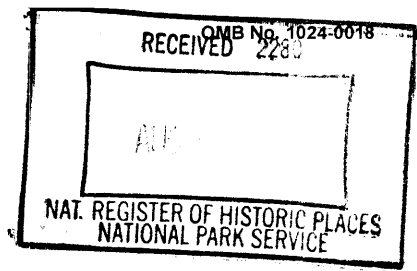


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" 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 listed in 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 Theodore Roosevelt Monument
other names/site number Roosevelt Common; Theodore Roosevelt Memorial

2. Location

street & number Roosevelt Common, Riveredge Road not for publication
city or town Borough of Tenafly vicinity
state New Jersey code NJ county Bergen code 003 zip code 07670

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I 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.
Amy Cradic 8/3/06
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
Amy Cradic, Assistant Commissioner Natural & Historic Resources/DSHPO
State or 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 this 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 Patricia Andrews Date of Action 9/26/2006

Theodore Roosevelt Monument
Name of Property

Bergen County, NJ
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing Noncontributing

_____	buildings
_____	sites
_____	structures
_____	objects
1	Total
1	

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**

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION & CULTURE/Work of Art

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION & CULTURE/Work of Art

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER/Public Sculpture

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation _____

walls _____

roof _____

other _____

STONE/Limestone

Narrative Description

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

See continuation sheets.

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)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or a grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

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):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ART

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Period of Significance

1928

Significant Dates

1928

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Mackay, Malcolm; Mackay, Jennie

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Hammer, Trygve (Sculptor); Cautley, Marjorie Sewell
(Landscape Architect)

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of Repository:
Borough of Tenafly

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1 18 586828 4531106
Zone Easting Northing

2 _____

3 _____
Zone Easting Northing

4 _____

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 Meredith Arms Bzdak, PhD., Associate

organization Farewell Mills Gatsch Architects, LLC date 31 August 2005

street & number 200 Forrestal Road telephone 609/452-1777

city or town Princeton state NJ zip code 08540

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 the SHPO or FPO.)

name _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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 et seq.). A federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the 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 Keeper, National Register of Historic Places, 1849 "C" Street NW, Washington, DC 20240.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Theodore Roosevelt Monument
Bergen County, New Jersey
Description

Section 7 Page 1

The Theodore Roosevelt Monument, a publicly accessible, outdoor sculpture, stands in the southeast third of Roosevelt Common in the Borough of Tenafly, Bergen County, New Jersey (Photo 1). The Monument was completed in 1928, carved in-situ by sculptor Trygve Hammer and his assistant, Fritz Hammargren, and dedicated on July 15 of that year. The Roosevelt Monument consists of a highly realistic, two-sided stone relief sculpture, approximately fourteen feet in height, ornamented with a portrait of former United States President Theodore Roosevelt (Photo 2) and depictions of a variety of animals and birds (Photo 3). Flanking the relief are two life-sized, sculpted bears (Photo 4). The sculpture is set on a nearly circular platform (approximately thirty-two feet across by forty feet in depth) surrounded by a foot-high stone wall, the exterior surface of which is inscribed with quotations that reflect Roosevelt's devotion to the conservation efforts and noble ideals that consumed him throughout his life (Photos 5, 6, and 7). Two sets of stone steps at the western end of the monument lead from the ground to the platform (Photo 8). The monument is sheltered by a ring of mature trees, which, together with the monument, represents the primary remaining design element of the original plan for Roosevelt Common, begun by landscape architect Marjorie Sewell Cautley in 1921 (Photo 8). The Roosevelt Monument is currently undergoing professional conservation treatment, and retains a considerable degree of artistic integrity.

The Monument, as well as the thirty acres that came to be known as Roosevelt Common, was the gift of local residents Malcolm Sutherland Mackay, his wife Helen Raynor Mackay, and his sister, Jennie L. Mackay to the Tenafly Board of Education in 1924.¹ The Common fronted on Riveredge Road (formerly Jay Street), and as originally planned, served as a park that included an athletic field, a baseball diamond, an outdoor theatre known as the 'Henry W. Redfield Outdoor Theatre,'² a skating pond (Photos 9 and 10), game grounds, school gardens, a picnic grove, and a woodlot for the boy scouts and demonstration center for the girl scouts. At the center of the Common, space was set aside for the monument that was finally completed in 1928 (Photo 11).

The Common also served as an arboretum of native plants.³ Landscape architect Marjorie Sewell Cautley became well known in the years following her involvement at Roosevelt Common for her work within the Garden City movement, and for helping to preserve portions of northern New Jersey's natural vegetation in the wake of the area's rapid urbanization. Original plantings at Roosevelt Common would likely have included sycamore (*platanus sp.*), birch (*betula sp.*), viburnum (*viburnum sp.*), shrubby

¹ Bergen County Deed 197957. In February 1925, Cautley had just completed preliminary plans for Roosevelt Common and was in the process of preparing working drawings for grading and drainage (Marjorie Sewell Cautley to The Cornell Alumni News, 23 February 1925, Marjorie Sewell Cautley Papers, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY). A widow, Jessica R. Green, relation unknown, contributed two of the thirty acres (Bergen County Deed 197958).

² Correspondence, Tenafly Board of Education District Clerk to Mrs. Henry W. Redfield, 14 January 1933. Mr. Redfield gave a gift of (unspecified) trees to Roosevelt Common; the theater was named for him "in appreciation of the great amount of time and thought (he) gave to the development of Roosevelt Common..." A reference to the Sycamore trees (also alternately called London Plane trees) that ringed the monument standing in honor of Mr. Redfield was also found (Correspondence, Virginia T. Mosley to Tenafly Borough Mayor and Council, 12 October 2000). The Sycamores have been replaced by Oaks.

³ Correspondence, Heather Wright to Borough of Tenafly Town Clerk, 3 March 1997.

United States Department of the Interior
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Theodore Roosevelt Monument
Bergen County, New Jersey
Description

Section 7 Page 2

dogwood (*cornus sp.*), wild azalea (*rhododendron sp.*), and sweet fern (*comptonia sp.*) – all plantings that Cautley installed at Bergen County's Radburn, New Jersey, in 1928.⁴

The primary relief panel of the Roosevelt Monument, which faces northwest, depicts a seated Roosevelt, framed against a mountainous background and flowering tree branches (Photo 2). Roosevelt is set within an arch formed by large blocks of cut stone. At the springing of the arch, to either side of Roosevelt, are two owls, their wings outstretched. A quotation of Roosevelt's beneath the portrait reads, "It is only through work and strife that either nation or individual moves on to greatness. The great man is always the man of mighty effort." The relief panel is flanked to either side by a life-sized bear (Photo 4). These stone bears crouch with their backs to the relief, looking out to either side and serving as transitional elements between the verticality of the relief and the horizontality of the circular platform at the front of the monument. The platform and steps were originally executed in colored slate, but the slate was obscured by a layer of concrete, now removed as part of the ongoing restoration.⁵

The eastern relief of the monument depicts an elk, two bison, three deer, and two Rocky Mountain sheep (Photo 3). The animals are surrounded by vegetation. As on the west side of the arch, an owl is located to either side of the main scene. At the base of this view is another quotation that reads, "Every believer in manliness and every lover of nature, every man who appreciates the majesty and beauty of the wilderness and of all wild life should wish to preserve our material resources, our forest, and all the living creatures of prairie and woodland from wanton destruction." Two stone benches project from the eastern side of the monument.

Four additional quotations from Roosevelt, carved into stone panels, ring the edges of the Monument along the outside of the stone wall. These quotations include:

"If I must choose between righteousness and peace, I choose righteousness."

"Every feat of heroism makes us forever indebted to the many who performed it." (Photo 6)

"All daring and courage make for a finer and nobler type of manhood."

"There never yet was a service worth rendering that did not entail sacrifice." (Photo 7)

During the late 1950s, the configuration of Roosevelt Common was altered when the heirs of Malcolm Mackay gave permission for a portion of the land along Sunset Lane to be used for a new Senior High

⁴ P. Walker and M. Simo, *Invisible Gardens; the Search for Modernism in the American Landscape*, Cambridge, MA, 1994, 49.

⁵ A layer of concrete appears to have been added on top of the slate in the late 1970s or 1980s; a photograph of the monument in March, 1975 clearly shows the platform's colored slate in a severe state of disrepair (J. H. Kuhn, "Monument Loses to Delinquency," *The Record*, 27 March 1975). Current restoration in this area is replacing the concrete and underlying slate with multicolored bluestone to maintain the artist's intentions and provide greater durability.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Theodore Roosevelt Monument
Bergen County, New Jersey
Description**

Section 7 Page 3

School. While the overall plan of the Common has witnessed other changes, such as the addition of tennis courts, the filling of one of the ponds, and the abandonment of the grassy theatre as such to the north of the Monument, the portion of the Common that immediately surrounds the Monument remains largely unchanged (Photos 9, 10, and 11).

On the occasion of the 100th anniversary of Roosevelt's birth in 1958, the monument was rehabilitated through sandblasting (no longer considered an appropriate conservation treatment) and restorative work undertaken by New York sculptor Bruno Mankowski. The monument underwent additional restoration in 1962, and minor repairs circa 1970.⁶

In 1980, ownership of the Monument and ten acres of the Common were transferred to the Borough of Tenafly.⁷ By the 1990s, the Monument was again in need of restoration, and a first step was taken in 1997 when it was cleaned of graffiti by sculptor Robert Carpenter. Circa 2001, in order to mitigate further damage caused by expanding root structures, the Borough removed five London Plane Trees (*platanus sp.*) (alternatively referred to as Sycamores) that stood in close proximity to the Monument, leaving the outer ring of trees intact.⁸

A more complete restoration is currently being undertaken in 2005, enabled by funding from the Borough of Tenafly; the Bergen County Open Space, Recreation, Farmland, and Historic Preservation Trust Fund; a Save Outdoor Sculpture! Treatment Award (Heritage Preservation); and public donations. As part of the restoration process, the concrete and slate platform has been removed and drainage and utility lines installed to bring water and electricity to the planter at the front of the monument for ease of maintenance. A new, multicolored bluestone platform will be constructed. The stone walls are being repointed with mortar to closely match the original, and the limestone bench is being repaired in kind as needed. Missing elements (including the ears and nose of the bears) are being fabricated. The restoration contractor for the project is Aegis Restauro LLC of Belle Mead, NJ.

⁶ Kuhn, "Monument Loses to Delinquency."

⁷ Bergen County Deed, Book 6609, Page 68-69.

⁸ In addition to causing structural damage to the monument, the trees had grown large enough that they obscured the view of the sculpture, which in turn enabled vandals to cause repeated damage (see R. Ziegner, "Roosevelt Monument Needs Facelift," *The Suburbanite*, 30 July 1997).

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National Park ServiceNATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEETTheodore Roosevelt Monument
Bergen County, New Jersey
Statement of SignificanceSection 8 Page 4

The Roosevelt Monument, located in Roosevelt Common, Tenafly (Bergen County), New Jersey stands as a prominent reminder of the conservation efforts of President Theodore Roosevelt. It is one of New Jersey's most original and specific works of public sculpture, created by a nationally prominent artist in collaboration with a renowned landscape architect, and it symbolizes the devotion to a noble, selfless ideal that characterized both its subject and its donor. As one of twenty-six publicly accessible, outdoor memorials to Theodore Roosevelt nationwide, Tenafly's Theodore Roosevelt Monument is significant as the only such memorial to commemorate the former President's conservation efforts, and it is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C. It is one of the best examples of the work of a prominent early 20th century sculptor, Trygve Hammer, known for his portraiture and depictions of animals; and it is an important example of the work of landscape architect Marjorie Sewell Cautley, a pioneer within the Garden City movement. The Monument is also significant for its association with the Mackay family, prominent local citizens remembered for their contributions to a variety of community organizations and enterprises. The Roosevelt Monument is primarily commemorative in nature, and as such would not ordinarily be considered eligible for the National Register. Criteria Consideration F has been checked for the monument, however, as it has clearly been invested with its own historical significance as the centerpiece of an active recreational landscape. A period of significance of 1928 has been identified for the Monument, which marks its completion in that year and its dedication within the Common.

In 1924, Malcolm Sutherland Mackay (1882-1932), his wife Helen Raynor Mackay, and his sister, Jennie L. Mackay (1874-1967) donated nearly 30 acres of land to the Tenafly Board of Education. This land, which would become known as Roosevelt Common, was dedicated to the memory of Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919).¹ The Mackays specified in the letter that accompanied the deed that "we wish you to hold this property in perpetuity, as a place, wherein the minds, bodies, and spirits of our youth may be enlightened, strengthened and uplifted...It is our desire and hope, that on this sunny field, thousands of our children and children's children, may, build up that vigor of body, that sanity of mind, that zest for life and service, so forcefully and valiantly portrayed in the life and teachings of the great American, Col. Theodore Roosevelt."² The central focus of their donation was the Theodore Roosevelt Monument. The Monument, completed in 1928 by sculptor Trygve Hammer, has played an important role in the life of the community over the past seventy years, serving as a popular gathering spot at the heart of the Borough's recreational space, Roosevelt Common.

The dedication celebration took place on Sunday, July 15, 1928 at 4 p.m. Ceremonies began with a procession of school children, marching from the Tenafly High School to the Common. The crowd opened the program with the singing of *America the Beautiful*, after which Malcolm Mackay made the formal presentation of the monument to the Board of Education, represented by Mr. J. Spencer Smith, President of the Board. The unveiling followed, and was carried out by residents Norma Crabbe and William Cockett, representing local scouting groups. Two addresses – "Roosevelt and His Ideals" given

¹ This nomination benefited greatly from personal correspondence with Virginia T. Mosley, Tenafly Borough Historian. See E.B. Sisson, *The Story of Tenafly*, 1939, 68.

² Jennie L. Mackay and Malcolm S. Mackay to Board of Education, Tenafly, 2 January 1924.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Theodore Roosevelt Monument
Bergen County, New Jersey
Statement of Significance**

Section 8 Page 5

by Roosevelt's friend, writer Lawrence Abbott, and "Roosevelt the Conservationist and Bird Lover" given by Dr. Frank M. Chapman, Ornithologist for the Museum of Natural History in New York – rounded out the program. All three of the artists involved in the development and creation of the monument (Sculptors Trygve Hammer, his assistant Fritz Hammargren, and Landscape Architect Marjorie Sewell Cautley) were present at the dedication and were introduced to the audience.³ Contemporary accounts of the ceremony noted that "the event holds deep significance for Tenafly and the surrounding towns. The monument of Roosevelt is an impressive piece of work done by a well-known sculptor. It will be an outstanding work of art to which the town can point."⁴

The Mackay family, donors of the Monument and Common, had a history of civic involvement that included appointments to leadership positions as well as the donation of sums of money for public improvements.⁵ Donald Mackay (1840-1912), father of Malcolm and Jennie, was a native of Port Chester, New York, but was raised in Brooklyn. He began what would be a highly successful career in the banking industry as a junior clerk at Vermilye and Company, a Wall Street firm. By 1867, he had been promoted to junior partner and chosen to settle in Englewood, New Jersey, where he met his wife, Jennie Wise. Although he rose to the position of partner in Vermilye and Company, he left to head his own firm, named Mackay and Company. During the course of his banking career, he also served as President of the Stock Exchange.⁶

Donald Mackay's earliest involvement in civic affairs came in 1887, when he helped to organize the Englewood hose company. He subsequently served on the first Board of Trustees for the Englewood Library Association (organized 1890); became President of Citizens' National Bank, which he was instrumental in organizing in the early 1890s; lobbied for incorporation of Englewood as a City in 1896; and was elected President of the City Council in 1901. Mackay was also a generous philanthropist. In 1901, the Englewood Library opened in new quarters in the remodeled Ainsworth House on Palisade Avenue, the furnishings, buildings, and grounds all having been the gift of Donald Mackay.

In 1905, Donald Mackay was elected Mayor of Englewood, a position he held from 1906 to 1909. During his tenure as Mayor, his accomplishments included the leasing of land from the Erie Railroad for a park and the enlargement of the Library to accommodate a new children's room. Shortly thereafter, in what would serve as a significant example to his son, he made a gift to the city of a tract of land in the Fourth Ward to be used as a city park. The city named it "Mackay Park" in his honor, and several years later Mackay expanded his gift by donating adjacent property to enlarge the park. Donald Mackay's generosity continued until his death in 1912. One of his last philanthropic acts was the funding of band concerts held during the summer in Mackay Park in 1911.

³ "2000 Attend Impressive Dedication of Roosevelt Memorial and Common; Roosevelt Statue Given to Tenafly," *Northern Valley Tribune*, 17 July 1928.

⁴ "Crowds Expected at Unveiling Ceremonies Being Held Sunday," *Tenafly Record*, 13 July 1928.

⁵ Considerable information regarding Donald Mackay and the Mackay family is included in A.W. Sterling, *The Book of Englewood*, 1922; see also J. A. Humphrey, *Englewood: Its Annals and Reminiscences*, 1899.

⁶ Sterling, 278.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Theodore Roosevelt Monument
Bergen County, New Jersey
Statement of Significance**

Section 8 Page 6

Malcolm Mackay followed the example that his father had set for him in his career, as well as in a tradition of giving to the community. During his youth, he traveled in North Dakota and Montana, and spent time working on a ranch. His fondness for Montana in particular remained with him throughout his life, and he wrote about his experiences there in *Cow Range and Hunting Trail*, which was published by Putnam's Sons in 1926. While in the west, Malcolm became friendly with artist Charles Marion Russell, who was renowned for his scenes of contemporary life on the range. Like his father Donald, however, Malcolm ultimately made a career in the banking industry, serving as senior partner of the family business, Mackay and Company, but retaining a second home in Montana.

Upon the death of his father in 1912, Malcolm was elected a director of Citizens' Bank in Englewood. In 1922, he donated grounds for an athletic field near the Cleveland School, also in Englewood.⁷ With actions such as these, he continued to support the city in which he had been born and the community to which his father had given so much, in addition to turning his attention to activities in Tenafly. Parkland, playgrounds, and children's education seemed to be favorite charities of the Mackay family. In addition to the donation of Roosevelt Common, Malcolm Mackay is also known to have donated the lands for Sunnyside Park in Tenafly.

Less is known of Jennie Mackay. In her later years, she became a self-appointed guardian for Roosevelt Common and the Monument, checking its condition frequently and reporting to Board of Education officials when trees or other landscape elements appeared to have been altered or were missing.

It is not known specifically why the Mackays chose to honor Theodore Roosevelt with their gift to the Board of Education. Roosevelt's conservation efforts were well known in New Jersey, particularly in northern New Jersey, where, as Governor of the State of New York, he was instrumental in the creation of the Palisades Interstate Park Commission in 1900 that succeeded in halting the destruction of the Palisades (which extended into Tenafly). As young adults growing up in close proximity to the Palisades, the Mackays undoubtedly were aware of Roosevelt's actions and followed them with interest. Roosevelt's appointment of a five-member commission to study the Palisades has been lauded as "one of his earliest efforts in the field of conservation, in which he gave such powerful support when he became President."⁸

Roosevelt's later conservation efforts are well known, and were essentially three-pronged: the reclamation of arid lands through irrigation, the creation of timberlands as forest reserves, and the establishment of wildlife refuges. Between 1903 and 1909, he created fifty wildlife refuges. He convinced Congress to create five new national parks – Crater Lake (Oregon), Platt (now Chickasaw) National Park (Oklahoma), Wind Cave Park (South Dakota), Sully Hill Park (North Dakota), and Mesa Verde National Park (Colorado) – and established eighteen national monuments (including the Grand

⁷ Sterling, 284, 340.

⁸ Palisades Interstate Park Commission, *60 Years of Cooperation*, 1960, 18. For additional information on Roosevelt's conservation activities, see P.R. Cutright, *Theodore Roosevelt: The Making of a Conservationist*, 1985.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Theodore Roosevelt Monument
Bergen County, New Jersey
Statement of Significance**

Section 8 Page 7

Canyon and the Gila Cliff Dwellings) between 1906 and 1909.⁹ In a letter dated March 1931, sculptor Trygve Hammer confirmed that he had specifically depicted Roosevelt in front of a relief of Yosemite Valley on one side of the monument, while portraying “American game animals, which Roosevelt was instrumental in protecting while President” on the other.¹⁰ The specific siting of Tenafly’s Monument within the Common – with Roosevelt looking to the northwest - is undoubtedly intentional, symbolically representing his focus on the conservation of natural lands in America’s northwestern states.

The preservation of open space and the promotion of outdoor recreation was a priority for Roosevelt, as it was for the Mackays on a much smaller, though no less important, scale. The example that he set in this arena must have proved so inspirational to the Mackays that it seemed fitting to dedicate one of their most generous bequests to a man that they not only admired, but emulated. The parallels between Roosevelt’s life and the life that Malcolm Mackay made for himself should not be overlooked either; in several of his actions, it would seem that he deliberately sought to emulate Roosevelt. For instance, as a young man, Roosevelt traveled extensively in the west, recording his experiences in nature and collaborating with artist Frederic Remington. Mackay followed a similar path, spending time in Montana and seeking out a friendship with another prominent artist of the west, Charles M. Russell. Just as Roosevelt was responsible for setting aside lands for parks, so too was Mackay, focusing his energies locally rather than nationally to improve the open space located within his own immediate community.

The contribution of landscape architect Marjorie Sewell Cautley (1891-1954) to the siting of the Roosevelt Monument within the Common was significant. Cautley was an early 20th century pioneer of modern landscape design, remembered for her work on a variety of New Deal-era projects and celebrated as the first American woman landscape architect to become engaged in city planning. Born in San Francisco and raised in Brooklyn, New York and in New Jersey, Cautley was trained in landscape architecture at Cornell’s School of Agriculture, graduating in 1917. Her first professional position was with the firm of Warren Manning in Billerica, Massachusetts; she left in 1918 to work for California architect Julia Morgan in Illinois supervising the construction of a hotel for those employed by the war effort.¹¹ With the end of World War I, Cautley returned to New Jersey and in 1920 opened a private practice at 503 East 31st Street in Paterson.¹² Her office grew quickly to include a staff of three, with work focused on public projects such as parks, schools, housing, and hospitals.¹³

⁹ See Cutright for additional information on these endeavors.

¹⁰ Correspondence, Trygve Hammer to Mr. Edwin Emerson, 3 March 1931 (on file, Borough of Tenafly).

¹¹ Warren Henry Manning (1860-1938) was a charter member of the American Society of Landscape Architects and served as its president in 1914. See C.A. Birnbaum, FASLA and R. Karson, eds., *Pioneers of American Landscape Design*, New York, 2000, 236-242 for additional biographical information.

¹² By the mid-1930s, Cautley’s professional letterhead gave the address Ridgewood, New Jersey; it also identified her as a Member of the American Society of Landscape Architects and listed her specialties as School Grounds, Community Parks, Subdivisions, and Private Estates (Marjorie S. Cautley to H.A. Stevenson, Editor, 22 April 1935, in the Marjorie Sewell Cautley Papers, Cornell University).

¹³ T. Way, “Designing Garden City Landscapes – Works by Marjorie L. Sewell Cautley, 1922-1937,” unpublished manuscript, 2005, 3. According to Way, Cautley’s New Jersey work of the period included the Bamberger Ideal Home; a

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Theodore Roosevelt Monument
Bergen County, New Jersey
Statement of Significance**

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Roosevelt Common was one of Cautley's earliest park projects, although she would quickly establish a reputation in her field through the publication of a series of articles on residential landscape design for *Country Life* magazine in 1922.¹⁴ Cautley scholar Thaisa Way notes that Roosevelt Common perfectly reflected the landscape architect's commitment to social concerns and a specific vision of community life. She points out that Cautley "encouraged the city to hire 'needy men' as well as use local volunteers (particularly children) to plant and construct the park."¹⁵ According to Way, Roosevelt Common's mix of clearly defined spaces (such as ballfields), separated and bordered by distinct paths and interspersed with less formal areas, reflected a universal need for both retreat and shared experience. As she states, "Cautley's spaces were experienced as an ebb and flow between private and community."¹⁶

Cautley's 1923 plan for the garden community of Oak Croft in Ridgewood, New Jersey, is considered to be one of the earliest examples of a "Garden City" in the United States. Garden Cities stressed the harmonious integration of dwelling space within the landscape; Oak Croft was a small example of this movement, and incorporated six residences designed around a communal green and gardens of native plants and trees.¹⁷ The Garden City concept originated with English author Ebenezer Howard,¹⁸ but was adopted by New York landscape architect Henry Wright and architect Clarence Stein, who collaborated with Cautley on several of their most significant projects: Sunnyside Gardens, Queens (1924-28), Phipps Garden Apartments, NYC (1930, 1935), Hillside Homes, NYC (1935), and Radburn (Fairlawn), New Jersey (1928-30).¹⁹

In addition to her professional practice, Cautley taught site planning and landscape design as a part-time lecturer at Columbia University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology during the late 1930s. In 1935, she authored a book entitled *Garden Design* (Dodd, Mead & Company). The mid-1930s also brought an appointment to landscape consultant to the State of New Hampshire, where she oversaw Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) projects in the state parks under Roosevelt's New Deal. Although

hospital in Newark; and the Pierce Arrow Service Station off Bloomfield Avenue for the Ellis Motor Car Company, Newark, NJ (Way, 20 n. 17).

¹⁴ N. Walker, in C.A. Birnbaum, FASLA and R. Karson, eds., *Pioneers of American Landscape Design*, New York, 2000, 48, states that Cautley began work on Roosevelt Common in 1921, although her plan is dated 1924. A date of 1921 is also given in the Marjorie Sewell Cautley Papers at Cornell University (Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections, Cornell University Library). She may have been in discussion with the Mackays and the Borough regarding the project prior to the actual donation of the land.

¹⁵ T. Way, 4. Cautley's social ideals were in evidence in an article she authored for the publication *New Jersey Gardens* entitled "Landscape Gardening for the Unemployed" (1928), and later explored through an appointment, in 1933, as Landscape Architect Consultant for the State of New Hampshire to oversee Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) projects in state parks (Way, 15, 20 fn. 20).

¹⁶ Way, 13.

¹⁷ P. Deitz, "A Feminist View of Landscapes: A Partnership with Nature," *The New York Times*, 29 April 1993.

¹⁸ Howard first articulated these ideas in *Tomorrow: A Peaceful Path to Real Reform*, published in 1898 and revised in 1902 as *Garden Cities of Tomorrow*.

¹⁹ Peter Walker and Melanie Simo state that the initial connection between Cautley and the Stein and Wright team is unknown; they suggest that Stein and Wright may have seen Cautley's articles and been impressed by her work. (See P. Walker and M. Simo, *Invisible Gardens: The Search for Modernism in the American Landscape*, 1994, 324 n24.)

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chronic illness beginning in 1937 caused Cautley to withdraw from active pursuits, she continued to author articles on landscape architecture that were published in a variety of periodicals, including *House and Garden*, *American City*, *House Beautiful*, and the *Journal of the American Institute of Planners*. In 1943, well into her career, Cautley earned an MA from the University of Pennsylvania in City Planning; her thesis was entitled, "How Blighted Areas in Philadelphia and Boston Might be Transformed."²⁰

Cautley's plan for the Common, which is preserved in her archives at Cornell University, reveals a carefully planned park with a variety of passive and active recreational opportunities. At the center of the plan is "The Roosevelt Rostrum" – the site for the monument – "Surrounded by Memorial Trees." Paths that cross the Common from Central Avenue, Jefferson Avenue, and Riveredge Road all lead to the monument site and effectively divide the Common into segments. In addition to an athletic field (with baseball diamond, track, football field, and tennis courts), the plan's major features include "clipped meadows" and "sunny meadow land," a forest, a bird and game preserve, a picnic grove, a skating shelter, an outdoor theatre, a girl scout cottage and gardens, and boy scout tipi. The plan is fancifully drawn, as though it were an illustrated page from a children's book, and while Marjorie was certainly its author, scholars have attributed the actual drawing to her sister, Helen.²¹ An article by Cautley published in the May, 1944 issue of *The American City* details her views on the creation of parks for community use, and reflects her experience in Tenafly: "A rostrum, a stage, or a terrace combine well with a fountain or a statue or a flag pole, and even if the rostrum is elevated only a few steps above the general level of the park, it immediately becomes a focal or gathering point for neighborhood life and community solidarity...use a canopy of shade trees...as was done in the case of the Roosevelt Memorial of carved limestone in the Common at Tenafly, NJ."²²

A local artist with proven skills in the subject matter desired by the Mackays for their memorial to Theodore Roosevelt was chosen to carry out the commission. The Roosevelt Monument was carved in-situ by sculptor Trygve Hammer (1878-1947). Hammer, a native of Norway, studied at the Art and Trades School in Oslo, and then, after arriving in the United States in 1904, studied sculpture at the Art Students League, the National Academy of Design, and the Beaux-Arts Institute of Design.²³ His teachers included Stirling Calder and Solon Borglum, both prominent and respected sculptors. While attending school he supported himself through work for interior decorators, executing decorative painting and woodcarving, skills he had gained in Norway. After becoming a naturalized citizen in 1913, he built a small studio in Palisades Park, New Jersey, which he opened in 1917. By the 1920s, when the Roosevelt Monument was created, Hammer was living on Long Island, NY.

²⁰ Biographical information on Cautley can be found in C.A. Birnbaum, FASLA and R. Karson, eds., *Pioneers of American Landscape Design*, New York, 2000, 47-49; Walker and Simo; N. Newton, *Design on the Land; the Development of Landscape Architecture*, 1971, 489.

²¹ Heather Wright to author, 26 March 1998. Cautley scholar Thaisa Way also notes Marjorie's collaboration with Helen, as illustrator, in 1922 for a photographic essay entitled "A City Garden," published in *Architecture* (T. Way, 20 n. 18).

²² M. Sewell (sic), "Small City Parks for Community Use; How Neighborhood Parks Meet Public Needs," *The American City*, May 1944, 65. Note Marjorie did not use her married name in the publication of this article.

²³ For biographical information on Hammer, see G.B. Opitz, ed., *Dictionary of American Sculptors*, 1984, 167; National Sculpture Society, *Contemporary American Sculpture*, 1929, 143; B.G. Proske, *Brookgreen Gardens Sculpture*, 1968, 276.

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Hammer completed the Tenafly commission with the help of assistants, most notably Leonia resident Fritz Emanuel Hammargren. Hammargren was a native of Sweden, and had studied sculpture at the Art School in Gothenborg, Sweden, and with the artist Bourdelle in Paris. He was known for his small sculptures and fountains, and received awards for his work from the Connecticut Academy of Fine Arts (1927) and The Montclair Art Museum (1932).²⁴

During the execution of the Roosevelt Monument, Hammer developed close relationships with the Roosevelt family, Dr. Frank Chapman of the Museum of Natural History (who subsequently spoke at the Monument's dedication), and the Mackays.²⁵ The Roosevelt Monument was created at a point in Hammer's career when he was already well established, and had designed numerous interiors, such as a Scandinavian Room for the University of Pittsburgh, the Scofield Memorial Library for The American-Scandinavian Foundation (New York) and the Trophy Hall for Princeton University. In his sculptural efforts, Hammer specialized in portrait heads and animal subjects, two themes he brought together for the creation of the Roosevelt Monument. This work was informed by his skills in wood carving, appearing almost schematic and blocky in some passages, finely detailed in others.

Trygve Hammer was on one of a number of artists working during the first decades of the twentieth century who chose as their frequent subjects the animal world. Those artists included Alexander Phimister Proctor, Laura Gardin Fraser, and Solon Borglum (Hammer's teacher), all of whom have outdoor pieces in New Jersey. Unlike the works of many of these contemporaries, however, Hammer here depicted animals as one element of a larger composition. Proctor, Fraser, and Borglum's animals (which included subjects like tigers, elk, buffalo, and bears) were usually large scale, three-dimensional sculpture in the round, and often functioned independently as subject matter in their own right. Hammer's animals and birds are carved in relief, and, while their function within the larger composition is critical, they are still subordinate to the monument's primary subject, Theodore Roosevelt.

The influence of Hammer's teacher, Solon Borglum, can be seen clearly at the Roosevelt Monument. Solon Hannibal Borglum (1868-1922), the younger brother of *Mount Rushmore* sculptor John Gutzon Borglum (1867-1941), was raised in Ogden, Utah and Fremont, Nebraska. While working as a cowboy on the family ranch, Borglum developed a passion for animals that remained with him throughout his career as an artist. Borglum had a spontaneous style, best seen in New Jersey in his *Buffalo and Bears* of 1907 (Leonard J. Gordon Park, Jersey City). Foregoing strict anatomical illustration, Borglum preferred to simply suggest an animal's form and to infuse the work with a sense of movement. Hammer's life-sized bears that crouch at the corners of the Roosevelt Monument are strongly reminiscent of the Jersey City bears of his teacher Borglum, works he had probably seen firsthand and admired.

In general, the period in which the Roosevelt Monument was created was a fruitful one for public sculpture, although the majority of new works were devoted to the commemoration of World War I

²⁴ For biographical information on Hammargren, see Opitz, 167.

²⁵ "Sculptor Put Forth Best Effort," *Tenafly Record*, 13 July 1928.

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efforts.²⁶ Among the most notable local examples of such works is Robert Ingersoll Aitken's World War I Memorial of 1924, located in nearby Cresskill (Bergen County). Aitken's memorial is a tall obelisk of pink granite that depicts a soldier and eagle in relief and marks the former center of Camp Merritt (earlier called Camp Tenafly), an embarkation camp for soldiers awaiting orders for overseas duties during World War I.²⁷ In 1926, sculptor Gutzon Borglum completed Newark's Wars of America (begun in 1920), a forty-two foot long figural grouping that dominated the city's Military Park and commemorated all major wars including World War I.

Tenafly's Theodore Roosevelt Monument is one of twenty-six publicly accessible, outdoor monuments to the 26th President of the United States, according to the National Museum of American Art's Inventory of American Sculpture. Typically, Roosevelt is depicted in military uniform, often on horseback.²⁸ In a number of cases, his portrait exists as one component of a larger figural grouping; the most prominent example of this situation is Gutzon Borglum's *Mount Rushmore* (South Dakota, Roosevelt portion dedicated 1939).²⁹ Of these twenty-six pieces, however, Tenafly's is the only one to honor Roosevelt's conservation efforts. Although the majority of memorials that include portraits of Roosevelt were sculpted in the realist tradition (a tradition embraced by many of the sculptors of the early 20th century, when most of these works were created), this memorial is the only one to depict the former President in a naturalistic setting surrounded by animals and birds.

²⁶ In fact, the majority of New Jersey's publicly accessible, outdoor works of art were created in the period immediately following World War I. M. Bzdak and D. Petersen, *Public Sculpture in New Jersey; Monuments to Collective Identity*, New Brunswick, NJ, 1999, 11.

²⁷For information see E. B. Sisson, *The Story of Tenafly*, Tenafly, NJ, 1939, 55-59.

²⁸ Such monuments exist in North Dakota, Arizona, and Oregon.

²⁹ Other examples include *All Veterans and Their Families Memorial* (Davenport, Iowa); *Nevada State Veteran's Memorial* (Carson City, Nevada); *Community Centennial Pole of Glenwood Springs* (Glenwood Springs, Colorado); *Victory Eagle and Pylons* (Detroit, Michigan); and *William McKinley National Birthplace Memorial* (Niles, Ohio).

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Verbal Boundary Description**

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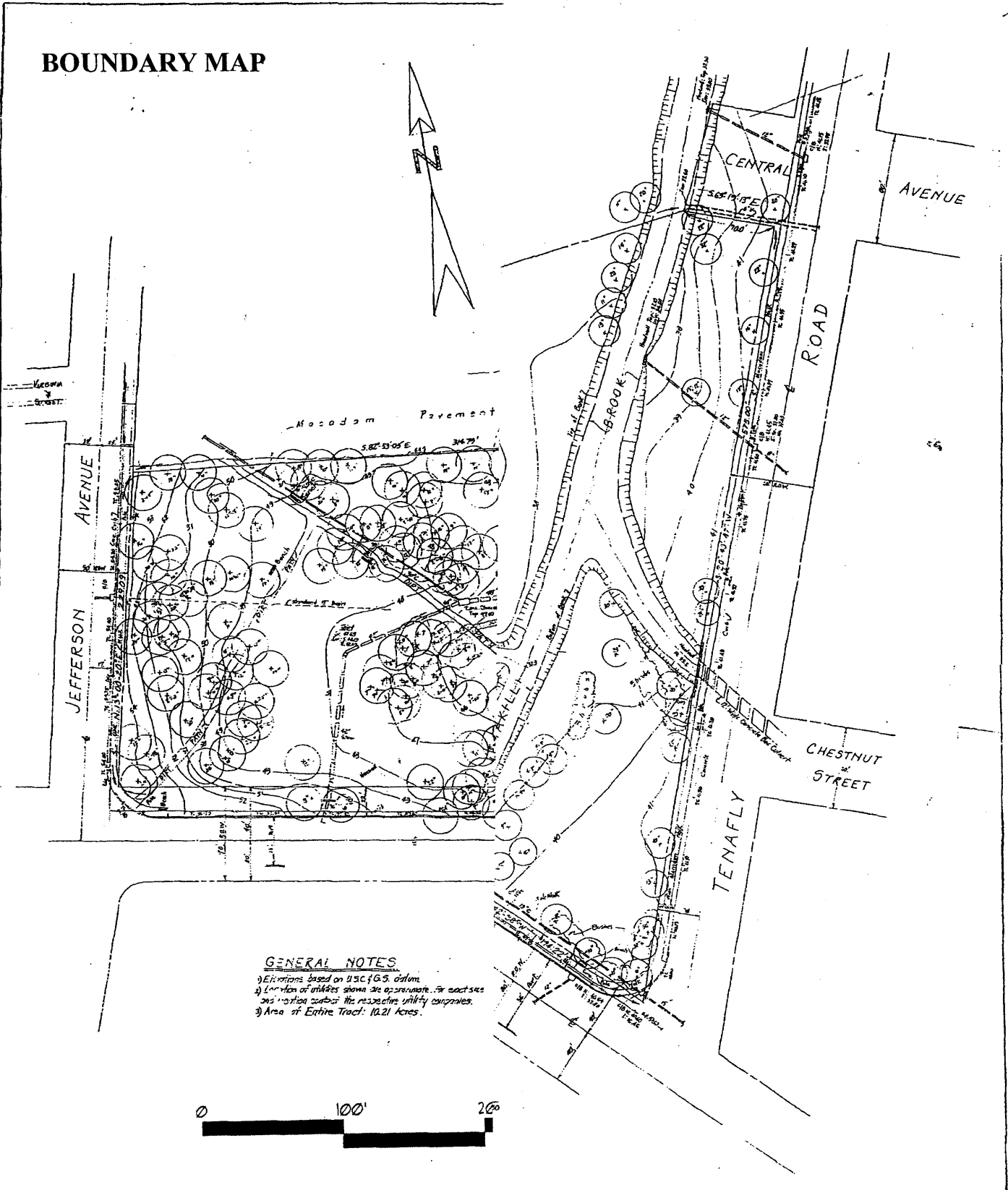
Boundary Description

The boundary defined for the Theodore Roosevelt Monument encompasses a circular area in the central portion of Block 97, Lot 1.01 in the Borough of Tenafly (Bergen County), New Jersey. The defined area (200' in diameter) features the monument at its center, and includes both the monument and the ring of trees immediately surrounding the monument. The boundary is shown on the accompanying map.

Boundary Justification

The boundary defined for the Theodore Roosevelt Monument includes the monument itself as well as the ring of trees that surround the monument. These two features not only define the center and focal point of the Common, but also represent the best preserved elements of the Common as originally designed by landscape architect Marjorie Sewell Cautley. The remainder of Roosevelt Common has been excluded as it has witnessed considerable change over time and no longer retains a high degree of integrity of design, setting, workmanship, or feeling.

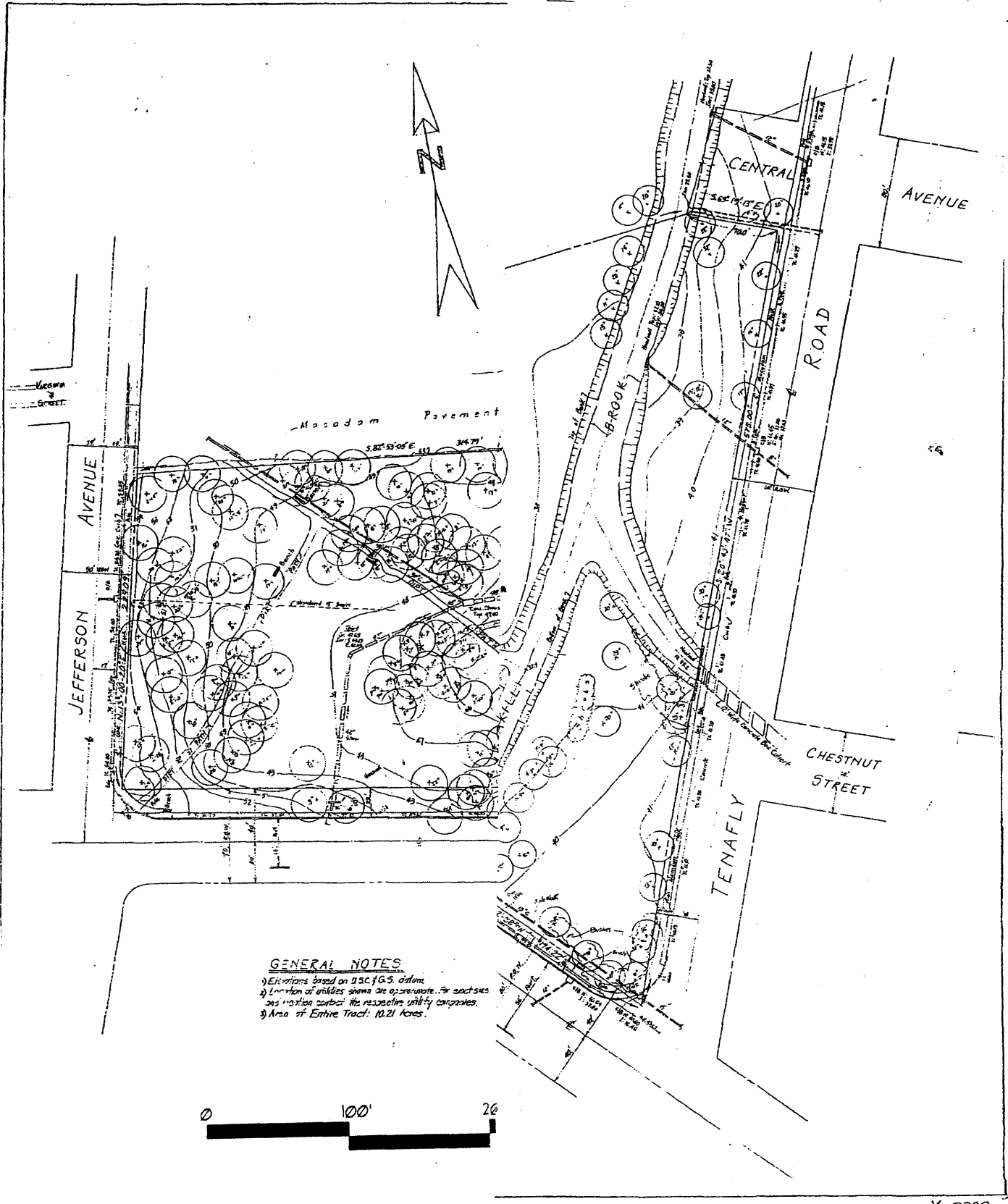
BOUNDARY MAP



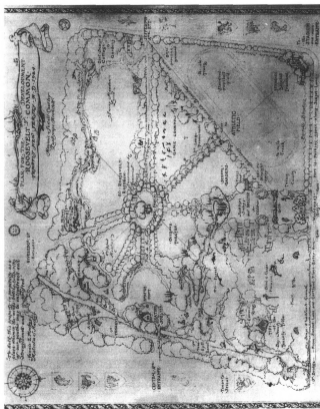
GENERAL NOTES

- 1) Elevations based on U.S.C. & G.S. datum.
- 2) Location of utilities shown are approximate. For exact size and location contact the respective utility companies.
- 3) Area of Entire Tract: 10.21 Acres.

Theodore Roosevelt Monument
 Bergen County, New Jersey
 Additional Documentation



GENERAL NOTES
 1) Elevations based on 1954 16.5 datum.
 2) Location of utilities shown are approximate. For each size and location contact the respective utility companies.
 3) Area of Entire Tract: 10.21 Acres.



Plan for the Development of Roosevelt Common by Marjorie Sewell Cautley, 1924. Image courtesy of Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania, Marjorie Sewell Cautley Collection.

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Photographs

The following information applies to all photographs:

3. Name of Photographer: Meredith Arms Bzdak
4. Date of Photographs: July 2005
5. Location of Negatives: New Jersey Historic Preservation Office

Item 6. Description of View:

- Photo 1. Roosevelt Monument, looking south at northwest elevation.
- Photo 2. Roosevelt Monument, looking southeast at northwest elevation.
- Photo 3. Roosevelt Monument, looking northwest at southeast elevation.
- Photo 4. Roosevelt Monument, detail, looking south at sculpted bear on northwest elevation.
- Photo 5. Roosevelt Monument, detail, looking southeast at stone dedication plaque.
- Photo 6. Roosevelt Monument, detail, looking northeast at quotation on south side of stone wall.
- Photo 7. Roosevelt Monument, detail, looking southwest at quotation on north side of stone wall.
- Photo 8. Roosevelt Monument, looking northeast, and ring of trees.
- Photo 9. Roosevelt Common, looking south along path between Monument and Riveredge Road; skating pond at right.
- Photo 10. Roosevelt Common, looking south along path between Monument and Riveredge Road.
- Photo 11. Roosevelt Monument, looking northwest.

NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE, SUNDAY, JULY 22, 1928



Unveiling of Roosevelt Monument Dedication Ceremony, July 22, 1928. Image courtesy of Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania, Margot Savell Curley Collection.

Theodore Roosevelt Monument
Bennington, New Jersey
Additional Documentation

Theodore Roosevelt Monument
Bergen County, New Jersey
Additional Documentation



East elevation of Roosevelt Monument, ca. 1938. Image courtesy of Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania. Marguerite Sewell Cudry Collection.