabling legislation passed by NJ Assembly.
- 1926** Nov – PCPC votes to accept proposal of Olmsted Brothers, Landscape Architects, for the preparation of report on a park system for Passaic County.
- 1927** July 9 – Olmsted Brothers present report on parkland acquisition.
Nov 8 – Voters of Passaic County pass referendum to establish a permanent county park system.
Dec 23 - Frederick W. Loede, Jr., hired as executive engineer of PCPC to assume duties July 1.
- 1928** Nov 1 - Olmsted Brothers hired as landscape consultants to select park sites and define boundaries.
- 1929** Oct 10 - Map of proposed park for Goffle Brook area adopted, officially named "Goffle Brook Park."
- 1930** Mar 27 - Appeal by VFW to preserve "Goffle Inn" (Rea House) on Knapik property as museum for relics.
June 12 – PCPC approves the raising of Diamond Bridge Avenue 2 ½' to accommodate pedestrian walk under bridge and increase flood protection.
- 1931** Apr 9 - Ordinances vacating streets mapped through park and deeding Borough of Hawthorne property to PCPC. Filing of eviction proceedings against five tenants.
May 14 - Appeal by VFW with 800-signature petition to use "Goffle Inn" (Rea House) for VFW/patriotic societies HQs; resolution put on hold.
July 23 – Public auction of houses and other buildings acquired within the takings line.
Sept 14 - Goffle Inn (Rea House) and Lanza property (Ryerson-Lafayette House) to be vacated. PCPC engineer to occupy Ryerson-Lafayette House at nominal rental; VFW to be contacted re Rea House use.
Oct 13 – Emergency Relief Administration created by act of the NJ legislature.
Nov 12 - Olmsted Brothers preliminary plan approved. Hawthorne Women's Club pursues possible use of Ryerson-Lafayette House.
Dec 9, 10 –Olmsted Brothers report notes that "unemployed" help being used to clear southern portion of park. Urges coordination.
Dec 12 – PCPC authorizes Olmsted Brothers to prepare grading plan for Goffle Brook Park south of Diamond Bridge Avenue.
- 1932** Jan 16 – Loede notes that all bridle paths can be eliminated in the park near the south portion. Fifty unemployed of the Borough of Hawthorne working on park projects.
Jan 28 - Appeal by VFW on Goffle Inn (Rea House).
Feb 6 – PCPC runs out of funds. All construction ceases, workforce, salaries reduced.

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Mar 24 – Defer closing on Hunter-Breen and Quinn properties at Goffle Road and Rea Ave. due to lack of funds. Lanza house (Lafayette Headquarters) offered as housing for dispossessed families.

1933

Mar 4 – Franklin Delano Roosevelt sworn in as President; relief programs of the New Deal enacted within the first 100 days – Civilian Conservation Corps; Federal Emergency Relief Act; Civil Works Administration; National Industrial Recovery Act passed (created WPA).

July 18 - PCPC receives state assistance for administration of relief workers and payment of recreation supervisors; volunteer group erects "temporary" dam south of Diamond Bridge Ave. bridge for swimming area.

Dec 5 - Board of Education plan initiated as CWA project; no resolution to park land issue.

Dec 31 - CWA working on Goffle Brook Park; plan to effect land exchange with Board of Education.

1934

Jan 4 – Percival Gallagher of Olmsted Brothers dies (in charge of Goffle Brook Park project).

Mar 8 – PCPC applies for CCC camp.

ca. Mar 15 –CWA work discontinued.

Apr 1 – Commencement of new public works program.

Sept 27 – Charles H. Benjamin completes architectural survey of Goffle Inn (Rea house), former Vreeland house, and Lafayette house with cost estimates, specs, etc.

Oct 25 – PCPC decides to allow tenants to remain indefinitely in the Vreeland house until development requires its removal. Goffle Inn and Lafayette Headquarters to remain as is.

1935

Apr 25 - Permission granted for development of HABS drawings of Lafayette Headquarters and Rea House.

Sep 26 - Board of Education proceeding with construction of athletic field; land exchange unresolved; CCC application receives preliminary approval.

Oct 24- ERA engineering survey project discontinued. PCPC approves use of Goffle Brook Park for a 50-family subsistence garden; WPA project for Goffle Brook Park approved.

Nov 12 – **WPA Project #1-188** for "General Development of Goffle Brook Park" including park road grading, brook relocation, general grading, grading of footpaths, excavation for lake, reconstruction of dam and lake, constructing footbridges and general cleaning up (completed Dec 23, 1936).

Nov 14 – Board of Education land exchange deal finalized.

Nov 27 - County Director of HABS recommends preservation of Vreeland house as "fine example of early American architecture."

1936

Mar 16 - WPA projects shut down pending further application.

April 15 - NJ Emergency Relief Administration disbanded by act of the NJ legislature.

Jul 1 - Arnold Dam in Goffle Brook Park completed by WPA; lake below Diamond Bridge Ave. excavated; Arnold pond being excavated for enlargement.

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-
- Jul 23 - Goffle Brook Park WPA project closed due to lack of sponsor (PCPC) funds.
- Aug 24 - WPA Project # 1-726 to "Lay storm drain in GBP section east of Goffle Rd, between Maitland and Diamond Bridge Avenue" (completed Jan. 15, 1937).
- September 21 - WPA Project #1-837 for "Clearing and Grading of GBP, east of Goffle Rd between Maitland and Goffle Hill Rd. (completed May 21, 1937).
- Sept 24 - Agreement re Borough of Hawthorne wells (to remain) and police station (to be removed) in Goffle Brook Park concluded. Two ponds in Goffle Brook Park found to be contaminated by Borough of Hawthorne Bd. of Health; swimming is forbidden.
- 1937** May 28 - Former Rea House authorized for use as field office of the WPA Riparian Survey.
- Aug 11 - PCPC receives HABS certificates for General Lafayette Headquarters and the Rea House as "possessing exceptional historic or architectural interest."
- Sept 13 - WPA Project #1365-16 for grading, seeding, paths begun (completed June 9, 1938).
- 1938** May 9 - WPA Project #3114-16 for topsoil stripping, earth fill, and path and road construction in Goffle Brook Park (completed Aug 2, 1939).
- July 29 - Lafayette's Headquarters and Vreeland house are slated for demolition; Knapik (Rea) and Cussac houses will be used for park purposes.
- Aug 29 - WPA Project #4242-16 for seeding, pathway and footbridge construction (completed Jun 21, 1939). Also WPA Project #4243-16 for planting, Rea Avenue to Goffle Hill Road (completed Nov 23, 1938).
- Dec 20 - WPA plans for 1939 eliminates further projects in Goffle Brook due to lack of interest.
- 1939** Feb 17 - PCPC authorizes Rea House re-roofing, demolition of Vreeland and Lafayette houses; receives HABS blue line drawings of Vreeland, Rea, and Lafayette Houses.
- Mar 27 - WPA Project #5755-16 to re-roof Rea House and demolish Lafayette House wing begun (completed June 29).
- Apr 14 - Vreeland house demolition postponed. Money used for concrete steps at Warburton Ave, and clearing and grading 4-1/2 acres at Goffle Hill, Lafayette and Goffle Road intersection.
- May 26 - HABS forwards certificate of historic interest re Vreeland House to PCPC.
- Sept 8 - All WPA work in Goffle Brook Park completed.
- 1941** Mar 7 - WPA projects suspended because lack of funding. All maintenance work in Goffle Brook suspended.
- May 2 - Riparian Survey remains in Rea House as paying tenant.
- Nov 21 - PCPC favors DAR suggestion to occupy Lafayette House as chapter house for Passaic County DAR chapters; offers no funding for maintenance or restoration.
- 1942** Feb 27 - Vreeland House called a hazard; no funds for restoration are available. Permission to demolish granted.

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- Mar 20 – Vreeland House reported demolished. Salvaged materials stored.
- 1943** Aug 25 – Civilian Defense Organizations seek to use Rea House for meetings and headquarters.
- 1944** Oct 4 – Sigma Kappa Delta Fraternity, Inc. requests permission to use Lafayette House for meetings, but was denied by PCPC; no private use of park property was permitted.)
- Nov 10 – Hawthorne Defense Council begins use of Rea House and also used as Hawthorne Boys' Club.
- Nov 15 – Park light installed at Van Winkle Ave footbridge.
- 1945** July 22-23 – Flash flood causes severe damage in Goffle Brook Park.
- Oct 10 – Repairing flood damage; concentration on clearing, cleaning, widening and deepening of the brook channel.,
- Dec 14 – Dredging of Van Winkle pond completed, excavated material used to replace washed-out areas.
- 1946** Several more parcels acquired for parkland (rear of lots).
- 1949** Mar 22 – DAR is no longer interested in severely deteriorated Ryerson-Lafayette House. PCPC Secretary Loede proposes memorial overlook and demolition of existing. Approved by the PCPC.
- 1950** Apr 25 – Committee for the Restoration of the Ryerson -Lafayette House requests delay of demolition until Committee could present its own proposal for restoration, museum use. PCPC takes under advisement, later allows time for plan.
- Oct 10 - Ryerson Restoration Society admits failure of efforts to secure funding for restoration of the Ryerson-Lafayette House.
- Oct 28 - Fire destroys Ryerson-Lafayette House at 1:30 p.m.
- Dec 10 – Ryerson- Lafayette House razed.
- 1952** Mar 18 - Bronze marker wording approved for Lafayette Memorial; memorial plaza constructed on the site of the Ryerson-Lafayette House.
- 1982-1984** Goffle Brook Park is rehabilitated, financed in part by a grant from the National Park Service under the provisions of the Urban Park and Recreation and Recovery Act of 1978 (Title X, Public Law 95-825.

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UTM
Zone 18

- 5- 570640
4532660
- 6- 570740
4532780
- 7- 570780
4533000
- 8- 570670
4533160
- 9- 570500
4533375
- 10- 570650
4533930
- 11- 570700
4534090
- 12- 570915
4534920

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HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPHS

- Photo H-1 of 24 View from Hawthorne ridge looking E at encroaching development in the vicinity of the future Goffle Brook Park (c. 1916). Source: Hawthorne Civic League, *1916 Photographic Souvenir of Hawthorne New Jersey* (Hawthorne NJ: S. Gordon Hunt, 1916).
- Photo H-2 of 24 Advertisement for development parcels with photo showing open fields in vicinity of future site of Goffle Brook Park. Source: Hawthorne Civic League, *1916 Photographic Souvenir of Hawthorne New Jersey* (Hawthorne NJ: S. Gordon Hunt, 1916).
- Photo H-3 of 24 The Ryerson House (Lafayette's Headquarters), c. 1939, looking NE. Source: From the collection of photographs by H. S. Dutcher, New York City, NY, held in the files of the Passaic County Parks Department, Paterson, NJ.
- Photo H-4 of 24 The Ryerson House (Lafayette's Headquarters), ca. 1948, looking NE. Source: Hawthorne, New Jersey, *Borough of Hawthorne, New Jersey: 50th Anniversary Souvenir Book 1898-1948* (Hawthorne NJ: The Borough of Hawthorne, 1948).
- Photo H-5 of 24 View of Diamond Bridge Road [sic] (1931), looking W. Source: Olmsted File #9160, Olmsted National Historic Site Archives, Brookline Massachusetts.
- Photo H-6 of 24 South elevation, Diamond Bridge Road Bridge (1931). Source: Olmsted File #9160, Olmsted National Historic Site Archives, Brookline Massachusetts.
- Photo H-7 of 24 Line of proposed walkway under Diamond Bridge Road Bridge (1931). Source: Olmsted File #9160, Olmsted National Historic Site Archives, Brookline Massachusetts.
- Photo H-8 of 24 Pond in Goffle Brook Park [probably DeGray's Pond, southern end] (1931). Source: Olmsted File #9160, Olmsted National Historic Site Archives, Brookline Massachusetts.
- Photo H-9 of 24 View of pond at "end of park" (1931). From the look of the surrounding landscape, it appears that the body of water is DeGray's Pond, at the south end of the park (no longer extant). Source: Olmsted File #9160, Olmsted National Historic Site Archives, Brookline Massachusetts.

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- Photo H-10 of 24 View of marsh and meadowlands N of Warburton Avenue Bridge, looking N (1931), showing Board of Education property and future site of athletic fields. Source: Olmsted File #9160, Olmsted National Historic Site Archives, Brookline Massachusetts.
- Photo H-11 of 24 View from knoll near proposed entrance at southwestern corner of park. Source: Olmsted File #9160, Olmsted National Historic Site Archives, Brookline Massachusetts.
- Photo H-12 of 24 View of concrete bridge on Diamond Bridge Avenue (1931) soon after its construction, looking NW. Source: Olmsted File #9160, Olmsted National Historic Site Archives, Brookline Massachusetts.
- Photo H-13 of 24 View over lake site from upper end (1931), possibly taken from N end of DeGray's pond. Source: Olmsted File #9160, Olmsted National Historic Site Archives, Brookline Massachusetts.
- Photo H-14 of 24 Photograph of refuse in the Goffle Brook ca. 1929, with annotation. Source: Passaic County Park Commission, New Jersey. *Report for 1928-1929*. Office of Passaic County Parks, Paterson, NJ.
- Photo H-15 of 24 Northernmost Pumping Station for the Hawthorne Water System (c. 1916). Source: Hawthorne Civic League, *1916 Photographic Souvenir of Hawthorne New Jersey* (Hawthorne NJ: S. Gordon Hunt, 1916).
- Photo H-16 of 24 Hawthorne School No. 3 on Goffle Road (1885), later used as the police station (foreground). In background is southern pumping station. Source: Hawthorne Civic League, *1916 Photographic Souvenir of Hawthorne New Jersey* (Hawthorne NJ: S. Gordon Hunt, 1916).
- Photo H-17 of 24 View looking S from Diamond Bridge Avenue. Source: Hawthorne Civic League, *1916 Photographic Souvenir of Hawthorne New Jersey* (Hawthorne NJ: S. Gordon Hunt, 1916).
- Photo H-18 of 24 Bridle path, Garrett Mountain Reservation, Passaic County Park System, Paterson, NJ. Source: H. S. Dutcher, Photograph Album compiled for the Passaic County Parks Commission (1936-1940). Files of the Passaic County Parks Department, Paterson, NJ.

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- Photo H-19 of 24 John W. Rea House, Goffle Brook Park, Hawthorne, NJ. Photo *circa* 1939. Source: H. S. Dutcher, Photograph Album compiled for the Passaic County Parks Commission (1936-1940) held in the files of the Passaic County Parks Department, Paterson, NJ.
- Photo H-20 of 24 The Vreeland House, Goffle Brook Park, Hawthorne, NJ (ca. 1936). Source: HABS Project # HABS-NJ-258 (17 July 1936). Files of the Library of Congress, Washington, DC.
- Photo H-21 of 24 "DeGray's Pond," Goffle Brook Park, Hawthorne, NJ (ca. 1937). Source: H. S. Dutcher, Photograph Album compiled for the Passaic County Parks Commission (1936-1940) held in the files of the Passaic County Parks Department, Paterson, NJ.
- Photo H-22 of 24 WPA work in progress at southern end of Goffle Brook Park (ca. 1938), showing Goffle Road hill at MacFarlan Avenue in background. Source: H. S. Dutcher, Photograph Album compiled for the Passaic County Parks Commission (1936-1940) held in the files of the Passaic County Parks Department, Paterson, NJ.
- Photo H-23 of 24 Arnold Dam on Van Winkle Pond under construction ca. 1936. Source: H. S. Dutcher, Photograph Album compiled for the Passaic County Park Commission (1936-1940). Files of the Passaic County Parks Department, Paterson, NJ.
- Photo H-24 of 24 View of Footbridge across the Goffle Brook, Goffle Brook Park, Hawthorne, NJ *circa* 1939. Source: H. S. Dutcher, Photograph Album for the Passaic County Park Commission, *circa* 1936-1940. Files of the Passaic County Parks Department, Paterson, NJ.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF EXISTING CONDITIONS

The following information is the same for all of the photographs listed below:

1. *Name of Property:* Goffle Brook Park
2. *County, City, and State where located:* Passaic County, Hawthorne, New Jersey

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3. *Name of Photographer:* Mary Delaney Krugman, MSHP
4. *Date of Photographs:* December 2000
5. *Location of original negatives:* Mary Delaney Krugman Associates, Inc.
36 Park Street
Montclair, New Jersey 07042

6 & 7 *Description of views; number of photograph:*

- Photo 1 of 40 Pumping stations #1 (background) and #2 (foreground) looking NW,
- Photo 2 of 40 Pumping station #1 looking E from Goffle Road.
- Photo 3 of 40 Pumping station #2 looking E from Goffle Road.
- Photo 4 of 40 Van Winkle Pond and Arnold Dam, looking NW towards Goffle Road.
- Photo 5 of 40 Footbridge, Arnold Dam, and Van Winkle Pond, looking E towards Van Winkle Avenue, with Goffle Hill Road bridge in background.
- Photo 6 of 40 Goffle Brook looking SW from footbridge at Van Winkle Pond.
- Photo 7 of 40 Paved path between Florence and Genevieve Avenues with footbridge over Goffle Brook (background), looking NW.
- Photo 8 of 40 Path on W bank of Goffle Brook near Genevieve Avenue footbridge, looking N.
- Photo 9 of 40 Rea Avenue Bridge (PC #1600106) spanning easternmost channel, looking S.
- Photo 10 of 40 Rea Avenue Bridge (PC #1600107) spanning main (westernmost) channel of Goffle Brook, looking S.
- Photo 11 of 40 John W. Rea House, looking NE from Goffle Road.
- Photo 12 of 40 John W. Rea House (background) and picnic grounds with pavilion (foreground) on W bank of Goffle Brook south of Rea Avenue, looking W.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Goffle Brook Park
Borough of Hawthorne
Passaic County, New Jersey

Section number _____ Page _____

- Photo 13 of 40 Point of meeting of auxiliary and main channels of Goffle Brook S of Rea Avenue bridges, looking N.
- Photo 14 of 40 Chain link fence bordering Board of Education property and Goffle Brook Park at Vreeland Avenue near footbridge, looking E.
- Photo 15 of 40 Footbridge over Goffle Brook at NW corner of the Board of Education property, looking S.
- Photo 16 of 40 Footbridge on NW corner of Board of Education property, S of John W. Rea House (background), looking N.
- Photo 17 of 40 Park area on W bank of Goffle Brook immediately N of Warburton Avenue Bridge (Goffle Road at top of embankment), looking N, with concrete staircase at far left.
- Photo 18 of 40 Concrete stairs at NE corner of intersection at Warburton Avenue and Goffle Road, looking SW.
- Photo 19 of 40 Warburton Avenue Bridge over Goffle Brook from W bank looking S.
- Photo 20 of 40 Athletic fields and rear of Hawthorne High School (Board of Education property) from Warburton Avenue from E end bridge, looking NE.
- Photo 21 of 40 Abandoned masonry abutments S of Warburton Avenue Bridge, looking N (bridge in background).
- Photo 22 of 40 Lawn area in Goffle Brook Park NW of Diamond Bridge Avenue, looking SE.
- Photo 23 of 40 Lawn area on W bank Goffle Brook near Diamond Bridge Road, looking SE.
- Photo 24 of 40 Lawn area on E bank of Goffle Brook, immediately E of 1931 Diamond Bridge Avenue Bridge, looking W.
- Photo 25 of 40 Baseball fields on E bank of Goffle Brook and S of 1931 Diamond Bridge Avenue Bridge, looking S.
- Photo 26 of 40 Lawn on W bank of Goffle Brook immediately S of 1931 Diamond Bridge Avenue Bridge, looking S.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Goffle Brook Park
Borough of Hawthorne
Passaic County, New Jersey

Section number _____ Page _____

- Photo 27 of 40 Ryerson/Lafayette Memorial Plaza with brown sandstone wall and plaque, looking E.
- Photo 28 of 40 Detail of historical plaque marking the site of the John George Ryerson House and General Lafayette's encampment), looking E.
- Photo 29 of 40 Hilly ground immediately S of Ryerson/Lafayette Memorial Plaza, looking S.
- Photo 30 of 40 Southwest entry drive to Goffle Brook Park, showing enclosed playground (far background) and S end of soccer field, looking E.
- Photo 31 of 40 N end of soccer field on W bank of Goffle Brook, immediately N of playground, looking NW towards Ryerson/Lafayette Memorial Plaza (behind row of trees).
- Photo 32 of 40 Warburton Avenue Bridge from Goffle Road looking E.
- Photo 33 of 40 Plaque mounted on interior post, N side of Warburton Avenue Bridge, looking N.
- Photo 34 of 40 1931 Diamond Bridge Avenue Bridge and pedestrian underpass, looking NW.
- Photo 35 of 40 Distance view, 1931 Diamond Bridge Avenue Bridge, Goffle Park, and embankments from W bank looking N.
- Photo 36 of 40 1931 Diamond Bridge Avenue Bridge and pedestrian underpass from W bank of Goffle Brook, looking NE.

The following photographs were taken during February 2002:

- Photo 37 of 40 View of the replacement bridge for the Diamond Bridge Avenue Bridge (under construction), looking N.
- Photo 38 of 40 Concession stand and marker south of Diamond Bridge Avenue, looking W.
- Photo 39 of 40 Bronze plaque commemorating the park rehabilitation in 1984, looking W.
- Photo 40 of 40 Picnic grove, concession stand, and play equipment south of Diamond Bridge Avenue in southeastern section of park.

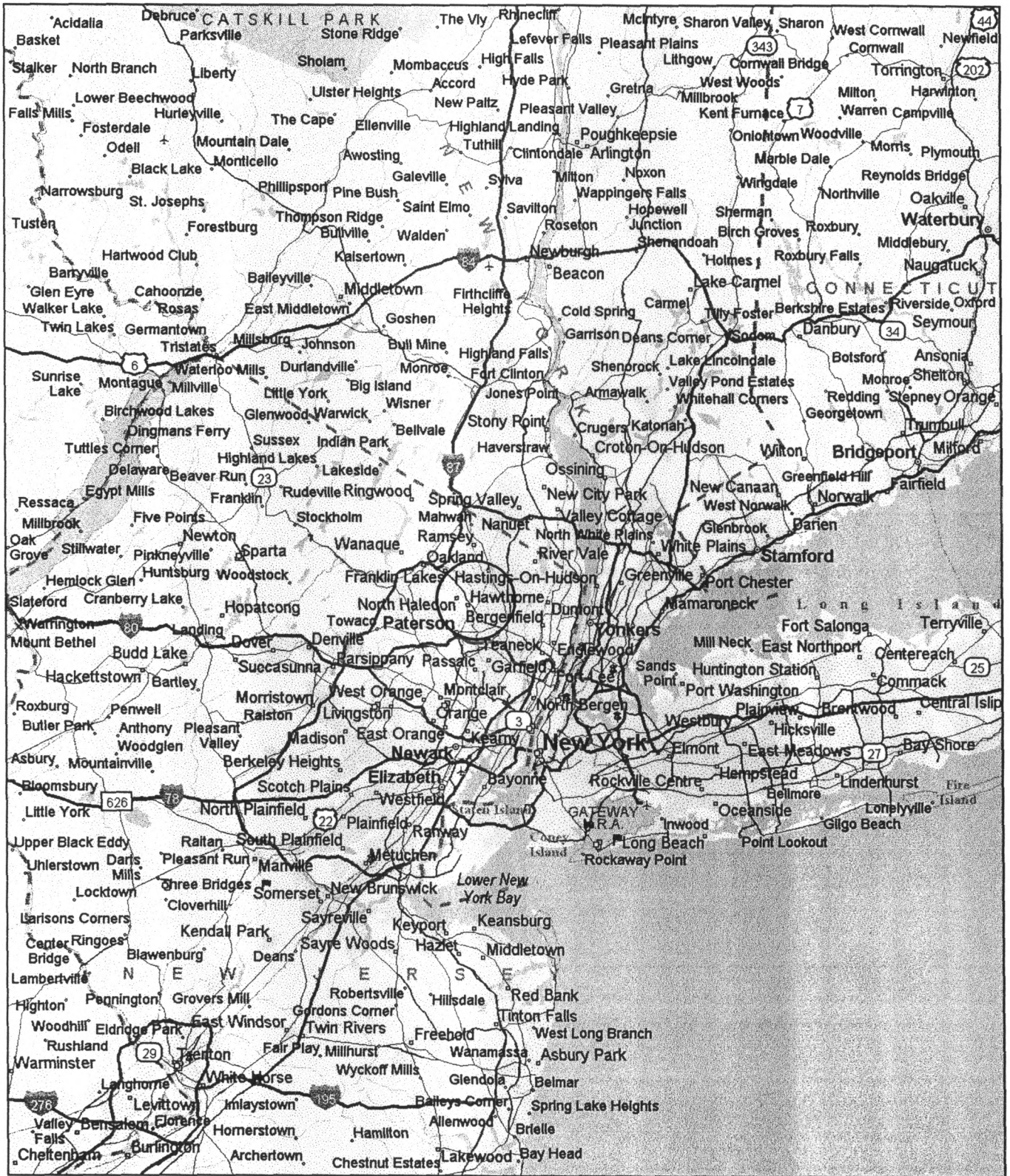
GOFFLE BROOK PARK
 Borough of Hawthome
 Passaic County, New Jersey

CONTRIBUTING AND NON-CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES

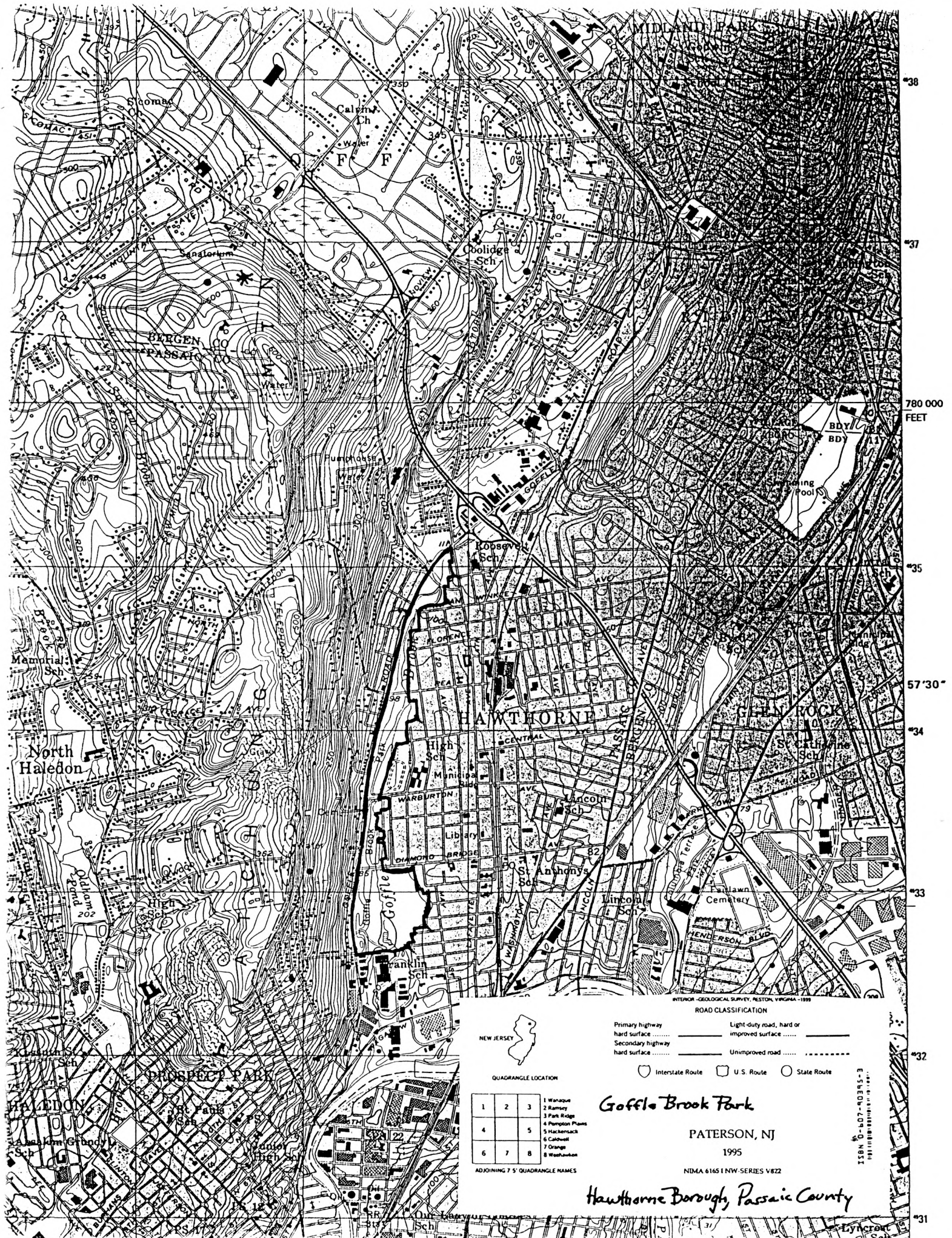
Goffle Brook Park Resource	Cont	Non-Cont	Buildings	Structures	Sites	Objects
CONTRIBUTING						
John W. Rea House	NR listed		x			
Arnold Dam	x			x		
Baseball diamonds south of Diamond Br. Ave.	x			x		
Concrete Staircase at Goffle Road and Warburton	x			x		
Brown sandstone bridge abutments (freestanding) nr Warburton Avenue	x			x		
Goffle Brook	x				x	
Grading and topography	x				x	
Historic Plaque and Lafayette Memorial Plaza	x			x		
Pathways	x			x		
Van Winkle [a/k/a Arnold] Pond	x				x	
Vegetation/Landscaping	x				x	
Warburton Avenue Bridge	x			x		
Pumping Station, North	x			x		
Pumping Station, South	x			x		
Site of wooden footbridge at Arnold Dam	x				x	
Site of wooden footbridge at Florence Avenue	x				x	
Site of footbridge nr Vreeland Avenue/Hawthome High School	x				x	
Rea Avenue Bridge #107	x			x		
TOTAL Contributing (less NR listed)	17		1 NR	10	7	0
NON-CONTRIBUTING						
Diamond Bridge Avenue Bridge		x		x		
Enclosed playground at S end		x		x		
Footbridge at Arnold Dam		x		x		
Footbridge at Florence Avenue		x		x		
Footbridge nr. Vreeland Avenue/ Hawthome High School		x		x		
Baseball field South of Rea Avenue, N of John W. Rea House				x		
Goffle Hill Bridge		x		x		
Pavillion and Picnic Area nr Rea Hse.		x		x		
Parking area in South End		x		x		
Concession stand at South End		x	x			
Rea Avenue Bridge #108		x		x		
TOTAL Non-Contributing		10	1	10	0	0

Location Map

Goffle Brook Park, Hawthorne, Passaic County, New Jersey



Microsoft Expedia
Streets98



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- Primary highway hard surface
- Secondary highway hard surface
- Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
- Unimproved road
- Interstate Route
- U.S. Route
- State Route



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

1	2	3
4	5	6
6	7	8

ADJOINING 7 1/2' QUADRANGLE NAMES

Goffle Brook Park

PATERSON, NJ
1995

NIMA 6165 I NW-SERIES V822

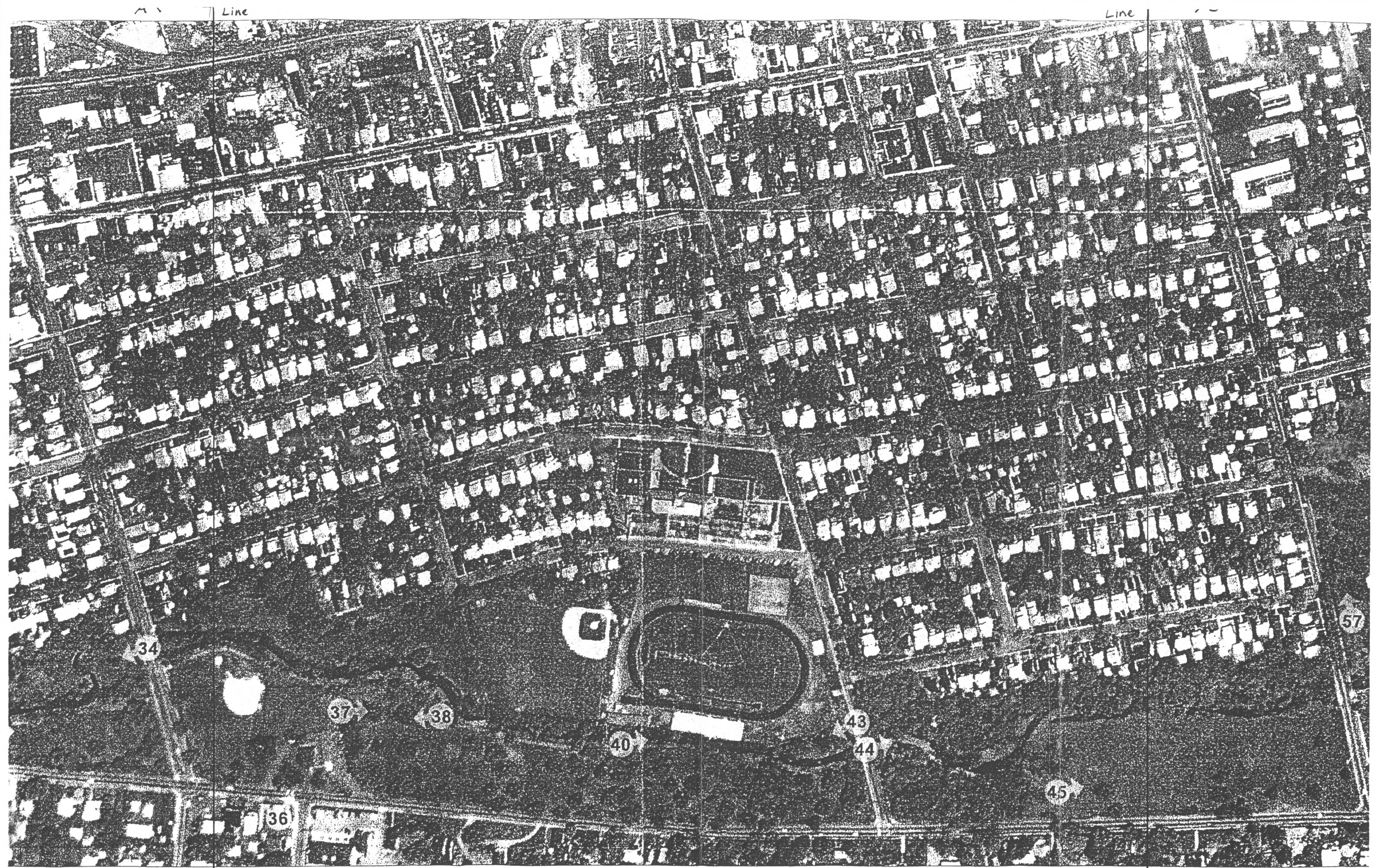
Hawthorne Borough, Passaic County

ISBN 0-89603-071-8

Match Line -----> B



Section A



Line

Line

34

36

37

38

40

43

44

45

57

Section B

15 ← --- Line



Section C

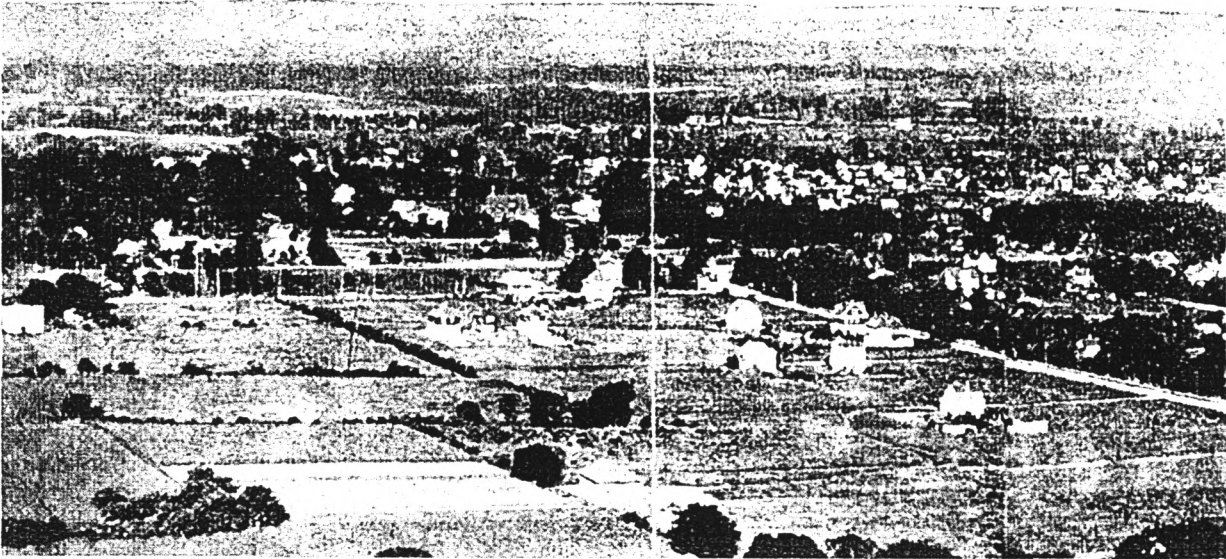


Photo H-1: View from Hawthorne ridge looking E at new development in fields along the Goffle Brook, the future site of Goffle Brook Park (c. 1916). Source: Hawthorne Civic League, *1916 Photographic Souvenir of Hawthorne New Jersey* (Hawthorne NJ: S. Gordon Hunt, 1916).

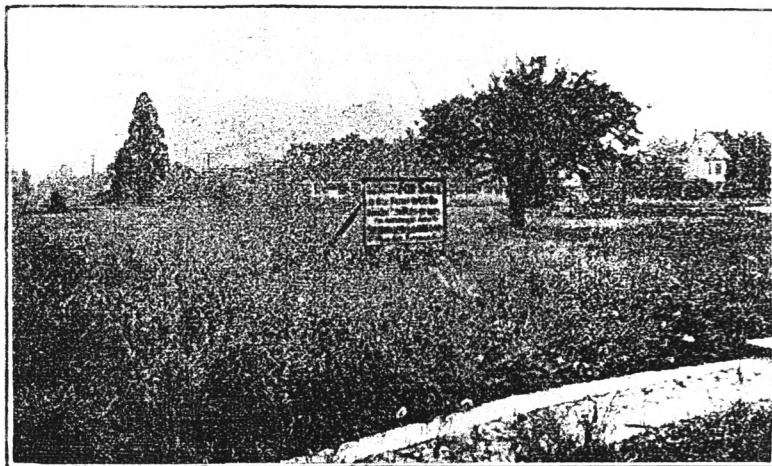


Photo H-2: Advertisement showing open fields promoted for development. Source: Hawthorne Civic League, *1916 Photographic Souvenir of Hawthorne New Jersey* (Hawthorne NJ: S. Gordon Hunt, 1916).

12 ACRES IN BEST PART OF
HAWTHORNE

Fronting on Lafayette, Arlington and other desirable
Avenues.

Will Be Sold in One Parcel or in Building Plots.

Sherwood & Lockwood

1 Park Avenue

Paterson, N. J.

HISTORIC PHOTOS

Photo H-1
Photo H-2

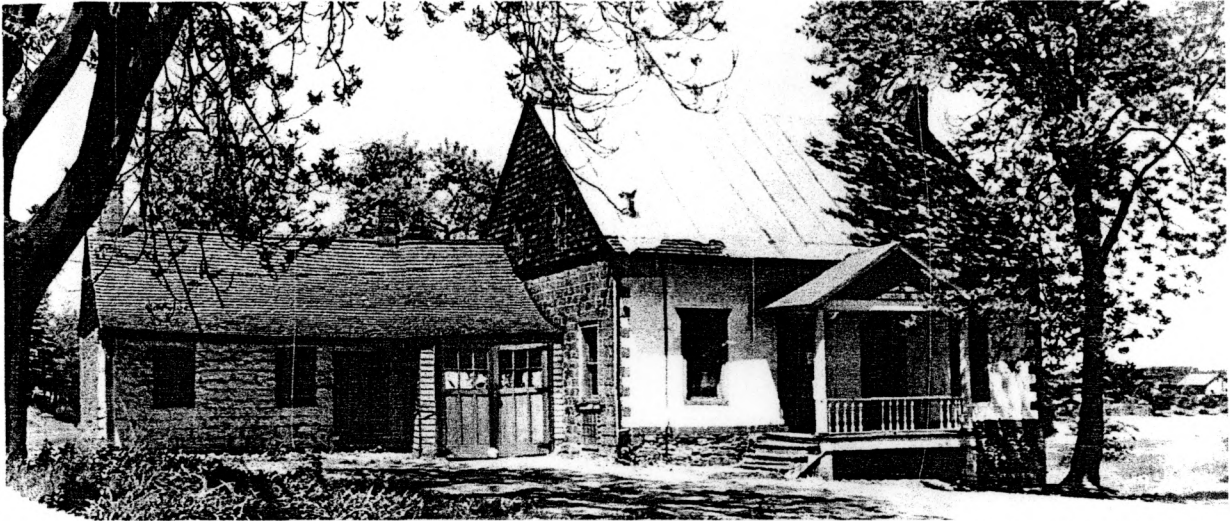


Photo H-3 The Ryerson House (Lafayette's Headquarters), c. 1939, looking NE. Source: Photographs of H. S. Dutcher, held in the records of the Passaic County Parks Department, Paterson, New Jersey.

1

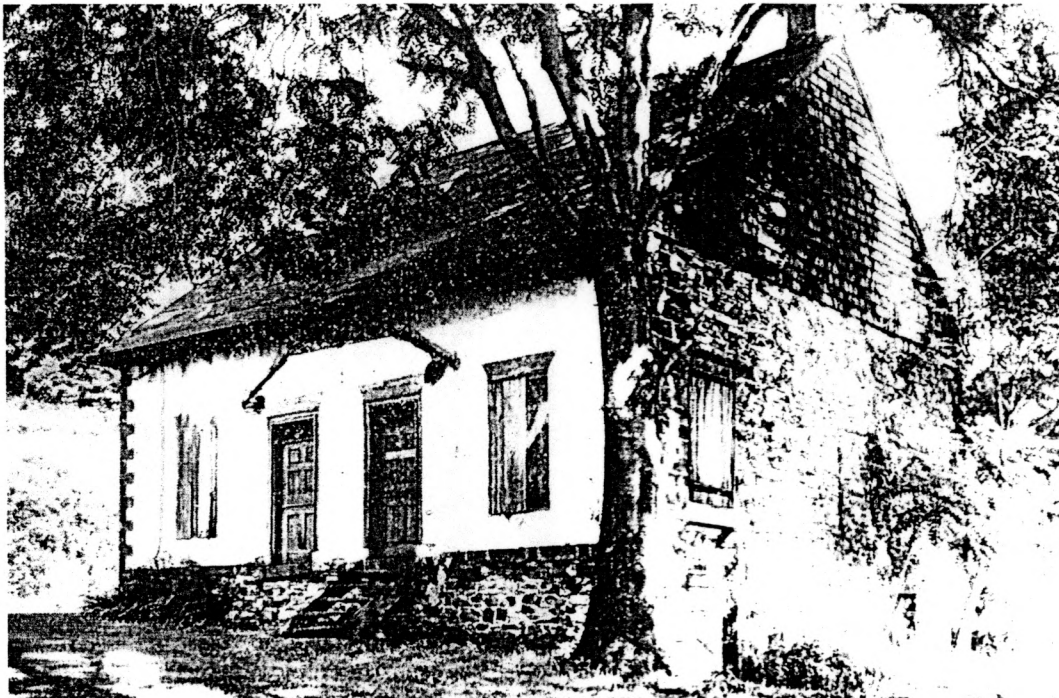


Photo H-3
Photo H-4

Photo H-4: The Ryerson House ("Lafayette's Headquarters") ca. 1948, after the removal of the kitchen wing, formerly located on the western side of the main structure. Hawthorne, New Jersey. *Borough of Hawthorne, New Jersey: 50th Anniversary Souvenir Book 1898-1948*. Booklet. 1948.

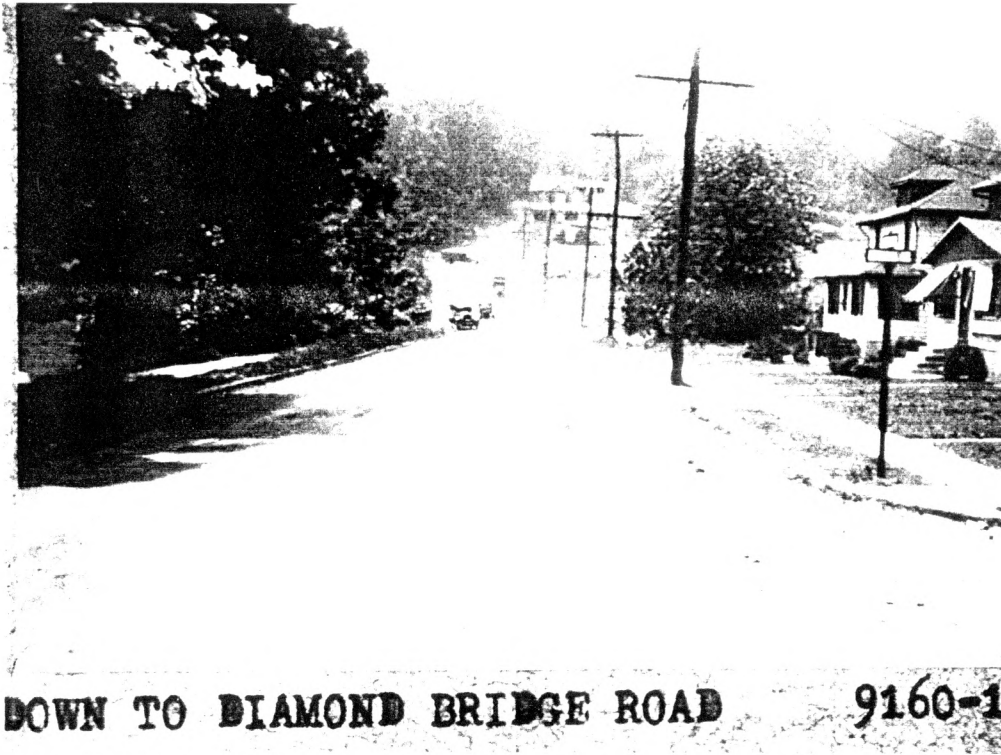


Photo H-5: Diamond Bridge Avenue looking W toward Goffle Road (in background). Photo taken by Olmsted Brothers ca. 1931. Source: Olmsted National Historic Site, Brookline, MA.

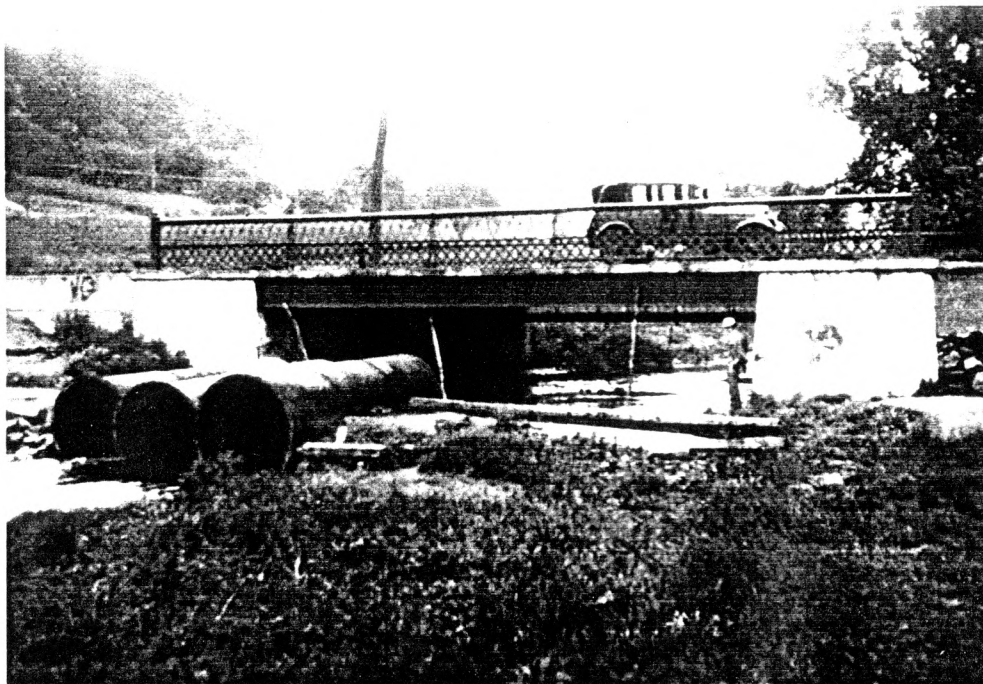


Photo H-6: Pre-existing Diamond Bridge Avenue Bridge, looking N. Photo taken ca. 1931 by Olmsted Brothers. Source: Olmsted National Historic Site.

Photo H-5
Photo H-6

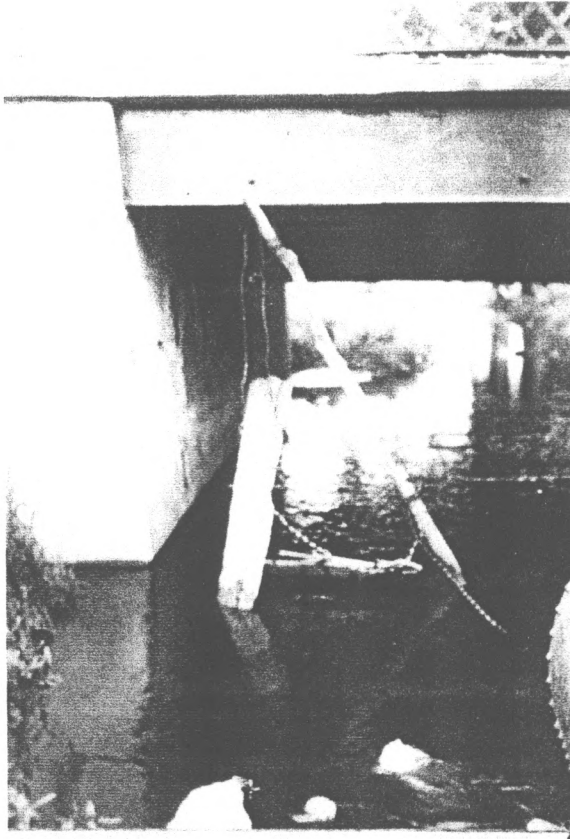


Photo H-7: Pre-existing Diamond Bridge Avenue Bridge (photo taken ca. 1931), showing line of proposed walkway. Note height above water line, iron stringer, metal lacing infill on railing. Source: Olmsted Brothers National Historic Site, Brookline, MA

LINE OF PROPOSED WALKWAY

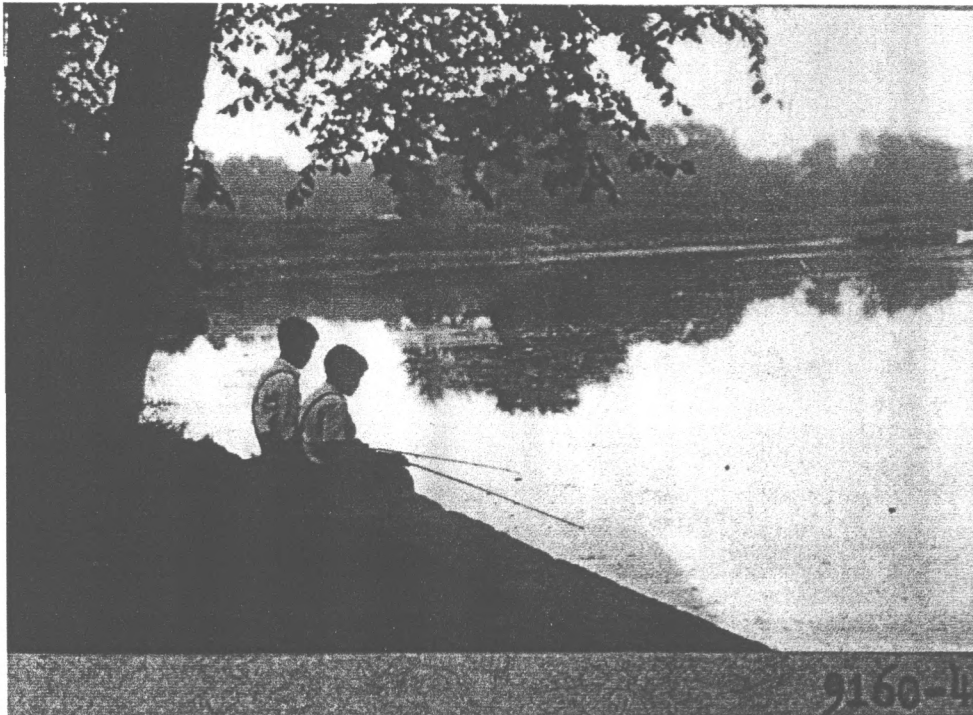


Photo H-7
Photo H-8

Photo H-8: Pond (appears to be DeGray's Pond at south end), Goffle Brook Park. Photo taken by Olmsted Brothers ca. 1931. Source: Olmsted National Historic Site, Brookline, MA.



5
END OF PARK
BY PRELLWITZ, AUG. 1931

Photo H-9: A view of one of the ponds (very likely DeGray's Pond) at south end of park, photo taken 1931 by Olmsted Brothers. Source: Olmsted National Historic Site, Brookline, MA.



6
LOOKING N. FROM WHARBURTON AVE.
BRIDGE

Photo H-10: Marshy land north of Warburton Avenue, looking N — the future site of Hawthorne High School athletic complex. Photo taken ca. 1931 by Olmsted Brothers. Source: Olmsted National Historic Site, Brookline MA.

Photo H-9
Photo H-10



Photo H-11: View looking NE from knoll at SW corner of Goffle Brook Park (ca. 1930). Olmsted National Historic Sites, Brookline, MA.

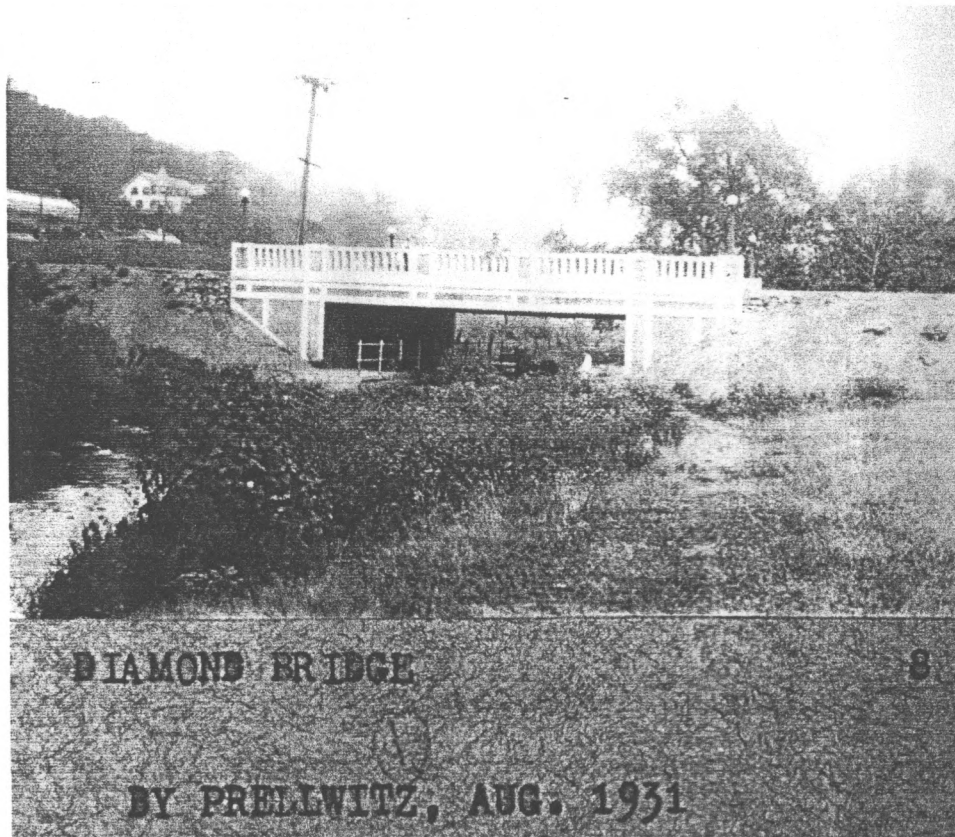
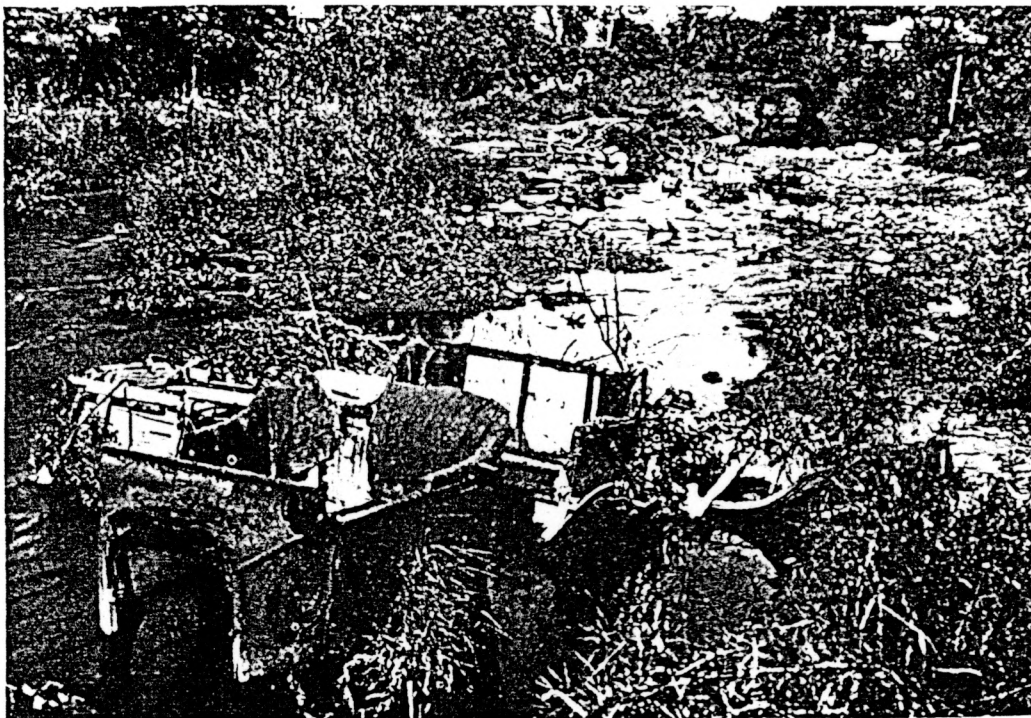


Photo H-12: View of the recently constructed Diamond Avenue Bridge (August 1931). Olmsted National Historic Sites, Brookline, MA.

Photo H-11
Photo H-12



Photo H-13: View of Goffle Brook park lake site, photo taken 1931 by Olmsted Brothers. Source: Olmsted National Historic Site, Brookline MA.



GOFFLE BROOK PARK

Natural beauty, as above, soon disappears when desecration begins

Photo H-13
Photo H-14

Photo H-14: Photograph of refuse in the Goffle Brook ca. 1929, with annotation. Source: Passaic County Park Commission, New Jersey. *Report for 1928-1929*. Office of Passaic County Parks, Paterson, NJ.

GOFFLE BROOK PARK
Borough of Hawthorne
Passaic County, New Jersey

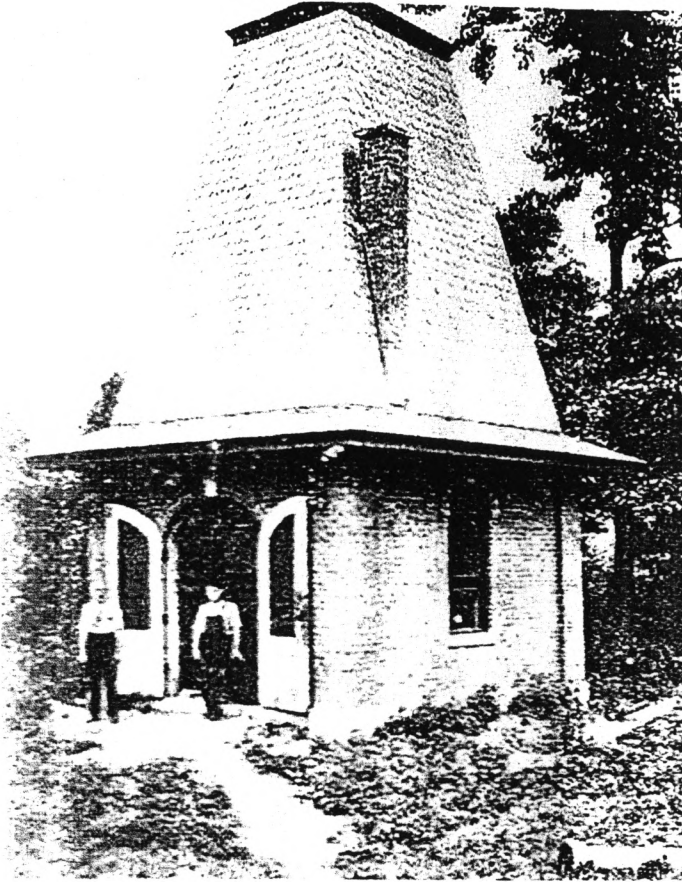


Photo H-15: Northernmost Pumping Station for the Hawthorne Water System (c. 1916). Source: Hawthorne Civic League, 1916 *Photographic Souvenir of Hawthorne New Jersey* (Hawthorne NJ: S. Gordon Hunt, 1916).

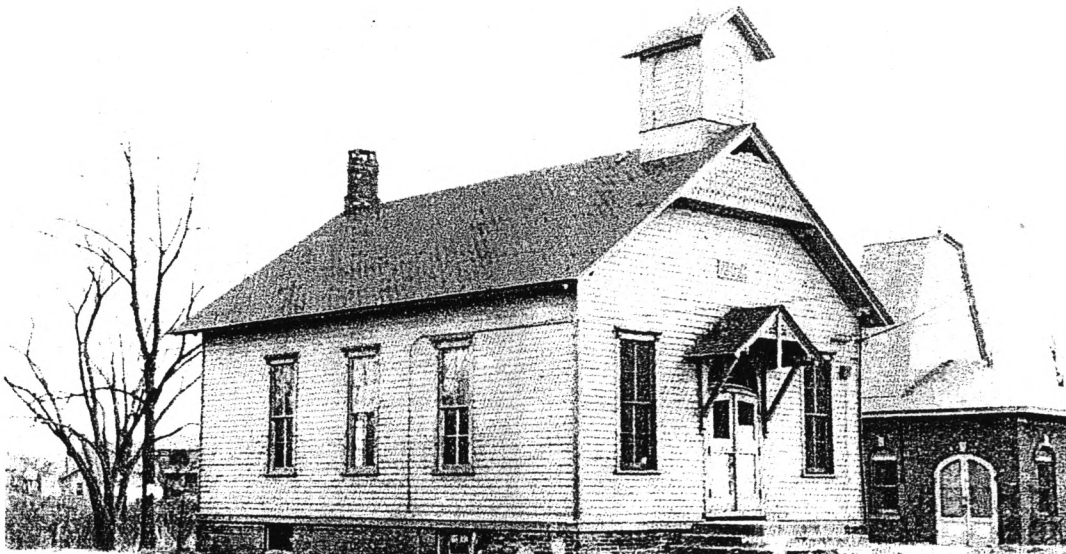


Photo H-16: Hawthorne School No. 3 on Goffle Road (1885), later used as the police station (foreground). In background is southern pumping station. Source: Hawthorne Civic League, 1916 *Photographic Souvenir of Hawthorne New Jersey* (Hawthorne NJ: S. Gordon Hunt, 1916).

Photo H-15
Photo H-16

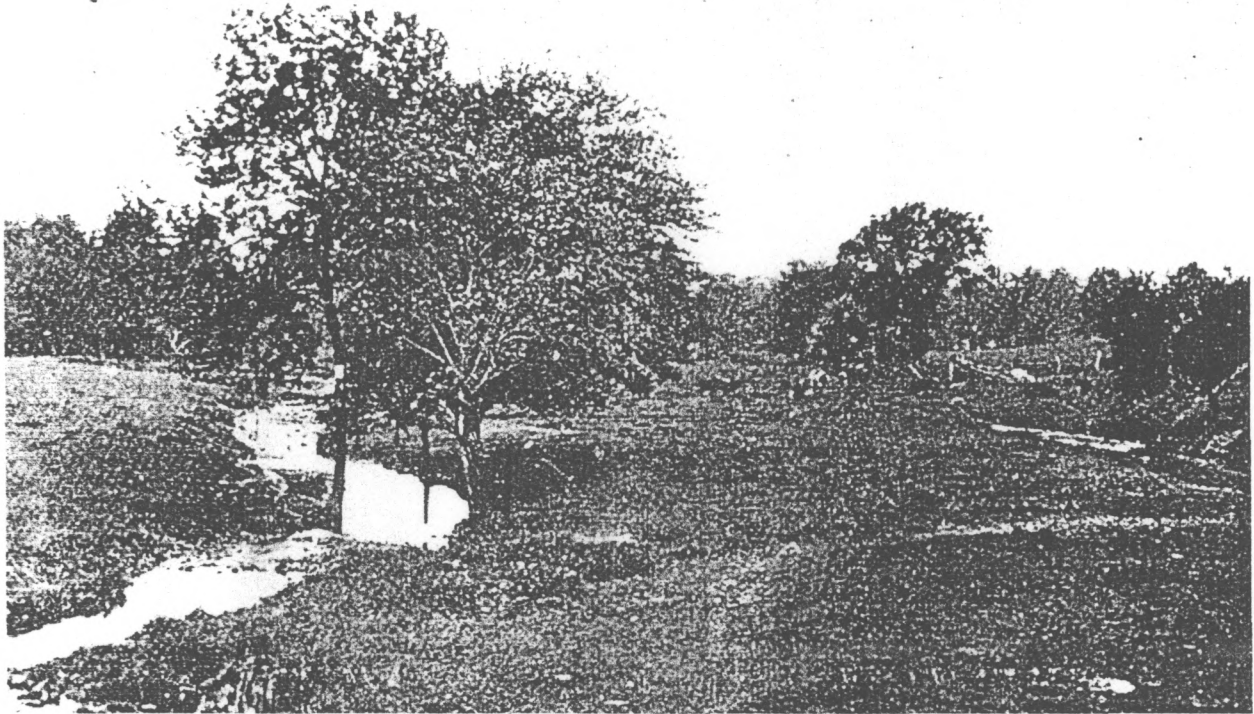


Photo H-17: View looking S from Diamond Bridge Avenue (ca. 1916). Source: Hawthorne Civic League. *1916 Photographic Souvenir of Hawthorne New Jersey*. Hawthorne NJ: S. Gordon Hunt, 1916.



Photo H-18: Bridle path, Garrett Mountain Reservation, Paterson, NJ. Source: Henry Dutcher, Photograph Album for the Passaic County Park Commission, *circa* 1936-1940. Files of the Passaic County Parks Department, Paterson, NJ.

Photo H-17
Photo H-18

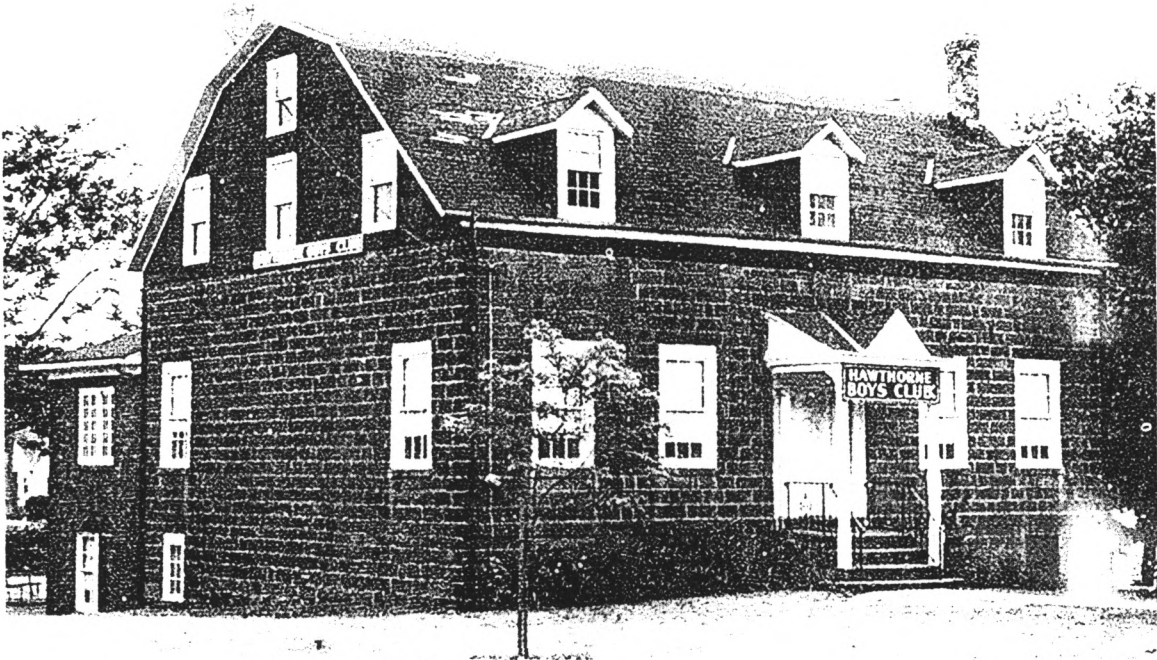


Photo H-19: The John W. Rea House, Goffle Brook Park, Hawthorne, NJ, during its use for headquarters of the Hawthorne Boys' Club. Photo taken ca. 1950. Source: Hawthorne, NJ, *Hawthorne Tercentenary Souvenir Book* (1964).

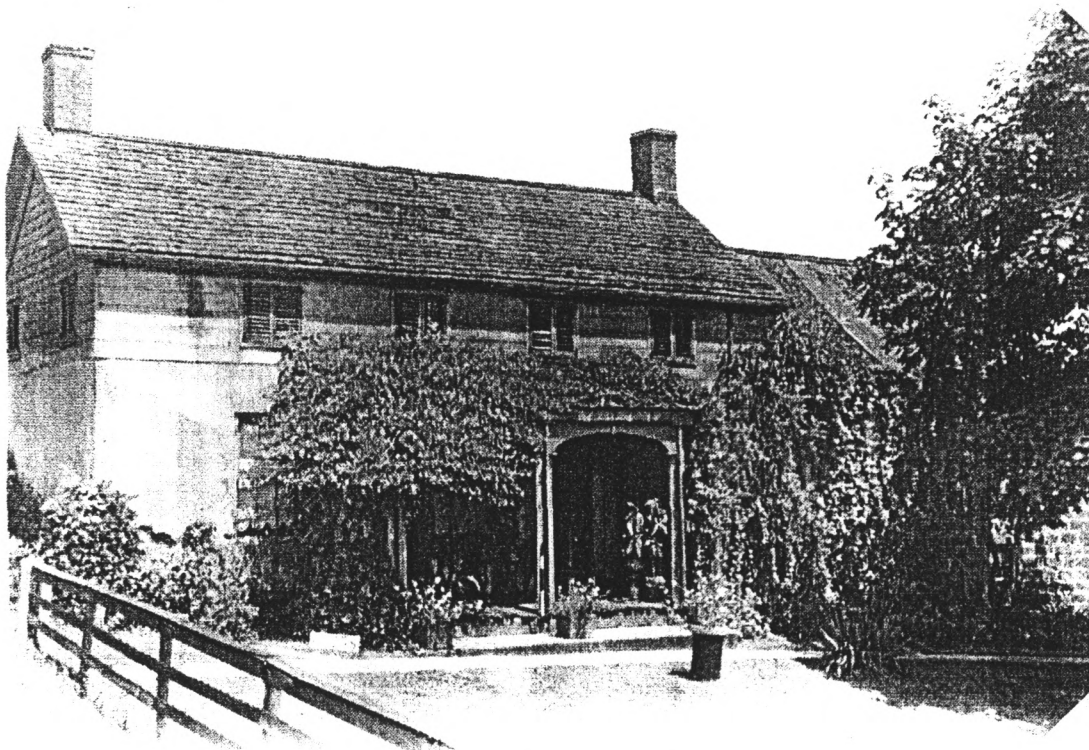


Photo H-19
Photo H-20

Photo H-20: The Vreeland House, Goffle Road, Hawthorne, NJ (1760). Photograph taken *circa* 1935. Historic American Building Survey Files, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.



Photo H-21: DeGray's Pond, Goffle Brook Park, Hawthorne, NJ. Photo circa 1939. Source: H. S. Dutcher, Photographer, photograph album compiled for the Passaic County Park Commission. (c. 1936-1940).

Photo H-22: WPA work in progress for re-grading of land N of DeGray's Pond, S of Diamond Bridge Road, circa 1939, showing Goffle Road and hill at MacFarlan Avenue (highest elevation in park) in background at right. Source: H.S. Dutcher, Photographer, photograph album compiled for the Passaic County Park Commission. (ca. 1936-1940).

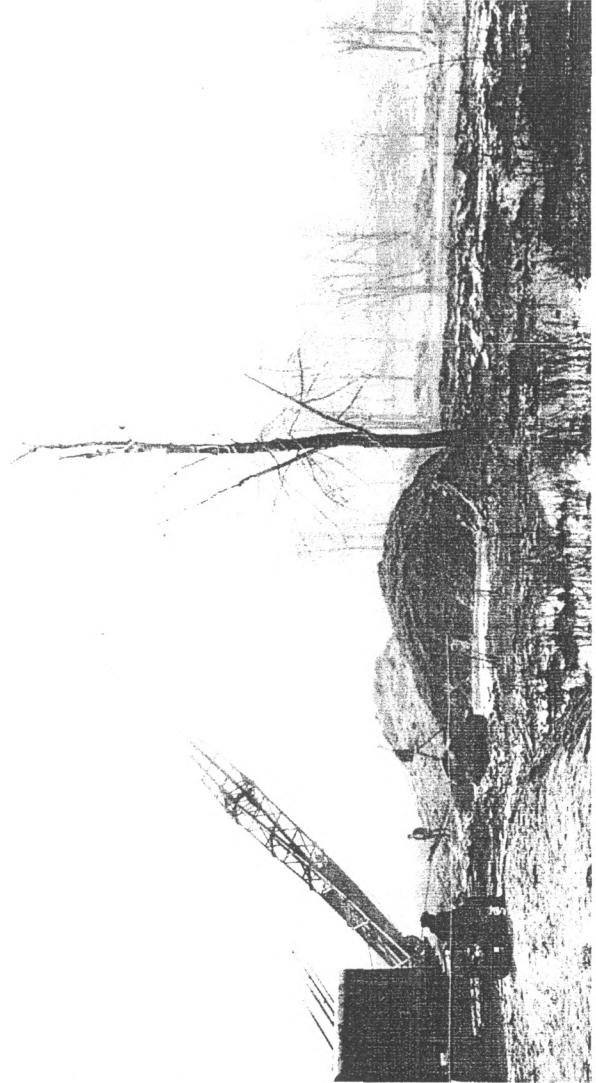


Photo H-21
Photo H-22

GOFFLE BROOK PARK
Borough of Hawthorne
Passaic County, New Jersey

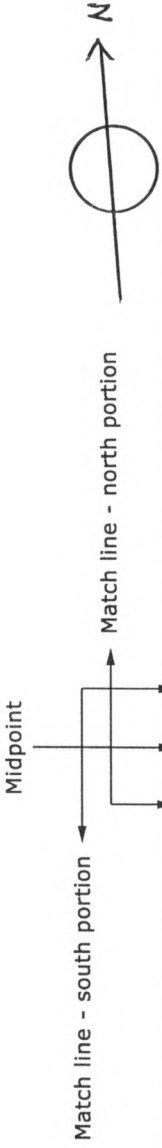


Photo H-23: Arnold Dam on Van Winkle Pond under construction ca. 1936. Source: H. S. Dutcher, Photograph Album compiled for the Passaic County Park Commission (1935-1940). Files of the Passaic County Parks Department, Paterson, NJ.

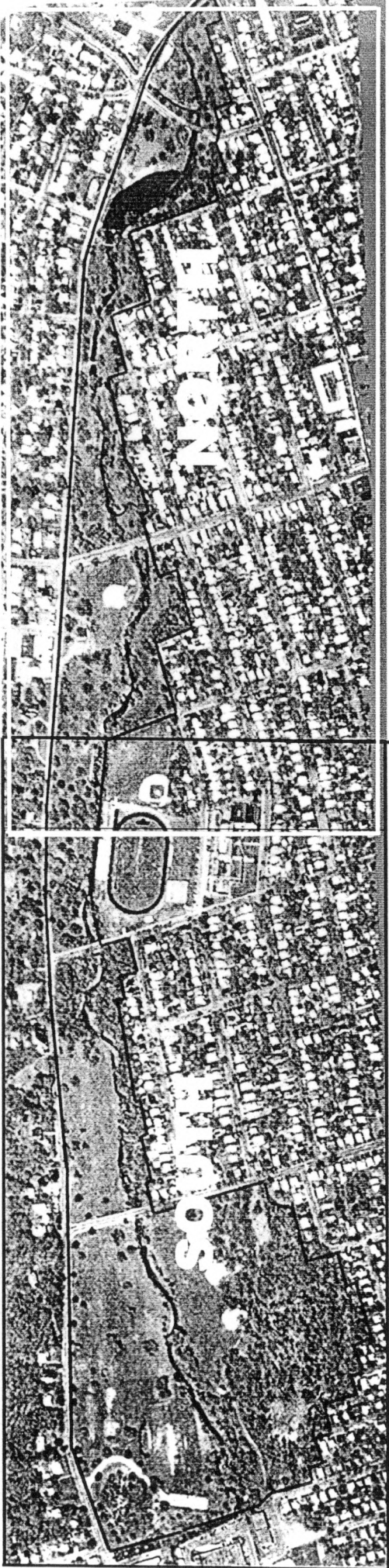


Photo H-23
Photo H-24

Photo H-24: View of Footbridge across the Goffle Brook, Goffle Brook Park, Hawthorne, NJ circa 1939. Source: H. S. Dutcher, Photograph Album for the Passaic County Park Commission, circa 1936-1940. Files of the Passaic County Parks Department, Paterson, NJ.



Graphics prepared by: Mary Delaney Krugman Associates, Inc., 36 Park Street, Montclair, NJ.



Aerial photograph, Goffle Brook Park (1993). Robinson Aerial Surveys, Newton, NJ.

PHOTO ORIENTATION SHEET -- KEY

Goffle Brook Park Historic District
 Borough of Hawthorne
 Passaic County, New Jersey

Warburton Ave. Bridge

Main Entry Drive

Diamond Bridge Avenue Bridge

Brown sandstone abutments

Match line
North portion

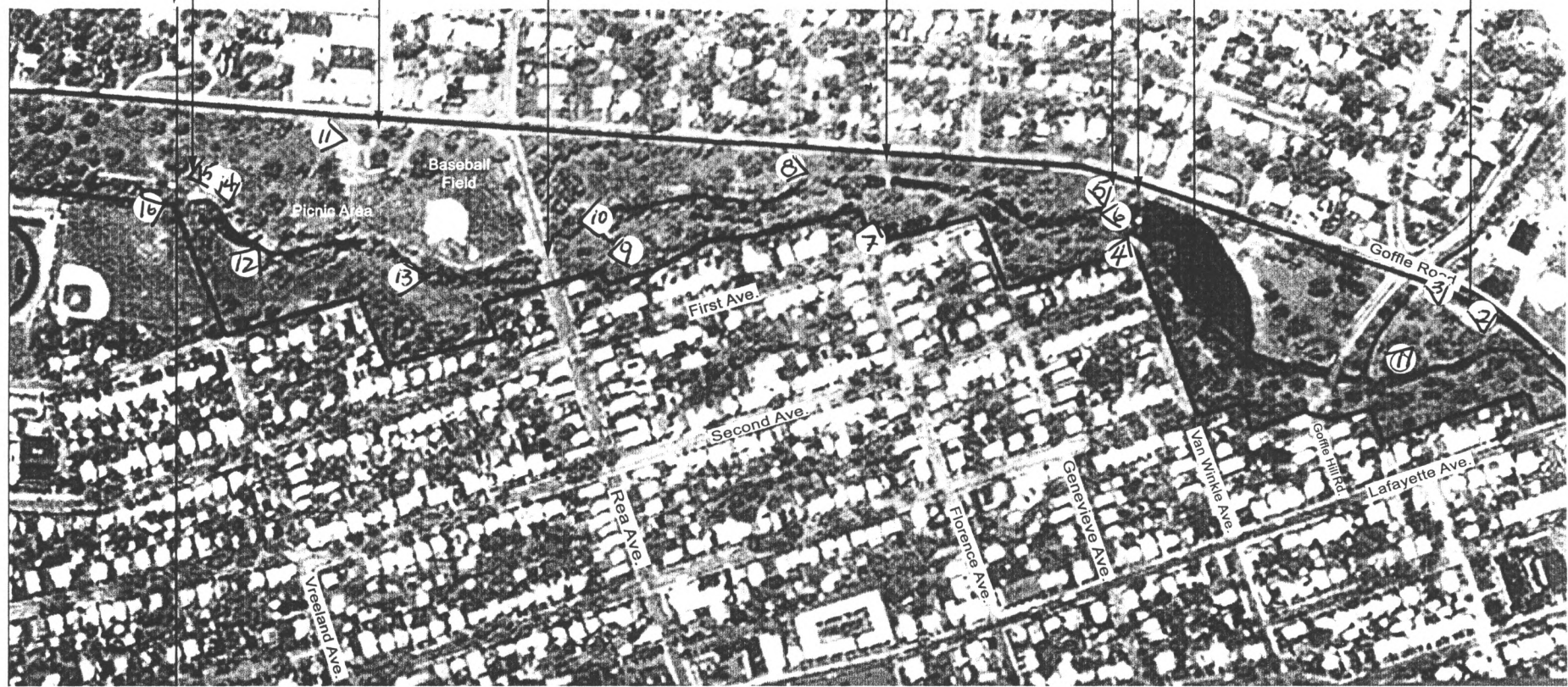


Aerial photograph, Goffle Brook Park (1993). Robinson Aerial Surveys, Newton, NJ.

PHOTO ORIENTATION SHEET -- SOUTH

Goffle Brook Park Historic District
Borough of Hawthorne
Passaic County, New Jersey

Match line South portion ← Footbridge John W. Rea House Rea Ave. Bridges Footbridge Footbridge Arnold Dam Van Winkle Pond Hawthorne Water Supply Co. Pumping Stations & Pullout Area



Aerial photograph, Goffle Brook Park (1993). Robinson Aerial Surveys, Newton, NJ.

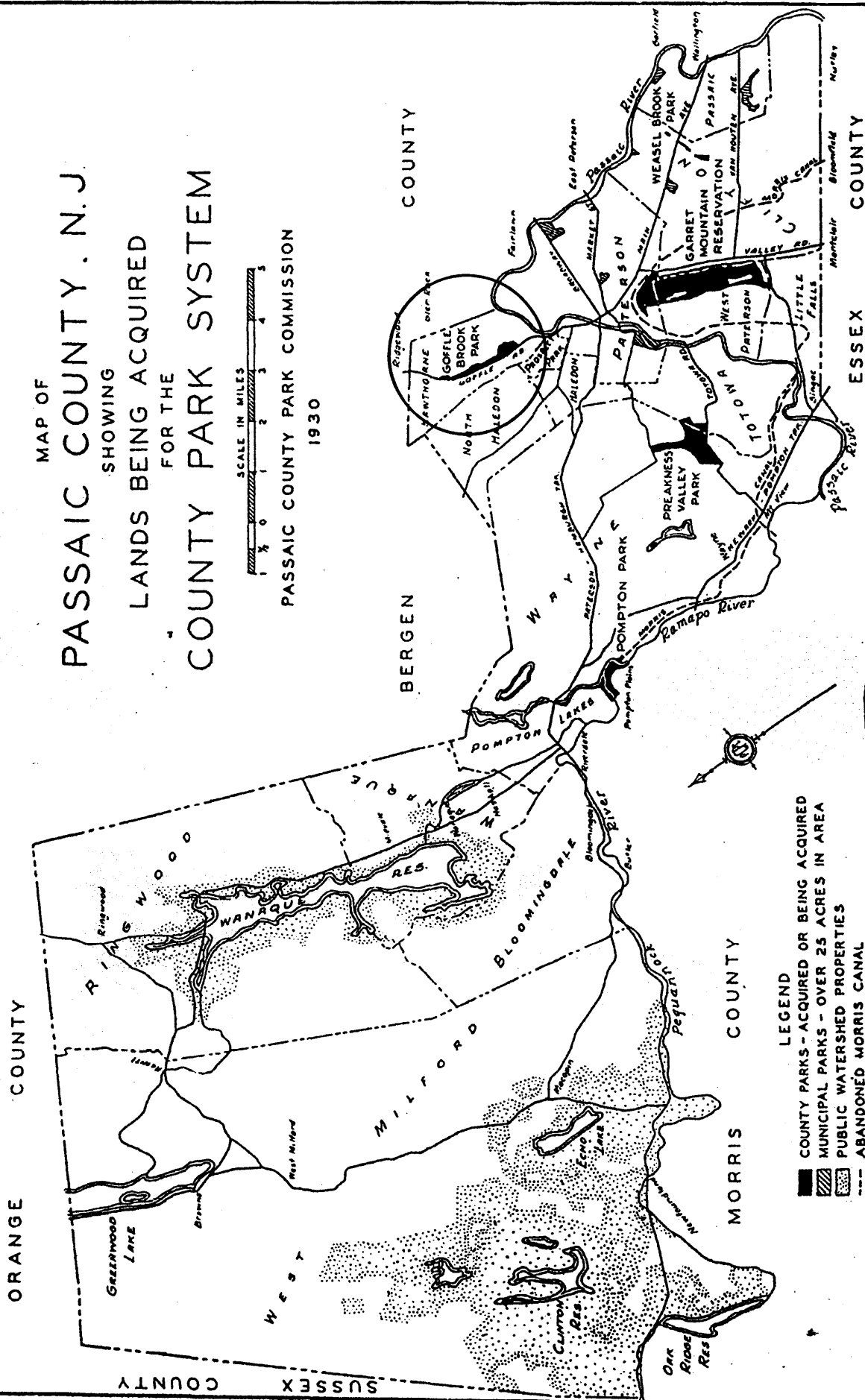
PHOTO ORIENTATION SHEET -- NORTH

Goffle Brook Park Historic District
 Borough of Hawthorne
 Passaic County, New Jersey

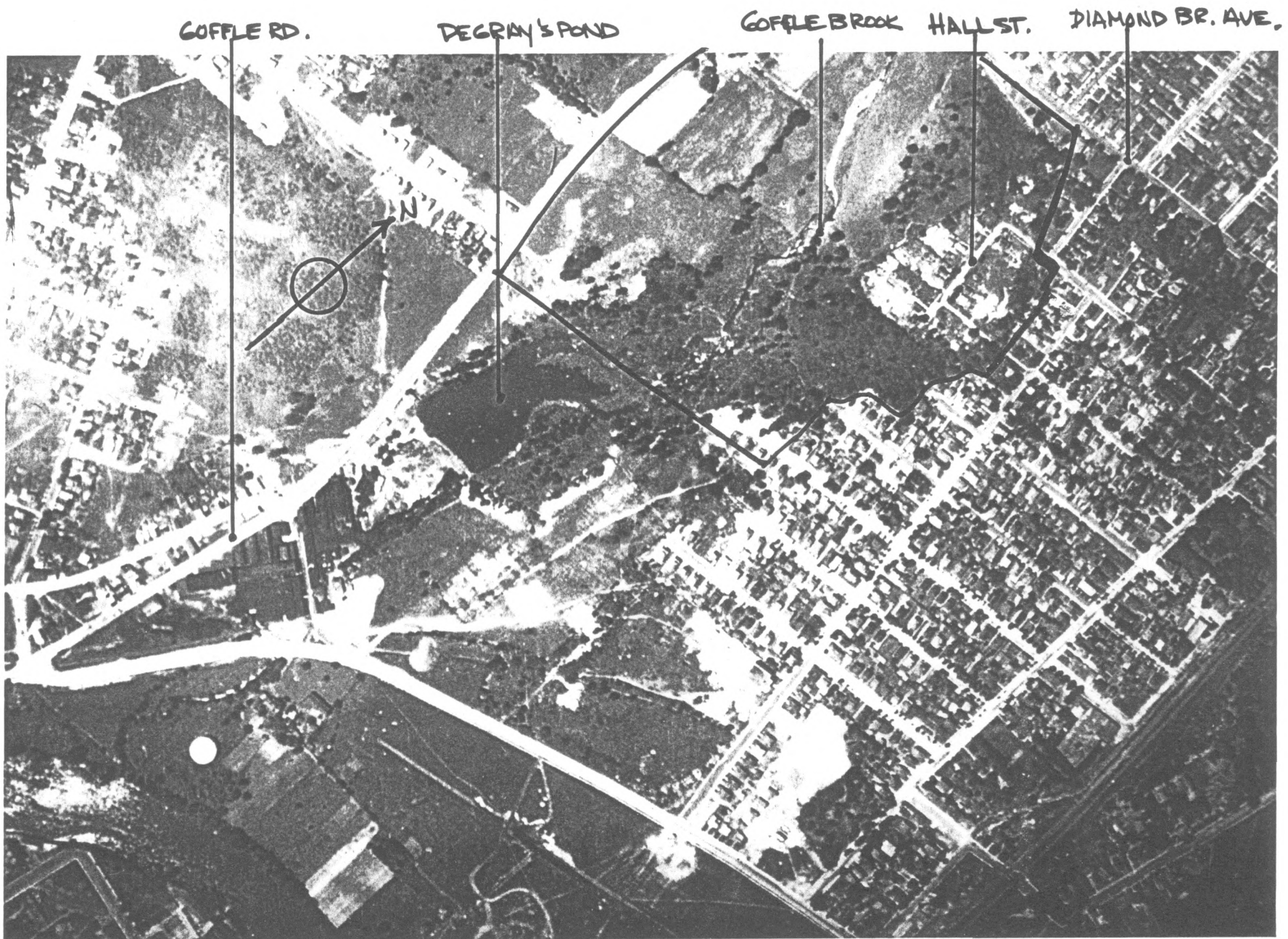
Goffe Brook Park
Borough of Hibernia
Passaic County, New Jersey

MAP OF
PASSAIC COUNTY, N.J.
SHOWING
LANDS BEING ACQUIRED
FOR THE
COUNTY PARK SYSTEM

SCALE IN MILES
0 1 2 3 4 5
PASSAIC COUNTY PARK COMMISSION
1930



- LEGEND
- COUNTY PARKS - ACQUIRED OR BEING ACQUIRED
 - ▨ MUNICIPAL PARKS - OVER 25 ACRES IN AREA
 - ▤ PUBLIC WATERSHED PROPERTIES
 - ABANDONED MORRIS CANAL



Olmsted 08 (9 Dec. 1930)—Topo — Aerial, S end (slide ref #3.00).

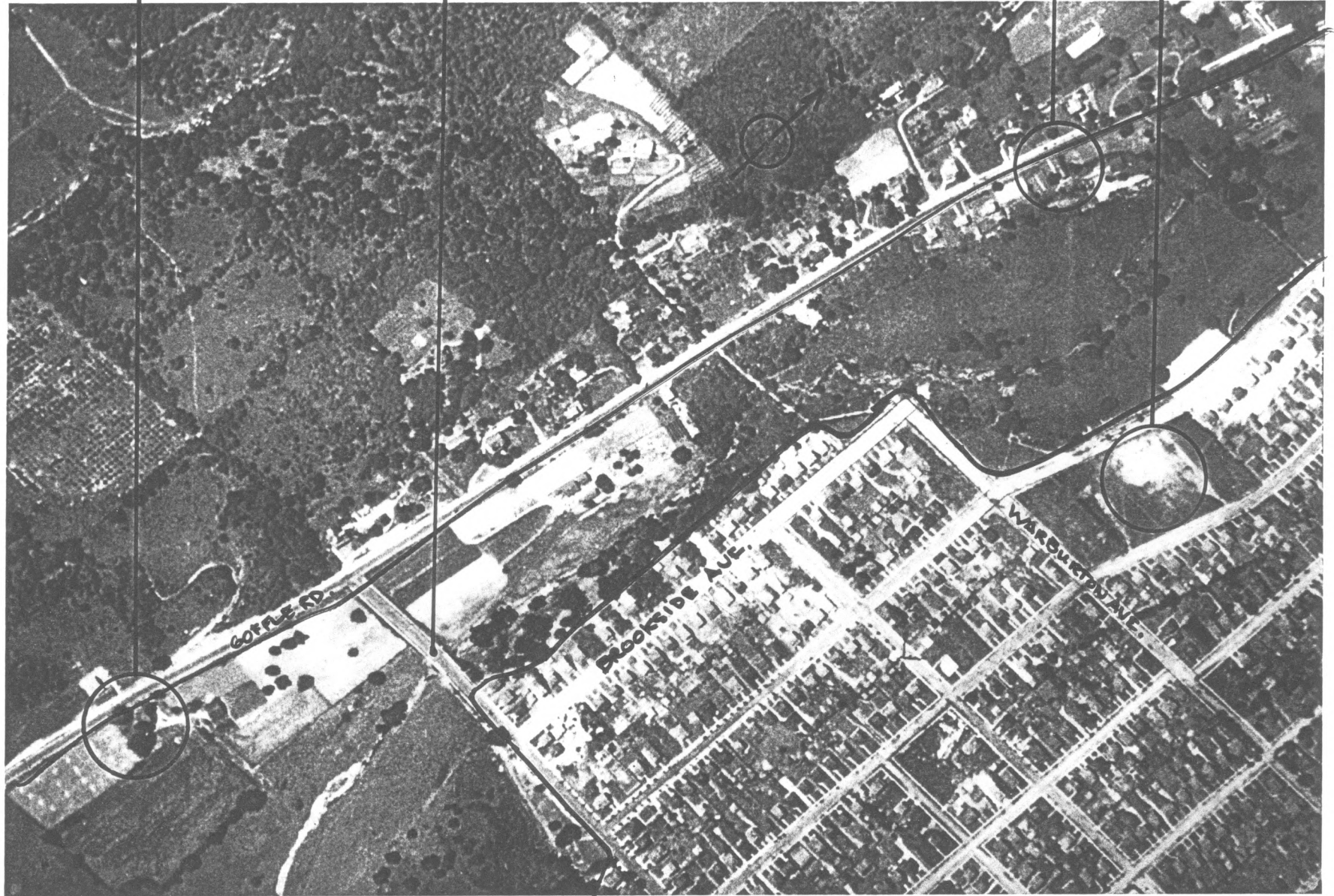
AERIAL # 1
1930

RYERSON HSE (LAFAYETTES HDQTRS)
OWNER: LANZA

YREELAND HSE.

DIAMOND BR. AU. BRIDGE

FUTURE SITE OF HIGH SCH.



Olmsted 08 (9 Dec. 1930)—Topo — Aerial, S end (slide ref #3.02).

AERIAL #2
1930

VREELAND HSE.

KNAPIK INN
(JOHN W. REAHSE.)



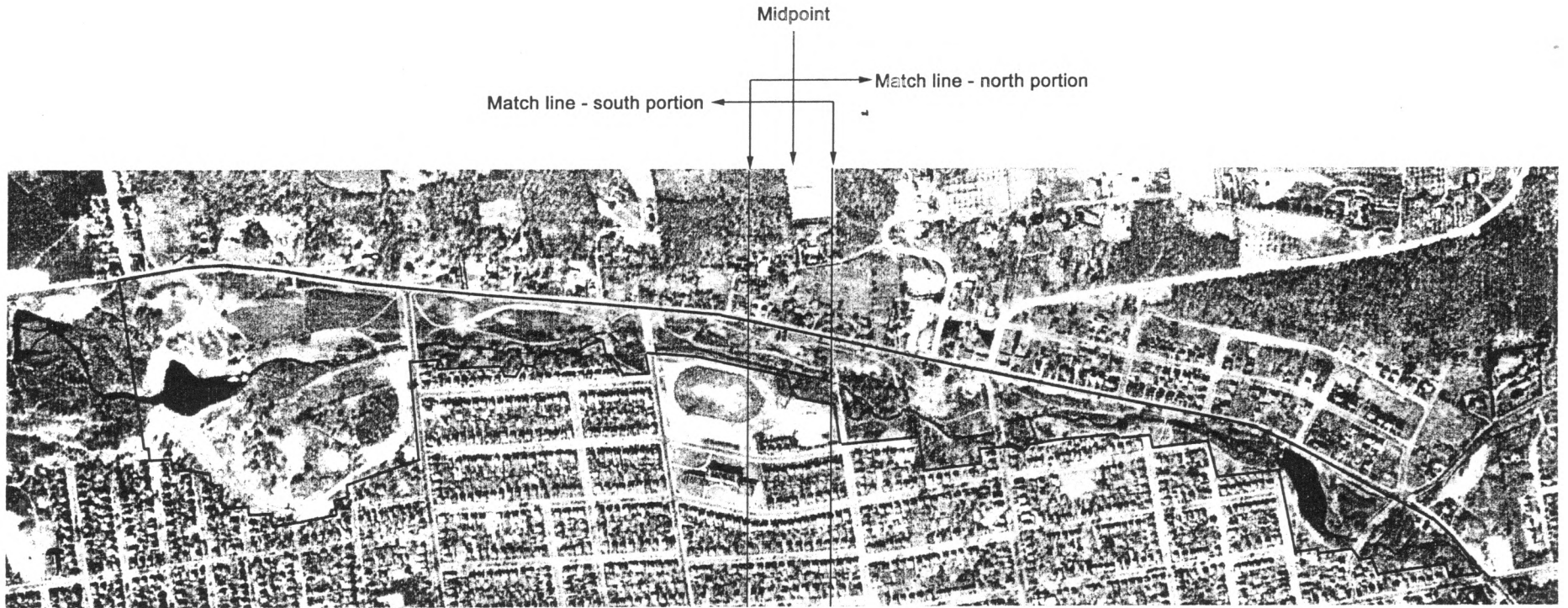
Olmsted 08 (9 Dec. 1930)—Topo — Aerial (slide ref #3.04).

SERIAL # 3
1930



Olmsted 08 (9 Dec. 1930)—Topo — Aerial (slide ref #3.05).

AERIAL # 4
1930



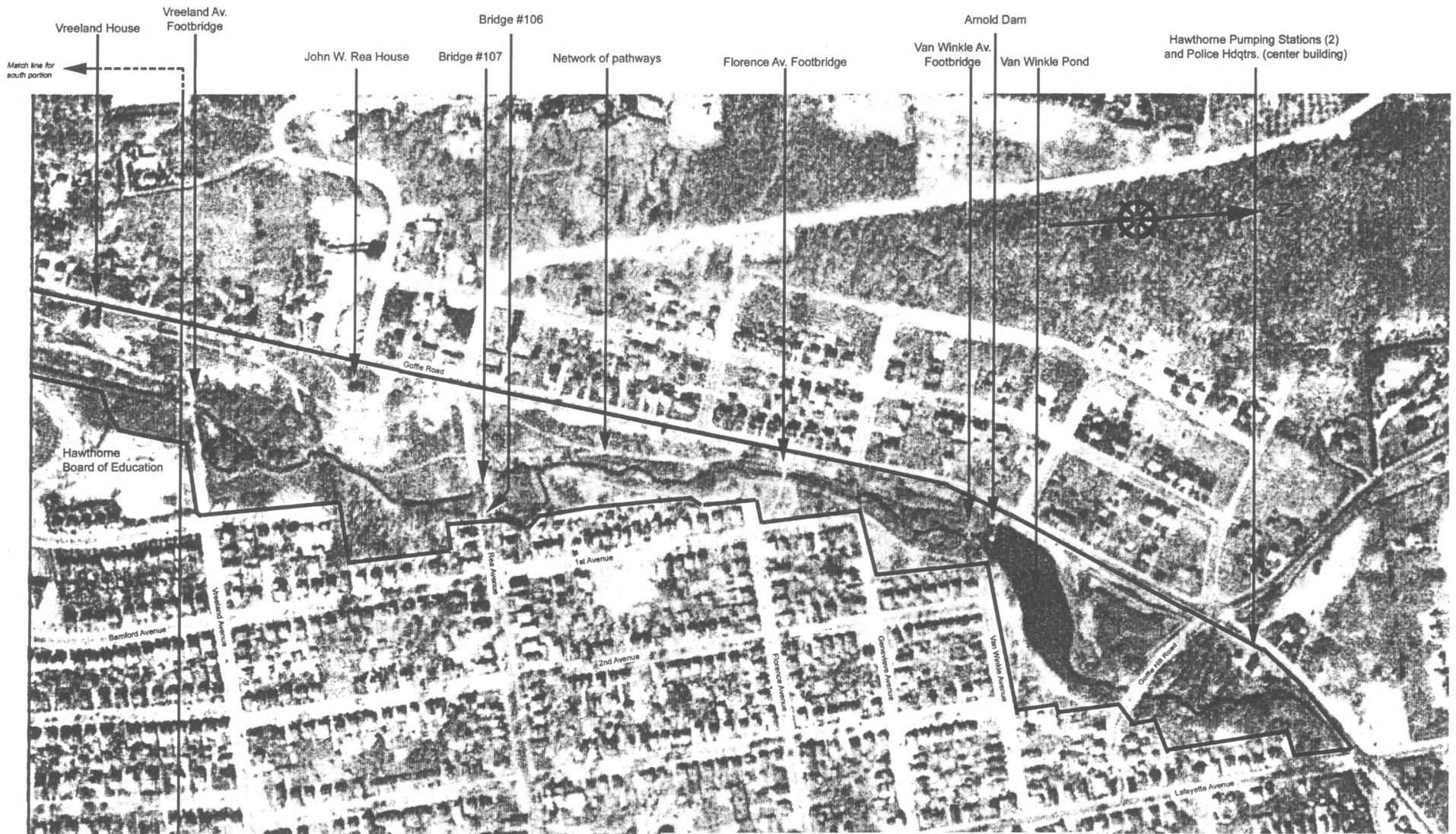
Goffle Brook Park, Hawthorne, Passaic County, NJ (Source: State of New Jersey, Tidelands Aerial Survey, 1940).

Key Map 1940



Aerial view of southern portion of Goffle Brook Park (1940). Tidelands Aerial Surveys, NJ Dept. of Environmental Protection, Trenton, NJ. View taken after completion of WPA and similar projects (ca. 1934-1940).

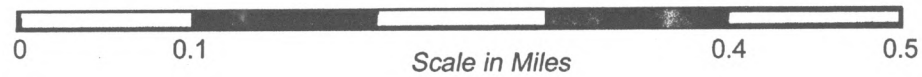
1940



Goffle Brook Park after completion of WPA and similar projects (ca. 1934-1940).

—— Park Boundary

North Portion 1940

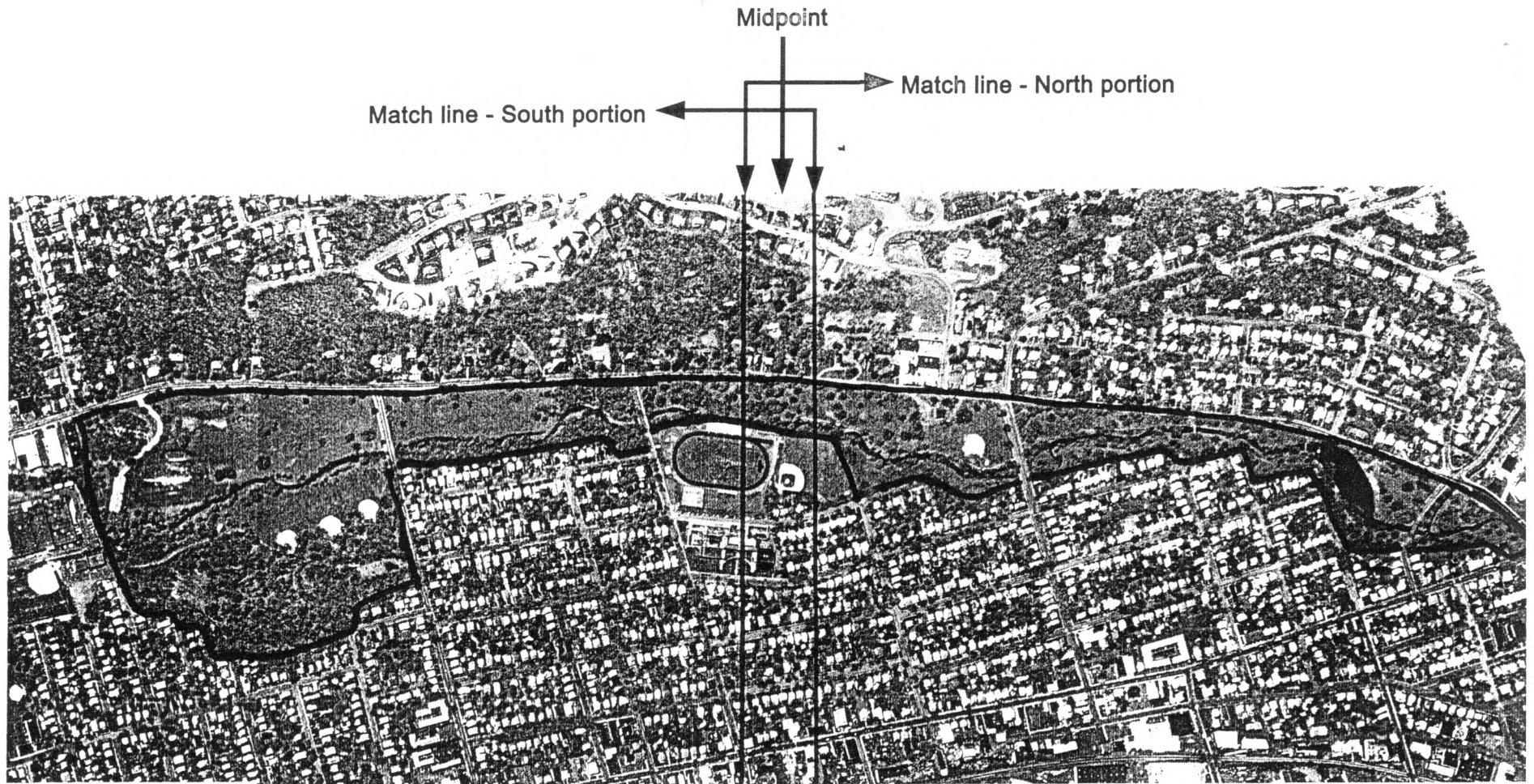




Goffle Brook Park Historic District
Borough of Hawthorne
Passaic County, New Jersey

Aerial View of Parklands (1951)
NJ Tidelands Survey files.

1951



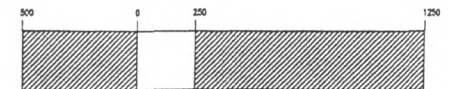
GOFFLE BROOK PARK Historic District
 Borough of Hawthorne
 Passaic County, New Jersey

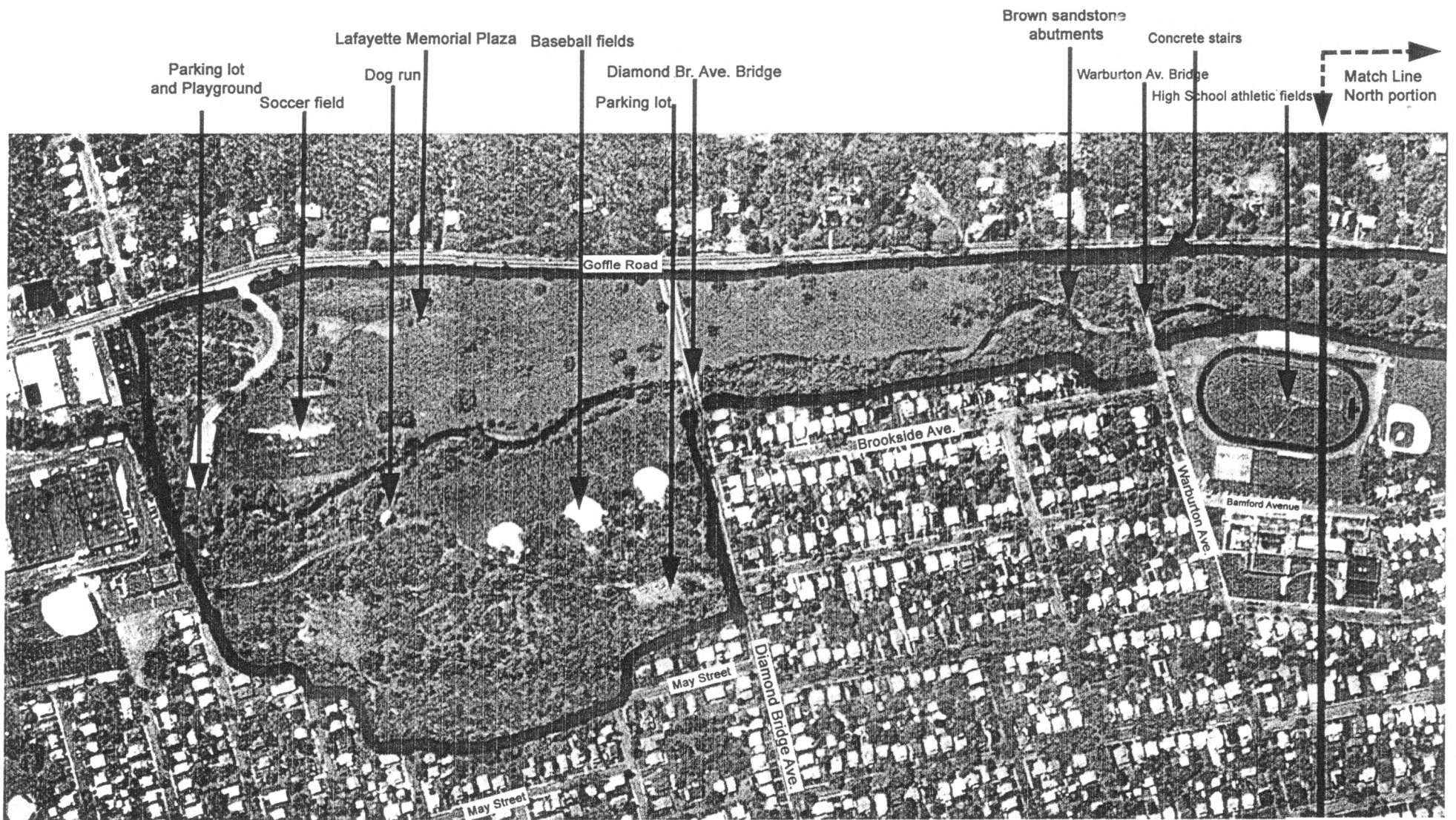
Existing Conditions (1993)

Aerial Photograph
 Goffle Brook Park
 Please Save Our Parkland Committee
 662 Goffle Road, Hawthorne, NJ
 Mary Delaney Krugman
 36 Park Street, Montclair, NJ
 File #2.663.79.4



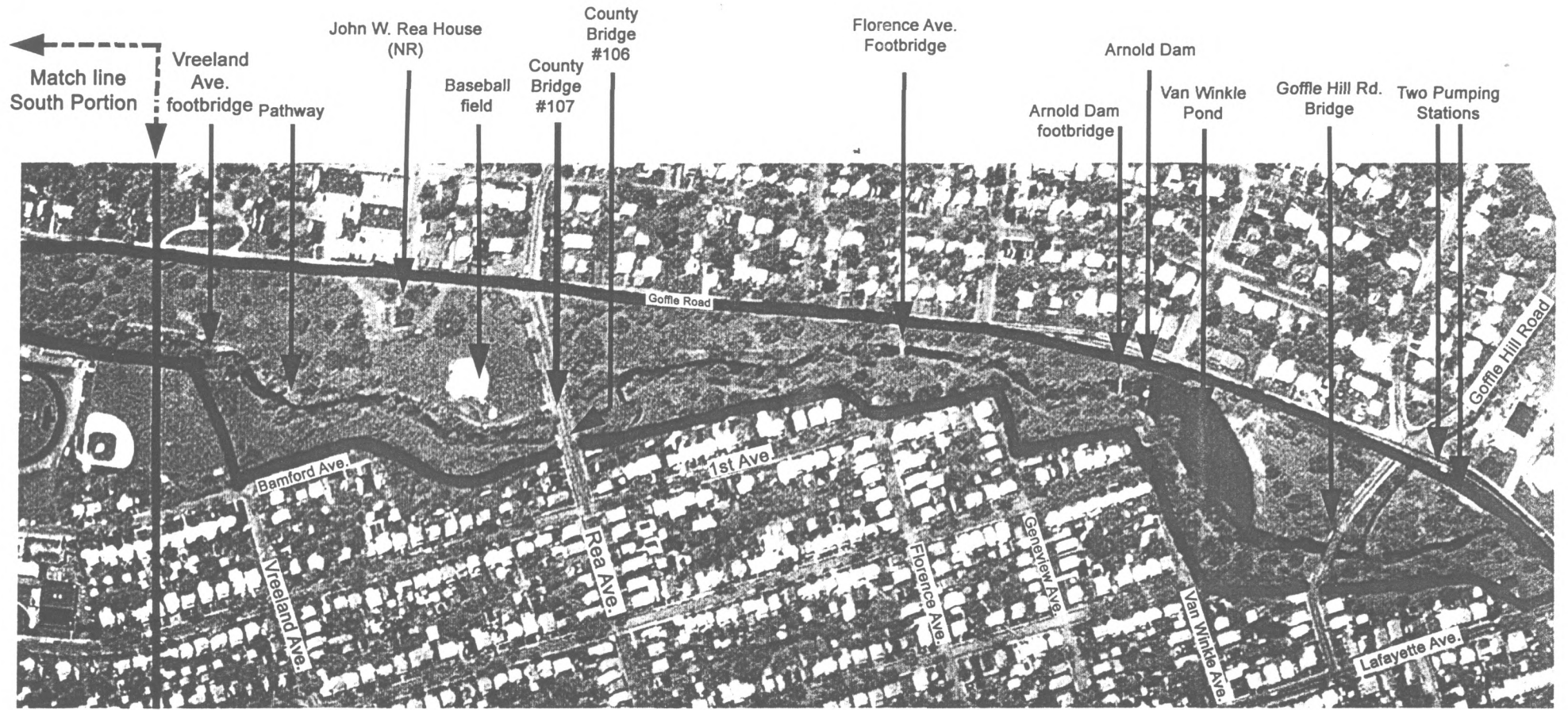
Scale 1" = 500'





GOFFLE BROOK PARK Historic District
Borough of Hawthorne
Passaic County, New Jersey

Existing Conditions (1993)
Southern Portion

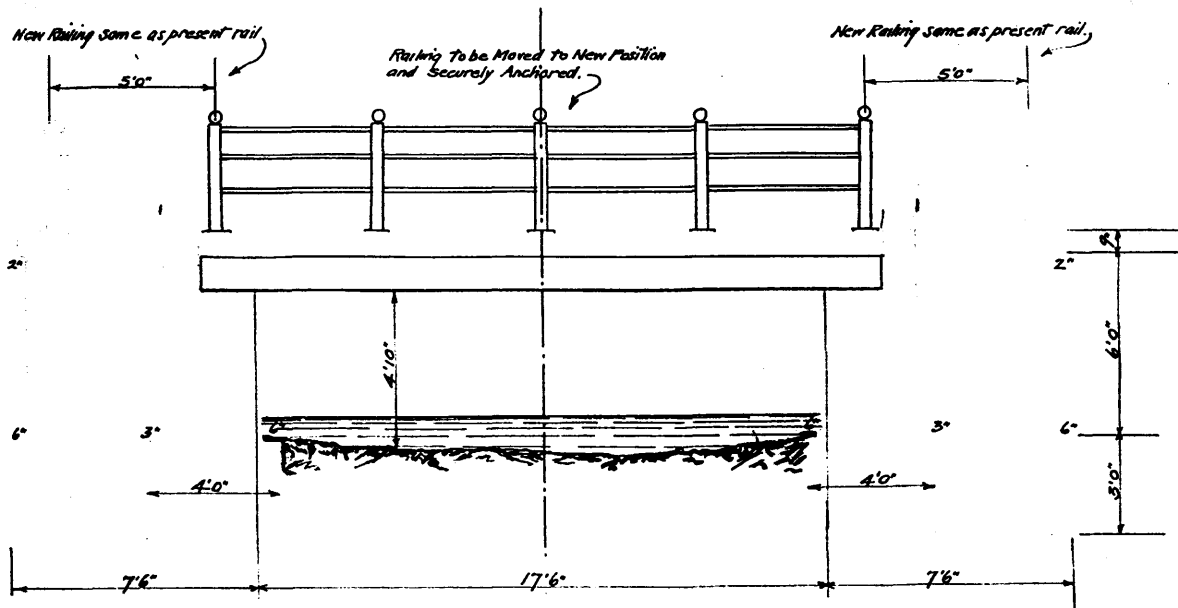


GOFFLE BROOK PARK Historic District
 Borough of Hawthorne
 Passaic County, New Jersey

Existing Conditions (1993)
 Northern Portion

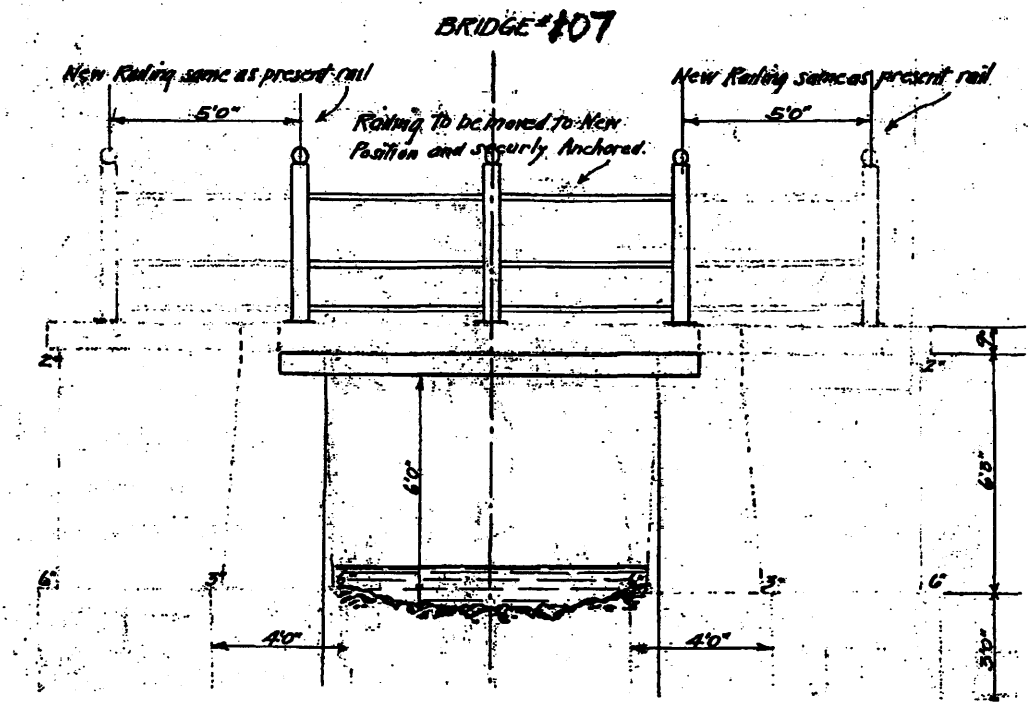
Passaic County Bridge # 106

GOFFLE BROOK PARK
Borough of Hawthorne
Passaic County, New Jersey



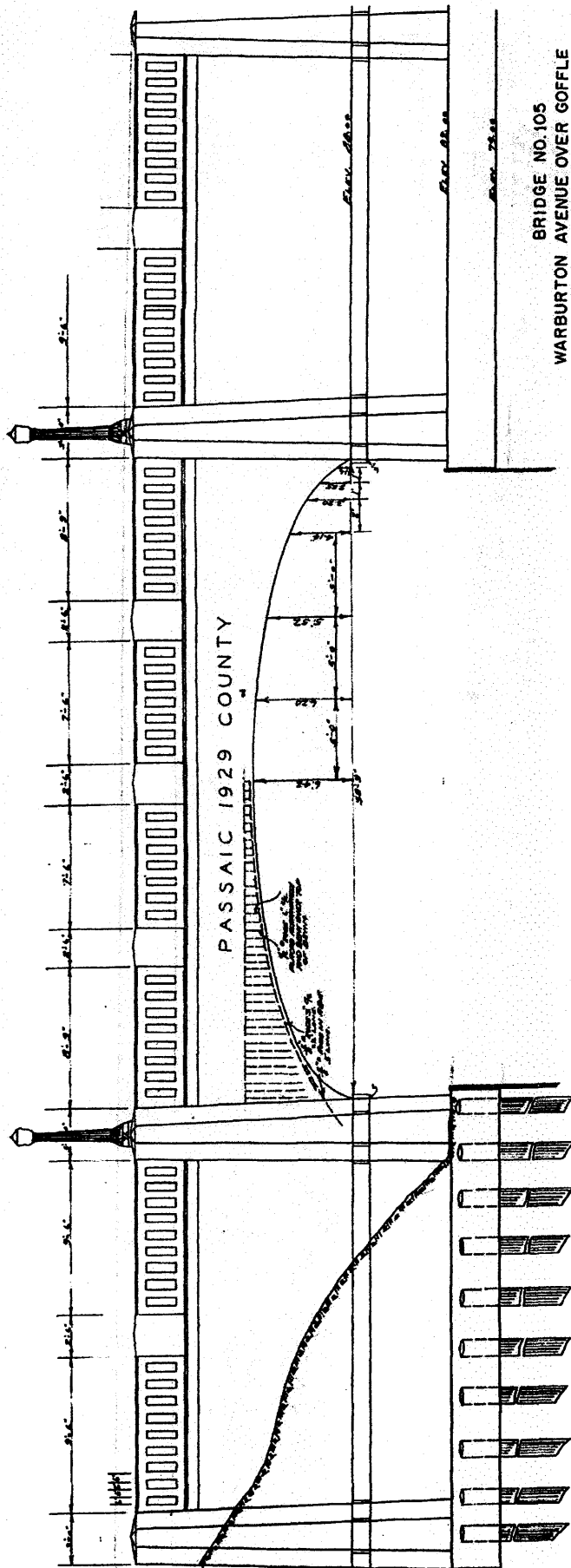
Br. #106 Rea Avenue, Hawthorne, NJ (1911). Steel stringers with jack arch; railing replaced after being washed away during Hurricane Floyd (September 1999).

PLAN SHOWING
PROPOSED EXTENSION OF TWO SMALL BRIDGES
ON REA AVENUE
OVER GOFFLE BROOK
Gorwood Ferguson Co. Eng'rs Passaic Co.
Scale 1/2" = 1'-0" Oct. 16, 1911.

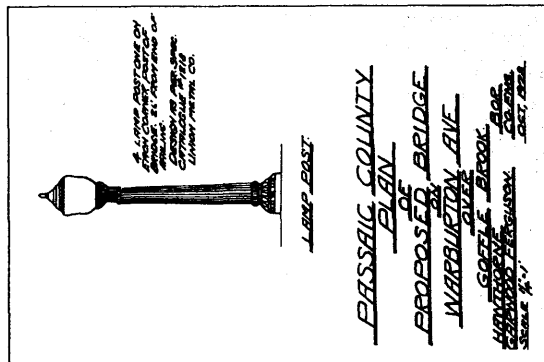


Br. #107, Rea Avenue, Hawthorne, NJ (1911). Steel stringer with pipe and rail railings.
Courtesy of the Passaic County Engineering Department, Paterson, New Jersey.

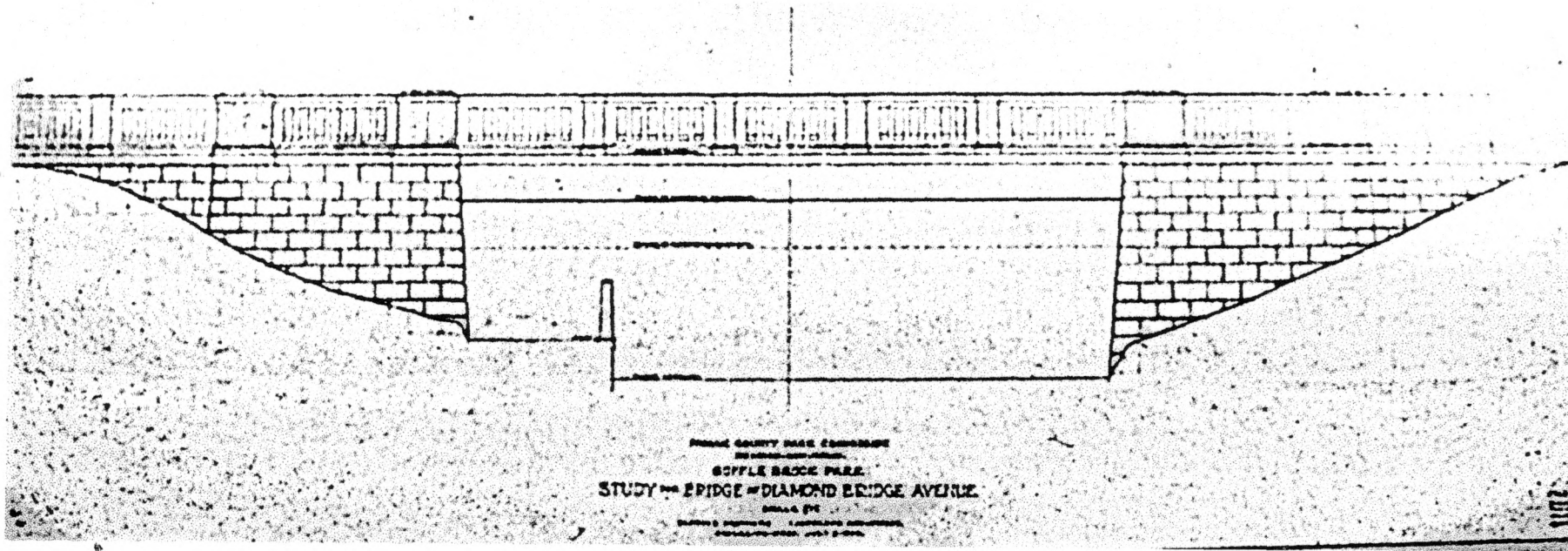
GOFFLE BROOK PARK
 Borough of Hawthorne
 Passaic County, New Jersey



Elevation, Warburton Avenue Bridge, Hawthorne, New Jersey (1928).



At right, detail of lamp proposed for Warburton Avenue Bridge, Hawthorne, New Jersey. Courtesy of Passaic County Engineering Department, Paterson, New Jersey.



Graphic of Proposal for Diamond Avenue Bridge
Olmsted Brothers #9160-4sht1 (7 July 1930)
Source: Files of Olmsted National Historic Site, Brookline MA



[Graphic locators added.]

Olmsted #9160-6dc5 (24 November 1930)
Vicinity of Board of Education Lands (Proposed Location for Athletic Fields)

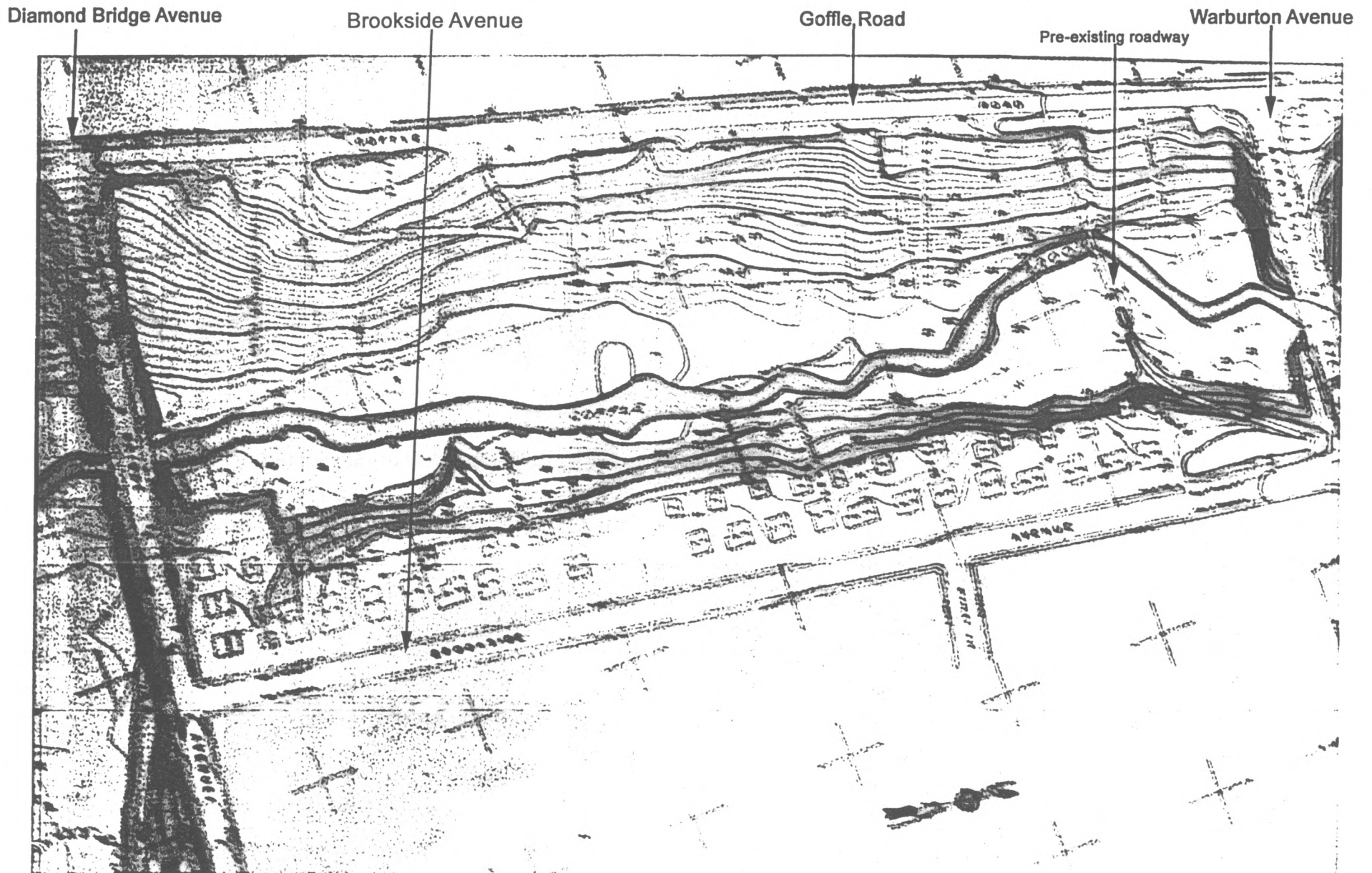
Source: The files of the Olmsted National Historic Site, Brookline MA

GOFFLE BROOK PARK
Borough of Hawthorne
Passaic County, New Jersey



Olmsted #9160-6dc7 (24 November 1930)
Topographical Map of Hall Street Section

GOFFLE BROOK PARK
Borough of Hawthorne
Passaic County, New Jersey



Olmsted #9160-6-pa4 (24 November 1930)
 Topographical Map showing Park Lands between Warburton and Diamond Bridge Avenues

Source: Files of the Olmsted National Historic Site, Brookline, MA

GOFFLE BROOK PARK
 Borough of Hawthorne
 Passaic County, New Jersey

Promontory

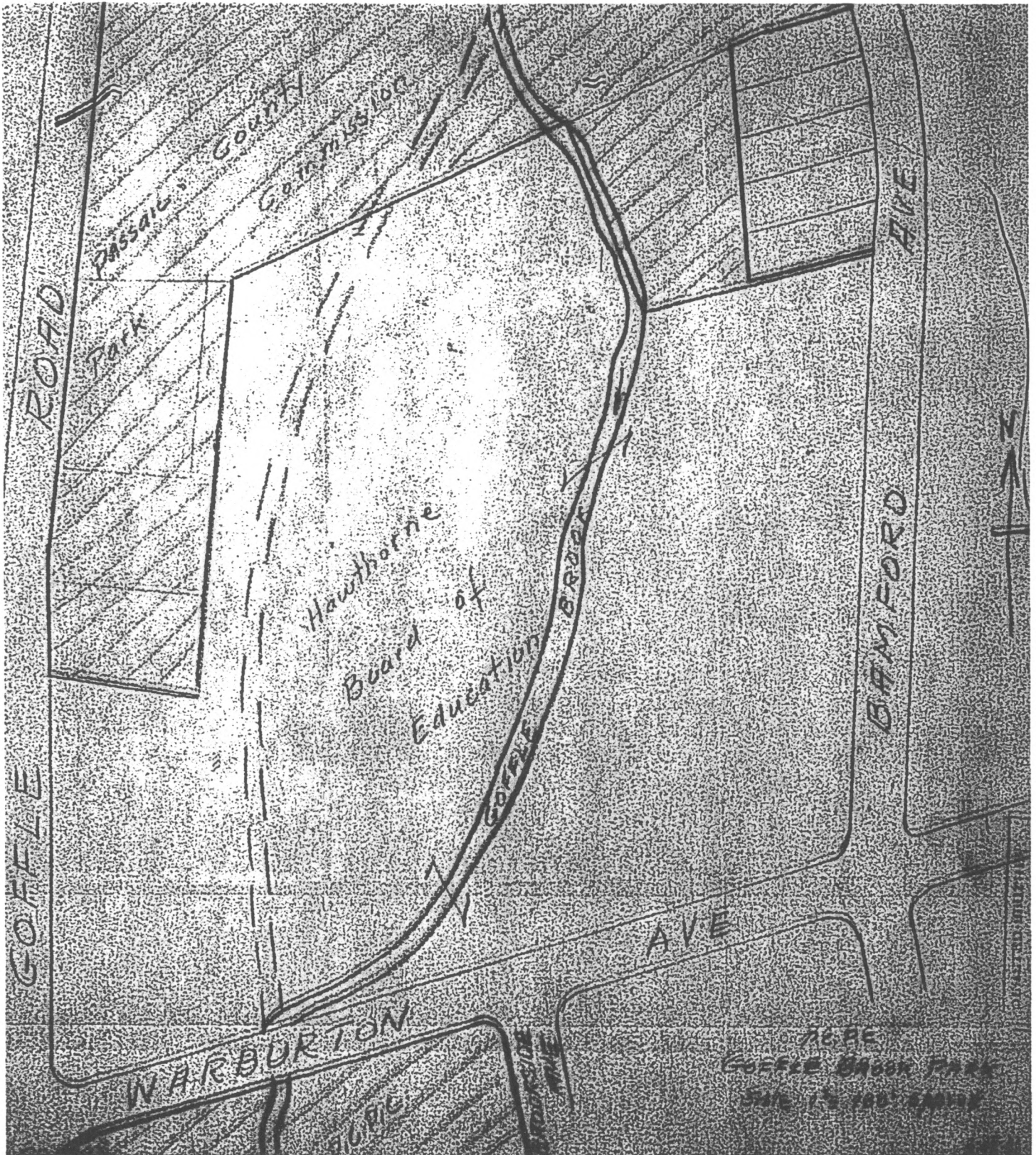
Ryerson-Lafayette House



Olmsted #9160-6-pa14 (24 November 1930)
Topographical Map, Southern Portion below Diamond Bridge Avenue
[with graphic locators added]

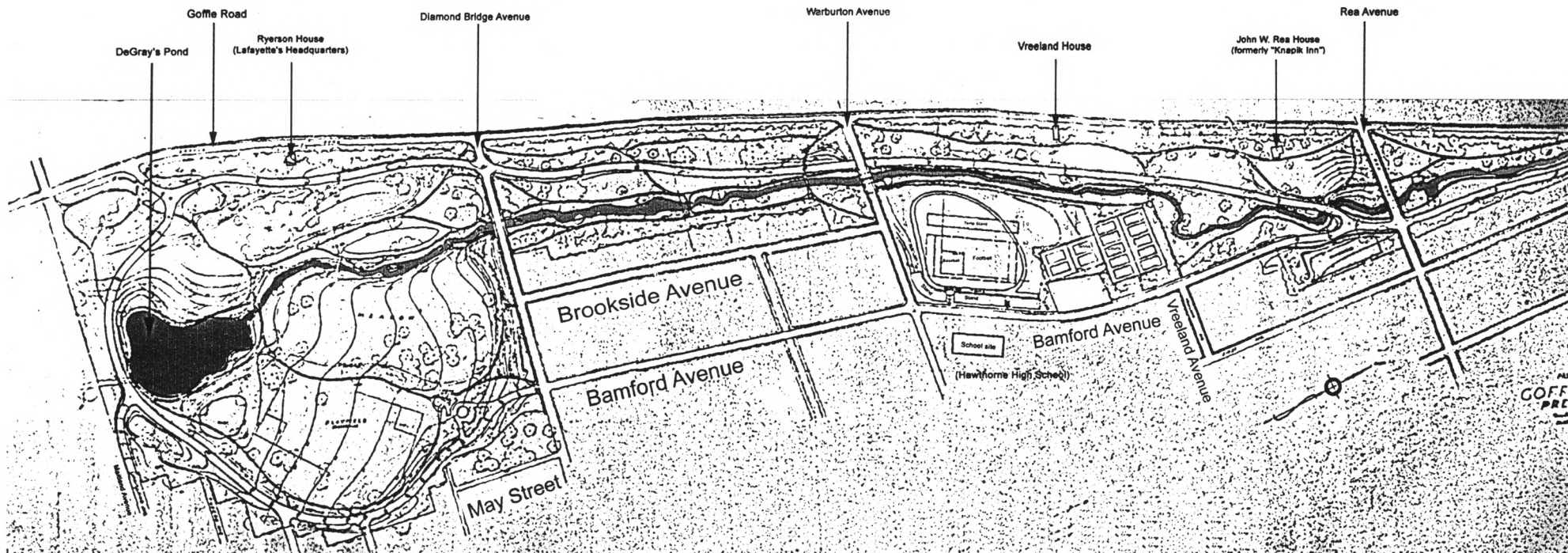
Source: Olmsted National Historic Site, Brookline MA

GOFFLE BROOK PARK
Borough of Hawthorne
Passaic County, New Jersey



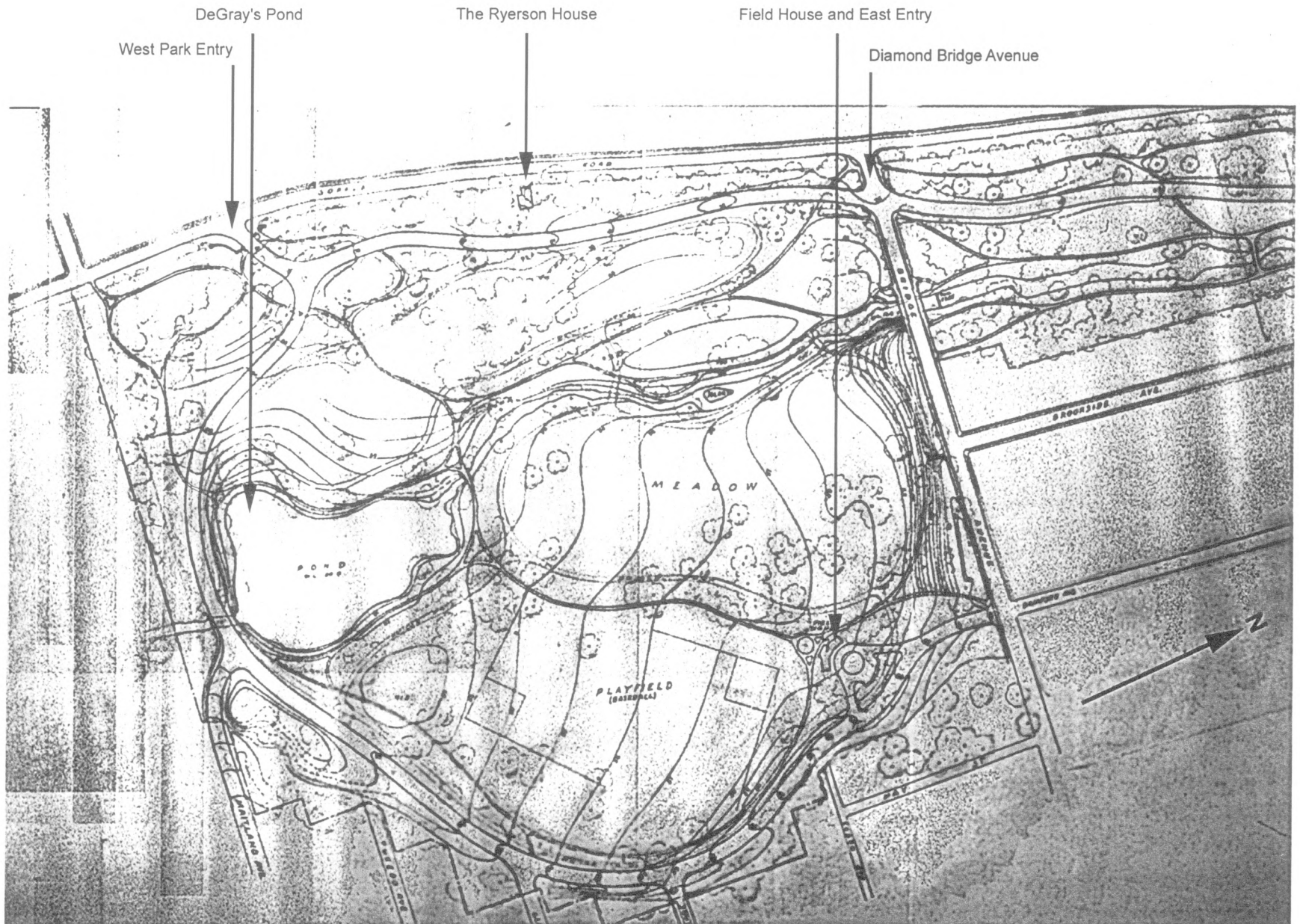
Olmsted #9160-9 (18 February 1931)
Sketch of Board of Education Lands showing Relocation of Channel

Source: The files of the Olmsted National Historic Site, Brookline MA



Goffle Brook Park, Preliminary Plan for Southern Portion (Interpretive Graphic)
Olmsted Drawing #9160-12 (1 June 1931)

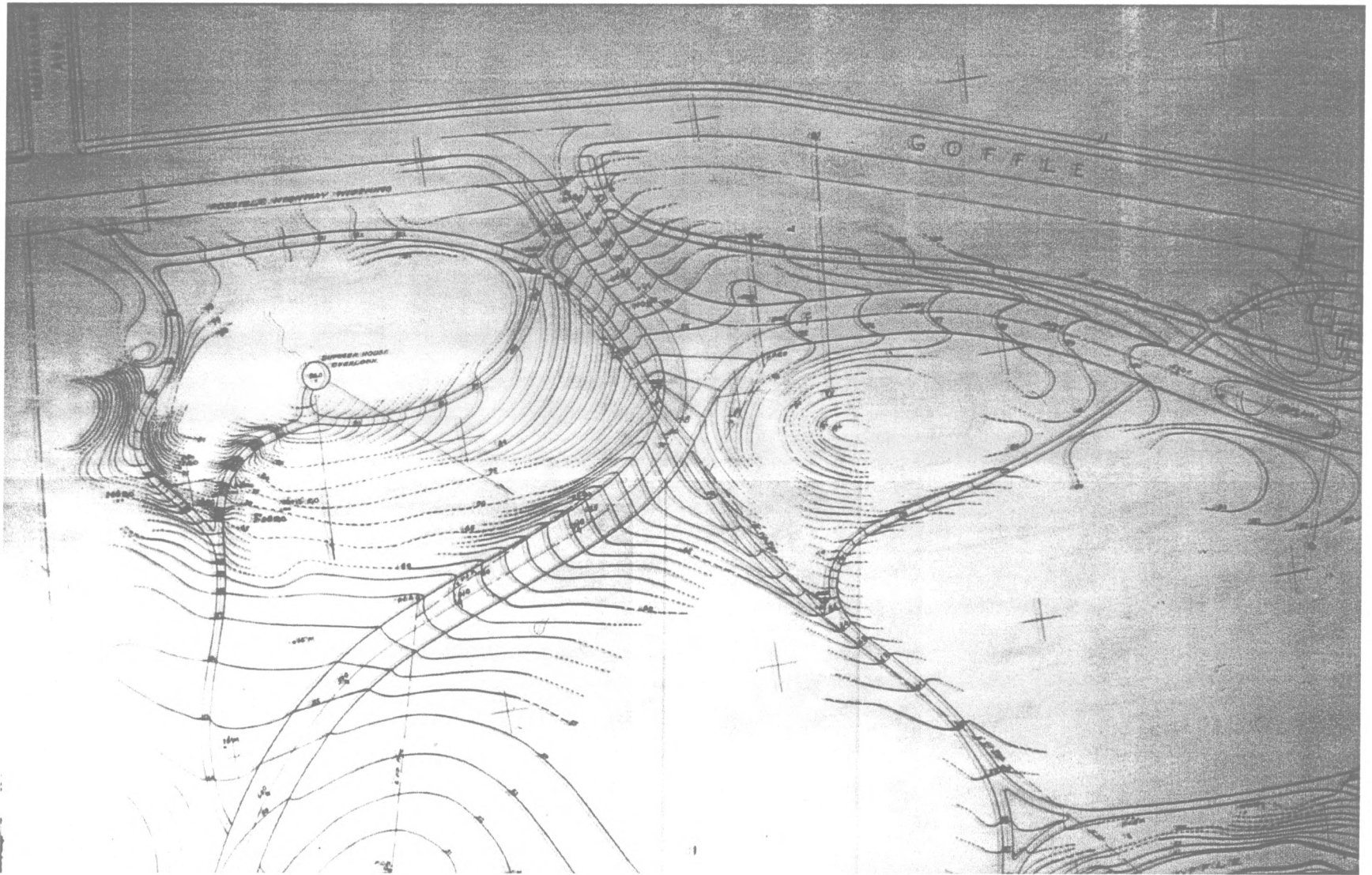
Source: The Files of the Olmsted National Historic Site



Detail of Preliminary Plan for Southern Portion (Interpretive Graphic)

Olmsted Drawing #9160-12 (1 June 1931)

Source: The Files of the Olmsted National Historic Site



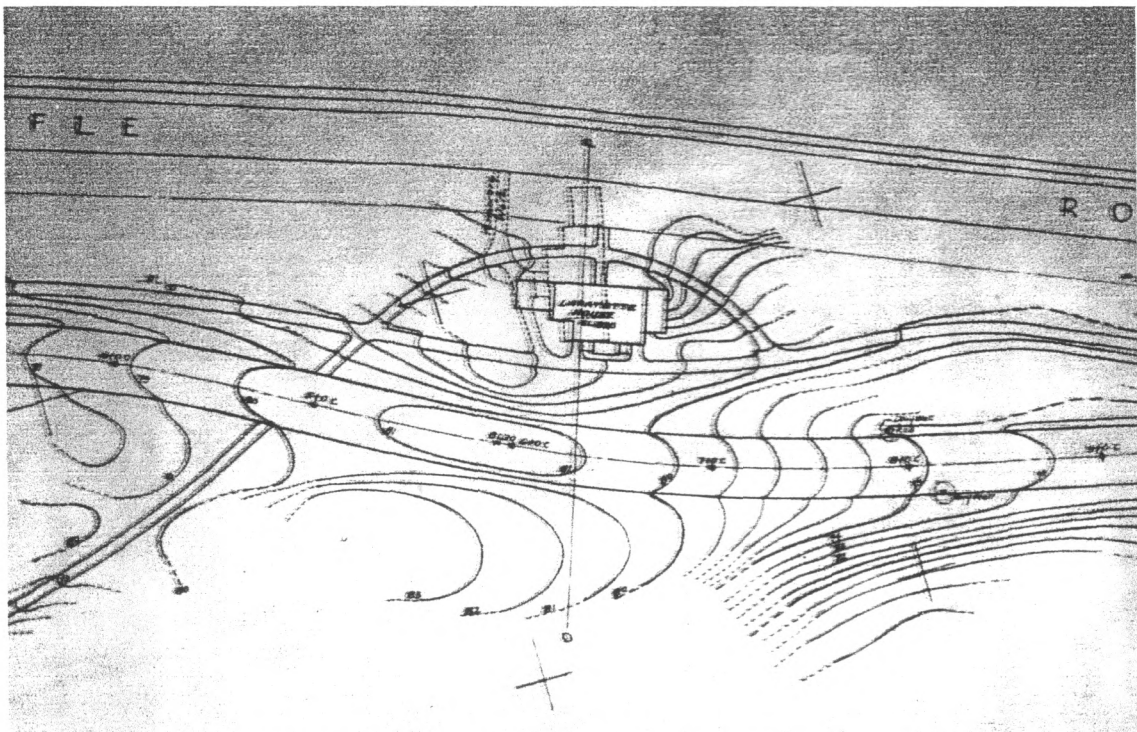
Olmsted #9160-16 (15 December 1931)
Detail View Showing SW Corner of Southern Portion
with Proposed Overlook and Summer House

Source: Olmsted National Historic Site, Brookline MA

GOFFLE BROOK PARK
Borough of Hawthorne
Passaic County, New Jersey



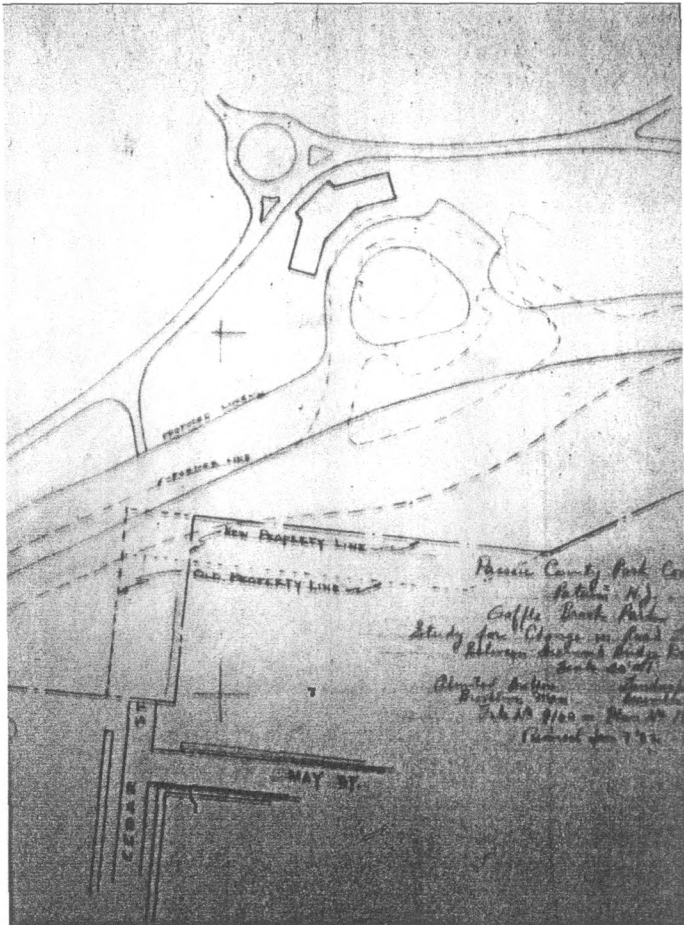
Olmsted #9160-6-dc2 (ref 3.15) dated 24 November 1930. Topographical map of the vicinity of the Ryerson House ("Lafayette Headquarters"), Goffle Brook Park, showing façade orientation to the south, and the location of access driveways and outbuildings. Files of the Olmsted National Historic Site.



Olmsted Brothers #9160-16 (ref. 4.18) dated 15 December 1931. "Goffle Brook Park, Grading Plan, Southern Portion" - detail showing re-orientation of the façade of the Ryerson House ("Lafayette Headquarters") toward the east and the proposed location of pathways and park drive at that location. Files of the Olmsted National Historic Site.

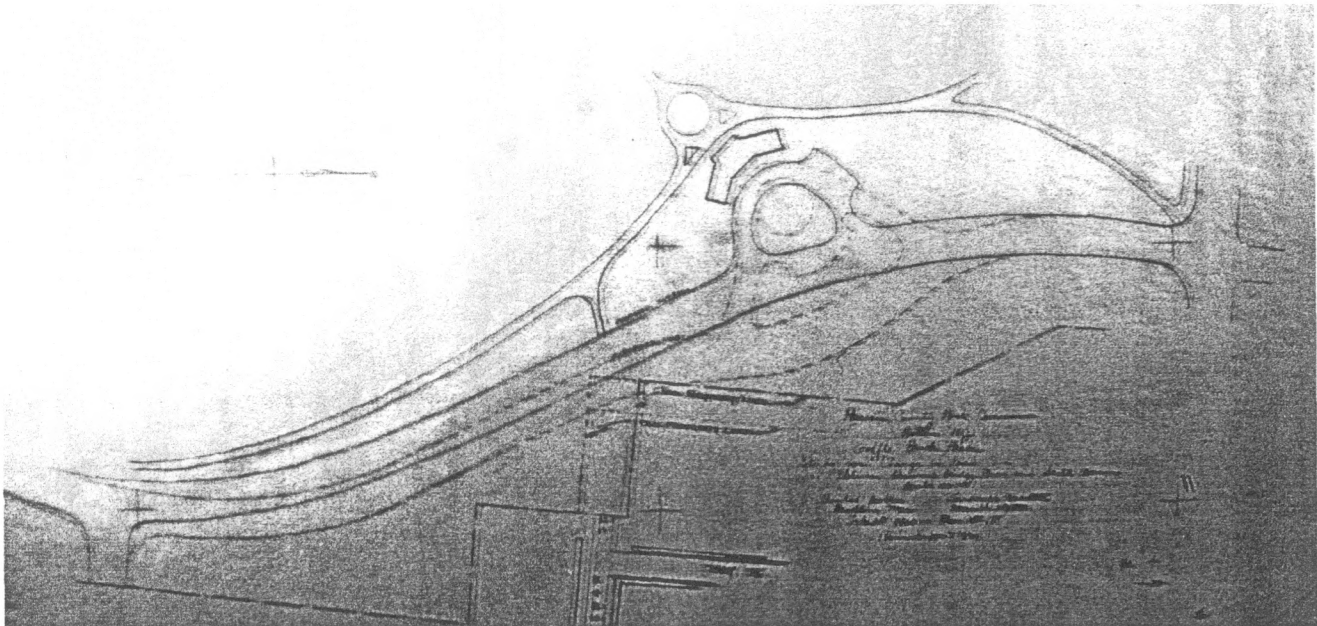
Drawings Showing Proposed Relocation of the Ryerson House (1930—1932)
Source: The Files of the Olmsted National Historic Site, Brookline, MA.

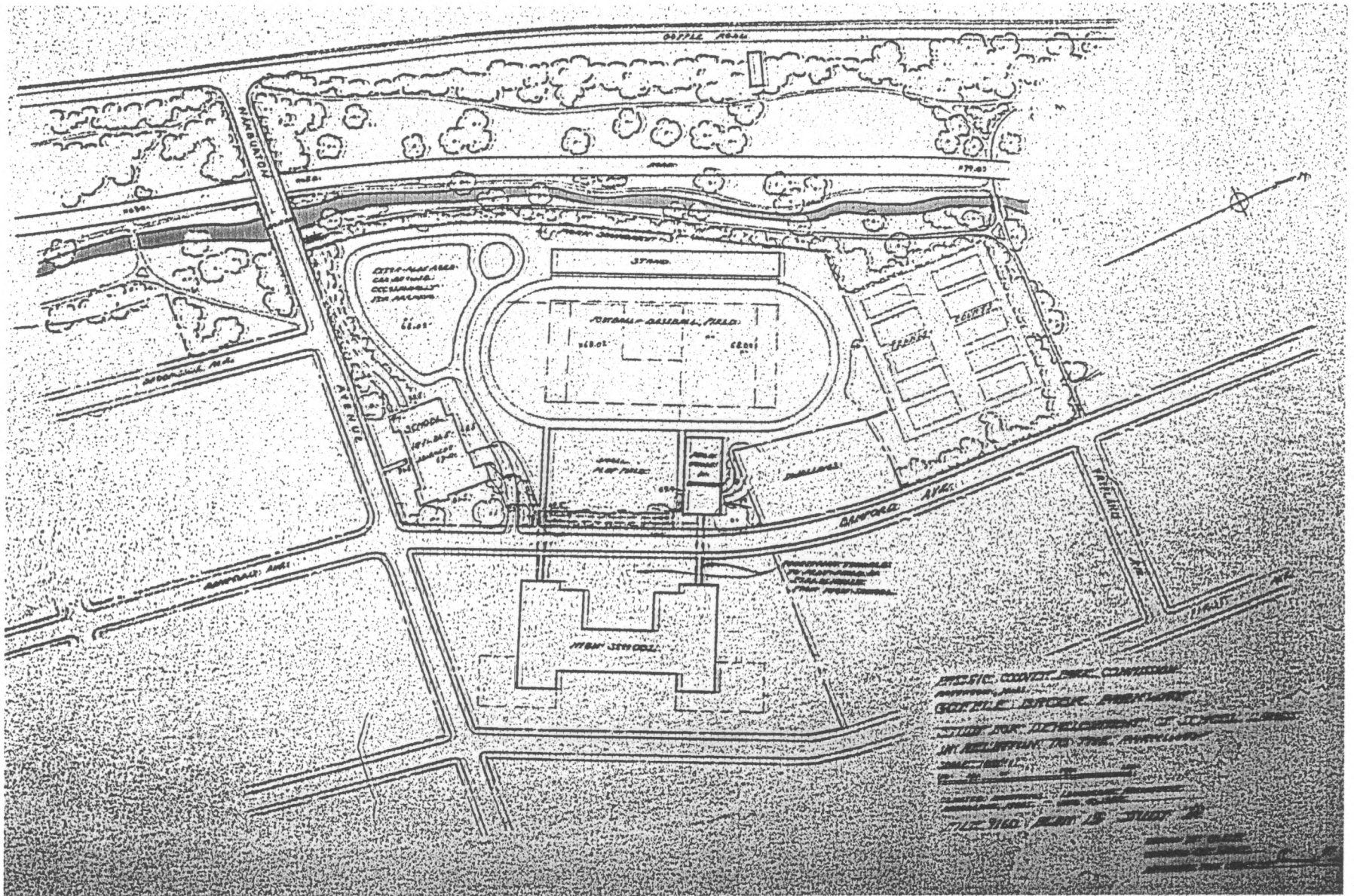
GOFFLE BROOK PARK
Borough of Hawthorne
Passaic County, New Jersey



Olmsted #9160-18 (23 December 1931)
[Detail] Change in Road Line
between Diamond Bridge Road and South Avenue

Source: Olmsted National Historic Site, Brookline, MA



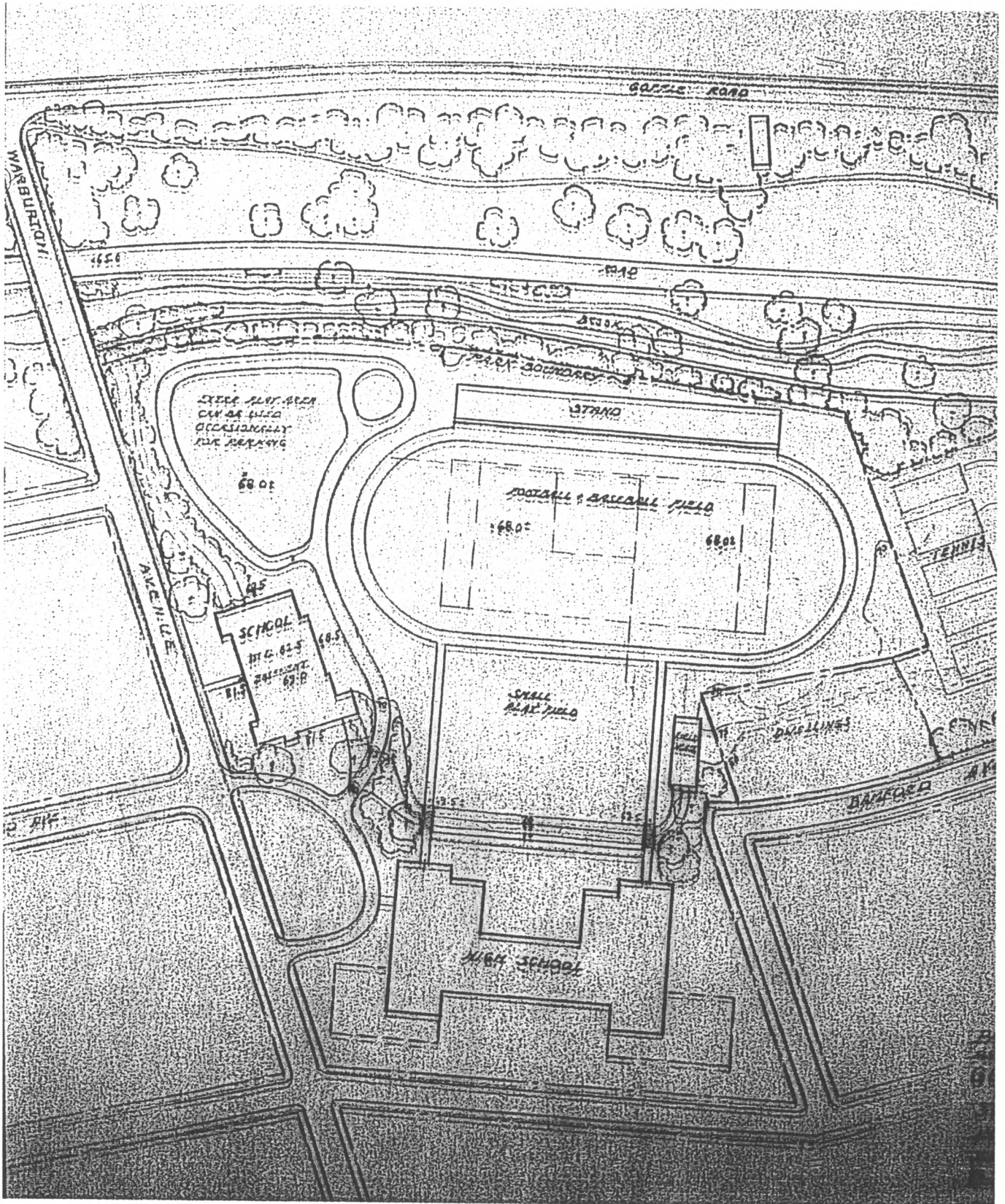


The Goffle Brook is shaded (not part of original drawing).

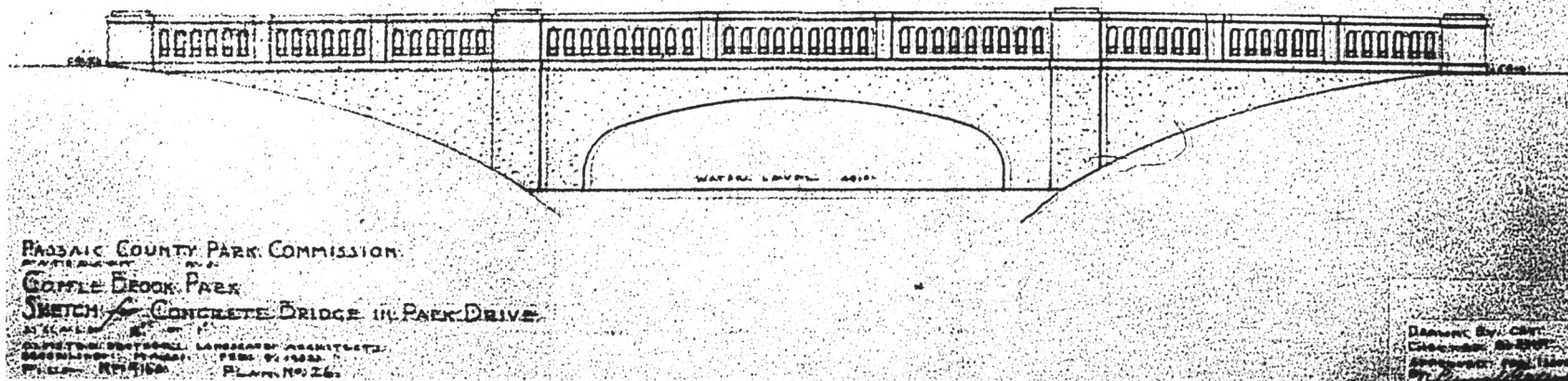
Olmsted #9160-19A (4 JAN 1932)
 Study for Development of School Lands

Source: The files of the Olmsted National Historic Site, Brookline, MA

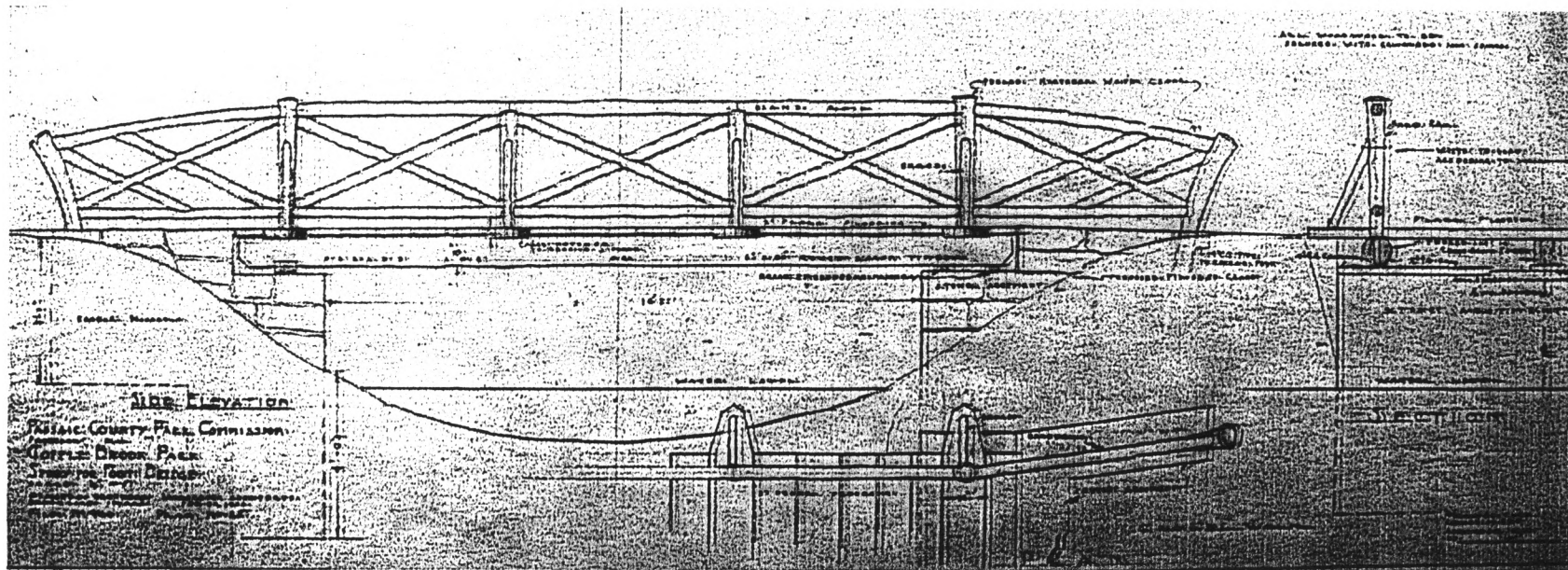
GOFFLE BROOK PARK
 Borough of Hawthorne
 Passaic County, New Jersey



Olmsted #9160-19B (4 January 1932)
Study for the Development of School Lands in Relation to the Parkway
Source: The files of the Olmsted National Historic Site

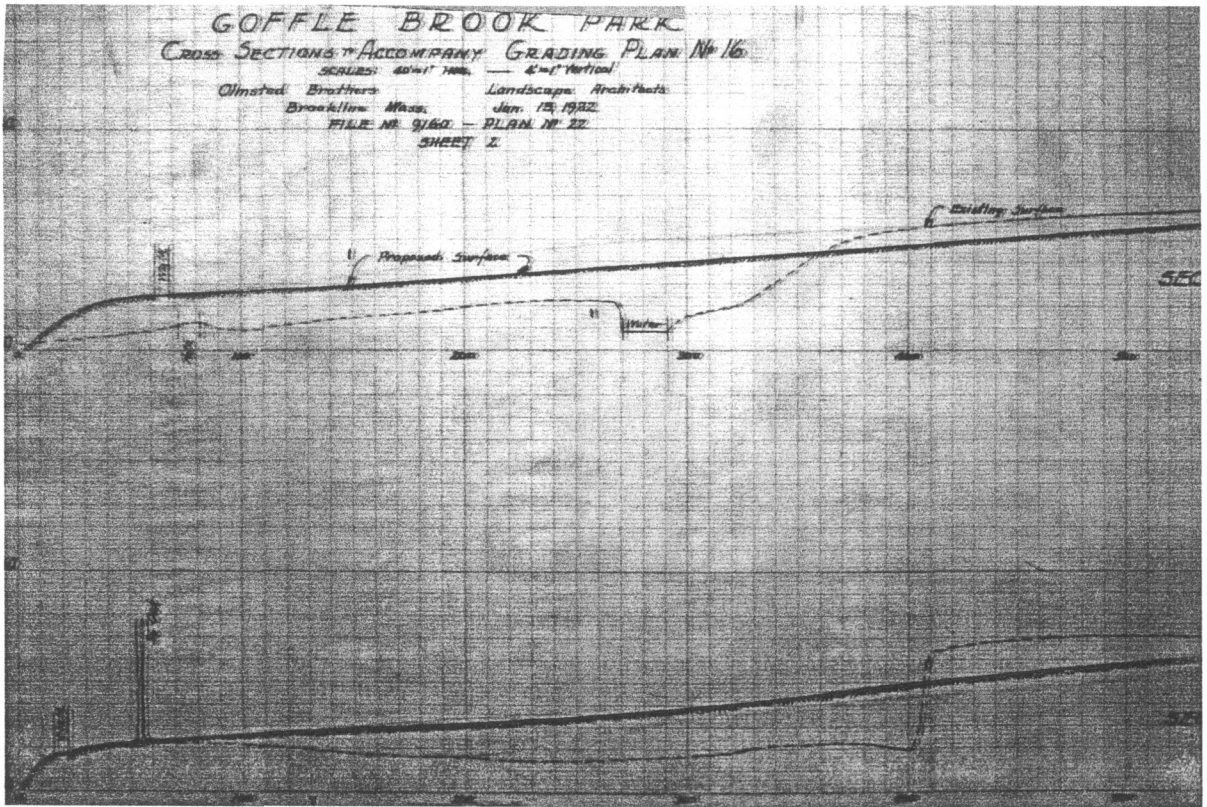


Olmsted #9160-26
 Sketch for Concrete Bridge in Park Drive



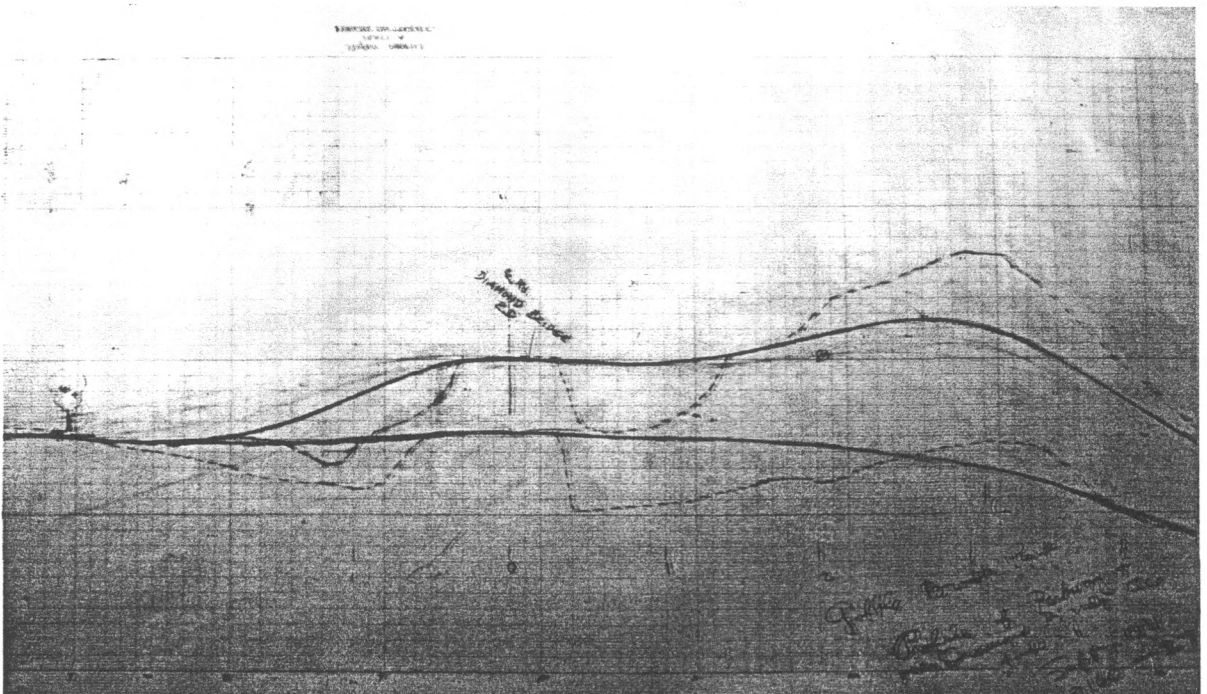
Olmsted #9160-25
 Study for a Footbridge
 Source: The Files of the Olmsted National Historic Site, Brookline, MA

GOFFLE BROOK PARK
 Borough of Hawthorne
 Passaic County, New Jersey



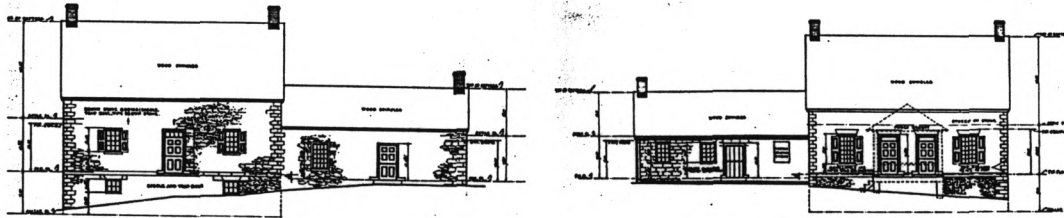
Olmsted #9160-22-sh2 (13 Jan 1932)
Sections to Accompany #16 Southern Portion

Source: Olmsted National Historic Site



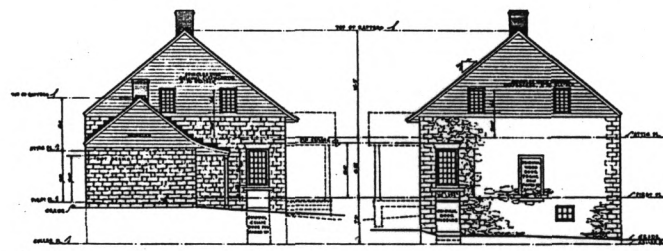
Olmsted #9160-27-sh2 (September 1931)
Sections and Profiles to Accompany #12

Source: Olmsted National Historic Site, Brookline, MA



NORTH ELEVATION

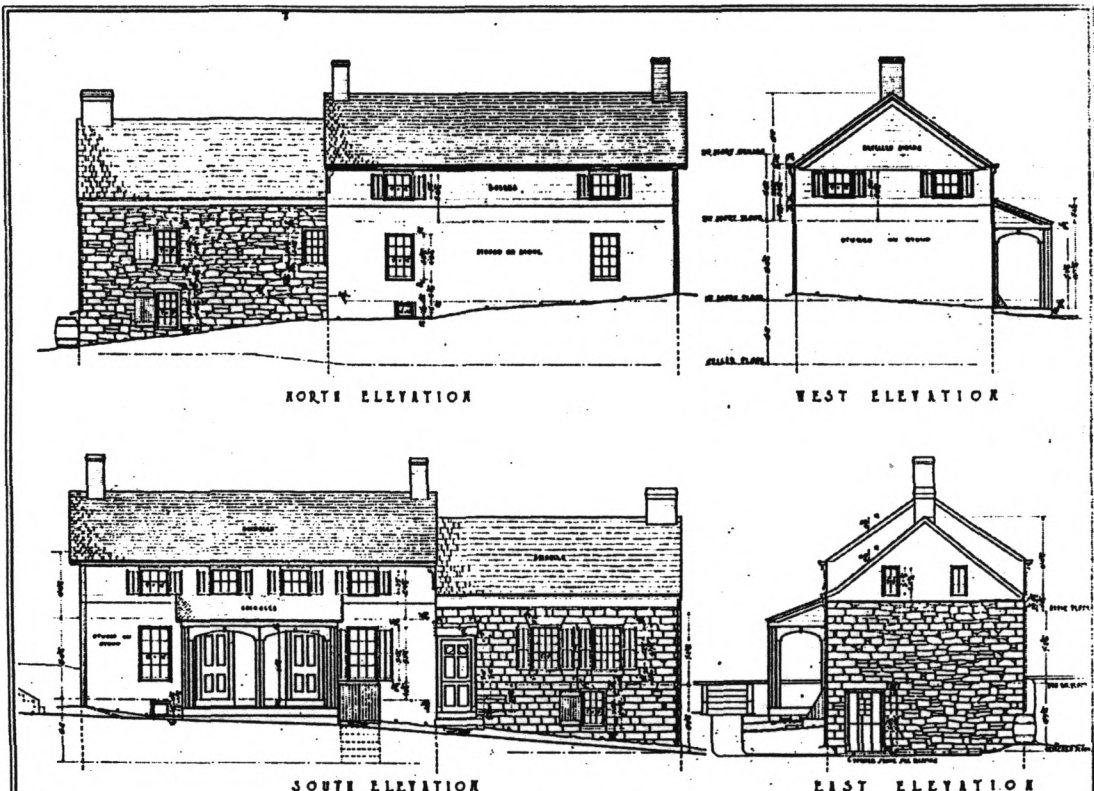
SOUTH ELEVATION



RICHARD ROSSI WALTER JOHANSON · DELD.	NAME OF STRUCTURE THE LAFAYETTE HOUSE	NO. OF SHEETS 6-163	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY SHEET 3 OF 10 SHEETS	INDEX NO.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR OFFICE OF NATIONAL PARKS, BUILDINGS, AND RESERVATIONS BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN	GOFFLE BROOK PARK · HAWTHORNE · NEW JERSEY			

The Ryerson House ("Lafayette's Headquarters")
 Composite of HABS documentation drawings and Title Block
 HABS Project No. HABS-NJ-165 (July 16, 1936)

Source: HABS Files, Library of Congress, Washington, DC



NORTH ELEVATION

WEST ELEVATION

SOUTH ELEVATION

EAST ELEVATION

BERNARD DI PAOLA, DEL.	NAME OF STRUCTURE THE VREELAND HOUSE	NO. OF SHEETS 6-258	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY SHEET 3 OF 10 SHEETS	INDEX NO.
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL PROJECT NO. 48-713	GOFFLE BROOK PARK · GOFFLE ROAD · HAWTHORNE, N.J.			

The Vreeland House, Goffle Road, Hawthorne, New Jersey
 HABS Documentation, Project No. HABS-NJ-258 (July 17, 1936)

Source: HABS Files, Library of Congress, Washington, DC

W P A PROJECT #4242

FALL, 1938

Prepared by:
 Luciano Miceli, FASLA, Landscape Arch.
 Miceli Kulik Williams & Associates, PC
 39 Park Avenue, Rutherford, NJ 07070
 December 2001

- Indicates species of 1938 circa observed on site either 7/31/01 and/or 8/30/01 (quantities not relevant)

October 4, 1938.

20 • Hemlocks) P.C.P.C.
 4 Cedars) P.V.P. Nursery
6 • Scotch Pines)
 30

October 5, 1938.

9 Red Pine - P.C.P.C. - P.V.P. Nursery
 94 • Ilex glabra - Bobbink and Atkin
 55 Leucothoe - Bobbink and Atkin
 12 • Picea excelsa - J. W. Parker
24 • Cal. Privet - G. B. Nursery-P.C.P.C.
 194

Grand Total - 224

October 6, 1938.

13 • Norway Spruce - J.W. Parker
3 • Austrian Pines - J.W. Parker
 16

Grand Total - 240

October 7, 1938.

5 • White Pine - J.W. Parker
8 • Austrian Pine - J.W. Parker
 13

Grand Total - 253

October 13, 1938.

2 • Norway Spruce - J.W. Parker
 5 • Austrian Pine - J.W. Parker
232 Kalmia - Bobbink and Watkins
 239

Grand Total - 492

October 14, 1938.

129 • Ilex verticillata) Bobbink and Atkins
 112 • Rhodotypos kerr.)
 14 Syringa persica)
13 Syringa vulgaris)
 268

Grand Total - 760

- Indicates species of 1938 circa observed on site either 7/31/01 and/or 8/30/01 (quantities not relevant)

W P A PROJECT #4242

FALL, 1938

October 17, 1938.

79	Viburnum cass.)		
130	•Viburnum dentatum) Bobbink and Atkins		
<u>57</u>	•Weigela Eva Rathie)		
266		Grand Total -	1026

October 18, 1938.

20	Viburnum cass.)		
90	•Viburnum dentatum)		
73	Viburnum lentago) Bobbink and Atkins		
<u>74</u>	Weigela Eva Rathke)		
257		Grand Total -	1283

October 19, 1938.

84	Philadelphus virg.)		
25	Spirea Ant. Waterer) Bobbink and Atkins		
130	• Spirea thunbergii)		
<u>130</u>	Spirea van houtteii)		
369		Grand Total -	1652

October 20, 1938.

246	• Symphoricarpos chen.)		
156	Symphoricarpos race.) Bobbink and Atkins		
278	• Aronia melanocarpa)		
<u>12</u>	• Cornus florida - J.W. Parker		
692		Grand Total -	2344

October 25, 1938.

100	• Clethra alnifolia)		
21	• Cornus mas)		
60	Lonicera fragrant) Bobbink and Atkins		
33	Lonicera tatarica)		
46	• Hamamelis virg.)		
122	Rhodod. Maximum)		
10	• Cornus florida - J.W. Parker		
<u>6</u>	Cornus florida rubra - J.W. Parker		
398		Grand Total -	2742

October 26, 1938.

72	Weigela amabilis)		
46	• Deutzia P. of R.)		
51	• Kolkwitzia amab.) Bobbink and Atkins		
30	Alnus incana)		
<u>206</u>	• Forsythia spect.)		
405		Grand Total -	3147

- Indicates species of 1938 circa observed on site either 7/31/01 and/or 8/30/01 (quantities not relevant)

W P A PROJECT #4242

FALL, 1938

October 31, 1938.

68	• Azalea nudiflora)		
68	Azalea viscosa)		
22	Corylus americ.)	Bobbink and Atkins	
44	Forsythia suspensa)		
114	• Ligustrum ib. reg.)		
87	• Amelan. candad.)		
204	• Aronia brilliant.)		
<u>15</u>	• Cornus florida - J.W. Parker)		
622			Grand Total -	3769

November 1, 1938.

29	Euonymous alatus)		
5	Lycium chinensis)		
30	• Hibiscus)		
36	Kerria japonica)		
25	Viburnum dilit.)		
88	Cornus sanguinea)	Bobbink and Atkins	
5	Cercis candad.)		
34	• Rosa multiflora)		
55	• Rosa rugosa)		
198	• Berberry thunb.)		
<u>17</u>	Cornus florida - J.W.Parker)		
522			Grand Total -	4291

November 2, 1938.

67	Cornus paniculata)		
71	• Cornus stolonifera)		
4	Salix vitinella)		
3	Oxyodendron)	Bobbink and Atkins	
16	Malus ver.)		
<u>14</u>	• Crataegus var.)		
175			Grand Total -	4466

November 3, 1938.

21	Hypericum densi.)		
18	• Sugar Maple)		
3	• Schwerdli Maple)	Bobbink and Atkins	
21	• Pin Oak)		
<u>13</u>	• European Linden)		
76			Grand Total -	4542

- Indicates species of 1938 circa observed on site either 7/31/01 and/or 8/30/01 (quantities not relevant)

W P A PROJECT #4242

FALL, 1938

November 4, 1938.

7 • Sugar Maple)		
1 • Pin Oak)		
14 • Cornus pani.)	Bobbink and Atkins	
58 • Cornus stol.)		
<u>173</u> • Deutzia lem.)		
253		Grand Total -	4795

November 9, 1938.

9 • Red Maple - P.C.P.C.-P.V.P. Nursery			
		Grand Total -	4804

November 10, 1938.

51 • Deutzia lem.)		
56 • Cornus pani.)	Bobbink and Atkins	
<u>1</u> • Red Maple - P.C.P.C. - P.V.P. Nursery			
108		Grand Total -	4912

November 14, 1938.

107 • Blueberry)		
<u>103</u> • Cal. Privet)	P.C.P.C. - G.B. Nursery	
210		Grand Total -	5122

TOTAL RECAPITULATION

Evergreen Trees	-	87
Deciduous Trees	-	175
Evergreen Shrubs	-	503
Deciduous Shrubs	-	4352
Vines	-	<u>5</u>
		5122

Of above P.C.P.C. furnished from its Preakness Valley Park Nursery 10 deciduous trees, 39 evergreen trees and from its Goffle Brook Park nursery 234 deciduous shrubs. The rest of the material was purchased from Bobbink and Atkins and Joseph W. Parker.

To complete project there remains to be planted:

- 11 • Liquidambar styraciflua - Key No. 10
- 8 • Platanus orientalis - Key No. 20
- 124 • Cotoneaster francheti - Key No. 34 (Room for only about 50)
Key No. 2a (Check amt. And location)

- Indicates species of 1938 circa observed on site either 7/31/01 and/or 8/30/01 (quantities not relevant)