

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

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 Cooper River Park Historic District

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number (see Continuation Sheet) not for publication

city or town Borough of Collingswood, Cherry Hill Township, Borough of Haddonfield, Haddon Township, City of Camden, Pennsauken Township vicinity

state New Jersey code NJ county Camden code 007 zip code 08110

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.

Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____

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:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	Signature of the Keeper <u>[Signature]</u>	Date of Action <u>7/19/16</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other, (explain:) _____	_____	_____

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)	
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>7</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>3</u>	<u>14</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>26</u>	<u>28</u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u> objects
		<u>30</u>	<u>50</u> Total
Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)		Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register	
<u>N/A</u>		<u>1</u>	

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
<u>LANDSCAPE/Park</u>	<u>LANDSCAPE/Park</u>
<u>TRANSPORTATION/Road-related</u>	<u>TRANSPORTATION/Road-related</u>
<u>TRANSPORTATION/Pedestrian-related</u>	<u>TRANSPORTATION/Pedestrian-related</u>
<u> </u>	<u>LANDSCAPE/Conservation area</u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)	Materials (Enter categories from instructions)
<u>COLONIAL (Ebenezer Hopkins House)</u>	foundation <u>STONE</u>
<u> </u>	walls <u>BRICK</u>
<u> </u>	roof <u>ASPHALT</u>
	other <u>Pathways: ASPHALT</u>
	<u>Structures: CONCRETE and STONE</u>

Narrative Description

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

(see Continuation sheets – Section 7)

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 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.) [see Continuation - Section 8]

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)

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

CONSERVATION

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1925-1940

Significant Dates

1925, 1926, 1927, 1935-1940

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Charles W. Leavitt, Jr. (landscape architect)
Charles W. Leavitt and Son - Landscape Architects
Works Progress Administration (WPA) (builder)
Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) (builder)

Primary location of additional data

- X State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other

Name of repository:

NJHPO, Trenton, NJ

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property Approx. 583 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	18	492582	4420096	3	18	494469	4419561
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	18	493051	4419445	4	18	496009	4419009

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 : Robert A. Shinn, with assistance from Kevin Cook and the NJ Historic Preservation Office.

organization _____ date August 2014, December 2015

street & number 10 White Oak Court telephone 856-428-8672

city or town Cherry Hill state NJ zip code 08034

Accompanying 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 Camden County Parks Department

street & number 1301 Park Boulevard telephone 856-216-2117

city or town Cherry Hill state NJ zip code 08002-3752

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.*)

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.

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2. Location

Street & Number: Bounded by portions of Kaighn Avenue, North Park Drive, Park Boulevard, Caldwell Road, Bortons Mill Road, Ellis Street, Prospect Road, Roberts Avenue, Kings Highway, Evans Mill Road, Hopkins Lane, Grove Street, Glover Avenue, Narberth Avenue, South Edge Park Drive, Coles Mill Road, South Park Drive, and South Crescent Boulevard.

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(Note: The Cooper River Park Historic District is being nominated by this document for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. It has not been listed in the New Jersey Register of Historic Places. R. Craig 5/26/2016)

Narrative Description

Summary Paragraph

The Cooper River Park Historic District is a five mile long planned linear park system centered on the Cooper River between the City of Camden and the Borough of Haddonfield, New Jersey. Camden County and the Camden County Parks Commission (CCPC) developed seven¹ distinct, interconnected parks that together compose the district between 1925 and 1940. From west to east, they are: the Tidal Gate Park, Cooper River Park, Maria Barnaby Greenwald Memorial Park, Pennypacker Park, Hopkins Pond Park, Wallworth Park, and Challenge Grove Park, encompassing approximately 583 acres. The Cooper River Park, by far the largest of the seven, alone encompasses 346 acres, well over half of the total. Master landscape architect Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr. and his firm Charles Wellford Leavitt & Son (Leavitt & Son) designed the park system according to City Beautiful Movement concepts and principles. Federal New Deal agencies, including the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and Works Progress Administration (WPA), provided financial, design, and construction assistance to Camden County and the CCPC to complete the district's design and construction. Each interconnected park has a different landscape ranging from wide expanses of flat, open park land with occasional stands of trees in the western part of the district to more densely wooded and some mature forest areas in its eastern part. The district contains 29 contributing resources, including the Cooper River and Lake, 3 vehicular bridges, 2 dams, 1 building, 11 footbridges, 17 stone masonry features, miles of interconnecting winding footpaths, and 2 meandering drives on both sides of the river (North and South Park Drives). The district contains 47 non-contributing resources, mostly smaller and discrete, including 6 buildings, 25 structures, one object (which includes numerous works of sculpture), and 14 sites. Although numerically greater, their impact on the district is dwarfed by the contributing resources. The district has retained its original linear design centered on a body of water despite the addition of features and buildings added after 1940.

Location of Historic District

The Cooper River Park Historic District is located on both sides of the Cooper River between Kaighn Avenue in Pennsauken Township and the Ellis Street Bridge in the Borough of Haddonfield (Figure 1). It also includes Hopkins Pond Park in Haddonfield. The district includes North Park Drive, Park Boulevard, and South Park Drive and the Camden County parkland adjacent to them and adjacent to Coles Mill Road, Kings Highway, Cuthbert Boulevard, Roberts Avenue, Lane and Grove Street. The following sections describe these parks and identify their principal features. The photo location maps show the locations of these features by photo number. Each park section is divided into three parts: the first describes the park; the second describes the park's contributing resources; and the third describes the park's non-contributing resources. The district's resources are numbered consecutively. Contributing resources are numbered and listed in bold text. Non-contributing resources are numbered consecutively with the letters "NC" preceding the number.

¹ NJ DEP – Historic Preservation Office, Cooper River Park Historic District (ID#3021), Eligible for listing in the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places; Last Update: 4/5/2013. Cooper River between Kaighn Avenue and Walworth Lake. SHPO Opinion: 2/16/2000 (Previous SHPO Opinion: 2/28/94). Primary location listing: Camden City.

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Resource Inventory

The Cooper River Park Historic District contains several prominent, character-defining contributing resources that are inherent of planned linear parks of the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century. They lend significance and a high degree of historic integrity to the district and combine to convey the significance of the historic district as a whole. These features were either designed, shaped or constructed during the period of significance (1925-1940) or were built prior to the period of significance, but incorporated into the design and construction of the park. The contributing resources were part of the park's original landscape design plans produced by Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr., Leavitt & Son, or succeeding CCPC and WPA park planners between 1925 and 1940. The major contributing resources are: the Cooper River and Lake; North and South Park Drives; Park Boulevard; 3 vehicular bridges; 2 dams (one made of concrete, the other stone and masonry); a network of connecting footpaths throughout the parks; 1 building; 11 pedestrian footbridges; 8 stone and masonry stairways; 4 stone and masonry pavilions/ look out platforms, and 9 stone and masonry tree planters.

Contributing district resources shared by two or more interconnected parks

1. Cooper River – Contributing Site (Figure 1)

The district is centered on a 5-mile segment of the Cooper River between Haddonfield and Pennsauken much of which was extensively modified and reconstructed by dredging and filling between 1928 and 1940 (Figure 1). Originally named Cooper's Creek² for William Cooper, one of Camden County's first European settlers, the river courses westward for 16 miles from the headwaters of its South Branch in a gravel pit in Lucaston, NJ (Lindenwald) through Camden County to its confluence with the Delaware River in the City of Camden.³ The river's North Branch begins in Voorhees Township and joins its South Branch just west of the intersection of Park Boulevard and school land in Cherry Hill Township.⁴ The headwaters are in gently rolling country, the highest point on the divide, twelve miles southeast of the mouth, is at an elevation of 202 feet above sea level.⁵ The topography on the lower portion of the Cooper is a low, flat plane consisting of mainly sandy loam soil.

The river and its tributaries lay within the 40 square mile Cooper River Watershed. The Cooper River's tributaries include Buckmans Run, Chandlers Run, Millard Creek, Nicholson Branch, the North Branch, and Tindale Run. The river flows at an average rate of 35 million gallons per day.⁶ While the Cooper River was historically a tidal river as far east as Kings Highway in Haddonfield, present tidal flows east of the Kaighn Avenue Tidal Gate and dam are very limited and controlled to provide adequate depths for rowing and capacity for storm water retention.

² The New Jersey Legislature changed the name of Cooper Creek to Cooper River in 1911 to enhance the county's chances of securing federal funds to dredge the lower end of the creek.

³ The Delta Group. *Cooper River Study*. Prepared for the City of Camden. September 1980, p. 13. Lucaston is now part of Lindenwald, NJ.

⁴ The Cooper River flows through the following Camden County municipalities: Barrington, Berlin, Camden, Cherry Hill, Collingswood, Gibbsboro, Haddon Township, Haddonfield, Lawnside, Lindenwald, Magnolia, Merchantville, Pennsauken Township, Somerdale, Stratford, Tavistock, and Voorhees.

⁵ The Delta Group, op.cit., p 2. Soil at the headwaters is sand and gravel with outcrops of marl.

⁶ <http://www.ccmua.org/>. The Geological Survey of New Jersey, *Final Report of the State Geologist, Year 1894, a report on Water Supply, Volume III*, contains calculations by C. C. Vermeule estimating the flow of the Cooper at Camden at an average of 40 million gallons per day and for the driest month at 6.8 million gallons per day.

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The landscape designs of Leavitt & Son and the WPA dramatically changed the physical appearance of the river within the limits of the historic district. The original creek was a narrow twisting tidal stream surrounded by marshland and wetlands. Its banks were muddy and littered with debris deposited during the tides.⁷ Dredging and filling obliterated the river's former intertidal zone and created a wide expanse with gentle, sloping, landscaped banks and a much wider river no longer subject to tidal action above the tide gate.

Leavitt & Son and the WPA landscape plans also resulted in the construction of two dams to impound the Cooper River within the district to create Cooper River Lake and Wallworth Lake. The Cooper River has retained the same overall shape and landscaped form as designed by Leavitt & Son and the WPA between 1928 and 1940 (Figures 2 and 4). Despite the extensive loss of wetlands and tidal marshes, the river's banks still provide habitat for many wildlife species, and its channel and lakes provide habitat for many fish species.

2. North Park Drive and Park Boulevard – Contributing Structure (Photos 1 and 5)

North Park Drive/ Park Boulevard is a paved two-lane drive (one lane in each direction) that parallels the northern shore of the Cooper River and Lake and, except for terminations on either site of the New Jersey Transit Railroad Bridge, that extends the entire length of the district's 5-mile northern border between Pennsauken and Cherry Hill townships.⁸ The winding drive extends through open park land eastward beginning at Kaighn Avenue in Pennsauken (Photo 1) crossing South Crescent Boulevard (NJ Route 130) and into Cherry Hill Township where it becomes Park Boulevard and continues easterly terminating at a parking lot adjacent to a railroad embankment leading to the New Jersey Transit railroad bridge. Park Boulevard resumes its eastward path from the east side of the railroad bridge embankment until it terminates at Caldwell Road in Cherry Hill Township.

Leavitt & Son designed North Park Drive and Park Boulevard. North Park Drive's proposed route and alignments appear on the firm's plans for the Cooper River Parkway (January 1925, Figure 4), Munn's Meadow Park (December 1927, Figure 10), and the Cooper River Two Mile Rowing Course (June 1928, Figure 12).⁹

The CCPC and the WPA constructed North Park Drive and Park Boulevard according to these plans, and these roads have retained Leavitt & Son's originally planned alignments and contours with two minor exceptions.¹⁰ The alignment of North Park Drive east of Kings Highway in Cherry Hill Township matches almost exactly with Leavitt & Son's October 1927 Landscape Plan for Munn's Meadow Park (Figure 10), but is different from

⁷ Raible, Dennis G. *The First Three Hundred Years: Haddon Township's Hopkins Plantation*. Philadelphia: Saint Joseph's University Press. 1990. p. 137

⁸ Park Boulevard between the N.J. Transit railroad bridge embankment and Grove Street in Cherry Hill does not mark the northern border of the Cooper River Park or the district, but was part of Leavitt's original design for North Park Drive.

⁹ Leavitt & Son designed a "Cooper River Parkway" from Camden to Haddonfield and drafted plans for "Cooper River Valley" improvements in 1925 before the firm before the CCPC was formed and before the CCPC retained its services for in 1927. Leavitt and Son and their clients regarded the "Cooper River Parkway" not just as a roadway, but a plan for a regional network of public parks with an interconnected transportation system. As will be discussed herein Leavitt's early clients in the region included the City of Camden and Eldridge Johnson, the founder and chief executive of the Victor Talking Machine Company.

¹⁰ (1) North Park Drive begins its eastward course at Kaighn Avenue instead of Admiral Wilson Boulevard, and (2) Park Boulevard does not pass beneath the New Jersey and Seashore Railway as proposed on Leavitt & Son's Two Mile Rowing Course (Figure 12).

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the firm's 1925 plan.¹¹ The 1927 Landscape Plan also appears to have evolved. One plan called for Park Boulevard to pass under Kings Highway while another did not (Figure 10).¹² There is no underpass today and no evidence that the CCPC ever constructed one.

The district's resource inventory, by park

The following narrative describes each of the six individual interconnected parks within the district and their contributing and non-contributing resources. The inventory starts with Tidal Gate Gateway Park on the west end of the district and proceeds east. The inventory first identifies and numbers each contributing resource and then each non-contributing resource by park. Some features of Cooper River Park are not character-defining features of the park and therefore are non-contributing resources. They do not contribute to the park's significance or to its historic integrity because they were constructed prior to 1925 or after it was completed in 1940. The non-contributing ("NC") resources of Cooper River Park are listed below in geographic order from west to east, first along North Park Drive/ Park Boulevard, then along South Park Drive, and are numbered NC2 through NC25.¹³

Tidal Gate Gateway Park (25 acres)

Tidal Gate Gateway Park is a 25 acre park in Pennsauken Township between Kaighn Avenue,¹⁴ South Crescent Boulevard, and the Cooper River. North Park Drive begins at Kaighn Avenue and then travels eastward through this park to South Crescent Boulevard.¹⁵ Tidal Gate Park includes open park land and lightly wooded areas on both sides of North Park Drive (photo 1, Figure 17a). Leavitt's 1925 park plan included park land and a park drive on the south bank of the Cooper River between Kaighn Avenue and Crescent Boulevard that was not constructed.¹⁶ Harleigh Cemetery owns the land west of East Crescent Boulevard and south of the Cooper River.¹⁷

¹¹ The 1925 design showed North Park Drive crossing Kings Highway on an eastern course, then turning south and passing closet to and east of the Evans Pond Dam, crossing Bortons Mill Road, and continuing on south along the eastern side of Evans Pond to a rotary juncture with Kresson and Berlin Roads and Ellis Street just east of the Ellis Street Bridge (Figure 4).

¹² The October 1927 Leavitt plan for Munn's Meadow Park includes the word "OMITTED" with arrows pointing to altered borders of Park Boulevard to the right of "UNDERPASS" label.

¹³ Camden County lists Cooper River Park facilities on its website: <http://www.camdencounty.com/parks/parks/cooper-river>. The website also provides access to a four minute video about Cooper River Park.

¹⁴ Kaighn Avenue was called Kaighn's Lane or Kaighn's Point Lane or Avenue on deeds dated before 1730. John Kaighn made the lane to connect his plantation with the Newton Creek settlement after he purchased 460 acres in 1696. After a ferry was established at Kaighn's Point the avenue became a street for commerce. Source: <http://www.dvrbs.com/camden-streets/camdennj-streets-kaighnavenue.htm>

¹⁵ North Park Drive is a district-wide contributing resource. See description above.

¹⁶ The land bordering the south bank of the Cooper River south and west of Tidal Gate Park belongs to historic Harleigh Cemetery (New Jersey Register of Historic Places ID #2829). Poets Walt Whitman and Nick Virgilio and four United States Senators from New Jersey, John Starr, William Sewell, David Baird, and David Baird, Jr. are buried in Harleigh Cemetery.

¹⁷ Harleigh Cemetery was determined to be eligible for listing in the National Register on June 15, 1995.

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Tidal Gate Gateway Park¹⁸ Contributing Resources

3. Cooper River Tide Gate and Dam – Contributing Structure (photo 2)

The CCPC constructed a concrete dam and tide gate across the Cooper River in 1938 between Kaighn Avenue and Crescent Boulevard. The tide gate impounds the Cooper River and creates the Cooper River Lake. It also controls tidal flows up and down river to maintain constant Cooper Lake water levels for rowing and other boating activity. The dam features four decorative concrete columns extending upwards from the water, two at both ends of the dam adjacent to the shoreline.

The bridge consists of two modified low shallow arches that span the river and join at the center with three supporting columns. The bridge over the dam has cast concrete railings. The railings are solid on the ramps leading up to the bridge and have 12 sections of concrete railing, each with six narrow slot vertical open spaces approximately 2 feet in length, between the top and bottom rails.

Tidal Gate Gateway Park non-contributing resources

(NC1). (building and site) The Camden County Golf Academy, a partially enclosed golf driving range, is located at 8001 South Route 130, Pennsauken (photo 3 and green shaded area on Figure 17a). Tommy Martin leased this section of parkland from the CCPC in the mid-1960s and created a small lake forming a water hazard with small islands featuring distance markers. Martin sold to Robert Thatcher in the mid-1980s, who later gave control back to the CCPC. The Camden County Parks Department rebuilt the golf driving range in 1995.¹⁹ The Academy now includes an aquatic, lighted, 60 station double-decker driving range.

Cooper River Park (346.55 acres)

Cooper River Park contains 346.55 acres and extends approximately 3 miles between South Crescent Boulevard (Pennsauken Township) and Grove Street (Cherry Hill Township) on both sides of Cooper River Lake through parts of Pennsauken Township, the City of Camden, the Borough of Collingswood, Cherry Hill Township, and Haddon Township. The park's southern side boundary is bordered by single family homes and some multi-family apartment buildings in Haddon Township and the Boroughs of Collingswood and Haddonfield. Commercial, institutional, and multi-family residential lands uses are north of the park in Pennsauken and Cherry Hill Townships.

Winding vehicular drives, North and South Park Drives, run in an east-west direction generally paralleling the shores of Cooper River Lake. The park includes one vehicular bridge (the Cuthbert Boulevard Bridge), the New Jersey Transit railroad bridge, paved footpaths, paved parking areas, picnic pavilions, stone masonry features, memorial statues and sculpture, Veterans Island, baseball diamonds, children's playgrounds, a stadium with a quarter mile running track, and other recreational features described below.

The New Jersey chapter of the American Planning Association (APA-NJ) placed Cooper River Park on its New Jersey's 2013 "Great Places" list in September 2013. "Cooper River Park is a sterling illustration of the

¹⁸ Note: "Tidal Gate Gateway Park" is an assigned name for this nomination. There may not be a formal name of this area. The Camden City 1980 "Cooper River Study by the Delta Group" labeled this area the "Harleigh Cemetery/Impoundment Unit" (page 37).

¹⁹ Ed Fox, December 13, 2006, and David C. Munn, December 14, 2006, personal communications with Paul Schopp; Pennsauken Township Assessor's records.

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outcome of good plans and planning, both in its design and development, and by the measures taken by Camden County to preserve and even improve its character over time," APA-NJ President Charles Latini, Jr. said. "The Park is highly worthy of its place on APA-NJ's Great Places map." Camden County Freeholder Jeff Nash called the Cooper River Park "the crown jewel of our county park system."²⁰

Cooper River Park Contributing Resources

4. Cooper River Lake – Contributing Site (photo 4)

Cooper River Lake was central to Cooper River Park's original design and remains the parks central feature today. WPA workers created the lake by extensive dredging and filling in and around the Cooper River and the surrounding swamp land between 1935 and 1940 (Figure 2). The lake extends east of the Cooper River Tide Gate and Dam to East Crescent Boulevard and then about 2.4 miles further east from East Crescent Boulevard to the New Jersey Transit Bridge in Cherry Hill and Haddon Townships. It is surrounded largely by open parkland and wooded areas between North and South Park Drives and the lake (photo 5).

5. South Park Drive – Contributing Structure (photo 6)

South Park Drive is a 2.4 mile paved two-lane winding drive.²¹ Its western end begins at South Crescent Boulevard (City of Camden) and continues east along the southern side of Cooper River Lake through the Borough of Collingswood (photo 6) until it ends at Saginaw Avenue in Haddon Township. The two mile segment of South Park Drive between Browning Road, Borough of Collingswood, and Saginaw Avenue in Haddon Township currently conforms to Leavitt's 1925 plan within the district.²² The remaining 0.4 mile segment from Browning Road to Crescent Boulevard was designed by the WPA to allow for the 1938 western extension of the rowing course and to connect with the Crescent Boulevard Bridge that had replaced the Browning Road Bridge.

6. Ebenezer Hopkins House, 250 South Park Drive – Contributing Building (photo 9)

A Georgian style brick Ebenezer Hopkins House, located at 250 South Park Drive, Haddon Township, on the southern side of Cooper Lake, is a contributing resource to the historic district and a focal point within the park.²³ The Hopkins House is representative of a Georgian style countryseat of brick, many of which were erected in the suburbs of Philadelphia about the middle of the eighteenth century.²⁴

²⁰ McCrone, Brian X., "Camden County's Cooper River Park named to N.J. 'Great Public Spaces' 2013list," *PHILLY.COM*, September 30, 2013

²¹ One lane in each direction.

²² Leavitt's 1925 plan for South Park Drive was, however, more ambitious than today's configuration. Leavitt's Cooper River Parkway plan proposed to begin its western end at a new rotary connected to Lime Street in the City of Camden and continuing east along the south shore of the Cooper River, passing under the New Jersey Transit railroad bridge causeway, and then following the general route of the portion of Coles Mill Road that lies along the south bank of the Cooper River, then crossing Grove Street and connecting with Hopkins Road (now Hopkins Lane) at the north eastern end of Silver Lake (now Hopkins Pond). Traces of Leavitt's 1925 plans for South Park Drive today parallel or overlap portions of Edgewater Park Drive and Narberth Avenue in Haddonfield.

²³ ID #968; SHPO Opinion 6/25/1980. Located N 39° 55.456 W 075° 03.705, 18S E 494723 N 4419353

²⁴ Throughout the Colonial period Philadelphia area builders followed the manners and customs of England. While wood was expensive in England and cheap in America, brick and stone were thought necessary for the better homes, despite the fact that bricks and lime for making mortar had to be brought at great expense from overseas.

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The house is a brick two and a half story house, 22 feet by 32 feet built on a three bay side hall plan. The architecture is a simple colonial Quaker style. The front façade facing south is in Flemish bond brick with a triple brick belt course in Flemish bond between the first and second stories.²⁵ The other elevations are in Liverpool bond. The western elevation has a belt course and a projecting double row of brick stretches between the second and upper stories. A diamond pattern in dark glazed brick is visible between the two windows on the upper story of the western elevation. Dark glazed brick are also randomly placed in the wall which is 13 inches thick.²⁶

The house is split in two distinct wings with brick chimneys on both ends. The taller western wing has three white shuttered white trimmed windows on the second floor of each wing facing South Park Drive and a white entrance door towards the apparent center of the two wings on the right side of the west wing facing the street. The front door is flanked on the west by two large white trimmed windows with shutters.

Samuel Shrivvers constructed the first building on the site of the present day Hopkins House after inheriting a 200-acre tract of land from his father between 1716 and 1725.²⁷ John Estaugh purchased the house and land in 1735 from John Eastlack after it had passed through several hands. John and his wife Elizabeth,²⁸ daughter of John Haddon,²⁹ conveyed possession of the house and lands to Elizabeth's nephew and their "adopted son" Ebenezer Hopkins in 1737. Hopkins built a large addition onto the west wall of the Shrivvers house in 1740 which is now the building's west wing. Upon Hopkins's death in 1857 the house and plantation passed to his youngest child Ann Hopkins Burr who had the deteriorated Shrivvers east wing torn down and replaced by a new east wing around 1800. Earl Lippincott demolished the deteriorated Burr east wing in 1926.

Camden County acquired the house as part of its plan to construct Cooper River Park in 1936 when it had already begun transforming Cooper's Creek into Cooper River Parkway. The WPA completed eight architectural drawings of the house, which it called "The Burr House," after former owner Ann Burr, as part of the Historical American Buildings Survey in 1937.³⁰

²⁵ Flemish bond brickwork lays each course of alternating headers and stretchers so that each header is centered over a joint in the course below. Liverpool or English garden-wall bond has one course of headers to every three to five stretcher courses, with a queen-closer introduced next to the quoin-header in the header course.

²⁶ This description was prepared by Camden County historian Gail Greenberg and is taken from Raible, op.cit., p. 149.

²⁷ Raible, Dennis G., op.cit., p. 8. Shrivvers was Newtown Township's highway surveyor.

²⁸ Elizabeth left London in 1701 at the age of 19 to manage her father's extensive real estate holdings in America. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow knew her and romanticized her courtship with John Estaugh as the story of John Alden and Priscilla in "Aftermath." Lydia Marla Child's also commemorated their courtship in "The Youthful Immigrant."

²⁹ John Haddon made anchors, accumulated a substantial sum, and purchased 500 acres along Coopers Creek in 1698. He also owned other large tracts of land in Delaware and Waterford Township. He died in 1723 never having seen his American land. Raible, op.cit. pp.11-13.

³⁰ Raible describes "Today's Hopkins House" in more detail in Chapter 19 on pages 145-152 of his book *The First Three Hundred Years*. The U.S. Department of the Interior, National Parks Service, Branch of Plans and Designs, prepared detailed drawings of the Burr House as part of Official Project No. 165-22-6999 (Survey No. N.J. 395) Drawn May 5 – June 18, 1937. The drawings of the house are available online as part of the Historical American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record, at the Built in America pages: http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/collections/habs_haer/index.html

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The WPA renovated the interior of the west wing in 1938-39 and built a new east wing 1939 to resemble the structure torn down in 1926.³¹ The Camden County Park Police occupied the use until 1972 and, for a number of years, shared the new addition with the Cooper River Cycle Club that rented and repaired bicycles. The house became headquarters for Camden County's first environmental study center under the auspices of the CCPC which arranged to hire a full time naturalist to teach students and serve as a liaison between the center and Camden County schools. In 1979 the east wing housed the offices of the Camden County Cultural and Heritage Commission, the county historian, a storage space, and public restrooms. It has also served as an art gallery and is used for special events, including as a polling place on election day.³²

7. 2,000 Meter Rowing Course – Contributing Site (Figure 12)

Leavitt's firm designed a two-mile rowing course on Cooper River Lake in 1928 (Figure 12). The CCPC described the planned course as follows:

The eight lane Rowing Course, two and one half miles long and an irregular width of from four hundred to nine hundred feet, is now being constructed. The course will be free of island and any obstructions. This Rowing Course will conform in every respect with the regulations required for International competition. The original purpose of this rowing course was for the pleasure of people who like boating and for high school boys who need practice in preparing to qualify for the boat crews at college. Indications are that trained crews will use the course in competitive races.³³

Although the location of the course as shown in the design of Leavitt's firm was shifted slightly downstream during its redesign in 1938 (Figures 13 and 14) it has retained its basic shape and orientation as designed and constructed by the WPA.

Local high schools, regional rowing clubs, the Intercollegiate Rowing Association's Championship Regatta, and the United States' collegiate national championship of rowing have used the western portion of the course for practice and competitive regattas. International rowing experts praise the course's Olympic-distance 2000-meter straightaway with its six lanes buoyed course for its sheltered, narrow course that provides ideal rowing conditions.³⁴

8. Jack Curtis Stadium Masonry Bleachers – Contributing Structure (photo 27)

Twelve sets of concrete and stone masonry bleachers, built in 1937,³⁵ are located on the north side of Cooper River Lake north of the Jack Curtis Stadium ¼ mile oval cinder track between the track's northern stretch and North Park Drive. Each set includes six rows of seat benches supported by rectangular concrete supports set roughly four feet apart. The upper-most benches are backed by low stone walls composed of gray flat edged shaped Pennsylvania mica field stones of irregular size and capped with a stone topped rail. These are

³¹ R. Cohen, "Historic Hopkins House, South Jersey.com, updated 6/14/2008, <http://www.sjol.com/articles/?articleID=12096> For more detailed information on the history of the house and its occupants see Dennis Raible, op.cit.

³² Raible, op.cit. p.151-152.

³³ Brown, C. Oscar, Ed. *Camden County Park System as Constructed by Camden County Park Commission: Period from November 1926 to January 1937*. CCPC, 1938. p.90.

³⁴ <https://www.regattacentral.com/cms/uploads/files/GSSC%20coaches%20packet%202013%20Edited%201-17.pdf>

³⁵ Brown, op.cit., p.91

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collectively flanked by two flat stones set in concrete at alternating layers overlapping gaps and shaped to hold a low masonry railing that parallels the angle of the slope of the bleachers and the adjoin walkway.

9. Stone Masonry Pavilion North Shore – Contributing Structure (photo 25)

A Pennsylvania mica stone masonry pavilion on the northern side of Cooper River Lake is built on a hill with commanding views up and down the Lake and of the Two Mile Rowing Course. It is located near the finish line of the current 2,000 meter rowing course south of Park Boulevard slightly west of its intersection with Donahue Avenue. The pavilion is reached by an unpaved path about 200 feet long from Park Boulevard. The pavilion also is reached from the lake side by climbing a flat, wide stone staircase with wide low stone rails.

The pavilion is an octagon with eight wood square pillars supporting a shingle covered roof. The roof consists of eight equally sized triangular sections all whose upper corner connects at a pointed peak and then slope outward just beyond the pavilion base. The pillars are set on top of the ends of four separate stone masonry walls set on the masonry base and separated by equally sized open space between each wall.

10. East Madison Avenue Stone Masonry Retaining Wall and Staircase – Contributing Structure (photo 26)

Three sets of Pennsylvania mica stone and masonry stairways with retaining walls connect the southern border of Cooper River Park with the northern ends of East Madison, Crestmont Terrace, and East Knight Avenue in the Borough of Collingswood. While Leavitt's 1925 and 1928 plans show these three streets connecting with South Park Drive (Figures 4 and 12), the 1937 WPA Proposed Landscape Development and Planting Plan shows them remaining as dead end streets with the staircases drawn in their current configuration (Figure 16).

The largest of these three stairways is the grand Pennsylvania mica stone masonry staircase that descends from the northern end of East Madison Avenue to Cooper River Park land south of South Park Drive. The top of the stairs at the East Madison Avenue street level consists of a three foot high semi-circular stone masonry retaining wall which spans the width of East Madison Avenue and bows out northwards towards Cooper River Lake. Two stone masonry staircases with stone rails descend around the outside of the retaining wall towards each other where they meet with a shared stone landing and then descend to the park ground level down three sets of stone masonry stairs. The pattern of the stone layers is regular and alternating over gaps though-out most of the railings and retaining wall, but is interrupted in some parts of each with large stones and some irregular patterns.

11. Crestmont Terrace Stone Masonry Retaining Wall and Staircase – Contributing Structure (photo 30)

A Pennsylvania mica stone masonry staircase descends from the east end of Crestmont Terrace to the Cooper River Park. The upper section begins on the south side of Crestmont Terrace and descends approximately 18 steps in a curved staircase that bends to the left until it joins a landing. It then continues straight descending four steps to a second landing with built in stone seats on either side of the landing. The entire staircase is flanked on both sides by waist high stone masonry walls with flat surfaces and flat square stone caps at each corner post which slightly overhang the stone walls. The stones are laid to overlap the mortar seams of each successive course.

12. East Knight Avenue Stone Masonry Retaining Wall and Staircase – Contributing Structure (photo 31)

A Pennsylvania mica stone masonry staircase descends from the east end of East Knight Avenue Terrace to the Cooper River Park. The upper section begins on the south side of East Knight Avenue and descends

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approximately 6 steps until it joins a landing. The stairway is flanked by low stone masonry walls, each about 1 foot in height, except for the middle landing where there is a higher wall on the west side to guard against a steep western slope west of the wall. It then continues straight descending 6 more steps to a second landing where the walls scroll outwards 90 degrees terminating against a square post on each side approximately 2 feet tall. The stones are laid to overlap the mortar seams of each successive course. A poured concrete landing and short step with timbered risers completes the bottom of the stairway.

13. River stone masonry tree planters – Contributing Structure (photo 28)

There are nine river stone masonry tree planters located on the southern side of Cooper River Lake in Haddon Township. Six are located west of Cuthbert Boulevard between Shady Lane and Cuthbert and three are located between Cuthbert and the NJ Transit railroad bridge.

14. Pink granite stone and masonry footbridge and walkway – Contributing Structure (photo 32)

The WPA built a pink granite stone and masonry footbridge and walkway on the south side of a Park Boulevard Bridge located west of Cuthbert Boulevard.³⁶ The south side parapet consists of a stone wall approximately 4 feet high on the middle of the bridge connected to a series of three square stone pillars of equal height by sets of two wooden rails between the main wall and each pillar midway up the walls and by a single or double course of stone at the base of the parapet. The stones facing the walk way are flat and smooth and of irregular size. They are set to overlap the masonry seam between each course of stones.

15. Cuthbert Boulevard Bridge – Contributing Structure (photo 33)

The Cuthbert Boulevard Bridge³⁷ crosses the river near the eastern end of Cooper River Lake. The New Jersey State Highway Department's Bridge Division designed and Ole Hansen constructed the Cuthbert Boulevard Bridge in 1939.³⁸ The bridge dedication ceremonies in 1940 featured a rowing exhibition by Joe Burk, an outstanding sculler, University of Pennsylvania rowing coach, and developer of modern rowing techniques who grew up on a farm in Bridgeboro, New Jersey.³⁹

16. Concrete Dock (Park Boulevard) – Contributing Structure (photo 34)

The WPA built an exposed aggregate concrete dock about 12 feet long and 6 feet wide with two benches on the north shore of Cooper River Lake 100 feet south and west of a Japanese Pagoda.⁴⁰

17. Concrete Dock (South Park Drive) – Contributing Structure (photo 35)

The WPA also built an exposed aggregate concrete dock about 12 feet long and 6 feet wide on the south shore of Cooper River Lake east of the Cuthbert Boulevard Bridge north of Park Court, Haddon Township. This dock is almost identical to the dock shown in photo 33, except that it faces north and its benches need repair.

³⁶ Camden County Parks Commission. *Figure 10: Historic Features of Cooper River Park*. 1988 (revised 1993). NJ State Historic Preservation Office, Cooper River Park Historic District opinion file.

³⁷ NJDOT Structure # 043C024.

³⁸ Lichtenstein, A.G. and Associates, Inc. *Historic Bridge Survey*. Survey and database prepared for the New Jersey Department of Transportation, Bureau of Environmental Services and the Federal Highway Administration, 1994 and 2001.

³⁹ Christopher Dodd, "Joe Burk: Innovative US Rower whose Henley record stood for 27 years," *The Guardian*, February 27, 2008, online citation: <http://www.theguardian.com/sport/2008/feb/28/sportobituaries>.

⁴⁰ Camden County Parks Commission. *Figure 10: Historic Features of Cooper River Park*. op.cit.

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18. South Park Drive stone masonry lookout platform with walls, east of Cuthbert Boulevard –
Contributing Structure (photo 29)

A Pennsylvania mica stone masonry lookout platform on the southern side of the park adjacent to South Park Drive (across the from 602 South Park Drive) consists of low flat stone walls set in alternating layers and including some larger stones that are three times thicker than adjacent flat layers. This irregular pattern of mortared fieldstone is particularly noted in the vertical columns adjoining each wall that appear to have been designed at one time to hold pillars for a roof covering.

19. South Park Drive stone masonry lookout platform east of Cuthbert Boulevard – Contributing Structure
(photo 36)

A Pennsylvania mica stone masonry raised lookout platform on the southern side of the park adjacent to South Park Drive. The platform has no walls. Two shallow stone and masonry stairways descend to ground from the top of the platform to the ground.

20. Stone masonry retaining wall and tree planter – South shore near railroad bridge – Contributing
Structure (photo 37)

A Pennsylvania mica stone masonry retaining wall and tree planter is located on the southern side of the park and river adjacent to and on the west shore of the confluence of a Cooper River tributary that runs north through a ravine between the NJ Transit Railroad and Oneida Avenue, Haddon Township.

21. Stone masonry lookout platform - South shore near railroad bridge – Contributing Structure (photo 38)

A Pennsylvania mica stone masonry lookout platform similar in construction to the platform described in number 18 above is located on the southern side of the park and river west of the NJ Transit railroad and east of the confluence of a Cooper River tributary that runs north through a ravine between the NJ Transit Railroad and Oneida Avenue, Haddon Township. Similar to the lookout platform adjacent to South Park Drive, it consists of low flat stone walls set in alternating layers and including some larger stones that are three times thicker than adjacent flat layers. This irregular pattern of mortared fieldstone is particularly noted in the vertical columns adjoining each wall that appear to have been designed at one time to hold pillars for a roof covering.

22. Stone masonry stairway Grove Street Bridge northwest side – Contributing Structure (photo 39)

A stone and masonry stairway is located on the northwest quadrant of the Grove Street Bridge and leads down to parkland adjacent to the Cooper River from the Grove Street sidewalk level.

23. Stone stairway Grove Street Bridge southwest side – Contributing Structure (photo 40)

A stone and masonry stairway is located on the southwest quadrant of the Grove Street Bridge and leads down to parkland adjacent to the Cooper River from the Grove Street sidewalk level.

24. Pedestrian footpaths and sidewalks – Contributing Structure

Paved and unpaved footpaths wind through Cooper River Park. Paved and unpaved pedestrian footpath systems are distinctive, character-defining features on both sides of the Cooper River and Cooper River Lake. Leavitt's proposed and designed footpaths for Cooper River Parks are shown on his 1925 Cooper River Parkway Plan (Figure 4) and his 1928 Cooper River Two Mile Rowing Course plan (Figure 12). Many of these footpaths were altered by subsequent designers prior to their construction in the 1930s and new paths were designed and

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added, especially in the enlargement of the western section of Cooper Lake following the removal of the Browning Road bridge as shown on the 1937 "As-Built Landscape Development and Planting Plan" (Figure 15). The network of footpaths of Cooper River Park and throughout all the other interconnected parks, constructed between 1935 and 1940 are counted as one contributing resource feature to the historic district. They are characteristic of the active recreation linear park style that Cooper River Park represents. Leavitt and his successor landscape architects designed them to enable park users to progress through all park sections at a leisurely pace or a jog at all times of the year.⁴¹

Non-Contributing Resources – Cooper River Park

NC2 (structure) Crescent Boulevard Bridge (U.S. Route 130/30 over the Cooper River) . In 1926 the New Jersey State Highway Department's Bridge Division designed and constructed the predecessor Crescent Boulevard Bridge (photo 22) as part of the Camden Extension project (see Section 8).⁴² The new bridge includes compatible elements such as the construction of the bridge on the historic footprint; use of an aesthetic parapet (e.g. Texas type parapet), tinted and form-lined parapets and other design features to complement the above ground features of the district.⁴³

NC3 (structure) Stone Masonry stairway, Crescent Boulevard (former stairway: photo 24). The Cooper River Park Historic District contains 15 Pennsylvania mica stone masonry features. The stone masonry structures are character-defining features and contributing resources. The WPA built them between 1935 and 1940 (within the district's time period of historical significance), as elements of the park. Three sets of Pennsylvania mica stone masonry stairways led from the east side of Crescent Boulevard down to Cooper River Parkland below. Two of the stairways south of the Crescent Boulevard Bridge are shown on the 1937 WPA As-Built Landscape Development and Planting Plan (Figure 15). One set is shown on the upper left corner of the plan where the "South Connecting Road" begins to cross the Cooper River, and the other is on the lower left side of the plan just south of where the South Connecting Road intersects with South Cooper Boulevard. A third stone masonry stairway led from Crescent Boulevard to the park at the northeastern quadrant of the bridge south of its intersection with North Park Drive (photo 24). The NJ Department of Transportation (NJ DOT) removed all three Pennsylvania mica stone and masonry staircases to replace and widen Crescent Boulevard Bridge. The two staircases located south of South Park Drive were disassembled and their materials salvaged and reused to reconstruct a staircase located at the northeast quadrant of the bridge crossing.⁴⁴

⁴¹ There are large grassland areas, waterside shrubberies, mature forest areas, streamside trails and wetland habitats that reward frequent visitors with surprising wildlife encounters. Trails at the East end of the park, across Cuthbert Road, are close to a tributary stream, wet woodland habitat, and a hilly trail on the South side, while on the North side, there is a grove of mature oaks and poplars. For more information on the Cooper River Park trail see:

<http://www.njwildlifetrails.org/PineBarrensTrails/Sites/tabid/1698/Scope/site/Guide/PINEBARREN/Site/340/Default.aspx>

⁴² See the section below on page 48 labeled "Camden Extension" in the Development History/Additional Historic Context Information part of "Narrative Statement of Significance" for more information about this project, Leavitt's role, and how it related to the development of the Cooper River Parkway. The Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) has documented and catalogued the bridge (HAER No. NJ-113).

⁴³ Memorandum of Agreement between the Federal Highway Administration and New Jersey State Historic Preservation Officer regarding Route 130/30 Collingswood/Pennsauken (Phase B), Borough of Collingswood, Township of Pennsauken, City of Camden; Camden County, New Jersey, signed by the NJSHPO on 12/23/08.

⁴⁴ Ibid., p. 3, provision no. 2.

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NC4. (structure) A Polish-American war hero memorial (photo 7, Figure 17a) was installed in the park in 1984 and expanded in 1995. It is located near the intersection of Crescent Boulevard and North Park Drive. It includes sculpture honoring Polish-American war heroes Generals Casimir Pulaski and Thaddeus Kosciuszko,.

NC5. (structure) A Victims of Terrorism Memorial is located at 7000 North Park Drive in an open field close to the north bank of Cooper River Lake (photo 41, Figure 18a). Sculptor John Giannotti's seven-pillar circular "Victims of Terrorism Memorial" was dedicated on September 11, 2002. Commissioned by the Camden County Freeholders, it is a memorial to victims of terrorist attacks, including in particular the victims of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. The memorial is an open air sculpture with various plaques and a single tree in the center. The memorial includes a winding brick path from North Park Drive that terminates in an open-air circular, concrete structure with evenly spaced, rectangular opening, like empty doorways for access from every angle. The single tree is planted in the center of the stone circle surrounded by a circular octagonal shaped bench that faces inscriptions on each of the seven stone monoliths. These acknowledge other acts of terrorism.⁴⁵ The monoliths are topped and joined to one another with overhanging concrete lintels that evoke a small Stonehenge-like structure, except that on the side facing North Park Drive, the circle of stones is open.

NC6. (building) The Camden County Boathouse, built in 2006, is located at 7050 North Park Drive on the northern side of Cooper River Lake (Photo 12, Figure 17a, green square). Camden County constructed the boat house on the site Leavitt's firm had designated for a Boat House and Casino in 1925 (Figure 12).⁴⁶ The boathouse enhanced supporting facilities for the rowing course and Cooper River's prominence as a major rowing center.

NC7. (structure) The William G. Rohrer Children's Playground with pavilions is in Pennsauken Township southeast of the intersection of North Park Drive and McClellan Avenue and across North Park Drive from the Bishop Eustace Preparatory School track and football field (green shaded area east of the Camden County Boathouse and Jack Curtis Stadium).

NC8. (building) A ca. 1939 building is located at 5300 North Park Drive, Pennsauken Township (photo 10, Figure 17a, green shaded square). The WPA built the original building as a club house to serve the adjacent tennis courts. Additions and alterations were later undertaken to convert the club house into a restaurant, which closed in 2013. In 2014 Camden County announced that it was making over \$1 million of improvements to the building and had signed a lease with a new firm that will operate a new restaurant in the building.

⁴⁵ The other acts of terrorism acknowledge at the memorial include: April 18, 1983 - US embassy in Beirut, Lebanon; October 23, 1983 - US Marine barracks in Beirut, Lebanon December 21, 1988 - Pan Am 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland; February 26, 1993 - World Trade Center, New York; April 19, 1995 - Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; August 7, 1998 - US embassies in Kenya and Tanzania; October 12, 2000 - USS Cole in Gulf of Yemen; September 11, 2001 - WTC, Pentagon and Shanksville, PA.

⁴⁶ The Leavitt & Son planned site for a "Boat House & Casino" is shown on the Cooper River Two Mile Rowing Course plan shown in Figure 12. It is located towards the northwest corner of the rowing course to the east of the intersection of Browning Road and North Park Drive.

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NC9. (structure) Veteran's Island is located east of the former club house building on the Cooper River in Pennsauken Township. It contains a circular walking path and memorials to every major war fought by U.S. forces. It also has over 2,000 linear feet of shoreline bank stabilization features.⁴⁷

NC10. (site) A baseball diamond is located south of North Park Drive west of Memorial Grove (shaded green square, top right section of map).

NC11. (site) Memorial Grove, located south of the intersection of Park Boulevard and Donahue Avenue in Cherry Hill Township, contains memorial sculpture, including the Bataan Death March and Holocaust Memorials, with various installation dates (green square, top right and photo 8).

NC12. (structure) Floating docks and rowing shell launch area (photo 42). An unloading area and rowing shell launch area with two floating docks is located southwest of the intersection of Park and Cuthbert Boulevards in Cherry Hill Township.

NC13. (structure) A miniature golf course (date unknown) is located southeast of the intersection of Park and Cuthbert Boulevards in Cherry Hill Township (green square east of the Cuthbert Boulevard bridge).

NC14. (structure) A children's playground is located adjacent to the miniature golf course. (green rectangle east of miniature golf course)

NC15. (building) A Japanese pagoda is located about 250 feet west of Park Boulevard across from the headquarters of the Subaru of America Company and .6 miles southeast of the intersection of Park and Cuthbert Boulevards in Cherry Hill Township (photo 43). A Japanese garden and pagoda were proposed at the same location on Leavitt & Son's Cooper River Two Mile Rowing Course plan (Figure 12, right hand side, west of where North Park Drive forks north to the Marlton Road and south east towards the New Jersey and Seashore Railway.)

NC16. (site) A Camden County dog park, installed in 1994, is located on Park Boulevard .8 miles southeast of the intersection of Park and Cuthbert Boulevards in Cherry Hill Township (green square west of NJ Transit Railroad Bridge).

NC17. (structure) An 1895 stone masonry New Jersey Transit Railroad Bridge crosses in the eastern end of Cooper River Lake (photo 23, green shaded area south of Dog Park). **[Note: This bridge is a contributing structure to the eligible, but yet unlisted, Camden & Atlantic Railroad Historic District.]**

NC18. (structure) A covered pavilion and picnic area is located east of the intersection of South Park Drive and East Crescent Boulevard (Figure 17a, shaded green area)

⁴⁷ Stabilization activities consisted of: installing 70 linear feet of gabion baskets; 225 linear feet of cable and concrete; 760 linear feet of a cedar crib wall; 945 linear feet of coir logs, and over 1,000 willow live stakes. Source:
<http://www.enviroscapesinc.com/index.php/prjstreambank>

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NC19. (structure) The start of the 2,000 meter rowing course and six floating start docks is anchored at the western end of Cooper River Lake near the intersection of South Park Drive and Crescent Boulevard (photo 44). The anchorages are permanently installed in the river; the floating docks attached to them are removed for the winter months.

NC20. (site) A Habitat Conservation area is located north of South Park Drive and about 1500 feet east of South Crescent Boulevard (long shaded rectangle).

NC21. (structure) A Boat Launch ramp for trailer & car-top boats and parking lot is north of South Park Drive on the south shore of Cooper River Lake north of Crestmont Terrace, Borough of Collingswood.

NC22. (building) The Cooper River Yacht Club, constructed ca. 1945, is located at 450 South Park Drive, Collingswood (photo 11, green square).

NC23. (structure) Two bike paths, including a 3.8 mile loop (Cuthbert to Crescent Boulevard) and 1.35 miles (Cuthbert to Grove Street – counted as one feature).

NC24. (object) Sculpture throughout the park and historic district (counted as one resource).

Maria Barnaby Greenwald Memorial Park (47.21 acres)

Maria Barnaby Greenwald Memorial Park (Greenwald Park) is a 47.21 acre park located east of Cooper River Park. It extends 1.3 miles between Grove Street and Kings Highway in Cherry Hill Township bordered on its western side by the Cooper River and on its eastern side by Park Boulevard (photo 13). The Camden County freeholders created Greenwald Park area by renaming the eastern half of Pennypacker Park in honor of the late former Cherry Hill Mayor and Camden County Freeholder Maria Barnaby Greenwald.

The North Branch of the Cooper River flows westward between Cherry Hill's Park Drive and Winding Way/School Lane then beneath Park Boulevard into Greenwald Park to join the Cooper River's main South Branch at a point just east of Haddonfield's Somerset Drive. The park contains open and grassed park land, stands of deciduous trees (photo 13), six foot bridges, approximately 2 miles of unpaved footpaths, including a 1.3 mile path that extends the entire length of the park along the Cooper River, paved footpaths along Park Boulevard, a 1.2 mile bike path, and extensive wooded areas.

The tree-lined South Erlton residential neighborhood of single-family houses borders Park Boulevard north and east of the park between Grove Street and School Lane. Garden style two story apartment buildings border the east side of Park Boulevard between School Lane and Kings Highway. Greenwald Park's boundaries are marked by the Grove Street and Kings Highway bridges. These bridges were integral to the regional transportation network of which the Cooper River Parkway is a part. The bridges were incorporated in the parkway's design and modified as part of the expansion of the highway network that included the Cooper River Parkway. The bridges carried roads that were already established corridors or that became new transportation

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corridors through Camden County. The bridges continue to link the northern and southern sides of the Cooper River and Greenwald Park.⁴⁸

The Greenwald and Pennypacker Park areas were developed by the CCC of the Emergency Conservation Works Administration stationed at Camp Cooper, Haddonfield (photo 45). Two hundred employees thinned and cleared woodlands, planted trees and shrubbery, built foot trails and bridges, dredged for a lake site and for erosion control and bank protection and beautification in 1936-37. They also planted acres of new deciduous forest with the objective of growing

various species of South Jersey flora, consisting of oaks, swamp cedars, red cedars, magnolias, dogwood, sweet gum, holly, alder, laurel, ferns, huckleberry, sand myrtles, *hudsonia*, and ground covers. Considerable viburnum and dogwood were removed and many ash trees and evergreen were transplanted at this park.⁴⁹

Maria Barnaby Greenwald Memorial Park – Contributing Resources

25. Grove Street Bridge – Contributing Structure (photo 34)

The Grove Street Bridge⁵⁰ is located just south of the Park Boulevard/ Grove Street intersection in Cherry Hill Township. County engineer B.M. Schumucker designed the Grove Street Bridge in 1931. Charles Wellford Leavitt & Son described the Grove Street Bridge's predecessor in a 1930 report to Eldridge Johnson. The report said the Stoy Landing Road Bridge had a span of fifty-eight feet and a clearance of nine feet, structurally similar to the bridge at Browning Road. It said that Shumucker reported that "there is contemplated a new bridge at this point which will be considerable above the elevation of the present bridge as we also figure on Stoy Landing Road over-passing the Park Drive."⁵¹ Camden County chose not to elevate the new bridge or construct an overpass of Park Drive.

26. Seven footbridges – Contributing Structure (counted as 1 resource)

There are 12 foot bridges in the district and seven in Greenwald Park. The locations of Greenwald Park's seven footbridges are described below, going from west to east:

Bridge 1 crosses a drainage tributary to the Cooper River north of the Erlton Swim Club about two thirds of the way between Park Boulevard and the Cooper River. Bridges 2 and 3 cross a drainage tributary to the Cooper River south of the Camden County Parks Department office complex. Bridge 2 is adjacent to the river. Bridge 3 is along a trail closer to Park Boulevard. Bridge 4 crosses the North Branch of the Cooper River between Park Boulevard and the confluence of the North and South Branches of the Cooper (photo 46). Bridge 5 is near the center of Greenwald Park crossing the Cooper River where it joins with a stream that drains Driscoll Pond near the Wildlife Walk Wayside Exhibit (photo 47). Bridge 6 is on the trail between Bridge 5 and the Kings Highway Bridge on the east side of the Cooper River. Bridge 7 crosses the Cooper River at the southern end of Greenwald Park alongside and north of the Kings Highway Bridge (photo 48).

⁴⁸ Marble, A.D. and Company. *Cultural Resources Survey Report: Route 30/130 Mainline Roadway Improvement, Phase B. Report* prepared for the New Jersey Department of Transportation. Mount Laurel, New Jersey, 2007

⁴⁹ Brown, op.cit., p.109

⁵⁰ NJDOT Structure # 044D001.

⁵¹ Report with regard to bridges over the Cooper River Two Mile Rowing Course contained in a letter to Eldridge R. Johnson from Charles Wellford Leavitt & Son dated January 13, 1930, p. 2

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The locations of 6 Greenwald Park footbridges (Bridges 2-7) are shown on the “Watchable Wildlife Park Trail” Wayside Exhibit (photo 49). The foot bridges in Greenwald Park and all the other district parks are all contributing resource to the historic district because they are characteristic of planned linear parks, enabling the waterway to be an integral park feature and providing access to all park sections. They are all counted as one contributing resource in Greenwald Park and for the entire district. The Greenwald Park footbridges are constructed using slab or arched concrete and metal rails and constructed using wood.

Non-Contributing Resources – Greenwald Park

Greenwald Park contains resources that are non-contributing to the historic district.⁵²

[Note: the Erlton Swim Club, has been excluded from the district, and is thus not counted.]

NC27. (building) The Camden County Parks Department Building, constructed ca. 1970, and its support complex are located at 1301 Park Boulevard, Cherry Hill, southeast of the Erlton Swim Club between the Cooper River and Park Boulevard opposite Whitman Avenue (green square top left). The Park Department complex includes a Silver LEED Environmental Center⁵³ wing, a maintenance garage, gasoline pumps, and a former horse stable. The main building is also the location of the Camden County Environmental Center, Home of Rutgers Cooperative Extension, and a Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station.

NC28. (structure) A weather-monitoring station is located about 50 feet west of Park Boulevard south and west of its intersection with Park Drive (Figure 17c, green square east the Camden County Parks Department Buildings).

NC 29. (site) A baseball diamond and field is located on the west side of Park Boulevard south of its intersection with School Land (green square east of Weather Monitoring Station).

NC30. (structure) A 1.8 mile interactive wildlife walk, also called a “Watchable Wildlife Trail,”⁵⁴ begins on the north shore of the Cooper River south and west of the baseball diamond at the intersection of the north-south Greenwald Park main walking trail and a foot bridge that leads to a trail that goes south and west past Driscoll Pond to Hopkins Pond.

NC31. (structure) A 1.2 mile bike path from Grove Street to Kings Highway.

⁵² Camden County lists Greenwald Park facilities on its website at: <http://www.camdencounty.com/parks/parks/maria-barnaby-greenwald-memorial>

⁵³ Camden County describes the green features of its \$2.4 million Environmental Center, built in 2011, and a slide show of its construction on its website: <http://www.camdencounty.com/parks/parks/environmental-center>

⁵⁴ Brochures describing the trail are available at the Parks Administration Building.

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Pennypacker Park (32.27 acres)

Pennypacker Park, named for a long time Haddonfield historian and botanist James Pennypacker,⁵⁵ is on the southern side of the Cooper River between Grove Street and Kings Highway in Haddonfield (photo 14). Bordered by a residential community of single-family houses on tree-lined streets to the south and west, the park contains open park land and is mostly composed of densely wooded areas within hilly terrain bordered by a flood plain and the man-made Driscoll Pond (photo 16).⁵⁶

***Hadrosaurus foulkii* Leidy Site – (Currently listed in the New Jersey and National Registers)**

Pennypacker Park contains the world-famous *Hadrosaurus foulkii* Leidy dinosaur bones site discovered by William Parker Foulke in October 1858.⁵⁷ The U.S. Department of the Interior designated the site as a National Historic Landmark and listed it in the National Register of Historic Places (National Register) in 1994. **[As an already-listed property, this site is not counted as a contributing or non-contributing site in this nomination.]**⁵⁸

The dinosaur site is located within a densely wooded section of the park beyond the eastern end of Haddonfield's Maple Avenue in a thirty-foot-deep, heavily-wooded ravine that runs parallel to and east of Maple Avenue between Maple and Hawthorne Avenues east of Grove Street in the Borough of Haddonfield. Foulke documented the actual location of the excavation pits on a detailed map that was published in the proceedings of the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences. Foulke discovered the dinosaur as a result of a chance social call at the home of a friend, John Estaugh Hopkins. At Hopkins' home, Birdwood, Foulke viewed an unusually large bone that Hopkins and others had dug up in a nearby marl pit in 1838.⁵⁹ Foulke had Hopkins show him the location and, with Hopkins' permission, returned later with fellow scientist Joseph Leidy to unearth the world's first nearly complete dinosaur skeleton. The bones represented a 25 foot long, 8 ton herbivorous Hadrosaurus that stood from 6-10 feet tall and lived 70-80 million years ago.

A narrow stream, formerly called Birdwood Branch and currently called "Hadrosaurus Run," originates as a spring about 700 feet west of Grove Street south of Maple Avenue and flows east underground to Grove Street and continues to wend its way east past Haddonfield's former sewage disposal plant through the ravine to empty into Cooper River.⁶⁰ Just east of Maple Avenue it exposes bluish-gray and chocolate-colored marl deposits where ancient seashells can still be found. During the Cretaceous period, southern New Jersey at what is now Haddonfield was under about 100 feet of sea water. The actual coast line was located roughly along the region

⁵⁵ A wayside exhibit at the northeast quadrant of the intersection of Grove Street and Coles Mill Road makes the entrance to "Pennypacker Trail." It states that the trail is "A tribute to James Lane Pennypacker, a beloved student and interpreter of nature." The Delaware Valley Naturalists Union, which donated the copper memorial plaque, had one of Pennypacker's poems inscribed on the exhibit: "The passing charm of bird and fragile flowers, a rain upon the pond-side trail, fulfillment of your virile life will hail." Pennypacker died in 1934.

⁵⁶ Camden County's parks website lists Hopkins Pond as being both a part of Pennypacker Park and as a stand-alone park. See <http://www.camdencounty.com/parks/parks/pennypacker-park>

⁵⁷ Camden County's Pennypacker Park website also displays slides showing the National Historic Landmark location.

⁵⁸ NHL ID#974, NR Reference # 94001648.

⁵⁹ See Hoag Levin's website <http://www.levins.com/dinosaur.shtml> for detailed information on the site today, the meaning of the find, and other important site-related links.

⁶⁰ <http://www.westjerseyhistory.org/books/farr/hddnfdplcnmsfarr.htm>

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of what is now Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Sea bed sediments ultimately became the marl deposits that are now a common geological feature throughout the southern half of the state. The same marl is rich in fossils of ancient sea life as well as land creatures, such as Hadrosaurus, that sank to the bottom to be quickly covered and naturally preserved.

Contributing Resources – Pennypacker Park

There are 2 footbridges in Pennypacker Park along the Watchable Wildlife Walk that are contributing resources. They are already counted as one resource along with the district's other footbridges. One wooden footbridge crosses the stream that drains Driscoll Pond. The other crosses a drainage ravine on the footpath between Driscoll Pond and the Kings Highway Bridge.

27. Stone staircase at Kings Highway Bridge – Contributing Structure (photo 50)

A circa 1935 stone staircase is located at the southwest quadrant of the Kings Highway Bridge in the Borough of Haddonfield. The 6 foot wide stairway descends in approximately 30 shallow steps from the Kings Highway sidewalk to a square landing marked by four square shallow stone posts on each corner, then turns 90 degrees to the right going down another 15 steps to the river path below (photo pps2). The stairs are anchored against the steep slope of the bridge embankment by hewn stone base rails that extend a few inches above the lip of each stair step and extend the full length of each stair section on both sides. The risers and rails are composed of a granite grey stone. The landings and the spaces between the edge of each stair step and the stone risers is filled with fine, tightly packed grey stones. This staircase composition and design matches another CCPC stone stairway shown in a CCPC photo published in 1937.⁶¹

Non-Contributing Resources – Pennypacker Park

NC32. (structure) Driscoll Pond Dam impounds Driscoll Pond, which collects water spilled from Hopkins Pond and is located just east of the Hopkins Pond earthen dam and bridge (photo 16). The pond is named for Alfred E. Driscoll, Governor of New Jersey, who resided in a house that overlooks the pond from 1947 to 1954. The pond is contained by a small wooden dam (photo 51, Figure 18c) and empties into the Cooper River.

NC33. (site) The Haddon Mill site is located north of Driscoll Pond and east of Hopkins Pond (1905 ruins shown in photo 51, Figure 18c).⁶² John Estaugh Hopkins built the Haddon Grist Mill at this site in 1789. The mill was initially driven by wind power. The Haddon Mill ground grain and continued to operate until the 1850s. The mill building and ruins shown in photo 52 are no longer standing, but remnants of the rock formation are located behind the Birdwood (described below).

Hopkins Pond Park (33.1 acres)

Hopkins Pond Park is situated in the Borough of Haddonfield, south and west of Pennypacker Park (photo 15). Hopkins Pond Park is bordered on the west by Grove Street and on the north and east by Hopkins Lane. The forested land south of Hopkins Pond Park borders the playing fields of the Bancroft School, Haddonfield High

⁶¹ Brown, op. cit., p.44

⁶² A photo of Haddon Mill, a drawing of its windmill, and a photo of the mill's stonewall remains in the early 1900s are contained in Rauschenberger, Douglas B. *Lost Haddonfield*. Haddonfield: The Historical Society of Haddonfield. 1999) p.79

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School, and the J. Fithian Tatum Elementary School. It also borders two private properties at the north end of Evergreen Lane.

Hopkins Pond is fed by a stream, known as Hopkins Mill Branch, which originates near Chestnut Street, south of Kings Highway in Haddonfield.⁶³ Most of the original stream is piped now, and the stream is evident where it is crossed by a bridge on Grove Street. The stream was dammed in 1789 to provide water power for Hopkins Grist Mill. Hopkins Pond is over ten feet deep at its center and has places where the bottom is 30 feet deep.⁶⁴ Hopkins Pond Park includes a bird sanctuary, a six mile natural history self-guided interpretive looped tree trail on a wooded and hilly terrain around Hopkins Pond, and a designated fishing area.

John Estaugh Hopkins built Birdwood Farm house, one of the most historic buildings in Haddonfield on the northeast shore of Hopkins Pond for his son William Estaugh Hopkins in 1788 (photo 53). Birdwood is located at 519 Hopkins Lane, Haddonfield. While the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Parks Service, Branch of Plans and Design completed detailed drawings of Birdwood from March 11 to March 25, 1935,⁶⁵ it is not included as a resource to the Cooper River Historic Park District because it is privately owned and not within the boundaries of the district. It is however, immediately adjacent to Hopkins Pond Park and was the home of the owners of the wind and gristmill that operated within the boundaries of Pennypacker Park.

Birdwood also played a central role in the discovery of the world's first dinosaur skeleton in 1858. Hopkins often invited vacationing friends, such as William Parker Foulke, an avid natural historian and geologists, to his estate house for dinner. It was at Birdwood that Foulke first heard the story of and saw one of the strange bones found 20 years earlier by Hopkins' diggers in a marl pit⁶⁶ a short walk from the rear of the house (today at the northeast end of Maple Avenue). With Hopkins' permission, Foulke and Joseph Leidy,⁶⁷ located and re-excavated the old pit, painstakingly documenting and extracting ancient seashells, sharks' teeth and the nearly-complete skeleton of an enormous reptilian creature. The Borough of Haddonfield purchased Hopkins pond, Driscoll and Evans Ponds, and the land surrounding them in 1916. The Hopkins Pond tract of land was 24 acres and cost around \$7000. The Borough sold Hopkins Pond along with the other park properties to the CCPC in 1927.

⁶³ See Hopkins Pond at <http://www.westjerseyhistory.org/books/farr/hddnfdplcnmsfarr.htm>

⁶⁴ The five acres of Hopkins Pond experiences intense blue-green algae blooms during warm weather due to excessive nutrient runoff from local lawns, recreational fields and other sources. Hopkins Park was fitted with a Hydro Logic "Airlift" diffuse air aeration system to increase circulation and dissolved oxygen in the pond and artificial floating wetlands to reduce nitrogen and phosphorus by natural microbial action and aquatic vegetation.

⁶⁵ The drawing are part of the Historic American Buildings Survey (Survey No. 6-133, Call Number HABS NJ 4-HADFI 5-) and are available on the Built in America page of the Library of Congress as "Hopkins House, Birdwood-Hopkins Road, Haddonfield, Camden, NJ.: http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/collections/habs_haer/index.html

⁶⁶ Farmers used dried marl as a fertilizer. Marl is calcium carbonate, off-white clay that was valued for lime deficient soils and as a soil conditioner for sandy soils.

⁶⁷ Leidy was a noted American paleontologist who helped found western American vertebrate paleontology and who was an early American supporter of Darwin's theory of evolution.

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Contributing Resources - Hopkins Pond Park

Hopkins Pond Park was part of the original park plan and its historic components contribute to the district's significance. Hopkins Pond was called "Silver Lake" in 1928 when Leavitt & Son prepared a landscape plan for the park under contract to the CCPC. The Landscape Plan of Silver Lake Park shows a planned footbridge at the location of a current footbridge. The footpaths designed by Leavitt & Son also closely match the location and alignments of the current footpath system; they are already accounted for as part of the district's system of interconnected footpaths and are not separately counted here. Other Leavitt & Son plans for Silver Lake, such as a recreation lawn, boat landing, and picnic groves on the pond's north shore, and a playing field, wading pool, and shelter on the south east shore do not currently exist.

Non-contributing Resources - Hopkins Pond Park

NC34. (structure) The Hopkins Pond Dam and Bridge is located at the eastern end of Hopkins Pond (photo 54) When wind milling proved not to be successful at the Haddon Grist Mill, John Hopkins built a dam at the present dam's location for water power. The dam has been rebuilt and repaired many times and stands today between Hopkins and Driscoll Ponds. Hopkins Pond Park includes a large earthen dam and bridge, around 20 feet high, that impounds Hopkins Pond at its eastern end with Hopkins Lane on top. Hopkins Pond flows into Driscoll Pond.

Wallworth Park (55.65 acres)

Wallworth Park is the first park Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr. designed for the CCPC (1927) and the first park the Commission constructed in the historic district (1928). The park is in Cherry Hill Township and the Borough of Haddonfield and is located east of Greenwald and Pennypacker Parks.⁶⁸ It is bordered by South Kings Highway and various properties on the south side of South Kings Highway, including a cemetery, Park Boulevard, Caldwell Road, Challenge Grove Park, the Kay-Evans (Croft) Farmstead, Elmhurst Avenue, Kresson Road, Ellis Street, Prospect Road, and Roberts Avenue.

Residential multiple-unit buildings are located northeast of the park along Park Boulevard and west of the park along the west side of Evans Mill Road. Single family homes border the park along Roberts Avenue, Prospect Road, and Elmhurst Avenue. Commercial land uses border the park on Kresson Road and two Little League baseball fields border the Park north of Ellis Street. The park includes Wallworth Lake (photo 17) and Evans Pond (photo 18) with open park land on the western side of Wallworth Lake. Evans Pond is approximately 2500 feet long, allowing for its curvature and its widest point measures about 450 feet across.⁶⁹ The pond's surface area is estimated at 16.5 acres.⁷⁰ Wallworth Lake is roughly half as long and not quite as wide as Evans Pond. Dense woods surrounding Evans Pond and the area north and east of Wallworth Lake. The development of the Cooper River park system started in Delaware Township (now Cherry Hill Township) adjacent to Haddonfield on 34 acres of "swamp and wasteland" known locally as part of Munn Farm or Munn's Meadow

⁶⁸ In 1939 the Parks Commission reported that Wallworth Park comprised 34 acres and the Evans Lake area approximately 39 acres. Brown, op.cit., p.31

⁶⁹ Evans Lake was described as being 2,300 feet long and 300 feet wide in 1937. Brown, op.cit., p. 122

⁷⁰ Garwood, Deborah A. *Evans Pond: A Long-term Study of a Single Place*. Haddonfield, N.J.: Hunter & Co., 2009, pp. 8-9.

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and now named Wallworth Park. The CCPC started constructing Munn's Meadow Park shortly after requisitioning funds from the Board of Chosen Freeholders in December 1927.

Leavitt & Son designed the Munn's Meadow Park Landscape Plan in October 1927, the same month the Parks Commission formally retained the firm (Figure 10). The CCPC built Munn's Meadow Park and the Club House in 1928. The swamp and waste lands were dredged and filled forming a lake connected with the overflowing water of Evans Lake. The improvements included a Colonial recreation building, a comfort station and a series of tennis courts.⁷¹ The CCPC renamed Munn's Meadows Park in honor of its first President, Senator Joseph F. Wallworth⁷² after he died on August 20, 1933. The Wallworth Park Club House was demolished in February 2014.

Wallworth Park - Contributing Resources

28. The Kings Highway Bridge – Contributing Structure (photo 19).⁷³

The Kings Highway Bridge built in 1915. As with the other two contributing resource vehicular bridges in the district, the Kings Highway Bridge was not designed by Leavitt, but was integral to the regional transportation network of which the Cooper River Parkway was part. Leavitt incorporated it into the design for the parkway and Munn's Meadow Park. The bridge carries a road, Kings Highway that, as in the case of Kaighn Avenue, was already an established corridor in Camden County. The bridge also served as a physical and visual link between the northern and southern sides of the Cooper River Parkway and historic park system.

29. Wallworth Lake concrete and river stone-faced dam – Contributing Structure (photo 20).

A concrete and river stone-faced dam is on the northwest border of Wallworth Lake about 150 feet east of the Kings Highway bridge (photo 20). Leavitt designed the Wallworth Lake dam as shown on his October 1927 Munns Meadow Park Landscape Plan. The CCPC constructed the dam in 1928.⁷⁴

30. Kings Highway Pennsylvania mica stone staircase and retaining wall – Contributing Structure (photo 55)

A WPA era Pennsylvania mica stone staircase and retaining wall leading from the intersection of Kings Highway and Evans Mill Road down to the park. This staircase is intact and matches a photo of it that the CCPC published in 1937.⁷⁵

⁷¹ Brown, Ibid.

⁷² Wallworth was President of the NJ Senate in 1923. Born in Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, Pa., February 24, 1876. Republican. Member of New Jersey state house of assembly from Camden County, 1919-20; member of New Jersey state senate from Camden County, 1921-23; chair of Camden County Republican Party, 1925-27. Member, Elks; Freemasons; Shriners.

⁷³ The concrete arch footbridge shown in the foreground of the photo of the Kings Highway bridge is one of the six contributing resource footbridges in the district. They are all is counted as one contributing resource.

⁷⁴ Guzzo, Dorothy P. *Letter to Mr. Clifford Day dated February 16, 2000*. Trenton: HPO Log #00-700. HPO-B2000-76, p. 2. Brown, op.cit. p.117 contains two photographs of "Views of Lake and Dam at Wallworth Park" that show the stone and masonry dam much as it appears today.

⁷⁵ Brown, op. cit., p.96

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[The 1928 Wallworth Park Club House (photo 21)]

[Note: The Wallworth Park Club House was demolished in 2014; thus it is not counted as a resource].

Wallworth Park is the first park that the CCPC built in the Cooper River Park system. The Wallworth Club House was the first building the Parks Commission built in the historic district during the period of significance (1925-1940). The Club House was an important visual feature of Wallworth Park and the surrounding landscape. The Commission constructed the Club House on a rise near the confluence of the Cooper River and a tributary that is south of and parallels Park Boulevard to complement a tennis court complex it built just east of the Club House along Bortons Mill Road. Leavitt's 1927 Landscape Plan for Munn's Meadow Park proposed the tennis court complex and a comfort station where the Parks Commission built the Club House (Figure 10).

The Club House was situated to command views of Evans Pond, Evans Pond Dam, Wallworth Lake, and the Croft Farm. According to the Commission's official history, this building, unlike buildings in other parks of the system, was of Colonial Revival design, deliberately to recall Haddonfield's history.⁷⁶ The Club House "interior included a large fireplace at one end and furniture of a design that was popular in Colonial days."⁷⁷ (photo 56) External views of the Club House in 1937 are shown in photo 57 and ca. 1964 in photo 58.

Footbridges (previously counted)

There are 2 footbridges in Wallworth Park that are counted as 1 district-wide contributing resource along with the other 10 district footbridges. They are characteristic of planned linear parks enabling the river to be an integral park feature and providing access to all park sections. The first footbridge is a concrete slab arched footbridge crossing the Cooper River just east of the Kings Highway Bridge (photo 19). It is in the same location as designed in Leavitt's October 1927 Munn's Meadow Park Landscape Plan. The second footbridge is made of Pennsylvania mica stone and masonry (photo 59). It is located near Wallworth Lake and adjacent to a drainage ditch on the north side of a Cooper River Tributary that runs between Park Boulevard and the Club House. A one mile nature trail winds through a mature forest bordering Evans Pond from the Evans Pond Dam to the northwest corner of ball fields south of the Kay-Evans Farmstead.

Footpath (previously counted) Leavitt & Son completed its preliminary study for Evans Pond Park in June 1928 (Figure 9). The pathway shown on Leavitt's plan on the southern side of the pond between Munn's Meadow Park and the eastern end of Elmhurst Avenue exists today. However, instead of continuing west to Kresson Road as shown on Leavitt's plan, the path currently turns east on the north of a ravine north of Elmhurst and links to other Croft Farm nature trails that surround and pass through woodlands between Brace Road and the Kay Evans Farmstead to connect with Wallworth Park. A narrow footpath on the western shore of Evans Pond currently follows Leavitt & Son's 1928 plan from Ellis Street (Potter Street on the 1928 study) past a pump house to a steep ravine that extends from Springfield Terrace to the pond. The footpath turns west on the south side of the ravine climbing up hill to Springfield Terrace. There are no footpaths beyond this ravine around the remainder of the pond's western shore to Evans Road as shown on the Leavitt & Son study.

⁷⁶ Brown, op.cit., p.118

⁷⁷ Brown, op.cit. p.119

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Non-Contributing Resources – Wallworth Park

There are several old dam sites / mill sites in the Wallworth Park area, including grist mills, a saw mill, and a fulling mill.⁷⁸

NC35. (site) Thomas Kendall built the first mill dam in 1679 on a site where the Old Salem Road crossed the Cooper River between Ellis Street and Bortons Mill Road. He built a corn mill at a site on the Haddonfield side of the river about 100 yards further downstream at the end of a race-way cut in the bank.⁷⁹ **[Note: This site, although present during the period of significance, was unrelated to the park, and is therefore classified as non-contributing to this district. Its age, however, and its evident relationship to important events in Haddonfield and Camden County history, mean that further evaluation of this site may reveal that it meets the National Register Criteria, and would therefore be individually eligible, and in that event would become a contributing site in this district.]**

NC36. (site) John Kay rebuilt the mill and a new dam in 1779 at the current site of the Evans Pond dam, enlarging the mill pond (NC30).⁸⁰ Kay's Mill Dam created what was referred to as Isaac Kay's Mill Pond in 1798. **[Note: This site, although present during the period of significance, was unrelated to the park, and is therefore classified as non-contributing to this district. Its age, however, and its evident relationship to important events in Haddonfield and Camden County history, mean that further evaluation of this site may reveal that it meets the National Register Criteria, and would therefore be individually eligible, and in that event would become a contributing site in this district.]**

NC37. (structure) The current concrete and wooden bridge spanning the Cooper River after it spills over the Evans Pond Dam was built in 1913.

NC38. (site) Thomas Evans purchased the mill and property from Mathias Kay in 1819 and rebuilt the mill in 1839.⁸¹ The mill pond was renamed Evans Mill Pond. An Evans mill site is on the southeast side of the Evans Pond Dam (NC32).⁸² **[Note: This site, although present during the period of significance, was unrelated to the park, and is therefore classified as non-contributing to this district. Its age, however, and its evident relationship to important events in Haddonfield and Camden County history, mean that further evaluation of this site may reveal that it meets the National Register Criteria, and would therefore be individually eligible, and in that event would become a contributing site in this district.]**

⁷⁸ They have been described in Boyer's Old Mills of Camden County, p. 30; Clement, p. 171; T.I.H., p. 214; Prowell, p. 608.

⁷⁹ Clement, op.cit., p. 172

⁸⁰ Prowell, op.cit., p. 609. For more information on the history of John Kay and his family in Camden County civic and business affairs, particularly the mills, see <http://www.us-roots.org/njcamden/history/part2chapter11.html>

⁸¹ Walter W. Evans gave a date stone from the 1779 mill to the Camden County Historical Society in 1956. In an accompanying memorandum he stated that the 1779 mill was one story tall and built of sandstone, and that Thomas Evans had added a second story in 1839. Source: <http://www.westjerseyhistory.org/books/farr/hddnfldplenmsfarr.htm>

⁸² The Evans mill footprint is shown on Sheet 1 of the 1887 Sanborn maps of Haddonfield, NJ at: <http://gissserver.princeton.edu:81/navigatorMapViewer.htm?map=10859>

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NC39. (site) The site of the 1902 S.A. Willits Flour and Feed Mill is on the north east side of the Evans Pond Dam (NC32).⁸³ The Willits mill had two turbine wheels and a steam wheat heater. The site of the ruins of the former Evans & Willits Grist Mill that burned in Fall of 1913 is also on the north east side of the Evans Pond dam.⁸⁴

Challenge Grove Park (17.77 acres)

Challenge Grove Park, in Cherry Hill Township, is located between Bortons Mill and Caldwell roads, the tree line at the top of a ravine that contains a Cooper River tributary that runs parallel to and south of Park Boulevard, and a bus parking lot just east of Wallworth Lake and the Wallworth Park Club House. This park has no contributing resources and contains the following non-contributing resources in geographical ordered from west to east:

- NC40. A Basketball Court. (structure)
- NC 41. A Fitness Quad. (structure)
- NC 42. A Paved Track 1/4 mile. (structure)
- NC 43. A "Miracle Field" fully accessible baseball field.⁸⁵ (site)
- NC 44. An open pavilion with indoor restrooms. (building)
- NC 45. Jake's Place "boundless playground."⁸⁶ (structure)
- NC 46. Two Bocci Courts. (site)
- NC 47. A Softball Field. (site)
- NC 48. A landscaped donor recognition garden. (site)
- NC 49. Paved pathways connecting all facilities. (structure)
- NC 50. An octagon shelter called the John Kay Pavilion.⁸⁷ (structure)

Historic Integrity

The Cooper River Park Historic District possesses a high degree of historic integrity. It possesses qualities of location, setting, and design that together convey its significance in the areas of Community Planning, Conservation, and Landscape Architecture and that represent its defined period of significance, 1925 to 1940. The Cooper River Park Historic District has retained its integrity of location because it occupies its original location as designed by the landscape architecture firm of Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr., and Sons in 1925 and 1927. The rowing course, originally designed by Leavitt, is still in the location that was chosen during its 1938 WPA redesign prior to construction. Although park features, such as recreational facilities, picnic facilities, ball fields, parking lots, and other features, might not be in the original location or exactly as drawn on plans, most of the main character-defining features of the park system, such as the Cooper River, Cooper River Lake, North

⁸³ The Willits flout mill footprint site as of September 1902 is shown on Sheet 9 of the 1902 Sanborn maps of Haddonfield, NJ at <http://gissserver.princeton.edu:81/navigatorMapView.htm?map=10886>

⁸⁴ The Evans and Willits grist mill ruins site as of October 1914 is shown on Sheet 2 of the 1914 Sanborn maps of Haddonfield, NJ at: <http://gissserver.princeton.edu:81/navigatorMapView.htm?map=10906>

⁸⁵ This is the first fully accessible baseball field built in Camden County that provides children with disabilities a chance to play baseball.

⁸⁶ Allows children and adults of all abilities to play and interact.

⁸⁷ This pavilion resides on the site of the former Haddonfield Music Circus.

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and South Park Drives, and the stone masonry features, are in the same locations that are indicated on plans created either in 1925, 1937, or 1938, all of which are within the period of significance. The historic district has retained its integrity of design because the original 1925 concept of the linear park and parkway, with the central focus of the waterway, has been retained and is still clearly evident when observing and using the park system. The district has retained its integrity of materials for the most part because the landscape materials used are still there. While individual plant specimens are not currently as they were planted, on the whole, the material used to form the park system is still in existence: the fill, grass material, and some vegetation. Not all of the stone masonry has survived; only three of the five original staircases leading from Crescent Boulevard into the park exist. The remaining stone masonry retaining walls, staircases, pavilion, platform, bleachers, and tree planters are extant, and with 3 or four exceptions appear to be in good condition. The historic district retains its integrity of workmanship, especially as evidenced by the stone masonry features. The talent of the builders, apparently Italian-American masons working for the WPA, is still evident. The historic district has retained its integrity of feeling, which is expressed in the expanses of open space available to anyone who uses the park system, the direct access to the water throughout the parks, and the scenic views of land and water from a number of locations within the parks. The historic district has retained its integrity of association. The park system still retains character-defining features, such as the bodies of water, winding drives and footpaths, and stone masonry features, all of which convey its close association with the City Beautiful Movement and with landscape architecture ideals of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

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(Note: The Cooper River Park Historic District is being nominated by this document for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. It has not been listed in the New Jersey Register of Historic Places. R. Craig 5/26/2016)

Statement of Significance

Summary Paragraph

Designed by master landscape architect Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr. and designed and built between 1925 and 1940, the Cooper River Park Historic District is a significant civic project that embodies the City Beautiful Movement, a progressive reform philosophy of American city and community planning. The creation of the Cooper River parks was a major event in Camden County history, and on the statewide level, it brought to southern New Jersey the sort of park development resulting from master planning that was otherwise restricted to northern New Jersey. The City Beautiful Movement, developed in response to the White City of Chicago's 1893 World's Columbian Exposition, extended to many American cities and became part of comprehensive town planning until the 1930's.¹ City Beautiful advocates and planners believed in the philosophical premise that urban beauty and monumental grandeur were both intrinsically desirable and necessary to foster moral and civic virtue and health among urban populations.² The Reform Park Movement (1900–1930), which advocated a shift from designing parks as pleasure gardens to parks with many outdoor recreation facilities, also influenced the design of the Cooper River Park Historic District.³ Reform Park proponents argued that park recreation provided a moral defense against the potential social chaos engendered by free time⁴ and gave “young men an opportunity to keep themselves developing physically, as well as mentally.”⁵ The Cooper River Park Historic District embodies Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr.'s landscape designs and philosophy. Some consider Leavitt “a genius and a complete master of the traditions and possibilities of his medium.”⁶ Leavitt began as a civil engineer designing and directing water, sewer, road, and other municipal facility construction projects but ended it as one of the nation's leading landscape architects known for his ability to engineer and plan by integrating three disciplines (urban planning, horticulture, and landscape architecture) in his projects. The Cooper River Park is an excellent example of Leavitt's ability to design an integrated linear park using his unusual breadth of knowledge of both engineering and landscape architecture principles. The Cooper River Park Historic District is significant for (1) its City Beautiful Movement landscape design; (2) its departure from single park plans to a comprehensive park and boulevard system; (3) reshaping existing swamp land and indistinct landforms into scenic and recreational landscapes; (4) its location near urban areas; (5) its adherence to the belief that park land equipped with active recreation facilities was beneficial and restorative for urban residents; and (6) the introduction of the use of landscape architecture firms as professional consultants to clients. Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr. became a leading advocate and practitioner of the City Beautiful Movement. He designed the

¹ Freestone, R., “Designing Australia's cities.” UNSW Press, Kensington, (2007), pp. 5–79.

² Bluestone, Daniel M. and Columbia University, “Detroit's City Beautiful and the Problem of Commerce,” *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians*, Vol. XLVII, No. 3, pp. 245-62. (September 1988).

³ Cranz, Galen, “Changing Roles of Urban Parks: From Pleasure Garden to Open Space,” *SPUR Newsletter*, June 2000.

⁴ John-Alder, Kathleen. Correspondence Regarding Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr., August 1, 2011.

⁵ Johnson, Eldridge, “Address: To the business men of Camden,” *Supplement to Health, Sunshine and Wealth*, October 11, 1928, pp: 18-19.

⁶ Leland, Ernest Stevens. “Planting the Mausoleum Plot.” *Park and Cemetery and Landscape Gardening* 22 (May 1912); 12, p. 313.

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Cooper River Park system during the same period that the better-known Olmsted Brothers were creating a linear park system in Union County, New Jersey in the rivers' flood plains there. The comprehensive design of the Cooper River Park system and its features, including its designed landscape centered on the Cooper River and the former swamp land surrounding it, its location near the City of Camden, and its design by the professional landscape architecture firm Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr. and Son, all embody hallmarks of the City Beautiful Movement. The Cooper River Park Historic District meets National Register Criterion A in the areas of Community Planning and Development and Conservation for its association with the broad patterns of history in community planning, development, entertainment, and recreation as an example of an early 20th century public park, and under Criterion C for its embodiment of the work of a master landscape architect Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr. and of the distinctive character of a type of landscape architecture focused around a waterway following the design concepts promulgated by the Olmsted Brothers.⁷ The period of significance for the Cooper River Park Historic District is 1925-1940.

Period of Significance (justification)

In January 1925 the firm of Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr., and Son delineated preliminary plans and diagrams for a Cooper River Parkway, a "park extending the length of the Cooper River Valley from Camden to Haddonfield."⁸ The construction of the Benjamin Franklin Bridge, which opened to traffic between Philadelphia to Camden in July 1926, significantly influenced the location and initial design of Leavitt's park and parkways. New highways being built to direct traffic in and around the City of Camden to and from the new bridge also influenced Leavitt's design for parks and parkways centered on the Cooper River. In 1927 the CCPC retained Leavitt to design Munn's Meadow Park, the first park in the Cooper River Park system, and to begin acquiring parcels and riparian rights along the Cooper River and the course of the planned parks. Camden County completed construction of the Cooper River Park system by 1940 after receiving extensive financial and construction assistance from various Federal relief programs during the Great Depression.

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Cooper River Park Historic District is a focal point of the Camden County Park System and a manifestation of several planning trends that were occurring nationwide. County and municipal park commissions in New Jersey were increasingly established in response to enabling legislation passed in the 1890s. The City Beautiful Movement, a city and community planning and urban design philosophy, that extended from approximately 1893 into the 1930s and that advocated improving and reforming cities and citizens through beautification, was also expanding during the same time period the Cooper River Park System was designed and constructed. By 1910, more than two thousand groups for civic improvement existed in the United States.

The designers of the City Beautiful Movement intended their plans would ameliorate the social ills cities, inspire civic loyalty and moral rectitude among the impoverished, and create a more inviting city center for the upper classes to work in and spend their money.⁹ The City Beautiful Movement "combined aesthetic concerns, a new approach to municipal control, and social uplift ideology in an effort to improve society on both physical

⁷ Guzzo, Dorothy P. op.cit., p.2

⁸ Leavitt, Charles W., Jr. *Health, Sunshine and Wealth*, Published privately by Eldridge Johnson, Camden, N.J., 1928)

⁹ Rose, Julie K. "The City Beautiful Movement." Article on American studies website.
<http://xroads.virginia.edu/~CAP/CITYBEAUTIFUL/city.html>. Accessed on April 1, 2010.

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and social grounds."¹⁰ Cities and towns responded to the movement by acquiring and preserving undervalued, industrial, or outlying land and creating man-made public parks in and around their urban areas.

A study of municipal parks found that between 1925 and 1926 many were changing over to a new focus on recreational goals rather than fostering the picturesque idyll.¹¹ It concluded that parks were now about recreation rather than contemplation and relaxation. No longer was passive contemplation of the pleasure ground acceptable; organized activity, such as sporting events, was the way to be sure the working class would experience nature. Advocates of reform began promoting the building of tennis courts, baseball diamonds, and golf courses among other sports areas. Even the passive enjoyment of picnicking was organized as "picnic areas" were created. Shelters, such as picnic shelters, toilet buildings, and refreshment stands, were erected to integrate the comforts nature did not provide.

Camden County's local response to the city and park planning trends originated with the Greater Camden Movement which began in 1919 and ended in 1929. The movement's leaders believed that Some day Camden City would become the center of a giant metropolitan region with suburban county towns serving as satellite residential neighborhoods for the riverfront governmental and business city.¹²

The leaders of the Greater Camden Movement wanted to plan and coordinate this regional development, direct economic and political unification of Camden City with its suburbs, establish a uniform educational and public service system, and provide a master plan for county buildings. In 1922 they persuaded Camden County suburban towns to send representatives to join Camden City representatives to form the Associated Municipalities of Camden to advance the Greater Camden Concept. They formed the Greater Camden Commission and in turn joined with the new Camden Chamber of Commerce to promote the Greater Camden idea.

A Camden to Philadelphia suspension bridge symbolized the Greater Camden Movement. City Beautiful Movement architect Paul Philippe Cret¹³ designed the Delaware River Bridge (renamed the Benjamin Franklin Bridge in 1956) to be the world's then longest single span suspension bridge.

The Delaware River Bridge construction commenced in 1922 after it became clear that increases in automobile traffic were overwhelming the inability of even a modernized ferry system to keep pace with demand for river crossings and after long lines of automobiles waiting to cross backed up in city streets.

¹⁰ Chambliss, Julian C. "Perfecting Space: J. Horace McFarland and the American Civic Association." *Project MUSE Journals, Pennsylvania History: A Journal of Mid-Atlantic Studies* 77 (Autumn 2010). University Park, Pennsylvania: Penn State University Press

¹¹ Weir, Lebert Howard, *Parks: A Manual of Municipal and County Parks*, for the Playground and Recreation Association of America and the American Institute of Park Executives, 1928.

¹² Dorwart, 1976, op.cit., p.208

¹³ Cret was a prolific and influential architect in the Philadelphia, a professor at the University of Pennsylvania from 1903 to 1937, and the principle designer of the Benjamin Franklin Parkway, the Rodin Museum, Rittenhouse Square, and the Memorial Arch at Valley Forge.

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Following an internecine political struggle among Republicans leaders, Camden City voters elected a Progressive Democrat, Victor King, mayor in 1922. King launched reforms to reorganize city government, eliminate excess offices, wasted money, and corruption and improve administrative efficiency to more effectively promote the Greater Camden plan.¹⁴ Given Camden City's prosperity, growth, and impending increase in traffic from the bridge, Mayor King, "...in the finest expression of Progressivism, hired noted city planner Charles W. Leavitt."¹⁵

Camden City recruited urban planning expert Charles W. Leavitt of New York who drew up elaborate blueprints for a beautiful bridge boulevard parkway. Leavitt's plans included a multi-lane expressway from the city line to the bridge, landscaped on either side by flowers, shrubs, while a lovely park complete with bicycle paths and benches filled the area between the roadway and Cooper River.¹⁶

In January 1925 Charles Wellford Leavitt & Son prepared a comprehensive regional plan that included a new Camden City civic center overlooking the Cooper River and located where Campbell Soup's corporate headquarters are located today: 1 Campbell Place. The Leavitt regional plan included a grand bridge boulevard approach to the new Delaware River Bridge via Linden and Penn Streets and Bridge Plaza,¹⁷ a proposed new bridge over the Cooper River,¹⁸ an integrated road network surrounding Camden, and a system of interconnected parks along Camden County's creeks and rivers. Leavitt labeled part of this plan, which extended from the proposed Camden City civic center east to Haddonfield, the "Cooper River Parkway." (Figure 3)

Leavitt's park plans had been partly anticipated for Haddonfield by City Beautiful Movement advocate by J. Horace McFarland¹⁹ a decade earlier. McFarland, creator of the American Civic Association, and others had promoted a Haddonfield linear park in 1915 and had persuaded the Borough of Haddonfield to purchase several parcels of land in 1916 for a new park system. These parcels eventually were incorporated into the Cooper River Park as Wallworth Park, Hopkins Pond, and Evans Pond.

Through the Greater Camden Movement Camden City officials and leaders became part of the City Beautiful Movement by attempting to simultaneously create a more attractive city and a more functional regional highway network. Their plans to establish a county-wide park system was a part of this effort. Leavitt's philosophy and plans embodied the movement's desire that a park system should provide "sunshine and health from outdoor exercise, wealth from the increased value of the land, and happiness in the enjoyment of playing in the open."²⁰

¹⁴ Dorwart, op.cit., p. 210

¹⁵ Dorwart, op.cit., p. 211

¹⁶ Dorwart, op.cit., p. 216

¹⁷ Now Admiral Wilson Boulevard and NJ Route 30.

¹⁸ A bridge currently spans the Cooper River at Leavitt's proposed 1925 location,

¹⁹ J. Horace McFarland (1859-1948) was one of the first Americans to sound the call for environmental and scenic protection -- disseminating the ideal of preserving -- not merely conserving -- natural resources. He was a Harrisburg, PA business and civic leader, who rose to prominence as one of America's leading proponents of urban beautification and scenic preservation.

²⁰ Leavitt, Charles Wellford, Jr., "Camden in Planning for Growth in Systematic Manner Goes Long Way in Assuring Health and Happiness of Citizens," *Camden First*, October 1924

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Some of the advertised benefits of the new park system aligned with the goals of another planning movement, the Reform Park Movement, which was also occurring at the same time as the City Beautiful Movement. Reform Park Movement advocates called for the construction of recreation facilities and venues within public parks to meet the growing recreational demands of society.

In the nineteenth century, urban public parks were seen more as pleasure grounds and places for passive enjoyment where the only activities were sitting, strolling, viewing, and picnicking. Parks were viewed primarily as open space to counter the increasingly crowded conditions of the cities surrounding them.

The Reform Park Movement saw urban parks differently as the leisure time increased. Reform Park Movement advocates believed that urban parks could be used in a more active fashion and that intentional play and sports activity would prevent the social chaos that might result from too much free time.²¹ Park planners started to incorporate recreation facilities, venues, and large playgrounds (or play areas) in their park designs.

Leavitt's Cooper River Park plans reflected the influence of the Reform Park Movement. His June 1928 plan for a "Cooper River Two Mile Rowing Course" also included active recreation facilities on both sides of Cooper Lake including: playgrounds; clock golf; three baseball diamonds; two swimming pools; two archery ranges; a field for hockey, lacrosse, or soccer field; a volleyball area; many tennis courts; a bowling green; several areas with handball courts; a croquet lawn; horseshoe courts; a cricket field; and seven dock areas for boats (Figure 12).

Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr. (photo 60)

The Cooper River Park Historic District's significance in embodying the work of a master is evident in examining the life and work of Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr. (1871 – 1928) and his firm, Charles Leavitt & Son.

Leavitt was born in Riverton, New Jersey and educated at The Gunnery preparatory school in Washington, Connecticut and the Cheltenham Military Academy in Pennsylvania. He was an American landscape architect, urban planner, and civil engineer who began his career directing the engineering and construction of water, sewer, roads, and other municipal facilities.

One of his first jobs was assistant engineer in charge of construction for the East Jersey Water Company. In 1891 he was the engineer in charge of construction for the Caldwell Railway. He worked for the New York Suburban Land Company between 1893 and 1895 when he left to become the city engineer for Essex Fells, New Jersey, where he supervised the city's water supply, sewers and sewage disposal, and road construction.²²

In 1897 Leavitt set up his own practice at 220 Broadway in New York City and began to take on large landscape design, civil engineering and architecture projects. He practiced in these areas until his premature death from pneumonia in 1928. Gordon Leavitt joined his firm and continued its operation after his father's death until

²¹ John-Alder, op.cit.

²² Hohmann, Heidi. "Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr.," *Pioneers of American Landscape Design*. Edited by Charles A. Birnbaum and Robin Karson. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2000, p. 224

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1940. Leavitt successfully transitioned from working as a civil engineer to practicing in the fields of city and urban planning, landscape architecture, and horticulture, with no formal education. His facility and success in each discipline is evidenced by the firm's wide-ranging portfolio that included private, public, and institutional projects.

Leavitt first advertised himself as a landscape "engineer," reportedly preferring this title because it better represented his engineering background and reflected his interest in large-scale projects involving civil engineering.²³ After becoming involved in city planning, Leavitt's advertisements in magazines such as *Town Development* in 1914 announced that he was a "City Planner" as well as a "Civil and Landscape Engineer." Leavitt described himself as a "Landscape Architect" when appealing to audiences through his articles on residential gardening and landscape design in popular magazines.²⁴

Elite clients hired Leavitt to design their landscapes, drives, and gardens. His most prominent clients, who he met through his New York social connections and professional involvement as a municipal engineer, included John D. Rockefeller, Walter P. Chrysler, William C. Whitney, George B. Post, Colonel Clarence S. Wadsworth, Simon Guggenheim, Chester Congdon, John F. Dodge, Foxhall Keene, James Buchanan Duke, Daniel S. Lamont, Bethlehem Steel magnate Charles M. Shwab, Mrs. Potter Palmer in Sarasota, Florida, and W.K. Jewitt in Pasadena, California.²⁵

Leavitt's most notable and touted residential commission was the Charles M. Schwab estate at Loretto, Pennsylvania, whose formal terraced and elaborate gardens were highlighted in a number of magazines, including the June 1920 issue of *Country Life*.

Country clubs were another area of expertise for Leavitt. He designed landscape plans for the Biltmore Country Club in Rye, New York; the New Orleans Country Club, in New Orleans, Louisiana; and the Rumson Country Club in Rumson, New Jersey, which he highlighted in a 1910 exhibit sponsored by the T-Square Club and the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

The Palisades Interstate Parkway Commission (PIPC) hired Leavitt in 1903 as its chief engineer.²⁶ As chief engineer Leavitt proposed the Henry Hudson Drive along the length of the Palisades at the base of the cliffs. His ideas were precursors for the design of the Palisades Interstate Parkway and the Henry Hudson Drive, which opened in sections between 1921 and 1926.

Leavitt applied his city planning skills creating plans for Garden City and Long Beach, New York; New Cape May, New Jersey; Lakeland, Florida; and Jamaica Estates, New York.²⁷ His plans for the latter received

²³ Ibid.

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ Schopp, Paul, Nomination, "Sears, Roebuck and Company Retail Department Store, Camden City, Camden County, New Jersey," *National Register of Historic Places*, p. 13

²⁶ The New York and New Jersey state legislatures established the commission in 1900 to develop an interstate park along the Palisades of the Hudson River.

²⁷ Hohmann, op. cit.

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positive reviews by the *New York Times* in its August 11, 1907, issue, which called Jamaica Estates an "attractive street system."²⁸ A New York City newspaper publisher, Julius David Stone, lauded Leavitt, saying that he was "a rare combination of engineer, artist and diplomat."

Leavitt completed planning and landscape designs for cemeteries, and his comprehensive work included: plans for entire cemetery layouts such as the Mount Carmel Cemetery in Kings County, Brooklyn, New York; cemetery entranceways, such as those in Mount Carmel Cemetery, showcased in the May 1912 issue of *Park and Cemetery and Landscape Gardening* magazine; the Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Pleasantville, New York, which was highlighted in "Great Modern Memorials," in *Stone* magazine in October 1919; and family mausoleums such as the Bache Mausoleum in Woodlawn Cemetery, New York City.²⁹

Leavitt designed racetracks and other large sports venues. His firm designed tracks and facilities at Belmont Park, Saratoga, Sheepshead Bay, Montreal, Toronto and Winnipeg. Leavitt's experience in steel and concrete construction gained while designing the Belmont and Saratoga racetracks helped him present a plan for Forbes Field in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania – the only ballpark he would design. As a result Leavitt was contracted to design the stadium's grandstand. Forbes Field was considered so immense --- so far beyond anything else in America in the way of a baseball park – that old experts accustomed to judging crowds at a glance were at a loss for reasonable figures of attendance at the first game played there on June 30, 1909 between the Pirates and the Chicago Cubs.³⁰ The stadium was widely considered the best in the league.³¹

Charles Wellford Leavitt specialized in the design of school campuses and completed plans for the University of Georgia at Athens; the University of South Carolina, Columbia; and the Berry School in Rome, Georgia.

Leavitt collaborated with other landscape architects as well on his projects. Because of his particular skill, Leavitt was hired by the Olmsted Brothers to design the Italian Gardens on the grounds of the Jacob Tome Institute in Port Deposit, Maryland.³² Leavitt's institutional projects included designing the grounds for the Kingston Hospital and the New Jersey State Village for Epileptics.³³

Leavitt's work for the City of Camden was preceded by his work in Colorado Springs, Colorado, with his 1909 design of Monument Valley Park. In 1914, Leavitt prepared plans and specifications for improvements to Mahon Stacy Park in Trenton, New Jersey.³⁴ In 1916 the City of Philadelphia's Fairmount Park Commission employed Leavitt to design a park on newly-acquired land adjacent to and north of the city in the Pennypack

²⁸ Ballenas, Carl and the Aquinas Honor Society of the Immaculate Conception School. Jamaica Estates. *Images of America Series*. Charleston, South Carolina: Arcadia Publishing, 2010

²⁹ Leland, Ernest Stevens. "Planting the Mausoleum Plot." *Park and Cemetery and Landscape Gardening* 22 (May 1912), pp. 12, 313.

³⁰ Pittsburgh Press 1939

³¹ McCollister, John, *The Bucs! The Story of the Pittsburgh Pirates*, Lenexa, KS: Addax Publishing Group (1998)

³² *Tome School Prospectus* (1919-1920). Article and photograph published in the school yearbook for the year 1919-1920.

³³ Letchworth, William Pryor, LLD, ed. *Transactions of the National Association for the Study of Epilepsy*, (Buffalo: C.E. Brinkworth, 1901)

³⁴ *Trenton Evening Times*, 1914

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Creek Valley. Leavitt prepared plans for a linear park that was similar to other linear parks, with the meandering creek as the park's focal point.³⁵

Leavitt earned an enviable reputation through a wide range of professional experience. His work grew large enough that he employed several hundred engineers, designers and draftsman. Leavitt "was considered one of America's foremost city planners and landscape engineers" according an extensive *Camden Evening Courier* article at the time of his death on April 22, 1928.³⁶ The City of Philadelphia was in the process of retaining his services as City Planner when he died.

Charles Wellford Leavitt was a prolific writer on wide-ranging topics published in a variety of journals for specialized markets. Professional journals and trade magazines, such as *Transactions of the American Society of Civil Engineers*, *Engineering News*, *Town Development*, *Architecture*, and the *Journal of American Concrete Institute*, published Leavitt's articles with titles such as "Property Improvement and Landscaping"³⁷ and "Stands, Stadia, and Bowls."³⁸ Some of his well-known projects, such as the Simon Guggenheim estate in Elberon, New Jersey, were highlighted in articles such as, "New Water Features for Country Estates," in *Country Life in America*.³⁹

Leavitt collaborated with other landscape architects on article submissions. "Garden Architecture in America," an article by Leavitt and other notable landscape architects of the day, was published in *Broadway Magazine* and featured photographs of Leavitt's designs for the Guggenheim estate.⁴⁰ Another article, "Farm Group for Charles M. Schwab, Esq., at Loretto, PA," co-authored by Leavitt and the project architects, Murphy and Dana, and published in *The Architectural Review*, featured a rendering, a site plan, and photographs of Leavitt's well-known landscape commission.⁴¹ *The American City*, a City Beautiful Movement magazine published by the American Civic Association's Civic Press and devoted to "the betterment of urban life," published Leavitt's article, "Water Supplies and the Part They Play in City and County Planning." The article was also issued as one of a series of pamphlets written by City Beautiful planners, architects, and engineers and published by the Civic Press.⁴²

Leavitt advocated landscape design for smaller properties as well as large estates and published articles such as "The Garden of the Small Country Property," which appeared in the popular magazine *Outing*.⁴³ Leavitt's office later designed a series of "garden patterns" for small residential lots that were published

³⁵ Leavitt, Charles Wellford, Jr. "Plan for Pennypack Park Submitted to the Fairmount Park Commission, June 1916." Found on http://www.pennypackpark.org/pennypack_park_1916_plan.htm. Accessed April 2010.

³⁶ Leavitt died at his home, Meadow Brook Farm, in Hartsdale, West Chester County, N.Y. at age 57.

³⁷ Leavitt, Charles Wellford, Jr., Series of articles based on lectures, published on monthly basis in *Architecture* magazine. New York City: Forbes and Company, 1912

³⁸ Leavitt, Charles Wellford, Jr., "Stands, Stadia, and Bowls," *Journal of American Concrete Institute* (1915), p. 576

³⁹ McAdam, Thomas. "New Water Features for Country Estates." *Country Life in America* (August 1908), p. 358

⁴⁰ Greenleaf, Professor J.L., Daniel W. Langton, Charles A. Platt, Charles W. Leavitt, Jr. "Garden Architecture in America." *Broadway Magazine* 13 (September 1904), p.1.

⁴¹ Murphy and Dana and Charles Wellford Leavitt. "Farm Group for Charles M. Schwab, Esq., at Loretto, PA." *The Architectural Review*, n.d.

⁴² Leavitt, Charles Wellford, Jr. "Water Supplies and the Part they Play in County Planning," *American City Magazine* (1914), p. 585.

⁴³ Leavitt, Charles Wellford, Jr., "The Garden of the Small Country Property," *Outing* (1903), p. 310.

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in the *Ladies Home Journal*.⁴⁴

Charles Wellford Leavitt was also active in professional societies and organizations, including the American Society of Civil Engineers, to which he was elected an Associate Member in 1898 and elevated to a Member in 1905. Leavitt was a member of the American Society of Landscape Architects in 1904, the American Society of Landscape Engineers, the Architectural League of New York, the New York State Chamber of Commerce (Distinguished Successful Americans 1912), and the American Institute of Consulting Engineers, of which he was elected president in 1923.⁴⁵

In addition to the influence exerted through his commissions and writings, Charles Wellford Leavitt was equally influential in the university classroom. Leavitt helped to establish the Landscape Architecture degree program at Columbia University as one of its first professors. During the summer of 1911, the university offered a single course in landscape architecture for the first time. After the university decided to continue the coursework and offer a full degree program the following year, Leavitt, along with several other landscape architects, taught in the summer of 1912 through the spring semester 1913.

During the same year Leavitt submitted a series of articles containing essays about the field of landscape architecture. The essays shed light on Leavitt's views of the discipline's importance and discussed topics such as the proper training and responsibilities of the landscape architect, the approaches to be taken in completing clients' projects, and the necessary preparation for projects. His essays were published in *Architecture* magazine in nine consecutive monthly issues and formed the backbone of the lectures that he presented to his classes. The titles included, "Reasons for the Profession of Landscape Architecture," "Problems and the Necessity for the Special Training of a Landscape Architect," "The Necessity for Special Preparation for the Practice of Landscape Architecture," "Approach of the Problem," and "The Design and the Details of the Design."⁴⁶

Leavitt's essays reflect his mastery of the discipline of landscape architecture and his influence in the profession's establishment. The theories and methodologies presented in Leavitt's articles are reflected in his design for the Cooper River Parkway. For example, the importance Leavitt placed on the details of a design, as stated in the latter article, are evident in his 1926 design for the Cooper River Parkway, which defines every recreation area and its purpose. The Cooper River Parkway and the manner in which its man-made design enhanced a pre-existing natural waterway also reflects Leavitt's espoused beliefs on the role of nature versus man-made designs in landscape architecture. Leavitt wrote:

Nature dominates the world. Man must design his work to fit in with nature, not try to fit nature to his needs. It cannot be said that we are not to have our way and fit nature to do what we want, for there are many instances of just this being done. We can say that very few of such undertakings are beautiful, and most of them are very expensive.⁴⁷

⁴⁴ Hohmann, op. cit., p. 224

⁴⁵ Ibid.

⁴⁶ Leavitt, Charles W., Jr., Series of articles based on lectures, published on monthly basis in *Architecture* magazine. New York City: Forbes and Company, 1912

⁴⁷ Ibid.

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The Cooper River Park Historic District is significant for its embodiment of the type of landscape architecture promulgated in the mid-to-late nineteenth century by the noted landscape architect, Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr., and furthered by his son, Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr., and by his stepson and nephew, John Charles Olmsted, during the City Beautiful Movement.

Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr., best known for creating Manhattan's Central Park, first promoted the establishment of park systems and the construction of parks within urban settings on underutilized land. The Central Park commission gave him an opportunity to use landscape design for social purposes. He and fellow designer Calvert Vaux believed that there is no beauty without utility and based their work on the "noble motive," which drove their aesthetic decisions. Rather than aim merely for a lovely park with beautiful greenery, the two aimed to achieve a healthy environment for people to promote democracy, with a little "d."⁴⁸ Olmsted and his fellow practitioners believed in embodying the United States' democratic and egalitarian principles in their designed parks and created publicly accessible parks for all people, regardless of class or ethnic background. His designs included features that would draw people into the park and attract them to common spaces where they could interact.

Olmsted's park designs typically were centered on bodies of water, and they included both wooded and open spaces; informal, naturalistic landscaping; storm water management; winding footpath systems; drives meandering through the parks and directing vehicular traffic flow away from urban streets; scenic views; pedestrian bridges over waterways; and far-ranging vistas. Located in the center of urban settings and easily accessible from adjacent neighborhoods, Olmsted's parks served as the "heart and lungs" of a community where citizens could come together to celebrate their diversity.⁴⁹

The senior Olmsted's most notable park system designs were Boston's Emerald Necklace, begun in 1878 and completed in approximately 1900, and Buffalo's Park and Parkway System, constructed between 1868 and 1896. Leavitt's Cooper River Park was designed with the same characteristic features used by Olmsted in his park designs, and, in fact, shares many of the characteristics of Boston's Emerald Necklace.⁵⁰ Both, for example took on the challenge of transforming a waterway prone to flooding and used as a dumping ground. Both designers wanted to build parks that would enhance citizens' health and happiness, but both also had intentions that were not limited to altruism. Olmsted and Leavitt "realized that the real-estate industry would get on board if [they] could convince people that parks would increase the value of the surrounding lands."⁵¹ Leavitt specifically noted the tremendous increases of assessment values directly traceable to the (Essex County, NJ) park system" in promoting the completion of his Cooper River Park plan.⁵²

The senior Olmsted's design ideals were further promoted in the twentieth century as his sons, practicing as the Olmsted Brothers, and other landscape architects promoted the City Beautiful Movement. The

⁴⁸ Kirkwood, Scott. "The Lay of the Land." *National Parks*. Fall 2011, p.59

⁴⁹ Loughlin, Caroline and M. Eliza Davidson. Letter to Lori Healy of 2016 and to Hyde Park Herald regarding proposal to locate Olympics in Chicago in 2016, dated 2009. <http://www.hydepark.org/parks/washington/Olympiccomm.htm>. Accessed on April 1, 2010.

⁵⁰ John-Alder, Kathleen, op.cit.

⁵¹ Kirkwood. op.cit. p. 59

⁵² Leavitt, Charles W., Jr. *Health Sunshine and Wealth*. op.cit., p.2

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Seattle Park System was designed by John Charles Olmsted and constructed between 1910 and 1930, and Washington, D.C.'s Rock Creek Park was designed from 1917-1918 by the Olmsted Brothers and constructed through the 1920s.

The Olmsted Brothers completed the design of the new park system in Essex County, New Jersey, begun by the senior Olmsted in 1893 and completed during the 1920s, and the new park system in Union County, New Jersey.

Camden County moved to establish its own planned linear park system at the same time and hired Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr., to complete the park system's design. Leavitt's design reflected the same democratic ideals promoted by the Olmsteds, namely that parks were to be accessible and used by the general public. Toward this end, Leavitt designed the Cooper River Park system to be accessible by pedestrians and vehicular traffic coming from Camden City and the newly constructed Crescent Boulevard (which was also designed by Leavitt), Cuthbert Boulevard, North and South Park Drives, and the park's adjacent residential neighborhoods.

Development History/Additional Historic Context Information

Early History of the Cooper River

The Camden area was first settled by William Cooper, an English Quaker who migrated with his family from Hertford County, England to the province of West Jersey in 1679 to escape religious persecution. In 1681 or 1682 Cooper obtained a 300-acre tract at the junction of the Delaware River and Arouches Creek (now Cooper River), becoming one of the first European settlers in the Coopers Creek valley.⁵³

Between 1688 and 1692 William Roydon, another owner of land adjacent to and south of Cooper's that would form a large part of the future city of Camden, obtained a license and started to operate a ferry crossing between New Jersey and Philadelphia.⁵⁴ The Cooper family acquired Roydon's land, including the ferry landing area, after Roydon's death⁵⁵ and maintained a ferry operation between Camden and Philadelphia for 150 years.⁵⁶

The residents formed Waterford Township, one of the original townships of old Gloucester County, in 1695.

Cooper's Creek (now Cooper River) was navigable for 10 miles inland from its mouth at the Delaware River and served as a transportation corridor for landowners to use after establishing their plantations along the waterway beginning in the seventeenth century.⁵⁷ Coopers Creek eventually became a river of shipping, with terminals of commerce established at Cole, Stoy and Asford Landings and the sloops and small schooners, many of them propelled by poles, plied the river which was the main water link

⁵³ In 1682 Francis Collins purchased 500 acres and Thomas Howell purchased 650 acres on the north side of the creek.

⁵⁴ Prowell, George R. *History of Camden New Jersey*. (Original 1886 book was reprinted by the Camden County Historical Society and the Camden County Cultural and Heritage Commission, 1974) pp. 405-407.

⁵⁵ Prowell, op.cit., p. 407

⁵⁶ *Ibid.* p. 418

⁵⁷ *Ibid.* pp. 1-2

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between South Jersey and Philadelphia.⁵⁸ Shippers loaded boats from landings that jutted out into the creek. Philip Stoy, who owned rights to a large white-oak forest (in what is now Cherry Hill Township), built his landing and a warehouse on the west side of Grove Street (in today's Haddonfield), and used it to load timber on barges that he shipped to various Delaware River shipyard in the 1700s.⁵⁹ Job Coles Landing, located on the south side of Cooper's Creek in Haddon Township, handled coal transported from Pennsylvania mines down the Lehigh and Delaware Rivers, then up Cooper's Creek by smaller barges for delivery to Newton and Haddon Township residents in the 1800s. Axford's Landing, a few hundred yards downstream from Kings Highway was the end of the navigable waters on Cooper's Creek. Many roads led to Haddonfield because of the available water transportation to and from Philadelphia or Camden.

Farmers found extensive tracts of low marshy land containing fertile alluvial deposits along both sides of the creek, formed banks, and drained wetland to create meadowland for hay and pasture and to grow fruits and vegetables.⁶⁰ The area remained rural throughout the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Farmers shipped their crops to Philadelphia markets down Cooper's Creek and on the Delaware River.⁶¹ Small flat bottom boats or scows were propelled by the tide and guided by long poles up and down the creek.

Farms existed on both sides of Cooper's Creek until near the end of the nineteenth century. From the eighteenth century the settlement pattern established along the creek had been partially determined by the practice of surveying "long" lots with narrow frontage along the creek, which allowed a greater number of landowners to own water frontage. On the creek's northern side in the area of the future Cooper River Park system farms ranged in size from approximately 50 to 105 acres. Farms on the southern side of the creek ranged in size from approximately 40 to 106 acres.⁶²

Cooper River valley farms were served by a variety of water driven mills whose sites lie within the Cooper River Historic District. The mills were a focal point for all settlers and famers visited them many times during the year either for their own household or to get feed for cattle. Sawmills were operated to provide building materials and later to derive income from excess lumber.

Thomas Kendall built one of the first mill dams in 1697 on a site where the Old Salem Road crossed the Cooper River between Ellis Street and Bortons Mill Road. He built a corn mill at a site on the Haddonfield side of the river about 100 yards further downstream at the end of a race-way cut in the bank.⁶³

In 1710 John Kay bought the mill that Kendall had built from William Lovejoy. Kay's mill was known as the Free Lodge Mill because it offered free lodging to farmers who had to travel far to process their grain. The mill

⁵⁸ Landings and mills remaining along the Cooper and its tributaries as of 1846 are shown on John Clement Jr.'s "A Map of Camden County" at <http://www.westjerseyhistory.org/maps/countymaps/camcoclem1846.shtml>

⁵⁹ Raible, op.cit. p. 24

⁶⁰ Prowell, op.cit., p. 386

⁶¹ *Ibid.* p. 388.

⁶² Hopkins, G.M. *Atlas of Philadelphia and Environs.* (Philadelphia: G.M. Hopkins, 1877)

⁶³ Clement. op.cit. p. 172

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had only one set of stones and could grind only a few bushels of grain a day. Kay added a sawmill. By the mid-1700s there were two mills directly across from the Hopkins House on a small ranch of the main creek. One was Howell's corn mill, which later became Champion's Grist Mill and later Shiver's Grist Mill. Horner's Sawmill was also located on the same small branch of Cooper's Creek upstream. It was renamed Troth's Saw Mill in 1847. In 1779 Joseph Kay built a dam which formed the current mill pond and a new mill on the dam's east side that included a sawmill.⁶⁴ John Estaugh Hopkins built a 30 foot windmill the Haddon Mill in 1789 below the present spillway from Hopkins Pond in Haddonfield to mill ground grain for local farmers. When it did not work, the 30 foot windmills were removed and replaced with a raceway from the bond as the sole source of power. The mill operated into the 1850's.⁶⁵ Thomas and Joel Evans purchased the mill from Mathias Kay in 1819 and completely rebuilt it in 1839. Three types of mills (grain, wood sawing, and fulling⁶⁶) existed at Evans Pond at various times. In 1882 the Evans family replaced the millstones with a new more efficient machine roller press. The mill went bankrupt in 1897, due in part to the decline of agriculture in the Haddonfield area.

By 1902 the S.A. Willits Flour and Feed Mill was operating on the north east side of the Evans Pond Dam.⁶⁷ The Willits mill had two turbine wheels and a steam wheat heater. The mill burned down in October 1913.

In the 1920s, with the once flourishing saw and grist mills no longer functioning, the Evans family sold the mill site, dam, and land to John W. Croft, Jr. who, along with assistant Thomas McCargo, farmed the land until 1981. In 1985, the Crofts sold the 80-acre property to Cherry Hill Township.

Kay's Mill was the location of two events during the American Revolution in 1778. Troops under the American commander Count Casimir Pulaski fired on British sentinels at Kay's Mill in one incident. The other saw some part of the 2500 Hessian soldiers on their way to the first battle at Red Bank pitch their tents in a field owned by John Kay just above the mill.⁶⁸

Growth of City of Camden and nearby towns

Camden City originally developed largely as an extension of Philadelphia, which during the colonial period was the leading city on the North American continent. Camden City's growth was directly related to the growth of Philadelphia as a marketing and commercial center.

Camden started to develop when William Cooper's great grandson and Philadelphia merchant, Jacob Cooper, purchased an 100-acre tract of land at Coopers Ferry from his father in 1764. He advertised lots for sale as early as 1769 and in 1773 he laid out the town's original lots on a 40-acre portion of the

⁶⁴ Rauschenberger, Douglas B. and Katherine Mansfield Tassini. *Lost Haddonfield*. (Haddonfield, N.J.: The Historical Society of Haddonfield, 1999), p. 78

⁶⁵ Rauschenberger, op.cit., p. 79

⁶⁶ Fulling is a step in woolen cloth making involving the cleansing of cloth to eliminate oils, dirt and other impurities and to make it into wearable cloth.

⁶⁷ The Willits flour mill footprint site as of September 1902 is shown on Sheet 9 of the 1902 Sanborn maps of Haddonfield, NJ at <http://gissserver.princeton.edu:81/navigatorMapViewer.htm?map=10886>

⁶⁸ Mathis, Mike, *Cherry Hill: A Brief History*, pp 18-19.

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tract.⁶⁹

Following its incorporation in 1828 Camden developed into a major port by the middle of the nineteenth century. The 1835 opening of the Camden and Amboy Railroad and subsequent improvement of ferry service to Philadelphia increased Camden's commercial importance and boosted industry in the city. Businesses established at the waterfront included passenger and freight services, shipbuilding, and manufacturing concerns. Between 1840 and 1850 the population of Camden tripled to nearly 10,000. In 1844 the city was selected as the seat of Camden County. By 1909 Camden's board of trade asserted that "The city has within these ten bright and busy years thrown off the shackles inspired by a fear of being so near a metropolitan city."⁷⁰

Beginning in the 1850s the expansion of railroad and streetcar lines and the construction of improved roads and turnpikes connecting the growing city with rural areas to the east and south stimulated greater expansion and the establishment of outlying suburbs, gardens, and recreation areas.⁷¹ Camden's first commuter suburbs were located along train lines and included Merchantville and Collingswood adjacent to and south of the Cooper River Park Historic District.

Collingswood

The Borough of Collingswood had originated as a small village around the train station in the early 1880s. Edward C. Knight and his cousin Richard T. Collings started the first large scale real estate planning in Collingswood in 1874. Collings, acting as Knight's agent, acquired the 112 acre Barton Farm located near what is today Roberts Park Pool and in a few years about three quarters of the present Borough.⁷² Ten citizens under Knight's and Collings' influence chose the name Collingswood in 1881. (Knight's mother's maiden name was also Collings.)

While the town's initial sale of residential building lots started to occur in 1885 when William Tatem began selling lots along the northern border of his farm near Haddon Avenue, the first mass building did not occur until 1886 when Richard Collings purchased 40 acres from Tatem and sold 171 lots for \$250 per lot. Collings had chartered trains in Camden, brought prospective buyers to view Collingswood real estate, and even grossed \$14,000 in sales in one day.⁷³

Further subdivision of farmland followed along with a rapid development of the town. In 1888 the town's residents voted to separate from Haddon Township and to incorporate as Collingswood.

In 1893 the Mayor of Camden City and other prominent county officials dedicated Knight Park in Collingswood on a 65 acre tract of fields and woodland donated by the heirs of Edward C. Knight. It became a popular playground for weekenders and an inducement for many families to move to

⁶⁹ Prowell, op.cit., p. 410

⁷⁰ Gillette, Howard, Jr., *Camden After the Fall: Decline and Renewal in a Post-Industrial City*, (Philadelphia, University of Pennsylvania Press, 2005), p. 19

⁷¹ Benenson, Carol A. "Merchantville, New Jersey: The Development and Marketing of a Victorian Commuter Suburb." *Camden County Historical Society Bulletin* 41 (Winter 1988-89).

⁷² Raible, op.cit. p.70.

⁷³ Ibid., p.71-72

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Collingswood as the Park served as a picnic and recreation area.

By the turn of the century Collingswood was on its way to becoming a popular Camden County suburb. By the time the Cooper River Park was designed in the 1920s the Collingswood Land Company's Terraces had been constructed adjacent to and southwest of the park.⁷⁴

During the 1930's the WPA provided assistance for a number of projects in Collingswood, including the pool facilities at Roberts Park adjacent to South Park Drive between South Vineyard Boulevard and Hillcrest Avenue.

Haddonfield

Haddonfield, located at the southeastern end of the Cooper River Historic District, is one of the oldest communities in New Jersey. English Quakers first started to settle in the area in 1682. Quaker's established a monthly meeting and meeting house by 1721 in Haddonfield.

Haddonfield was named for the Haddon Field Plantation established by Elizabeth Haddon in 1702. Elizabeth Haddon came to occupy her father's large land holdings in the area in 1701. Her father, John Haddon, had purchased 450 acres of prime tidewater land at the head of Cooper's Creek in present day Haddonfield from Richard Matthews and an option on an additional 100 acres. The option required Haddon or his legal representative to take physical possession of the land within six months. Haddon could not go and instead sent his twenty-one year old, highly educated daughter Elizabeth with full power of attorney. While working on her plantation she met and then married John Estaugh who became a partner in the development of the plantation, the sale of town lots, and the building of the Haddonfield Friends Meeting in 1721.⁷⁵

Elizabeth Haddon Estaugh became the most important female real estate developer in the history of Camden County establishing a plantation in 1713 and a town, selling town lots along the King's Highway where it crossed the head of Cooper's Creek to skilled craftsmen and merchants. Her estate at her death in 1762 was valued at 8,000 pounds.⁷⁶

In 1723 Elizabeth Haddon Estaugh visited England and brought her five-year-old nephew Ebenezer Hopkins from his home in London to Haddonfield. The childless couple raised him as a son and made him heir to their extensive land holdings.

The Estaughs were a prominent and wealthy Quaker couple in West Jersey, and John Estaugh was a well-respected Quaker minister.

In 1735 John Estaugh purchased a 200-acre Cooper River plantation and house first occupied by Samuel Shivers farther down Cooper Creek. A newly-married Ebenezer Hopkins and his bride, Sarah Lord, moved onto this plantation and into the Shiver's house in 1737. In 1740s Ebenezer Hopkins built a large addition onto the west wall of the Shiver's house to accommodate his rapidly-expanding family, which

⁷⁴ Marble, op. cit. .

⁷⁵ Longfellow tells the story of their romance with the "Theologian's Tale" in *Tales of a Wayside Inn*.

⁷⁶ Dorwart, 2001, op.cit. Loc 347 Kindle version.

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would eventually include seven children. This addition is the present-day Hopkins House west wing.

Ebenezer Hopkins became a wealthy and prominent citizen who held many public offices. He served as Camden County Collector of Taxes, Freeholder, and as a member of the General Assembly from 1745 to 1748. Ebenezer ran his plantation and took over management of the vast Haddon-Estaugh holdings in 1742--at the age of 24--upon the death of his uncle, John Estaugh. He also succeeded his uncle as local agent for the Pennsylvania Land Company of London and performed work as a land surveyor.

Ebenezer lived in the Hopkins House for ten years before he purchased it and the surrounding 200 acre plantation from his aunt in 1747 for 300 pounds.

At the age of 39 Ebenezer Hopkins died in 1757 of smallpox. His plantation and house eventually passed to his youngest child, Ann Hopkins Burr, who was born several months after his death. She resided in the house from 1793 to 1833.

The town of Haddonfield quickly grew around the Quaker meetinghouse, developing into a prosperous commercial center.⁷⁷ After the arrival of the Camden and Atlantic Railroad in 1853 Haddonfield became a summer retreat for prosperous Philadelphia businessmen.

Haddonfield's fame grew as a result of a discovery of a prominent Haddon descendent, William Estaugh Hopkins, who uncovered large bones in a nearby marl pit in 1838 (located today in a ravine at the north end of Maple Avenue). Hopkins displayed the bones in his home, Birdwell, which was built by Ebenezer Hopkins's son, John Estaugh Hopkins, for his son William in 1794.

Philadelphia naturalist William Parker Foulke observed one of these large bones while visiting Hopkins' home in 1858. Foulke obtained permission from Hopkins to investigate the area where the bone had been found. Foulke and fellow scientist Dr. Joseph Leidy reopened the marl pit that had contained the bone resulting in the discovery of the first nearly intact dinosaur ever found in the world.

The dinosaur was named *Hadrosaurus foulkii*, and its discovery changed the scientific understanding of dinosaurs. Leidy and his colleagues assembled the dinosaur and put it on display at the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences where it remains today.

In 1994 the site of the find on the former Hopkins land (and within the Pennypacker Park section of the Cooper River Park) was designated a National Historic Landmark.

In the late nineteenth century Haddonfield continued as a place of prominence as it became a genteel railroad suburb of both Camden and Philadelphia.

In 1916 the Borough of Haddonfield purchased Evans Pond, Silver Lake (now Hopkins Pond), and the land west of Wallworth Lake in order to preserve their natural beauty and create parks.

⁷⁷ Haddonfield Historical Society, "A Brief History of Haddonfield." Article on website.
<http://haddonfieldhistoricalsociety.org>. Accessed on April 20, 2010

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The Greater Camden Movement

By 1920 Camden City's population exceeded 100,000 for the first time. Its shipyards, factories, construction, and transportation industries employed thousands of residents. After the advent of the automobile age, Camden's suburban communities saw steady economic and population growth with the development and construction of many residential neighborhoods outside of the city.⁷⁸ The out-flux of city residents to the suburban neighborhoods concerned Camden leaders in the beginning of the 1920s.

Camden city leaders initiated and expanded a civic program called the Greater Camden Movement in the early 1920s.⁷⁹ The movement's goal was to retain and increase the population of Camden City by annexing a growing number of adjacent communities to the city. This was to be accomplished by planning and coordinating regional development, directing economic and political unification, and establishing a uniform educational and public service system, including transportation.⁸⁰

Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr. had developed a sizeable portfolio with many projects that integrated civil engineering, urban planning, and landscape design concepts by 1920.

In May 1923 the newly formed, non-partisan Camden City Commission hired Charles Leavitt as city planner. He immediately went to work developing a plan that supported the "Greater Camden" movement, including designing improvements and expansions to the city's highway network.

On December 7, 1923, Leavitt described his comprehensive plan for Greater Camden. His plan included a boulevard approach to the new Delaware River Bridge, a feeder extension highway skirting the city (Crescent Boulevard), traffic rotaries, the beautification of Cooper River, and a new Civic Center complex. Leavitt asked his new clients:

Is not the daily contact with careless planned, poorly kept streets, inadequate buildings, and other makeshifts an influence highly detrimental and to be avoided? Do not dignified and beautiful buildings, well ordered, well placed and easily fetched, properly equipped and surrounded by equally fine structures for other purposes, instill in the people a respect similar to that inculcated in the younger generation by proper home surroundings administered by wholesome parents.⁸¹

Leavitt's vision was of a "Greater Camden" that would dominate all of South Jersey and whose foundation would be a complex web of highways connecting city and suburbs, crowned by an elaborately landscaped boulevard parkway comparable in scale to the Benjamin Franklin Parkway in Philadelphia to the new Delaware

⁷⁸ Dorwart, 1976, op.cit., p.163

⁷⁹ Notable development and construction projects that occurred as a result of the Greater Camden movement include : the 1922-1926 construction of the Camden-Philadelphia Bridge (whose name was changed in 1956 to the Benjamin Franklin Bridge), the creation of a network of roads in and around Camden; the rise of new outlying suburban communities; the improvement of harbor facilities; the creation of a new airport outside the city; and the construction of Camden's first hotel and high-rise building, the Walt Whitman Hotel.

⁸⁰ Dorwart, op.cit., p. 208

⁸¹ Gillette, op.cit., p. 20

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River Bridge.⁸² Leavitt designed Bridge Boulevard,⁸³ which he called Cherry Blossom Highway,⁸⁴ to be integrated with nature as part a grand design for Camden's City Beautiful movement and in an effort to redevelop industrial wastelands.⁸⁵ Leavitt claimed that "New boulevards create new values and new centers of activity and rehabilitate old values and old centers."⁸⁶

Leavitt also conceived the idea of building a Camden Civic Center on reclaimed industrial land along the Cooper River on Memorial Avenue at a site near the present day headquarters of Campbell Soup that was occupied by the old Camden Iron Works and the R.D. Wood Company that had been driven into bankruptcy in 1916. Leavitt convinced a Philadelphian who had purchased the 45 acre site at a Receiver's Sale to resell it to the City of Camden for the price he originally paid by extolling the virtues of what the civic center project would mean to the city. Camden had annexed East Camden in 1899 making the site of his proposed civic center the geographic center of the city. His plan included cleaning up and beautifying the site and the Cooper River to knit together the traditional Camden City west bank and the former East Camden suburban area forever unifying the city as a cohesive urban center.⁸⁷

Leavitt's new civic center design was nothing short of dramatic. It called for relocating city government functions and fraternal organizations to the center site which would occupy two thirds of the 45 acre site. The design called for tree and shrubbery plantings, athletic facilities and a lagoon or reflecting pool dredged out of the Cooper River and at the end of a parade ground leading to a new city hall.

The architectural firm of Edwards & Green designed the convention hall to adaptively reuse two of the former iron works structures and to contain 32,500 square feet of floor space to seat 5,000. The NJ State Commission of the South Jersey Exposition used the hall for the first time between July 5 and September 6, 1926 to celebrate the Delaware River Bridge opening and new plans for Camden's future.

Leavitt designated the Classic Revival architectural style for all civic center building and advocated that the city enforce it by ordinance. In January 1927 Camden city commissioners passed a series of resolutions and ordinance to make a new Sears, Roebuck and Co. retail store a reality. They included, among other provisions, the terms of selling Sears a portion of the civic center site meeting two conditions: that the building cost at least \$500,000 and "meet the architectural standards to accord with the plans for the civic center as fixed by City Planning Engineer Charles W. Leavitt."⁸⁸ A Sears spokesman subsequently stated that the company not only agreed to follow the style and design standards required of buildings at the Civic Center, but would also likely cost \$1 million.⁸⁹ The Evening Courier about the sale indicated in a headline that the "Magnificent Building Will Harmonize With Architectural Scheme of Leavitt."

⁸² Paul Cret designed the Benjamin Franklin Parkway as part of Philadelphia's efforts in the City Beautiful Movement. Cret later designed the Delaware River Bridge, now the Benjamin Franklin Bridge.

⁸³ Bridge Boulevard was named for native son and war hero, Admiral Henry Braid Wilson, on Armistice Day, November 11, 1929. Wilson, born in Camden in 1861, commanded the Atlantic Fleet off France during World War I.

⁸⁴ The Delta Group, *Cooper River Study*, City of Camden, September 1980, p.20

⁸⁵ *Evening Courier* 1923; *Camden First*, April 1924, pp. 10-11.

⁸⁶ Leavitt, *Camden First*, 1924

⁸⁷ Schopp, op cit., p.14

⁸⁸ Schopp, op.cit, p. 17

⁸⁹ Schopp, op.cit., p. 18

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Camden City officials implemented some Leavitt's designs for city beautification. By October 1924 city officials had selected a route for the "bridge entrance road" from four slightly different designs. Contractors began erecting a double-leaf bascule drawbridge over the Cooper River in May 1926 featuring Classic Revival design elements, compliant with Leavitt's designated styles. And city officials executed contracts calling for the contractors to complete construction of Bridge Boulevard by July 1, 1927, the date when all the connecting roads would be finished.

The intended annexation of communities within the county to the City of Camden, as part of the Greater Camden Movement, however, never occurred, and the surrounding townships and boroughs resisted Camden's attempts to incorporate them into the city.⁹⁰

Camden Extension

The expanded network of roads constructed in Camden included the Leavitt designed Camden Extension, also known as Crescent Boulevard, which he intended would extend State Highway Routes 2, 3, and 6 into an access road from Camden and the surrounding communities to the new Camden-Philadelphia Bridge. This new semi-circular highway (hence the name Crescent Boulevard), which skirted the edge of Camden, would connect Route 45 in Westville to Bridge Boulevard from the south and the Burlington Pike to Bridge Boulevard from the north, bypassing Westfield Avenue, the traditional route from Burlington to Camden. It also included four traffic circles (originally called "round points") to maintain smooth and continuous traffic flow at intersections, including the first circle constructed in New Jersey, the Airport Circle, at the intersection of Crescent Boulevard, Bridge Boulevard, Kaighn Avenue, Route 40 (now 70) and Route 38.⁹¹

The Camden Extension project began when it became apparent that local roads would not be able to carry the increased traffic associated with the new Delaware River Bridge.⁹² The NJ State Highway Department designed the original plan in 1924 to eliminate congestion by separating local commuter traffic to Camden from through-traffic going to Philadelphia.

In contrast local officials wanted to use existing city streets in downtown Camden. The Highway Department worked with an Advisory Board composed of Camden County officials to try to design a highway route that would satisfy both needs. The Advisory Board favored a parkway with a multi-lane extensively-landscaped thoroughfare on both sides of the Cooper River to be called the Cooper River Parkway. The Advisory Board hired Charles W. Leavitt and Son in 1925 to design the Cooper River Parkway. By then Leavitt had a reputation as a noted landscape architect and parkway designer. Leavitt's plan called for the highway to run parallel to the river on each side.

⁹⁰ Dorwart, op.cit. pp. 261, 277-278.

⁹¹ Schopp, op cit., p. 10

⁹² For a view of the layout of the roads, railroad lines, and ferries in and adjacent to Camden City prior to the completion of the Delaware River Bridge and the development of the Camden Extension and Cooper River Parkway see J.L. Smith's *Good Roads Map of the Country Around Philadelphia, 1897* at <http://ids.lib.harvard.edu/ids/view/7542244?buttons=y> and http://www.slate.com/blogs/the_vault/2013/11/26/philadelphia_history_map_shows_good_roads_around_the_city_in_1897.html

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The state highway department rejected Leavitt's plan and chose a highway route that, until it crossed the Cooper River, ran not parallel to the river, but perpendicular to it. Through negotiation and compromise between officials and state engineers, some portion of the route did travel one way over two city streets (Linden and Pearl) and the entrance to the extension was moved southward to enable the route to more readily tie into a county park bordering the Cooper River (Figure 4).⁹³

Leavitt's beautification plan designed for beautifying Bridge Boulevard was never fully accomplished, primarily because the state highway department refused to donate or dedicate the narrow strips of land on either side of the traffic lanes to the CCPC.⁹⁴ Eventually, gas stations and auto dealerships appeared where Leavitt's plans had called for cherry trees. Leavitt's plans did, however, coincided with Camden County's plans to create a park system.⁹⁵

The Camden County Park Commission

The Camden County Board of Freeholders first considered a formal park system for Camden County after World War I during the Greater Camden Movement. The desire for a park system stemmed from several different movements occurring in the country at the same time whose convergence led to the establishment of the CCPC in 1926.

As a part of the City Beautiful Movement, a public parks movement was gaining a foothold in cities and smaller municipalities. New Jersey played a leadership role in the public parks movement when the state passed enabling legislation on May 5, 1895 to provide a framework for developing county-wide park commissions and park systems. The legislation enabled counties with sufficient population to create a commission with the power to establish county parks across more than one municipality. The Metropolitan Park Commission of Boston established in 1893 was the only entity of similar scope, but its jurisdiction was limited to one municipality, the City of Boston. In 1895 Essex County established the first county-wide park commission in New Jersey and hired Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. to propose the scope of a park system.⁹⁶

It took several decades later however before the concept of having a county-wide park system took hold in New Jersey. In 1910, Hudson County, New Jersey, was considering creating a park commission. According to Walter Muirhead, Secretary of the Hudson County Park Commission, the creation of a county-wide system was believed to have been an excellent idea, but it required an education campaign, which he said was at its height in 1910. He claimed that creating county-wide systems was difficult

⁹³ Lichtenstein, 1995, op.cit.

⁹⁴ According to the New Jersey Historic Roadway Study, Admiral Wilson Boulevard is historically significant as a grand avenue, reflective of the City Beautiful Movement. It connected New Jersey's first traffic circle approaches to the Delaware River Bridge, a circle that formed a landscaped terminus for the boulevard and funneled traffic from points north and south to the bridge. The Boulevard also delivered traffic to the Philadelphia region's only airport located immediately adjacent to the traffic circle. The area adjacent to the Boulevard became a destination in itself through the development of recreation spots such as the first drive-in movie theater in the United States, the Whoopie Coaster (an automotive roller coaster), an outdoor boxing ring, and a then rare national department store on Camden's periphery (Sears), as well as scenic spots along the Cooper River and numerous restaurants. Admiral Wilson Boulevard is also historically significant as an example of an aesthetic landscape design reflective of the City Beautiful Movement. Source: <http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/publicat/historicroadwaystudy.pdf>

⁹⁵ Lichtenstein, op.cit.

⁹⁶ Lurie, Maxine and Marc Mappen, eds. *Encyclopedia of New Jersey*. Rutgers, New Jersey: University Press, 2004

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because of the independence of local communities and municipalities and the "spirit of competition and jealousy" among them.⁹⁷ In 1921 Union County, New Jersey, became the second county in the country to establish a park commission, with the Olmsted brothers retained for the design of its park system.

Another probable reason for the delay in establishing a park commission in Camden County is the interruption caused by World War I.

Although the CCPC was not established until 1926, City Beautiful thinking had earlier roots in Camden County. As early as 1916, Haddonfield's Civic Association promoted a "Parkway Proposition," a proposed system of linear parks that would incorporate both previously existing parks and newly acquired park land in Haddonfield to form a continuous park system encircling the community. The Civic Association invited the President of the American Civic Association and a nationally known parks advocate and City Beautiful promoter, J. Horace McFarland, to speak to an audience there in February 1916.⁹⁸ Haddonfield's linear park was not developed as planned; smaller parks in the borough that had been proposed for the Haddonfield system were donated instead to the Camden County Park Commission for its new linear park in 1927.

Industrialist and philanthropist Eldridge Reeves Johnson, who founded Camden's Victor Talking Machine Company, Joseph Wallworth, and four other citizens, led the initial movement to create a park system in Camden County. These leaders believed in the principles of the City Beautiful Movement, but also embraced the idea of a county park system based on the notion that "county parks, picnic areas, and playground would attract more convention business to the city."⁹⁹

On January 12, 1925, they held a public meeting attended by three hundred people which formed a committee on organization and nomination to establish a Camden County Park Association to "promote the establishment and development of a general system of parks and to lend aid, as an organized body, to our legislators in procuring the necessary legislation to create a Camden County Park Commission."¹⁰⁰ Johnson and Wallworth were elected President and Vice President, respectively.

Johnson invited Consulting Engineer Charles W. Leavitt, Jr, to speak at another mass meeting sponsored by the Camden County Parks Association to promote the proposed Camden County park on September 10, 1925.¹⁰¹ Leavitt showed stereopticon views of his plan and said:

If you now will provide the parks and parkways suggested, taking for them the unused and so-called

⁹⁷ Muirhead, Walter J. "Park System of Hudson County, New Jersey." *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 35 (1910, p. 62).

⁹⁸ Haddonfield Historical Society, op.cit.

⁹⁹ Dorwart, 2001, Loc.1508 Kindle version.

¹⁰⁰ Brown, op.cit, p. 15

¹⁰¹ Camden City had hired Leavitt in May 1923. Personal correspondence between Leavitt and Johnson indicates that they had developed a personal and business relationship beyond Leavitt's planning work for Camden City. For example, Leavitt sent two separate letters to Johnson both dated September 14, 1923: one about a real estate development opportunity between Westfield Avenue and the Delaware River below Fish House station that "could take care of one thousand houses;" the other about the real estate possibilities of a Wharton tract. On December 6, 1927, Leavitt wrote to Johnson endeavoring to make an engagement for Johnson to lunch or dine with him and William K. Vanderbilt.

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waste and swamp lands, purchasable today at a small price, you will save the lands from low-grade real estate development and nuisance, and you will raise the values of adjacent properties.¹⁰²

Such a plan as this is not made with the idea of its complete execution at once; it is given you for adoption as a guide, in order that the first parks chosen and constructed may be part of this general plan of the future. Of the system as shown, only one portion has been planned out definitely and that is the Cooper River Parkway.¹⁰³

Leavitt and Engineer J.C. Remington, Jr. submitted an "Engineers' Report Concerning the Feasibility and Advisability of a Camden County Parks System" to the Association and a Preliminary CCPC, appointed by Camden County Freeholders, on March 6, 1926. The report included suggested new parks and parkways for Camden County that followed almost exclusively the drainage valleys of the county and urged that lands be acquired "while such lands could be obtained at a reasonable expense."¹⁰⁴

Implementation of the Camden County Park System

Camden County voters approved the creation of the CCPC by referendum on November 2, 1926.¹⁰⁵ The state enabling legislation authorized CCPC to spend up to two million dollars to acquire and develop land for a park system. Camden County Freeholders made funds available to the commission in 1927 to commence land searches and surveys.

On May 5, 1927 the Borough of Haddonfield offered land to CCPC. On June 23, 1927 the Commission ordered a plan to be prepared showing the land that would be required for park purposes and a boulevard from Grove Street, Cherry Hill, to Kings Highway, Haddonfield. The CPCC ordered a search and survey of the Munn Meadow property whose owners, the Alliance Development Realty Company, proposed to dedicate about sixteen acres for park purposes in order that a system would be made possible to connect with the land and waters to be dedicated by the Borough of Haddonfield.

On September 2, 1927 the Commission hired Charles W. Leavitt and Son as consulting engineer for a fee of \$7,500.00 per year plus traveling expenses.¹⁰⁶ This gave Leavitt an opportunity to expand his planning influence beyond Camden City deeper into Camden County and to plan regionally for the area's future. He had already designed a Cooper River Parkway from Camden to Haddonfield in 1925 and draft plans for Cooper River Valley improvements.

The CCPC retained Leavitt after he presented a memorandum stating that his firm would prepare a general landscape plan showing the location of roads, walks, playgrounds, gardens, bridle paths plantations, shelters, pavilions, boat houses, and other features. He also offered that his landscape plan would include a detailed planting plan which would describe and specify the proposed location, size, and

¹⁰² Brown, op.cit, p. 16

¹⁰³ Brown, op.cit., p. 17

¹⁰⁴ Brown, op.cit., p. 194

¹⁰⁵ The state legislature authorized the creation of the CCPC by "An Act to Establish public parks in certain counties of this State and to regulate same — Chapter 331, Laws of 1926."

¹⁰⁶ Camden County Park Commission (CCPC). Meeting minutes of the Camden County Park Commission meetings between 1927 and 1945, Camden, New Jersey, various dates.

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character of each plant. He stated that he would charge \$1,500 for the documents for each of the three parks, Munn's Meadow, Evans Pond, and Hopkins Pond.

The CCPC's engineer, J.C. Remington, of the Camden firm of Remington and Vosbury, offered his firm's engineering services until the CCPC had its own engineering force.¹⁰⁷

At the same September 1927 meeting the CCPC requisitioned \$100,000 of the \$500,000 that had been set aside for park purposes by Camden County and committed itself to three projects, including the development of the Cooper River Valley parks and boulevards from Camden to Haddonfield.

On October 20, 1927, the CCPC authorized the preparation of data necessary for awarding a contract to develop the Munn Meadow property. Seventeen days later Leavitt presented his Landscape Plan (Drawing No. 3329-C dated October 1927) for Munn's Meadow Park to the CCPC (Figure 10). The CCPC approved the plan, directed the construction engineer, J.C. Remington, to prepare detailed engineering drawings and specifications, and approved the land acquisition.¹⁰⁸

Charles Leavitt's contract with the CCPC was short-lived. On November 29, 1927 the CCPC voted to terminate his planning services effective December 31, 1927 "in view of the fact that the CCPC was in possession of sufficient data and had been furnished with adequate planning necessary to substantially carry through its program for the greater part of 1928."¹⁰⁹

Leavitt asked the CCPC, "What I want to know is if this resolution was caused by dissatisfaction with my services?" The CCPC responded that they were very satisfied, but that Leavitt had completed enough planning to carry out the work through 1928. According to one local historian, "it appears the commission wanted to terminate Leavitt and replace him with a local engineering firm."¹¹⁰

Leavitt's termination was headline news on December 2, 1927. Under the title "Leavitt Ousted by Park Board for "Economy --- Noted Planner Given Thirty Day Notice --- Services Termed Satisfactory" a local Camden newspaper article said the dismissal of the "noted international planning expert" came as a bomb-shell" and raised concerns that the "action may slow up the county-wide program" especially since the Parks Commission had "marked time" for almost a year since it had been organized "giving as its reason for inactivity the excuse that it was seeking a competent planning engineer."

One week after the CCPC terminated Leavitt, Camden City also fired him as Camden City planner, a position he had held since 1923. And, "as if to add insult to injury," the Camden City Commissioners not only voted to retain Dr. Warren P. Laird, dean of the University of Pennsylvania School of Architecture, on December 8, 1927

¹⁰⁷ CCPC, op.cit.

¹⁰⁸ Ibid.

¹⁰⁹ Brown, op.cit., p. 30. It appears that Leavitt's company was either retained or rehired at least in connection with landscape work. Charles Leavitt & Son completed a *Munn's Meadow Park Planting Plan* in December 1927 (Drawing No. 3350-C, a copy of which Leavitt published in Health, Sunshine and Wealth.

¹¹⁰ Schopp, op.cit. p.14

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“for making a survey to determine the necessity for the character of and location for a new city hall,”¹¹¹ they also voted to empower and instruct the Mayor of Camden to purchase all the land and real estate on the west by Fifth Street, on the north by Market Street, and on the east by Sixth Street for the purpose of erecting a new municipal building and housing a modern transportation system.¹¹² Leavitt and Johnson had both favored Leavitt’s plan to build the new municipal building the civic center location.

Eldridge Johnson was disturbed about Leavitt’s terminations and wrote several highly critical letters demanding to know why. In a letter to Joseph Wallworth, President of the Commission, dated December 5, 1927 Johnson wrote:

I learned with surprise of the dismissal of Charles W. Leavitt as consulting engineer of your commission, only three months after he was retained by you...

It is hard for me to imagine any new factor of economy which could have developed within 90 days to compel such drastic and sudden curtailment...

As former president of the Camden County Park Association, which first proposed and originated this park movement, I deeply deplore the dismissal of this most capable and experienced engineer. From observance of Leavitt’s work for Camden City as well as for other communities, I feel it would be a grave mistake to lose his counsel at this stage of our development. It jeopardizes the completion of the County park system as originally conceived...I will and do hereby personally guarantee the payment of Leavitt’s salary for the next three years...

The Commission responded that the termination was through no disregard of Leavitt, but because of a desire to act in the best interests of the county’s taxpayers.¹¹³

Leavitt believed that the CCPC had taken advantage of him. In a letter to Eldridge Johnson dated December 10, 1927 he wrote:

All that I can say is that while it looks rather mixed up at the present time, I hope things will get straightened out and that I shall be allowed to carry on this work...

From the newspapers I see that the Park Commission state that their progress for 1928 will not include a Consulting and Planning Engineer because “Mr. Leavitt had for two years given considerable thought to the Park project prior to his appointment by the Camden County Park Commission,” but they did not state that this study and work that had been done had never been paid for and that they are apparently intending to take advantage of work that I did for the various municipalities along the Cooper River which have never paid for it. Also they do not seem to realize that after having engaged me by the year they feel free to cut me off after three months because I gave them so much information. While this sort of thing is not unusual among business people I do not wish to complain as it might make matters worse.

¹¹¹ Schopp, Ibid.

¹¹² Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of the City of Camden, New Jersey, December 8, 1927

¹¹³ CCPC, op.cit.

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The CCPC at first seemed receptive to Johnson's offer but did not indicate that it would reinstate him as the chief planning engineer. It resolved to send the following response to Johnson's offer:

We welcome your suggestion that you intend to revive the Camden County Park Association with Mr. Leavitt at the head as Consulting Engineer. We should be more than pleased to welcome the cooperation of the Association to the end that the Park Movement be stimulated and enlarged by the added services of such an energetic and helpful organization.¹¹⁴

Johnson replied that the Association would not employ an engineer and that his offer was to pay for Leavitt's services directly to the CCPC. He wrote to CCPC Chairman Wallworth:

...I am beginning to suspect that you are being cornered in the matter by politicians. A story has reached me that the so-called Republican leader¹¹⁵ has offered to impose his dead body between Mr. Leavitt and the park enterprise. Well, he is working on the right lines; there is no more certain way to commit political suicide than to obstruct the completion of the Camden parks, and when the people of Camden find out that this man is he will be "dead" politically, in short order.

The Camden County Park Commission should never have been allowed to come under the control of the political element. That is the old fashioned way of doing things. All progressive cities now maintain their park commissions and everything else possible, independent of political organizations, which are generally composed of stupid, short-sighted men who do not have the true interests of the city at heart, but who organize themselves into a gang for personal gain and march under the banner of whichever party happens to be in power.¹¹⁶

Johnson closed this letter asking Wallworth to "notify me plainly, without equivocation or the intimation that you do not understand my offer," whether he would accept Johnson paying for continuing Leavitt's services as a consulting engineer to the CCPC.

Wallworth tried to meet with Johnson unsuccessfully in the ensuing months to review the Leavitt matter and Johnson's offer. On March 22, 1928 the CCPC voted to:

...accept the offer of Eldridge Johnson and enter into negotiations for the improvement and beautification of Cooper Valley with the end in view of the Camden County Park Commission contributing \$500,000 and other municipalities a like amount and the balance of \$1,000,000 to be raised and paid by Eldridge Johnson and his associations, said improvement and beautification to include a rowing course of from one and one-half miles to two miles in length.

By letter dated April 20, 1928 to the CCPC Johnson withdrew his offer writing that the March 22, 1928

¹¹⁴ CCPC Resolution Letter to Eldridge Johnson dated December 22, 1927.

¹¹⁵ Johnson was probably referring to Republican party chairman David Baird Jr. who took control of city politics and secured all five city commission seats in the 1927 election. Baird, who engaged in the lumber business and banking in Camden from 1903 to 1929, was appointed U.S. Senator from New Jersey, where he served from November 30, 1929 to December 2, 1930. He was an unsuccessful candidate for NJ Governor in 1931.

¹¹⁶ Eldridge Johnson Letter to Joseph F. Wallworth, President, CCPC, dated December 29, 1927.

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CCPC resolution was “inaccurate and misleading” and that the plans he had discussed with the CCPC “were conditioned absolutely upon their being carried out by Mr. Leavitt.” He reminded the CCPC that he had proposed Leavitt’s reinstatement four months ago and that this was sufficient time to allow the CCPC to fully consider the matter. Charles W. Leavitt, Jr. died two days later on April 22, 1928.

Leavitt’s termination may have been attributable to his close association with the Commission’s political opponents. Leavitt and some Democrats, opposed to the Republican-dominated Board of Freeholders, had charged members of the park commission with real estate speculation near proposed park developments and alleged the commission had purchased some park properties solely to enhance the property values in which they had a personal financial interest. Those accused included several well-connected Camden businessmen, one of whom was Senator Joseph Wallworth, Park Commission Chair. Chairman Wallworth¹¹⁷ admitted part ownership of lucrative property next to Munn Meadows.¹¹⁸ The Alliance Realty Company owned land the CCPC purchased between 1928 and 1934 (Figure 2). Leavitt opposed the purchase of some CCPC proposed land acquisitions because they simply enhanced the nearby property values of park commissioner Stem and state senator Wallworth and failed to meet the best interests of the Camden County public.¹¹⁹

Eldridge Johnson and Leavitt’s firm continued to support the development of the Cooper River park system despite Leavitt’s termination as CCPC primary planning engineer on November 29, 1927. Leavitt’s Evans Pond Park Preliminary Study and his Cooper River Two Mile Rowing Course are both dated June 1928 -- six months after his termination and three months after his death (Figures 9 and 12).

On October 11, 1928, almost a year after Leavitt’s termination, Johnson hosted a dinner for about 200 “leading men of Camden” at the Walt Whitman Hotel to arouse their interest in the City Athletic Club and “to stimulate” their interest “in the civic affairs of Camden in general, especially in the Cooper River Park.” Johnson told his guests that the Cooper River Park “is going to be the most wonderful Park in the world for the younger generation of Camden and surrounding towns” and that the “Park Commissioners are anxious to finish,” but “there is not sufficient money in hand.” He called for a “proper civic committee” to secure the appropriation and to “build the parks even if the money must be borrowed” since the parks and other civic improvements “pay for themselves.”¹²⁰

At his own expense Johnson subsequently published and distributed to all the invited dinner guests a thousand copies of four of the speeches and what he called “an accompanying brochure, *Health, Sunshine, and Wealth*,” that was prepared by Leavitt’s firm and containing a description of Leavitt’s proposed Cooper River Park design and conceptual plan, some photographs of existing conditions, and a number of renderings of the proposed park as it would appear once completed (Figures 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 12).

¹¹⁷ Wallworth was found dead in his Haddonfield home on August 20, 1923 with a bullet wound in his head which authorities said was self-inflicted. He had been recently engaged in the cotton and wool business in Philadelphia. The Camden County Coroner listed Wallworth’s death as a suicide but advanced no motive. (Source: news article on Ancestry.com)

¹¹⁸ Dorwart, 1976, op.cit., p. 223

¹¹⁹ Dorwart, 2001, op.cit. Loc 1513 Kindle edition.

¹²⁰ Johnson, Eldridge, op.cit.

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At Johnson's expense, Charles Wellford Leavitt & Son produced two reports related to the Two Mile Rowing Course that was near and dear to Johnson's heart. The first was a "Report of the Stream Flow of the Cooper River" in November 1929 to ascertain its probable minimum flow. The report concluded that the damming up of the Cooper River is a feasible and reasonable project and that there would be sufficient water flowing at all times to insure a clean and pure watercourse. The second was a report on bridges over the Cooper River affecting the two mile rowing course, which examined the existing bridges, call attention to those that are too low, and suggest types and locations for new bridges to accommodate future traffic.¹²¹

The report covered the river downstream to Baird Boulevard and upstream to Evans' Pond as Leavitt's firm considered "this entire portion of the river suitable for water sports, together with the ponds above for canoes and light rowboats, by means of the two portages mentioned." The report said that the Browning Road Bridge "is narrow for present day high speed traffic, and is near the end of its usefulness. It also reported that a new bridge might become necessary at some future date as the distance between the Browning Road and Stoy Landing Road Bridge is over two and one quarter miles. The report recommended that such a bridge might be on a continuation of New Jersey Avenue in Westmont and that it be constructed at right angles to the flow of the river. The recommended new bridge was ultimately built in 1939 to carry Cuthbert Boulevard traffic over the Cooper River.

When the state Assembly authorized spending \$3.5 for Camden County parks if approved by local voters¹²² prominent citizens met to support its approval in a referendum scheduled for May 19, 1931. The Camden County Park Association was reorganized on April 13, 1931 to fight for the bond issue and chose Eldridge Johnson, the President of the original Park Association, as the Honorary President of the reorganized group. The bond issue was approved.

But while Leavitt's plans lived on in the plans of the CCPC, Camden County and City officially killed Leavitt's plans for a new Camden Civic Center on May 10, 1928. At a Chamber of Commerce luncheon, Mayor Winfield Scott Price outlined what the chamber's president called "the greatest step forward and the greatest movement ever proposed for Camden" --- a project for combined government buildings -- including City Hall, the Court House Annex, a Bus Terminal, a City Square between Market, Arch, Sixth and Fifth Streets, and a public square that would provide space for 500-600 private cars.

Camden's new City Planner said:

The big feature in the growth of a City is the determination of a relief of traffic -- parking of automobiles. Don't drive them out of Camden. And here everything seems to be done to let them get out of the City -- you will never make any success letting them get away... The main thing we want to work for is to get rid of out "blight" and to relieve the arteries in the commercial heart of the City.¹²³

Following these remarks the Chamber voted unanimously to approve the plans, which were approved by the City that same afternoon.

¹²¹ Transmitted to Eldridge Johnson by letter dated January 13, 1930.

¹²² Bill No. 158 passed and was signed into law by Governor Larson in March 1931.

¹²³ Dr. Lewis F. Pilcher remarks contained in Morning Post article about the luncheon, May 11, 1928, extract attached to letter from Publisher Secretary to H. R. Hathaway, June 1, 1928.

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While Leavitt's grand civic center plan was never to be, his designs, architectural preferences, and plans lived on, especially for the Cooper River Park.

Design of Cooper River Park

Leavitt initially proposed a county-wide system of interconnected parks and parkways extended in a southeastern direction from Gloucester City and the City of Camden. The comprehensive plan was intended as a planning tool to be gradually and systematically implemented over 20 years (Figure 2).¹²⁴ Leavitt and J.C. Remington, Jr.'s March 6, 1927 *Feasibility Report* suggested the acquisition of inexpensive, undesirable land in low-lying, unpopulated drainage areas for the system. Leavitt presented a conceptual drawing in the report that showed possible locations and routes for parks and parkways throughout the county (Figure 3).

Charles Leavitt's use of an existing watercourse as the focal point of his Cooper River Park design followed landscape architecture concepts that had originated in the mid nineteenth century. Leavitt's experience as a civil engineer on large municipal projects informed his Cooper River Park plans, which proposed to convert the narrow Cooper River into a Cooper River Lake and make the lake the central feature of the proposed park. Leavitt planned a dam in the area east of Crescent Boulevard, as well as tide gates, elevation control weirs, and a system of dikes to control water and prevent flooding. He also incorporated winding roads, footpaths, open fields, and scenic overlooks throughout his park plan. Individual parks along the river were to be linked by a continuous parkway.¹²⁵ In keeping with City Beautiful planning practices Leavitt's comprehensive designs emphasized the connection of recreational areas with transportation networks and the surrounding urban areas.

Leavitt centered a number of recreation features on the proposed Cooper River Lake, including a two-mile, eight-lane rowing course designed for regulation competition (Figures 4 and 12), several boathouses, and a model yacht club basin for model builders and sailors. He planned many land-based recreation facilities for the park including six tennis courts and a club house; an amphitheater; a stadium and athletic field with a running track; a grandstand; baseball and football fields; occasional fireplaces for cookouts; picnic groves; and an archery range.¹²⁶

Not all of the proposed park amenities planned by Leavitt came to fruition. Those that were installed or completed were the model yacht basin, the tennis clubhouse, the running track with grandstand, the rehabilitation of the Ebenezer Hopkins House, the filled and landscaped areas of the Cooper River Park (Berger 1993), and the two mile rowing course. The two mile rowing course was one of the most important objectives of the Park's primary booster, Eldridge Johnson, who wrote:

The thing I hope to bring about, and still hope for, is a rowing basin similar to Princeton. It would seem to be an easy matter to dredge a portion of the Cooper River so as to create a basin of this kind. There are lots of low lands where the dredging could be used for fill to great advantage. With such a

¹²⁴ Cranston, Paul F. *Camden County 1681-1931, Two Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary, The Story of an Industrial Empire*, (Camden, New Jersey: Camden County Chamber of Commerce, 1931), p. 45.

¹²⁵ Brown, op.cit., pp. 85-90

¹²⁶ Brown, op.cit., pp. 90-91

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rowing basin the high schools of all the surrounding towns could build boathouses and have rowing crews similar to the colleges. This, in my opinion, would be one of the finest things in the world for the high school boys and the girls also. It has been my thought to create along the Cooper River a condition somewhat similar to the River Thames in England ...[which] is the greatest sight in the world in summer time when the upper Thames is covered with punts, houseboats, canoes and various other watercraft.¹²⁷

In 2006 Camden County completed construction of its Boathouse at Cooper River at 7050 North Park Drive near the Drive's intersection with Browning Road on almost the exact same site that Charles Leavitt had planned for a "Boat House & Casino" on his June 1928 "Cooper River Two Mile Rowing Course Landscape Plan (Drawing No. 928-J).¹²⁸

The CCPC applied for Federal government assistance to complete the park and received funds through the WPA and the Department of the Interior's CCC program. Engineering and administrative staffs were established in the park to assist the CCPC in completing the Cooper River Lake section, while a CCC camp was constructed in Haddon Township to complete the park's eastern sections.

The CCPC planned to implement Leavitt's original concept of an interconnected county park system following creeks and rivers to the Atlantic County line even after the WPA office was established. This can be seen in the 1936 conceptual park plan produced by the CCPC (Figure 11). WPA staff and the park CCPC staff worked together in producing plans for the completion of the park, as evidenced by title blocks of both agencies on a 1937 "Proposed Landscape and Development and Planting Plan" (Figure 16).

Once completed in 1940, Cooper River Park was turned out to be very similar to its original, Leavitt design and remains so today. The present layout of the lake, river, and drives, shows that they were constructed mostly according to Leavitt's design. North Park Drive is generally in the same location and in the configuration is as Leavitt designed. South Park Drive differs slightly from the original plan in that it does not extend all the way between Kaighn Avenue and Kings Highway. Instead, the drive currently begins at Crescent Boulevard and terminates at its intersection with Saginaw Avenue two blocks west of the New Jersey Transit railroad line. The planned railroad underpass was not constructed and the railroad interrupts South Park Drive. What would have been South Park Drive resumes east of the railroad bridge as Coles Mills Road and extends east across Grove Street along the south bank of the Cooper River before turning south and then west again as Pardee Lane.

Another current feature of the park that is somewhat different than Leavitt's original design is the existing 2,000 meter rowing course that includes six straight rowing lanes from Crescent Boulevard to a

¹²⁷ Letter to C.W. Leavitt dated December 9, 1927.

¹²⁸ The Camden County Boathouse features six boat bays for storage of close to one-hundred racing shells and is home to seven local rowing clubs that train daily on the Cooper River, from middle-school aged to adults in their senior years. Cooper River Park has hosted numerous major state and national rowing events, including the IRAs, NCAAs, and SRAA regattas, in addition to many local run high school, college and master regattas. (Camden County website, 2013). While the balance of the Boathouse is not a "Casino" as Leavitt intended, it features complete facilities for receptions as corporate meetings and training and a Banquet Room that seats up to 200 guests.

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finish line located on the north bank of the Cooper River just south of and at a point along a straight line extending from Donahue Avenue across Park Boulevard in Cherry Hill. Leavitt's original plan proposed a two mile rowing course between the Browning Road Truss Bridge and the railroad bridge two miles east, as shown on Leavitt's 1928 plan of the rowing course (Figure 12). A 1938 CCPC drawing shows the altered course location (Figure 13). To accommodate the relocated rowing course the Browning Road Bridge was removed, as evidenced by CCPC meeting minutes of 1938 and a drawing of the same year showing the proposed bridge removal (Figure 14). A 1937 as-built landscape plan indicates the terminated Browning Road on the lake's southern shore (Figure 15). Although the western terminus of the rowing course was relocated from Leavitt's original plan, the western portion of the rowing course between South Crescent Boulevard and the East Cuthbert Boulevard bridge is still in the same location as it was originally constructed in 1938.

The design and construction of the district's facilities included several notable landscape features, including a concrete and stone dam with wing walls across Wallworth Pond¹²⁹ and the following stone masonry structures: 1 staircase leading from Kaighn Avenue to Tidal Gate Gateway Park, 3 staircases leading from Crescent Boulevard to North and South Park Drives, 3 staircases and retaining walls south of Cooper River Lake between the residential neighborhood in Collingswood and South Park Drive, a retaining wall and staircase at Wallworth Pond, a covered pavilion on North Park Drive, 3 scenic lookout platform along the Cooper River south shore in Haddon Township, and 7 tree planters. A stone masonry bridge leading to a landscaped island in the middle of the lake was constructed; however, it is no longer standing.

The stone masonry features are not shown on Leavitt's 1925 drawing. There is evidence that they were designed at a later time when WPA funding and personnel assisted with the completion of the park. The CCPC's landscape architect and a WPA draftsman designed two of the stairways that led from Crescent Boulevard to the southern side of the park as shown on the circa 1937 "As-Built Landscape Development and Planting Plan" (Figure 15) and the stone retaining walls and stairways on the park's southern side and leading to adjacent Collingswood as shown on the 1937 plan entitled, "Proposed Landscape Development and Planting Plan" (Figure 16).

Financial audits of the work indicate that some of the stone masonry work was executed by Italian-American stone masons, Dominic and Anthony Perla, who were listed in a 1940 account of WPA construction personnel.¹³⁰ It appears that the stone used in the park was obtained from several sources, including the Kingston Trap Rock Quarry, of Somerset County, New Jersey. According to accounting records, over \$13,000 of stone material was purchased for the park between September 1936 and December 1937.¹³¹

Construction of Cooper River Park

Camden County authorities constructed the Cooper River Park over a 12-year period between 1928 and

¹²⁹ CCPC 1938.

¹³⁰ Liebman, Morris, and Company. "Special Examination of the Financial Books and Records of the Camden County Park Commission." Camden County, New Jersey, 1940.

¹³¹ *Ibid.* The NJ DOT report on the reconstruction of the Crescent Boulevard Bridge indicates that the stairways were constructed using Pennsylvania mica.

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1940 because of a number of factors that slowed the pace of development. The CCPC encountered resistance from private landowners and needed time to acquire riparian rights along both sides of the river from the State of New Jersey.

In May 1931, with voter approval of the bond issue referendum, the CCPC adopted a program for spending the first \$750,000 to further develop the park system, including the immediate start of work developing the Cooper River Parkway from the Camden-Pennsauken Township line and continuing towards the section already completed near Haddonfield.¹³² In June 1931 CCPC authorized construction of one mile of the North Boulevard, a part of the parkway program to extend the boulevard to Grove Street, Haddonfield to connect with the completed section extending to Caldwell Road.

The onset of the Depression slowed the work. In February 1932 the Camden County Treasurer asked the Freeholders to suspend temporarily all County capital expenditures pending recovery of the bond market. This effectively ended all new park work and forced the CCPC to lay off nearly all parks employees engaged in construction work since there were no funds to pay them.¹³³

The ensuing financial problems forced the CCPC to apply to the Federal government for assistance. In November 1933 the CCPC approved a plan of systematic development through Federal loans and grants totaling \$3.2 million for ten projects to use labor under the Civic Works Administration and to provide for future planning of a co-ordinate park system for the future.¹³⁴ These included the following Cooper River park related projects: completing a connecting link to Browning Road, completing the Cooper River Parkway from Haddonfield to Camden, including the acquisition of land, construction of underpasses, drainage, dredging, filling, grading, landscaping and planting; connecting link between Evans Lake, Haddonfield, and Big Timber Creek.

In November 1933, ninety seven CWA workers started work redressing and graveling Cooper River North Boulevard at Central Airport.¹³⁵ In March 1934 forty seven men worked on improving the boulevard in Delaware Township (now Cherry Hill).

In 1934 CCPC also used assistance from the Emergency Relief Administration to employ one hundred and eight white collar men to perform a variety of other park planning and development work in the historic district, including the following :

Preparing topographical and title surveys and plans for future development of the park system along Cooper River from Memorial Avenue, Camden to Grove Street, Haddonfield;

Preparing architectural designs and plans for park shelters, comfort stations, fireplaces, bridges, band stands, outdoor theaters, tourist camps, etc. to be located throughout the entire county park system;

Surveying tree and shrub species, conditions, and locations, and listing areas from which they can be

¹³² Brown, op.cit, p. 39

¹³³ Brown, op.cit., p.41

¹³⁴ Approved Federal funding the project became CWA Project No. 870-C001-870A.

¹³⁵ Federal rules and regulations required that CCPC exercise the "utmost care" in placing CWA men on work that required no money for mechanical equipment and material. Brown, op.cit., p. 47.

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moved and where new trees and shrubs are needed;

Developing plans for completing landscaping of the entire park system;

Surveying and recording points of historical interest connected with the County Park System and compiling the data for the proposed historical year book of the CCPC.

Surveying and studying the need for and location of recreational areas existing and proposed in the Camden County Park System.¹³⁶

The depression created a large potential workforce and efforts to transfer relief clients to work projects. At the start of 1935 more than 13,000 unemployed men and women were on the relief rolls of the Emergency Relief Administration in Camden County.

By the summer of 1935 the CWA was reorganized and became the WPA. The completion of Cooper River Lake was then funded and expedited by the WPA, who wrote to the CCPC in 1936 advising it to proceed quickly with the acquisition of all of the land for the section of park between Kaighn Avenue and the Railroad Bridge, known as Section No. 11.

From November 1935 to February 1936 the CCPC employed about 1,400 men who were transferred from the relief rolls to work on a number of park projects including developing the Cooper River area between Kaighn Avenue and Crescent Boulevard and from Crescent to the Delaware River Railroad.¹³⁷ Four additional projects followed in quick succession, including work on the North Boulevard of the Cooper River Parkway from Crescent to Grove Street, Haddonfield and the South Boulevard of the Cooper River Parkway.

The CCC was enlisted to complete the park east of the railroad bridge, known as Section No. 12, and the CCC established a campsite to house its workers in Haddon Township.¹³⁸

The WPA staff included a 13-person engineering staff, with a chief engineer, an assistant engineer, a consulting engineer, design engineers, junior engineers, a draftsman, an assistant draftsman, a rod-man, and a stenographer. The WPA's 10-person administrative staff included a comptroller, bookkeeper, clerk, cost accountant, purchasing agent, solicitor, two negotiators, a junior clerk typist and a clerk stenographer. The WPA's 43-person construction labor force included two landscape architects, five inspectors, a master mechanic, three assistant mechanics, a mechanic supervisor, a crane inspector, two stone masons, five carpenters, a labor foreman, six laborers, six watchman, a helper, two teamsters, and two truck drivers.¹³⁹

WPA workers extensively dredged, filled in, graded, and shaped the Cooper River and its surrounding wide marshlands to create Cooper River Lake. They used dynamite, dredging, and other mechanized

¹³⁶ Brown, op.cit., p.32

¹³⁷ Brown, op.cit., p.55

¹³⁸ CCPC 1934

¹³⁹ Liebman. op.cit.

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equipment, along with manual labor to convert the waterway's adjoining flood plains into a lake and channel. Workmen constructed a concrete dam, originally planned across the River east of Crescent Boulevard, at a different location west of South Crescent across the River just south of Kaighn Avenue by the end of 1938. Workers removed the metal truss Browning Road Bridge and re-graded the land for the relocated rowing course.¹⁴⁰ By 1939 the airport adjacent to North Park Drive, Central Airport, had initiated a boat and canoe concession with the CCPC, and the lake was ready for use by 1940. The lake for model yachting was completed in 1941.¹⁴¹

The CCPC and the WPA funded the Cooper River Lake project. Between 1935 and 1940 the CCPC contributed \$987,926 and the WPA \$8,053,521.¹⁴²

Cleanup of the Cooper River by another New Deal agency, the CCC, allowed Camden County to hold its first intercollegiate sculling (rowing) regatta in 1930, a tradition that continues to the present.¹⁴³

The History of Camden County Park Commission summed up the development and improvements within the historic district from 1933 to 1937 as follows:

Cooper River Parkway ---

Dredging and filling to form lakes, a rowing course, a model yacht basin, dikes, island and reclaimed land; the construction of masonry bridges, a masonry and concrete dam four hundred and twenty-five feet wide, twelve tennis courts; two baseball grounds, an amphitheater; a boat club house; a tennis club house; a running track; parking spaces; drainage systems; out-door fireplaces; overlooks; the remodeling of an old farm house; the construction of bituminous treated North Boulevard from Crescent Boulevard, Pennsauken, to Grove Street, Haddonfield; the construction of South Boulevard, bituminous treated from Browning Road, Collingswood, to Saginaw Avenue, Westmont; branch roadways and paths; the grading, shaping and seeding of the grounds and other planting and landscaping; the installation of a parkway electric lighting system.

Wallworth Park –

Resurfacing of six tennis courts.¹⁴⁴

Cooper River Park after 1940

World War II stopped the CCPC's land acquisition plan for a county-wide park system. Instead of connecting with other parks leading to the Great Egg Harbor River and running to the Atlantic County line as originally envisioned by Leavitt in the 1920s, the CCPC revised its interconnected park system largely centered on Cooper

¹⁴⁰ CCPC 1938

¹⁴¹ CCPC 1938; 1939; 1941

¹⁴² The New Deal had a large impact improving Camden County's infrastructure beyond the parks program. WPA hired 11,000 unemployed locals and spent \$3.5 million rebuilding county roads and bridges. It constructed swimming pools in Collingswood, Haddon Heights, and Pennsauken.

¹⁴³ Dorwart, 2001, op.cit., loc 1577 Kindle edition.

¹⁴⁴ Brown, op.cit., p.56

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River Lake and the surrounding Cooper River Park, extending only to Haddonfield. Funds and manpower for maintenance were scarce following World War II. While many parts of the park became overgrown and some facilities were vandalized the Camden County Cultural and Heritage Commission and the CCPC continued to present entertainment and musical programs each summer in the park.

For decades communities along the Cooper River used it to flush their treated sewage and industrial wastes. Over time local sewage plants became overburdened and were inadequate to meet changing standards. The Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1967 required each state to develop water quality standards to protect surface water and groundwater. The New Jersey Department of Health (now the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection) developed regulations that spelled out how wastewater had to be treated. New Jersey State legislation required all future sewerage systems to be developed regionally.

In 1971 Camden County conducted a survey of the entire park system and confirmed the deteriorated conditions of Cooper River Park. The survey showed that water was the severely polluted throughout the system, recreation facilities were unusable, park land was poorly maintained, and facilities had deteriorated. The ensuing report proposed that the County improve the park system, repair of existing facilities, improve underdeveloped lands already owned, and complete the planned linear park along major creeks and rivers, and purchase of additional land to meet acreage deficits.¹⁴⁵

The Clean Water Act of 1972 mandated the cleanup of the Cooper River through pollution control and wastewater cleanup. In 1972 the Camden County Board of Chosen Freeholders also created the Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority to meet these requirements. The CCMUA has the responsibility and the sole authority to plan for and treat wastewater within Camden County as required by the Federal Clean Water Act.

CCMUA constructed a system to divert millions of gallons of sewage from the Cooper River to massive concrete or iron pipes leading to an expanded treatment plant operated by the authority on the Delaware River in southern part of Camden County. A 22-mile swath of pipeline linking the old sewer plants of 16 towns along the Cooper River to a newer \$600 million regional treatment system and plant in Camden allowed the discharge released into the Delaware River to be three times cleaner than the discharge from local plants. CCMUA reported that within two years of operation it had eliminated 99 percent of the bacteria in the Cooper River.

In 2004 the Trust for Public Lands produced a study on the role of Camden's parks and green spaces in the city's redevelopment in the last quarter of the twentieth century.

In May 2004 the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission also published a Camden County Open Space and Farmland Preservation Plan funded by the Camden County Board of Freeholders. The plan identified the past and future open space needs in the county, inventoried natural and cultural resources, proposed an open space system, and proposed an action plan and preservation tools. The plan noted that the massive development plans for parks along the Cooper River from the pre-World War II period included parks as highly manicured social gathering places that were clearly valued over

¹⁴⁵ Camden County Planning Department 1972)

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protection of natural resources because the ecological functions of streams and floodplains were not yet well understood.¹⁴⁶ Table 6 and Map 18 in the plan list the historic resources in Camden County. These include The Cooper River Park Historic District (Map 18 Site #81) and the following other sites within the historic district: Ebenezer Hopkins House (#122), the *Hadrosaurus Foulkii* Leidy Site (#131), and the Kay-Evans Farmstead (#86).

The 2005 construction of a new boathouse reinstated Cooper River Lake and the park's prominence in the rowing community.

On March 28, 2012 Camden County officials unveiled a five year \$23 million project to upgrade Cooper River Park. The plan calls for improvements to expand park access, provide better river views, create boardwalks and vista decks, and improve athletic fields, memorial areas and the park's stadium. Concurrent with the park revitalization is a \$4 million project aimed at enhancing water quality, stabilizing the riverbanks, and improving the river rowing course funded by the Delaware River Port Authority. The Cooper River Park Vision Plan that details all the proposed park improvements contain an "Inventory and Analysis" chapter that located and defined the park's surface cover, access and circulation pathways for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists, and flood prone low areas and zones, views. It proposed to "expand and refine the current qualities and attributes of the park so that it could continue to serve a diverse and large volume of users and to improve existing facilities to enable a phased, flexible and sustainable park of international caliber."¹⁴⁷

The Vision Plan proposed landscape design measures to protect land and water quality and four public space typologies (puncture, slot, vista, and ribbon) for Cooper River Park inspired from existing conditions. It states that refinements "can be employed which will greatly enhance the quality of the space... without dramatically altering the structure or current program for any portion of the park."

¹⁴⁶ Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, *Camden County Open Space and Farmland Preservation Plan*, Philadelphia, DVRPC, May 2004, p. 13

¹⁴⁷ Cairone Kaupp, Inc, *Cooper River Park Vision Plan*, Camden County, N.J., 2012

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UTM References (continued)

Datum: NAD27 (taken from paper USGS map)

	<u>ZONE</u>	<u>EASTING</u>	<u>NORTHING</u>
5	18	497254	4418333
6	18	497633	4417962
7	18	498325	4416570
8	18	498045	4415976
9	18	497270	4416685
10	18	497254	4417871
11	18	496322	4418185
12	18	495416	4418827
13	18	492977	4419050
14	18	492540	4419420

Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary begins at the northeastern corner of the intersection of North Park Drive and Kaighn Avenue, and thence proceeds easterly along the northern edge of the parkland north of North Park Drive. At the intersection of North Park Drive and Crescent Boulevard (U.S. Route 130), it crosses Crescent Boulevard and proceeds along the northern edge of North Park Drive to the end of the road (there Park Boulevard) at the western edge of the New Jersey Transit railroad bridge. The boundary then follows the course of the land associated with a pedestrian path that crosses underneath the railroad bridge to the northern and eastern sides of Cherry Hill Township tax Block 49.01, Lot 1 to its intersection with the southwest corner of the eastern side of Block 49.01, Lot 3. The boundary then follows the south side of Lot 3 and the north side of Block 49.01, Lot 2 to the Grove Street Bridge. After passing beneath the bridge on alignment with the north line of Lot 2, the boundary turns north along the east side of the bridge to the northern line of Park Boulevard and thence east on Park Boulevard to the westerly edge of Block 373.01, Lot 3 in Cherry Hill Township, thence proceeding along the west, south and east sides of Lot 3 to Park Boulevard. The boundary then crosses to the northerly line of Park Boulevard and thence extends easterly along the said northerly line of Park Boulevard to the westerly line of Kings Highway South in Cherry Hill Township. The boundary then continues along the northerly boundary of parkland in Wallworth Park to the westerly edge of Caldwell Road in Cherry Hill Township. It then proceeds southeasterly to the northerly corner of Caldwell Road and Bortons Mill Road; thence proceeding westerly along the northerly side of Bortons Mill Road to Evans Pond and Wallworth Park (and then in a clockwise direction around the edge of the parkland (Block 135, Lot 1 and Block 26, Lot 27) as shown on the district map, returning to the parkland bordering the southwesterly side of Wallworth Lake. It then proceeds along the southerly edge of parkland south of Wallworth Lake, crossing Kings Highway East (in Haddonfield Borough) to the southerly edge of Pennypack Park, then proceeding along the south boundary of Block 14, Lot 3, crossing Hopkins Lane and turning southwesterly along the outer edge of parkland bordering Hopkins Pond to the easterly side of Grove Street. The boundary then continues north along Grove Street to the southerly side of Hopkins Lane. At this point, the boundary continues along the western edge of Hopkins Pond Park parcel (Block 12, Lot 1) and crosses Hopkins Lane

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**Cooper River Park Historic District
Camden County, NJ**

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in line with the southwest corner of Block 14, Lot 1, and continues north along the west side of said lot to its junction with the southeast corner of Block 2, Lot 13. The boundary then continues west along a series of lots that include the southern portion of the parkland (Block 2, Lot 13; Block 1, Lot 1; Block 1, Lot 1.01; Block 1, Lot 17; and Block 53.02, Lot 1) until it meets Coles Mill Road. The boundary then continues west along the northern edge of Coles Mill Road to and across Grove Street until it reaches the northerly edge of Village Court. The boundary then turns northwest along the southwest edge of Block 23.02, Lot 2 until it reaches the south line of Block 23.02, Lot 5. The boundary then continues along the southern edge of said Lot 5 to the edge of the New Jersey Transit railroad bridge across the Cooper River. It then follows a line of convenience across the New Jersey Transit right-of-way to the southeast corner of Block 25.03, Lot 1 and then continues west along then southwest sides of Block 25.03, Lot 1, and Block 31.01, Lot 1 to Cuthbert Boulevard. Crossing Cuthbert Boulevard on line with the southern edge of South Park Drive it proceeds west along the south edge of the road until it reaches the easterly line of Block 19.01, lot 44, in Collingswood Borough near the northerly end of East Knight Avenue. It then extends along the southwest side of Blocks 19.01, Lots 44 and 45 on a line drawn to include the stone steps at the north end of East Madison Avenue and the south side sides of Block 18, Lots 42 and 43 on a line to include the stone steps at the north end of Crestmont Terrace. The boundary continues west along the edge of County parkland along Block 19.08, Lots 66, 67, and 68 until it reaches the southwesterly line of South Park Drive. The boundary then continues west along South Park Drive to the easterly boundary of Block 1.01, Lot 1. It then continues west on a line of convenience to the easterly line of Crescent Boulevard (U.S. Route 130). It then turns northerly along the easterly line of Crescent Boulevard to the northerly side of the Cooper River excluding the recently completed U.S. Route 130 Bridge over the Cooper River. The boundary then continues along the northerly shore of the Cooper River as it extends westerly and then northerly to a point 20 feet from the centerline of the Cooper River Tidal Gate and Dam. It then extends western across the Cooper River on a line parallel to the centerline of the dam to a point in range with the end of the dam and then turns northerly along the end of the dam to a point 20 feet northerly from the said centerline of the dam. The boundary then continues easterly across the Cooper River to its northerly side until it reaches the southerly line of Kaighn Avenue. The boundary then continues easterly along the southern boundary of Kaighn Avenue until it reaches the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries were selected to encompass the interconnected park sections included in the park system as it was designed in 1925 by the firm of Charles Wellford Leavitt and Son and constructed in the 1930s. The northwestern end of the district begins at Kaighn Avenue at the beginning of North Park Drive, a contributing resource in the district. The district does not include the area to the southwest of the river or land in the Harleigh Cemetery because South Park Drive, another contributing resource in the district, does not extend through the cemetery but instead begins at Crescent Boulevard. The Crescent Boulevard (Route 30/130) bridge currently under construction would be non-contributing, and has been excluded from the boundary. The principal roads along the edges of the park (North Park Drive, Park Boulevard, South Park Drive) are included in the nomination as they are integral to the design and functioning of the park. West of Crescent Boulevard, the land between the river and Harleigh Cemetery in this area is marshland and inaccessible by vehicular traffic, pedestrians, or boats, negating its active use as a park,

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and has therefore been excluded from the district. The tidal gate dam at the western end of the park is an essential park feature and is included, but the adjacent land of Harleigh Cemetery is excluded.

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Form prepared by:

Alison J. Ross, formerly with the Dewberry Company of Parsippany, N.J., prepared the original August 2012 draft nomination forms under contract with the N.J. Department of Transportation. Ms. Ross did not participate in this revision and bears no responsibility for any of the revisions contained herein.

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Section number Photographs Page 1

Photographs

The following information is the same for all photographs submitted with the nomination:

Name of Property: Cooper River Park Historic District
City or Vicinity: [six municipalities]
County: Camden
State: New Jersey
Name of Photographers: Alison Ross (AR), Robert Shinn (RS)
Date of Photographs: December 17, 2010 (AR), November/December 2013 (RS)

AR Photo locations are shown on Figures 17a, b, and c.

RS Photo locations are shown on Figures 18a, b, and c.

Historic photos in italic boldface.

- Photo 1 (AR) North Park Drive (contributing resource), open park land and wooded areas in park section between Kaighn Avenue and Crescent Boulevard, camera facing northwest.
- Photo 2 (AR) Cooper River Tide Gate and Dam (contributing resource) east of Kaighn Avenue, camera facing southwest.
- Photo 3 (AR) Camden County Golf Academy (non-contributing resource) at northwestern quadrant of Crescent Boulevard Bridge, west façade (left) and south façade (right), camera facing northeast.
- Photo 4 (AR) Cooper River Lake from north side of Cooper River Par showing section of rowing course, camera facing south.
- Photo 5 (AR) Open park land and wooded areas in Cooper River Park between North Park Drive and Cooper River Lake, camera facing east.
- Photo 6 (AR) South Park Drive (contributing resource) south of Cooper River Lake showing paved footpath (contributing resource), open parkland, and parking area, camera facing west
- Photo 7 (AR) Memorial statues for Polish-American war heroes (non-contributing resource) on northern side of lake, camera facing south.
- Photo 8 (AR) Sculpture in Memorial Grove (non-contributing resource) on northern side of lake, camera facing west.
- Photo 9 (AR) Ebenezer Hopkins House (contributing resource) on South Park Drive, south of Cooper River Lake, camera facing east.
- Photo 10 (AR) Lobster Trap Restaurant building (non-contributing resource) on northern side of lake, camera facing southeast.
- Photo 11 (AR) Cooper River Yacht Club building (non-contributing resource) on southern side of lake, camera facing northwest.
- Photo 12 (AR) Camden County Boathouse (non-contributing resource) in front of rowing course, camera facing east.
- Photo 13 (AR) Greenwald Park showing open park land and stands of trees, camera facing southwest.
- Photo 14 (AR) Pennypacker Park showing open and densely wooded park land, camera facing north.
- Photo 15 (AR) Hopkins Pond in Pennypacker Park, camera facing east.
- Photo 16 (AR) Driscoll Pond in Pennypacker Park, camera facing southeast.
- Photo 17 (AR) Wallworth Lake in Wallworth Park, camera facing west.
- Photo 18 (AR) Evans Pond in Wallworth Park, camera facing south.
- Photo 19 (AR) Concrete arch footbridge (contributing resource) in Wallworth Park, camera facing northwest.

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- Photo 20 (AR) Concrete and stone dam (contributing resource) on Wallworth Lake, camera facing northeast.
- Photo 21 (AR) Club House (contributing resource) northeast of Wallworth Lake in Wallworth Park, camera facing north.
- Photo 22 (AR) Crescent Boulevard Bridge (non-contributing resource), eastern elevation, camera facing southwest.
- Photo 23 (AR) Railroad Bridge (non-contributing resource), eastern elevation, camera facing southeast.
- Photo 24 (AR) Stone masonry stairway (non-contributing resource) leading from Crescent Boulevard to park, at northeastern quadrant of bridge, camera facing west.
- Photo 25 (AR) Stone masonry pavilion (contributing resource) on north side of Cooper River Lake, camera facing north.
- Photo 26 (AR) Concrete and stone masonry retaining wall and staircase (contributing resource), east end of East Madison Avenue, south of South Park Drive, camera facing south.
- Photo 27 (AR) Stone masonry bleachers (contributing resource) on north side of Cooper Lake, camera facing northeast.
- Photo 28 (AR) Stone masonry lookout platform (contributing resource) along South Park Drive, camera facing east.
- Photo 29 (AR) Stone masonry tree planters (contributing resource) along South Park Drive on southern side of lake, camera facing east.
- Photo 30 (RS) Crestmont Terrace Stone Masonry Retaining Wall and Staircase (contributing resource) south of South Park Drive, camera facing south
- Photo 31 (RS) East Night Avenue Stone Masonry Retaining Wall and Staircase (contributing resource) south of South Park Drive, camera facing south.
- Photo 32 (Google earth) Pink granite stone and masonry footbridge and walkway Park Boulevard (contributing resource), west of Cuthbert Boulevard, camera facing south.
- Photo 33 (RS) Cuthbert Boulevard Bridge (contributing resource), camera facing southeast, floating dock in foreground.
- Photo 34 (RS) Concrete Dock Park Boulevard (contributing resource), north shore of Cooper River Lake east of Cuthbert Boulevard Bridge, camera facing south.
- Photo 35 (RS) Concrete Dock South Park Drive (contributing resource), south shore of Cooper River Lake, east of Cuthbert Boulevard Bridge, camera facing southeast.
- Photo 36 (RS) South Park Drive stone masonry lookout platform (contributing resource) east of Cuthbert, camera facing north. Riverstone tree planter in foreground.
- Photo 37 (RS) Stone masonry retaining wall and tree planter (contributing resource) south shore of Cooper River Lake near railroad bridge(contributing resource), camera facing north.
- Photo 38 (RS) Stone masonry lookout platform (contributing resource) south shore of Cooper River Lake, west of railroad, camera facing northwest.
- Photo 39 (Google earth) Stone Masonry Staircase Grove Street Bridge northwest side (contributing resource), camera facing southwest.
- Photo 40 (RS) Stone Masonry Staircase Grove Street Bridge southwest side (contributing resource),camera facing northeast.
- Photo 41 Victims of Terrorism Memorial, (non-contributing resource) 7000 North Park Drive, Pennsauken Township, camera facing south.
- Photo 42 (RS) Floating dock (non-contributing resource). A rowing shell launch area with two floating docks North side of Cooper River Lake, camera facing south.
- Photo 43 (RS) Japanese Pagoda (non-contributing resource) North Shore of Cooper River south of Park Boulevard, camera facing north.

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Photo 44 (Google earth) The starting line of the 2,000 meter rowing course, 6 floating docks, covered pavilion (non-contributing resource). Rowing race course start area on the south side of Cooper River Lake near intersection of South Park Drive and Crescent Boulevard, aerial camera facing east.

Photo 45 (CCPC) CCC boys, at Camp Cooper. [Historic photo]

Photo 46 (RS) Footbridge 4 (contributing resource) crosses the North Branch of the Cooper River between Park Boulevard and South Branch of the Cooper River, camera facing west.

Photo 47 (RS) Footbridge 5 is near the center of Greenwald Park crossing the Cooper River where it joins with a stream that drains Driscoll Pond, camera facing south.

Photo 48 (RS) Footbridge 7 (contributing resource) crosses the Cooper River at south end of Greenwald Park north of the Kings Highway Bridge, camera facing north. Footbridge framed by Kings Highway Bridge Arch.

Photo 49 (RS) Watchable Wildlife Park Trail wayside exhibit map showing 6 footbridge locations in Maria Barnaby Greenwald Memorial Park and Pennypacker Park, camera facing southeast.

Photo 50 (RS) Stone staircase at Kings Highway Bridge (contributing resource), southwest quadrant of Kings Highway Bridge, camera facing southeast.

Photo 51 (RS) Driscoll Pond Dam (non-contributing resource), camera facing south.

Photo 52 (West Jersey History Project) Haddon Mill ruins about 1905.

Photo 53 Birdwood Farm House.

Photo 54 (RS) Hopkins Pond Dam (non-contributing resource) north side, view from Driscoll Pond (foreground), Camera facing west.

Photo 55 (RS) Kings Highway Pennsylvania mica stone masonry stairs and retaining wall (contributing resource) south side of Kings Highway at intersection with Evans Pond Road, camera facing southwest.

Photo 56 (Brown) Interior of the Wallworth Park Club House, 1937 (Brown, op.cit., p. 119).

Photo 57 (Brown) Wallworth Park Club House 1937 (Brown, op.cit., p. 118).

Photo 58 Wallworth Park Club House ca. 1964, Haddonfield Historical Society.

Photo 59 (RS) Pennsylvania mica stone and masonry footbridge (contributing resource), Wallworth Park east of Wallworth Lake, camera facing northwest.

Photo 60 Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr. portrait photo.

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Rendering by Charles Wellford Leavitt and Son, undated

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undated

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Figure 12.
Cooper River Two Mile Rowing Course
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Figure 13.
Plan of Proposed Change in Location of Cooper River Rowing Course
Cooper River Park Commission, 1938

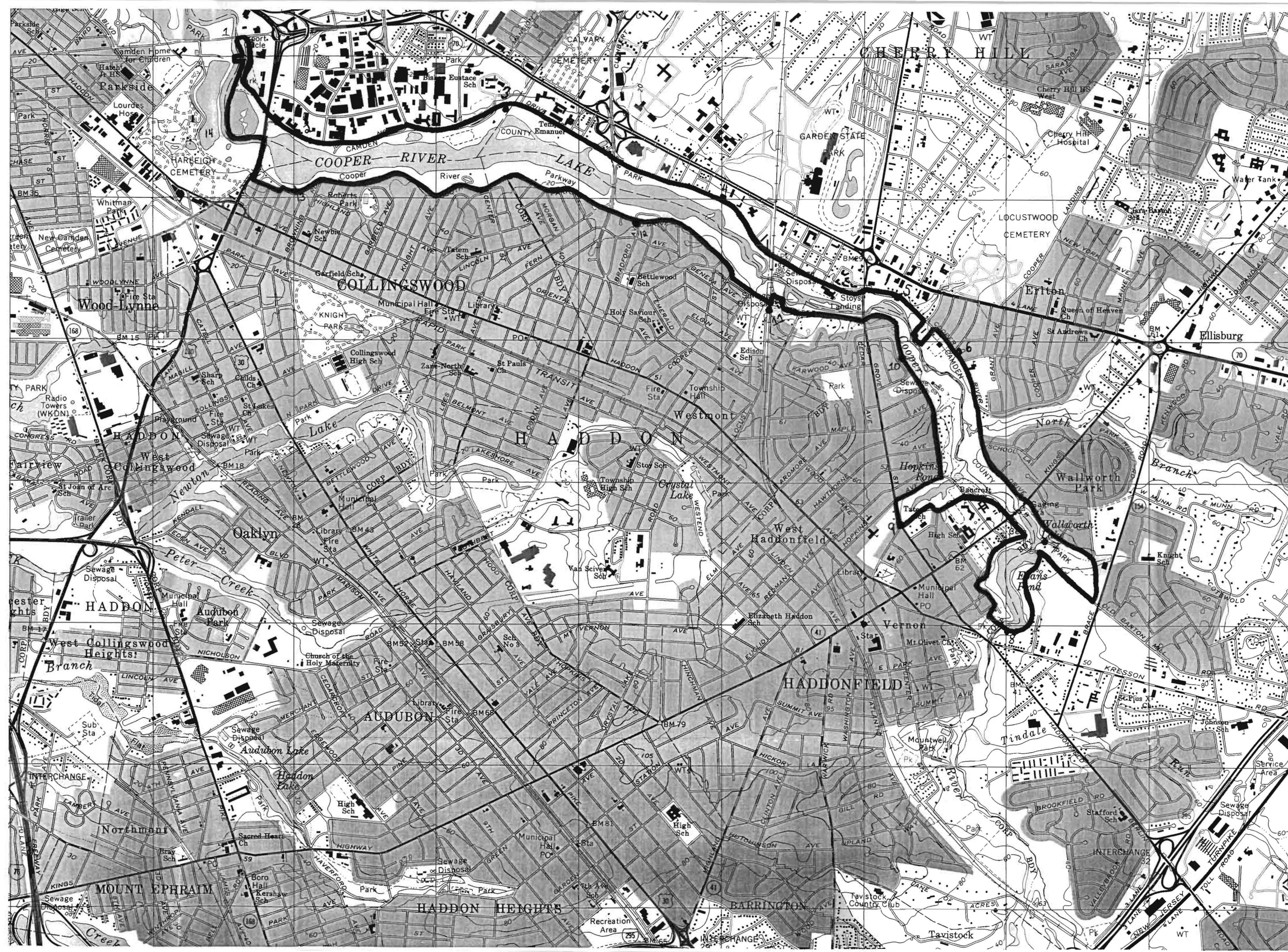
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Plan showing removal of Browning Road Bridge
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Figure 15.
As-Built Landscape Development and Planting Plan
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Figures 17a, 17b and 17c.
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Includes photo locations and directions and locations of non-
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Figures 18a, 18b and 18c Cooper River Park Historic District
Boundary Tax Maps
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Historic District

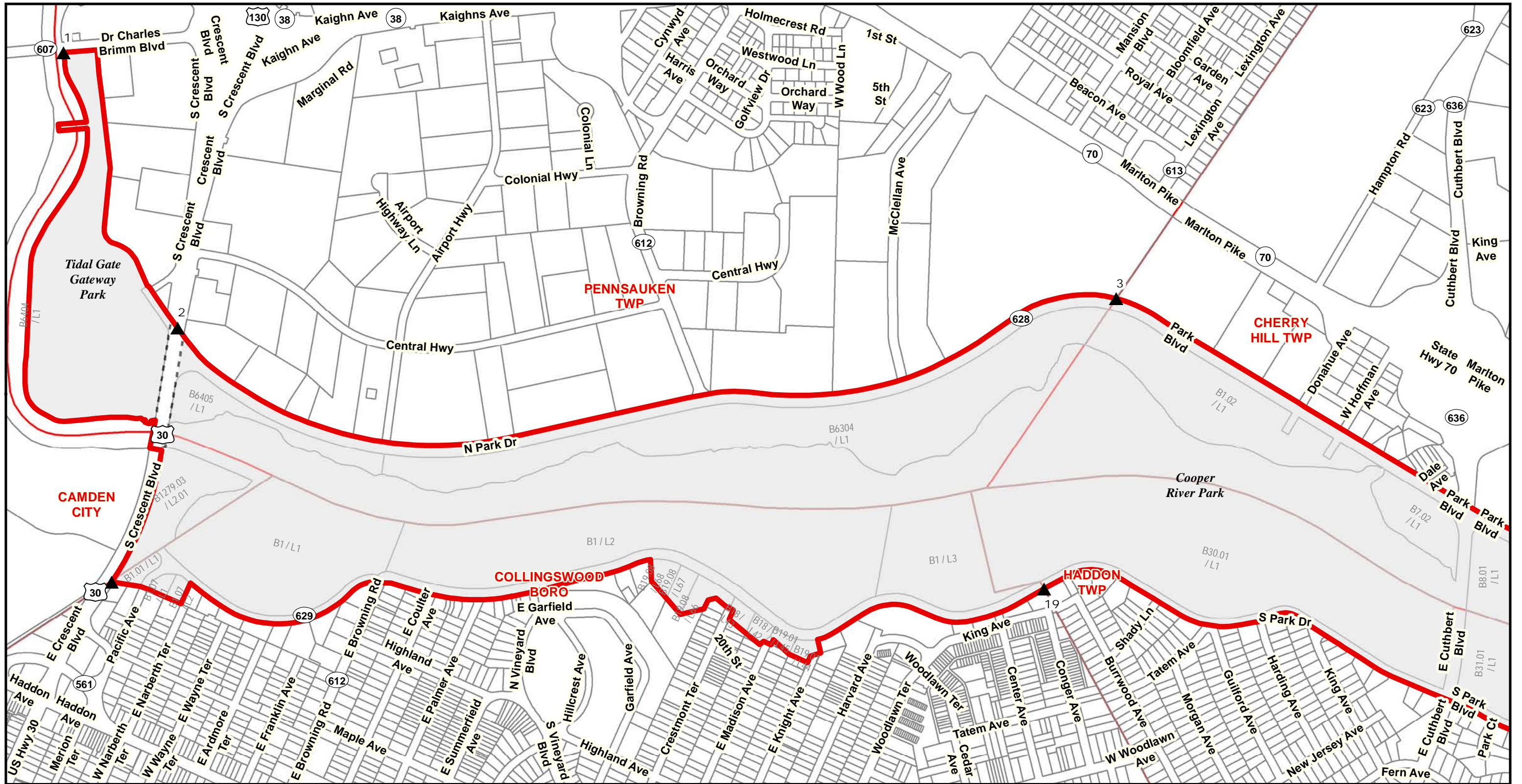


COOPER RIVER PARK
 HISTORIC DISTRICT
 CAMDEN COUNTY
 NJ

UTM REFERENCES

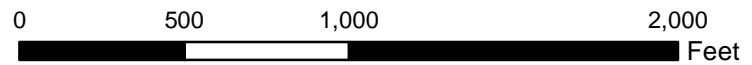
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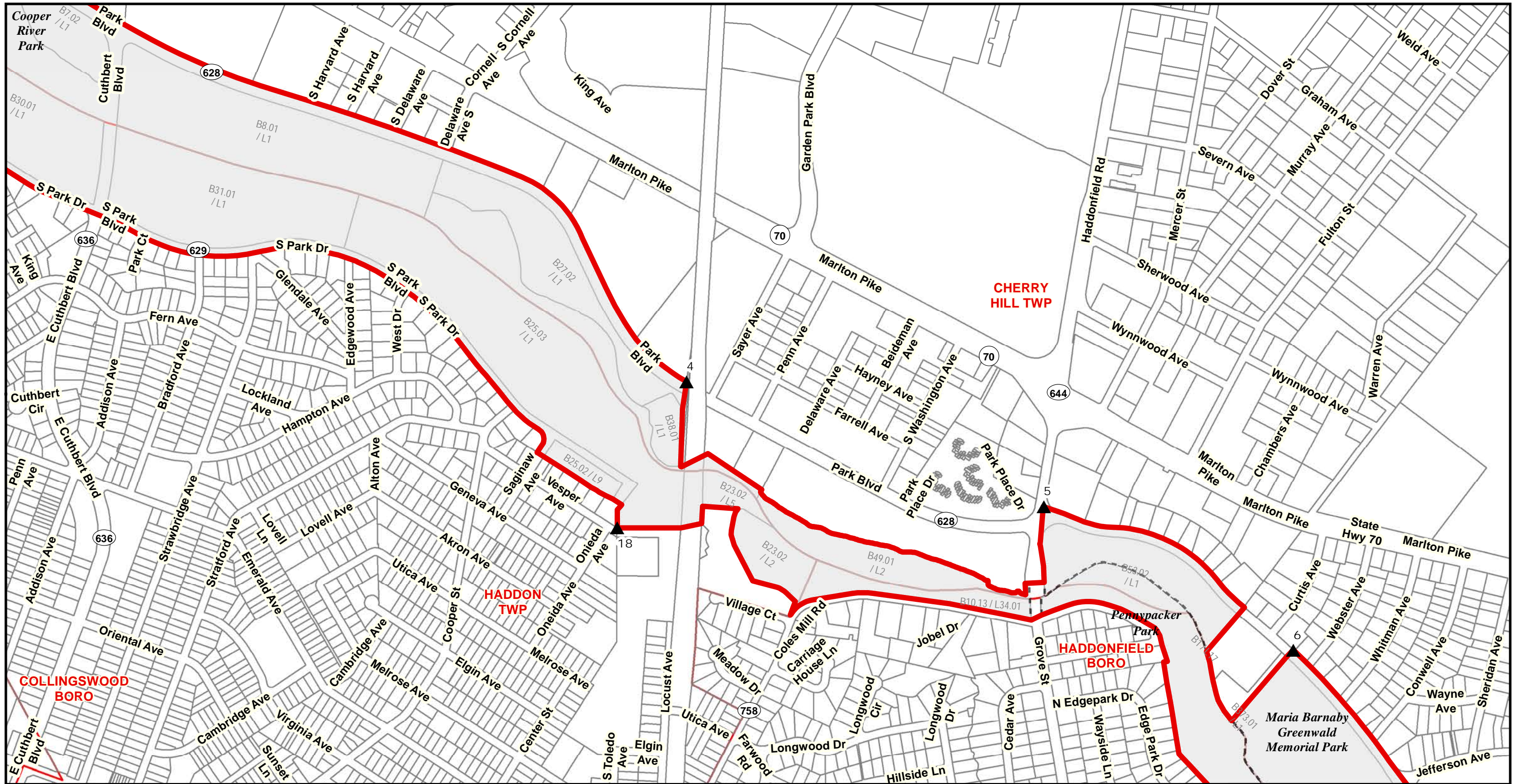
Legend

- ▲ UTM Coordinates
- ▭ Cooper River Park HD Boundary
- ▭ Individual Park Areas
- ▭ Parcels (Block and Lot)
- ▭ Municipalities



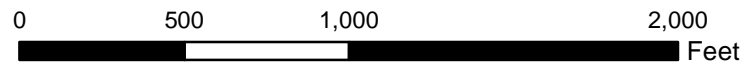
Cooper River Park Historic District
National Register Nomination
Camden County, New Jersey

Boundary and Tax Map



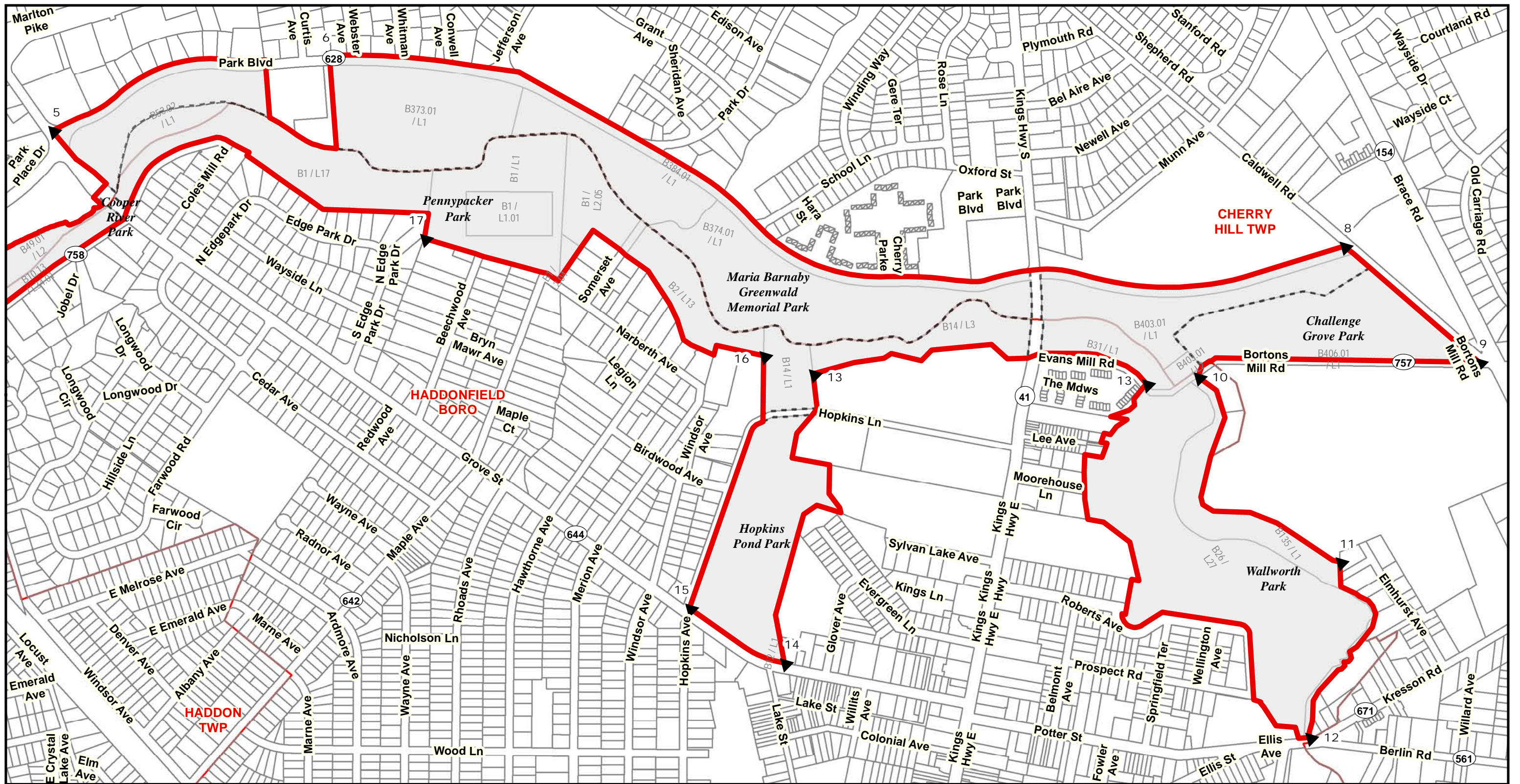
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- ▲ UTM Coordinates
- ▭ Cooper River Park HD Boundary
- - - Individual Park Areas
- ▭ Parcels (Block and Lot)
- ▭ Municipalities



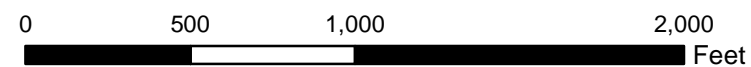
Cooper River Park Historic District
National Register Nomination
Camden County, New Jersey

Boundary and Tax Map



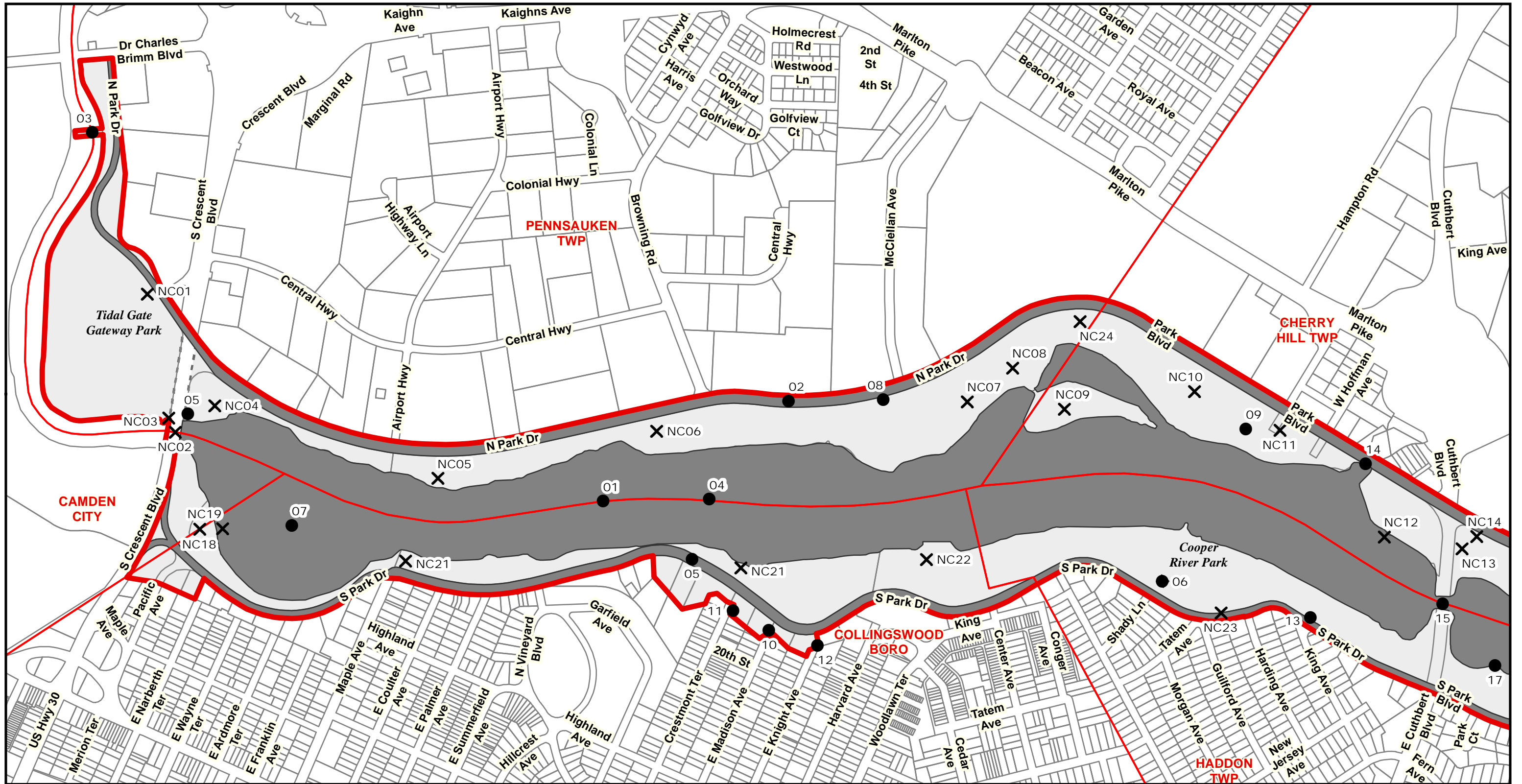
Legend

- ▲ UTM Coordinates
- ▭ Cooper River Park HD Boundary
- ▭ Individual Park Areas
- ▭ Parcels (Block and Lot)
- ▭ Municipalities



Cooper River Park Historic District
National Register Nomination
Camden County, New Jersey

Boundary and Tax Map



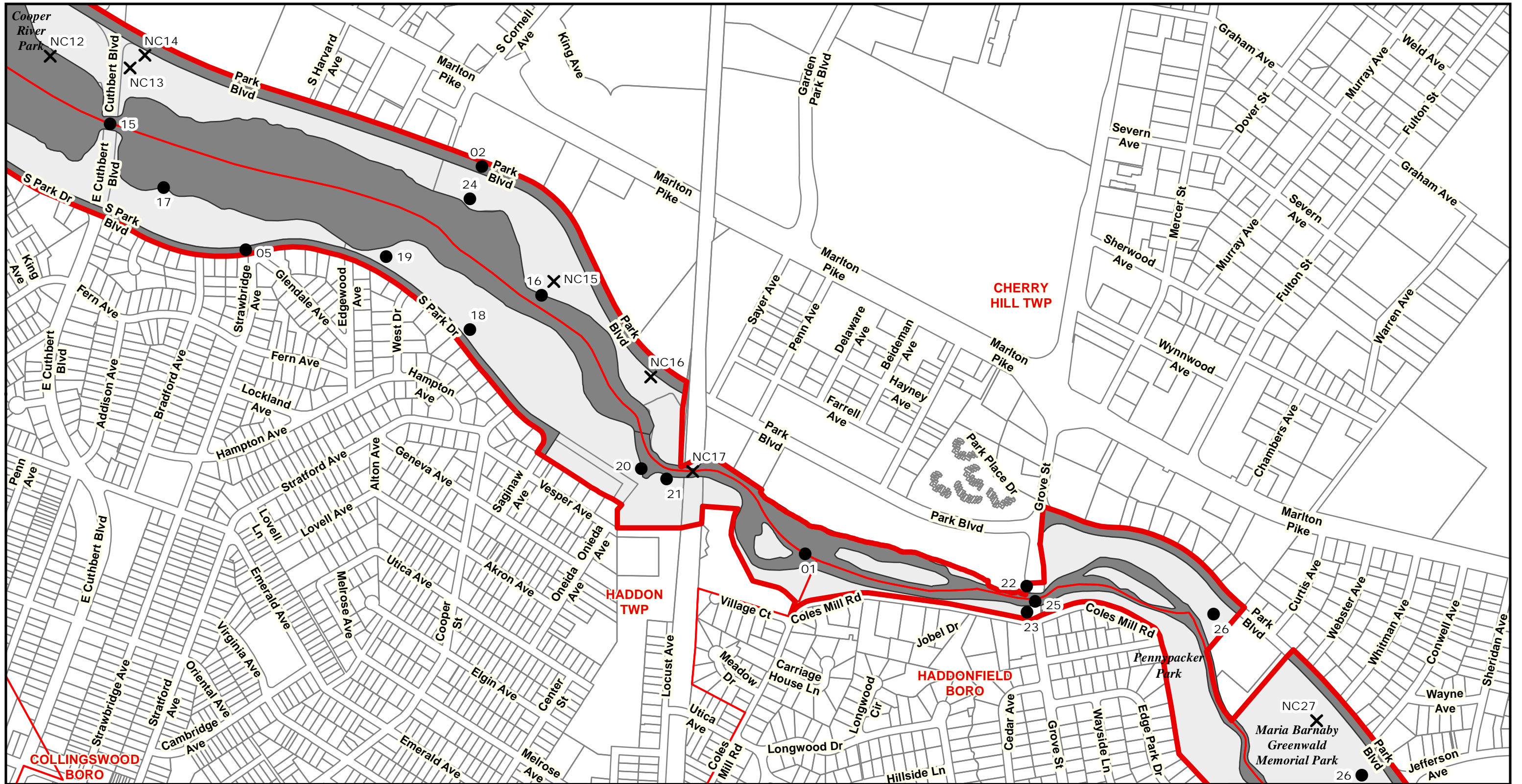
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- | | | | |
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| × | Non-Contributing | ▭ (Grey fill) | Linear Resources |
| | | ▭ (Thin grey outline) | Parcels (Block and Lot) |
| | | ▭ (Dashed grey outline) | Individual Park Areas |



Cooper River Park Historic District
National Register Nomination
Camden County, New Jersey

Resources Map



Legend

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| ● | Contributing | ▭ (Red outline) | Municipalities |
| ✕ | Non-Contributing | ▭ (Grey fill) | Linear Resources |
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| | | ▭ (Dashed outline) | Individual Park Areas |

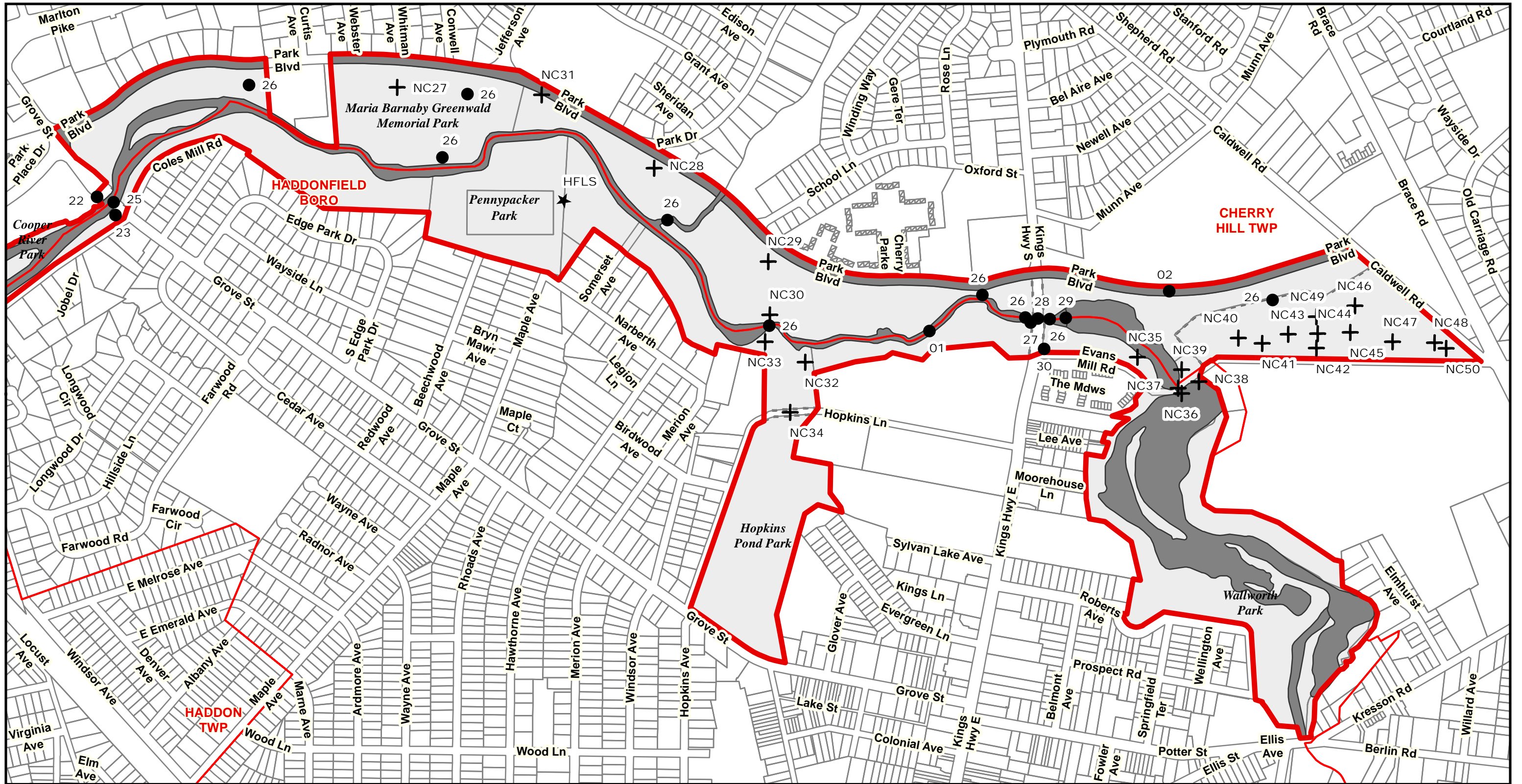


Cooper River Park Historic District
National Register Nomination
Camden County, New Jersey

Resources Map

Scale: 1:7,000

NJDEP, Historic Preservation Office
January 2016



Legend

- Resource Inventory
- ★ Key-Contributing
- Contributing
- ✕ Non-Contributing
- Cooper River Park HD Boundary
- Municipalities
- Linear Resources
- Parcels (Block and Lot)
- Individual Park Areas

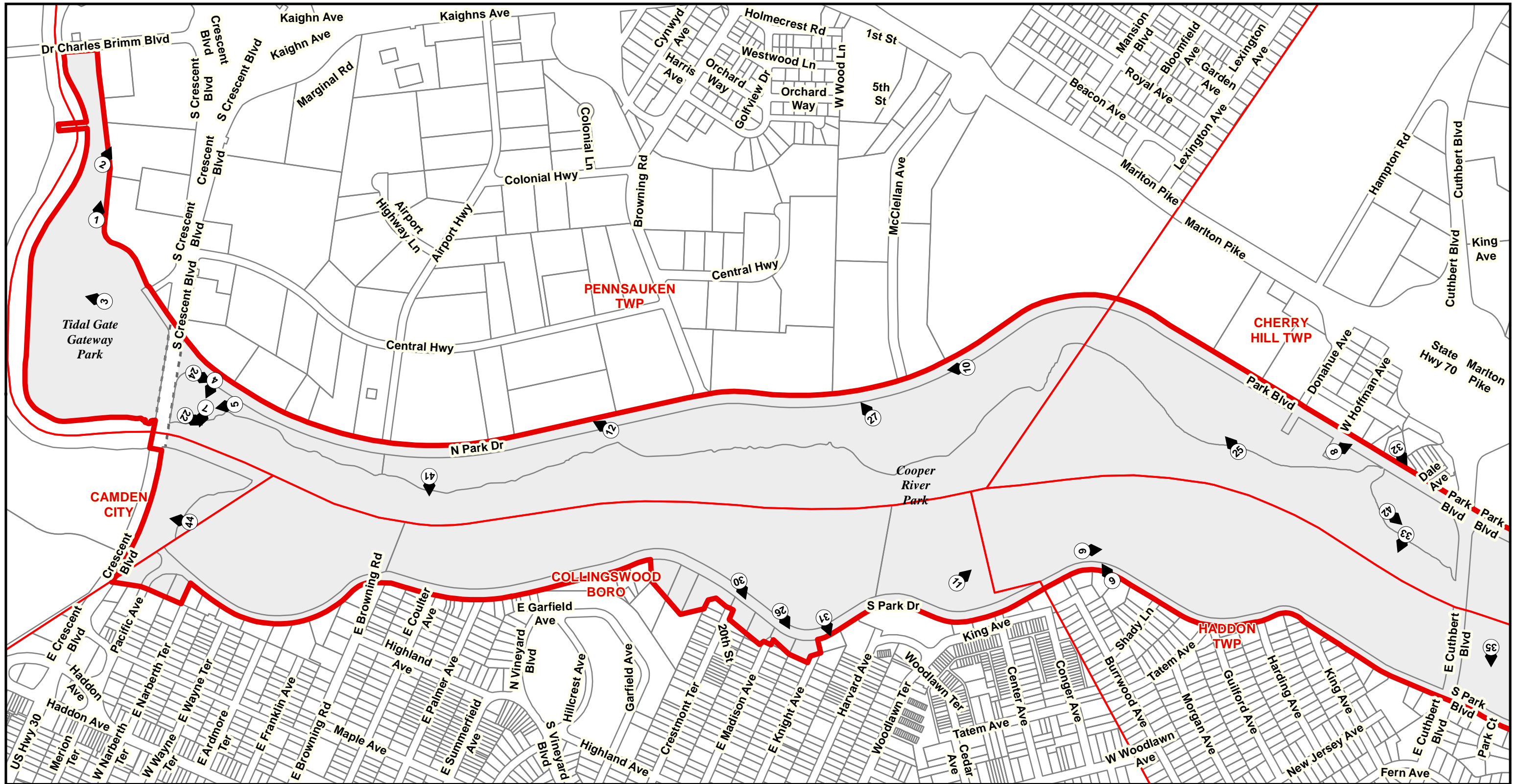


Cooper River Park Historic District
National Register Nomination
Camden County, New Jersey






Resources Map

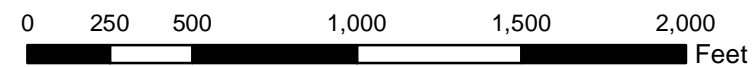
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NJDEP, Historic Preservation Office
January 2016



Legend

-  Photo Locations
-  Cooper River Park HD Boundary
-  Municipalities
-  Parcels (Block and Lot)
-  Individual Park Areas

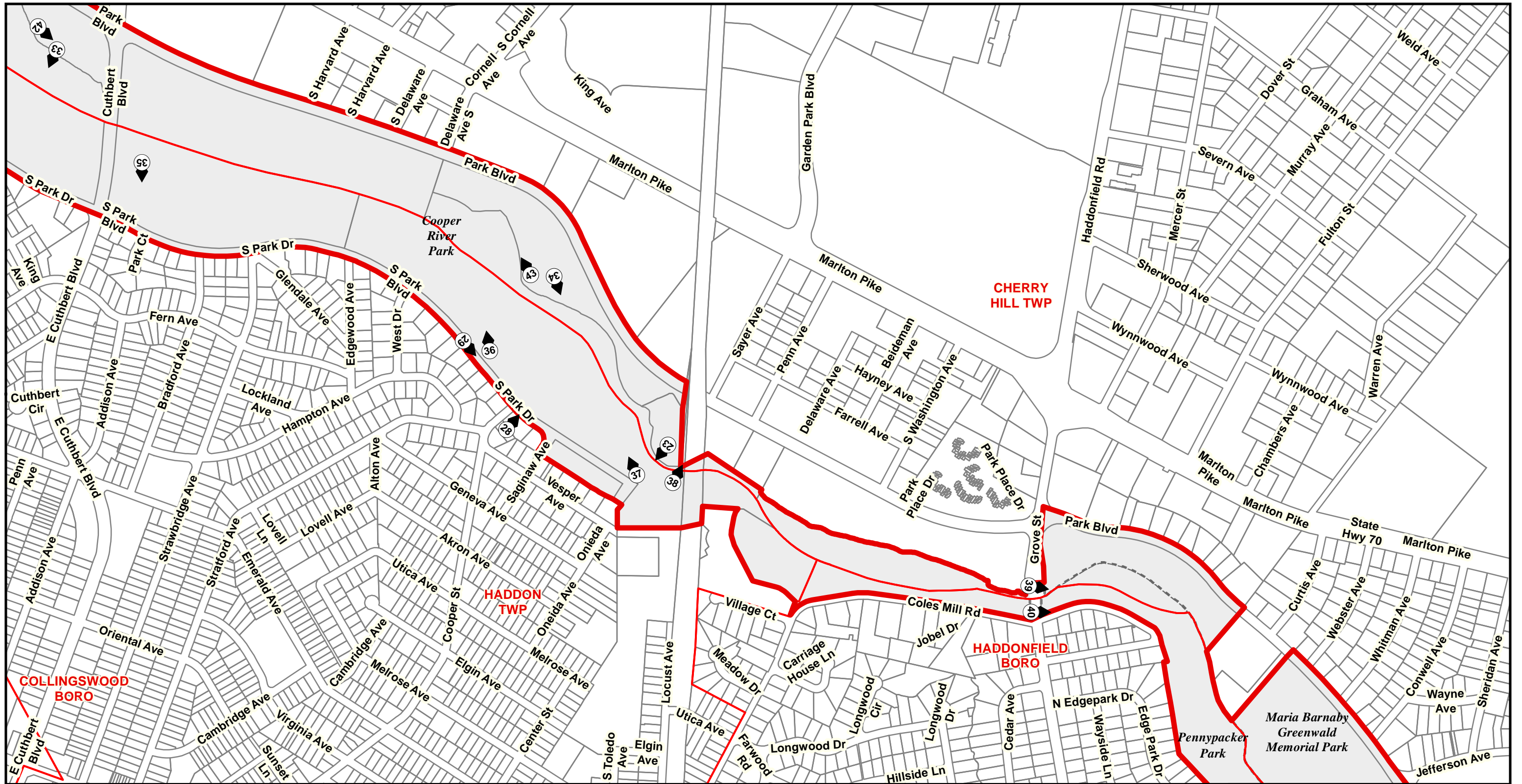


Cooper River Park Historic District
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Camden County, New Jersey






Photo Location Map

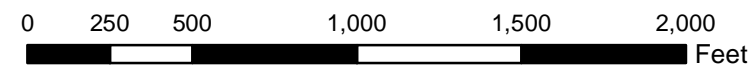
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NJDEP, Historic Preservation Office
January 2016



Legend

-  Photo Locations
-  Cooper River Park HD Boundary
-  Municipalities
-  Parcels (Block and Lot)
-  Individual Park Areas

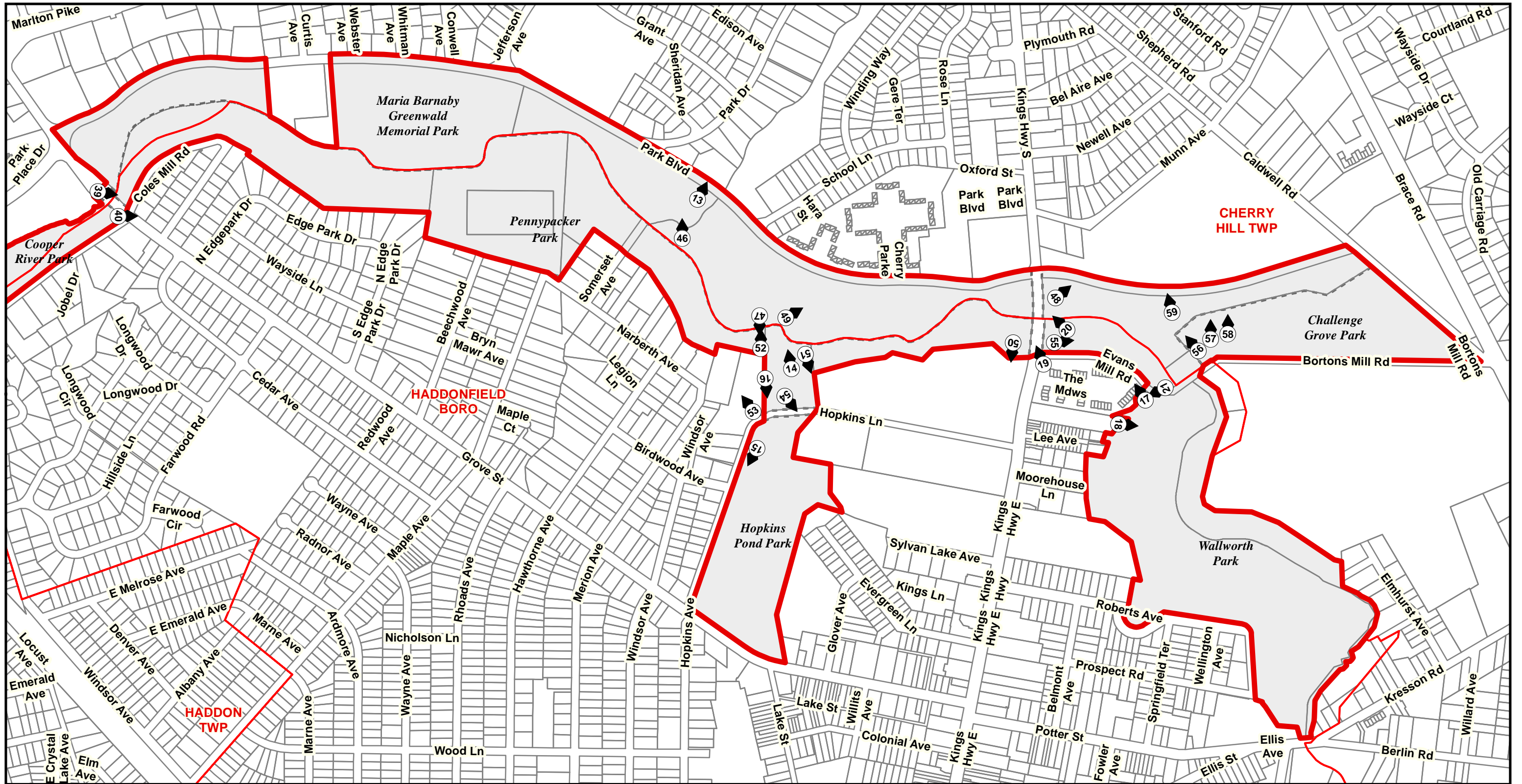


Cooper River Park Historic District
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Camden County, New Jersey





Photo Location Map

Scale: 1:7,000

NJDEP, Historic Preservation Office
January 2016



Legend

-  Photo Locations
-  Cooper River Park HD Boundary
-  Municipalities
-  Parcels (Block and Lot)
-  Individual Park Areas

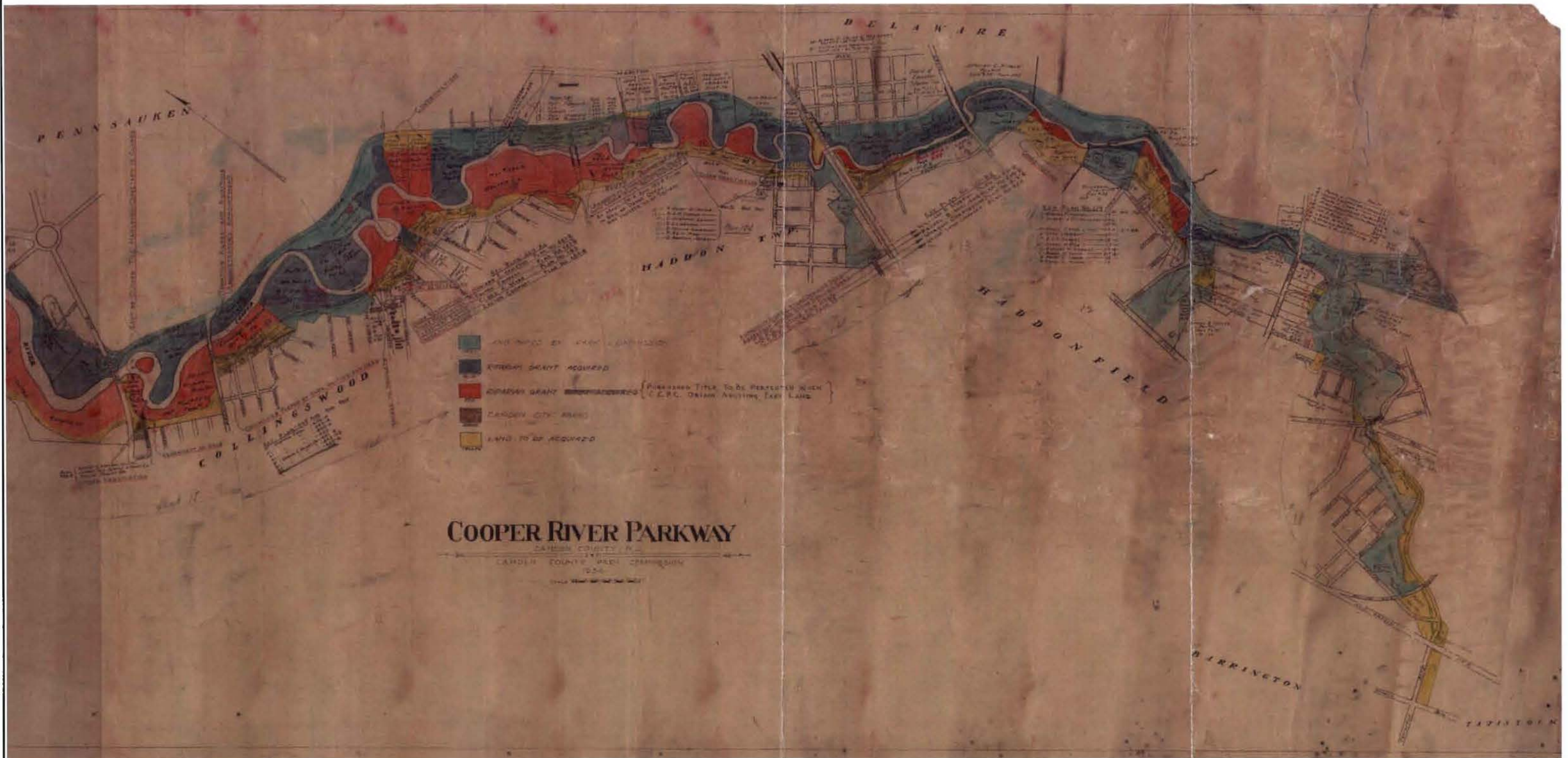


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Photo Location Map

Scale: 1:7,000

NJDEP, Historic Preservation Office
January 2016



NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT
NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION
CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

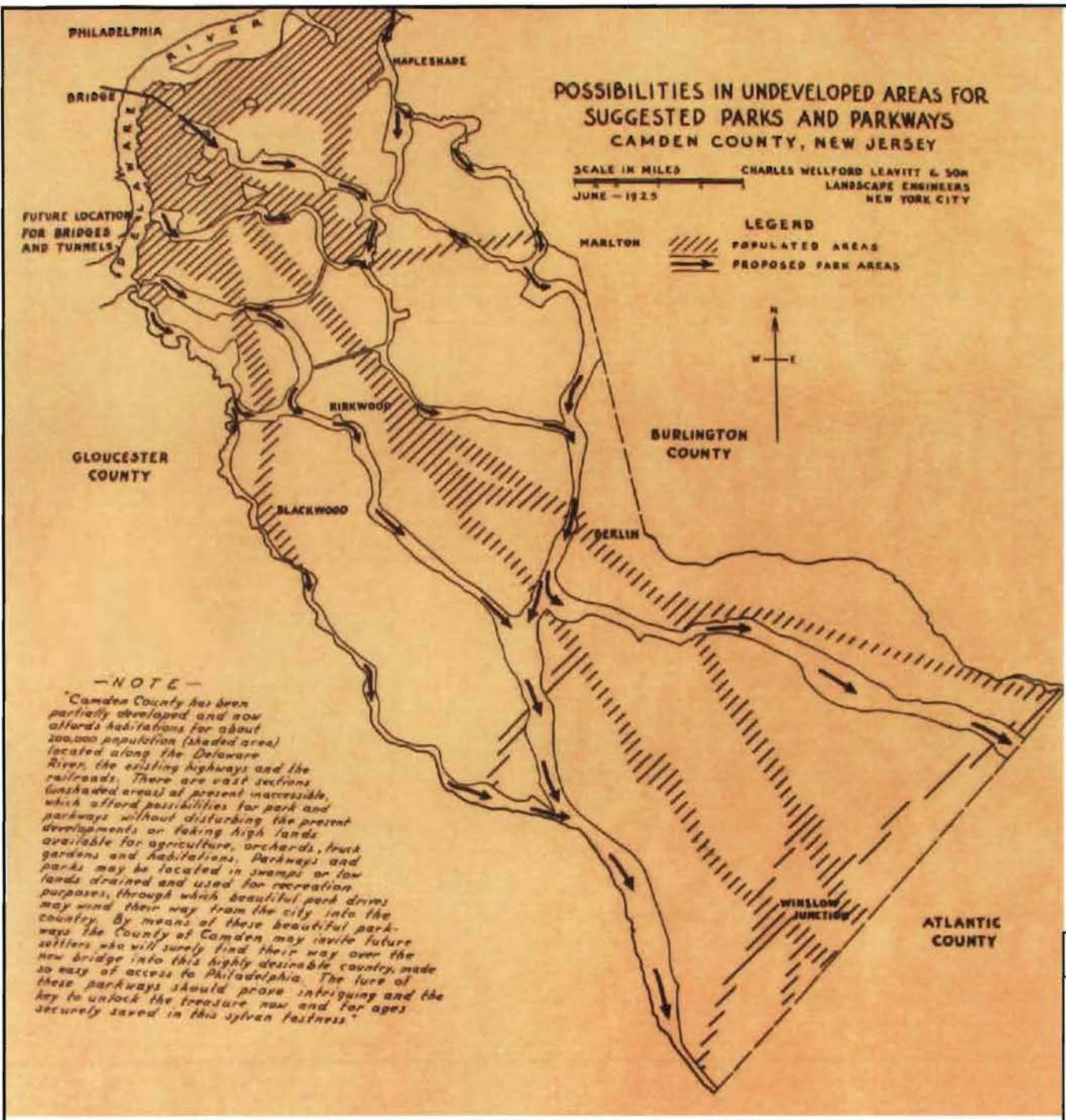
Land Acquisition Map for Cooper River Parkway
Camden County Park Commission, 1934

SCALE: None

DATE: March 2011



FIGURE 2



NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT
 NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION
 CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Conceptual Plan for County-wide Park System

Charles Wellford Leavitt and Son, 1925

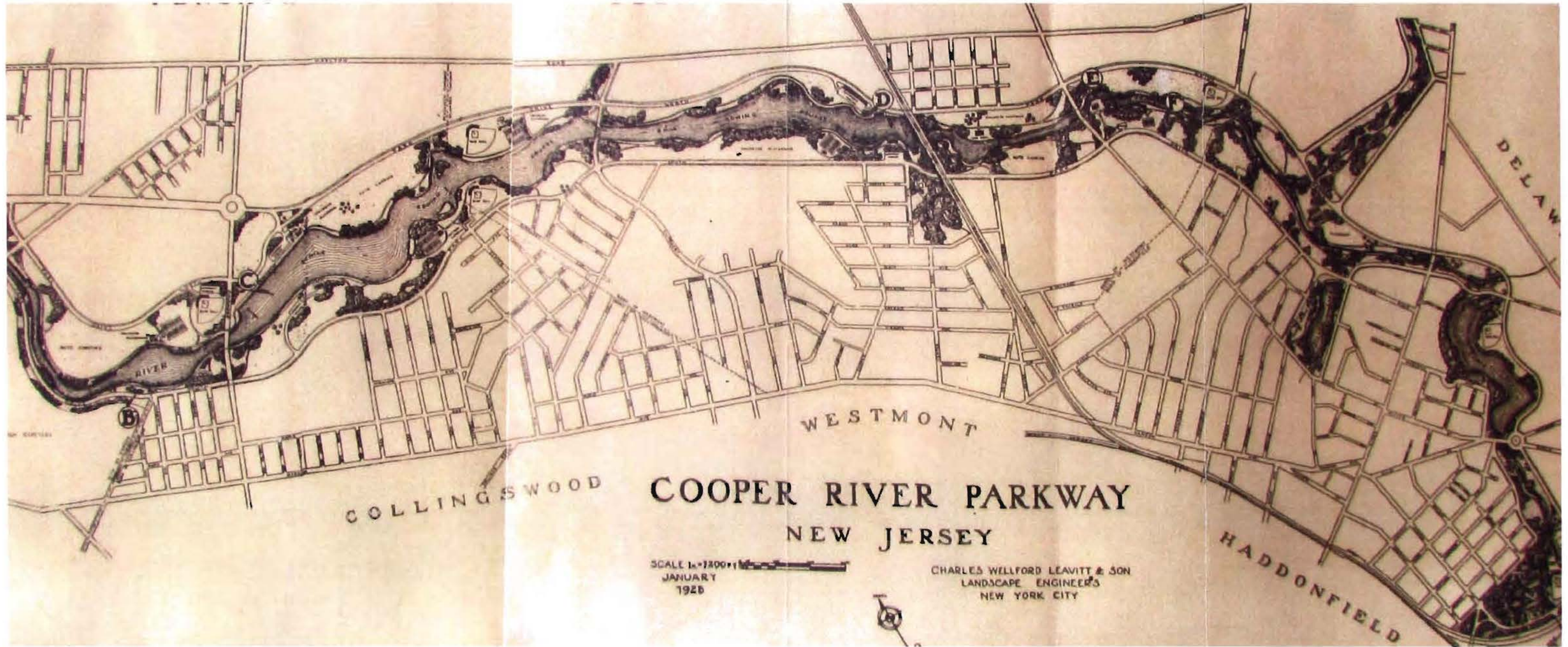
SCALE: None

DATE: March 2011



FIGURE 3

Source: Camden County Park System as Constructed by Camden County Park Commission, Compiled by Oscar C. Brown, Ed., 1937. Camden County Park Commission, Camden, New Jersey.



Source: Health, Sunshine, and Wealth by Charles W. Leavitt, 1925, Haddonfield Historical Society, Haddonfield, NJ.

G:\30 130 green acres\Historic Cooper River Park\COOPER RIVER\Figure 4.mxd

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT
NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION
CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Cooper River Parkway Plan

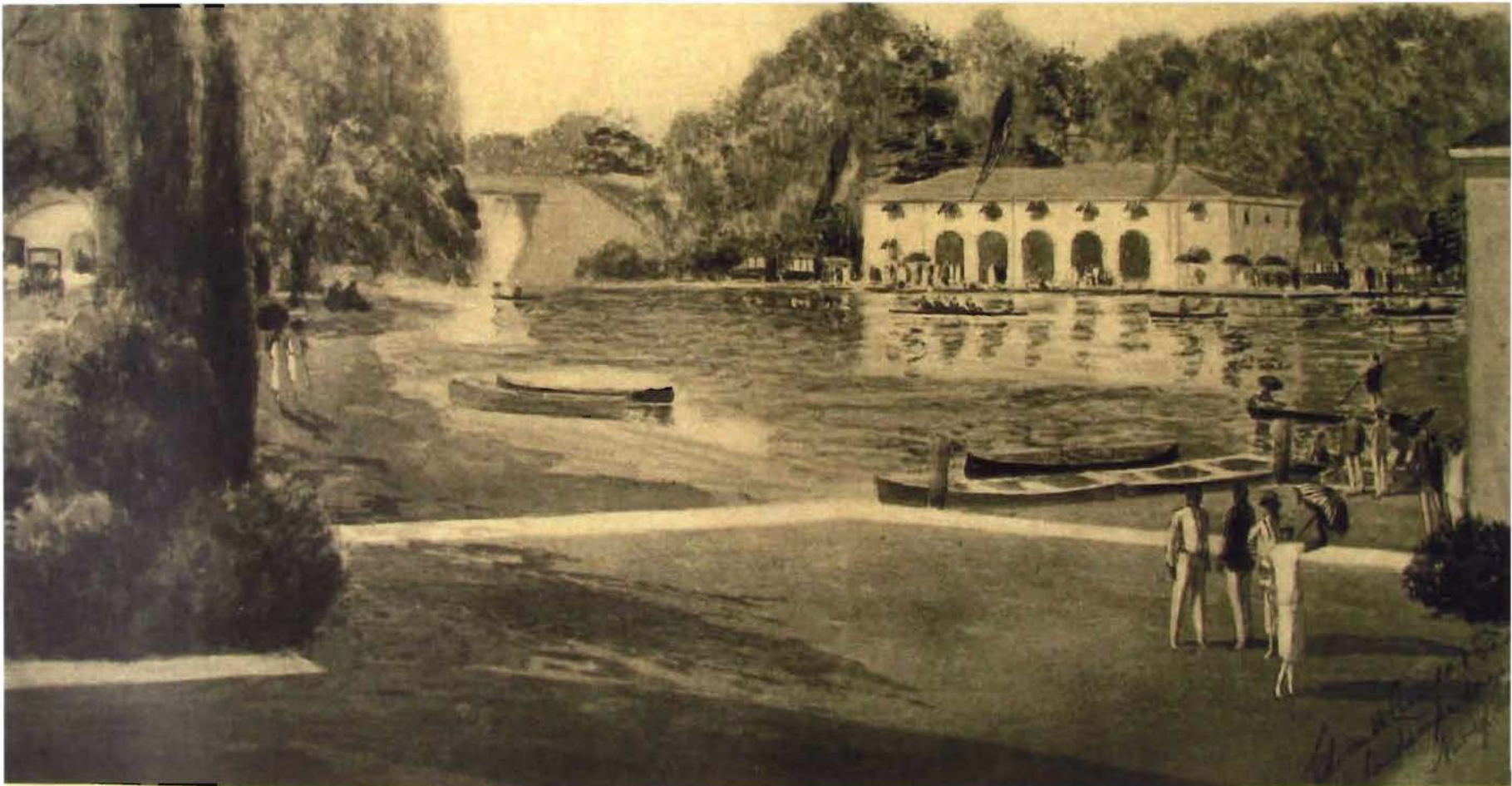
Conceptual Plan by Charles Wellford Leavitt and Son, 1925

SCALE: None

DATE: March 2011

 **Dewberry**

FIGURE 4



COOPER RIVER AT WESTMONT (proposed)
 Park development created by dredging

Source: Health, Sunshine, and Wealth by Charles W. Leavitt,
 1925, Haddonfield Historical Society, Haddonfield, NJ.

G:\30 130 green acres\Historic Cooper River Park\COOPER RIVER\Figure 5.mxd

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT
 NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION
 CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Cooper River at Westmont (proposed)

Rendering by Charles Wellford Leavitt and Son, undated

SCALE: None

DATE: March 2011



FIGURE 5



COOPER RIVER AT HADDONFIELD (proposed)
Park development making area available for the public

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT
NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION
CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Cooper River at Haddonfield (proposed)

Rendering by Charles Wellford Leavitt and Son, undated

SCALE: None

DATE: March 2011



FIGURE 6

Source: Health, Sunshine, and Wealth by Charles W. Leavitt,
1925, Haddonfield Historical Society, Haddonfield, NJ.

G:\30 130 green acres\Historic Cooper River Park\COOPER RIVER\Figure 6.mxd



COOPER RIVER AT PENNSAUKEN (proposed)
One of the Recreation Centers

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT
NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION
CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Cooper River at Pennsauken (proposed)

Rendering by Charles Wellford Leavitt and Son, undated

SCALE: None

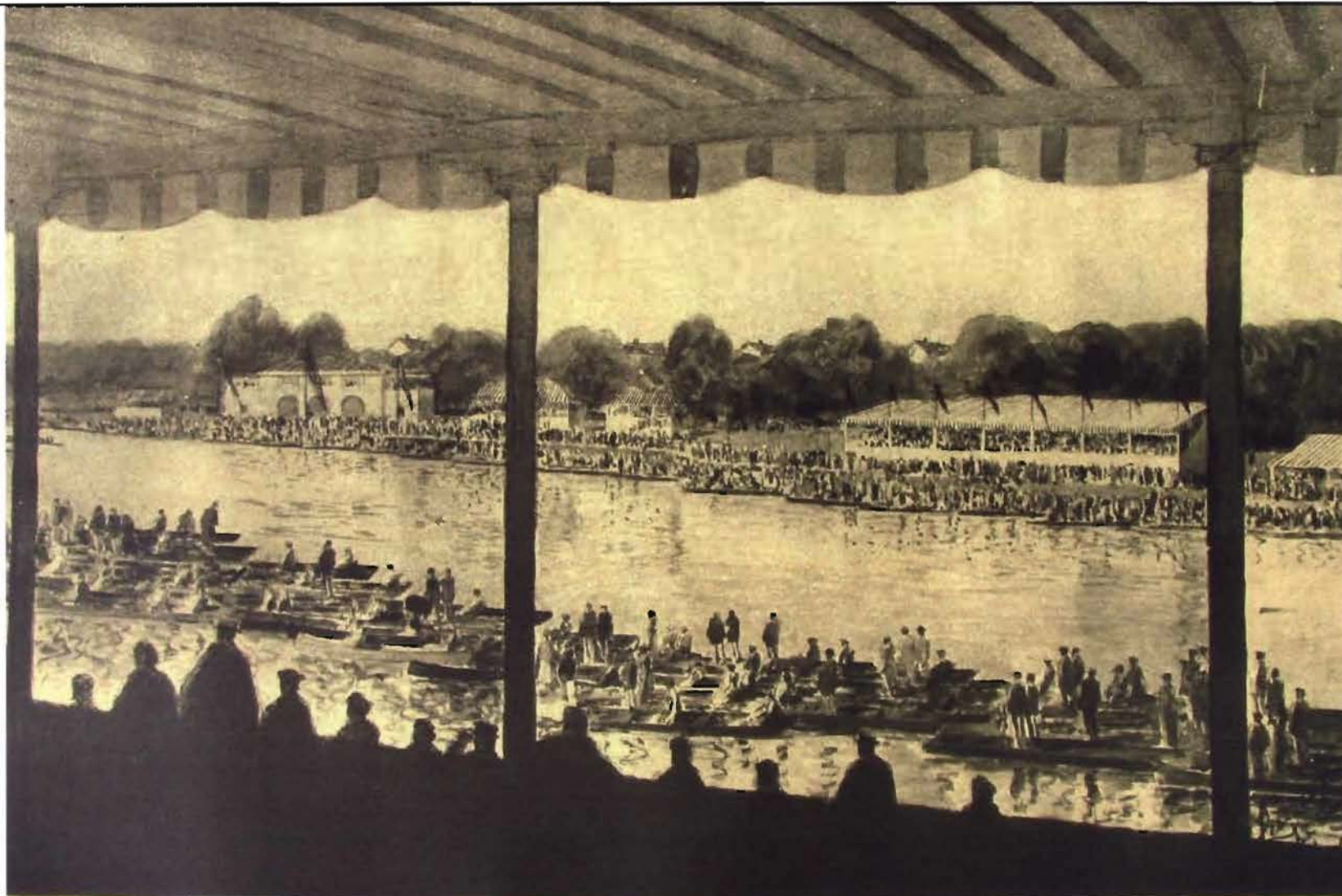
DATE: March 2011



FIGURE 7

Source: Health, Sunshine, and Wealth by Charles W. Leavitt,
1925, Haddonfield Historical Society, Haddonfield, NJ.

G:\30 130 green acres\Historic Cooper River Park\COOPER RIVER\Figure 7.mxd



COOPER RIVER AT COLLINGSWOOD (proposed)
Finish of Rowing Course

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT
NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION
CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Cooper River at Collingswood (proposed)

Rendering of rowing course by Charles Wellford Leavitt and Son, undated

SCALE: None

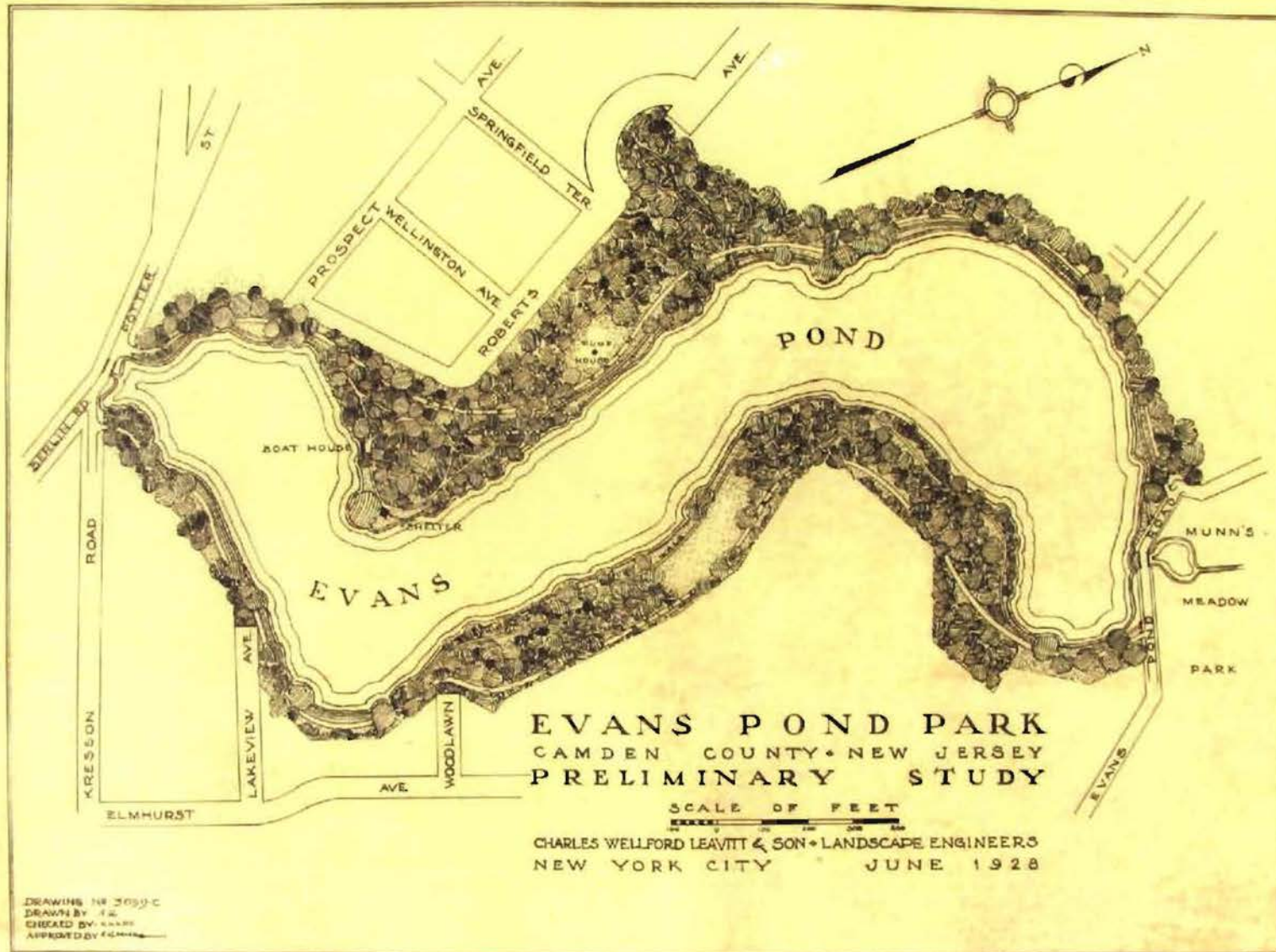
DATE: March 2011



FIGURE 8

Source: Health, Sunshine, and Wealth by Charles W. Leavitt,
1925, Haddonfield Historical Society, Haddonfield, NJ.

G:\30 130 green acres\Historic Cooper River Park\COOPER RIVER\Figure 8.mxd



NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT
 NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION
 CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Evans Pond Park Preliminary Study

by Charles Wellford Leavitt and Son, 1928

SCALE: None

DATE: March 2011




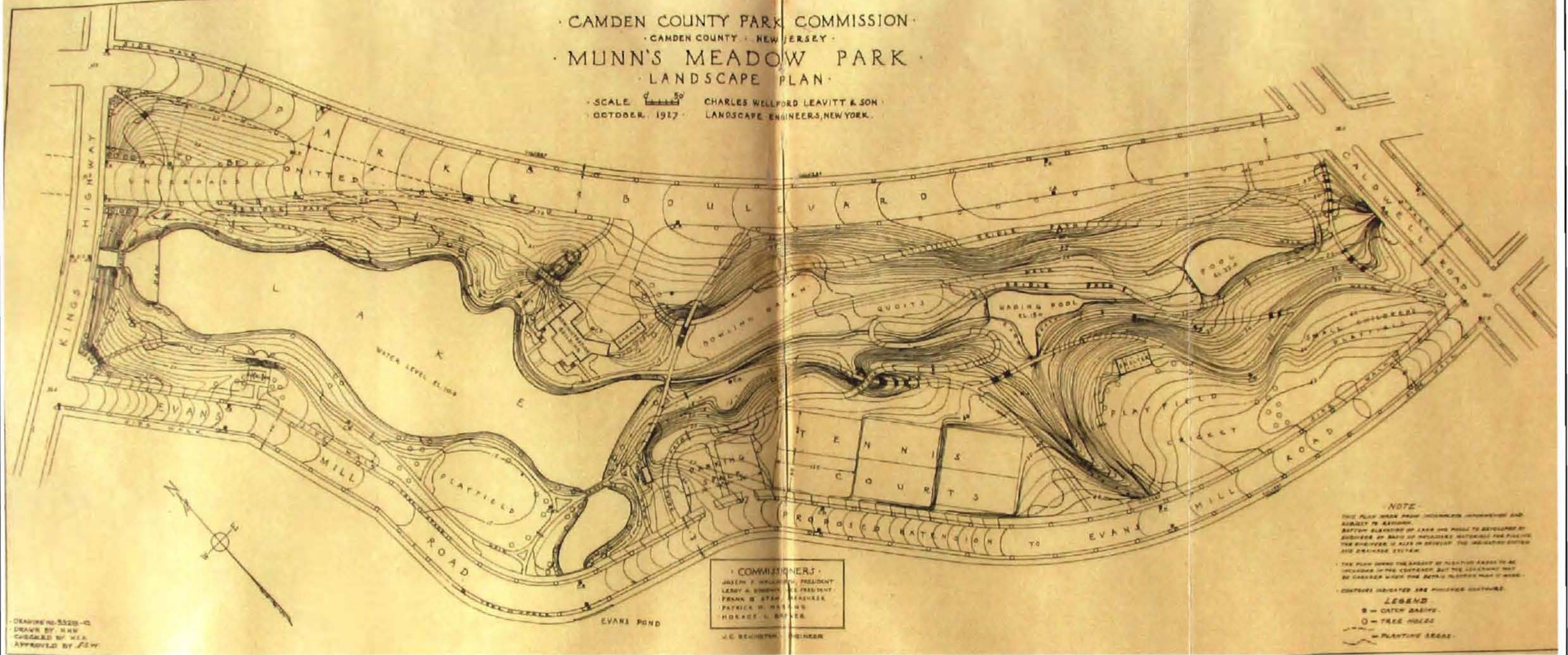
FIGURE 9

Source: Health, Sunshine, and Wealth by Charles W. Leavitt, 1925, Haddonfield Historical Society, Haddonfield, NJ.

G:\30 130 green acres\Historic Cooper River Park\COOPER RIVER\Figure 9.mxd

CAMDEN COUNTY PARK COMMISSION
 CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
 MUNN'S MEADOW PARK
 LANDSCAPE PLAN

SCALE  CHARLES WELLFORD LEAVITT & SON
 OCTOBER, 1927 LANDSCAPE ENGINEERS, NEW YORK.



NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT
 NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION
 CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Munn's Meadow Park Landscape Plan
 by Charles Wellford Leavitt and Son, 1927

SCALE: None DATE: March 2011


 **Dewberry**

FIGURE 10

Source: Health, Sunshine, and Wealth by Charles W. Leavitt, 1928, Haddonfield Historical Society, Haddonfield, NJ.

Camden County, N. J.
 PLAN SHOWING
 PRESENT AND PROPOSED PARK SYSTEM
 CAMDEN COUNTY PARK COMMISSION
 1936

KEY

- Present County Parks
- Parks and Parkway being developed by Government Lease.
- Planned area for future park development.
- Area for future development, mostly, in conjunction with other counties.



LEGEND
 Camden County & Park Commission
 Government Lease & Road Along the River
 Proposed Parks, Highways
 In all other Applications, Districts, or Other Parks, Highways
 Government Leasing, Highways, or Parks
 Camden County
 State of New Jersey
 1936

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT
 NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION
 CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

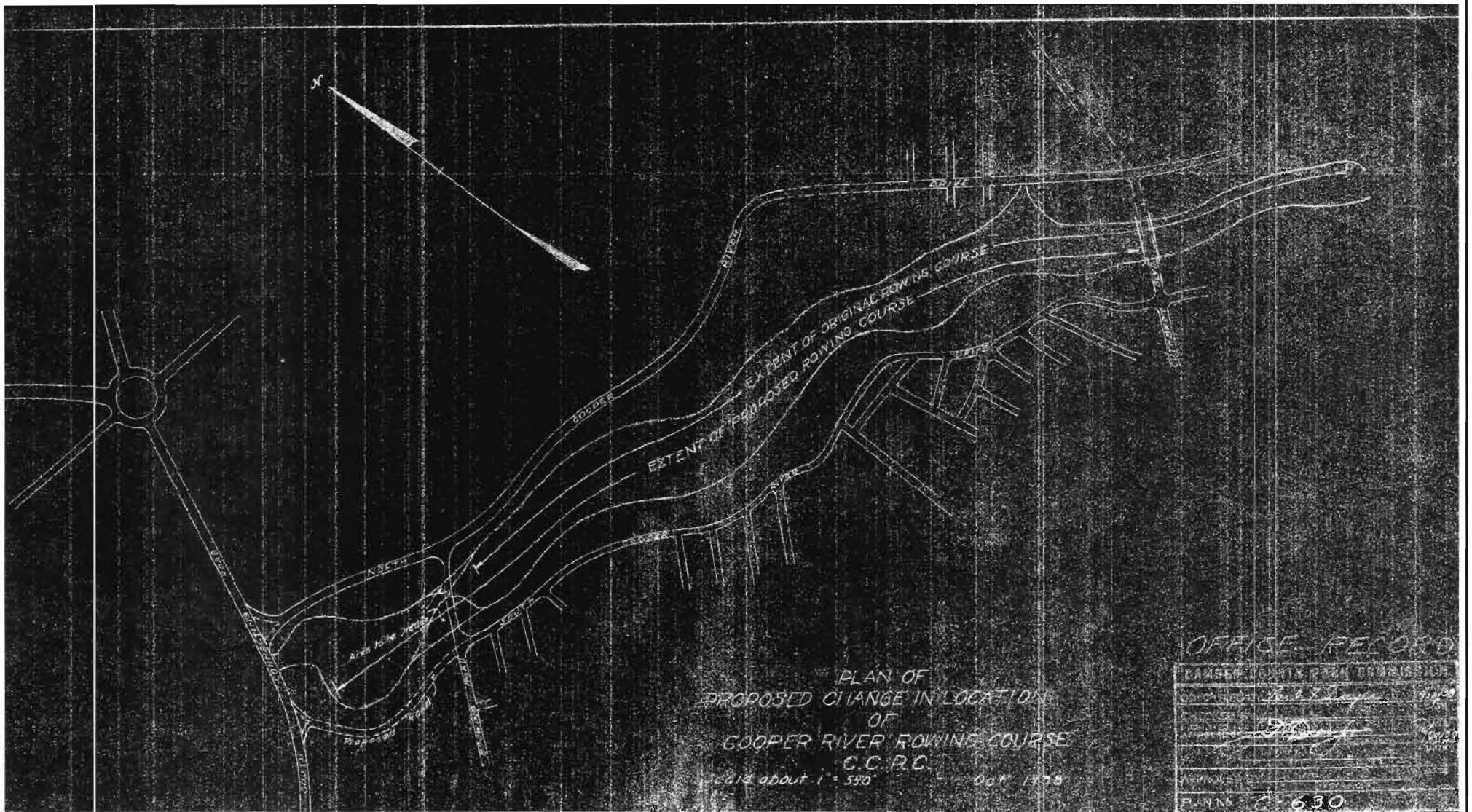
Plan Showing Present and Proposed Park System
 by Camden County Park Commission, 1936

SCALE: None DATE: March 2011

Dewberry

FIGURE 11

Source: Camden County Park System as Constructed by Camden County Park Commission,
 Compiled by Oscar C. Brown, Ed., 1937. Camden County Park Commission, Camden, New Jersey.



NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT
NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION
CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

**Plan of Proposed Change in Location of
Cooper River Rowing Course**

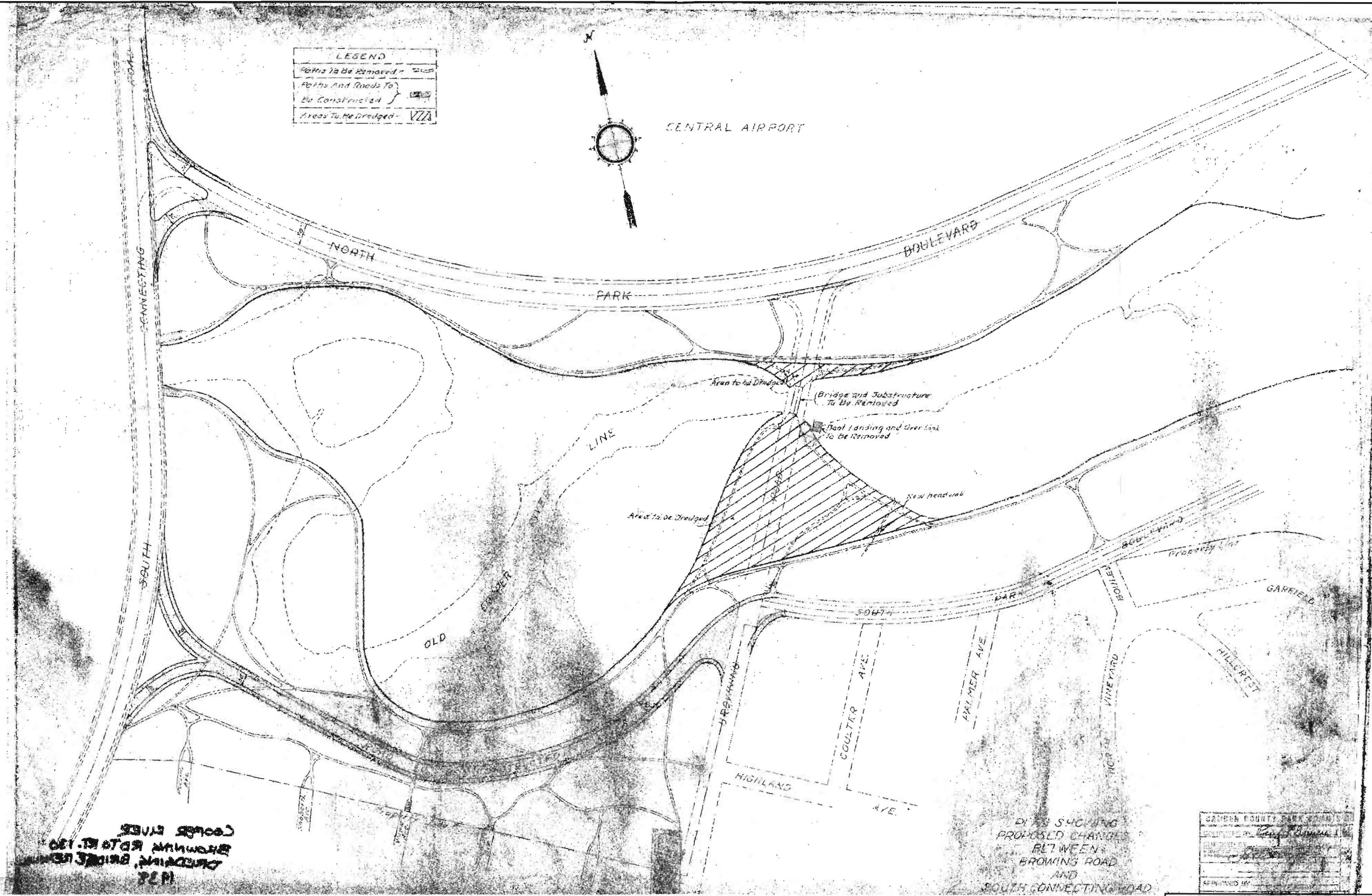
Cooper River Park Commission, 1938

SCALE: None

DATE: March 2011



FIGURE 13



LEGEND

Paths To be Removed	---
Paths and Roads To be Constructed	---
Areas To be Dredged	VZA



COOPER RIVER
BROWNING BRIDGE
1938

PLAN SHOWING
PROPOSED CHANGE
BETWEEN
BROWNING ROAD
AND
SOUTH CONNECTING ROAD

CAMDEN COUNTY PARK COMMISSION	
DATE	1938
APPROVED BY	[Signature]

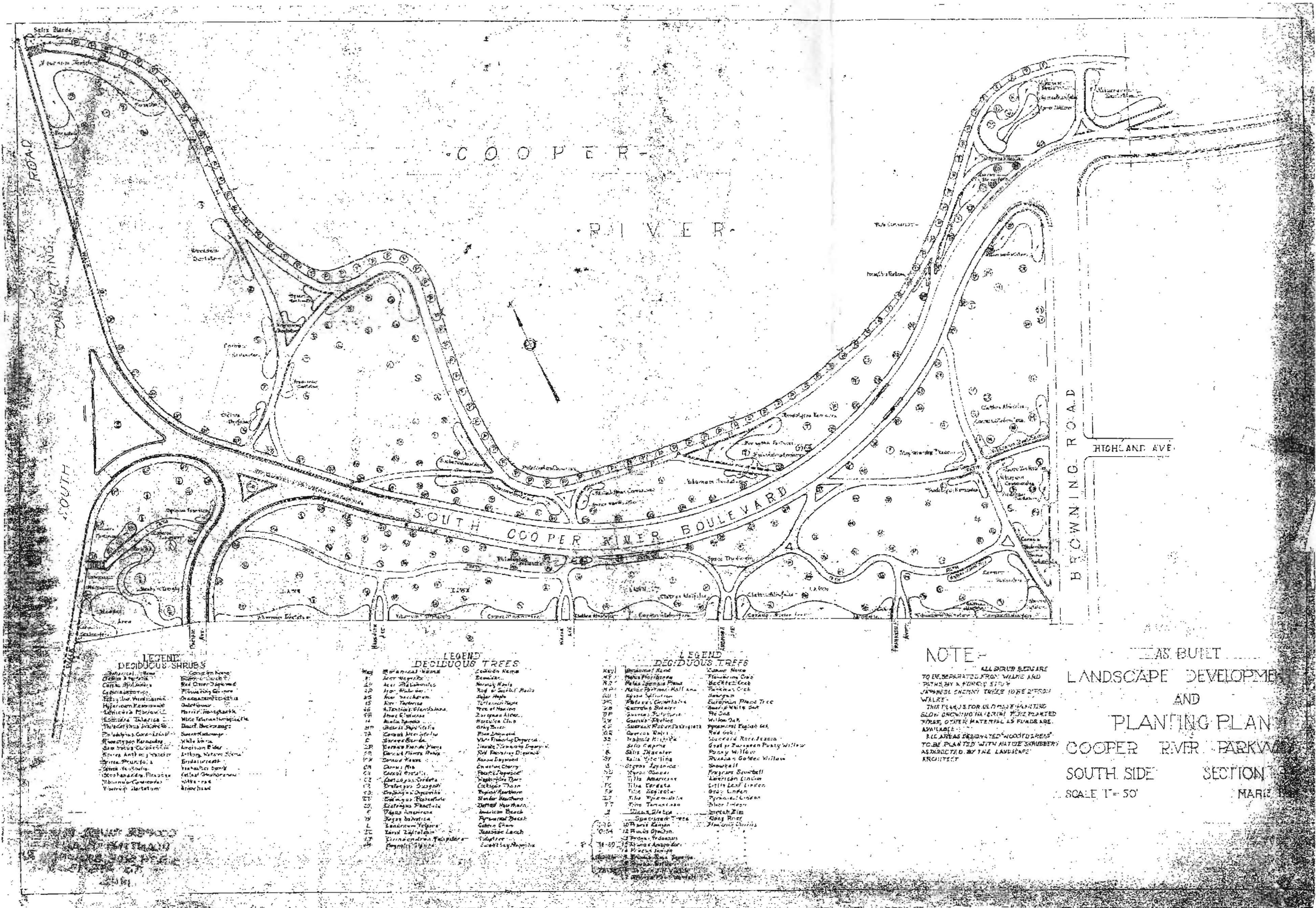
NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT
NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION
CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Plan Showing Removal of Browning Road Bridge
Camden County Park Commission, 1938

SCALE: None DATE: March 2011

Dewberry **FIGURE 14**



NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

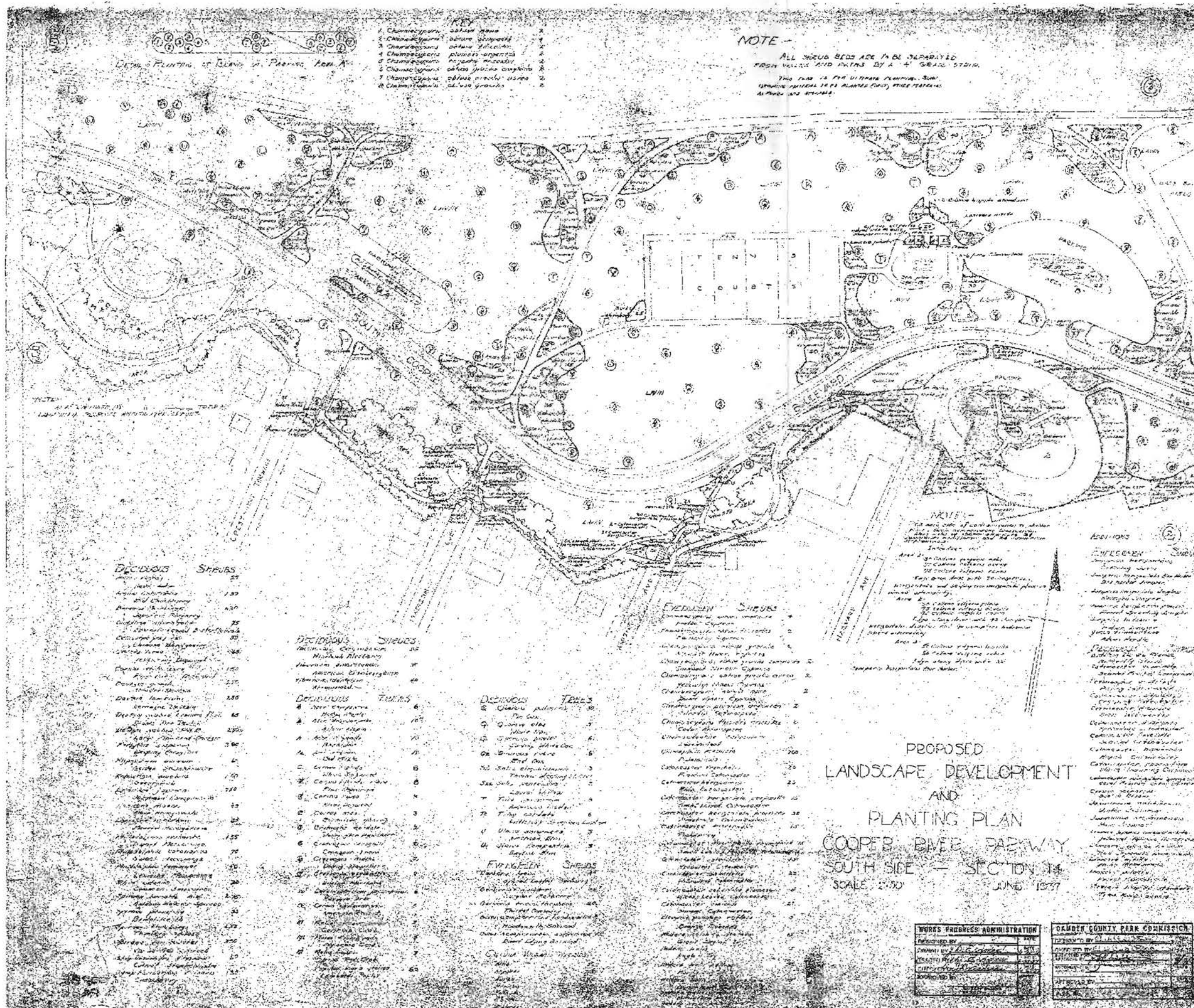
COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT
NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION
CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

As-Built Landscape Development and Planting Plan
Drawn by J.B. Erdman, W.P.A., 1937

SCALE: None DATE: March 2011

Dewberry **FIGURE 15**

Source: New Jersey Department of Transportation
G:\30 130 green acres\Historic Cooper River Park\COOPER RIVER\Figure 15.mxd



DECIDUOUS SHRUBS

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DECIDUOUS TREES

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DECIDUOUS TREES

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EVERGREEN SHRUBS

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PROPOSED
LANDSCAPE DEVELOPMENT
AND
PLANTING PLAN
COOPER RIVER PARKWAY
SOUTH SIDE - SECTION 14
SCALE 1"=50'
JUNE 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

APPROVED BY	DATE
DRAWN BY	DATE
CHECKED BY	DATE
APPROVED BY	DATE

CAMDEN COUNTY PARK COMMISSION

APPROVED BY	DATE
DRAWN BY	DATE
CHECKED BY	DATE
APPROVED BY	DATE

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT
NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION
CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
Proposed Landscape Development and Planting Plan
Drawn by J.B. Erdman, 1937

SCALE: None DATE: March 2011

Source: New Jersey Department of Transportation
G:\30 130 green acres\Historic Cooper River Park\COOPER RIVER\Figure 16.mxd





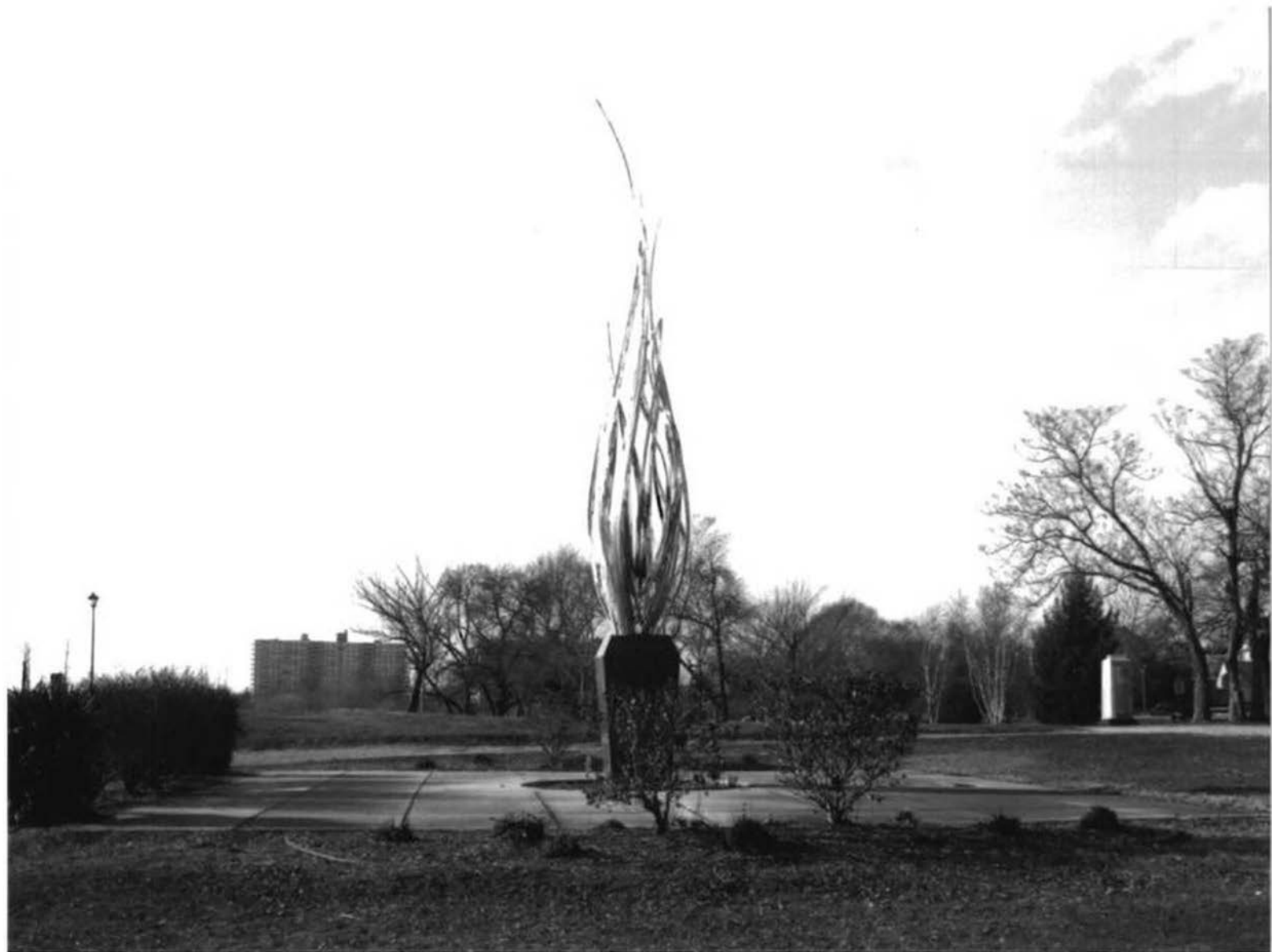














ARTS

ARTS

GARDEN COUNTY
CULTURAL & HERITAGE COMMISSION











































11/06/2013



11/06/2013



12/19/2013 12:42



12/19/2013 14:21



12/19/2013 14:04



12/19/2013 13:35







12/19/2013 12:27



12/19/2013 12:28





11/18/2013



12/19/2013 14:18



© 2013 Google

Google earth



12/19/2013 12:58



C. C. C. boys at Camp Cooper



11/15/2013

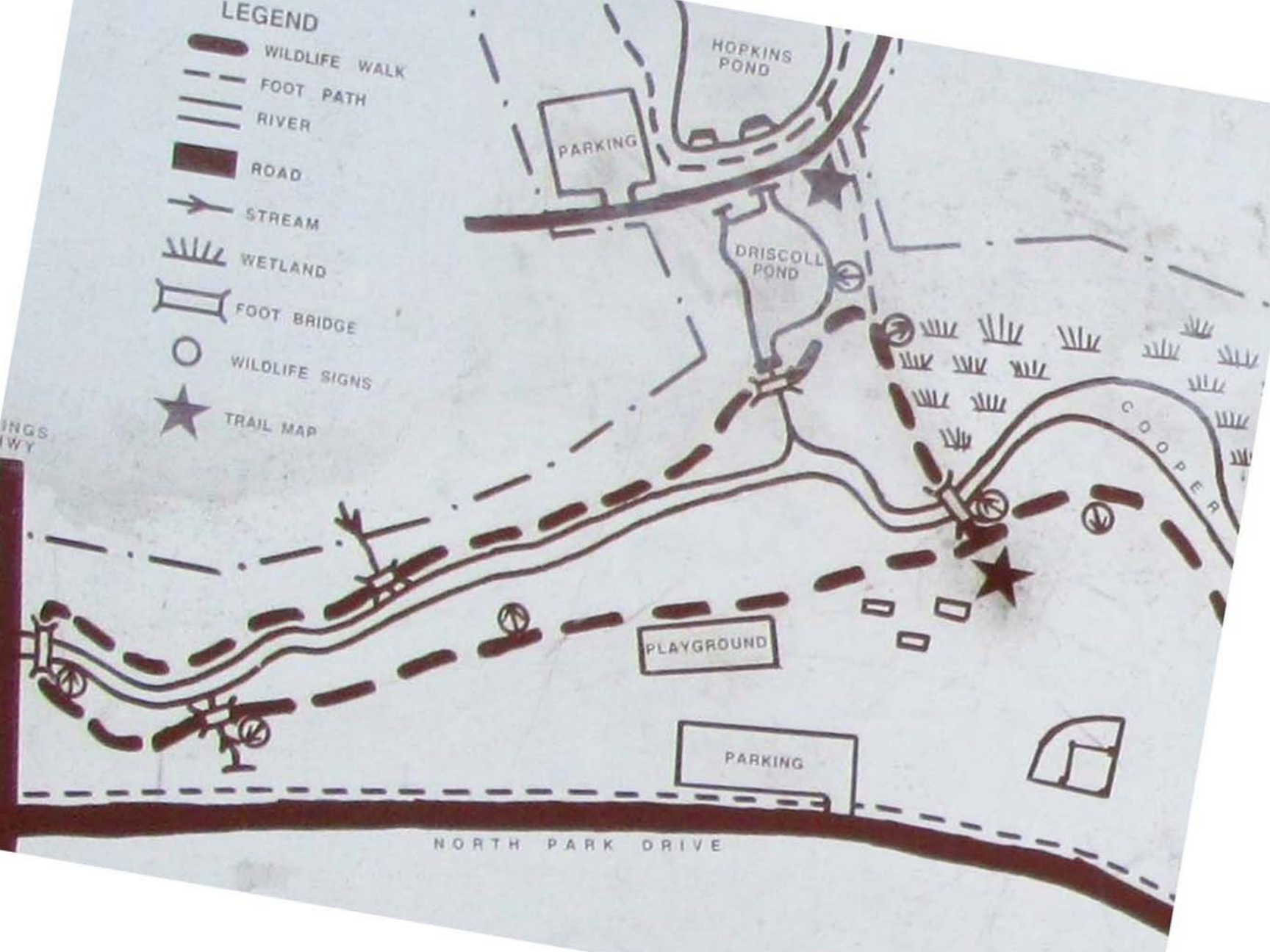


11/15/2013



LEGEND

- WILDLIFE WALK
- FOOT PATH
- RIVER
- ROAD
- STREAM
- WETLAND
- FOOT BRIDGE
- WILDLIFE SIGNS
- TRAIL MAP



HOPKINS POND

PARKING

DRISCOLL POND

COOPER RIVER

PLAYGROUND

PARKING

NORTH PARK DRIVE

INGS HWY



11/10/2013



11/15/2013



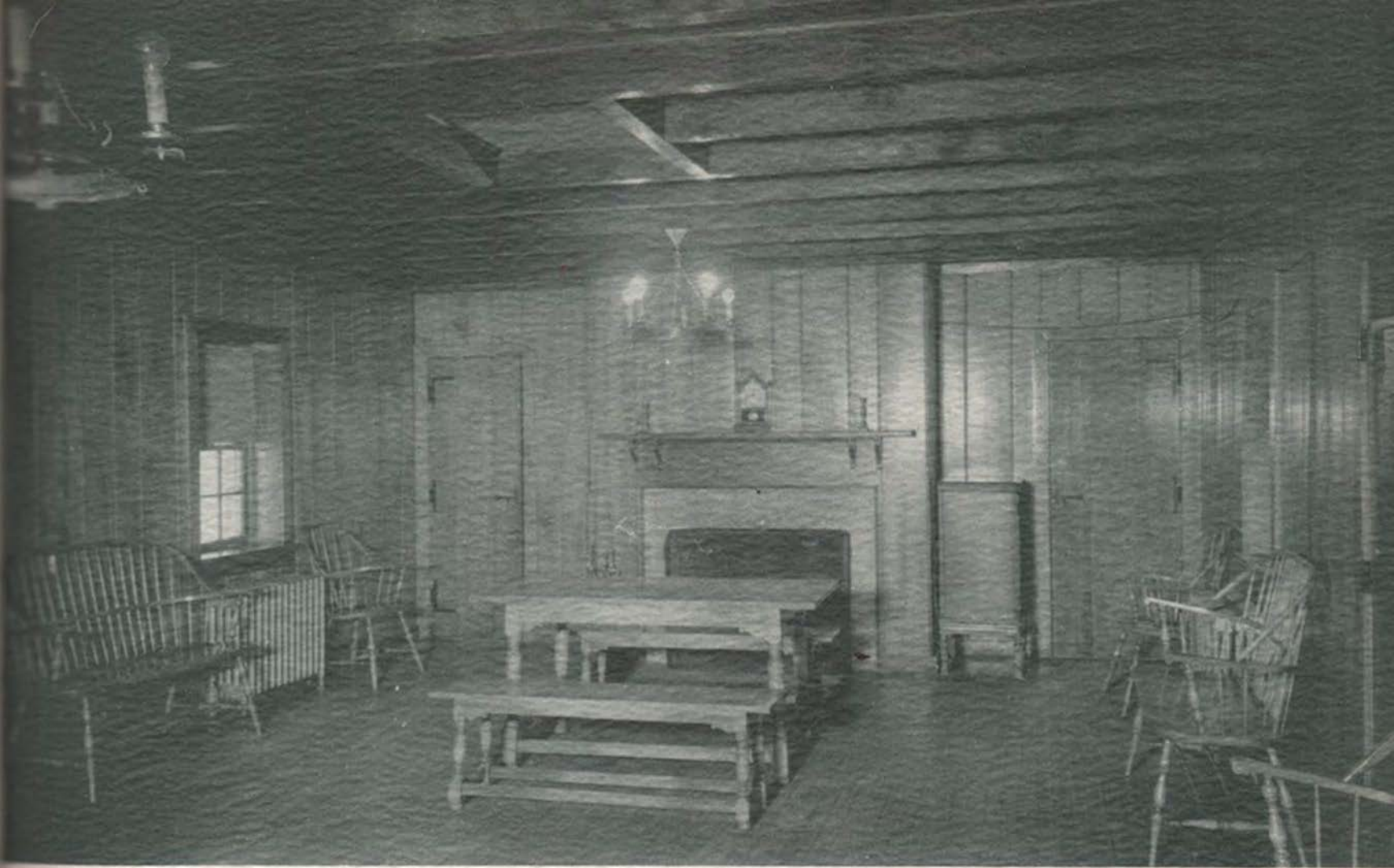
Remains of the Old Hudson Mill, Hazleton, N. J.



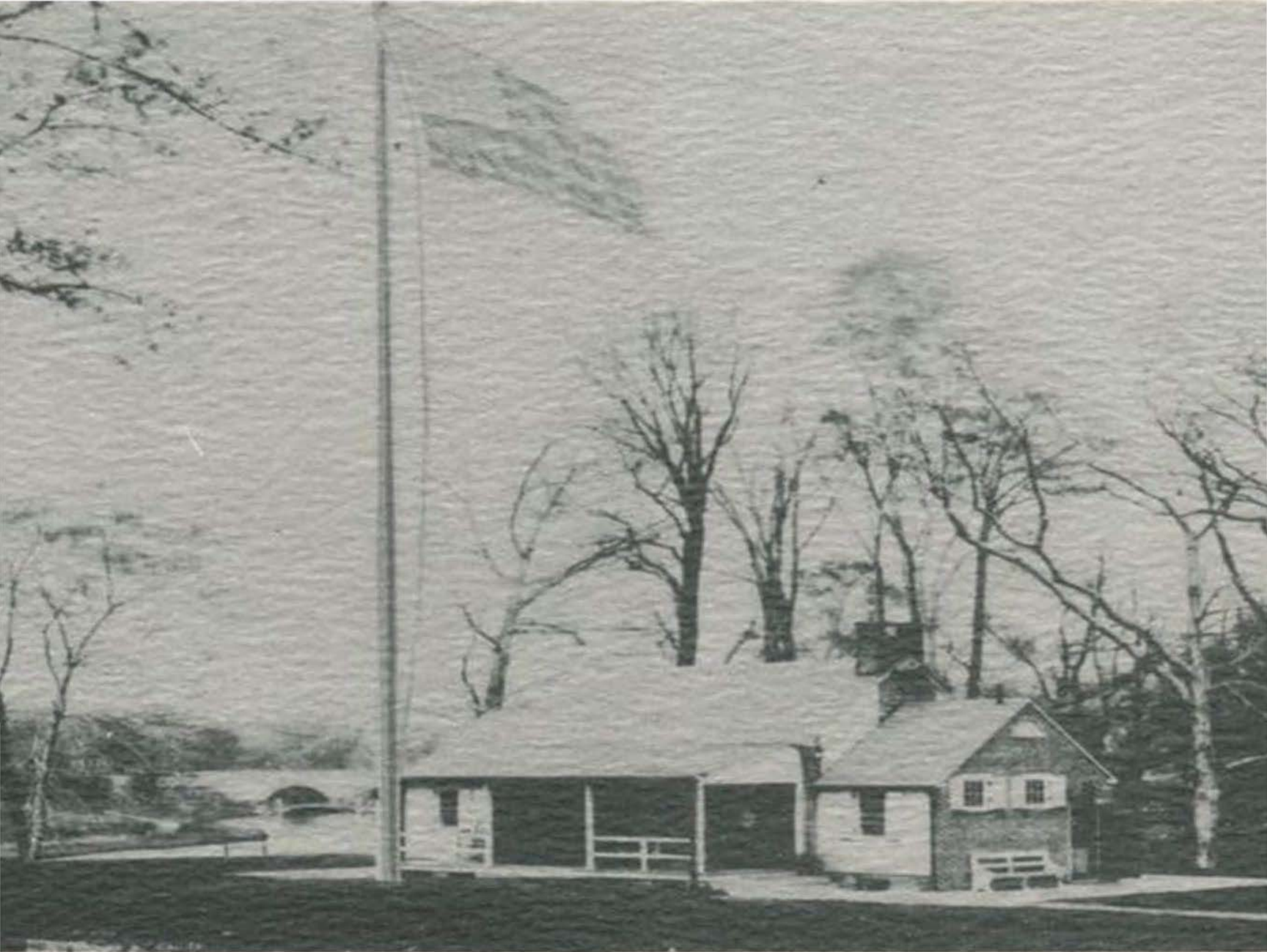




11/10/2013



The interior is furnished in a style that is reminiscent of early American days, with a main room containing a huge fireplace at one end and with furniture of a design that was popular in Colonial days.



The Club House at Wallworth Park





11/10/2013



THE LATE
CHAS. WELLFORD LEAVITT
DESIGNER
CIVIC CENTER
LAKELAND-FLA

National Register of Historic Places
Memo to File

Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Cooper River Park Historic District
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW JERSEY, Camden

DATE RECEIVED: 6/03/16 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 6/27/16
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 7/12/16 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/19/16
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 16000456

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 7/19/16 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*Comm. plan. + dev.
conservation
landscape arch.
local level
1925-1940*

RECOM./CRITERIA A+C
REVIEWER [Signature] DISCIPLINE [Signature]
TELEPHONE _____ DATE 7/19/16

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

Cooper River Park Historic District

VIA E-MAIL dan.saunders@dep.state.nj.us & CERTIFIED US MAIL

May 12, 2014

Mail Code 501-04B
State of New Jersey
Department of Environmental Protection
Historic Preservation Office
PO Box 420
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420

ATTN: Daniel D. Saunders, Administrator

RE: Cooper River Park Historic District
Nomination to NJ and National Register of Historic Places

REF: Letter to Historic Preservation Office from R. Shinn and K. Cook dated March 10,
2014

Dear Mr. Saunders:

As historic preservation advocates, we respectfully request that you reschedule the Cooper River Park Historic District Nomination to the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places (Register Nomination) for the next State Review Board (SRB) meeting on July 17, 2014 and send out timely public notice of same. We also request that you send a copy of this letter to each member of the SRB prior to their July meeting.

If there is a valid reason for not rescheduling this application on that date please let us know as soon as possible by e-mail or a phone call to 856 428 8672 (Shinn) or 609 458 4008 (Cook).

As we outlined in our review letter to you dated March 10, 2014 there is nothing in the letter (dated February 27, 2014) you received from the Camden County Administrator objecting to the draft Register Nomination that cannot be cured with some minor edits. We first sent these to you as an attachment to our March 10, 2014 letter and suggested that they be included as conditions to the SRB's resolution approving the the Register Nomination. These revisions are in Exhibit A attached hereto. Your staff also needs to respond to the County's public notice concerns by adding the NJ Department of Transportation and New Jersey Transit to the "60 day public notice list." It is our understanding that you are required to send this notice by the end of this week (May 16, 2014) to meet public notice requirements.

While we are disappointed that you have not returned our phone calls on this matter, we remain optimistic that you will make your nomination scheduling decision in the interest of historic preservation. As suggested by Mr. Bob Craig and others on your staff, we have sought support for this nomination from the certified local government municipalities (CLGs) who are part of the historic district. To date, of the three CLG's that are part of the district, one mayor, Jeff Kasko of Haddonfield, has agreed to send you a letter expressing support of the nomination, and one historic commission (Collingswood) has agreed to review and consider supporting the nomination at its June meeting. Camden City demurred.

As you make your scheduling decision, it is also important to recap the history of this nomination:

1. The State Historic Preservation Office ("SHPO") has determined that the Cooper River Park Historic District is eligible for listing in the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places in at least three prior and separate opinions dated 2/28/1994; 2/16/2000; and 4/5/2013.
2. SHPO obtained an agreement from the New Jersey Department of Transportation ("NJDOT") to mitigate an encroachment on the historic district, in part by hiring the Dewberry firm to prepare the first draft Register Nomination for the Cooper River Park Historic District (dated August 2012). SHPO determined that the draft had adequately and appropriately identified qualified contributing resources to the historic district.
3. The SHPO then sent written notices to the Camden County Administrator and the appropriate local municipalities that a Register Nomination for the Cooper River Historic District was going to be considered by the SRB at its March 2013 meeting. According to SHPO records, no Camden County or municipal official submitted any objection to the Register Nomination prior to or at the SRB's meeting.
4. At its March 2013 meeting the SRB voted to table the nomination until the draft was revised to address members' concerns.
5. We subsequently addressed the SRB's concerns in our revision of the draft, including field verifying the contributing resources with Bob Craig of your staff. Our revision satisfied Mr. Craig and others on your staff that the nomination was ready to be reconsidered at the SRB March 13, 2014 meeting.
6. The Camden County Administrator's February 14, 2014 objection letter asserts that you gave the County the go-ahead to demolish Wallworth Lodge. On page 11 he wrote:

Cooper River Park Historic District
May 12, 2014

“The County of Camden has been advised in a conversation with Daniel Saunders, Administrator of the SHPO, that *the pending nomination would not serve as an impediment to this demolition.*”

This is probably a self serving interpretation of your conversation with them, but would appreciate hearing back from you that it was not true and that you did not encourage them to demolish the building to “beat the clock.”

7. Two weeks later and on the eve of the SRB’s March 13, 2014 meeting to consider the Register Nomination, Camden County officials ordered the demolition of Wallworth Lodge, despite the fact that it was identified as a contributing resources and one of only two historic buildings in the Cooper River Park Historic District,.

While it is now immaterial to the nomination since the building has been demolished, it is important to know that that County’s claim in its letter to you that the “current condition requires it be demolished” was false. Cherry Hill’s property maintenance inspector had inspected the building as recently as October, 2013 and found it to be structurally sound and not a public safety threat. Also, according to a Camden County Parks memorandum dated August 6, 1993, the Wallworth Building featured a very solid design, made up of “12” cinder block walls below grade and above ground is 8” cinder block with 4” brick face” and “the porch foundation... is made of cinder block with 4” concrete slab on top. And while the same memorandum indicated there had been a “small fire in the fireplace which created damage to the knotty pine paneling” in the building in 1990, the damage was small enough that the County publish a request for proposals seven years later to lease the building as a refreshment/ food stand.

Finally it is important for you to know that Camden County previously submitted to NJDEP a completed “State and National Register Questionnaire” indicating that it was “possible” that Wallworth Lodge itself may have been “register eligible” and had “significance” because it was “a unique structure in the Camden County Park system” specifically designed to harmonize with the architecture of nearby Haddonfield.

Please adhere to the principles of historic preservation and allow the SRB to decide whether the Cooper River Park Historic District should be listed on the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places. Please reassure us that the SHPO did not waste public resources by requiring the NJDOT to prepare the Cooper River Park Historic District nomination as encroachment mitigation if it is going to bury them when an objection arises.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Shinn
10 White Oak Court
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034
bobshinn@gmail.com

Kevin Cook
206 Horeshoe Court
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034
Kcook77@gmail.com

Cooper River Park Historic District
May 12, 2014

CC: Robert Craig

NEW JERSEY STATE REVIEW BOARD FOR HISTORIC SITES

A meeting of the New Jersey State Review Board for Historic Sites was held March 12, 2013 in the Public Meeting Room, 1st floor, 401 East State Street, Trenton, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order at 10:07am and adjourned at 2:35pm.

The meeting was conducted in accordance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act. In keeping with the requirements of that law, the Historic Preservation Office submitted written notification to ten newspapers on March 8, 2013 (*Star-Ledger, Daily Record, Home News Tribune, Courier-Post, Asbury Park Press, New Jersey Herald, The Observer Reporter, South Jersey Times, Cape May County Herald, The Jersey Journal*). The Historic Preservation Office also gave adequate notice to all parties as required by 36 CFR 60.

There was a mathematical as well as a professional quorum.

Members Present

Felipe Gorostiza (Chair)
Kate Nearpass Ogden (Vice-chair)
David Abramson
Janet Foster
Howard Green
Phil Holt
Tony Puniello
Peter Wacker
Connie Webster
Lorraine Williams

Members Absent

Gregory Lattanzi

Historic Preservation Office

Bob Craig	Milly Rivera	Michelle Craren
Kate Marcopul	Sara Homer	Kathleen Cannelongo
Caroline Scott	Michele Sbarro	
Andrea Tingey	Kris Shields	

Visitors in Attendance

Cheryl Clarke, DAG	Michael Fiure	Carla Cielo
Brock Giordano	Joan Berkey	Dennis Bertland
Michael Zedalis	Nora Taylor	Timothy Hart
Mike Magnum	David Sellen	Alicia Batko

HPO Report (see full printed report; summary below)

- Recovery efforts associated with Superstorm Sandy continue to dominate HPO staff workloads, and likely will for the next several months
- Consolidation of NJ archaeological databases held by the NJ Historic Preservation Office, the NJ State Museum, and the NJ Pinelands Commission is underway.
- Hinchliffe Stadium in Paterson, NJ was designated a National Historic Landmark on March 11, 2013.
- The annual statewide HP awards will be held on May 9th, at the old Courthouse in Flemington, and the annual Historic Preservation conference, which will be a history and historic preservation conference this year, will be held on June 6th, at the Newark Museum.

Approval of Minutes

Upon motion moved and seconded (Abramson / Holt) the Board approved the minutes of the Board meeting of November 13, 2012 without correction. Constance Webster and Howard Green abstained.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business - NOMINATIONS

(A revised agenda was presented to the Board, which omitted the nomination for the Naval Air Station Wildwood, which was withdrawn by request of the nomination's sponsor.)

Consent List

The Board placed the Hook & Ladder Firehouse no. 3 on the Consent List.
(see below)

Camden County

Cooper River Park Historic District, Collingswood Borough (and five other municipalities)
Michelle Craren of the HPO staff presented the nomination to the Board.

Board comments: Phil Holt observed that the description narrative (Sect. 7, pp.4,5) describes North and South Park drives as four-lane roads, but the photos show them to be two-lane roads with wide paved shoulders. Connie Webster noted that although the Ebenezer Hopkins house is listed as contributing in the text, it is indicated as non-contributing on the photo list. Ogden asked whether there was a 20th-century addition to the Hopkins house.

Abramson complained of the lack of numbering of the resources within the park. Howard Green felt that the case for the integrity of the park has not been established by the nomination. Green also noted that the nomination needs to more clearly show that the park as-built reflects Leavitt's design. Green also questioned whether the fact that Leavitt was fired from the project affected how much of his design was constructed. Caroline Scott of the HPO staff responded that evidence shows that Leavitt was fired due to pressure from real estate interests opposed to elements of his park design. Holt expressed that the designs shown on the reproductions of the original drawings sufficiently show that the park possesses integrity.

Janet Foster asked to see the nomination revised to call for much more detail and specificity in the description of individual elements of the park, and indicated her preference for the nomination to be tabled until these changes are made. Green agreed that the writing of the nomination is repetitive but unclear. Holt disagreed that the nomination deserved to be tabled. Foster suggested that the elements of the nomination may need to be field-checked before the text is revised. Several Board members complained that the nomination was not well-written generally.

Public comments: There were no public comments.

Corrections:

- Registration form, Sect. 5: change number of contributing resources previously listed to 1 site (ie. *Hadrosaurus fouldii* site); carefully re-count the number of contributing and non-contributing properties
- Registration form, Sect. 11: update the date of the form

- Sect. 7: revise description narrative to provide much more detail and specificity in the description of individual elements of the park, for example with respect to roads, footpaths, buildings, masonry structures, stone walls, terraces, etc.
- Sect. 7: revise the description narrative as needed to reflect that the Ebenezer Hopkins house is a contributing building
- Sect. 7, p.1, 1st par., lin.5: change “five” to “six”
- Sect. 7, p.3, last par., lines 2-3: delete “recommended as ineligible ... Places”
- Sect. 7, p.3, last par.: Clarify meaning of “several”
- Sect. 7.4,5: clarify whether North Park Drive and South Park Drive are 2-lane or 4-lane roads
- Sect. 7, p.5, last par., 2nd line from bottom: improper place to introduce Cooper River “Parkway” [meaning of unclear, cf. N.and S. Park Drive(s); see also Sect. 8, p.6]
- Sect. 7, p.7, under “Contributing Resources” subheading: in the first entry, either “Cooper River” or “constructed” is inappropriate; clarify meaning
- Sect. 8, p.1, 1st par., lin.5: “converting ugliness to beauty” is rather overblown; modify
- Sect. 8, p.2, 2nd par., lin.7: change “resolve” to “ameliorate”
- Same paragraph, lin.16: add appropriate word following “advocacy”
- Sect. 8, p.2, 3rd par., lin.4: change “lead” to “leading”
- Sect. 8, p.3, 4th par., lin.1: add “in New York City” following “220 Broadway”
- Sect. 8, p.4, 5th par., lin.10: change “newly acquired” to “newly-acquired”
- Sect. 8, p.10, 3rd par., lines.2-3: change “one author” to “Walter Muirhead” (and identify him in a phrase)
- Sect. 8, p.16: last par.: delete the paragraph, shifting the content to the summary paragraph on p.1.
- Photo list, p.2, photo #9: the Ebenezer Hopkins house is contributing:
- On accompanying maps, be careful of color coding and how it will fare in photocopying
- Ensure that the maps carefully locate the features of the park
- Photos: caption for photo #21 needs to be changed. The building is a clubhouse and is contributing.

Action: A motion to **TABLE** was made and seconded (Foster / Wacker) and passed by a vote of six in favor to four opposed.

Essex County

Maplewood Municipal Building, Maplewood Township

Brock Giordano presented the nomination to the Board. The presentation focused on a revised boundary sought by the Maplewood administration and by the municipal historic preservation commission that reduces the amount of land in the rear of the municipal building. The presentation included a map showing the revised boundary, and an explanation of the area being excluded.

Board comments: In response to a question from Connie Webster, Giordano stated that the murals inside the building were painted on canvas, and were not frescoes. Howard Green complimented the preparer for the information provided on the Guilbert & Betelle architectural firm.

Public comments: There were no public comments.

Corrections:

- Revise the nomination to reflect that the resources include 1 contributing building and 1 non-contributing object
- Check that the photograph numbers correspond to the descriptions
- In the Registration form, correct the number of contributing and non-contributing resources, and ensure that the text of Section 7 agrees with those numbers
- Also in the Registration Form, revise the acreage figure and ensure that the text of Sections 7, 8, and 10 is consistent with that number.
- When submitting the revised nomination, update the date of the document in Section 11.
- Sect. 7, p.6, 6th par.: After “Boyden,” change “invented” to “designed”
- Sect. 7, p.7: add a footnote or an endnote following “Ricalton.” While it is remarkable that the mural honors Ricalton as a Maplewood *schoolteacher*, it would be obtuse not to note here that he was better-known as a world-famous photographer; see, for example: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Ricalton (sometime in the 1990s, I think, there was an exhibition of his photographs, possibly at the Newark Museum or at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York).
- Sect. 8, p.1, 3rd par., lines 7-9: delete last sentence of this paragraph
- Sect. 8, p.3, 2nd par.: change “perspective to “prospective”
- Sect. 8, p.3, 4th par., 2nd line from bottom: after “appeal” change “to” to “of”
- Same paragraph, lines 9-12: clarify the writing in the passage beginning “The population of ...” and ending with “(303.6% increase).”
- Sect. 8, p.4, 2nd par., lins, 6,11: the Guter report on Plainfield appears to be an unsuitable reference to support the statement in this paragraph. (also look at Sect. 8, p.5 and provide a suitable reference for the Committee’s actions)
- Sect. 8, p.5, 3rd par., lin.8: change “boasted” to “expressed”
- Sect. 8, p.7, 2nd par., last line: “Guter (1993)” is not listed in the bibliography in Section 9; what is it?
- Sect. 8, p.9, 2nd par., lins.2: change “Funding for” to “Private support for”
- Sect. 8, p.10, 2nd par., lin.7: delete “Shortly after ... established,”
- Sect. 8, p.10, last line: after “Journal” change “Betelle” to “he”
- Section 10, Verbal boundary description: provide a more precise verbal description of the revised boundary that can be more precisely plotted
- Accompanying documentation: provide a more precise, larger-scale site plan, drawing the boundary. Consult with HPO about how this should be accomplished.

Action: A motion to **APPROVE** with conditions was made and seconded (Green / Wacker) and passed unanimously.

Gloucester County

Memorial Presbyterian Church, Wenonah Borough

Michelle Craren presented the nomination to the Board.

Board comments: David Abramson asked why only the church sanctuary was included in this nomination, since the manse was built at the same time and designed by the same architect? Bob Craig replied that the congregation opted to register only its sanctuary building. The Board inquired how the moveable partition worked. Nora Taylor, the preparer, responded that the partition is lifted, using a pulley mechanism in the attic. One Board member suggested adding a list of the architect’s church commissions in New Jersey as an appendix.

Public comments: There were no public comments.

Corrections:

- Clarify the use of “manse” and “rectory” (since both are used in the nomination to describe the same building. Wouldn’t “manse” be preferred, since the pastor of a Presbyterian church does not hold the title of “rector”?)
- Sect. 7, p.3, first line: change “uncoursed” to “irregularly coursed” and add that the granite is rusticated
- Sect. 8, p.2, par. 5, lin.7: change “design” to “designs”
- Sect. 8, p.4, par.,5, lin.2: change “theor” to “their” and consider adding mention that the Haddonfield Presbyterian Church (also by Pursell?) is very similar in design.

Action: A motion to **APPROVE** was made and seconded (Abramson / Holt) and passed unanimously.

Hudson County

Hook & Ladder Firehouse no.3, Jersey City

The Board placed this nomination on the Consent List. Carla Cielo showed the slides of the firehouse to the Board.

Board comments: Howard Green observed that Jersey City in 1870 would not have had a large Italian population; it was just too soon (by a decade or two). David Abramson indicated that the rehabilitation was not described. Several Board members agreed that a paragraph or two of description of the rehabilitation should be sufficient and a few photos showing the impact of the rehab.

Public comments: There were no public comments.

Corrections:

- Sect. 8, p.1, par. 3: remove the reference to many Italians in Jersey City in 1870
- Add a paragraph to the Section 7 description narrative describing the rehabilitation and its impact on the building, and add a few photographs representing the changes.

Action: A motion to **APPROVE** was made and seconded (Wacker / Green) and passed unanimously.

Monmouth County

Fort Monmouth Historic District, Oceanport Borough

Bob Craig of the HPO staff presented the nomination to the Board.

Board comments: David Abramson and other Board members asked whether the nomination includes maps, because there were none included in the packets sent to the members. Bob Craig replied that the maps included in the nomination were evidently omitted in a photocopying error when the packets were being prepared. A map of the district was brought up on screen to inform the Board members of the size and shape of the district and the distribution of contributing and non-contributing resources. Phil Holt asked why the period of significance was ended at 1940, since the base grew throughout the war and in the 1950s. Janet Foster asked how the boundary of the district compared to the original boundaries of Fort Monmouth. Craig responded that the nominated district is much smaller, but that it wraps a tight boundary around the surviving cluster of significant buildings that express the purposes of the base. Tony Puniello suggested that the period of significance might have been extended to the fifty-year mark. Craig briefly defended the

period of significance as defined in the document. He noted that any expansion of the period of significance would require an expansion of the boundaries as a consequence, and that much of the World War II activity was housed in temporary buildings no longer there. Foster observed that the quotation in Section 8, on page 3, in the 4th paragraph is incomplete. She also expressed regret that the nomination did not include historic photos. Howard Green argued that there's more than one story here (World War II, Korean War, Cold War, McCarthy-era anti-Communism, etc.). Green questioned when a nomination such as this one—a Federally-owned property—is prepared as mitigation for a Federal undertaking, how do differences, especially philosophical ones, get settled when New Jersey and the Federal agency disagree on the outcome. Craig replied that such issues are negotiated between the HPO and the Federal agency. He also stated the HPO is not in a position from which it would be possible to renegotiate the boundaries

Public comments: There were no public comments.

Corrections:

- Sect. 8, p.33, 4th par.: check the accuracy of the 1929 quotation (lines 2 and 4 raise questions)
- Sect. 8, p.34, 1st par., lin. 3: remove the second “also”
- Sect. 8, p.37, 1st sentence: clarify use of different title for the district—“... Main Post ...”

Action: A motion to **APPROVE** with conditions was made and seconded (Abramson / Webster) and passed unanimously. Wacker abstained.

The Board adjourned at 12:30 p.m. for a lunch break, and re-convened at 1:15 p.m.

Morris County

Mendham Historic District (Boundary Increase), Mendham Borough

Janet Foster recused. Dennis Bertland presented the nomination to the Board.

Board comments: Dennis Bertland explained that the nomination makes seven discrete additions to the Mendham district.

Public comments: Mike Zedalis, Chairman of the Mendham Borough Historic Preservation Commission, spoke briefly in favor of the nomination.

Corrections:

- Sect. 8, p.1, bottom of page: change wording of “for the most part” to “the contributing buildings”

Action: A motion to **APPROVE** was made and seconded (Wacker / Abramson) and passed unanimously.

Ocean County

Cedar Bridge Tavern, Stafford Township

Joan Berkey presented the nomination to the Board.

Board comments: Phil Holt observed that the 2nd-floor joists appear to be spanning from the front to rear of the building without intermediate structural support, and asked if this is correct. Berkey replied that it is, and that that explains the bowing of the paneled wall in the first story. Howard Green asked why the period of significance was ended at 1872. Berkey replied that that year was the last year for which a record indicates that the building was operated as a tavern.

Later in the discussion, Berkey further observed that the age of the surviving bar is consistent with the cessation of use as a tavern in the 1870s.

Bob Craig of the HPO staff noted that the nomination deliberately does not mention claims of a Revolutionary War association that some believe the property may possess, because the evidence consistently shows that the current building dates from the early 19th century. He added that there were at least three places known as "Cedar Bridge" in the region, and asked whether work has been done to ascertain which "Cedar Bridge" was the site of the military action in December 1782. Berkey responded that there was a pre-existing bridge at this "Cedar Bridge" location, but that the question remains unresolved. Craig also asked about recent archaeological work that has reportedly been undertaken here. Timothy Hart, representing the Ocean County Cultural and Heritage Commission, spoke briefly about recent work at this site by Richard Veit of Monmouth University, and some metal detecting work done there and recently highlighted by the "Diggers" television program on the National Geographic channel that found some "Brown Bess" slugs on the property.

Public comments: Tim Hart spoke briefly in favor of the nomination.

Corrections:

- Sect. 7, p.9, bottom of page: insert "now" or "currently" before "not visible"
- Sect. 7, p.11, 3rd par., lines 3 and 4: add commas after "72" and after "Road"
- Sect. 8, p.1, 4th par., lin.3: add "in" before "1850"
- Sect. 8, p.9, 1st par., lin.4: delete "with" after "via"

Action: A motion to **APPROVE** was made and seconded (Holt / Webster) and passed unanimously.

Somerset County

Lyons Veterans Administration Hospital Historic District, Bernards Township
Bob Craig of the HPO staff presented the nomination to the Board.

Board comments: Connie Webster observed that it is obvious from aerial photos that the hospital stands on the site of a prior golf course, and asked whether the designer of the course is known. David Abramson and Janet Foster inquired about the nationwide Multiple Property Documentation Form that is the umbrella document for this nomination. Howard Green requested that, in future, nominations that are part of a multiple property submission be provided to the Board along with the MPDF umbrella document. Foster asked whether other New Jersey VA hospitals are likely to be nominated one day under this umbrella. Bob Craig replied that the East Orange VA hospital is mentioned in the nomination. Howard Green felt that more discussion of the neuro-psychiatric needs of veterans should be added.

Public comments: There were no public comments.

Corrections:

- There were no suggested corrections.

Action: A motion to **APPROVE** was made and seconded (Abramson / Williams) and passed unanimously. Foster and Gorostiza abstained.

Sussex County

Millville Historical and Archaeological District (Boundary Increase), Montague Township
Dennis Bertland presented the nomination to the Board.

Board comments: David Abramson noted that the map is confusing with respect to the location of the dam and the shape and size of the former impoundment area. He also asked why the Grange hall building was evaluated as non-contributing? Bertland replied that it was built ca.1905, shortly following the end of the period of significance, 1903, which date was based on when the mill ceased operation. The Board considered that the Grange hall is a locally important building within the village, and, following discussion, recommended changing the period of significance to permit re-classifying the Grange building as contributing.

Public comments: Alicia Batko, township historian of Montague Township, spoke briefly in favor of the nomination.

Corrections:

- Sect. 7, p.2, first line: add "century" after "19th"
- Sect. 7, p.3, property #1: change "typographical" to "topographical"
- Sect. 7, p.4, property #3: add construction date to show why it is non-contributing
- Sect. 8 (Regis. form +narrative): raise the end date of the period of significance to ca.1906.

Action: A motion to **APPROVE** with conditions was made and seconded (Foster / Green) and passed unanimously.

Closing Announcements

- Bob Craig of the HPO staff reminded Board members that HPO will be contacting them with regard to processing paperwork for reappointments to new terms.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn, made/seconded (Holt / Abramson); meeting adjourned at 2:35 pm.

Submitted by:
Robert W. Craig
Registration Coordinator
NJ Historic Preservation Office

Motion / second to Approve these minutes:
Motion carried.

Date: July 18, 2013

Felipe Gorostiza, Chair

V:\nh\hpo\Registration\State Review Board\SRB minutes\2013\March 12\March 13...doc

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION AND
NEW JERSEY STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER
REGARDING ROUTE 30/130 COLLINGSWOOD/PENNSAUKEN (PHASE B),
BOROUGH OF COLLINGSWOOD, TOWNSHIP OF PENNSAUKEN, CITY OF CAMDEN;
CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) divided the Collingswood Circle Elimination Project into two phases (A and B) and is currently completing construction of Phase A, which includes removal of the Circle and reconfiguration of Route 30/130; the NJDOT proposes to construct Phase B of the Collingswood Circle Elimination Project, which involves the widening of Route 30/130 from two (2) to three (3) lanes from Haddon Avenue north to the Cooper River Bridge, rehabilitating the Haddon Avenue Bridge over Route 30/130 (Structure No. 0405-152), and replacing the Rt. 30/130 Bridge over the Cooper River (Structure No. 0405-153) in the Borough of Collingswood, Township of Pennsauken and City of Camden, Camden County.

WHEREAS, the FHWA, the New Jersey State Historic Preservation Officer (NJSHPO), the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (Advisory Council), and the NJDOT executed a Programmatic Agreement in November of 1996 which stipulates how FHWA's Section 106 responsibilities for NJDOT-administered federal aid projects will be satisfied; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with that agreement, the NJDOT has consulted with the NJSHPO in order to determine the Area of Potential Effect (APE), to identify significant National Register eligible and listed properties, and to assess the effects of the project on both eligible and listed properties within the APE pursuant to the requirements of 36 CFR Part 800, the regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470f)¹; and

WHEREAS, the consultation has resulted in a determination that the following five (5) properties are eligible for or are listed in the National Register of Historic Places; and

- Camden and Atlantic Railroad Historic District (SHPO Opinion: 9/17/01)
- The Harleigh Cemetery (SHPO Opinion: 6/15/95)
- Cooper River Park Historic District (SHPO Opinion: 2/28/94)
- Collingswood Circle (White Horse Pike Rond Point) (SHPO Opinion: 6/15/95)
- Collingswood Circle Pure Oil Service Station (Wayne's Used Cars) (SHPO Opinion: 6/15/95); and

WHEREAS, the FHWA has determined that the construction of this project as proposed will have a No Effect on the Camden and Atlantic Railroad Historic District, a No Adverse Effect on the Harleigh Cemetery, an Adverse Effect on the Cooper River Park Historic District, an Adverse Effect on the Collingswood Circle (White Horse Pike Rond Point) and an Adverse Effect on the Collingswood Circle Pure Oil Service Station (Wayne's Used Cars); and

¹ Copies of the cultural resources report for the project are on file at the New Jersey Historic Preservation Office and at the NJDOT cultural resources library, Trenton, New Jersey.

10 White Oak Court
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034

VIA E-MAIL Stephanie Toothman@nps.gov & CERTIFIED US MAIL

July 3, 2015

Ms. Stephanie Toothman
Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
1201 Eye Street, NW (2280)
Washington , DC 20005



RE: Cooper River Park Historic District
National Register Nomination Appeal

Dear Ms. Toothman:

In accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Section 60.12 please accept this appeal of the decision of the New Jersey State Historic Preservation Officer not to nominate the Cooper River Park Historic District (“CRPHD”) on the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places. Despite the fact that (1) the New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office (“SHPO”) staff participated in the drafting of the nomination documents, (2) the SHPO Administrator found the enclosed listing nomination complete, and (3) the SHPO Administrator had placed it on the November 13, 2014 agenda of the New Jersey State Review Board for Historic Sites (“SRB”), an Assistant Commissioner of the NJ Department of Environmental Protection directed the SHPO Administrator to remove the nomination from the SRB’s November 2014 agenda and has not allowed it to be rescheduled.

New Jersey’s nomination process allows anyone to prepare a New Jersey and National Register application and to submit completed applications to the SHPO where staff review and evaluate them for eligibility, technical completeness, and substantive sufficiency. (See <http://www.nj.gov/dep/hpo/1identify/nrsr.htm> for a description of the process). Applicants have no apparent way to seek approval of their nominations for listing on the New Jersey Register of Historic Places except through the SRB agenda review process and nominating authority.

Federal regulations governing consideration of listings on the National Register (Section 60.12(a)), however, provide that

“any person may appeal to the Keeper the the failure or refusal of a nominating authority to nominate a property that the person considers to meet the National Register criteria for evaluation upon decision of a nominating authority to not nominate a property for any reason when requested pursuant to § 60.11.”

Therefore, please consider the attached nomination form dated August 2014 (Exhibit A) and list the CRPHD on the National Register of Historic Places.

As per 36 CFR 62.12(b) please find attached a copy of the most recent nomination form and documentation previously submitted to (Exhibit A) and copies of pertinent correspondence from the New Jersey State Historic Preservation Officer (described below and attached as exhibits). Also please consider the following explanation of why we are submitting the appeal:

Explanation of why the applicant is submitting the appeal:

1. Since March 2014 the SHPO Administrator and State Historic Preservation Officer have repeatedly declined our requests to submit the CRPHD listing nomination to the SRB to review despite the fact that SHPO (A) reviewed and evaluated it for eligibility, technical completeness, and substantive sufficiency and deemed it ready for SRB review, and (B) determined that the CRPHD is eligible for listing in the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places in at least three prior and separate opinions dated 2/28/1994; 2/16/2000; and 4/5/2013.
2. The New Jersey Department of Transportation (“NJDOT”) prepared the first draft register nomination for the CRPHD as part of a 2008 Memorandum of Agreement between the Federal Highway Administration and the New Jersey State Preservation Officer (“Agreement”) (Exhibit B). Stipulation number 4 on page 3 of the Agreement provides:

“4. National Register Nomination: A draft final National Register nomination will be prepared for the Cooper River Park Historic District (HD), a resource which is eligible for listing on the National Register (SHPO Opinion: 2/28/94). The HD was determined to be eligible under Criterion A in areas of community planning and development and entertainment and recreation as an example of an early twentieth-century park. Under Criterion C, the HD is eligible for its landscape architecture that embodies the design concepts heralded by the Olmstead Brothers at the turn of the century and for its embodiment of the work of a master, Charles W. Leavitt and Son, one of the most prominent early twentieth century landscape architecture firms in the United States. The HD qualifies for listing in the Register because it incorporates scenic overlooks, docks, footbridges, footpaths, and staircases into its design. Important aspects of integrity include setting, design, location, and materials.”

Stipulation 3 (page 3) of the Agreement also provides:

“3. Signage: An interpretative sign concerning the history of the Cooper River Park Historic District will be developed in consultation with SHPO, and placed at the Northeast Quadrant of the bridge crossing on NJDOT right of way, at an appropriate location at the top of the staircase.”

To fulfill this Agreement, NJDOT hired the Dewberry firm to prepare the draft nomination. Alison J. Ross, Architectural Historian and Andrea Burk, Senior Architectural Historian of the Dewberry firm completed the first draft CRPHD nomination form dated August 2012. SHPO determined that the draft nomination had adequately and appropriately identified qualified

contributing resources to the historic district, deemed it complete, and, in January 2013, put it on the SRB's March 2013 agenda.

3. The SHPO then sent written notices to Camden County and the appropriate local municipalities that a Register Nomination for CRPHD was going to be considered by the SRB at its March 2013 meeting. According to SHPO records, no Camden County or municipal official submitted any objection to the Register Nomination prior to or at the SRB's March 2013 meeting.

4. At its March 2013 meeting the SRB considered the nomination and voted to table it until the draft was revised to address members' concerns.

5. We revised the draft nomination with the assistance of the SHPO staff to address all the issues the SRB raised in its March 2013 meeting review of NJDOT's draft (See Exhibit D for a description of "How December 2013 Draft nomination responds to comments in minutes and corrections suggested by staff"). We also gave SHPO staff a tour of the CRPHD area to "field verify" the contributing resources listed in the nomination.

6. Our revision of the nomination satisfied SHPO that the nomination was complete and the Administrator placed the nomination on the SRB's March 13, 2014 meeting to be reconsidered.

7. By letter dated February 27, 2014, Camden County objected to the proposed listing and listed two technical defects in the SHPO public notice process (EXHIBIT C).

8. We sent a letter to the SHPO Administrator on March 10, 2014 responding to the Camden County objection letter (Exhibit D)

9. Two weeks later, on the eve of the SRB's March 13, 2014 meeting, the SHPO withdrew the nomination from the SRB's agenda.

10. By letter dated May 12, 2014 to the SHPO Administrator we requested that he reschedule the CRPHD Nomination to the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places for the next State Review Board (SRB) meeting on July 17, 2014 and send out timely public notice of same. (EXHIBIT E)

11. The SHPO Administrator stated the reasons for withdrawing the nomination in a letter to us dated May 23, 2014 (EXHIBIT F) and stating:

"In this case, I do not believe it will be difficult to address the County's concerns and ensure that the nomination is technically and professionally correct and sufficient..."

and

"Our goal is to have the nomination revised and re-presented to the State Review Board at the Board's November 13, 2014 meeting.

12. SHPO corrected these technical errors and officials assured us that the CRPHD would be rescheduled for the SRB's fall meeting in November 2014. They also explained that this would give them more time to meet with Camden County officials to address their concerns about listing the Park on the state register.

13. The "on the agenda, then off the agenda at the last minute" scenario of March 2014 was repeated a week before the November 2014 SRB meeting. Despite being on the SRB agenda with appropriate public notice, an Assistant NJ DEP Commissioner, Ray Cantor, instructed the SHPO Administrator to remove the nomination from the SRB agenda. The explanation for this agenda removal stated in part:

"As you know, the Department has worked to list historic properties on the New Jersey and National Registers since the inception of the current National Register program. Our long experience is that getting buy-in from the property owner is important for the long term preservation of properties that are to be listed." (See Exhibit G for full email from Dan Saunders to Kevin Cook dated May 1, 2015)

14. By letter dated May 4, 2015 we requested that the NJ DEP Commissioner Bob Martin "remove the roadblocks and allow the N.J. State Review Board for Historic Places (SRB) to consider the nomination we prepared with the assistance of the N.J. State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to list the Cooper River Park Historic District (CRPHD) in the N.J. Register of Historic Places." (EXHIBIT H) Our letter noted that Ray Cantor of the Commissioner's office had directed the SHPO to remove the CRPHD from the SRB's November 13, 2014 Agenda in order to meet with the Camden County Administrator who had raised concerns about the nomination and that no meetings took place before April 2015 as the March SRB meeting came and went without the CRPHD item on its agenda. We advised Commissioner Martin that we subsequently learned from Mr. Cantor by email dated April 29, 2015 that that the meeting with county officials took place on April 17, 2015, but that "no timeframe is set" for the nomination to be reconsidered by the SRB. Mr. Cantor's email reported:

"We had a very productive meeting with the County. We are continuing to dialogue with the County and share information before we make a final decision on whether to move forward with the designation. No timeframe is set but we are confident that there will be a good resolution."

15. Our May 4, 2015 letter to Commissioner Martin said that we were making the request to allow the SRB to consider the CRPHD nomination On behalf of two of the three Certified Local Governments which include parts of the Cooper River Park Historic District (Haddonfield and Collingswood) and the seventy citizens who signed the a petition requesting that the nomination be considered. Copies of the Haddonfield and Collingswood endorsement of the CRPHD nomination are attached as EXHIBITS I and J. The seventy people who signed the online petition supporting the CRPHD is attached as EXHIBIT K.

Cooper River Park Historic District
July 3, 2015

It is now July 2015. Despite our repeated requests, the SHPO Administrator did not place the Cooper River Park Historic District nomination on the SRB's March 12 or July 16, 2015 meeting agendas and is unwilling to commit to putting it on the November 13, 2015 SRB agenda or, for that matter, on any other future agenda. We urge you to act now.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Shinn
10 White Oak Court
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034
bobshinn@gmail.com

Kevin Cook
206 Horeshoe Court
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034
Kcook77@gmail.com

CC: Dan Saunders, NJ SHPO Administrator
Paul Loether, National Register Chief, paul_loether@nps.gov

Exhibits A-K attached and emailed separately due to size.



Deline, Lisa <lisa_deline@nps.gov>

Fwd: Appeal - Cooper River Park Historic District Listing Nomination, Camden County, NJ

1 message

Loether, Paul <paul_loether@nps.gov>

Sun, Jul 5, 2015 at 11:42 AM

To: Lisa Deline <lisa_deline@nps.gov>

Cc: Stephanie Toothman <Stephanie_Toothman@nps.gov>, Kevin Moriarty <kevin_moriarty@nps.gov>, Edson Beall <edson_beall@nps.gov>

Edson/Kevin:

Please log this in and start a file. *- not done.*

Lisa:

Please acknowledge receipt and start processing this.

Thanks,

Paul

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Robert Shinn** <bobshinn@gmail.com>

Date: Sun, Jul 5, 2015 at 11:01 AM

Subject: Re: Appeal - Cooper River Park Historic District Listing Nomination, Camden County, NJ

To: stephanie_toothman@nps.gov, paul_loether@nps.gov, kevin cook <kcook77@gmail.com>

Cc: Dan Saunders <dan.saunders@dep.state.nj.us>

COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT APPEALOn Sun, Jul 5, 2015 at 11:01 AM, Robert Shinn <bobshinn@gmail.com> wrote:
COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICTOn Sun, Jul 5, 2015 at 11:00 AM, Robert Shinn <bobshinn@gmail.com> wrote:
COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT APPEALOn Sun, Jul 5, 2015 at 10:59 AM, Robert Shinn <bobshinn@gmail.com> wrote:
COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT APPEAL

On Sun, Jul 5, 2015 at 10:56 AM, Robert Shinn <bobshinn@gmail.com> wrote:

VIA E-MAIL Stephanie_Toothman@nps.gov & Regular US MAIL

July 3, 2015

Ms. Stephanie Toothman

Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places

National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
1201 Eye Street, NW (2280)
Washington , DC 20005

RE: Cooper River Park Historic District
National Register Nomination Appeal

Dear Ms. Toothman:

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New Jersey’s nomination process allows anyone to prepare a New Jersey and National Register application and to submit completed applications to the SHPO where staff review and evaluate them for eligibility, technical completeness, and substantive sufficiency. (See <http://www.nj.gov/dep/hpo/1identify/nrsr.htm> for a description of the process). Applicants have no apparent way to seek approval of their nominations for listing on the New Jersey Register of Historic Places except through the SRB agenda review process and nominating authority.

Federal regulations governing consideration of listings on the National Register (Section 60.12(a)), however, provide that

“any person may appeal to the Keeper the the failure or refusal of a nominating authority to nominate a property that the person considers to meet the National Register criteria for evaluation upon decision of a nominating authority to not

nominate a property for any reason when requested pursuant to § 60.11.”

Therefore, please consider the attached nomination form dated August 2014 (Exhibit A) and list the CRPHD on the National Register of Historic Places.

As per 36 CFR 62.12(b) please find attached a copy of the most recent nomination form and documentation previously submitted to (Exhibit A) and copies of pertinent correspondence from the New Jersey State Historic Preservation Officer (described below and attached as exhibits). Also please consider the following explanation of why we are submitting the appeal:

Explanation of why the applicant is submitting the appeal:

1. Since March 2014 the SHPO Administrator and State Historic Preservation Officer have repeatedly declined our requests to submit the CRPHD listing nomination to the SRB to review despite the fact that SHPO (A) reviewed and evaluated it for eligibility, technical completeness, and substantive sufficiency and deemed it ready for SRB review, and (B) determined that the CRPHD is eligible for listing in the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places in at least three prior and separate opinions dated 2/28/1994; 2/16/2000; and 4/5/2013.
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Stipulation 3 (page 3) of the Agreement also provides:

“3. Signage: An interpretative sign concerning the history of the Cooper River Park Historic District will be developed in consultation with SHPO, and placed at the Northeast Quadrant of the bridge crossing on NJDOT right of way, at an appropriate location at the top of the staircase.”

3. To fulfill this Agreement, NJDOT hired the Dewberry firm to prepare the draft nomination. Alison J. Ross, Architectural Historian and Andrea Burk, Senior Architectural Historian of the Dewberry firm completed the first draft CRPHD nomination form dated August 2012. SHPO determined that the draft nomination had adequately and appropriately identified qualified contributing resources to the historic district, deemed it complete, and, in January 2013, put it on the SRB's March 2013 agenda.
4. The SHPO then sent written notices to Camden County and the appropriate local municipalities that a Register Nomination for CRPHD was going to be considered by the SRB at its March 2013 meeting. According to SHPO records, no Camden County or municipal official submitted any objection to the Register Nomination prior to or at the SRB's March 2013 meeting.
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7. Our revision of the nomination satisfied SHPO that the nomination was complete and the Administrator placed the nomination on the SRB's March 13, 2014 meeting to be reconsidered.
8. By letter dated February 27, 2014, Camden County objected to the proposed listing and listed two technical defects in the SHPO public notice process (EXHIBIT C).

9. We sent a letter to the SHPO Administrator on March 10, 2014 responding to the Camden County objection letter (Exhibit D)

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11. By letter dated May 12, 2014 to the SHPO Administrator we requested that he reschedule the CRPHD Nomination to the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places for the next State Review Board (SRB) meeting on July 17, 2014 and send out timely public notice of same. (EXHIBIT E)

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“In this case, I do not believe it will be difficult to address the County's concerns and ensure that the nomination is technically and professionally correct and sufficient...”

and

“Our goal is to have the nomination revised and re-presented to the State Review Board at the Board's November 13, 2014 meeting.

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14. The “on the agenda, then off the agenda at the last minute” scenario of March 2014 was repeated a week before the November 2014 SRB meeting. Despite being on the SRB agenda with appropriate public notice, an Assistant NJ DEP Commissioner, Ray Cantor, instructed the SHPO Administrator to remove the nomination from the SRB agenda. The explanation for this agenda removal stated in part:

“As you know, the Department has worked to list historic properties on the New Jersey and National Registers since the inception of the current National Register

program. Our long experience is that getting buy-in from the property owner is important for the long term preservation of properties that are to be listed." (See Exhibit G for full email from Dan Saunders to Kevin Cook dated May 1, 2015)

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*1. establish
- provide
due to
county
approval*

"We had a very productive meeting with the County. We are continuing to dialogue with the County and share information before we make a final decision on whether to move forward with the designation. No timeframe is set but we are confident that there will be a good resolution."

16. Our May 4, 2015 letter to Commissioner Martin said that we were making the request to allow the SRB to consider the CRPHD nomination on behalf of two of the three Certified Local Governments which include parts of the Cooper River Park Historic District (Haddonfield and Collingswood) and the seventy citizens who signed the a petition requesting that the nomination be considered. Copies of the Haddonfield and Collingswood endorsement of the CRPHD nomination are attached as EXHIBITS I and J. The seventy people who signed the online petition supporting the CRPHD is attached as EXHIBIT K.

*2 previous years
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It is now July 2015. Despite our repeated requests, the SHPO Administrator did not place the Cooper River Park Historic District nomination on the SRB's March 12 or July 16, 2015 meeting agendas and is unwilling to commit to putting it on the November 13, 2015 SRB agenda or, for that matter, on any other future agenda.

We urge you to act now.

Thank you for your consideration.

*County park
Commissioner
Please
negotiate
it*

Sincerely,

Robert A. Shinn
10 White Oak Court
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034
bobshinn@gmail.com

Kevin Cook
206 Horeshoe Court
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034
Kcook77@gmail.com

CC: Dan Saunders, NJ SHPO Administrator
Paul Loether, National Register Chief, paul_loether@nps.gov

Exhibits A-K attached and emailed separately due to size.

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J. Paul Loether, Chief
National Register of Historic Places
and National Historic Landmarks
National Park Service
1201 Eye Street NW, #2280
Washington, DC 20005
202-354-2003 (O)
202-371-2229 (F)

7 attachments

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161K

Exhibit F Shinn Cook to Saunders May 12 Letter Cooper River Park HD).docx
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103K

Exhibit A - NR
Exhibit B - MOA
Exhibit C - County
objections to
NR listing
* Exhibit D
Shinn/Cook letter
addressing
issues

9/8/15 Bob
Craig

Nov. 12^R

- Country keeps
demonstrating by in the
fact.

- R.B. tabled

- need to address issues
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rework room.

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- start appeals
process -



HPO-E2014-493
11-0925

State of New Jersey

MAIL CODE 501-04B

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

NATURAL & HISTORIC RESOURCES

HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

P.O. Box 420

Trenton, NJ 08625-0420

TEL. (609) 984-0176 FAX (609) 984-0578

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

BOB MARTIN
Commissioner

KIM GUADAGNO
I.I. Governor

May 23, 2014

Robert A. Shinn
10 White Oak Court
Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08034

Kevin Cook
206 Horseshoe Court
Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08034

Dear Mr. Shinn and Mr. Cook:

I write in response to your letter of May 12, 2014 concerning the nomination of the Cooper River Park Historic District. The application was withdrawn from the March 13, 2014 State Review Board meeting when, on February 27, 2014, Ross Angilella, Camden County Administrator, submitted a written objection to the nomination on procedural and substantive grounds. Given those objections, the Historic Preservation Office will move carefully and methodically to ensure that the nomination will survive any legal challenge before moving the nomination forward. In this case, I do not believe it will be difficult to address the County's concerns and ensure that the nomination is technically and professionally correct and sufficient, but I want to take the time to make sure that we get it right. This approach is in the interest of historic preservation; in my long experience here at the Historic Preservation Office, there is no slower way to move a nomination forward than to do so under legal challenge. Our goal is to have the nomination revised and re-presented to the State Review Board at the Board's November 13, 2014 meeting.

The fate of the Wallworth Lodge is indeed sad. In the course of a long conversation with County Counsel about the implications for the County of New Jersey Register listing, the County realized that the New Jersey Register Review would not be in place until the property is listed. In that context, I accurately told Camden County that I objected to demolition of the building, but that absent New Jersey Register listing, I did not have review authority over the project that would allow me to prevent demolition. The County's subsequent action speaks for itself.

We will continue to work diligently to get the Cooper River Historic District listed on the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places. Finally, we will forward a copy of your letter to the members of the State Review Board as you request.

If you have any questions about what is needed to move the nomination forward, please contact Bob Craig of my staff at (609) 292-0032. If you want to reach me, I am at (609) 633-2397.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Saunders", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Daniel D. Saunders
Administrator



Deline, Lisa <lisa_deline@nps.gov>

Fwd: Appeal - Cooper River Park Historic District Listing Nomination, Camden County, NJ

1 message

Loether, Paul <paul_loether@nps.gov>

Sun, Jul 5, 2015 at 11:42 AM

To: Lisa Deline <lisa_deline@nps.gov>

Cc: Stephanie Toothman <Stephanie_Toothman@nps.gov>, Kevin Moriarty <kevin_moriarty@nps.gov>, Edson Beall <edson_beall@nps.gov>

Edson/Kevin:

Please log this in and start a file.

Lisa:

Please acknowledge receipt and start processing this.

Thanks,

Paul

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Robert Shinn** <bobshinn@gmail.com>

Date: Sun, Jul 5, 2015 at 11:01 AM

Subject: Re: Appeal - Cooper River Park Historic District Listing Nomination, Camden County, NJ

To: stephanie_toothman@nps.gov, paul_loether@nps.gov, kevin cook <kcook77@gmail.com>

Cc: Dan Saunders <dan.saunders@dep.state.nj.us>

COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT APPEALOn Sun, Jul 5, 2015 at 11:01 AM, Robert Shinn <bobshinn@gmail.com> wrote:
COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICTOn Sun, Jul 5, 2015 at 11:00 AM, Robert Shinn <bobshinn@gmail.com> wrote:
COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT APPEALOn Sun, Jul 5, 2015 at 10:59 AM, Robert Shinn <bobshinn@gmail.com> wrote:
COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT APPEAL

On Sun, Jul 5, 2015 at 10:56 AM, Robert Shinn <bobshinn@gmail.com> wrote:

VIA E-MAIL Stephanie_Toothman@nps.gov & Regular US MAIL

July 3, 2015

Ms. Stephanie Toothman

Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
1201 Eye Street, NW (2280)
Washington , DC 20005

RE: Cooper River Park Historic District
National Register Nomination Appeal

Dear Ms. Toothman:

In accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Section 60.12 please accept this appeal of the decision of the New Jersey State Historic Preservation Officer not to nominate the Cooper River Park Historic District ("CRPHD") on the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places. Despite the fact that (1) the New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office ("SHPO") staff participated in the drafting of the nomination documents, (2) the SHPO Administrator found the enclosed listing nomination complete, and (3) the SHPO Administrator had placed it on the November 13, 2014 agenda of the New Jersey State Review Board for Historic Sites ("SRB"), an Assistant Commissioner of the NJ Department of Environmental Protection directed the SHPO Administrator to remove the nomination from the SRB's November 2014 agenda and has not allowed it to be rescheduled.

New Jersey's nomination process allows anyone to prepare a New Jersey and National Register application and to submit completed applications to the SHPO where staff review and evaluate them for eligibility, technical completeness, and substantive sufficiency. (See <http://www.nj.gov/dep/hpo/identify/nrsr.htm> for a description of the process). Applicants have no apparent way to seek approval of their nominations for listing on the New Jersey Register of Historic Places except through the SRB agenda review process and nominating authority.

Federal regulations governing consideration of listings on the National Register (Section 60.12(a)), however, provide that

"any person may appeal to the Keeper the the failure or refusal of a nominating authority to nominate a property that the person considers to meet the National Register criteria for evaluation upon decision of a nominating authority to not nominate a property for any reason when requested pursuant to § 60.11."

Therefore, please consider the attached nomination form dated August 2014 (Exhibit A) and list the CRPHD on the National Register of Historic Places.

not attached

As per 36 CFR 62.12(b) please find attached a copy of the most recent nomination form and documentation previously submitted to (Exhibit A) and copies of pertinent correspondence from the New Jersey State Historic Preservation Officer (described below and attached as exhibits). Also please consider the following explanation of why we are submitting the appeal:

Explanation of why the applicant is submitting the appeal:

1. Since March 2014 the SHPO Administrator and State Historic Preservation Officer have repeatedly declined our requests to submit the CRPHD listing nomination to the SRB to review despite the fact that SHPO (A) reviewed and evaluated it for eligibility, technical completeness, and substantive sufficiency and deemed it ready for SRB review, and (B) determined that the CRPHD is eligible for listing in the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places in at least three prior and separate opinions dated 2/28/1994; 2/16/2000; and 4/5/2013.
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3. To fulfill this Agreement, NJDOT hired the Dewberry firm to prepare the draft nomination. Alison J. Ross, Architectural Historian and Andrea Burk, Senior Architectural Historian of the Dewberry firm completed the first draft CRPHD nomination form dated August 2012. SHPO determined that the draft nomination had adequately and appropriately identified qualified contributing resources to the historic district, deemed it complete, and, in January 2013, put it on the SRB's March 2013 agenda.
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10. Two weeks later, on the eve of the SRB's March 13, 2014 meeting, the SHPO withdrew the nomination from the SRB's agenda.
11. By letter dated May 12, 2014 to the SHPO Administrator we requested that he reschedule the CRPHD Nomination to the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places for the next State Review Board (SRB) meeting on July 17, 2014 and send out timely public notice of same. (EXHIBIT E)

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“In this case, I do not believe it will be difficult to address the County’s concerns and ensure that the nomination is technically and professionally correct and sufficient...”

and

“Our goal is to have the nomination revised and re-presented to the State Review Board at the Board’s November 13, 2014 meeting.

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“As you know, the Department has worked to list historic properties on the New Jersey and National Registers since the inception of the current National Register program. Our long experience is that getting buy-in from the property owner is important for the long term preservation of properties that are to be listed.” (See Exhibit G for full email from Dan Saunders to Kevin Cook dated May 1, 2015)

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that "no timeframe is set" for the nomination to be reconsidered by the SRB. Mr. Cantor's email reported:

"We had a very productive meeting with the County. We are continuing to dialogue with the County and share information before we make a final decision on whether to move forward with the designation. No timeframe is set but we are confident that there will be a good resolution."

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It is now July 2015. Despite our repeated requests, the SHPO Administrator did not place the Cooper River Park Historic District nomination on the SRB's March 12 or July 16, 2015 meeting agendas and is unwilling to commit to putting it on the November 13, 2015 SRB agenda or, for that matter, on any other future agenda.

We urge you to act now.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Shinn
10 White Oak Court
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034
bobshinn@gmail.com

Kevin Cook
206 Horeshoe Court
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034
Kcook77@gmail.com

CC: Dan Saunders, NJ SHPO Administrator

Paul Loether, National Register Chief, paul_loether@nps.gov

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National Register of Historic Places
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National Park Service

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Washington, DC 20005

202-354-2003 (O)


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565K

 **Exhibit K Sign-the-Petition-to-Bob-Martin-NJ-DEP.pdf**
103K

*No exhibits
A - D*

Cooper River Park Historic District

VIA E-MAIL dan.saunders@dep.state.nj.us & CERTIFIED US MAIL

May 12, 2014

Mail Code 501-04B
State of New Jersey
Department of Environmental Protection
Historic Preservation Office
PO Box 420
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420

ATTN: Daniel D. Saunders, Administrator

RE: Cooper River Park Historic District
Nomination to NJ and National Register of Historic Places

REF: Letter to Historic Preservation Office from R. Shinn and K. Cook dated March 10,
2014

Dear Mr. Saunders:

As historic preservation advocates, we respectfully request that you reschedule the Cooper River Park Historic District Nomination to the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places (Register Nomination) for the next State Review Board (SRB) meeting on July 17, 2014 and send out timely public notice of same. We also request that you send a copy of this letter to each member of the SRB prior to their July meeting.

If there is a valid reason for not rescheduling this application on that date please let us know as soon as possible by e-mail or a phone call to 856 428 8672 (Shinn) or 609 458 4008 (Cook).

As we outlined in our review letter to you dated March 10, 2014 there is nothing in the letter (dated February 27, 2014) you received from the Camden County Administrator objecting to the draft Register Nomination that cannot be cured with some minor edits. We first sent these to you as an attachment to our March 10, 2014 letter and suggested that they be included as conditions to the SRB's resolution approving the the Register Nomination. These revisions are in Exhibit A attached hereto. Your staff also needs to respond to the County's public notice concerns by adding the NJ Department of Transportation and New Jersey Transit to the "60 day public notice list." It is our understanding that you are required to send this notice by the end of this week (May 16, 2014) to meet public notice requirements.

While we are disappointed that you have not returned our phone calls on this matter, we remain optimistic that you will make your nomination scheduling decision in the interest of historic preservation. As suggested by Mr. Bob Craig and others on your staff, we have sought support for this nomination from the certified local government municipalities (CLGs) who are part of the historic district. To date, of the three CLG's that are part of the district, one mayor, Jeff Kasko of Haddonfield, has agreed to send you a letter expressing support of the nomination, and one historic commission (Collingswood) has agreed to review and consider supporting the nomination at its June meeting. Camden City demurred.

As you make your scheduling decision, it is also important to recap the history of this nomination:

1. The State Historic Preservation Office ("SHPO") has determined that the Cooper River Park Historic District is eligible for listing in the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places in at least three prior and separate opinions dated 2/28/1994; 2/16/2000; and 4/5/2013.
2. SHPO obtained an agreement from the New Jersey Department of Transportation ("NJDOT") to mitigate an encroachment on the historic district, in part by hiring the Dewberry firm to prepare the first draft Register Nomination for the Cooper River Park Historic District (dated August 2012). SHPO determined that the draft had adequately and appropriately identified qualified contributing resources to the historic district.
3. The SHPO then sent written notices to the Camden County Administrator and the appropriate local municipalities that a Register Nomination for the Cooper River Historic District was going to be considered by the SRB at its March 2013 meeting. According to SHPO records, no Camden County or municipal official submitted any objection to the Register Nomination prior to or at the SRB's meeting.
4. At its March 2013 meeting the SRB voted to table the nomination until the draft was revised to address members' concerns.
5. We subsequently addressed the SRB's concerns in our revision of the draft, including field verifying the contributing resources with Bob Craig of your staff. Our revision satisfied Mr. Craig and others on your staff that the nomination was ready to be reconsidered at the SRB March 13, 2014 meeting.
6. The Camden County Administrator's February 14, 2014 objection letter asserts that you gave the County the go-ahead to demolish Wallworth Lodge. On page 11 he wrote:

Cooper River Park Historic District
May 12, 2014

“The County of Camden has been advised in a conversation with Daniel Saunders, Administrator of the SHPO, that the pending nomination would not serve as an impediment to this demolition.”

This is probably a self serving interpretation of your conversation with them, but would appreciate hearing back from you that it was not true and that you did not encourage them to demolish the building to “beat the clock.”

7. Two weeks later and on the eve of the SRB’s March 13, 2014 meeting to consider the Register Nomination, Camden County officials ordered the demolition of Wallworth Lodge, despite the fact that it was identified as a contributing resources and one of only two historic buildings in the Cooper River Park Historic District,.

While it is now immaterial to the nomination since the building has been demolished, it is important to know that that County’s claim in its letter to you that the “current condition requires it be demolished” was false. Cherry Hill’s property maintenance inspector had inspected the building as recently as October, 2013 and found it to be structurally sound and not a public safety threat. Also, according to a Camden County Parks memorandum dated August 6, 1993, the Wallworth Building featured a very solid design, made up of “12” cinder block walls below grade and above ground is 8” cinder block with 4” brick face” and “the porch foundation... is made of cinder block with 4” concrete slab on top. And while the same memorandum indicated there had been a “small fire in the fireplace which created damage to the knotty pine paneling” in the building in 1990, the damage was small enough that the County publish a request for proposals seven years later to lease the building as a refreshment/ food stand.

Finally it is important for you to know that Camden County previously submitted to NJDEP a completed “State and National Register Questionnaire” indicating that it was “possible” that Wallworth Lodge itself may have been “register eligible” and had “significance” because it was “a unique structure in the Camden County Park system” specifically designed to harmonize with the architecture of nearby Haddonfield.

Please adhere to the principles of historic preservation and allow the SRB to decide whether the Cooper River Park Historic District should be listed on the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places. Please reassure us that the SHPO did not waste public resources by requiring the NJDOT to prepare the Cooper River Park Historic District nomination as encroachment mitigation if it is going to bury them when an objection arises.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Shinn
10 White Oak Court
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034
bobshinn@gmail.com

Kevin Cook
206 Horeshoe Court
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034
Kcook77@gmail.com

Cooper River Park Historic District
May 12, 2014

CC: Robert Craig



Robert Shinn <bobshinn@gmail.com>

Cooper River Park Historic District

Saunders, Dan <Dan.Saunders@dep.nj.gov>
To: Kevin C <kcook77@gmail.com>, "Cantor, Ray" <Ray.Cantor@dep.nj.gov>
Cc: Bob Shinn <bobshinn@gmail.com>, "Craig, Bob" <Bob.Craig@dep.nj.gov>

Fri, May 1, 2015 at 11:17 AM

Kevin,

Ray Cantor has asked me to reply on his behalf. As you know, the Department has worked to list historic properties on the New Jersey and National Registers since the inception of the current National Register program. Our long experience is that getting buy-in from the property owner is important for the long term preservation of properties that are to be listed.

This is an unusual case, the Department has already presented the nomination to the State Review Board. The Board tabled the application. It was only after re-notification to property owners of the re-presentation of the nomination to the Board, that the County expressed concern. From our discussions with the County, it is clear that their prime concern is how listing would affect the projects proposed in the Cooper River Park Vision Plan. The Vision Plan is available on line at: <http://www.camdencounty.com/sites/default/files/files/1132-cooper%20river%20booklet.pdf>

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss the nomination with you. I have conflicts with both of the days you suggested for a meeting. I am available on May 11th and 15th. I would like to take another look at the Cooper River Park, so I could meet you somewhere in Camden County if that is convenient.

Dan

From: Kevin C [mailto:kcook77@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2015 11:47 AM
To: Cantor, Ray
Cc: Saunders, Dan; Bob Shinn
Subject: Re: Cooper River Park Historic District

Mr. Cantor,

Thank you for responding.

I am encouraged by the progress you have made, but I still fail to see how Camden County's objection to the Cooper River Park Historic District has any impact on the presentation of the facts to the State Review Board.

My understanding is that an owner's objection is irrelevant to the site being heard. Please correct me if I am wrong.

As you may be aware, we are nearing the notification deadline (May 15 for the July, 2015 meeting) in which the Historic Preservation Office is required to notify the property owners within the proposed Historic District of the pending meeting of the Historic Sites Council/ State Review Board so time is of the essence.

Previously, you mentioned that you would be open to meeting with me after your meeting with the Camden County officials. Are you available to meet next Wednesday (5/6) or the following Wednesday (5/13) to discuss this matter further?

Respectfully,

Kevin Cook

On Wed, Apr 29, 2015 at 5:27 PM, Cantor, Ray <Ray.Cantor@dep.nj.gov> wrote:

We had a very productive meeting with the County. We are continuing to dialogue with the County and share information before we make a final decision on whether to move forward with the designation. No timeframe is set but we are confident that there will be a good resolution.

From: Kevin C [mailto:kcook77@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2015 10:45 AM
To: Cantor, Ray
Cc: Saunders, Dan; Bob Shinn
Subject: Cooper River Park Historic District

Mr. Cantor,

When should I expect to receive feedback from you regarding your meeting with Camden county park officials about the Cooper River Park Historic District on April 17?

Respectfully,

Kevin Cook

VIA FAX (609) 292-7695, EMail Bob.Martin@dep.nj.gov, and Regular U.S. Mail

May 4, 2015

The Honorable Bob Martin
NJ DEP Commissioner
401 E. State Street
PO Box 402
Trenton, NJ 08625-042

Subj: New Jersey State Review Board for Historic Sites
July 17, 2015 Proposed Agenda Item:
Cooper River Park Historic District

Dear Commissioner Martin:

On behalf of two of the three Certified Local Governments which include parts of the Cooper River Park Historic District (Haddonfield and Collingswood) and the seventy citizens who signed the attached petition, Kevin Cook and I respectfully request that you remove the roadblocks and allow the N.J. State Review Board for Historic Places (SRB) to consider the nomination we prepared with the assistance of the N.J. State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to list the Cooper River Park Historic District (CRPHD) in the N.J. Register of Historic Places. The nomination includes thirty two (32) character defining contributing resources, including one (1) building, the Cooper River and Lake, five (5) vehicular bridges, two (2) dams, two (2) meandering drives, miles of winding footpaths, twelve (12) concrete and wood footbridges, and fourteen (14) stone masonry features on park land owned by Camden County along the Cooper River between Kaighn Avenue (in Pennsauken) and the Ellis Street Bridge (in Haddonfield).

Because the SRB only meets four times each year and public notice of its agenda must be published and mailed to affected parties sixty days in advance of its meetings, we request that you give the SHPO your permission to put the nomination on the SRB's July 17, 2015 Agenda on or before Thursday, May 14, 2015.

We are making this appeal to you directly because Mr. Ray Cantor directed the SHPO to remove the CRPHD from the SRB's November 13, 2014 Agenda in order to meet with the Camden County Administrator who had raised concerns about the nomination. Apparently no meetings took place before April as the March SRB meeting came and went without the CRPHD item on its agenda. Now we have learned that the meeting finally took place on April 17, 2015. On April 29, 2015 Mr. Cantor reported:

“We had a very productive meeting with the County. We are continuing to dialogue with the County and share information before we make a final decision on whether to move forward with the designation. No timeframe is set but we are confident that there will be a good resolution.”

We respectfully submit that the Camden County Administrator will never “buy-in” to having the CRPHD listed in the New Jersey Register unless and until he is assured by State officials that the listing will have no affect on the county’s plan – an assurance that should never be given, and, if given, would not only be illegal, but would also render listing in the state historic register a meaningless exercise.

The county’s strategy is clear. It will continue to try to prevent the SRB from considering the nomination to list the CRPHD. Its goal is to have the nomination “tabled” indefinitely. The nomination was first prepared in July 2013 and has been on and off the SRB’s agenda now three times over the last two years.

N.J.S.A. 13:1B-15.128 provides that the New Jersey Register of Historic Places permanently record areas, sites, structures and objects within the State determined to have significant historical, archeological, architectural or cultural value according to the criteria established by the Historic Sites Council for receiving and processing nominations and approvals for inclusion in the Register of Historic Places. After careful review and revision, the professional historians in the SHPO and their legal advisors have found that the CRPHD nomination meets the criteria and, according to the law, should be considered for review and listing.

Please ensure that the State Review Board professionals are allowed to do their legal duty without further political interference.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Shinn

CC: Governor Chris Christie
Ray Cantor
Dan Saunders
Kevin Cook

(11-0925) BC



Mayor Jeffrey Stephen Kasko
Director of Revenue & Finance
Commissioner John Moscatelli
Director of Public Works, Parks & Property
Commissioner Neal P. Rochford
Director of Public Affairs & Public Safety

Borough of Haddonfield
Camden County, New Jersey

June 10, 2014

HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

JUN 30 2014

The Honorable Bob Martin
Commissioner
N.J. Department of Environmental Protection
401 East State Street
P.O. Box 402
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0402

RECEIVED

Re: Cooper River Park Historic District – Nomination
to N.J. and National Registers of Historic Places


Dear Commissioner Martin:

I write to you in support of the nomination of the Cooper River Park Historic District, located in Camden County, for inclusion on both the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places. Nomination advocates have advised me that the State Office of Historic Preservation has determined this park district's eligibility in three written opinions, issued in February 1994, February 2000, and April 2013, and has recommended approval by the State Review Board for Historic Sites.

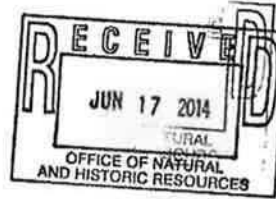
The Cooper River and this parkland border the Borough of Haddonfield and will be further protected from future encroachment and development by inclusion on the state and federal Registers. I am asking that you please support this nomination.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very Truly Yours,


Jeffrey S. Kasko
Mayor

cc: R. Boornazian, Assistant Commissioner
D. Sanders, Administrator, Office of Historic Preservation





PETITION: Sign the Petition to Bob Martin, NJ DEP Commissioner, 401 E. State St. 7th Floor, East Wing P.O. Box 402 Trenton, NJ 08625-0402

To: Bob Martin, NJ DEP Commissioner, 401 E. State St. 7th Floor, East Wing P.O. Box 402 Trenton, NJ 08625-0402

Please allow the NJ State Review Board for Historic Places to review and vote on the application nominating the Cooper River Park Historic District for listing on the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places and, if approved, please direct the NJ Historic Preservation Office to sign and send the application to the U.S. Department of Interior for the National Register.

77 SIGNATURES

	NAME	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY	DATE SIGNED
1	Robert Shinn	08034	United States	Apr 18, 2015
2	Susan Wolf	08002	United States	Apr 18, 2015
3	Margaret Westfield	08035	United States	Apr 18, 2015
4	George Aaron	08109	United States	Apr 18, 2015
5	Edie Rohrman	08027	United States	Apr 18, 2015
6	Maureen O'Connor Leach	07728	United States	Apr 18, 2015
7	Debbie Marquis Kelly	08515	United States	Apr 18, 2015
8	Jane Ryan	08515	United States	Apr 18, 2015
9	John Tremble	08003	United States	Apr 18, 2015
10	David Schure	08540	United States	Apr 18, 2015
11	George Hickman	08002	United States	Apr 18, 2015
12	Nancy Collotti	08106	United States	Apr 18, 2015
13	John Swanson	08034	United States	Apr 18, 2015
14	Brian Kelly	08033	United States	Apr 18, 2015
15	Sharon Aveni	19144	United States	Apr 18, 2015
16	Christine Carroll Downs	77859	United States	Apr 18, 2015
17	David Stewart	08033	United States	Apr 18, 2015
18	Joe O'Hara	08332	United States	Apr 18, 2015
19	David Shields	08033	United States	Apr 18, 2015
20	Sue Martin	08033	United States	Apr 18, 2015
21	Martha Goettelmann	08033	United States	Apr 19, 2015
22	Kimberly Carroll	34222	United States	Apr 19, 2015
23	Tom Knoche	08108	United States	Apr 19, 2015
24	Jack Natalini	08055	United States	Apr 19, 2015

	NAME	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY	DATE SIGNED
25	Kimberly Samuels	08033	United States	Apr 19, 2015
26	Gail Markman Barna	08036	United States	Apr 19, 2015
27	Bobby Covotta	08080	United States	Apr 19, 2015
28	Mary Knight	08019	United States	Apr 19, 2015
29	Kevin Cook	08034	United States	Apr 19, 2015
30	Stephen Dobbs	08043	United States	Apr 19, 2015
31	Alan L Husted	08043	United States	Apr 19, 2015
32	Kim Carmany Langon	08088	United States	Apr 19, 2015
33	Bob Hafner	08012	United States	Apr 19, 2015
34	Lou Doerr III	08002	United States	Apr 19, 2015
35	Barbara Berman-Hender	33432	United States	Apr 19, 2015
36	Donna Marthins	08004	United States	Apr 19, 2015
37	Gregory Watson	08004	United States	Apr 19, 2015
38	Ruth Moore Romin	19962	United States	Apr 19, 2015
39	Laura Lyons	08043	United States	Apr 19, 2015
40	Marie Horton	32779	United States	Apr 19, 2015
41	Scarlett Horsburgh	78374	United States	Apr 19, 2015
42	Kathleen Cramer	91702	United States	Apr 19, 2015
43	Linda Moken Talotta	08055	United States	Apr 19, 2015
44	John Riley	08332	United States	Apr 19, 2015
45	Lisa Cannavo	08034	United States	Apr 20, 2015
46	Lynne Sparks Reiss	08026	United States	Apr 20, 2015
47	Jack Abgott	19063	United States	Apr 20, 2015
48	Ken Roginski	07728	United States	Apr 20, 2015
49	Annamarie Sebastiano	08052	United States	Apr 20, 2015
50	Cate Litvack	08540	United States	Apr 20, 2015
51	Dolly Long	08007	United States	Apr 20, 2015
52	James Orefice	08034	United States	Apr 20, 2015
53	Anne Weber	08540	United States	Apr 20, 2015
54	Patricia Spithaler	21901	United States	Apr 21, 2015
55	Tracy Steele	08034	United States	Apr 21, 2015
56	Jean Singer	08034	United States	Apr 22, 2015
57	Robin Paclik	08034	United States	Apr 22, 2015
58	Barbara Krowicki	08002	United States	Apr 22, 2015
59	Joseph Spatola III	08034	United States	Apr 22, 2015
60	Carmella Doerr	08002	United States	Apr 22, 2015
61	Arlene Lentini	08002	United States	Apr 23, 2015

	NAME	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY	DATE SIGNED
62	Naomi Lubkin	08003	United States	Apr 23, 2015
63	Rena Conway	08012	United States	Apr 24, 2015
64	Kathy Angier	08030	United States	Apr 24, 2015
65	Michael D Druz	07719	United States	Apr 28, 2015
66	Ron Emrich	19107	United States	Apr 28, 2015
67	Tim Oglie	08053	United States	Apr 28, 2015
68	Teresita Bastides-Heron	08648	United States	Apr 28, 2015
69	Ann Miller	08520	United States	Apr 28, 2015
70	Roxane Shinn	08034	United States	May 03, 2015
71	Adin Mickle	08083	United States	May 04, 2015
72	John Blourne	08107	United States	May 04, 2015
73	Patrick Stewart	08108	United States	May 05, 2015
74	Mindy Binder	08094	United States	May 05, 2015
75	Bill Brookover	08002	United States	May 06, 2015
76	Diane Reignn	08108	United States	May 27, 2015
77	Elena Waters	08094	United States	May 30, 2015

COLLINGSWOOD HISTORIC COMMISSION
678 Haddon Avenue
Collingswood, New Jersey 08108

August 4, 2014

Cooper River National Registrar – Bob Shinn Representative

Report was prepared by Robert A. Shinn and Mr. Kevin Cook to revise the nomination that was formerly prepared in August 2012 under a contract with the N.J. Department of Transportation. The Cooper River Park Historic District is located on both sides of the Cooper River between Kaighn Avenue in Pennsauken Twp. and the Ellis Street Bridge in the Borough of Haddonfield. The district covers over 550 acres and includes the seven Camden County parks. As shown in the report submitted for review by the Collingswood Historic Preservation Commission at their regularly scheduled June 2014 meeting. There are new areas of the park that fall under the Historic Functions and should be added to the registry such as Landscaping of Park/Transportation – Road Related/Transportation- Pedestrian related. Mr. Shinn is looking for the support of this Commission to have these areas added to the registry list and would like to present his case to the New Jersey State Register of Historic Places.

After a presentation by the representative, Mr. Chambers made a motion to support the findings of the report presented and would support adding these locations to the Registry. Ms. Gustafson seconded the motion. All members of the Collingswood Historic Preservation Commission voted in favor.

Sincerely,



Keith Haberern
Chairman
Collingswood Historic Commission

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: APPEAL

PROPERTY NAME: Cooper River Park Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW JERSEY, Camden

DATE RECEIVED: 07/06/15

COMMENT WAIVER: N

DENY SUSTAIN _____ DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Completed appeal materials from appellant rec'd 9/11/15.

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

Phone _____ Date _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.

H32(2280)

Mr. Robert A. Shinn
10 White Oak Court
Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08034

*discussed
in 9/11/15
phone
call.
w/ Robert
Shinn*

Dear Mr. Shinn:

Thank you for your July 5, 2015 e-mail appealing the failure of the New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office to process the nomination of the Copper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Please excuse the delay in our response. We inadvertently failed to log in your request as a formal appeal. Our office did not receive the materials sent via U.S. Mail and your e-mail did not contain Exhibits A-D. Your July 5th e-mail contained only seven attachments, Exhibits E-K.

The National Register regulations 36 CFR 60.12(b) requires that an appeal from the failure or refusal of a state to process a nomination must include a copy of the nomination form and documentation previously submitted to the state historic preservation office.

Since your e-mail does not include a copy of the nomination submitted to the state and a hard-copy of the nomination was not received via U.S. Mail, we are unable to complete our review of your appeal request. Should you wish to proceed with the appeal, you will need to provide this office with a copy of the nomination materials submitted to the New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 202-354-2239.

Thank you for your cooperation in this request.

Sincerely,

Lisa Deline, Historian
National Register of Historic Places

cc: NJ SHPO

bcc: 2280 Loether
Basic File Retained In 2280
FNP:Deline:s:\nr\appeal\CooperRiverParkappeal1.ltr

*Call Robt
Shinn
856-428-
8672*



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240

H32(2280)

Mr. Bob Martin, SHPO
Department of Environmental Protection
401 East State Street
PO Box 402
Trenton, NJ 08625

Dear Mr. Martin:

The National Park Service has received the enclosed letter dated July 3, 2015, from Robert A. Shinn and Kevin Cook, appealing the State's decision not to nominate the Cooper River Park Historic District in Camden County, NJ, to the National Register of Historic Places. This appeal is pursuant to Federal regulations 36 CFR Part 60.12.

Also enclosed is a copy of the National Register nomination that was submitted by Mr. Shinn on September 11, 2015. In order to complete the evaluation of this appeal, we request your opinion on the property's eligibility for listing in the National Register and the reasons for that opinion. In addition, we request any relevant documentation or correspondence related to your review of this nomination request.

Please submit your opinion and any relevant documentation, including State Review Board minutes, within fifteen days of the date of this letter so that we can proceed with our evaluation.

If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Deline of the National Register staff at (202) 354-2239 or Lisa_Deline@nps.gov.

Thank you for your cooperation in this request.

Sincerely,

J. Paul Loether, Deputy Keeper and Chief,
National Register of Historic Places Program
and National Landmarks Program

Enclosures

Cc: Robert Shinn
10 White Oak Court
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034

Kevin Cook
206 Horeshoe Court
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034

Dan Saunders, NJ Deputy SHPO

H32(2280)

Mr. Bob Martin, SHPO
Department of Environmental Protection
401 East State Street
PO Box 402
Trenton, NJ 08625

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Please submit your opinion and any relevant documentation, including State Review Board minutes, within fifteen days of the date of this letter so that we can proceed with our evaluation.

If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Deline of the National Register staff at (202) 354-2239 or Lisa_Deline@nps.gov.

Thank you for your cooperation in this request.

Sincerely,

J. Paul Loether, Deputy Keeper and Chief,
National Register of Historic Places Program
and National Landmarks Program

Enclosures

cc: Robert Shinn
10 White Oak Court
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034

Kevin Cook
206 Horeshoe Court
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034

Dan Saunders, NJ Deputy SHPO

bcc: 2280 Loether

Basic File Retained In 2280

FNP:LDeline:OP:09/16/2015:S:Drive/nr/AppealsFY2015/CooperRiverPark



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240

OCT 13 2015

H32(2280)

OCT - 8 2015

Mr. Bob Martin, SHPO
Department of Environmental Protection
401 East State Street
PO Box 402
Trenton, NJ 08625

Dear Mr. Martin:

On July 3, 2015, Mr. Robert A. Shinn and Mr. Kevin Cook appealed the State's decision not to nominate the Cooper River Park Historic District in Camden County, NJ, to the National Register of Historic Places. This appeal is pursuant to Federal regulations 36 CFR Part 60.12(c)(2). On October 2, 2015, we received an e-mail from Deputy SHPO Dan Saunders, responding to our request for information related to the nomination.

After carefully reviewing the documentation submitted on appeal, including the appeal letter, the National Register nomination form, minutes of the State review board, and correspondence between the State, the appellant, and various interested parties, I have sustained Mr. Shinn's and Mr. Cook's appeal. The Cooper River Park Historic District appears to be of historic and landscape architectural significance under National Register Criteria A & C, and the nomination form appears to adequately document that significance. I hereby request that you, as State Historic Preservation Officer, process the nomination form as outlined in 36 CFR 60.6. The nomination should be processed at the next available State review board. Please note that due to passage of time, re-notification of owners and local elected officials is required as per 36 CFR 60.6(c).

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Deline of the National Register staff at (202) 354-2239 or Lisa_Deline@nps.gov.

Sincerely,

J. Paul Loether

J. Paul Loether, Deputy Keeper and Chief,
National Register of Historic Places Program
and National Landmarks Program

cc: Robert Shinn
10 White Oak Court
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034

Kevin Cook
206 Horeshoe Court
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034

Dan Saunders, NJ Deputy SHPO

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

RECEIVED 2280

JUN - 3 2016

456

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

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 Cooper River Park Historic District

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number (see Continuation Sheet) not for publication

city or town Borough of Collingswood, Cherry Hill Township, Borough of Haddonfield, Haddon Township, City of Camden, Pennsauken Township vicinity

state New Jersey code NJ county Camden code 007 zip code 08110

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.

Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____

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:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	Signature of the Keeper <u>[Signature]</u>	Date of Action <u>7/19/16</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other, (explain:) _____	_____	_____

NEW JERSEY STATE REVIEW BOARD FOR HISTORIC SITES

A meeting of the New Jersey State Review Board for Historic Sites was held **March 10, 2016** in the Public Hearing Room, DEP Building, at 401 East State Street, Trenton, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order at 10:06 AM by Chairperson Gorostiza.

The Open Public Meeting Act notice was read by Bob Craig.

The meeting was conducted in accordance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act. In keeping with the requirements of that law, the Historic Preservation Office submitted written notification to six newspapers on February 9, 2016. The Historic Preservation Office also gave adequate notice to all parties as required by 36 CFR 60.

Roll call was taken. There was a mathematical as well as a professional quorum.

Members Present

David Abramson
Janet Foster
Felipe Gorostiza (Chair)
Kate Ogden (vice-Chair)
Tony Puniello
Connie Webster
Peter Wacker (by phone)

Members Absent

Gregory Lattanzi
Lorraine Williams

Also Present

Ryan Benson, DAG (counsel)

Historic Preservation Office

Dan Saunders	Bob Craig
Kat Cannelongo	Andrea Tingey
Doug McVarish	Jesse West Rosenthal
Sarah Scott	Deirdre Kelleher
Kate Marcopul	Barbara Swanda

Visitors in Attendance

Joshua Friedman	Bob Patten
Chris Carson	Kathy Patten
Roxane Shinn	Robert Shinn
Kevin Cook	Ray Thomas
Virginia Snyder	Norman Lin
Ed Weney	Susan Yu-Ling Lin
Connor Montferrat	John Kiubridl (sp)
Joan Berkey	Janet McShain
Jack Connolly	Michael Margulies

Bob Craig proposed that the St James Lutheran Church and Cemetery Nomination (Pohatcong and Greenwich Townships, Warren County) be heard first in order to allow Peter Wacker to participate by phone.

Historic Preservation Office Report

Bob Craig noted that Peter Wacker and David Abramson have now been members of the SRB for 40 years. Cards of Congratulations were signed by the HPO staff and the board members and given to David and Peter. Bob advised the board that the *Cashier*, Headquarters Historic District Boundary Increase, and Neshanic Station Historic District have been added to the National Register. He also reported that the Warehouse MPDF and two accompanying warehouse properties, along with the two Wistar Farms nomination were returned by NPS

Approval of Minutes

Upon motion of (David Abramson/Kate Ogden), the Board approved the minutes of the Board Meeting of November 12, 2015. Connie Webster abstained.

NOMINATIONS

Chairman Gorostiza explained the Board's responsibilities and the process to the audience.

Warren County

St. James Lutheran Church & Cemetery, Pohatcong and Greenwich Townships

Presented by Chris Carson, Peter Wacker participated by phone

Board Comments:

Peter Wacker, participating by phone, stated that he liked the nomination. David Abramson did not have a question about eligibility, but he did question some terms used which did not seem appropriate – has never seen “bulk construction” used in this fashion, and suggested that another architectural phrase be used as a means of description. He also noted that the style is described 3 different ways – there should be consistency in the descriptions. David suggested that the word “vernacular” be inserted in Section 8, Page 2, Line 1. Janet Foster questioned the period of significance. 1835 happened 180 years ago, but was curious as to what happened since 1835 (like the windows). She also suggested that Asher Benjamin should have more than one line. Tony Puniello had the same concern about the POS and feels that the document does not support it. Bob Craig suggested extending the Period of Significance as a later amendment. Janet Foster would like to see a more articulate statement of why the date was chosen. She also wants the nomination to emphasize the building and not the congregation and would like to see more about the architectural evolution of the building in Anglo New Jersey. She asked what other members thought about the end date of significance - she was worried about things that would be removed during possible later restorations. Connie Webster noted that the historic photos show an exterior center stairs and wanted to confirm that it was no longer there. She also asked about the ramp and stated that it should be noted, along with other changes, and with their dates. Felipe Gorostiza asked about the use of the term “volume” with respect to achieving the clear span of the nave, and asked that the wording should perhaps be clarified. Felipe asked if the Delaware Indians just withdrew from the area, or was there a reason for them leaving. Kate Ogden expressed approval that the text includes specific names of some of the gravestone carvers. She

also asked if the stained glass artist was known, and added that the quality of stain glass may speak to Janet's concern over period significance. Carson responded that one of the window dates from the 19th century, but that the others were installed about 1980, and that the church is not being nominated for the significance of the stained glass.

Public Comments:

Ed Weney asked about Revolutionary War connections.

Corrections:

Change the beginning of the period of significance to ca. 1768, to reflect the beginning of the congregations occupancy of the property. Change Section 5 of the Registration Form to check the box for "district". Treat the cemetery as a contributing site, and the non-extant church sites (if their location is accurate) also considered contributing sites. Consult further with the HPO if needed. Registration Form, Section 8, "Significance dates", delete "c. 1760" (falls outside period of significance.) Registration Form, Section 8, "Cultural Affiliations", delete "German-American" and replace with "N/A". (Note: this line is completed only if Criterion D box is checked. Enhance the reasoning for the chosen Period of Significance, and further develop the architectural argument.

Section 7 (church exterior): include a short description and discussion of the physical changes to the front, i.e. the front stairs and the ramp; develop the description of how the volume was achieved.

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Section 7, Page 6, Paragraph 3, Line 8: remove "s" from "Casts".

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Section 8, Page 2, Paragraph 1, Line 1: add "vernacular" to description of church. Remove citation #2.

Section 8, Page 7, Paragraph 2, Line 4: add "to" between "addition" and "caring".

Section 8, Page 18, Paragraph 3 (indented), Line 1: add "number" between "the" and "of".

Section 8, Page 18, Paragraph 4, Line 4: add "s" to "parishioner".

Action:

A motion was made and seconded (David Abramson/Kate Ogden) to approve the nomination unanimously with conditions.

Peter Wacker stated that the connection was not good and could not hear the Board's discussion, but he did like the Hightstown nomination. He disconnected at 10:57 AM.

OLD BUSINESS

Camden County

Cooper River Park Historic District, Borough of Collingswood, Cherry Hill Township, Borough of Haddonfield, Haddon Township, City of Camden, Pennsauken Township
Presented by Bob Shinn

Bob Craig reminded the board that this nomination was first prepared and presented by a Consultant (Dewbarry) three years ago, and ultimately tabled. Bob Shinn and Kevin Cook have now assisted the Department in its revision. The NPS has instructed the HPO to bring the nomination back to the SRB for National Register consideration.

Board Comments:

Connie Webster asked what materials were used for the footpaths and sidewalks. She also noted that some of the contributing sites do not have construction dates, such as the pagoda and the boathouse, and she would like to see more precise dating of both contributing and non-contributing resources. She suggested that the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago be cited as the start of the City Beautiful Movement in 1893. Connie thought "improving" would be a better word, rather than "reforming", when describing its effect on the citizens. She suggested including "stepson and nephew" to identify John Charles Olmsted. She stated that the nomination was greatly improved over the previous version. David Abramson noted that while the Hopkins House is contributing, he questions its relationship to the Period of Significance. He also asked why the Haddon Mill Site is non-contributing. He further questioned if it can be demonstrated that something was there? Bob Craig responded that it is a question of interpretation of the National Register criteria, and they can have a discussion later about that. Janet Foster expressed her appreciation for how much work was done to make such an improvement in the nomination.

Public Comments:

Joshua Friedman – Assistant County Counsel – relayed the objection of Camden County and noted that the park does not need another encumbrance since it is already encumbered by a Green Acres designation. He noted that the map gives a less than accurate description and also includes one park that does not have a single contributing resource. He stated that taxpayers have already given their approval for Green Acres preservation, another level of restriction will add an unnecessary encumbrance. Currently, 5-7 footbridges are presently under contract for replacement, five of which have safety issues, as was the situation concerning the Walworth House.

David Abramson responded to the Camden County attorney's objection by noting a like situation concerning the Branch Brook Park within Newark, which he worked on. He stated that the board only looks at eligibility criteria, not other issues such as future use. He also suggested that while listing adds another level of recognition, in the Branch Brook Park situation, it also resulted in sequential restoration as well as the construction of new facilities, all within the umbrella of the nomination, and encouraged the establishment of a partnership which was a model in the state.

Corrections:

Section 5: Update resource numbers to 30 contributing, and 50 non-contributing.

Include the materials of the footpaths and sidewalks.

Section 7, P13, NC6, L2: Sentence beginning with "Camden County constructed..." needs to be reworked. Is there a date for the construction of the boathouse?

Section 7, P19, NC33, L4: Haddon Mills ruin is Photo 52.

Section 8, P2: Include the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago as the place where the movement first gained ground in 1893.

Section 8, P3, P3, L4: change “sent” to “to send”.

Section 8, P6, P4, L2: Add “Club” after Rumson Country.

Section 8, P10, P4, L3: add “a stepson and nephew of ...”

Action:

A motion was made and seconded (Connie Webster/Janet Foster, Kate Ogden and Tony Puniello) to approve the nomination, and passed unanimously with minor changes.

Cape May County

Dennisville Historic District (Boundary Increase), Dennis Township

Presented by Joan Berkey.

Board Comments:

Janet Foster stated that the explanation of the pond is now clearer and well justified.

Public Comments:

Ed Woney stated that the pond was originally excluded, so why include it now? He also contends that there is nothing in the pond, and the people on the pond do not want it.

Roy Thomas spoke on behalf of the Lins (owner of lot 67-77.07), whose property borders the pond. They are asking for either rejection of the whole district, exclusion from the district, or a redoing of time to recheck what they believe are errors in the nomination. He stated that the map lists properties that do not exist (45+46), and asked for list of property owners because the township list of owners had errors. He noted that there is a discrepancy in the name of the pond – Johnson Pond or Johnson Mill. In the draft, they list the number of resources as none, yet lot 42 contains about 75% of pond but has no buildings, so would that not be classified as a site? Thomas asserted that that was an error in the document. He said that the nomination does not conform to Criterion D and claimed that the pond has no significant history, and asked why the district is being expanded so dramatically. He then asked that, for 51% majority of property owners, are both the owners of the old and new areas counted? Bob Craig explained that it was of the area of the boundary increase only. He noted that there are 36 property owners, which includes the Condo Association as one owner, so a majority would be 19 private owners. We have 7 or 8. He further explained that it is the HPO, not the SRB, that has legal requirements to do notifications, and that matter pertaining to notifications must be addressed to HPO directly. Notification letters are issued not less than 60 days before the date of the SRB meeting, and are required to be sent to the owners of record, as represented on the notarized list from the municipality. Roy Thomas asked for the name of the person to whom the notification was mailed for Lot 45. Bob Craig responded that we would provide that information.

Shen-Hung (Susan) Lin stated that there are 10 owners of properties along the pond, and only two want the listing. She does not feel comfortable and does not want to be designated historic. She stated that most of the photos are already, why not show more expand boundary (*sic*).

Janet McShain stated that the pond is part of the setting from early 18th century forward, and believes that the expansion is important.

Jack Connolly, President of the Dennisville Homeowners Association, noted that they paid for the nomination, and thanked the board and the staff of SHPO. He noted that there are 19 owners within the expansion who support this nomination, as well as the Dennis Township governing body.

Chairman Gorostiza closed the Public Comment Period.

Corrections:

There were no suggested corrections by the board.

Action:

A motion was made and seconded (Janet Foster/Tony Puniello) to approve the nomination, and passed unanimously.

Business was paused for lunch at 12:05 PM.

Business reconvened at 12:40 PM.

NEW BUSINESS

Consent List

No nominations were put on the consent list.

Mercer County

Camden & Amboy Railroad Right-of-Way Site, Hightstown Borough

Presented by Kathy Patten

Board Comments:

Janet Foster asked where the rail line goes from there. Is there presumptively more?

Bob Craig explained that there are other sites along the 34 mile right-of-way, but none exposed as a site for interpretation and preservation. Janet Foster thought it was a wonderful nomination.

Public Comments:

Connor Montferrat, a Hightstown Borough Councilman, here on behalf of the mayor and council spoke briefly in support.

Corrections:

There were no requested revisions from the board.

Action:

A motion was made and seconded (Tony Puniello/David Abramson) to approve the nomination, and passed unanimously.

David Abramson and Janet Foster requested to have both bridge nominations presented, discuss them together because they were similar, and then vote separately. All members agreed.

Hunterdon County

Strimple's Mill Road Bridge, Delaware Township

Presented by Kat Cannelongo of the HPO

Stone Sign Post Road Bridge, Delaware Township

Presented by Kat Cannelongo of the HPO

Board Comments (for both):

David Abramson noted that the Pratt Truss is described as most popular for the Strimple Mill Road Bridge, and the Warren Truss is noted as most popular for the Stone Sign Post Road Bridge. He suggested adding a timeline to the nominations to show the evolution/progression of truss bridge design and bridge connections. Connie Webster observed that the difference was perhaps the result of the different locations in which the bridges were designed and constructed – Strimple Mill having been constructed by an Ohio company, and Stone Sign Post constructed by a Flemington, NJ company. She also noted that John Scott was not an engineer. David Abramson suggested that clarification of why or how one replaced the other in importance. Janet Foster stated that if these were buildings, she would expect a plan sketch, or drawing of how it works, but none are included. Bob Craig noted that these are part of the Delaware Bridges MPDF which was approved by the board over a year ago, and we should have included the MPDF with the nominations for their review. Connie Webster asked how many bridges in total are there with the MPDF, and how many has the board seen. Bob Craig indicated there were approximately 30, and the board has now seen 3. Felipe Gorostiza noted that Stone Sign Post is missing some footnote citations. Felipe Gorostiza also questioned the fluctuation of the labor force numbers for the Flemington company, and wondered if it was due to lack of business or if the business deteriorated.

Public Comments: (Strimple's Mill)

There were no public comments.

Corrections (Strimple Mill):

Add a timeline to show the evolution/progression of truss bridge design and bridge connections to clarify the different versions being considered “most popular”.

Add plan sketch of bridge.

Section 7, Page 1, Paragraph, 3, Line 2: “floodplain” instead of “flood plane”. Line 3: remove “that” before “retaining”.

Section 7, Page 2, Paragraph 5, Line 1: add “the” between “during” and “period”.

Action:

A motion was made and seconded (Connie Webster/Kate Ogden) to approve the nomination, and passed unanimously with conditions.

Public Comments: (Stone Sign Post)

There were no public comments.

Corrections (Stone Sign Post):

Add a timeline to show the evolution/progression of truss bridge design and bridge connections to clarify the different versions being considered “most popular”.

Add plan sketch of bridge.

Add citation information to bottom of pages were missing.

Regis Form Section 7, Materials/Other: correct spelling of “steel”.

Section 7, Page 1, Paragraph 3, Line 5: take out "all" between "most" and "connections".

Section 8, Page 1, Paragraph 4, Line 4: remove "between", add "in".

Section 8, Page 3, Paragraph 3, Line 2: add "an" between "completed" and "iron". Paragraph 5, Line 1: Remove letter "n" between "and" and "Tewksbury".

Action:

A motion was made and seconded (David Abramson/Felipe Gorostiza) to approve the nomination, and passed unanimously with conditions.

Felipe Gorostiza informed the board that the next meeting was Thursday, July 21, 2016.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made, seconded (Janet Foster/ Kate Ogden) and approved unanimously at 1:25 PM.

Minutes by Kat Cannelongo and Andrea Tingey

Robert W. Craig
Registration Coordinator, NJ HPO

Motion / second to Approve these minutes: (_____ / _____)

Date:

Felipe Gorostiza, Chair



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240

OCT 13 2015

H32(2280)

OCT - 8 2015

Mr. Bob Martin, SHPO
Department of Environmental Protection
401 East State Street
PO Box 402
Trenton, NJ 08625

Dear Mr. Martin:

On July 3, 2015, Mr. Robert A. Shinn and Mr. Kevin Cook appealed the State's decision not to nominate the Cooper River Park Historic District in Camden County, NJ, to the National Register of Historic Places. This appeal is pursuant to Federal regulations 36 CFR Part 60.12(c)(2). On October 2, 2015, we received an e-mail from Deputy SHPO Dan Saunders, responding to our request for information related to the nomination.

After carefully reviewing the documentation submitted on appeal, including the appeal letter, the National Register nomination form, minutes of the State review board, and correspondence between the State, the appellant, and various interested parties, I have sustained Mr. Shinn's and Mr. Cook's appeal. The Cooper River Park Historic District appears to be of historic and landscape architectural significance under National Register Criteria A & C, and the nomination form appears to adequately document that significance. I hereby request that you, as State Historic Preservation Officer, process the nomination form as outlined in 36 CFR 60.6. The nomination should be processed at the next available State review board. Please note that due to passage of time, re-notification of owners and local elected officials is required as per 36 CFR 60.6(c).

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Deline of the National Register staff at (202) 354-2239 or Lisa_Deline@nps.gov.

Sincerely,

J. Paul Loether

J. Paul Loether, Deputy Keeper and Chief,
National Register of Historic Places Program
and National Landmarks Program

cc: Robert Shinn
10 White Oak Court
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034

Kevin Cook
206 Horeshoe Court
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034

Dan Saunders, NJ Deputy SHPO

NEW JERSEY STATE REVIEW BOARD FOR HISTORIC SITES

A meeting of the New Jersey State Review Board for Historic Sites was held **March 10, 2016** in the Public Hearing Room, DEP Building, at 401 East State Street, Trenton, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order at 10:06 AM by Chairperson Gorostiza.

The Open Public Meeting Act notice was read by Bob Craig.

The meeting was conducted in accordance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act. In keeping with the requirements of that law, the Historic Preservation Office submitted written notification to six newspapers on February 9, 2016. The Historic Preservation Office also gave adequate notice to all parties as required by 36 CFR 60.

Roll call was taken. There was a mathematical as well as a professional quorum.

Members Present

David Abramson
Janet Foster
Felipe Gorostiza (Chair)
Kate Ogden (vice-Chair)
Tony Puniello
Connie Webster
Peter Wacker (by phone)

Members Absent

Gregory Lattanzi
Lorraine Williams

Also Present

Ryan Benson, DAG (counsel)

Historic Preservation Office

Dan Saunders	Bob Craig
Kat Cannelongo	Andrea Tingey
Doug McVarish	Jesse West Rosenthal
Sarah Scott	Deirdre Kelleher
Kate Marcopul	Barbara Swanda

Visitors in Attendance

Joshua Friedman	Bob Patten
Chris Carson	Kathy Patten
Roxane Shinn	Robert Shinn
Kevin Cook	Ray Thomas
Virginia Snyder	Norman Lin
Ed Weney	Susan Yu-Ling Lin
Connor Montferrat	John Kiubridl (sp)
Joan Berkey	Janet McShain
Jack Connolly	Michael Margulies

Bob Craig proposed that the St James Lutheran Church and Cemetery Nomination (Pohatcong and Greenwich Townships, Warren County) be heard first in order to allow Peter Wacker to participate by phone.

Historic Preservation Office Report

Bob Craig noted that Peter Wacker and David Abramson have now been members of the SRB for 40 years. Cards of Congratulations were signed by the HPO staff and the board members and given to David and Peter. Bob advised the board that the *Cashier*, Headquarters Historic District Boundary Increase, and Neshanic Station Historic District have been added to the National Register. He also reported that the Warehouse MPDF and two accompanying warehouse properties, along with the two Wistar Farms nomination were returned by NPS

Approval of Minutes

Upon motion of (David Abramson/Kate Ogden), the Board approved the minutes of the Board Meeting of November 12, 2015. Connie Webster abstained.

NOMINATIONS

Chairman Gorostiza explained the Board's responsibilities and the process to the audience.

Warren County

St. James Lutheran Church & Cemetery, Pohatcong and Greenwich Townships

Presented by Chris Carson, Peter Wacker participated by phone

Board Comments:

Peter Wacker, participating by phone, stated that he liked the nomination. David Abramson did not have a question about eligibility, but he did question some terms used which did not seem appropriate – has never seen “bulk construction” used in this fashion, and suggested that another architectural phrase be used as a means of description. He also noted that the style is described 3 different ways – there should be consistency in the descriptions. David suggested that the word “vernacular” be inserted in Section 8, Page 2, Line 1. Janet Foster questioned the period of significance. 1835 happened 180 years ago, but was curious as to what happened since 1835 (like the windows). She also suggested that Asher Benjamin should have more than one line. Tony Puniello had the same concern about the POS and feels that the document does not support it. Bob Craig suggested extending the Period of Significance as a later amendment. Janet Foster would like to see a more articulate statement of why the date was chosen. She also wants the nomination to emphasize the building and not the congregation and would like to see more about the architectural evolution of the building in Anglo New Jersey. She asked what other members thought about the end date of significance - she was worried about things that would be removed during possible later restorations. Connie Webster noted that the historic photos show an exterior center stairs and wanted to confirm that it was no longer there. She also asked about the ramp and stated that it should be noted, along with other changes, and with their dates. Felipe Gorostiza asked about the use of the term “volume” with respect to achieving the clear span of the nave, and asked that the wording should perhaps be clarified. Felipe asked if the Delaware Indians just withdrew from the area, or was there a reason for them leaving. Kate Ogden expressed approval that the text includes specific names of some of the gravestone carvers. She

also asked if the stained glass artist was known, and added that the quality of stain glass may speak to Janet's concern over period significance. Carson responded that one of the window dates from the 19th century, but that the others were installed about 1980, and that the church is not being nominated for the significance of the stained glass.

Public Comments:

Ed Weney asked about Revolutionary War connections.

Corrections:

Change the beginning of the period of significance to ca. 1768, to reflect the beginning of the congregations occupancy of the property. Change Section 5 of the Registration Form to check the box for "district". Treat the cemetery as a contributing site, and the non-extant church sites (if their location is accurate) also considered contributing sites. Consult further with the HPO if needed. Registration Form, Section 8, "Significance dates", delete "c. 1760" (falls outside period of significance.) Registration Form, Section 8, "Cultural Affiliations", delete "German-American" and replace with "N/A". (Note: this line is completed only if Criterion D box is checked. Enhance the reasoning for the chosen Period of Significance, and further develop the architectural argument.

Section 7 (church exterior): include a short description and discussion of the physical changes to the front, i.e. the front stairs and the ramp; develop the description of how the volume was achieved.

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Action:

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Cooper River Park Historic District, Borough of Collingswood, Cherry Hill Township, Borough of Haddonfield, Haddon Township, City of Camden, Pennsauken Township

Presented by Bob Shinn

Bob Craig reminded the board that this nomination was first prepared and presented by a Consultant (Dewberry) three years ago, and ultimately tabled. Bob Shinn and Kevin Cook have now assisted the Department in its revision. The NPS has instructed the HPO to bring the nomination back to the SRB for National Register consideration.

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Presented by Joan Berkey.

Board Comments:

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Public Comments:

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Chairman Gorostiza closed the Public Comment Period.

Corrections:

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Action:

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Business was paused for lunch at 12:05 PM.

Business reconvened at 12:40 PM.

NEW BUSINESS

Consent List

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Camden & Amboy Railroad Right-of-Way Site, Hightstown Borough

Presented by Kathy Patten

Board Comments:

Janet Foster asked where the rail line goes from there. Is there presumptively more?

Bob Craig explained that there are other sites along the 34 mile right-of-way, but none exposed as a site for interpretation and preservation. Janet Foster thought it was a wonderful nomination.

Public Comments:

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Corrections:

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Action:

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David Abramson and Janet Foster requested to have both bridge nominations presented, discuss them together because they were similar, and then vote separately. All members agreed.

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Strimple's Mill Road Bridge, Delaware Township

Presented by Kat Cannelongo of the HPO

Stone Sign Post Road Bridge, Delaware Township

Presented by Kat Cannelongo of the HPO

Board Comments (for both):

David Abramson noted that the Pratt Truss is described as most popular for the Strimple Mill Road Bridge, and the Warren Truss is noted as most popular for the Stone Sign Post Road Bridge. He suggested adding a timeline to the nominations to show the evolution/progression of truss bridge design and bridge connections. Connie Webster observed that the difference was perhaps the result of the different locations in which the bridges were designed and constructed – Strimple Mill having been constructed by an Ohio company, and Stone Sign Post constructed by a Flemington, NJ company. She also noted that John Scott was not an engineer. David Abramson suggested that clarification of why or how one replaced the other in importance. Janet Foster stated that if these were buildings, she would expect a plan sketch, or drawing of how it works, but none are included. Bob Craig noted that these are part of the Delaware Bridges MPDF which was approved by the board over a year ago, and we should have included the MPDF with the nominations for their review. Connie Webster asked how many bridges in total are there with the MPDF, and how many has the board seen. Bob Craig indicated there were approximately 30, and the board has now seen 3. Felipe Gorostiza noted that Stone Sign Post is missing some footnote citations. Felipe Gorostiza also questioned the fluctuation of the labor force numbers for the Flemington company, and wondered if it was due to lack of business or if the business deteriorated.

Public Comments: (Strimple's Mill)

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Corrections (Strimple Mill):

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Add plan sketch of bridge.

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Section 7, Page 2, Paragraph 5, Line 1: add “the” between “during” and “period”.

Action:

A motion was made and seconded (Connie Webster/Kate Ogden) to approve the nomination, and passed unanimously with conditions.

Public Comments: (Stone Sign Post)

There were no public comments.

Corrections (Stone Sign Post):

Add a timeline to show the evolution/progression of truss bridge design and bridge connections to clarify the different versions being considered “most popular”.

Add plan sketch of bridge.

Add citation information to bottom of pages were missing.

Regis Form Section 7, Materials/Other: correct spelling of “steel”.

Section 7, Page 1, Paragraph 3, Line 5: take out “all” between “most” and “connections”.
Section 8, Page 1, Paragraph 4, Line 4: remove “between”, add “in”.
Section 8, Page 3, Paragraph 3, Line 2: add “an” between “completed” and “iron”. Paragraph 5,
Line 1: Remove letter “n” between “and” and “Tewksbury”.

Action:

A motion was made and seconded (David Abramson/Felipe Gorostiza) to approve the nomination, and passed unanimously with conditions.

Felipe Gorostiza informed the board that the next meeting was Thursday, July 21, 2016.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made, seconded (Janet Foster/ Kate Ogden) and approved unanimously at 1:25 PM.

Minutes by Kat Cannelongo and Andrea Tingey

Robert W. Craig
Registration Coordinator, NJ HPO

Motion / second to Approve these minutes: (_____ / _____)

Date:

Felipe Gorostiza, Chair



RECEIVED 2280

JUN - 3 2016

State of New Jersey

MAIL CODE 501-04B
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
NATURAL & HISTORIC RESOURCES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
P.O. Box 420
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420
TEL. (609) 984-0176 FAX (609) 984-0578

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

BOB MARTIN
Commissioner

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

May 26, 2016

Paul Loether, Chief
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Loether:

The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the Cooper River Park Historic District, located in the Borough of Collingswood, Cherry Hill Township, Borough of Haddonfield, Haddon Township, City of Camden, and Pennsauken Township, Camden County, New Jersey.

On July 3, 2015 Mr. Robert A. Shinn and Mr. Kevin Cook appealed the State's failure to move the Cooper River Park Historic District nomination forward. Your October 8, 2015 letter (copy attached) requested that we process the nomination per 36 CFR 60.6. Accordingly, my staff forwarded the nomination to the New Jersey State Review Board for Historic Sites on March 10, 2016. The State Review Board unanimously recommended that the nomination meets the criteria for listing, I have enclosed a copy of the meeting minutes. All procedures, including re-notification of owners and local elected officials were followed in accordance with regulations published in the Federal Register.

Should you want any further information concerning this application, please feel free to contact Kathrine J. Marcopul, Acting Administrator, New Jersey Historic Preservation Office, Mail code 501-04B, P.O. Box 420, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420, or call her at (609) 984-5816.

Sincerely,

Rich Boornazian
Deputy State Historic
Preservation Officer

Enclosure



Deline, Lisa <lisa_deline@nps.gov>

RE: Appeal letter for Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County 1 of several emails.

1 message

Saunders, Dan <Dan.Saunders@dep.nj.gov>
To: "Deline, Lisa" <lisa_deline@nps.gov>

Fri, Oct 2, 2015 at 9:04 AM

Lisa,

The New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office (NJSHPO) issued a formal opinion of eligibility (copy attached) for the Cooper River Park Historic District (hereafter Historic District) during the course of project review for a New Jersey Department of Transportation Project: Chandler's Run Diversion. The opinion was based on the *Historic Architectural Assessment, Chandler's Run Diversion Project* prepared by The Cultural Resource Group, Louis Berger & Associates, Inc. December 1993. A copy of the Synopsis of Eligibility Characteristics from the *Historic Architectural Assessment* is attached.

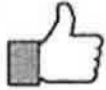
A Section 106 Memorandum of Agreement (copy attached) between the Federal Highway Administration and NJSHPO for a Route 30/130 Collingswood/Pennsauken (Phase B) project included a stipulation which required preparation of a "draft final National Register Nomination" for the Historic District. A nomination was submitted by NJDOT's consultant, Andrea Burk of Dewberry, and accepted by NJSHPO. The nomination was presented to the New Jersey State Review Board for Historic Sites (SRB) on March 12, 2013. The SRB tabled the nomination requesting more detail and specificity (SRB Minutes attached.)

At that point NJDOT's consultant had satisfied the stipulation of the MOA, but the nomination required revision before re-presentation to the SRB. Accordingly, NJHPO staff turned to interested local citizens, Bob Shinn and Kevin Cook (who have filed the appeal to the National Register) to help address the comments of the SRB. A revised nomination was placed on the agenda of the March 13, 2014 SRB meeting. On February 27, 2014, Ross Angilella, Camden County Administrator submitted a written objection to the nomination on procedural and substantive grounds (copy attached.) The Historic District includes a large number of parcels. After careful review, NJSHPO concluded that not all owners of property included in the Historic District had been notified. NJSHPO therefore removes the nomination from the agenda of the March 13, 2014 SRB agenda. Mr. Shinn and Mr. Cook expressed concern about the removal of the nomination from the agenda. A copy of their May 12, 2014 letter, and our May 23, 2014 letter in response are attached.

NJSHPO placed a revised Historic District nomination (I will attach a copy to a second email) on the agenda for the November 13, 2014 SRB meeting. Ross Angilella, Camden County Administrator submitted a second letter, dated October 24, 2014, in opposition to the nomination (copy attached to a second email.) In New Jersey, the State Certification on a nomination that a property meets the procedural and professional requirements for listing on the National Register nomination not only makes a formal opinion on the eligibility of a property for National Register listing, it lists a property on the New Jersey Register of Historic Places. Once listed on the New Jersey Register, all public actions, including Camden County's, which would affect the property require prior authorization pursuant to the New Jersey Register of Historic Places Act. The nomination was again withdrawn by the Department to allow fuller discussions with Camden County, primarily on the effect of New Jersey Register listing on future County activities.

Dan

Daniel D. Saunders, Administrator &
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
New Jersey Historic Preservation Office
Mail Code 501-04B
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
PO Box 420
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420
Phone (609) 633-2397
Fax (609) 984-0578



The New Jersey Historic Preservation Office is now on Facebook!
LIKE our page to start receiving posts to your newsfeed today.

From: Deline, Lisa [mailto:lisa_deline@nps.gov]
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2015 2:38 PM
To: Saunders, Dan; Robert Shinn; kcook77@gmail.com
Subject: Appeal letter for Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County - SHPO's opinion

Hi All:

To expedite review of this appeal, I'm e-mailing the attached:

- an electronic copy of Paul Loether's request for the SHPO's opinion
- the July 3, 2015, letter to Stephanie Toothman from Robert Shinn and Kevin Cook
- the NR nomination
- NR photos

You will also receive a hard-copy of Paul Loether's letter via U.S. mail but only the letter.

Mr. Bob Martin, NJ SHPO, will receive hard copies of the above-referenced materials as a matter of record for our appeal file.

Please let me know if you have any questions or if you would prefer to also receive xeroxed copies of these materials.

Thank you.

—
Lisa Deline

Historian

National Register of Historic Places

www.nps.gov/nr

Like us on Facebook! www.facebook.com/NationalRegisterNPS

Flickr: www.flickr.com/photos/nationalregister/

2016

National Park Service.
CENTENNIAL



Centennial Goal: Connect with and create the next generation of park visitors, supporters, and advocates.

7 attachments



Opinion of Eligibility.pdf

631K



Historic Architectural Assessment December 1993.pdf

4250K



Memo of Agreement FHWA and SHPO Dec 2008.pdf

98K



SRB mtg minutes-March 12 2013.pdf

504K

 **Camden County objection ltr -February 27 2014.pdf**
107K

 **Shinn Cook to Saunders letter-May 12.docx**
21K

 **Saunders to Shinn Cook letter-May 23 2014.pdf**
161K

ID#: 3021

A-sort: COOPERRIVR

Name: Cooper River Park Historic District

NR Refnum:

SITS#:

Address: Cooper River between Kaighn Avenue and Walworth Lake

Address2:

MASTER MULTI

SHPO date: 2/16/2000

DOE date:

COE date:

SR date:

NR date:

NHL:

Publication Text: Previous SHPO Opinion 2/28/94

NOTES:

PROBLEM

Entity Type: Historic District

Attribute ID#: -1960122641

Property or District GIS Digitized

District Inventory GIS Digitized

Cnty	Municipality	Primeflg	MULTI
CAMDEN	CAMDEN CITY	P	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CAMDEN	CHERRY HILL TOWNSHI		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CAMDEN	COLLINGSWOOD BORO		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CAMDEN	HADDON TOWNSHIP		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CAMDEN	PENNSAUKEN TOWNSHI		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

The NJ SHPO's opinion

Print Form

Delete Record

SORT BY: County/Munic ID Number Name

Single County Report



State of New Jersey
Department of Environmental Protection and Energy

Division of Parks and Forestry
Historic Preservation Office
CN 404

Trenton, NJ 08625-0404
Tel. # 609-292-2023
Fax. # 609-292-8115

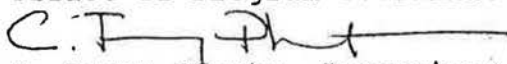
Robert C. Shinn, Jr.
Commissioner

Nancy Zerbe
Administrator

MEMORANDUM

HPO-B94-75
February 28, 1994

TO: Lawrence Schmidt, Director
Office of Program Coordination, NJ DEPE

FROM: 
C. Terry Pfoutz, Supervisor
Technical Review Section, Historic Preservation
Office, NJ DEPE

SUBJECT: Chandlers Run Stormwater Diversion
Camden County, Pennsauken Township
E.O. 215

This memo is in response to your request for Historic Preservation Office (HPO) review and comment on the (1) Environmental Assessment, (2) archeological survey report, and (3) architectural survey report for the proposed Chandler's Run Stormwater Diversion project.

Regarding the Archeology for the Project:

The procedures employed for the archeological survey as described in this report are adequate to have identified any prominent archeological deposits in the upper soil horizons within the construction zone. However, the depth of the excavation required for laying the 1790 foot length of new box culvert will be greater than 6 feet. The average depth of shovel probes employed to explore for buried artifact deposits was 4 feet. I concur that the Area of Potential Effects (APE) warrants no further archeological study prior to construction. However, the HPO recommends inclusion of a "discovery clause" in the applicant's permit. The discovery clause would simply state: "In the event that undocumented archeological deposits are encountered during construction, the applicant shall consult with the Historic Preservation

Office at 609-984-0545 and the New Jersey Department of Transportation at 609-530-5462 in order to explore ways to avoid or reduce harm to the discovered resource if it is deemed to be eligible for listing on the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places. This clause does not require the applicant to stop work on the undertaking, but to make a reasonable effort to enable the HPO and NJ DOT to document the discovery and offer suggestions for minimizing damage to it." This clause is in keeping with the spirit of Federal regulations for the Protection of Historic Properties (36 CFR Part 800.11(b)(3)).

Regarding the Architecture for the Project:

The procedures employed for the architectural survey as described in this report are adequate to have identified architectural resources in the project area.

I concur that the Cooper River Park is eligible for listing on the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places. This finding of eligibility is based on two criteria. Under Criterion A, Cooper Park is eligible through its association with broad patterns of history in the categories of community planning and development and entertainment and recreation as an example of an early 20th century public park. Under Criterion C, Cooper Park is eligible in the category of landscape architecture (1) as embodying the distinctive characteristics of a type -- Cooper Park is focused around a waterway (the Cooper River) following design concepts promulgated by the Olmsted Brothers at the turn of the century and includes amenities such as scenic overlooks, docks, footbridges, footpaths and staircases; and (2) as embodying the work of a master -- Charles W. Leavitt and Son, one the most prominent early 20th century landscape architecture firms which, during the 1920s, had many important commissions in New Jersey and across the nation.

I also concur that the Ebenezer Hopkins House is a contributing feature to Cooper Park. However, as stated in the abstract of the report, it is my opinion that the Ebenezer Hopkins House is also individually eligible for listing on both the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places under Criterion C in the category of architecture as a distinctive example of the Georgian Style. Due to its individual significance, a "Synopsis of Eligibility Characteristics" form should have been completed for the Ebenezer Hopkins House and included in the report.

The possible adverse visual effect of the project on both resources will be mitigated if the concrete used to construct the culvert outfall with attendant rip rap and wing wall matches the concrete of the nearby existing boat dock in

Cooper
River
Park

Ebenezer
Hopkins
House

both texture and color. It should be noted that this statement is slightly different from the mitigation measures proposed in the EA, which do not address the issue of texture.

Thank you for sending us these documents for review.

CTP:at/mlg
ER:MLG:C:\wd\94-528

c: Janet Fittipaldi, BEA, NJDOT

CAM
F
153a
ID#3976

**HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL ASSESSMENT
CHANDLER'S RUN DIVERSION PROJECT**

**Pennsauken Township, Camden County
New Jersey**

Prepared for:

**NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS
Trenton, New Jersey**

Prepared by:

**THE CULTURAL RESOURCE GROUP
LOUIS BERGER & ASSOCIATES, INC.
East Orange, New Jersey**

December 1993

ABSTRACT

An historic architectural resource investigation was conducted to determine whether historical and/or architectural resources listed in, or eligible for, the New Jersey/National Registers of Historic Places may be affected by the proposed Route 70 (6) Chandler's Run Diversion in Pennsauken Township, Camden County, New Jersey.

Two resources were identified as a result of historical research and field investigation undertaken during October 1993. The first resource is Cooper River Park, contained within the Cooper River Parkway. This resource is not currently listed in the State or National Register, nor has it been previously determined eligible or explicitly included in prior surveys.

The second is located within the confines of Cooper River Park. This resource, the Ebenezer Hopkins House, is currently being reviewed by the New Jersey Historic Preservation Office for listing on the New Jersey State Register of Historic Places.

This study has concluded that Cooper River Park meets New Jersey and National Register Criteria, with the Ebenezer Hopkins House among its contributing elements.

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C. SYNOPSES OF ELIGIBILITY CHARACTERISTICS

Cooper River Park and Parkway

Property Name: Cooper River Park and Parkway
Location: Between Kaighn Avenue, Camden, and Delaware River Railroad Bridge (Conrail), Haddon Township (east/west); and North Park Drive, Camden, Pennsauken, Cherry Hill, and Haddon Townships; and South Park Drive, Collingswood Borough and Haddon Township, Camden County, New Jersey
Classification: District
Ownership: County of Camden, Camden County Park Department
Agency Requesting Determination: New Jersey Department of Transportation
1035 Parkway Avenue
CN 600
Trenton, New Jersey 08625
Representation in Existing Surveys: Greenberg (1979) (Ebenezer Hopkins House only)

Description:

Cooper River Park and Parkway is located within the city of Camden, Collingswood Borough, and Pennsauken, Cherry Hill, and Haddon townships, and is under the jurisdiction of the Camden County Park Department (Figure 9). Presently, Cooper River Park comprises 284.11 acres (Figure 10). Of this total, 59.91 acres between Kaighn Avenue and Crescent Boulevard (Route 130) within the study area are inaccessible to the public, having been leased to a golf driving range (see Figure 9). The park is bisected by the Cooper River and is bounded on the north by North Park Drive and on the south by South Park Drive. These two roadways, in addition to the land area between them, comprise a portion of the original Cooper River Parkway designed by Charles W. Leavitt and Son (see Figure 7). Although not all of the parkland is accessible, the present-day boundaries of the park are nearly identical to those originally established in the 1930s (Kern, personal communication 1993). This designed landscape was intended to serve a variety of needs: to rid the area of old wharfs, provide flood control, improve the overall health conditions by removing swampy mosquito breeding grounds (associated with the spread of malaria), increase real estate values, and reduce traffic congestion, while providing open space for recreation and relief from urban life.

Topography within the Cooper River Park comprises a valley sloping down to the Cooper River from both North and South Park Drives (Plates 5 and 6). The northern section of the park is linked to the southern section by the bridges at Cuthbert and Crescent boulevards (Route 130). These bridges, built in 1939 and 1926, respectively, are integral features of the park's circulation plan and were built within the general period of the park's conception and realization.

The bridges provide framed views visually linking the north and south sections of the park. Another bridge was proposed at Browning Road, but was never built (Plate 7). The 1925 Kaighn Avenue Bridge provides a needed vehicular and pedestrian crossing at the western end of the park.

There are two path systems in the northern section of the park. The first parallels North Park Drive from Kaighn Avenue to the Delaware River Railroad Bridge (Conrail). However, the section between Kaighn Avenue and Crescent Boulevard (Route 130) is now inaccessible (Plate 8). The second path parallels the Cooper River. This footpath is most evident in the area between Cuthbert Boulevard and the Delaware River Railroad Bridge (Conrail). Along this footpath is a designed view of the Philadelphia skyline (Plate 9). Although the view is not documented as such, the author of the present report is of the opinion that Charles W. Leavitt and Son took advantage of the proposed construction of the Cuthbert Boulevard Bridge and manipulated both the path of the river and the path itself to capitalize on the limited view of the Philadelphia skyline within Cooper River Park. Prior to the construction of the Rouse Development in downtown Philadelphia, this view from the park prominently included the historic Philadelphia City Hall (Fittipaldi, personal communication 1993). Between Cuthbert and Crescent Boulevard (Route 130) remnants of the footpath are visible near the Generals Casimir Pulaski and Thaddeus Kosciusko Memorials. Also in this locale is a grand staircase constructed of Pennsylvania mica (Plate 10). This structure, built by the WPA, once linked pedestrian traffic to the now inaccessible section of Cooper River Park. On the western side of the Crescent Boulevard Bridge (Route 130), the connecting staircases north and south of the Cooper River have been removed as a result of improvements to Crescent Boulevard (Route 130) (Plate 11).

No footpath exists along the river course on the south side of Cooper River Park. It cannot be determined if any was proposed or constructed based on available data or historical material. There is, however, a pedestrian path associated with and adjacent to South Park Drive. This path and this portion of the Cooper River Parkway were originally proposed in the Leavitt and Son design (see Figure 7). The path and adjacent land represent the highest elevations within Cooper River Park. Located in the easternmost portion of Cooper River Park near the Delaware River Railroad Bridge (Conrail) between Edgewood Avenue and Cooper Street are two structures built of Pennsylvania mica. These structures are remnants of a scenic overlook and gazebo constructed under the WPA program (Plates 12 and 13).

The major water feature in Cooper River Park is the Cooper River. The condition of the area during the 1920s was derelict, consisting of a marshy swamp with the Cooper River running through it. From 1926 through 1936, dredging, diking, damming, and other types of man-made land manipulation occurred. The resulting new landscape provided a naturalistic water feature further enhancing the scenic quality of the area, while eliminating the notorious breeding areas for mosquitoes (Plates 14 and 15).

The use of an existing watercourse as the focal point of park design followed concepts promulgated by the Olmsted Brothers at the turn of the century. The shape and use of the

Cooper River became the key factor in Leavitt and Son's design for Cooper River Park. Along the designed watercourse, proposed amenities included a rowing course, a model yacht basin, tennis courts and clubhouse, a boathouse, an amphitheater, a running track with grandstand, the remodeling of an old farmhouse, installation of a lighting system and underground drainage system, and landscaping and plantings (Camden County Park Commission c. 1937:90).

Not all of the proposed amenities came to fruition. Those that did were the rowing course (Plate 16); the model yacht basin (Plate 17); the tennis clubhouse, now Hadley House (Plate 18); the running track with grandstand (Jack Curtis Stadium) (Plate 19); remodeling of the old farmhouse (Ebenezer Hopkins House) (Plates 20 and 21); and the overall filled and landscaped areas of the Cooper River Park. Other structures located within the study area of the Cooper River Park include docks, scenic overlooks, and footbridges.

There are four exposed aggregate concrete staircases with docks and benches (see Figure 10). Two are located on the north side of the park (Plates 22 and 23) and two on the south side (Plates 24 and 25). The docks were intended to bring the park user closer to the water. From these platforms, park users could experience the pastoral quality of the water while enjoying passive recreational activities such as fishing. All of these facilities exhibit evidence of disrepair, i.e., portions of the platforms have collapsed and wooden slats for bench seats are missing or broken. Based upon the available information, it could not be determined if these structures were designed by Leavitt and Son. However, it was determined that these structures were used in conjunction with outfall drains and acted as anchor points, indicating that they were part of the drainage system design for the park and constructed by the WPA (Kern, personal communication 1993).

Cooper River Park also contains three Pennsylvania mica scenic overlooks (see Figure 10). Two are located in the south side of the park near the Delaware River Railroad Bridge (Conrail) (see Plates 12 and 13), the third on the north side. The latter, which has a reconstructed canopy, is known as the Wallenberg Pavilion (Plate 26).

The pink granite footbridges are located in two areas on the north side of the park (see Figure 10). Their purpose was to connect islands in the lake with the mainland of the park and to cross a stream that supplied water to Cooper River. The first of the two island footbridges is located between Kaighn Avenue and Crescent Boulevard (Route 130) (Plate 27). Remnants of wooded bulkheading that contained the banks of the islands are also present (Plate 28). The second island footbridge is located behind Hadley House (Plate 29). This structure connects an island, forming an oxbow to the mainland (Plate 30). The final pink granite structure is the pedestrian and vehicular bridge on North Park Drive that spans a stream feeding the Cooper River from the north (Plate 31). Although these structures do not appear on the Leavitt and Son design for the Cooper River Parkway, they provide clues to successive changes in the park's design from its original inception to its construction in the 1930s.

The views and vistas within Cooper River Park have been maintained since the original construction. The linear nature of the park paralleling the Cooper River, combined with

topography and a waterfront intentionally devoid of trees, offers the park user sweeping, unobstructed views of a pastoral landscape (Plates 32 and 33). Furthermore, North and South Park Drives provide an added buffer separating parkland from land under private ownership. There have been significant changes in the use of land adjacent to Cooper River Park (Figure 11). In the early stages of the park's development, the land between Crescent Boulevard (Route 130) and the municipal boundaries of Pennsauken and Cherry Hill townships included the no longer extant Central Airport and Cooper River Golf Club. Sometime between 1949 and 1967, these parcels were sold and use changed. Central Airport between Crescent Boulevard (Route 130) and Browning Road became an industrial/office park. The Cooper River Golf Club between Browning Road and the municipal boundary line became the site of the Cooper River Plaza, East and South, a high-rise apartment complex, Bishop Eustace School, and other commercial/institutional facilities (Plate 34).

Significance:

The designed historic landscape collectively known as Cooper River Park and Parkway meets National Register Criteria A and C, as interpreted in National Register Bulletin 18, *How to Evaluate and Nominate Designed Historic Landscapes* (National Park Service 1992). Under Criterion A, Cooper River Park and Parkway are directly associated with the formation of the Camden County Park System and its attendant objectives of improving the urban environment, both aesthetically and for reasons of public health, during the 1920s and 1930s.

Under Criterion C, Cooper River Park and Parkway embodies distinctive characteristics of a type and period, and represents the work of a master. Portions of Cooper River Park and Parkway were constructed during the period of the Great Depression by the WPA. This program, provided unemployed laborers the opportunity to work, improve skills, and bolster their self respect. Through the WPA program, such workers provided the Camden County Park Commission with the labor force required to complete or continue efforts in the development of the county-wide park program.

Cooper River Park and Parkway were designed by Charles W. Leavitt and Son, a prominent early twentieth-century landscape engineering and urban and park planning firm. This firm was responsible for the partial or total landscape design for twenty large estates, including (in New Jersey) the George Post Estate, Bernardsville; the Robert D. Foote Estate, Morristown; the Cone Estate, Colonia; and the estate of Mrs. J.A. Haskell, Red Bank (Leavitt 1927). The firm's practice also encompassed designs for municipal and regional parks and parkways and governmental, institutional, and educational facilities. While much of this work was focused in New Jersey and New York, it included projects in Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Colorado, and Cuba. Those included in New Jersey are Wanaque Reservoir (landscape plan and design), Washington Crossing Park (general landscape plan), Palisades Interstate Park, grounds and park development surrounding the New Jersey State House, and two additional projects designed in conjunction with the Cooper River Park and Parkway: Plan for the Camden County Civic Center, and Design for Major Thoroughfares, City of Camden (Leavitt 1925b). Additional

large-scale projects include the Cemetery of the Gate of Heaven (general landscape plan and layout), Mount Pleasant, New York; University of Georgia (campus plan), Athens, Georgia; Westchester Biltmore Country Club (landscape plan), Rye, New York; and the Grandstand and Wider Course, Westchester Racing Association, Belmont Park, Belmont, New York (Leavitt 1925b, 1927). Charles W. Leavitt was also a president of the American Society of Consulting Engineers and a Chief Engineer of the Palisades Interstate Park Commission.

Firms such as this carried on the park design concepts set forth in the late nineteenth century by Frederick Law Olmsted. All parks of the late nineteenth and the early twentieth century were concerned not only with the benefits of recreation, but also with the preservation and protection of open space, not least in the increasingly congested and built-up metropolitan areas. All parks of this era, either through land acquisition or design, preserved, protected, and enhanced the scenic environment.

The Cooper River Park and Parkway possess integrity of location. Integrity of materials and workmanship is also present, exemplified by the presence of the rowing course, the model yacht basin, the tennis clubhouse (Hadley House), the running track and grandstand (Jack Curtis Stadium), the Ebenezer Hopkins House, the scenic overlooks, the footbridges, the docks, and North and South Park Drives. Integrity of setting within the park is also maintained. No development has encroached into the park nor have the rights-of-way of North or South Park Drives been altered. Integrity of feeling and association is present, since the watercourse of the Cooper River remains intact and has not been channelized, North and South Park Drives remain in their designed location, and the major infrastructure of the green spaces, structures, and plantings remain to convey the naturalistic environment the park was intended to provide.

Elements that contribute to the significance of Cooper River Park and Parkway include: North and South Park Drives, the Cooper River (designed water feature), the Ebenezer Hopkins House, Hadley House, Jack Curtis Stadium, the model yacht basin, the docks, scenic overlooks, and the footbridges. The Crescent Boulevard, Kaighn Avenue, and Cuthbert Boulevard bridges are also contributing elements in that they perform important circulatory functions (both vehicular and pedestrian) and date to the general period of the park's conception and realization. Thus, their importance is temporal and functional. None, however, exhibits characteristics of design associated with or attributable to its parkland setting, all being instead standard types for their time. The noncontributing elements, including the miniature golf course, the Japanese pagoda, the Cooper River Yacht Club (circa 1945), and the assorted memorials, do not detract from the park's setting or diminish its integrity.

Bibliography:

Camden County Cultural and Heritage Commission
c.1937 Photographs of the Ebenezer Hopkins House. Available at Camden County
Cultural and Heritage Commission, Camden, New Jersey.

Camden County Park Commission

c.1937 *Camden County Park System As Constructed by Camden County Park Commission: Period from November 1926 to January 1937*, edited by C. Oscar Brown. Created in accordance with the provisions of the Act entitled "An Act to Establish Public Parks in certain Counties of this State and to Regulate the same." Dedicated to the citizens of Camden County.

1993 *Map of Cooper River Park*. Revised from 1988 original. Available at Camden County Park Commission, Camden, New Jersey.

Fittipaldi, Janet (Archaeologist, New Jersey Department of Transportation)

1993 Personal communication.

Kern, Jack (Camden County Parks Superintendent, 1972-1988)

1993 Personal communication. Telephone interview conducted by Ingrid Wuebber and April Stefel, October 15, 1993.

Leavitt, Charles

c.1925 *Health, Sunshine and Wealth*. Camden, New Jersey.

1925a Cooper River Parkway. Design Plan produced by Charles Wellford Leavitt & Son, Landscape Engineers, New York City. Reproduced in *Health, Sunshine and Wealth*.

1925b *Some of the Work and Drawings of Charles Leavitt and Son, Landscape Engineer, New York City*. September 1925. 3MSK. New York City Public Library, New York.

1927 *Executed Works of Charles Leavitt, A Collection of Pamphlets*. On microfilm, 2M-3-MAR p. v. 126, 1927. New York City Public Library, New York.

National Park Service

1992 *How to Evaluate and Nominate Designed Historic Landscapes*. National Register Bulletin 18. United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Interagency Resources Division.

United States Geological Survey [USGS]

1949 *Camden, NJ-PA*. 7.5 Minute Topographical Quadrangle, edition of 1949.

1984 *Camden, NJ-PA*. 7.5 Minute Topographical Quadrangle, edition of 1967; photorevised 1984.

Geographical Data:

The boundaries of Cooper River Park and Parkway are shown in Figure 9 of this report. The boundaries of Cooper River Park and Parkway include the area between Kaighn Avenue, in Camden, and Grove Street, in Pennypacker Park, Haddonfield Borough. For the purposes of this study, the area is limited to the Cooper River parkland and Parkway located between Kaighn Avenue, Camden, east to the Delaware River Railroad (Conrail) in Collingswood Borough, and Pennsauken, Cherry Hill, and Haddon townships. This area fully encompasses the area of potential effect for the Chandler's Run Diversion project. The northern and southern boundaries include North and South Park Drive (Cooper River Parkway).

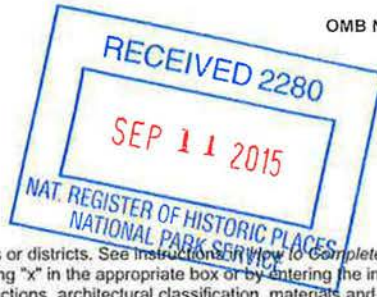
USGS Camden, New Jersey - Pennsylvania, Quadrangle, Universal Transverse Mercator System
Coordinates: A: 18.492320.4420100; B: 18.492660.4420140; C: 18.494540.4419650; D:
18.496340.4418570; E: 18.496330.4418220; F: 18.494000.4419040

Prepared by: April M. Stefel, Louis Berger & Associates Inc., East Orange, New Jersey.

Exhibit A1

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 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 Cooper River Park Historic District

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number (see Continuation Sheet) not for publication

city or town Borough of Collingswood, Cherry Hill Township, Borough of Haddonfield, Haddon Township, City of Camden, Pennsauken Township vicinity

state New Jersey code NJ county Camden code 007 zip code 08110

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.

Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____

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: Signature of the Keeper _____ Date of Action _____

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:) _____

Cooper River Park Historic District

Name of Property

Camden 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

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>7</u>	buildings
<u>3</u>	<u>14</u>	sites
<u>25</u>	<u>25</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	objects
<u>29</u>	<u>47</u>	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

TRANSPORTATION/Road-related

TRANSPORTATION/Pedestrian-related

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

LANDSCAPE/Park

TRANSPORTATION/Road-related

TRANSPORTATION/Pedestrian-related

LANDSCAPE/Conservation area

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Colonial (Ebenezer Hopkins house)

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone

walls Brick

roof Wood

other _____

Narrative Description

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

(see Continuation sheets – Section 7)

Cooper River Park Historic District

Name of Property

Camden County, NJ

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.)

- X 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.
X 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 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.) [see Continuation - Section 8]

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)

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
CONSERVATION
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1925-1940

Significant Dates

1925, 1926, 1927, 1935-1940

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Charles W. Leavitt, Jr. (landscape architect)
Charles W. Leavitt and Son - Landscape Architects
Works Progress Administration (WPA) (builder)
Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) (builder)

Primary location of additional data

- X State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other

Name of repository:

NJHPO, Trenton, NJ

Cooper River Park Historic District
Name of Property

Camden County, NJ
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property Approx. 583 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	18	492582	4420096	3	18	494469	4419561
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	18	493051	4419445	4	18	496009	4419009

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 : Robert A. Shinn, with assistance from Kevin Cook and the NJ Historic Preservation Office.

organization _____ date August 2014

street & number 10 White Oak Court telephone 856-428-8672

city or town Cherry Hill state NJ zip code 08034

Accompanying 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 Camden County Parks Department

street & number 1301 Park Boulevard telephone 856-216-2117

city or town Cherry Hill state NJ zip code 08002-3752

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.*)

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
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Continuation Sheet**

**Cooper River Park Historic District
Camden County, NJ**

Section number 2 Page 1

2. Location

Street & Number: Bounded by portions of Kaighn Avenue, North Park Drive, Park Boulevard, Caldwell Road, Bortons Mill Road, Ellis Street, Prospect Road, Roberts Avenue, Kings Highway, Evans Mill Road, Hopkins Lane, Grove Street, Glover Avenue, Narberth Avenue, South Edge Park Drive, Coles Mill Road, South Park Drive, and South Crescent Boulevard.

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Cooper River Park Historic District
Camden County, NJ

Section number 7 Page 1

Narrative Description

Summary Paragraph

The Cooper River Park Historic District is a five mile long planned linear park system centered on the Cooper River between the City of Camden and the Borough of Haddonfield, New Jersey. Camden County and the Camden County Parks Commission (CCPC) developed seven¹ distinct, interconnected parks that together compose the district between 1925 and 1940. From west to east, they are: the Tidal Gate Park, Cooper River Park, Maria Barnaby Greenwald Memorial Park, Pennypacker Park, Hopkins Pond Park, Wallworth Park, and Challenge Grove Park, encompassing approximately 583 acres. The Cooper River Park, by far the largest of the seven, alone encompasses 346 acres, well over half of the total. Master landscape architect Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr. and his firm Charles Wellford Leavitt & Son (Leavitt & Son) designed the park system according to City Beautiful Movement concepts and principles. Federal New Deal agencies, including the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and Works Progress Administration (WPA), provided financial, design, and construction assistance to Camden County and the CCPC to complete the district's design and construction. Each interconnected park has a different landscape ranging from wide expanses of flat, open park land with occasional stands of trees in the western part of the district to more densely wooded and some mature forest areas in its eastern part. The district contains 29 contributing resources, including the Cooper River and Lake, 3 vehicular bridges, 2 dams, 12 footbridges, 17 stone masonry features, miles of interconnecting winding footpaths, and 2 meandering drives on both sides of the river (North and South Park Drives). The district contains 47 non-contributing resources, mostly smaller and discrete, including 6 buildings, 25 structures, one object (which includes numerous works of sculpture), and 14 sites. Although numerically greater, their impact on the district is dwarfed by the contributing resources. The district has retained its original linear design centered on a body of water despite the addition of features and buildings added after 1940.

Location of Historic District

The Cooper River Park Historic District is located on both sides of the Cooper River between Kaighn Avenue in Pennsauken Township and the Ellis Street Bridge in the Borough of Haddonfield (Figure 1). It also includes Hopkins Pond Park in Haddonfield. The district includes North Park Drive, Park Boulevard, and South Park Drive and the Camden County parkland adjacent to them and adjacent to Coles Mill Road, Kings Highway, Roberts Avenue, Lane and Grove Street. The following sections describe these parks and identify their principal features. The photo location maps show the locations of these features by photo number. Each park section is divided into three parts: the first describes the park; the second describes the park's contributing resources; and the third describes the park's non-contributing resources. The district's resources are numbered consecutively. Contributing resources are numbered and listed in bold text. Non-contributing resources are numbered consecutively with the letters "NC" preceding the number.

Resource Inventory

The Cooper River Park Historic District contains several prominent, character-defining contributing resources that are inherent of planned linear parks of the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century. They lend significance and a high degree of historic integrity to the district and combine to convey the significance of the

¹ NJ DEP – Historic Preservation Office, Cooper River Park Historic District (ID#3021), Eligible for listing in the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places; Last Update: 4/5/2013. Cooper River between Kaighn Avenue and Walworth Lake. SHPO Opinion: 2/16/2000 (Previous SHPO Opinion: 2/28/94). Primary location listing: Camden City.

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Cooper River Park Historic District
Camden County, NJ

Section number 7 Page 2

historic district as a whole. These features were either designed, shaped or constructed during the period of significance (1925-1940) or were built prior to the period of significance, but incorporated into the design and construction of the park. The contributing resources were part of the park's original landscape design plans produced by Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr., Leavitt & Son, or succeeding CCPC and WPA park planners between 1925 and 1940. The major contributing resources are: the Cooper River and Lake; North and South Park Drives; Park Boulevard; 3 vehicular bridges; 2 dams (one made of concrete, the other stone and masonry); a network of connecting footpaths throughout the parks; 2 buildings; 12 pedestrian footbridges; 8 stone and masonry stairways; 4 stone and masonry pavilions/ look out platforms, and 9 stone and masonry tree planters.

Contributing district resources shared by two or more interconnected parks

1. Cooper River – Contributing Site (Figure 1)

The district is centered on a 5-mile segment of the Cooper River between Haddonfield and Pennsauken much of which was extensively modified and reconstructed by dredging and filling between 1928 and 1940 (Figure 1). Originally named Cooper's Creek² for William Cooper, one of Camden County's first European settlers, the river courses westward for 16 miles from the headwaters of its South Branch in a gravel pit in Lucaston, NJ (Lindenwald) through Camden County to its confluence with the Delaware River in the City of Camden.³ The river's North Branch begins in Voorhees Township and joins its South Branch just west of the intersection of Park Boulevard and School land in Cherry Hill Township.⁴ The headwaters are in gently rolling country, the highest point on the divide, twelve miles southeast of the mouth, is at an elevation of 202 feet above sea level.⁵ The topography on the lower portion of the Cooper is a low, flat plane consisting of mainly sandy loam soil.

The river and its tributaries lay within the 40 square mile Cooper River Watershed. The Cooper River's tributaries include Buckmans Run, Chandlers Run, Millard Creek, Nicholson Branch, the North Branch, and Tindale Run. The river flows at an average rate of 35 million gallons per day.⁶ While the Cooper River was historically a tidal river as far east as Kings Highway in Haddonfield, present tidal flows east of the Kaighn Avenue Tidal Gate and dam are very limited and controlled to provide adequate depths for rowing and capacity for storm water retention.

The landscape designs of Leavitt & Son and the WPA dramatically changed the physical appearance of the river within the limits of the historic district. The original creek was a narrow twisting tidal stream surrounded by marshland and wetlands. Its banks were muddy and littered with debris deposited during the tides.⁷

² The New Jersey Legislature changed the name of Cooper Creek to Cooper River in 1911 to enhance the county's chances of securing federal funds to dredge the lower end of the creek.

³ The Delta Group. *Cooper River Study*. Prepared for the City of Camden. September 1980, p. 13. Lucaston is now part of Lindenwald, NJ.

⁴ The Cooper River flows through the following Camden County municipalities: Barrington, Berlin, Camden, Cherry Hill, Collingswood, Gibbsboro, Haddon Township, Haddonfield, Lawnsdale, Lindenwald, Magnolia, Merchantville, Pennsauken Township, Somerdale, Stratford, Tavistock, and Voorhees.

⁵ The Delta Group, op.cit., p 2. Soil at the headwaters is sand and gravel with outcrops of marl.

⁶ <http://www.ccmua.org/>. The Geological Survey of New Jersey, *Final Report of the State Geologist, Year 1894, a report on Water Supply, Volume III*, contains calculations by C. C. Vermeule estimating the flow of the Cooper at Camden at an average of 40 million gallons per day and for the driest month at 6.8 million gallons per day.

⁷ Raible, Dennis G. *The First Three Hundred Years: Haddon Township's Hopkins Plantation*. Philadelphia: Saint Joseph's University Press. 1990. p. 137

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Cooper River Park Historic District
Camden County, NJ

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Dredging and filling obliterated the river's former intertidal zone and created a wide expanse with gentle, sloping, landscaped banks and a much wider river no longer subject to tidal action above the tide gate.

Leavitt & Son and the WPA landscape plans also resulted in the construction of two dams to impound the Cooper River within the district to create Cooper River Lake and Wallworth Lake. The Cooper River has retained the same overall shape and landscaped form as designed by Leavitt & Son and the WPA between 1928 and 1940 (Figures 2 and 4). Despite the extensive loss of wetlands and tidal marshes, the river's banks still provide habitat for many wildlife species, and its channel and lakes provide habitat for many fish species.

2. North Park Drive and Park Boulevard – Contributing Structure (Photos 1 and 5)

North Park Drive/ Park Boulevard is a paved two-lane drive (one lane in each direction) that parallels the northern shore of the Cooper River and Lake and, except for terminations on either side of the New Jersey Transit Railroad Bridge, that extends the entire length of the district's 5-mile northern border between Pennsauken and Cherry Hill townships.⁸ The winding drive extends through open park land eastward beginning at Kaighn Avenue in Pennsauken (Photo 1) crossing South Crescent Boulevard (NJ Route 130) and into Cherry Hill Township where it becomes Park Boulevard and continues easterly terminating at a parking lot adjacent to a railroad embankment leading to the New Jersey Transit railroad bridge. Park Boulevard resumes its eastward path from the east side of the railroad bridge embankment until it terminates at Caldwell Road in Cherry Hill Township.

Leavitt & Son designed North Park Drive and Park Boulevard. North Park Drive's proposed route and alignments appear on the firm's plans for the Cooper River Parkway (January 1925, Figure 4), Munn's Meadow Park (December 1927, Figure 10), and the Cooper River Two Mile Rowing Course (June 1928, Figure 12).⁹

The CCPC and the WPA constructed North Park Drive and Park Boulevard according to these plans, and these roads have retained Leavitt & Son's originally planned alignments and contours with two minor exceptions.¹⁰ The alignment of North Park Drive east of Kings Highway in Cherry Hill Township matches almost exactly with Leavitt & Son's October 1927 Landscape Plan for Munn's Meadow Park (Figure 10), but is different from the firm's 1925 plan.¹¹ The 1927 Landscape Plan also appears to have evolved. One plan called for Park

⁸ Park Boulevard between the N.J. Transit railroad bridge embankment and Grove Street in Cherry Hill does not mark the northern border of the Cooper River Park or the district, but was part of Leavitt's original design for North Park Drive.

⁹ Leavitt & Son designed a "Cooper River Parkway" from Camden to Haddonfield and drafted plans for "Cooper River Valley" improvements in 1925 before the firm before the CCPC was formed and before the CCPC retained its services for in 1927. Leavitt and Son and their clients regarded the "Cooper River Parkway" not just as a roadway, but a plan for a regional network of public parks with an interconnected transportation system. As will be discussed herein Leavitt's early clients in the region included the City of Camden and Eldridge Johnson, the founder and chief executive of the Victor Talking Machine Company.

¹⁰ (1) North Park Drive begins its eastward course at Kaighn Avenue instead of Admiral Wilson Boulevard, and (2) Park Boulevard does not pass beneath the New Jersey and Seashore Railway as proposed on Leavitt & Son's Two Mile Rowing Course (Figure 12).

¹¹ The 1925 design showed North Park Drive crossing Kings Highway on an eastern course, then turning south and passing closet to and east of the Evans Pond Dam, crossing Bortons Mill Road, and continuing on south along the eastern side of Evans Pond to a rotary juncture with Kresson and Berlin Roads and Ellis Street just east of the Ellis Street Bridge (Figure 4).

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Cooper River Park Historic District
Camden County, NJ

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Boulevard to pass under Kings Highway while another did not (Figure 10).¹² There is no underpass today and no evidence that the CCPC ever constructed one.

The district's resource inventory, by park

The following narrative describes each of the six individual interconnected parks within the district and their contributing and non-contributing resources. The inventory starts with Tidal Gate Gateway Park on the west end of the district and proceeds east. The inventory first identifies and numbers each contributing resource and then each non-contributing resource by park. Some features of Cooper River Park are not character-defining features of the park and therefore are non-contributing resources. They do not contribute to the park's significance or to its historic integrity because they were constructed prior to 1925 or after it was completed in 1940. The non-contributing ("NC") resources of Cooper River Park are listed below in geographic order from west to east, first along North Park Drive/ Park Boulevard, then along South Park Drive, and are numbered NC2 through NC23.¹³

Tidal Gate Gateway Park (25 acres)

Tidal Gate Gateway Park is a 25 acre park in Pennsauken Township between Kaighn Avenue,¹⁴ South Crescent Boulevard, and the Cooper River. North Park Drive begins at Kaighn Avenue and then travels eastward through this park to South Crescent Boulevard.¹⁵ Tidal Gate Park includes open park land and lightly wooded areas on both sides of North Park Drive (photo 1, Figure 17a). Leavitt's 1925 park plan included park land and a park drive on the south bank of the Cooper River between Kaighn Avenue and Crescent Boulevard that was not constructed.¹⁶ Harleigh Cemetery owns the land west of East Crescent Boulevard and south of the Cooper River.¹⁷

Tidal Gate Gateway Park Contributing Resources

3. Cooper River Tide Gate and Dam – Contributing Structure (photo 2)

The CCPC constructed a concrete dam and tide gate across the Cooper River in 1938 between Kaighn Avenue and Crescent Boulevard. The tide gate impounds the Cooper River and creates the Cooper River Lake. It also controls tidal flows up and down river to maintain constant Cooper Lake water levels for rowing and other boating activity. The dam features four decorative concrete columns extending upwards from the water, two at both ends of the dam adjacent to the shoreline.

¹² The October 1927 Leavitt plan for Munn's Meadow Park includes the word "OMITTED" with arrows pointing to altered borders of Park Boulevard to the right of "UNDERPASS" label.

¹³ Camden County lists Cooper River Park facilities on its website: <http://www.camdencounty.com/parks/parks/cooper-river>. The website also provides access to a four minute video about Cooper River Park.

¹⁴ Kaighn Avenue was called Kaighn's Lane or Kaighn's Point Lane or Avenue on deeds dated before 1730. John Kaighn made the lane to connect his plantation with the Newton Creek settlement after he purchased 460 acres in 1696. After a ferry was established at Kaighn's Point the avenue became a street for commerce. Source: <http://www.dvrbs.com/camden-streets/camden-nj-streets-kaighnavenue.htm>

¹⁵ North Park Drive is a district-wide contributing resource. See description above.

¹⁶ The land bordering the south bank of the Cooper River south and west of Tidal Gate Park belongs to historic Harleigh Cemetery (New Jersey Register of Historic Places ID #2829). Poets Walt Whitman and Nick Virgilio and four United States Senators from New Jersey, John Starr, William Sewell, David Baird, and David Baird, Jr. are buried in Harleigh Cemetery.

¹⁷ Harleigh Cemetery was determined to be eligible for listing in the National Register on June 15, 1995.

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Cooper River Park Historic District
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The bridge consists of two modified low shallow arches that span the river and join at the center with three supporting columns. The bridge over the dam has cast concrete railings. The railings are solid on the ramps leading up to the bridge and have 12 sections of concrete railing, each with six narrow slot vertical open spaces approximately 2 feet in length, between the top and bottom rails.

Tidal Gate Gateway Park non-contributing resources

(NC1). (building and site) The Camden County Golf Academy, a partially enclosed golf driving range, is located at 8001 South Route 130, Pennsauken (photo 3 and green shaded area on Figure 17a). Tommy Martin leased this section of parkland from the CCPC in the mid-1960s and created a small lake forming a water hazard with small islands featuring distance markers. Martin sold to Robert Thatcher in the mid-1980s, who later gave control back to the CCPC. The Camden County Parks Department rebuilt the golf driving range in 1995.¹⁸ The Academy now includes an aquatic, lighted, 60 station double-decker driving range.

Cooper River Park (346.55 acres)

Cooper River Park contains 346.55 acres and extends approximately 3 miles between South Crescent Boulevard (Pennsauken Township) and Grove Street (Cherry Hill Township) on both sides of Cooper River Lake through parts of Pennsauken Township, the City of Camden, the Borough of Collingswood, Cherry Hill Township, and Haddon Township. The park's southern side boundary is bordered by single family homes and some multi-family apartment buildings in Haddon Township and the Boroughs of Collingswood and Haddonfield. Commercial, institutional, and multi-family residential lands uses are north of the park in Pennsauken and Cherry Hill Townships.

Winding vehicular drives, North and South Park Drives, run in an east-west direction generally paralleling the shores of Cooper River Lake. The park includes one vehicular bridges (the Cuthbert Avenue Bridge), the New Jersey Transit railroad bridge, paved footpaths, paved parking areas, picnic pavilions, stone masonry features, memorial statues and sculpture, Veterans Island, baseball diamonds, children's playgrounds, a stadium with a quarter mile running track, and other recreational features described below.

The New Jersey chapter of the American Planning Association (APA-NJ) placed Cooper River Park on its New Jersey's 2013 "Great Places" list in September 2013. "Cooper River Park is a sterling illustration of the outcome of good plans and planning, both in its design and development, and by the measures taken by Camden County to preserve and even improve its character over time," APA-NJ President Charles Latini, Jr. said. "The Park is highly worthy of its place on APA-NJ's Great Places map." Camden County Freeholder Jeff Nash called the Cooper River Park "the crown jewel of our county park system."¹⁹

Cooper River Park Contributing Resources

[4.] Crescent Boulevard Bridge (U.S. Route 130/30 over the Cooper River) NJDOT Structure # 043C024)
[Note: As an amendment to this draft nomination, this bridge, of which a replacement is already under construction in 2014, is no longer a contributing resource, and the boundaries of the district have been

¹⁸ Ed Fox, December 13, 2006, and David C. Munn, December 14, 2006, personal communications with Paul Schopp; Pennsauken Township Assessor's records.

¹⁹ McCrone, Brian X., "Camden County's Cooper River Park named to N.J. 'Great Public Spaces' 2013list," *PHILLY.COM*, September 30, 2013

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Cooper River Park Historic District
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re-drawn to exclude it. Thus this structure is neither included nor counted.] (In 1926 the New Jersey State Highway Department's Bridge Division designed and constructed the predecessor Crescent Boulevard Bridge (photo 22) as part of the Camden Extension project (see Section 8).²⁰ The new bridge will include compatible elements such as the construction of the bridge on the historic footprint; use of an aesthetic parapet (e.g. Texas type parapet), tinted and form-lined parapets and other design features to complement the above ground features of the district.²¹

[5.] Stone Masonry stairway Crescent Boulevard – [Removed Structure, not counted] (photo 24)

The Cooper River Park Historic District contains 15 Pennsylvania mica stone masonry features. The stone masonry structures are character-defining features and contributing resources. The WPA built them between 1935 and 1940 (within the district's time period of historical significance), as elements of the park. Three sets of Pennsylvania mica stone masonry stairways led from the east side of Crescent Boulevard down to Cooper River Parkland below. Two of the stairways south of the Crescent Boulevard Bridge are shown on the 1937 WPA As-Built Landscape Development and Planting Plan (Figure 15). One set is shown on the upper left corner of the plan where the "South Connecting Road" begins to cross the Cooper River, and the other is on the lower left side of the plan just south of where the South Connecting Road intersects with South Cooper Boulevard. A third stone masonry stairway led from Crescent Boulevard to the park at the northeastern quadrant of the bridge south of its intersection with North Park Drive (photo 24). The NJ Department of Transportation (NJ DOT) removed all three Pennsylvania mica stone and masonry staircases to replace and widen Crescent Boulevard Bridge. The two staircases located south of South Park Drive will be disassembled and their materials salvaged and reused to repair and reconstruct a debilitated (but contributing) staircase located at the northeast quadrant of the bridge crossing.²²

6. Cooper River Lake - Contributing Site (photo 4)

Cooper River Lake was central to Cooper River Park's original design and remains the parks central feature today. WPA workers created the lake by extensive dredging and filling in and around the Cooper River and the surrounding swamp land between 1935 and 1940 (Figure 2). The lake extends east of the Cooper River Tide Gate and Dam to East Crescent Boulevard and then about 2.4 miles further east from East Crescent Boulevard to the New Jersey Transit Bridge in Cherry Hill and Haddon Townships. It is surrounded largely by open parkland and wooded areas between North and South Park Drives and the lake (photo 5).

7. South Park Drive - Contributing Structure (photo 6)

²⁰ See the section below on page 48 labeled "Camden Extension" in the Development History/Additional Historic Context Information part of "Narrative Statement of Significance" for more information about this project, Leavitt's role, and how it related to the development of the Cooper River Parkway. The Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) has documented and catalogued the bridge (HAER No. NJ-113).

²¹ Memorandum of Agreement between the Federal Highway Administration and New Jersey State Historic Preservation Officer regarding Route 130/30 Collingswood/Pennsauken (Phase B), Borough of Collingswood, Township of Pennsauken, City of Camden; Camden County, New Jersey, signed by the NJSHPO on 12/23/08.

²² Ibid., p. 3, provision no. 2.

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South Park Drive is a 2.4 mile paved two-lane winding drive.²³ Its western end begins at South Crescent Boulevard (City of Camden) and continues east along the southern side of Cooper River Lake through the Borough of Collingswood (photo 6) until it ends at Saginaw Avenue in Haddon Township. The two mile segment of South Park Drive between Browning Road, Borough of Collingswood, and Saginaw Avenue in Haddon Township currently conforms to Leavitt's 1925 plan within the district.²⁴ The remaining 0.4 mile segment from Browning Road to Crescent Boulevard was designed by the WPA to allow for the 1938 western extension of the rowing course and to connect with the Crescent Boulevard Bridge that had replaced the Browning Road Bridge.

8. Ebenezer Hopkins House, 250 South Park Drive - Contributing Building (photo 9)

A Georgian style brick Ebenezer Hopkins House, located at 250 South Park Drive, Haddon Township, on the southern side of Cooper Lake, is a contributing resource to the historic district and a focal point within the park.²⁵ The Hopkins House is representative of a Georgian style countryseat of brick, many of which were erected in the suburbs of Philadelphia about the middle of the eighteenth century.²⁶

The house is a brick two and a half story house, 22 feet by 32 feet built on a three bay side hall plan. The architecture is a simple colonial Quaker style. The front façade facing south is in Flemish bond brick with a triple brick belt course in Flemish bond between the first and second stories.²⁷ The other elevations are in Liverpool bond. The western elevation has a belt course and a projecting double row of brick stretches between the second and upper stories. A diamond pattern in dark glazed brick is visible between the two windows on the upper story of the western elevation. Dark glassed brick are also randomly placed in the wall which is 13 inches thick.²⁸

The house is split in two distinct wings with brick chimneys on both ends. The taller western wing has three white shuttered white trimmed windows on the second floor of each wing facing South Park Drive and a white entrance door towards the apparent center of the two wings on the right side of the west wing facing the street. The front door is flanked on the west by two large white trimmed windows with shutters.

²³ One lane in each direction.

²⁴ Leavitt's 1925 plan for South Park Drive was, however, more ambitious than today's configuration. Leavitt's Cooper River Parkway plan proposed to begin its western end at a new rotary connected to Lime Street in the City of Camden and continuing east along the south shore of the Cooper River, passing under the New Jersey Transit railroad bridge causeway, and then following the general route of the portion of Coles Mill Road that lies along the south bank of the Cooper River, then crossing Grove Street and connecting with Hopkins Road (now Hopkins Lane) at the north eastern end of Silver Lake (now Hopkins Pond). Traces of Leavitt's 1925 plans for South Park Drive today parallel or overlap portions of Edgewater Park Drive and Narberth Avenue in Haddonfield.

²⁵ ID #968; SHPO Opinion 6/25/1980. Located N 39° 55.456 W 075° 03.705, 18S E 494723 N 4419353

²⁶ Throughout the Colonial period Philadelphia area builders followed the manners and customs of England. While wood was expensive in England and cheap in America, brick and stone were thought necessary for the better homes, despite the fact that bricks and lime for making mortar had to be brought at great expense from overseas.

²⁷ Flemish bond brickwork lays each course of alternating headers and stretchers so that each header is centered over a joint in the course below. Liverpool or English garden-wall bond has one course of headers to every three to five stretcher courses, with a queen-closer introduced next to the quoin-header in the header course.

²⁸ This description was prepared by Camden County historian Gail Greenberg and is taken from Raible, op.cit., p. 149.

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Samuel Shrivvers constructed the first building on the site of the present day Hopkins House after inheriting a 200-acre tract of land from his father between 1716 and 1725.²⁹ John Estaugh purchased the house and land in 1735 from John Eastlack after it had passed through several hands. John and his wife Elizabeth,³⁰ daughter of John Haddon,³¹ conveyed possession of the house and lands to Elizabeth's nephew and their "adopted son" Ebenezer Hopkins in 1737. Hopkins built a large addition onto the west wall of the Shrivvers house in 1740 which is now the building's west wing. Upon Hopkins's death in 1857 the house and plantation passed to his youngest child Ann Hopkins Burr who had the deteriorated Shrivvers east wing torn down and replaced by a new east wing around 1800. Earl Lippincott demolished the deteriorated Burr east wing in 1926.

Camden County acquired the house as part of its plan to construct Cooper River Park in 1936 when it had already begun transforming Cooper's Creek into Cooper River Parkway. The WPA completed eight architectural drawings of the house, which it called "The Burr House," after former owner Ann Burr, as part of the Historical American Buildings Survey in 1937.³²

The WPA renovated the interior of the west wing in 1938-39 and built a new east wing 1939 to resemble the structure torn down in 1926.³³ The Camden County Park Police occupied the use until 1972 and, for a number of years, shared the new addition with the Cooper River Cycle Club that rented and repaired bicycles. The house became headquarters for Camden County's first environmental study center under the auspices of the CCPC which arranged to hire a full time naturalist to teach students and serve as a liaison between the center and Camden County schools. In 1979 the east wing housed the offices of the Camden County Cultural and Heritage Commission, the county historian, a storage space, and public restrooms. It has also served as an art gallery and is used for special events, including as a polling place on election day.³⁴

9. 2,000 Meter Rowing Course – Contributing Site (Figure 12)

Leavitt's firm designed a two-mile rowing course on Cooper River Lake in 1928 (Figure 12). The CCPC described the planned course as follows:

The eight land Rowing Course, two and one half miles long and an irregular width of from four hundred to nine hundred feet, is now being constructed. The course will be free of island and any obstructions. This Rowing Course will conform in every respect with the regulations required for International competition. The original purpose of this

²⁹ Raible, Dennis G., op.cit., p. 8. Shrivvers was Newtown Township's highway surveyor.

³⁰ Elizabeth left London in 1701 at the age of 19 to manager her father's extensive real estate holdings in America. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow knew her and romanticized her courtship with John Estaugh as the story of John Alden and Priscilla in "Aftermath." Lydia Marla Child's also commemorated their courtship in "The Youthful Immigrant."

³¹ John Haddon made anchors, accumulated a substantial sum, and purchased 500 acres along Coopers Creek in 1698. He also owned other large tracts of land in Delaware and Waterford Township. He died in 1723 never having seen his American land. Raible, op.cit. pp.11-13.

³² Raible describes "Today's Hopkins House" in more detail in Chapter 19 on pages 145-152 of his book *The First Three Hundred Years*. The U.S. Department of the Interior, National Parks Service, Branch of Plans and Designs, prepared detailed drawings of the Burr House as part of Official Project No. 165-22-6999 (Survey No. N.J. 395) Drawn May 5 – June 18, 1937. The drawings of the house are available online as part of the Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record, at the Built in America pages: http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/collections/habs_haer/index.html

³³ R. Cohen, "Historic Hopkins House, South Jersey.com, updated 6/14/2008, <http://www.sjol.com/articles/?articleID=12096> For more detailed information on the history of the house and its occupants see Dennis Raible, op.cit.

³⁴ Raible, op.cit. p.151-152.

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rowing course was for the pleasure of people who like boating and for high school boys who need practice in preparing to qualify for the boat crews at college. Indications are that trained crews will use the course in competitive races.³⁵

Although the location of the course as shown in the design of Leavitt's firm was shifted slightly downstream during its redesign in 1938 (Figures 13 and 14) it has retained its basic shape and orientation as designed and constructed by the WPA.

Local high schools, regional rowing clubs, the Intercollegiate Rowing Association's Championship Regatta, and the United States' collegiate national championship of rowing currently use the western portion of the course for practice and competitive regattas. International rowing experts praise the course's Olympic-distance 2000-meter straightaway with its six lanes buoyed course for its sheltered, narrow course that provides ideal rowing conditions.³⁶

10. Jack Curtis Stadium Masonry Bleachers – Contributing Structure (photo 27)

Twelve sets of concrete and stone masonry bleachers, built in 1937,³⁷ are located on the north side of Cooper River Lake north of the Jack Curtis Stadium ¼ mile oval cinder track between the track's northern stretch and North Park Drive. Each set includes six rows of seat benches supported by rectangular concrete supports set roughly four feet apart. The upper-most benches are backed by low stone walls composed of gray flat edged shaped Pennsylvania mica field stones of irregular size and capped with a stone topped rail. These are collectively flanked by two flat stones set in concrete at alternating layers overlapping gaps and shaped to hold a low masonry railing that parallels the angle of the slope of the bleachers and the adjoin walkway.

11. Stone Masonry Pavilion North Shore - Contributing Structure (photo 25)

A Pennsylvania mica stone masonry pavilion on the northern side of Cooper River Lake is built on a hill with commanding views up and down the Lake and of the Two Mile Rowing Course. It is located near the finish line of the current 2,000 meter rowing course south of Park Boulevard slightly west of its intersection with Donahue Avenue. The pavilion is reached by an unpaved path about 200 feet long from Park Boulevard. The pavilion also is reached from the lake side by climbing a flat, wide stone staircase with wide low stone rails.

The pavilion is an octagon with eight wood square pillars supporting a shingle covered roof. The roof consists of eight equally sized triangular sections all whose upper corner connects at a pointed peak and then slope outward just beyond the pavilion base. The pillars are set on top of the ends of four separate stone masonry walls set on the masonry base and separated by equally sized open space between each wall.

12. East Madison Avenue Stone Masonry Retaining Wall and Staircase – Contributing Structure (photo 26)

Three sets of Pennsylvania mica stone and masonry stairways with retaining walls connect the southern border of Cooper River Park with the northern ends of East Madison, Crestmont Terrace, and East Knight Avenue in

³⁵ Brown, C. Oscar, Ed. *Camden County Park System as Constructed by Camden County Park Commission: Period from November 1926 to January 1937*. CCPC, 1938. p.90.

³⁶ <https://www.regattacentral.com/cms/uploads/files/GSSC%20coaches%20packet%202013%20Edited%201-17.pdf>

³⁷ Brown, op.cit., p.91

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the Borough of Collingswood. While Leavitt's 1925 and 1928 plans show these three streets connecting with South Park Drive (Figures 4 and 12), the 1937 WPA Proposed Landscape Development and Planting Plan shows them remaining as dead end streets with the staircases drawn in their current configuration (Figure 16).

The largest of these three stairways is the grand Pennsylvania mica stone masonry staircase that descends from the northern end of East Madison Avenue to Cooper River Park land south of South Park Drive. The top of the stairs at the East Madison Avenue street level consists of a three foot high semi-circular stone masonry retaining wall which spans the width of East Madison Avenue and bows out northwards towards Cooper River Lake. Two stone masonry staircases with stone rails descend around the outside of the retaining wall towards each other where they meet with a shared stone landing and then descend to the park ground level down three sets of stone masonry stairs. The pattern of the stone layers is regular and alternating over gaps though-out most of the railings and retaining wall, but is interrupted in some parts of each with large stones and some irregular patterns.

13. Crestmont Terrace Stone Masonry Retaining Wall and Staircase -- Contributing Structure (photo 30)

A Pennsylvania mica stone masonry staircase descends from the east end of Crestmont Terrace to the Cooper River Park. The upper section begins on the south side of Crestmont Terrace and descends approximately 18 steps in a curved staircase that bends to the left until it joins a landing. It then continues straight descending four steps to a second landing with built in stone seats on either side of the landing. The entire staircase is flanked on both sides by waist high stone masonry walls with flat surfaces and flat square stone caps at each corner post which slightly overhang the stone walls. The stones are laid to overlap the mortar seams of each successive course.

14. East Knight Avenue Stone Masonry Retaining Wall and Staircase -- Contributing Structure (photo 31)

A Pennsylvania mica stone masonry staircase descends from the east end of East Knight Avenue Terrace to the Cooper River Park. The upper section begins on the south side of East Knight Avenue and descends approximately 6 steps until it joins a landing. The stairway is flanked by low stone masonry walls, each about 1 foot in height, except for the middle landing where there is a higher wall on the west side to guard against a steep western slope west of the wall. It then continues straight descending 6 more steps to a second landing where the walls scroll outwards 90 degrees terminating against a square post on each side approximately 2 feet tall. The stones are laid to overlap the mortar seams of each successive course. A poured concrete landing and short step with timbered risers completes the bottom of the stairway.

15. River stone masonry tree planters -- Contributing Structure (photo 28)

There are nine river stone masonry tree planters located on the southern side of Cooper River Lake in Haddon Township. Six are located west of Cuthbert Boulevard between Shady Lane and Cuthbert and three are located between Cuthbert and the NJ Transit railroad bridge.

16. Pink granite stone and masonry footbridge and walkway -- Contributing Structure (photo 32)

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The WPA built a pink granite stone and masonry footbridge and walkway on the south side of a Park Boulevard Bridge located west of Cuthbert Boulevard.³⁸ The south side parapet consists of a stone wall approximately 4 feet high on the middle of the bridge connected to a series of three square stone pillars of equal height by sets of two wooden rails between the main wall and each pillar midway up the walls and by a single or double course of stone at the base of the parapet. The stones facing the walk way are flat and smooth and of irregular size. They are set to overlap the masonry seam between each course of stones.

17. Cuthbert Boulevard Bridge – Contributing Structure (photo 33)

The Cuthbert Boulevard Bridge³⁹ crosses the river near the eastern end of Cooper River Lake. The New Jersey State Highway Department's Bridge Division designed and Ole Hansen constructed the Cuthbert Boulevard Bridge in 1939.⁴⁰ The bridge dedication ceremonies in 1940 featured a rowing exhibition by John Kelly, the Olympic rower from Philadelphia.⁴¹

18. Concrete Dock (Park Boulevard) – Contributing Structure (photo 34)

The WPA built an exposed aggregate concrete dock about 12 feet long and 6 feet wide with two benches on the north shore of Cooper River Lake 100 feet south and west of a Japanese Pagoda.⁴²

19. Concrete Dock (South Park Drive) – Contributing Structure (photo 35)

The WPA also built an exposed aggregate concrete dock about 12 feet long and 6 feet wide on the south shore of Cooper River Lake east of the Cuthbert Boulevard Bridge north of Park Court, Haddon Township. This dock is almost identical to the dock shown in photo 33, except that it faces north and its benches need repair.

20. South Park Drive stone masonry lookout platform with walls, east of Cuthbert Boulevard -- Contributing Structure (photo 29)

A Pennsylvania mica stone masonry lookout platform on the southern side of the park adjacent to South Park Drive (across the from 602 South Park Drive) consists of low flat stone walls set in alternating layers and including some larger stones that are three times thicker than adjacent flat layers. This irregular pattern of mortared fieldstone is particularly noted in the vertical columns adjoining each wall that appear to have been designed at one time to hold pillars for a roof covering.

21. South Park Drive stone masonry lookout platform east of Cuthbert Boulevard -- Contributing Structure (photo 36)

A Pennsylvania mica stone masonry raised lookout platform on the southern side of the park adjacent to South Park Drive. The platform has no walls. Two shallow stone and masonry stairways descend to ground from the top of the platform to the ground.

³⁸ Camden County Parks Commission. *Figure 10: Historic Features of Cooper River Park*. 1988 (revised 1993). NJ State Historic Preservation Office, Cooper River Park Historic District opinion file.

³⁹ NJDOT Structure # 043C024.

⁴⁰ Lichtenstein, A.G. and Associates, Inc. *Historic Bridge Survey*. Survey and database prepared for the New Jersey Department of Transportation, Bureau of Environmental Services and the Federal Highway Administration, 1994 and 2001.

⁴¹ Raible, op.cit., p.139

⁴² Camden County Parks Commission. *Figure 10: Historic Features of Cooper River Park*. op.cit.

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22. Stone masonry retaining wall and tree planter – South shore near railroad bridge – Contributing Structure (photo 37)

A Pennsylvania mica stone masonry retaining wall and tree planter is located on the southern side of the park and river adjacent to and on the west shore of the confluence of a Cooper River tributary that runs north through a ravine between the NJ Transit Railroad and Oneida Avenue, Haddon Township.

23. Stone masonry lookout platform - South shore near railroad bridge – Contributing Structure (photo 38)

A Pennsylvania mica stone masonry lookout platform similar in construction to the platform described in number 18 above is located on the southern side of the park and river west of the NJ Transit railroad and east of the confluence of a Cooper River tributary that runs north through a ravine between the NJ Transit Railroad and Oneida Avenue, Haddon Township. Similar to the lookout platform adjacent to South Park Drive, it consists of low flat stone walls set in alternating layers and including some larger stones that are three times thicker than adjacent flat layers. This irregular pattern of mortared fieldstone is particularly noted in the vertical columns adjoining each wall that appear to have been designed at one time to hold pillars for a roof covering.

24. Stone masonry stairway Grove Street Bridge northwest side – Contributing Structure (photo 39)

A stone and masonry stairway is located on the northwest quadrant of the Grove Street Bridge and leads down to parkland adjacent to the Cooper River from the Grove Street sidewalk level.

25. Stone stairway Grove Street Bridge southwest side – Contributing Structure (photo 40)

A stone and masonry stairway is located on the southwest quadrant of the Grove Street Bridge and leads down to parkland adjacent to the Cooper River from the Grove Street sidewalk level.

26. Pedestrian footpaths and sidewalks -- Contributing Structure

Paved and unpaved footpaths wind through Cooper River Park. Paved and unpaved pedestrian footpath systems are distinctive, character-defining features on both sides of the Cooper River and Cooper River Lake. Leavitt's proposed and designed footpaths for Cooper River Parks are shown on his 1925 Cooper River Parkway Plan (Figure 4) and his 1928 Cooper River Two Mile Rowing Course plan (Figure 12). Many of these footpaths were altered by subsequent designers prior to their construction in the 1930s and new paths were designed and added, especially in the enlargement of the western section of Cooper Lake following the removal of the Browning Road bridge as shown on the 1937 "As-Built Landscape Development and Planting Plan" (Figure 15). The network of footpaths of Cooper River Park and throughout all the other interconnected parks, constructed between 1935 and 1940 are counted as one contributing resource feature to the historic district. They are characteristic of the active recreation linear park style that Cooper River Park represents. Leavitt and his successor landscape architects designed them to enable park users to progress through all park sections at a leisurely pace or a jog at all times of the year.⁴³

⁴³ There are large grassland areas, waterside shrubberies, mature forest areas, streamside trails and wetland habitats that reward frequent visitors with surprising wildlife encounters. Trails at the East end of the park, across Cuthbert Road, are close to a tributary stream, wet woodland habitat, and a hilly trail on the South side, while on the North side, there is a grove of mature oaks and poplars. For more information on the Cooper River Park trail see:
<http://www.njwildlifetrails.org/PineBarrensTrails/Sites/tabid/1698/Scope/site/Guide/PINEBARREN/Site/340/Default.aspx>

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Non-Contributing Resources – Cooper River Park

NC2. (structure) A Polish-American war hero memorial (photo 7, Figure 17a) was installed in the park in 1984 and expanded in 1995. It is located near the intersection of Crescent Boulevard and North Park Drive. It includes sculpture honoring Polish-American war heroes Generals Casimir Pulaski and Thaddeus Kosciuszko.

NC3. (structure) A Victims of Terrorism Memorial is located at 7000 North Park Drive in an open field close to the north bank of Cooper River Lake (photo 41, Figure 18a). Sculptor John Giannotti's seven-pillar circular "Victims of Terrorism Memorial" was dedicated on September 11, 2002. Commissioned by the Camden County Freeholders, it is a memorial to victims of terrorist attacks, including in particular the victims of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. The memorial is an open air sculpture with various plaques and a single tree in the center. The memorial includes a winding brick path from North Park Drive that terminates in an open-air circular, concrete structure with evenly spaced, rectangular opening, like empty doorways for access from every angle. The single tree is planted in the center of the stone circle surrounded by a circular octagonal shaped bench that faces inscriptions on each of the 7 stone monoliths. These acknowledge other acts of terrorism.⁴⁴ The monoliths are topped and joined to one another with overhanging concrete lintels that evoke a small Stonehenge-like structure, except that on the side facing North Park Drive, the circle of stones is open.

NC4. (building) A Camden County Boathouse is located at 7050 North Park Drive on the northern side of Cooper River Lake (Photo 12, Figure 17a, green square). Camden County constructed the boat house on the site Leavitt's firm had designated for a Boat House and Casino in 1925 (Figure 12).⁴⁵ The boathouse enhanced supporting facilities for the rowing course and Cooper River's prominence as a major rowing center.

NC5. (structure) The William G. Rohrer Children's Playground with pavilions is in Pennsauken Township southeast of the intersection of North Park Drive and McClellan Avenue and across North Park Drive from the Bishop Eustace Preparatory School track and football field (green shaded area east of the Camden County Boathouse and Jack Curtis Stadium).

NC6. (building) A ca. 1939 building is located at 5300 North Park Drive, Pennsauken Township (photo 10, Figure 17a, green shaded square). The WPA built the original building as a club house to serve the adjacent tennis courts. Additions and alterations were later undertaken to convert the club house into a restaurant, which closed in 2013. In 2014 Camden County announced that it was making over \$1 million of improvements to the building and had signed a lease with a new firm that will operate a new restaurant in the building.

⁴⁴ The other acts of terrorism acknowledge at the memorial include: April 18, 1983 - US embassy in Beirut, Lebanon; October 23, 1983 - US Marine barracks in Beirut, Lebanon December 21, 1988 - Pan Am 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland; February 26, 1993 - World Trade Center, New York; April 19, 1995 - Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; August 7, 1998 - US embassies in Kenya and Tanzania; October 12, 2000 - USS Cole in Gulf of Yemen; September 11, 2001 - WTC, Pentagon and Shanksville, PA.

⁴⁵ The Leavitt & Son planned site for a "Boat House & Casino" is shown on the Cooper River Two Mile Rowing Course plan shown in Figure 12. It is located towards the northwest corner of the rowing course to the east of the intersection of Browning Road and North Park Drive.

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NC7. (structure) Veteran's Island is located east of the former club house building on the Cooper River in Pennsauken Township. It contains a circular walking path and memorials to every major war fought by U.S. forces. It also has over 2,000 linear feet of shoreline bank stabilization features.⁴⁶

NC8. (site) A baseball diamond is located south of North Park Drive west of Memorial Grove (shaded green square, top right section of map).

NC9. (site) Memorial Grove, located south of the intersection of Park Boulevard and Donahue Avenue in Cherry Hill Township, contains memorial sculpture, including the Bataan Death March and Holocaust Memorials, with various installation dates (green square, top right and photo 8).

NC10. (structure) Floating docks and rowing shell launch area (photo 42). An unloading area and rowing shell launch area with two floating docks is located southwest of the intersection of Park and Cuthbert Boulevards in Cherry Hill Township.

NC11. (structure) A miniature golf course (date unknown) is located southeast of the intersection of Park and Cuthbert Boulevards in Cherry Hill Township (green square east of the Cuthbert Boulevard bridge).

NC12. (structure) A children's playground is located adjacent to the miniature golf course. (green rectangle east of miniature golf course)

NC13. (building) A Japanese pagoda is located about 250 feet west of Park Boulevard across from the headquarters of the Subaru of America Company and .6 miles southeast of the intersection of Park and Cuthbert Boulevards in Cherry Hill Township (photo 43). A Japanese garden and pagoda were proposed at the same location on Leavitt & Son's Cooper River Two Mile Rowing Course plan (Figure 12, right hand side, west of where North Park Drive forks north to the Marlton Road and south east towards the New Jersey and Seashore Railway.)

NC14. (site) A Camden County dog park, installed in 1994, is located on Park Boulevard .8 miles southeast of the intersection of Park and Cuthbert Boulevards in Cherry Hill Township (green square west of NJ Transit Railroad Bridge).

NC15. (structure) An 1895 stone masonry New Jersey Transit Railroad Bridge crosses in the eastern end of Cooper River Lake (photo 23, green shaded area south of Dog Park). **[Note: This bridge is a contributing structure to the eligible, but yet unlisted, Camden & Atlantic Railroad Historic District.]**

NC16. (structure) A covered pavilion and picnic area is located east of the intersection of South Park Drive and East Crescent Boulevard (Figure 17a, shaded green area)

NC17. (structure) The start of the 2,000 meter rowing course and six floating start docks is anchored at the western end of Cooper River Lake near the intersection of South Park Drive and Crescent Boulevard (photo

⁴⁶ Stabilization activities consisted of: installing 70 linear feet of gabion baskets; 225 linear feet of cable and concrete; 760 linear feet of a cedar crib wall; 945 linear feet of coir logs, and over 1,000 willow live stakes. Source: <http://www.enviroscapesinc.com/index.php/prjstreambank>

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44). The anchorages are permanently installed in the river; the floating docks attached to them are removed for the winter months.

NC18. (site) A Habitat Conservation area is located north of South Park Drive and about 1500 feet east of South Crescent Boulevard (long shaded rectangle).

NC19. (structure) A Boat Launch ramp for trailer & car-top boats and parking lot is north of South Park Drive on the south shore of Cooper River Lake north of Crestmont Terrace, Borough of Collingswood.

NC20. (building) The Cooper River Yacht Club, constructed ca. 1945, is located at 450 South Park Drive, Collingswood (photo 11, green square).

NC22. (structure) Two bike paths, including a 3.8 mile loop (Cuthbert to Crescent Boulevard) and 1.35 miles (Cuthbert to Grove Street – counted as one feature).

NC23. (object) Sculpture throughout the park and historic district (counted as one resource).

Maria Barnaby Greenwald Memorial Park (47.21 acres)

Maria Barnaby Greenwald Memorial Park (Greenwald Park) is a 47.21 acre park located east of Cooper River Park. It extends 1.3 miles between Grove Street and Kings Highway in Cherry Hill Township bordered on its western side by the Cooper River and on its eastern side by Park Boulevard (photo 13) The Camden County freeholders created Greenwald Park area by renaming the eastern half of Pennypacker Park in honor of the late former Cherry Hill Mayor and Camden County Freeholder Maria Barnaby Greenwald.

The North Branch of the Cooper River flows westward between Cherry Hill's Park Drive and Winding Way/School Lane then beneath Park Boulevard into Greenwald Park to join the Cooper River's main South Branch at a point just east of Haddonfield's Somerset Drive. The park contains open and grassed park land, stands of deciduous trees (photo 13), six foot bridges, approximately 2 miles of unpaved footpaths, including a 1.3 mile path that extends the entire length of the park along the Cooper River, paved footpaths along Park Boulevard, a 1.2 mile bike path, and extensive wooded areas.

The tree-lined South Erlton residential neighborhood of single-family houses borders Park Boulevard north and east of the park between Grove Street and School Lane. Garden style two story apartment buildings border the east side of Park Boulevard between School Lane and Kings Highway. Greenwald Park's boundaries are marked by the Grove Street and Kings Highway bridges. These bridges were integral to the regional transportation network of which the Cooper River Parkway is a part. The bridges were incorporated in the parkway's design and modified as part of the expansion of the highway network that included the Cooper River Parkway. The bridges carried roads that were already established corridors or that became new transportation corridors through Camden County. The bridges continue to link the northern and southern sides of the Cooper River and Greenwald Park.⁴⁷

⁴⁷ Marble, A.D. and Company. *Cultural Resources Survey Report: Route 30/130 Mainline Roadway Improvement, Phase B. Report* prepared for the New Jersey Department of Transportation. Mount Laurel, New Jersey, 2007

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The Greenwald and Pennypacker Park areas were developed by the CCC of the Emergency Conservation Works Administration stationed at Camp Cooper, Haddonfield (photo 45). Two hundred employees thinned and cleared woodlands, planted trees and shrubbery, built foot trails and bridges, dredged for a lake site and for erosion control and bank protection and beautification in 1936-37. They also planted acres of new deciduous forest with the objective of growing

various species of South Jersey flora, consisting of oaks, swamp cedars, red cedars, magnolias, dogwood, sweet gum, holly, alder, laurel, ferns, huckleberry, sand myrtles, *hudsonia*, and ground covers. Considerable viburnum and dogwood were removed and many ash trees and evergreen were transplanted at this park.⁴⁸

Maria Barnaby Greenwald Memorial Park – Contributing Resources

27. Grove Street Bridge – Contributing Structure (photo 34)

The Grove Street Bridge⁴⁹ is located just south of the Park Boulevard/ Grove Street intersection in Cherry Hill Township. County engineer B.M. Schumucker designed the Grove Street Bridge in 1931. Charles Wellford Leavitt & Son described the Grove Street Bridge's predecessor in a 1930 report to Eldridge Johnson. The report said the Stoy Landing Road Bridge had a span of fifty-eight feet and a clearance of nine feet, structurally similar to the bridge at Browning Road. It said that Shumucker reported that "there is contemplated a new bridge at this point which will be considerable above the elevation of the present bridge as we also figure on Stoy Landing Road over-passing the Park Drive."⁵⁰ Camden County chose not to elevate the new bridge or construct an overpass of Park Drive.

28. Seven footbridges – Contributing Structure (counted as 1 resource)

There are 12 foot bridges in the district and 7 in Greenwald Park. The locations of Greenwald Park's seven footbridges are described below, going from west to east:

Bridge 1 crosses a drainage tributary to the Cooper River north of the Erlton Swim Club about two thirds of the way between Park Boulevard and the Cooper River. Bridges 2 and 3 cross a drainage tributary to the Cooper River south of the Camden County Parks Department office complex. Bridge 2 is adjacent to the river. Bridge 3 is along a trail closer to Park Boulevard. Bridge 4 crosses the North Branch of the Cooper River between Park Boulevard and the confluence of the North and South Branches of the Cooper (photo 46). Bridge 5 is near the center of Greenwald Park crossing the Cooper River where it joins with a stream that drains Driscoll Pond near the Wildlife Walk Wayside Exhibit (photo 47). Bridge 6 is on the trail between Bridge 5 and the Kings Highway Bridge on the east side of the Cooper River. Bridge 7 crosses the Cooper River at the southern end of Greenwald Park alongside and north of the Kings Highway Bridge (photo 48).

The locations of 6 Greenwald Park footbridges (Bridges 2-7) are shown on the "Watchable Wildlife Park Trail" Wayside Exhibit (photo 49). The foot bridges in Greenwald Park and all the other district parks are all contributing resource to the historic district because they are characteristic of planned linear parks, enabling the

⁴⁸ Brown, op.cit., p.109

⁴⁹ NJDOT Structure # 044D001.

⁵⁰ Report with regard to bridges over the Cooper River Two Mile Rowing Course contained in a letter to Eldridge R. Johnson from Charles Wellford Leavitt & Son dated January 13, 1930, p. 2

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waterway to be an integral park feature and providing access to all park sections. They are all counted as one contributing resource in Greenwald Park and for the entire district. The Greenwald Park footbridges are constructed using slab or arched concrete and metal rails and constructed using wood.

Non-Contributing Resources – Greenwald Park

Greenwald Park contains resources that are non-contributing to the historic district.⁵¹

[Note: NC24, the Erlton Swim Club, has been excluded from the district, and is thus not counted.]

NC25. (building) The Camden County Parks Department Building, constructed ca. 1970, and its support complex are located at 1301 Park Boulevard, Cherry Hill, southeast of the Erlton Swim Club between the Cooper River and Park Boulevard opposite Whitman Avenue (green square top left). The Park Department complex includes a Silver LEED Environmental Center⁵² wing, a maintenance garage, gasoline pumps, and a former horse stable. The main building is also the location of the Camden County Environmental Center, Home of Rutgers Cooperative Extension, and a Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station.

NC26. (structure) A weather-monitoring station is located about 50 feet west of Park Boulevard south and west of its intersection with Park Drive (Figure 17c, green square east the Camden County Parks Department Buildings).

NC 27. (site) A baseball diamond and field is located on the west side of Park Boulevard south of its intersection with School Land (green square east of Weather Monitoring Station).

NC28. (structure) A 1.8 mile interactive wildlife walk, also called a “Watchable Wildlife Trail,”⁵³ begins on the north shore of the Cooper River south and west of the baseball diamond at the intersection of the north-south Greenwald Park main walking trail and a foot bridge that leads to a trail that goes south and west past Driscoll Pond to Hopkins Pond.

NC29. (structure) A 1.2 mile bike path from Grove Street to Kings Highway.

Pennypacker Park (32.27 acres)

Pennypacker Park, named for a long time Haddonfield historian and botanist James Pennypacker,⁵⁴ is on the southern side of the Cooper River between Grove Street and Kings Highway in Haddonfield (photo 14).

⁵¹ Camden County lists Greenwald Park facilities on its website at: <http://www.camdencounty.com/parks/parks/maria-barnaby-greenwald-memorial>

⁵² Camden County describes the green features of its \$2.4 million Environmental Center, built in 2011, and a slide show of its construction on its website: <http://www.camdencounty.com/parks/parks/environmental-center>

⁵³ Brochures describing the trail are available at the Parks Administration Building.

⁵⁴ A wayside exhibit at the northeast quadrant of the intersection of Grove Street and Coles Mill Road makes the entrance to “Pennypacker Trail.” It states that the trail is “A tribute to James Lane Pennypacker, a beloved student and interpreter of nature.” The Delaware Valley Naturalists Union, which donated the copper memorial plaque, had one of Pennypacker’s poems inscribed on

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Bordered by a residential community of single-family houses on tree-lined streets to the south and west, the park contains open park land and is mostly composed of densely wooded areas within hilly terrain bordered by a flood plain and the man-made Driscoll Pond (photo 16).⁵⁵

***Hadrosaurus foulkii* Leidy Site – (Currently listed in the New Jersey and National Registers)**

Pennypacker Park contains the world-famous *Hadrosaurus foulkii* Leidy dinosaur bones site discovered by William Parker Foulke in October 1858.⁵⁶ The U.S. Department of the Interior designated the site as a National Historic Landmark and listed it in the National Register of Historic Places (National Register) in 1994. **[As an already-listed property, this site is not counted as a contributing or non-contributing site in this nomination.]**⁵⁷

The dinosaur site is located within a densely wooded section of the park beyond the eastern end of Haddonfield's Maple Avenue in a thirty-foot-deep, heavily-wooded ravine that runs parallel to and east of Maple Avenue between Maple and Hawthorne Avenues east of Grove Street in the Borough of Haddonfield. Foulke documented the actual location of the excavation pits on a detailed map that was published in the proceedings of the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences. Foulke discovered the dinosaur as a result of a chance social call at the home of a friend, John Estaugh Hopkins. At Hopkins' home, Birdwood, Foulke viewed an unusually large bone that Hopkins and others had dug up in a nearby marl pit in 1838.⁵⁸ Foulke had Hopkins show him the location and, with Hopkins' permission, returned later with fellow scientist Joseph Leidy to unearth the world's first nearly complete dinosaur skeleton. The bones represented a 25 foot long, 8 ton herbivorous Hadrosaurus that stood from 6-10 feet tall and lived 70-80 million years ago.

A narrow stream, formerly called Birdwood Branch and currently called "Hadrosaurus Run," originates as a spring about 700 feet west of Grove Street south of Maple Avenue and flows east underground to Grove Street and continues to wend its way east past Haddonfield's former sewage disposal plant through the ravine to empty into Cooper River.⁵⁹ Just east of Maple Avenue it exposes bluish-gray and chocolate-colored marl deposits where ancient seashells can still be found. During the Cretaceous period, southern New Jersey at what is now Haddonfield was under about 100 feet of sea water. The actual coast line was located roughly along the region of what is now Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Sea bed sediments ultimately became the marl deposits that are now a common geological feature throughout the southern half of the state. The same marl is rich in fossils of ancient sea life as well as land creatures, such as Hadrosaurus, that sank to the bottom to be quickly covered and naturally preserved.

Contributing Resources – Pennypacker Park

the exhibit: "The passing charm of bird and fragile flowers, a rain upon the pond-side trail, fulfillment of your virile life will hail." Pennypacker died in 1934.

⁵⁵ Camden County's parks website lists Hopkins Pond as being both a part of Pennypacker Park and as a stand-alone park. See <http://www.camdencounty.com/parks/parks/pennypacker-park>

⁵⁶ Camden County's Pennypacker Park website also displays slides showing the National Historic Landmark location.

⁵⁷ NHL ID#974, NR Reference # 94001648.

⁵⁸ See Hoag Levin's website <http://www.levins.com/dinosaur.shtml> for detailed information on the site today, the meaning of the find, and other important site-related links.

⁵⁹ <http://www.westjerseyhistory.org/books/farr/hddnflldplcnmsfarr.htm>

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There are 2 footbridges in Pennypacker Park along the Watchable Wildlife Walk that are contributing resources. They are already counted as one resource along with the district's other footbridges. One wooden footbridge crosses the stream that drains Driscoll Pond. The other crosses a drainage ravine on the footpath between Driscoll Pond and the Kings Highway Bridge.

29. Stone staircase at Kings Highway Bridge – Contributing Structure (photo 50)

A circa 1935 stone staircase is located at the southwest quadrant of the Kings Highway Bridge in the Borough of Haddonfield. The 6 foot wide stairway descends in approximately 30 shallow steps from the Kings Highway sidewalk to a square landing marked by four square shallow stone posts on each corner, then turns 90 degrees to the right going down another 15 steps to the river path below (photo pps2). The stairs are anchored against the steep slope of the bridge embankment by hewn stone base rails that extend a few inches above the lip of each stair step and extend the full length of each stair section on both sides. The risers and rails are composed of a granite grey stone. The landings and the spaces between the edge of each stair step and the stone risers is filled with fine, tightly packed grey stones. This staircase composition and design matches another CCPC stone stairway shown in a CCPC photo published in 1937.⁶⁰

Non-Contributing Resources – Pennypacker Park

NC30. (structure) Driscoll Pond Dam impounds Driscoll Pond, which collects water spilled from Hopkins Pond and is located just east of the Hopkins Pond earthen dam and bridge (photo 16). The pond is named for Alfred E. Driscoll, Governor of New Jersey, who resided in a house that overlooks the pond from 1947 to 1954. The pond is contained by a small wooden dam (photo 51, Figure 18c) and empties into the Cooper River.

NC31. (site) The Haddon Mill site is located north of Driscoll Pond and east of Hopkins Pond (1905 ruins shown in photo 51, Figure 18c).⁶¹ John Estaugh Hopkins built the Haddon Grist Mill at this site in 1789. The mill was initially driven by wind power. The Haddon Mill ground grain and continued to operate until the 1850s. The mill building and ruins shown in photo 51 are no longer standing, but remnants of the rock formation are located behind the Birdwood (described below).

Hopkins Pond Park (33.1 acres)

Hopkins Pond Park is situated in the Borough of Haddonfield, south and west of Pennypacker Park (photo 15). Hopkins Pond Park is bordered on the west by Grove Street and on the north and east by Hopkins Lane. The forested land south of Hopkins Pond Park borders the playing fields of the Bancroft School, Haddonfield High School, and the J. Fithian Tatum Elementary School. It also borders two private properties at the north end of Evergreen Lane.

Hopkins Pond is fed by a stream, known as Hopkins Mill Branch, which originates near Chestnut Street, south of Kings Highway in Haddonfield.⁶² Most of the original stream is piped now, and the stream is evident where it is crossed by a bridge on Grove Street. The stream was dammed in 1789 to provide water power for Hopkins

⁶⁰ Brown, op. cit., p.44

⁶¹ A photo of Haddon Mill, a drawing of its windmill, and a photo of the mill's stonewall remains in the early 1900s are contained in Rauschenberger, Douglas B. *Lost Haddonfield*. Haddonfield: The Historical Society of Haddonfield. 1999) p.79

⁶² See Hopkins Pond at <http://www.westjerseyhistory.org/books/farr/hddnfldplenmsfarr.htm>

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Grist Mill. Hopkins Pond is over ten feet deep at its center and has places where the bottom is 30 feet deep.⁶³ Hopkins Pond Park includes a bird sanctuary, a six mile natural history self-guided interpretive looped tree trail on a wooded and hilly terrain around Hopkins Pond, and a designated fishing area. Hopkins Pond Park includes a footbridge across part of the pond towards its western boundary that is a contributing resource and is counted as 1 resource along with the other 11 footbridges.

John Estaugh Hopkins built Birdwood Farm house, one of the most historic buildings in Haddonfield on the northeast shore of Hopkins Pond for his son William Estaugh Hopkins in 1788 (photo 53). Birdwood is located at 519 Hopkins Lane, Haddonfield. While the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Parks Service, Branch of Plans and Design completed detailed drawings of Birdwood from March 11 to March 25, 1935,⁶⁴ it is not included as a resource to the Cooper River Historic Park District because it is privately owned and not within the boundaries of the district. It is however, immediately adjacent to Hopkins Pond Park and was the home of the owners of the wind and gristmill that operated within the boundaries of Pennypacker Park.

Birdwood also played a central role in the discovery of the world's first dinosaur skeleton in 1858. Hopkins often invited vacationing friends, such as William Parker Foulke, an avid natural historian and geologists, to his estate house for dinner. It was at Birdwood that Foulke first heard the story of and saw one of the strange bones found 20 years earlier by Hopkins' diggers in a marl pit⁶⁵ a short walk from the rear of the house (today at the northeast end of Maple Avenue). With Hopkins' permission, Foulke and Joseph Leidy,⁶⁶ located and re-excavated the old pit, painstakingly documenting and extracting ancient seashells, sharks' teeth and the nearly-complete skeleton of an enormous reptilian creature. The Borough of Haddonfield purchased Hopkins pond, Driscoll and Evans Ponds, and the land surrounding them in 1916. The Hopkins Pond tract of land was 24 acres and cost around \$7000. The Borough sold Hopkins Pond along with the other park properties to the CCPC in 1927.

Contributing Resources - Hopkins Pond Park

There are no unique contributing resources to the historic district in Hopkins Pond Park that are not already counted elsewhere. For example, a pedestrian footbridge located towards the pond's western end is already counted among the historic district's seven other footbridges as one, district-wide contributing resource. Hopkins Pond was called "Silver Lake" in 1928 when Leavitt & Son prepared a landscape plan for the park under contract to the CCPC. The Landscape Plan of Silver Lake Park shows a planned footbridge at the location of a current footbridge. The footpaths designed by Leavitt & Son also closely match the location and alignments of the current footpath system; they are already accounted for as part of the district's system of

⁶³ The five acres of Hopkins Pond experiences intense blue-green algae blooms during warm weather due to excessive nutrient runoff from local lawns, recreational fields and other sources. Hopkins Park was fitted with a Hydro Logic "Airlift" diffuse air aeration system to increase circulation and dissolved oxygen in the pond and artificial floating wetlands to reduce nitrogen and phosphorus by natural microbial action and aquatic vegetation.

⁶⁴ The drawing are part of the Historic American Buildings Survey (Survey No. 6-133, Call Number HABS NJ 4-HADFI 5-) and are available on the Built in America page of the Library of Congress as "Hopkins House, Birdwood-Hopkins Road, Haddonfield, Camden, NJ.: http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/collections/habs_hacr/index.html

⁶⁵ Farmers used dried marl as a fertilizer. Marl is calcium carbonate, off-white clay that was valued for lime deficient soils and as a soil conditioner for sandy soils.

⁶⁶ Leidy was a noted American paleontologist who helped found western American vertebrate paleontology and who was an early American supporter of Darwin's theory of evolution.

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interconnected footpaths and are not separately counted here. Other Leavitt & Son plans for Silver Lake, such as a recreation lawn, boat landing, and picnic groves on the pond's north shore, and a playing field, wading pool, and shelter on the south east shore do not currently exist.

Non-contributing Resources - Hopkins Pond Park

NC32. (structure) The Hopkins Pond Dam and Bridge is located at the eastern end of Hopkins Pond (photo 54) When wind milling proved not to be successful at the Haddon Grist Mill, John Hopkins built a dam at the present dam's location for water power. The dam has been rebuilt and repaired many times and stands today between Hopkins and Driscoll Ponds. Hopkins Pond Park includes a large earthen dam and bridge, around 20 feet high, that impounds Hopkins Pond at its eastern end with Hopkins Lane on top. Hopkins Pond flows into Driscoll Pond.

Wallworth Park (55.65 acres)

Wallworth Park is the first park Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr. designed for the CCPC (1927) and the first park the Commission constructed in the historic district (1928). The park is in Cherry Hill Township and the Borough of Haddonfield and is located east of Greenwald and Pennypacker Parks.⁶⁷ It is bordered by South Kings Highway and various properties on the south side of South Kings Highway, including a cemetery, Park Boulevard, Caldwell Road, Challenge Grove Park, the Kay-Evans (Croft) Farmstead, Elmhurst Avenue, Kresson Road, Ellis Street, Prospect Road, and Roberts Avenue.

Residential multiple-unit buildings are located northeast of the park along Park Boulevard and west of the park along the west side of Evans Mill Road. Single family homes border the park along Roberts Avenue, Prospect Road, and Elmhurst Avenue. Commercial land uses border the park on Kresson Road and two Little League baseball fields border the Park north of Ellis Street. The park includes Wallworth Lake (photo 17) and Evans Pond (photo 18) with open park land on the western side of Wallworth Lake. Evans Pond is approximately 2500 feet long, allowing for its curvature and its widest point measures about 450 feet across.⁶⁸ The pond's surface area is estimated at 16.5 acres.⁶⁹ Wallworth Lake is roughly half as long and not quite as wide as Evans Pond. Dense woods surrounding Evans Pond and the area north and east of Wallworth Lake. The development of the Cooper River park system started in Delaware Township (now Cherry Hill Township) adjacent to Haddonfield on 34 acres of "swamp and wasteland" known locally as part of Munn Farm or Munn's Meadow and now named Wallworth Park. The CCPC started constructing Munn's Meadow Park shortly after requisitioning funds from the Board of Chosen Freeholders in December 1927.

Leavitt & Son designed the Munn's Meadow Park Landscape Plan in October 1927, the same month the Parks Commission formally retained the firm (Figure 10). The CCPC built Munn's Meadow Park and the Club House in 1928. The swamp and waste lands were dredged and filled forming a lake connected with the overflowing water of Evans Lake. The improvements consist of a Colonial recreation building, a comfort

⁶⁷ In 1939 the Parks Commission reported that Wallworth Park comprised 34 acres and the Evans Lake area approximately 39 acres. Brown, op.cit., p.31

⁶⁸ Evans Lake was described as being 2,300 feet long and 300 feet wide in 1937. Brown, op.cit., p. 122

⁶⁹ Garwood, Deborah A. *Evans Pond: A Long-term Study of a Single Place*. Haddonfield, N.J.: Hunter & Co., 2009, pp. 8-9.

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station and a series of tennis courts.⁷⁰ The CCPC renamed Munn's Meadows Park in honor of its first President, Senator Joseph F. Wallworth⁷¹ after he died on August 20, 1933.

Wallworth Park - Contributing Resources

30. The Kings Highway Bridge -- Contributing Structure (photo 19).⁷²

The Kings Highway Bridge built in 1915. As with the other four contributing resource bridges in the district, the Kings Highway Bridge was not designed by Leavitt, but was integral to the regional transportation network of which the Cooper River Parkway was part. Leavitt incorporated it into the design for the parkway and Munn's Meadow Park. The bridge carries a road, Kings Highway that, as in the case of Kaighn Avenue, was already an established corridor in Camden County. The bridge also served as a physical and visual link between the northern and southern sides of the Cooper River Parkway and historic park system.

31. Wallworth Lake concrete and river stone-faced dam -- Contributing Structure (photo 20).

A concrete and river stone-faced dam is on the northwest border of Wallworth Lake about 150 feet east of the Kings Highway bridge (photo 20). Leavitt designed the Wallworth Lake dam as shown on his October 1927 Munns Meadow Park Landscape Plan. The CCPC constructed the dam in 1928.⁷³

32. Kings Highway Pennsylvania mica stone staircase and retaining wall. -- Contributing Structure (photo 55)

A WPA era Pennsylvania mica stone staircase and retaining wall leading from the intersection of Kings Highway and Evans Mill Road down to the park. This staircase is intact and matches a photo of it that the CCPC published in 1937.⁷⁴

[The 1928 Wallworth Park Club House (photo 21)]

[Note: The Wallworth Park Club House was demolished in 2014; thus it is not counted as a resource].

Wallworth Park is the first park that the CCPC built in the Cooper River Park system. The Wallworth Club House was the first building the Parks Commission built in the historic district during the period of significance (1925-1940). The Club House was an important visual feature of Wallworth Park and the surrounding landscape. The Commission constructed the Club House on a rise near the confluence of the Cooper River and a tributary that is south of and parallels Park Boulevard to complement a tennis court complex it built just east of the Club House along Bortons Mill Road. Leavitt's 1927 Landscape Plan for Munn's Meadow Park proposed the tennis court complex and a comfort station where the Parks Commission built the Club House (Figure 10).

⁷⁰ Brown, Ibid.

⁷¹ Wallworth was President of the NJ Senate in 1923. Born in Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, Pa., February 24, 1876. Republican. Member of New Jersey state house of assembly from Camden County, 1919-20; member of New Jersey state senate from Camden County, 1921-23; chair of Camden County Republican Party, 1925-27. Member, Elks; Freemasons; Shriners.

⁷² The concrete arch footbridge shown in the foreground of the photo of the Kings Highway bridge is one of the seven contributing resource footbridges in the district. They are all is counted as one contributing resource.

⁷³ Guzzo, Dorothy P. *Letter to Mr. Clifford Day dated February 16, 2000*. Trenton: HPO Log #00-700. HPO-B2000-76, p. 2.

Brown, op.cit. p.117 contains two photographs of "Views of Lake and Dam at Wallworth Park" that show the stone and masonry dam much as it appears today.

⁷⁴ Brown, op. cit., p.96

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The Club House was situated to command views of Evans Pond, Evans Pond Dam, Wallworth Lake, and the Croft Farm. According to the Commission's official history, this building, unlike buildings in other parks of the system, was of Colonial Revival design, deliberately to recall Haddonfield's history.⁷⁵ The Club House "interior included a large fireplace at one end and furniture of a design that was popular in Colonial days."⁷⁶ (photo 56) External views of the Club House in 1937 are shown in photo 57 and ca. 1964 in photo 58.

Footbridges (previously counted)

There are 2 footbridges in Wallworth Park that are counted as 1 district-wide contributing resource along with the other 10 district footbridges. They are characteristic of planned linear parks enabling the river to be an integral park feature and providing access to all park sections. The first footbridge is a concrete slab arched footbridge crossing the Cooper River just east of the Kings Highway Bridge (photo 19). It is in the same location as designed in Leavitt's October 1927 Munn's Meadow Park Landscape Plan. The second footbridge is made of Pennsylvania mica stone and masonry (photo 59). It is located near Wallworth Lake and adjacent to a drainage ditch on the north side of a Cooper River Tributary that runs between Park Boulevard and the Club House. A one mile nature trail winds through a mature forest bordering Evans Pond from the Evans Pond Dam to the northwest corner of ball fields south of the Kay-Evans Farmstead.

Footpath (previously counted) Leavitt & Son completed its preliminary study for Evans Pond Park in June 1928 (Figure 9). The pathway shown on Leavitt's plan on the southern side of the pond between Munn's Meadow Park and the eastern end of Elmhurst Avenue exists today. However, instead of continuing west to Kresson Road as shown on Leavitt's plan, the path currently turns east on the north of a ravine north of Elmhurst and links to other Croft Farm nature trails that surround and pass through woodlands between Brace Road and the Kay Evans Farmstead to connect with Wallworth Park. A narrow footpath on the western shore of Evans Pond currently follows Leavitt & Son's 1928 plan from Ellis Street (Potter Street on the 1928 study) past a pump house to a steep ravine that extends from Springfield Terrace to the pond. The footpath turns west on the south side of the ravine climbing up hill to Springfield Terrace. There are no footpaths beyond this ravine around the remainder of the pond's western shore to Evans Road as shown on the Leavitt & Son study.

Non-Contributing Resources – Wallworth Park

There are several old dam sites / mill sites in the Wallworth Park area, including grist mills, a saw mill, and a fulling mill.⁷⁷

NC33. (site) Thomas Kendall built the first mill dam in 1679 on a site where the Old Salem Road crossed the Cooper River between Ellis Street and Bortons Mill Road. He built a corn mill at a site on the Haddonfield side of the river about 100 yards further downstream at the end of a race-way cut in the bank.⁷⁸ [Note: This

⁷⁵ Brown, op.cit., p.118

⁷⁶ Brown, op.cit. p.119

⁷⁷ They have been described in Boyer's Old Mills of Camden County, p. 30; Clement, p. 171; T.I.H., p. 214; Prowell, p. 608.

⁷⁸ Clement, op.cit., p. 172

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site, although present during the period of significance, was unrelated to the park, and is therefore classified as non-contributing to this district. Its age, however, and its evident relationship to important events in Haddonfield and Camden County history, mean that further evaluation of this site may reveal that it meets the National Register Criteria, and would therefore be individually eligible, and in that event would become a contributing site in this district.]

NC34. (site) John Kay rebuilt the mill and a new dam in 1779 at the current site of the Evans Pond dam, enlarging the mill pond (NC28).⁷⁹ Kay's Mill Dam created what was referred to as Isaac Kay's Mill Pond in 1798. [Note: This site, although present during the period of significance, was unrelated to the park, and is therefore classified as non-contributing to this district. Its age, however, and its evident relationship to important events in Haddonfield and Camden County history, mean that further evaluation of this site may reveal that it meets the National Register Criteria, and would therefore be individually eligible, and in that event would become a contributing site in this district.]

NC35. (structure) The current concrete and wooden bridge spanning the Cooper River after it spills over the Evans Pond Dam was built in 1913.

NC36. (site) Thomas Evans purchased the mill and property from Mathias Kay in 1819 and rebuilt the mill in 1839.⁸⁰ The mill pond was renamed Evans Mill Pond. An Evans mill site is on the southeast side of the Evans Pond Dam (NC30).⁸¹ [Note: This site, although present during the period of significance, was unrelated to the park, and is therefore classified as non-contributing to this district. Its age, however, and its evident relationship to important events in Haddonfield and Camden County history, mean that further evaluation of this site may reveal that it meets the National Register Criteria, and would therefore be individually eligible, and in that event would become a contributing site in this district.]

NC37. (site) The site of the 1902 S.A. Willits Flour and Feed Mill is on the north east side of the Evans Pond Dam (NC30).⁸² The Willits mill had two turbine wheels and a steam wheat heater. The site of the ruins of the former Evans & Willits Grist Mill that burned in Fall of 1913 is also on the north east side of the Evans Pond dam.⁸³

Challenge Grove Park (17.77 acres)

⁷⁹ Prowell, op.cit., p. 609. For more information on the history of John Kay and his family in Camden County civic and business affairs, particularly the mills, see <http://www.us-roots.org/njcamden/history/part2chapter11.html>

⁸⁰ Walter W. Evans gave a date stone from the 1779 mill to the Camden County Historical Society in 1956. In an accompanying memorandum he stated that the 1779 mill was one story tall and built of sandstone, and that Thomas Evans had added a second story in 1839. Source: <http://www.westjerseyhistory.org/books/farr/hddnfdplcnmsfarr.htm>

⁸¹ The Evans mill footprint is shown on Sheet 1 of the 1887 Sanborn maps of Haddonfield, NJ at: <http://gisserver.princeton.edu:81/navigatorMapView.htm?map=10859>

⁸² The Willits flout mill footprint site as of September 1902 is shown on Sheet 9 of the 1902 Sanborn maps of Haddonfield, NJ at: <http://gisserver.princeton.edu:81/navigatorMapView.htm?map=10886>

⁸³ The Evans and Willits grist mill ruins site as of October 1914 is shown on Sheet 2 of the 1914 Sanborn maps of Haddonfield, NJ at: <http://gisserver.princeton.edu:81/navigatorMapView.htm?map=10906>

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Challenge Grove Park, in Cherry Hill Township, is located between Bortons Mill and Caldwell roads, the tree line at the top of a ravine that contains a Cooper River tributary that runs parallel to and south of Park Boulevard, and a bus parking lot just east of Wallworth Lake and the Wallworth Park Club House. This park has no contributing resources and contains the following non-contributing resources in geographical ordered from west to east:

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| NC38. A Basketball Court. | (structure) |
| NC 39. A Fitness Quad. | (structure) |
| NC 40. A Paved Track 1/4 mile. | (structure) |
| NC 41. A "Miracle Field" fully accessible baseball field. ⁸⁴ | (site) |
| NC 42. An open pavilion with indoor restrooms. | (building) |
| NC 43. Jake's Place "boundless playground." ⁸⁵ | (structure) |
| NC 44. Two Bocci Courts. | (site) |
| NC 45. A Softball Field. | (site) |
| NC 46. A landscaped donor recognition garden. | (site) |
| NC 47. Paved pathways connecting all facilities. | (structure) |
| NC 48. An octagon shelter called the John Kay Pavilion. ⁸⁶ | (structure) |

Historic Integrity

The Cooper River Park Historic District possesses a high degree of historic integrity. It possesses qualities of location, setting, and design that together convey its significance in the areas of Community Planning, Conservation, and Landscape Architecture and that represent its defined period of significance, 1925 to 1940. The Cooper River Park Historic District has retained its integrity of location because it occupies its original location as designed by the landscape architecture firm of Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr., and Sons in 1925 and 1927. The rowing course, originally designed by Leavitt, is still in the location that was chosen during its 1938 WPA redesign prior to construction. Although park features, such as recreational facilities, picnic facilities, ball fields, parking lots, and other features, might not be in the original location or exactly as drawn on plans, most of the main character-defining features of the park system, such as the Cooper River, Cooper River Lake, North and South Park Drives, and the stone masonry features, are in the same locations that are indicated on plans created either in 1925, 1937, or 1938, all of which are within the period of significance. The historic district has retained its integrity of design because the original 1925 concept of the linear park and parkway, with the central focus of the waterway, has been retained and is still clearly evident when observing and using the park system. The district has retained its integrity of materials for the most part because the landscape materials used are still there. While individual plant specimens are not currently as they were planted, on the whole, the material used to form the park system is still in existence: the fill, grass material, and some vegetation. Not all of the stone masonry has survived; only three of the five original staircases leading from Crescent Boulevard into the park exist. The remaining stone masonry retaining walls, staircases, pavilion, platform, bleachers, and tree planters are extant, and with 3 or four exceptions appear to be in good condition. The historic district retains its integrity of workmanship, especially as evidenced by the stone masonry features.

⁸⁴ This is the first fully accessible baseball field built in Camden County that provides children with disabilities a chance to play baseball.

⁸⁵ Allows children and adults of all abilities to play and interact.

⁸⁶ This pavilion resides on the site of the former Haddonfield Music Circus.

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The talent of the builders, apparently Italian-American masons working for the WPA, is still evident. The historic district has retained its integrity of feeling, which is expressed in the expanses of open space available to anyone who uses the park system, the direct access to the water throughout the parks, and the scenic views of land and water from a number of locations within the parks. The historic district has retained its integrity of association. The park system still retains character-defining features, such as the bodies of water, winding drives and footpaths, and stone masonry features, all of which convey its close association with the City Beautiful Movement and with landscape architecture ideals of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

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Statement of Significance

Summary Paragraph

Designed by master landscape architect Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr. and designed and built between 1925 and 1940, the Cooper River Park Historic District is a significant civic project that embodies the City Beautiful Movement, a progressive reform philosophy of American city and community planning. The creation of the Cooper River parks was a major event in Camden County history, and on the statewide level, it brought to southern New Jersey the sort of park development resulting from master planning that was otherwise restricted to northern New Jersey. The City Beautiful Movement extended to many American cities and became part of comprehensive town planning until the 1930's.¹ City Beautiful advocates and planners believed in the philosophical premise that urban beauty and monumental grandeur were both intrinsically desirable and necessary to foster moral and civic virtue and health among urban populations.² The Reform Park Movement (1900–1930), which advocated a shift from designing parks as pleasure gardens to parks with many outdoor recreation facilities, also influenced the design of the Cooper River Park Historic District.³ Reform Park proponents argued that park recreation provided a moral defense against the potential social chaos engendered by free time⁴ and gave “young men an opportunity to keep themselves developing physically, as well as mentally.”⁵ The Cooper River Park Historic District embodies Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr.'s landscape designs and philosophy. Some consider Leavitt “a genius and a complete master of the traditions and possibilities of his medium.”⁶ Leavitt began as a civil engineer designing and directing water, sewer, road, and other municipal facility construction projects but ended it as one of the nation's leading landscape architects known for his ability to engineer and plan by integrating three disciplines (urban planning, horticulture, and landscape architecture) in his projects. The Cooper River Park is an excellent example of Leavitt's ability to design an integrated linear park using his unusual breadth of knowledge of both engineering and landscape architecture principles. The Cooper River Park Historic District is significant for (1) its City Beautiful Movement landscape design; (2) its departure from single park plans to a comprehensive park and boulevard system; (3) reshaping existing swamp land and indistinct landforms into scenic and recreational landscapes; (4) its location near urban areas; (5) its adherence to the belief that park land equipped with active recreation facilities was beneficial and restorative for urban residents; and (6) the introduction of the use of landscape architecture firms as professional consultants to clients. Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr. became a leading advocate and practitioner of the City Beautiful Movement. He designed the Cooper River Park system during the same period that the better-known Olmsted Brothers were creating a linear park system in Union County, New Jersey in the rivers' flood plains there. The comprehensive design of the Cooper River Park system and its features, including its designed landscape centered on the Cooper River and the former swamp land surrounding it, its location near the City of Camden, and its design by the professional landscape architecture firm Charles

¹ Freestone, R., “Designing Australia's cities.” UNSW Press, Kensington, (2007), pp. 5–79.

² Bluestone, Daniel M. and Columbia University, “Detroit's City Beautiful and the Problem of Commerce,” *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians*, Vol. XLVII, No. 3, pp. 245-62. (September 1988).

³ Cranz, Galen, “Changing Roles of Urban Parks: From Pleasure Garden to Open Space,” *SPUR Newsletter*, June 2000.

⁴ John-Alder, Kathleen. Correspondence Regarding Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr., August 1, 2011.

⁵ Johnson, Eldridge, “Address: To the business men of Camden,” *Supplement to Health, Sunshine and Wealth*, October 11, 1928, pp: 18-19.

⁶ Leland, Ernest Stevens. “Planting the Mausoleum Plot.” *Park and Cemetery and Landscape Gardening* 22 (May 1912); 12, p. 313.

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Wellford Leavitt, Jr. and Son, all embody hallmarks of the City Beautiful Movement. The Cooper River Park Historic District meets National Register Criterion A in the areas of Community Planning and Development and Conservation for its association with the broad patterns of history in community planning, development, entertainment, and recreation as an example of an early 20th century public park, and under Criterion C for its embodiment of the work of a master landscape architect Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr. and of the distinctive character of a type of landscape architecture focused around a waterway following the design concepts promulgated by the Olmsted Brothers.⁷ The period of significance for the Cooper River Park Historic District is 1925-1940.

Period of Significance (justification)

In January 1925 the firm of Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr., and Son delineated preliminary plans and diagrams for a Cooper River Parkway, a "park extending the length of the Cooper River Valley from Camden to Haddonfield."⁸ The construction of the Benjamin Franklin Bridge, which opened to traffic between Philadelphia to Camden in July 1926, significantly influenced the location and initial design of Leavitt's park and parkways. New highways being built to direct traffic in and around the City of Camden to and from the new bridge also influenced Leavitt's design for parks and parkways centered on the Cooper River. In 1927 the CCPC retained Leavitt to design Munn's Meadow Park, the first park in the Cooper River Park system, and to begin acquiring parcels and riparian rights along the Cooper River and the course of the planned parks. Camden County completed construction of the Cooper River Park system by 1940 after receiving extensive financial and construction assistance from various Federal relief programs during the Great Depression.

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Cooper River Park Historic District is a focal point of the Camden County Park System and a manifestation of several planning trends that were occurring nationwide. County and municipal park commissions in New Jersey were increasingly established in response to enabling legislation passed in the 1890s. The City Beautiful Movement, a city and community planning and urban design philosophy, that extended from approximately 1893 into the 1930s and that advocated improving and reforming cities and citizens through beautification, was also expanding during the same time period the Cooper River Park System was designed and constructed. By 1910, more than two thousand groups for civic improvement existed in the United States.

The designers of the City Beautiful Movement intended their plans would ameliorate the social ills cities, inspire civic loyalty and moral rectitude among the impoverished, and create a more inviting city center for the upper classes to work in and spend their money.⁹ The City Beautiful Movement "combined aesthetic concerns, a new approach to municipal control, and social uplift ideology in an effort to improve society on both physical and social grounds."¹⁰ Cities and towns responded to the movement by acquiring and preserving undervalued, industrial, or outlying land and creating man-made public parks in and around their urban areas.

⁷ Guzzo, Dorothy P. op.cit., p.2

⁸ Leavitt, Charles W., Jr. *Health, Sunshine and Wealth*, Published privately by Eldridge Johnson, Camden, N.J., 1928)

⁹ Rose, Julie K. "The City Beautiful Movement." Article on American studies website.
<http://xroads.virginia.edu/~CAP/CITYBEAUTIFUL/city.html>. Accessed on April 1, 2010.

¹⁰ Chambliss, Julian C. "Perfecting Space: J. Horace McFarland and the American Civic Association." *Project MUSE Journals, Pennsylvania History: A Journal of Mid-Atlantic Studies* 77 (Autumn 2010). University Park, Pennsylvania: Penn State University Press

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A study of municipal parks found that between 1925 and 1926 many were changing over to a new focus on recreational goals rather than fostering the picturesque idyll.¹¹ It concluded that parks were now about recreation rather than contemplation and relaxation. No longer was passive contemplation of the pleasure ground acceptable; organized activity, such as sporting events, was the way to be sure the working class would experience nature. Advocates of reform began promoting the building of tennis courts, baseball diamonds, and golf courses among other sports areas. Even the passive enjoyment of picnicking was organized as "picnic areas" were created. Shelters, such as picnic shelters, toilet buildings, and refreshment stands, were erected to integrate the comforts nature did not provide.

Camden County's local response to the city and park planning trends originated with the Greater Camden Movement which began in 1919 and ended in 1929. The movement's leaders believed that Some day Camden City would become the center of a giant metropolitan region with suburban county towns serving as satellite residential neighborhoods for the riverfront governmental and business city.¹²

The leaders of the Greater Camden Movement wanted to plan and coordinate this regional development, direct economic and political unification of Camden City with its suburbs, establish a uniform educational and public service system, and provide a master plan for county buildings. In 1922 they persuaded Camden County suburban towns sent representatives to join Camden City representatives to form the Associated Municipalities of Camden to advance the Greater Camden Concept. They formed the Greater Camden Commission and in turn joined with the new Camden Chamber of Commerce to promote the Greater Camden idea.

A Camden to Philadelphia suspension bridge symbolized the Greater Camden Movement. City Beautiful Movement architect Paul Philippe Cret¹³ designed the Delaware River Bridge (renamed the Benjamin Franklin Bridge in 1956) to be the world's then longest single span suspension bridge.

The Delaware River Bridge construction commenced in 1922 after it became clear that increases in automobile traffic were overwhelming the inability of even a modernized ferry system to keep pace with demand for river crossings and after long lines of automobiles waiting to cross backed up in city streets.

Following an internecine political struggle among Republicans leaders, Camden City voters elected a Progressive Democrat, Victor King, mayor in 1922. King launched reforms to reorganize city government, eliminate excess offices, wasted money, and corruption and improve administrative efficiency to more effectively promote the Greater Camden plan.¹⁴ Given Camden City's prosperity, growth, and impending

¹¹ Weir, Lebert Howard, *Parks: A Manual of Municipal and County Parks*, for the Playground and Recreation Association of America and the American Institute of Park Executives, 1928.

¹² Dorwart, 1976, op.cit., p.208

¹³ Cret was a prolific and influential architect in the Philadelphia, a professor at the University of Pennsylvania from 1903 to 1937, and the principle designer of the Benjamin Franklin Parkway, the Rodin Museum, Rittenhouse Square, and the Memorial Arch at Valley Forge.

¹⁴ Dorwart, op.cit., p. 210

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increase in traffic from the bridge, Mayor King, "...in the finest expression of Progressivism, hired noted city planner Charles W. Leavitt."¹⁵

Camden City recruited urban planning expert Charles W. Leavitt of New York who drew up elaborate blueprints for a beautiful bridge boulevard parkway. Leavitt's plans included a multi-lane expressway from the city line to the bridge, landscaped on either side by flowers, shrubs, while a lovely park complete with bicycle paths and benches filled the area between the roadway and Cooper River.¹⁶

In January 1925 Charles Wellford Leavitt & Son prepared a comprehensive regional plan that included a new Camden City civic center overlooking the Cooper River and located where Campbell Soup's corporate headquarters are located today: 1 Campbell Place. The Leavitt regional plan included a grand bridge boulevard approach to the new Delaware River Bridge via Linden and Penn Streets and Bridge Plaza,¹⁷ a proposed new bridge over the Cooper River,¹⁸ an integrated road network surrounding Camden, and a system of interconnected parks along Camden County's creeks and rivers. Leavitt labeled part of this plan, which extended from the proposed Camden City civic center east to Haddonfield, the "Cooper River Parkway." (Figure 3)

Leavitt's park plans had been partly anticipated for Haddonfield by City Beautiful Movement advocate by J. Horace McFarland¹⁹ a decade earlier. McFarland, creator of the American Civic Association, and others had promoted a Haddonfield linear park in 1915 and had persuaded the Borough of Haddonfield to purchase several parcels of land in 1916 for a new park system. These parcels eventually were incorporated into the Cooper River Park as Wallworth Park, Hopkins Pond, and Evans Pond.

Through the Greater Camden Movement Camden City officials and leaders became part of the City Beautiful Movement by attempting to simultaneously create a more attractive city and a more functional regional highway network. Their plans to establish a county-wide park system was a part of this effort. Leavitt's philosophy and plans embodied the movement's desire that a park system should provide "sunshine and health from outdoor exercise, wealth from the increased value of the land, and happiness in the enjoyment of playing in the open."²⁰

Some of the advertised benefits of the new park system aligned with the goals of another planning movement, the Reform Park Movement, which was also occurring at the same time as the City Beautiful Movement. Reform Park Movement advocates called for the construction of recreation facilities and venues within public parks to meet the growing recreational demands of society.

¹⁵ Dorwart, op.cit., p. 211

¹⁶ Dorwart, op.cit., p. 216

¹⁷ Now Admiral Wilson Boulevard and NJ Route 30.

¹⁸ A bridge currently spans the Cooper River at Leavitt's proposed 1925 location,

¹⁹ J. Horace McFarland (1859-1948) was one of the first Americans to sound the call for environmental and scenic protection -- disseminating the ideal of preserving -- not merely conserving -- natural resources. He was a Harrisburg, PA business and civic leader, who rose to prominence as one of America's leading proponents of urban beautification and scenic preservation.

²⁰ Leavitt, Charles Wellford, Jr., "Camden in Planning for Growth in Systematic Manner Goes Long Way in Assuring Health and Happiness of Citizens," *Camden First*, October 1924

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In the nineteenth century, urban public parks were seen more as pleasure grounds and places for passive enjoyment where the only activities were sitting, strolling, viewing, and picnicking. Parks were viewed primarily as open space to counter the increasingly crowded conditions of the cities surrounding them.

The Reform Park Movement saw urban parks differently as the leisure time increased. Reform Park Movement advocates believed that urban parks could be used in a more active fashion and that intentional play and sports activity would prevent the social chaos that might result from too much free time.²¹ Park planners started to incorporate recreation facilities, venues, and large playgrounds (or play areas) in their park designs.

Leavitt's Cooper River Park plans reflected the influence of the Reform Park Movement. His June 1928 plan for a "Cooper River Two Mile Rowing Course" also included active recreation facilities on both sides of Cooper Lake including: playgrounds; clock golf; three baseball diamonds; two swimming pools; two archery ranges; a field for hockey, lacrosse, or soccer field; a volleyball area; many tennis courts; a bowling green; several areas with handball courts; a croquet lawn; horseshoe courts; a cricket field; and seven dock areas for boats (Figure 12).

Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr. (photo 60)

The Cooper River Park Historic District's significance in embodying the work of a master is evident in examining the life and work of Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr. (1871 – 1928) and his firm, Charles Leavitt & Son.

Leavitt was born in Riverton, New Jersey and educated at The Gunnery preparatory school in Washington, Connecticut and the Cheltenham Military Academy in Pennsylvania. He was an American landscape architect, urban planner, and civil engineer who began his career directing the engineering and construction of water, sewer, roads, and other municipal facilities.

One of his first jobs was assistant engineer in charge of construction for the East Jersey Water Company. In 1891 he was the engineer in charge of construction for the Caldwell Railway. He worked for the New York Suburban Land Company between 1893 and 1895 when he left to become the city engineer for Essex Fells, New Jersey, where he supervised the city's water supply, sewers and sewage disposal, and road construction.²²

In 1897 Leavitt set up his own practice at 220 Broadway in New York City and began to take on large landscape design, civil engineering and architecture projects. He practiced in these areas until his premature death from pneumonia in 1928. Gordon Leavitt joined his firm and continued its operation after his father's death until 1940. Leavitt successfully transitioned from working as a civil engineer to practicing in the fields of city and urban planning, landscape architecture, and horticulture, with no formal education. His facility and success in each discipline is evidenced by the firm's wide-ranging portfolio that included private, public, and institutional projects.

²¹ John-Alder, op.cit.

²² Hohmann, Heidi. "Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr.," *Pioneers of American Landscape Design*. Edited by Charles A. Birnbaum and Robin Karson. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2000, p. 224

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Leavitt first advertised himself as a landscape "engineer," reportedly preferring this title because it better represented his engineering background and reflected his interest in large-scale projects involving civil engineering.²³ After becoming involved in city planning, Leavitt's advertisements in magazines such as *Town Development* in 1914 announced that he was a "City Planner" as well as a "Civil and Landscape Engineer." Leavitt described himself as a "Landscape Architect" when appealing to audiences through his articles on residential gardening and landscape design in popular magazines.²⁴

Elite clients hired Leavitt to design their landscapes, drives, and gardens. His most prominent clients, who he met through his New York social connections and professional involvement as a municipal engineer, included John D. Rockefeller, Walter P. Chrysler, William C. Whitney, George B. Post, Colonel Clarence S. Wadsworth, Simon Guggenheim, Chester Congdon, John F. Dodge, Foxhall Keene, James Buchanan Duke, Daniel S. Lamont, Bethlehem Steel magnate Charles M. Shwab, Mrs. Potter Palmer in Sarasota, Florida, and W.K. Jewitt in Pasadena, California.²⁵

Leavitt's most notable and touted residential commission was the Charles M. Schwab estate at Loretto, Pennsylvania, whose formal terraced and elaborate gardens were highlighted in a number of magazines, including the June 1920 issue of *Country Life*.

Country clubs were another area of expertise for Leavitt. He designed landscape plans for the Biltmore Country Club in Rye, New York; the New Orleans Country Club, in New Orleans, Louisiana; and the Rumson Country in Rumson, New Jersey, which he highlighted in a 1910 exhibit sponsored by the T-Square Club and the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

The Palisades Interstate Parkway Commission (PIPC) hired Leavitt in 1903 as its chief engineer.²⁶ As chief engineer Leavitt proposed the Henry Hudson Drive along the length of the Palisades at the base of the cliffs. His ideas were precursors for the design of the Palisades Interstate Parkway and the Henry Hudson Drive, which opened in sections between 1921 and 1926.

Leavitt applied his city planning skills creating plans for Garden City and Long Beach, New York; New Cape May, New Jersey; Lakeland, Florida; and Jamaica Estates, New York.²⁷ His plans for the latter received positive reviews by the *New York Times* in its August 11, 1907, issue, which called Jamaica Estates an "attractive street system."²⁸ A New York City newspaper publisher, Julius David Stone, lauded Leavitt, saying that he was "a rare combination of engineer, artist and diplomat."

²³ Ibid.

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ Schopp, Paul, Nomination, "Sears, Roebuck and Company Retail Department Store, Camden City, Camden County, New Jersey," *National Register of Historic Places*, p. 13

²⁶ The New York and New Jersey state legislatures established the commission in 1900 to develop an interstate park along the Palisades of the Hudson River.

²⁷ Hohmann, op. cit.

²⁸ Ballenas, Carl and the Aquinas Honor Society of the Immaculate Conception School. Jamaica Estates. *Images of America Series*. Charleston, South Carolina: Arcadia Publishing, 2010

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Leavitt completed planning and landscape designs for cemeteries, and his comprehensive work included: plans for entire cemetery layouts such as the Mount Carmel Cemetery in Kings County, Brooklyn, New York; cemetery entranceways, such as those in Mount Carmel Cemetery, showcased in the May 1912 issue of *Park and Cemetery and Landscape Gardening* magazine; the Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Pleasantville, New York, which was highlighted in "Great Modern Memorials," in *Stone* magazine in October 1919; and family mausoleums such as the Bache Mausoleum in Woodlawn Cemetery, New York City.²⁹

Leavitt designed racetracks and other large sports venues. His firm designed tracks and facilities at Belmont Park, Saratoga, Sheepshead Bay, Montreal, Toronto and Winnipeg. Leavitt's experience in steel and concrete constructs while designing the Belmont and Saratoga racetracks helped him present a plan for Forbes Field in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania – the only ballpark he would design. As a result Leavitt was contracted to design the stadium's grandstand. Forbes Field was considered so immense --- so far beyond anything else in America in the way of a baseball park – that old experts accustomed to judging crowds at a glance were at a loss for reasonable figures of attendance at the first game played there on June 30, 1909 between the Pirates and the Chicago Cubs.³⁰ The stadium was widely considered the best in the league.³¹

Charles Wellford Leavitt specialized in the design of school campuses and completed plans for the University of Georgia at Athens; the University of South Carolina, Columbia; and the Berry School in Rome, Georgia.

Leavitt collaborated with other landscape architects as well on his projects. Because of his particular skill, Leavitt was hired by the Olmsted Brothers to design the Italian Gardens on the grounds of the Jacob Tome Institute in Port Deposit, Maryland.³² Leavitt's institutional projects included designing the grounds for the Kingston Hospital and the New Jersey State Village for Epileptics.³³

Leavitt's work for the City of Camden was preceded by his work in Colorado Springs, Colorado, with his 1909 design of Monument Valley Park. In 1914, Leavitt prepared plans and specifications for improvements to Mahon Stacy Park in Trenton, New Jersey.³⁴ In 1916 the City of Philadelphia's Fairmount Park Commission employed Leavitt to design a park on newly-acquired land adjacent to and north of the city in the Pennypack Creek Valley. Leavitt prepared plans for a linear park that was similar to other linear parks, with the meandering creek as the park's focal point.³⁵

²⁹ Leland, Ernest Stevens. "Planting the Mausoleum Plot." *Park and Cemetery and Landscape Gardening* 22 (May 1912), pp. 12, 313.

³⁰ Pittsburgh Press 1939

³¹ McCollister, John, *The Bucs! The Story of the Pittsburgh Pirates*, Lenexa, KS: Addax Publishing Group (1998)

³² *Tome School Prospectus* (1919-1920). Article and photograph published in the school yearbook for the year 1919-1920.

³³ Letchworth, William Pryor, LLD, ed. *Transactions of the National Association for the Study of Epilepsy*, (Buffalo: C.E. Brinkworth, 1901)

³⁴ *Trenton Evening Times*, 1914

³⁵ Leavitt, Charles Wellford, Jr. "Plan for Pennypack Park Submitted to the Fairmount Park Commission, June 1916." Found on http://www.pennypackpark.org/pennypack_park_1916_plan.htm. Accessed April 2010.

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Leavitt earned an enviable reputation through a wide range of professional experience. His work grew large enough that he employed several hundred engineers, designers and draftsman. Leavitt "was considered one of America's foremost city planners and landscape engineers" according an extensive *Camden Evening Courier* article at the time of his death on April 22, 1928.³⁶ The City of Philadelphia was in the process of retaining his services as City Planner when he died.

Charles Wellford Leavitt was a prolific writer on wide-ranging topics published in a variety of journals for specialized markets. Professional journals and trade magazines, such as *Transactions of the American Society of Civil Engineers*, *Engineering News*, *Town Development*, *Architecture*, and the *Journal of American Concrete Institute*, published Leavitt's articles with titles such as "Property Improvement and Landscaping"³⁷ and "Stands, Stadia, and Bowls."³⁸ Some of his well-known projects, such as the Simon Guggenheim estate in Elberon, New Jersey, were highlighted in articles such as, "New Water Features for Country Estates," in *Country Life in America*.³⁹

Leavitt collaborated with other landscape architects on article submissions. "Garden Architecture in America," an article by Leavitt and other notable landscape architects of the day, was published in *Broadway Magazine* and featured photographs of Leavitt's designs for the Guggenheim estate.⁴⁰ Another article, "Farm Group for Charles M. Schwab, Esq., at Loretto, PA," co-authored by Leavitt and the project architects, Murphy and Dana, and published in *The Architectural Review*, featured a rendering, a site plan, and photographs of Leavitt's well-known landscape commission.⁴¹ *The American City*, a City Beautiful Movement magazine published by the American Civic Association's Civic Press and devoted to "the betterment of urban life," published Leavitt's article, "Water Supplies and the Part They Play in City and County Planning." The article was also issued as one of a series of pamphlets written by City Beautiful planners, architects, and engineers and published by the Civic Press.⁴²

Leavitt advocated landscape design for smaller properties as well as large estates and published articles such as "The Garden of the Small Country Property," which appeared in the popular magazine *Outing*.⁴³ Leavitt's office later designed a series of "garden patterns" for small residential lots that were published in the *Ladies Home Journal*.⁴⁴

Charles Wellford Leavitt was also active in professional societies and organizations, including the American Society of Civil Engineers, to which he was elected an Associate Member in 1898 and

³⁶ Leavitt died at his home, Meadow Brook Farm, in Hartsdale, West Chester County, N.Y. at age 57.

³⁷ Leavitt, Charles Wellford, Jr., Series of articles based on lectures, published on monthly basis in *Architecture* magazine. New York City: Forbes and Company, 1912

³⁸ Leavitt, Charles Wellford, Jr., "Stands, Stadia, and Bowls," *Journal of American Concrete Institute* (1915), p. 576

³⁹ McAdam, Thomas. "New Water Features for Country Estates." *Country Life in America* (August 1908), p. 358

⁴⁰ Greenleaf, Professor J.L., Daniel W. Langton, Charles A. Platt, Charles W. Leavitt, Jr. "Garden Architecture in America." *Broadway Magazine* 13 (September 1904), p.1.

⁴¹ Murphy and Dana and Charles Wellford Leavitt. "Farm Group for Charles M. Schwab, Esq., at Loretto, PA." *The Architectural Review*, n.d.

⁴² Leavitt, Charles Wellford, Jr. "Water Supplies and the Part they Play in County Planning," *American City Magazine* (1914), p. 585.

⁴³ Leavitt, Charles Wellford, Jr., "The Garden of the Small Country Property," *Outing* (1903), p. 310.

⁴⁴ Hohmann, op. cit., p. 224

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elevated to a Member in 1905. Leavitt was a member of the American Society of Landscape Architects in 1904, the American Society of Landscape Engineers, the Architectural League of New York, the New York State Chamber of Commerce (Distinguished Successful Americans 1912), and the American Institute of Consulting Engineers, of which he was elected president in 1923.⁴⁵

In addition to the influence exerted through his commissions and writings, Charles Wellford Leavitt was equally influential in the university classroom. Leavitt helped to establish the Landscape Architecture degree program at Columbia University as one of its first professors. During the summer of 1911, the university offered a single course in landscape architecture for the first time. After the university decided to continue the coursework and offer a full degree program the following year, Leavitt, along with several other landscape architects, taught in the summer of 1912 through the spring semester 1913.

During the same year Leavitt submitted a series of articles containing essays about the field of landscape architecture. The essays shed light on Leavitt's views of the discipline's importance and discussed topics such as the proper training and responsibilities of the landscape architect, the approaches to be taken in completing clients' projects, and the necessary preparation for projects. His essays were published in *Architecture* magazine in nine consecutive monthly issues and formed the backbone of the lectures that he presented to his classes. The titles included, "Reasons for the Profession of Landscape Architecture," "Problems and the Necessity for the Special Training of a Landscape Architect," "The Necessity for Special Preparation for the Practice of Landscape Architecture," "Approach of the Problem," and "The Design and the Details of the Design."⁴⁶

Leavitt's essays reflect his mastery of the discipline of landscape architecture and his influence in the profession's establishment. The theories and methodologies presented in Leavitt's articles are reflected in his design for the Cooper River Parkway. For example, the importance Leavitt placed on the details of a design, as stated in the latter article, are evident in his 1926 design for the Cooper River Parkway, which defines every recreation area and its purpose. The Cooper River Parkway and the manner in which its man-made design enhanced a pre-existing natural waterway also reflects Leavitt's espoused beliefs on the role of nature versus man-made designs in landscape architecture. Leavitt wrote:

Nature dominates the world. Man must design his work to fit in with nature, not try to fit nature to his needs. It cannot be said that we are not to have our way and fit nature to do what we want, for there are many instances of just this being done. We can say that very few of such undertakings are beautiful, and most of them are very expensive.⁴⁷

The Cooper River Park Historic District is significant for its embodiment of the type of landscape architecture promulgated in the mid-to-late nineteenth century by the noted landscape architect, Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr., and furthered by his son and step-son, Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr., and John Charles Olmsted, during the City Beautiful Movement.

⁴⁵ Ibid.

⁴⁶ Leavitt, Charles W., Jr., Series of articles based on lectures, published on monthly basis in *Architecture* magazine. New York City: Forbes and Company, 1912

⁴⁷ Ibid.

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Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr., best known for creating Manhattan's Central Park, first promoted the establishment of park systems and the construction of parks within urban settings on underutilized land. The Central Park commission gave him an opportunity to use landscape design for social purposes. He and fellow designer Calvert Vaux believed that there is no beauty without utility and based their work on the "noble motive," which drove their aesthetic decisions. Rather than aim merely for a lovely park with beautiful greenery, the two aimed to achieve a healthy environment for people to promote democracy, with a little "d."⁴⁸ Olmsted and his fellow practitioners believed in embodying the United States' democratic and egalitarian principles in their designed parks and created publicly accessible parks for all people, regardless of class or ethnic background. His designs included features that would draw people into the park and attract them to common spaces where they could interact.

Olmsted's park designs typically were centered on bodies of water, and they included both wooded and open spaces; informal, naturalistic landscaping; storm water management; winding footpath systems; drives meandering through the parks and directing vehicular traffic flow away from urban streets; scenic views; pedestrian bridges over waterways; and far-ranging vistas. Located in the center of urban settings and easily accessible from adjacent neighborhoods, Olmsted's parks served as the "heart and lungs" of a community where citizens could come together to celebrate their diversity.⁴⁹

The senior Olmsted's most notable park system designs were Boston's Emerald Necklace, begun in 1878 and completed in approximately 1900, and Buffalo's Park and Parkway System, constructed between 1868 and 1896. Leavitt's Cooper River Park was designed with the same characteristic features used by Olmsted in his park designs, and, in fact, shares many of the characteristics of Boston's Emerald Necklace.⁵⁰ Both, for example took on the challenge of transforming a waterway prone to flooding and used as a dumping ground. Both designers wanted to build parks that would enhance citizens' health and happiness, but both also had intentions that were not limited to altruism. Olmsted and Leavitt "realized that the real-estate industry would get on board if [they] could convince people that parks would increase the value of the surrounding lands."⁵¹ Leavitt specifically noted the tremendous increases of assessment values directly traceable to the (Essex County, NJ) park system" in promoting the completion of his Cooper River Park plan.⁵²

The senior Olmsted's design ideals were further promoted in the twentieth century as his sons, practicing as the Olmsted Brothers, and other landscape architects promoted the City Beautiful Movement. The Seattle Park System was designed by John Charles Olmsted and constructed between 1910 and 1930, and Washington, D.C.'s Rock Creek Park was designed from 1917-1918 by the Olmsted Brothers and constructed through the 1920s.

The Olmsted Brothers completed the design of the new park system in Essex County, New Jersey,

⁴⁸ Kirkwood, Scott. "The Lay of the Land." *National Parks*. Fall 2011, p.59

⁴⁹ Loughlin, Caroline and M. Eliza Davidson. Letter to Lori Healy of 2016 and to Hyde Park Herald regarding proposal to locate Olympics in Chicago in 2016, dated 2009. <http://www.hydepark.org/parks/washington/Olympiccomm.htm>. Accessed on April 1, 2010.

⁵⁰ John-Alder, Kathleen, op.cit.

⁵¹ Kirkwood, op.cit. p. 59

⁵² Leavitt, Charles W., Jr. *Health Sunshine and Wealth*. op.cit., p.2

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begun by the senior Olmsted in 1893 and completed during the 1920s, and the new park system in Union County, New Jersey.

Camden County moved to establish its own planned linear park system at the same time and hired Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr., to complete the park system's design. Leavitt's design reflected the same democratic ideals promoted by the Olmsteads, namely that parks were to be accessible and used by the general public. Toward this end, Leavitt designed the Cooper River Park system to be accessible by pedestrians and vehicular traffic coming from Camden City and the newly constructed Crescent Boulevard (which was also designed by Leavitt), Cuthbert Boulevard, North and South Park Drives, and the park's adjacent residential neighborhoods.

Development History/Additional Historic Context Information

Early History of the Cooper River

The Camden area was first settled by William Cooper, an English Quaker who migrated with his family from Hertford County, England to the province of West Jersey in 1679 to escape religious persecution. In 1681 or 1682 Cooper obtained a 300-acre tract at the junction of the Delaware River and Arouches Creek (now Cooper River), becoming one of the first European settlers in the Coopers Creek valley.⁵³

Between 1688 and 1692 William Roydon, another owner of land adjacent to and south of Cooper's that would form a large part of the future city of Camden, obtained a license and started to operate a ferry crossing between New Jersey and Philadelphia.⁵⁴ The Cooper family acquired Roydon's land, including the ferry landing area, after Roydon's death⁵⁵ and maintained a ferry operation between Camden and Philadelphia for 150 years.⁵⁶

The residents formed Waterford Township, one of the original townships of old Gloucester County, in 1695.

Cooper's Creek (now Cooper River) was navigable for 10 miles inland from its mouth at the Delaware River and served as a transportation corridor for landowners to use after establishing their plantations along the waterway beginning in the seventeenth century.⁵⁷ Coopers Creek eventually became a river of shipping, with terminals of commerce established at Cole, Stoy and Asford Landings and the sloops and small schooners, many of them propelled by poles, plied the river which was the main water link between South Jersey and Philadelphia.⁵⁸ Shippers loaded boats from landings that jutted out into the creek. Philip Stoy, who owned rights to a large white-oak forest (in what is now Cherry Hill Township), built his landing and a warehouse on the west side of Grove Street (in today's Haddon Township), and

⁵³ In 1682 Francis Collins purchased 500 acres and Thomas Howell purchased 650 acres on the north side of the creek.

⁵⁴ Prowell, George R. *History of Camden New Jersey*. (Original 1886 book was reprinted by the Camden County Historical Society and the Camden County Cultural and Heritage Commission, 1974) pp. 405-407.

⁵⁵ Prowell, op.cit., p. 407

⁵⁶ *Ibid.* p. 418

⁵⁷ *Ibid.* pp. 1-2

⁵⁸ Landings and mills remaining along the Cooper and its tributaries as of 1846 are shown on John Clement Jr.'s "A Map of Camden County" at <http://www.westjerseyhistory.org/maps/countymaps/camcoclem1846.shtml>

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used it to load timber on barges that he shipped to various Delaware River shipyard in the 1700s.⁵⁹ Job Coles Landing, located on the south side of Cooper's Creek in Haddon Township, handled coal transported from Pennsylvania mines down the Lehigh and Delaware Rivers, then up Cooper's Creek by smaller barges for delivery to Newton and Haddon Township residents in the 1800s. Axford's Landing, a few hundred yards downstream from Kings Highway was the end of the navigable waters on Cooper's Creek. Many roads led to Haddonfield because of the available water transportation to and from Philadelphia or Camden.

Farmers found extensive tracts of low marshy land containing fertile alluvial deposits along both sides of the creek, formed banks, and drained wetland to create meadowland for hay and pasture and to grow fruits and vegetables.⁶⁰ The area remained rural throughout the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Farmers shipped their crops to Philadelphia markets down Cooper's Creek and on the Delaware River.⁶¹ Small flat bottom boats or scows were propelled by the tide and guided by long poles up and down the creek.

Farms existed on both sides of Cooper's Creek until near the end of the nineteenth century. From the eighteenth century the settlement pattern established along the creek had been partially determined by the practice of surveying "long" lots with narrow frontage along the creek, which allowed a greater number of landowners to own water frontage. On the creek's northern side in the area of the future Cooper River Park system farms ranged in size from approximately 50 to 105 acres. Farms on the southern side of the creek ranged in size from approximately 40 to 106 acres.⁶²

Cooper River valley farms were served by a variety of water driven mills whose sites lie within the Cooper River Historic District. The mills were a focal point for all settlers and famers visited them many times during the year either for their own household or to get feed for cattle. Sawmills were operated to provide building materials and later to derive income from excess lumber.

Thomas Kendall built one of the first mill dams in 1697 on a site where the Old Salem Road crossed the Cooper River between Ellis Street and Bortons Mill Road. He built a corn mill at a site on the Haddonfield side of the river about 100 yards further downstream at the end of a race-way cut in the bank.⁶³

In 1710 John Kay bought the mill that Kendall had built from William Lovejoy. Kay's mill was known as the Free Lodge Mill because it offered free lodging to farmers who had to travel far to process their grain. The mill had only one set of stones and could grind only a few bushels of grain a day. Kay added a sawmill. By the mid-1700s there were two mills directly across from the Hopkins House on a small ranch of the main creek. One was Howell's corn mill, which later became Champion's Grist Mill and later Shiver's Grist Mill. Horner's Sawmill was also located on the same small branch of Cooper's Creek upstream. It was renamed Troth's Saw Mill in 1847. In 1779 Joseph Kay built a dam which formed the current mill pond and a new mill on the dam's

⁵⁹ Raible, op.cit. p. 24

⁶⁰ Prowell, op.cit., p. 386

⁶¹ *Ibid.* p. 388.

⁶² Hopkins, G.M. *Atlas of Philadelphia and Environs.* (Philadelphia: G.M. Hopkins, 1877)

⁶³ Clement. op.cit. p. 172

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east side that included a sawmill.⁶⁴ John Estaugh Hopkins built a 30 foot windmill the Haddon Mill in 1789 below the present spillway from Hopkins Pond in Haddonfield to mill ground grain for local farmers. When it did not work, the 30 foot windmills were removed and replaced with a raceway from the bond as the sole source of power. The mill operated into the 1850's.⁶⁵ Thomas and Joel Evans purchased the mill from Mathias Kay in 1819 and completely rebuilt it in 1839. Three types of mills (grain, wood sawing, and fulling⁶⁶) existed at Evans Pond at various times. In 1882 the Evans family replaced the millstones with a new more efficient machine roller press. The mill went bankrupt in 1897, due in part to the decline of agriculture in the Haddonfield area.

By 1902 the S.A. Willits Flour and Feed Mill was operating on the north east side of the Evans Pond Dam.⁶⁷ The Willits mill had two turbine wheels and a steam wheat heater. The mill burned down in October 1913.

In the 1920s, with the once flourishing saw and grist mills no longer functioning, the Evans family sold the mill site, dam, and land to John W. Croft, Jr. who, along with assistant Thomas McCargo, farmed the land until 1981. In 1985, the Crofts sold the 80-acre property to Cherry Hill Township.

Kay's Mill was the location of two events during the American Revolution in 1778. Troops under the American commander Count Casimir Pulaski fired on British sentinels at Kay's Mill in one incident. The other saw some part of the 2500 Hessian soldiers on their way to the first battle at Red Bank pitch their tents in a field owned by John Kay just above the mill.⁶⁸

Growth of City of Camden and nearby towns

Camden City originally developed largely as an extension of Philadelphia, which during the colonial period was the leading city on the North American continent. Camden City's growth was directly related to the growth of Philadelphia as a marketing and commercial center.

Camden started to develop when William Cooper's great grandson and Philadelphia merchant, Jacob Cooper, purchased an 100-acre tract of land at Coopers Ferry from his father in 1764. He advertised lots for sale as early as 1769 and in 1773 he laid out the town's original lots on a 40-acre portion of the tract.⁶⁹

Following its incorporation in 1828 Camden developed into a major port by the middle of the nineteenth century. The 1835 opening of the Camden and Amboy Railroad and subsequent improvement of ferry service to Philadelphia increased Camden's commercial importance and boosted industry in the city. Businesses

⁶⁴ Rauschenberger, Douglas B. and Katherine Mansfield Tassini. *Lost Haddonfield*. (Haddonfield, N.J.: The Historical Society of Haddonfield, 1999), p. 78

⁶⁵ Rauschenberger, op.cit., p. 79

⁶⁶ Fulling is a step in woolen cloth making involving the cleansing of cloth to eliminate oils, dirt and other impurities and to make it into wearable cloth.

⁶⁷ The Willits flour mill footprint site as of September 1902 is shown on Sheet 9 of the 1902 Sanborn maps of Haddonfield, NJ at <http://gisserver.princeton.edu:81/navigatorMapView.htm?map=10886>

⁶⁸ Mathis, Mike, *Cherry Hill: A Brief History*, pp 18-19.

⁶⁹ Prowell, op.cit., p. 410

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established at the waterfront included passenger and freight services, shipbuilding, and manufacturing concerns. Between 1840 and 1850 the population of Camden tripled to nearly 10,000. In 1844 the city was selected as the seat of Camden County. By 1909 Camden's board of trade asserted that "The city has within these ten bright and busy years thrown off the shackles inspired by a fear of being so near a metropolitan city."⁷⁰

Beginning in the 1850s the expansion of railroad and streetcar lines and the construction of improved roads and turnpikes connecting the growing city with rural areas to the east and south stimulated greater expansion and the establishment of outlying suburbs, gardens, and recreation areas.⁷¹ Camden's first commuter suburbs were located along train lines and included Merchantville and Collingswood adjacent to and south of the Cooper River Park Historic District.

Collingswood

The Borough of Collingswood had originated as a small village around the train station in the early 1880s. Edward C. Knight and his cousin Richard T. Collings started the first large scale real estate planning in Collingswood in 1874. Collings, acting as Knight's agent, acquired the 112 acre Barton Farm located near what is today Roberts Park Pool and in a few years about three quarters of the present Borough.⁷² Ten citizens under Knight's and Collings' influence chose the name Collingswood in 1881. (Knight's mother's maiden name was also Collings.)

While the town's initial sale of residential building lots started to occur in 1885 when William Tatem began selling lots along the northern border of his farm near Haddon Avenue, the first mass building did not occur until 1886 when Richard Collings purchased 40 acres from Tatem and sold 171 lots for \$250 per lot. Collings had chartered trains in Camden, brought prospective buyers to view Collingswood real estate, and even grossed \$14,000 in sales in one day.⁷³

Further subdivision of farmland followed along with a rapid development of the town. In 1888 the town's residents voted to separate from Haddon Township and to incorporate as Collingswood.

In 1893 the Mayor of Camden City and other prominent county officials dedicated Knight Park in Collingswood on a 65 acre tract of fields and woodland donated by the heirs of Edward C. Knight. It became a popular playground for weekenders and an inducement for many families to move to Collingswood as the Park served as a picnic and recreation area.

By the turn of the century Collingswood was on its way to becoming a popular Camden County suburb. By the time the Cooper River Park was designed in the 1920s the Collingswood Land Company's Terraces had been constructed adjacent to and southwest of the park.⁷⁴

⁷⁰ Gillette, Howard, Jr., *Camden After the Fall: Decline and Renewal in a Post-Industrial City*, (Philadelphia, University of Pennsylvania Press, 2005), p. 19

⁷¹ Benenson, Carol A. "Merchantville, New Jersey: The Development and Marketing of a Victorian Commuter Suburb." *Camden County Historical Society Bulletin* 41 (Winter 1988-89).

⁷² Raible, op.cit. p.70.

⁷³ Ibid., p.71-72

⁷⁴ Marble, op. cit. .

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During the 1930's the WPA provided assistance for a number of projects in Collingswood, including the pool facilities at Roberts Park adjacent to South Park Drive between South Vineyard Boulevard and Hillcrest Avenue.

Haddonfield

Haddonfield, located at the southeastern end of the Cooper River Historic District, is one of the oldest communities in New Jersey. English Quakers first started to settle in the area in 1682. Quaker's established a monthly meeting and meeting house by 1721 in Haddonfield.

Haddonfield was named for the Haddon Field Plantation established by Elizabeth Haddon in 1702. Elizabeth Haddon came to occupy her father's large land holdings in the area in 1701. Her father, John Haddon, had purchased 450 acres of prime tidewater land at the head of Cooper's Creek in present day Haddonfield from Richard Matthews and an option on an additional 100 acres. The option required Haddon or his legal representative to take physical possession of the land within six months. Haddon could not go and instead sent his twenty-one year old, highly educated daughter Elizabeth with full power of attorney. While working on her plantation she met and then married John Estaugh who became a partner in the development of the plantation, the sale of town lots, and the building of the Haddonfield Friends Meeting in 1721.⁷⁵

Elizabeth Haddon Estaugh became the most important female real estate developer in the history of Camden County establishing a plantation in 1713 and a town, selling town lots along the King's Highway where it crossed the head of Cooper's Creek to skilled craftsmen and merchants. Her estate at her death in 1762 was valued at 8,000 pounds.⁷⁶

In 1723 Elizabeth Haddon Estaugh visited England and brought her five-year-old nephew Ebenezer Hopkins from his home in London to Haddonfield. The childless couple raised him as a son and made him heir to their extensive land holdings.

The Estaughs were a prominent and wealthy Quaker couple in West Jersey, and John Estaugh was a well-respected Quaker minister.

In 1735 John Estaugh purchased a 200-acre Cooper River plantation and house first occupied by Samuel Shivers farther down Cooper Creek. A newly-married Ebenezer Hopkins and his bride, Sarah Lord, moved onto this plantation and into the Shiver's house in 1737. In 1740s Ebenezer Hopkins built a large addition onto the west wall of the Shiver's house to accommodate his rapidly-expanding family, which would eventually include seven children. This addition is the present-day Hopkins House west wing.

Ebenezer Hopkins became a wealthy and prominent citizen who held many public offices. He served as Camden County Collector of Taxes, Freeholder, and as a member of the General Assembly from 1745 to 1748. Ebenezer ran his plantation and took over management of the vast Haddon-Estaugh holdings in 1742--at the age of 24--upon the death of his uncle, John Estaugh. He also succeeded his uncle as local

⁷⁵ Longfellow tells the story of their romance with the "Theologian's Tale" in *Tales of a Wayside Inn*.

⁷⁶ Dorwart, 2001, op.cit. Loc 347 Kindle version.

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agent for the Pennsylvania Land Company of London and performed work as a land surveyor.

Ebenezer lived in the Hopkins House for ten years before he purchased it and the surrounding 200 acre plantation from his aunt in 1747 for 300 pounds.

At the age of 39 Ebenezer Hopkins died in 1757 of smallpox. His plantation and house eventually passed to his youngest child, Ann Hopkins Burr, who was born several months after his death. She resided in the house from 1793 to 1833.

The town of Haddonfield quickly grew around the Quaker meetinghouse, developing into a prosperous commercial center.⁷⁷ After the arrival of the Camden and Atlantic Railroad in 1853 Haddonfield became a summer retreat for prosperous Philadelphia businessmen.

Haddonfield's fame grew as a result of a discovery of a prominent Haddon descendent, William Estaugh Hopkins, who uncovered large bones in a nearby marl pit in 1838 (located today in a ravine at the north end of Maple Avenue). Hopkins displayed the bones in his home, Birdwell, which was built by Ebenezer Hopkins's son, John Estaugh Hopkins, for his son William in 1794.

Philadelphia naturalist William Parker Foulke observed one of these large bones while visiting Hopkins' home in 1858. Foulke obtained permission from Hopkins to investigate the area where the bone had been found. Foulke and fellow scientist Dr. Joseph Leidy reopened the marl pit that had contained the bone resulting in the discovery of the first nearly intact dinosaur ever found in the world.

The dinosaur was named *Hadrosaurus foulkii*, and its discovery changed the scientific understanding of dinosaurs. Leidy and his colleagues assembled the dinosaur and put it on display at the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences where it remains today.

In 1994 the site of the find on the former Hopkins land (and within the Pennypacker Park section of the Cooper River Park) was designated a National Historic Landmark.

In the late nineteenth century Haddonfield continued as a place of prominence as it became a genteel railroad suburb of both Camden and Philadelphia.

In 1916 the Borough of Haddonfield purchased Evans Pond, Silver Lake (now Hopkins Pond), and the land west of Wallworth Lake in order to preserve their natural beauty and create parks.

The Greater Camden Movement

By 1920 Camden City's population exceeded 100,000 for the first time. Its shipyards, factories, construction, and transportation industries employed thousands of residents. After the advent of the automobile age, Camden's suburban communities saw steady economic and population growth with the development and construction of many residential neighborhoods outside of the city.⁷⁸ The out-flux of

⁷⁷ Haddonfield Historical Society, "A Brief History of Haddonfield." Article on website.
<http://haddonfieldhistoricalsociety.org>. Accessed on April 20, 2010

⁷⁸ Dorwart, 1976, op.cit., p.163

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city residents to the suburban neighborhoods concerned Camden leaders in the beginning of the 1920s.

Camden city leaders initiated and expanded a civic program called the Greater Camden Movement in the early 1920s.⁷⁹ The movement's goal was to retain and increase the population of Camden City by annexing a growing number of adjacent communities to the city. This was to be accomplished by planning and coordinating regional development, directing economic and political unification, and establishing a uniform educational and public service system, including transportation.⁸⁰

Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr. had developed a sizeable portfolio with many projects that integrated civil engineering, urban planning, and landscape design concepts by 1920.

In May 1923 the newly formed, non-partisan Camden City Commission hired Charles Leavitt as city planner. He immediately went to work developing a plan that supported the "Greater Camden" movement, including designing improvements and expansions to the city's highway network.

On December 7, 1923, Leavitt described his comprehensive plan for Greater Camden. His plan included a boulevard approach to the new Delaware River Bridge, a feeder extension highway skirting the city (Crescent Boulevard), traffic rotaries, the beautification of Cooper River, and a new Civic Center complex. Leavitt asked his new clients:

Is not the daily contact with careless planned, poorly kept streets, inadequate buildings, and other makeshifts an influence highly detrimental and to be avoided? Do not dignified and beautiful buildings, well ordered, well placed and easily fetched, properly equipped and surrounded by equally fine structures for other purposes, instill in the people a respect similar to that inculcated in the younger generation by proper home surroundings administered by wholesome parents.⁸¹

Leavitt's vision was of a "Greater Camden" that would dominate all of South Jersey and whose foundation would be a complex web of highways connecting city and suburbs, crowned by an elaborately landscaped boulevard parkway comparable in scale to the Benjamin Franklin Parkway in Philadelphia to the new Delaware River Bridge.⁸² Leavitt designed Bridge Boulevard,⁸³ which he called Cherry Blossom Highway,⁸⁴ to be integrated with nature as part a grand design for Camden's City Beautiful movement and in an effort to

⁷⁹ Notable development and construction projects that occurred as a result of the Greater Camden movement include: the 1922-1926 construction of the Camden-Philadelphia Bridge (whose name was changed in 1956 to the Benjamin Franklin Bridge), the creation of a network of roads in and around Camden; the rise of new outlying suburban communities; the improvement of harbor facilities; the creation of a new airport outside the city; and the construction of Camden's first hotel and high-rise building, the Walt Whitman Hotel.

⁸⁰ Dorwart, op.cit., p. 208

⁸¹ Gillette, op.cit., p. 20

⁸² Paul Cret designed the Benjamin Franklin Parkway as part of Philadelphia's efforts in the City Beautiful Movement. Cret later designed the Delaware River Bridge, now the Benjamin Franklin Bridge.

⁸³ Bridge Boulevard was named for native son and war hero, Admiral Henry Braid Wilson, on Armistice Day, November 11, 1929. Wilson, born in Camden in 1861, commanded the Atlantic Fleet off France during World War I.

⁸⁴ The Delta Group, *Cooper River Study*, City of Camden, September 1980, p.20

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redevelop industrial wastelands.⁸⁵ Leavitt claimed that “New boulevards create new values and new centers of activity and rehabilitate old values and old centers.”⁸⁶

Leavitt also conceived the idea of building a Camden Civic Center on reclaimed industrial land along the Cooper River on Memorial Avenue at a site near the present day headquarters of Campbell Soup that was occupied by the old Camden Iron Works and the R.D. Wood Company that had been driven into bankruptcy in 1916. Leavitt convinced a Philadelphian who had purchased the 45 acre site at a Receiver’s Sale to resell it to the City of Camden for the price he originally paid by extolling the virtues of what the civic center project would mean to the city. Camden had annexed East Camden in 1899 making the site of his proposed civic center the geographic center of the city. His plan included cleaning up and beautifying the site and the Cooper River to knit together the traditional Camden City west bank and the former East Camden suburban area forever unifying the city as a cohesive urban center.⁸⁷

Leavitt’s new civic center design was nothing short of dramatic. It called for relocating city government functions and fraternal organizations to the center site which would occupy two thirds of the 45 acre site. The design called for tree and shrubbery plantings, athletic facilities and a lagoon or reflecting pool dredged out of the Cooper River and at the end of a parade ground leading to a new city hall.

The architectural firm of Edwards & Green designed the conventional hall to adaptively reuse two of the former iron works structures and to contain 32,500 square feet of floor space to seat 5,000. The NJ State Commission of the South Jersey Exposition used the hall for the first time between July 5 and September 6, 1926 to celebrate the Delaware River Bridge opening and new plans for Camden’s future.

Leavitt designated the Classic Revival architectural style for all civic center building and advocated that the city enforce it by ordinance. In January 1927 Camden city commissioners passed a series of resolutions and ordinance to make a new Sears, Roebuck and Co. retail store a reality. They included, among other provisions, the terms of selling Sears a portion of the civic center site meeting two conditions: that the building cost at least \$500,000 and “meet the architectural standards to accord with the plans for the civic center as fixed by City Planning Engineer Charles W. Leavitt.”⁸⁸ A Sears spokesman subsequently stated that the company not only agreed to follow the style and design standards required of buildings at the Civic Center, but would also likely cost \$1 million.⁸⁹ The Evening Courier about the sale indicated in a headline that the “Magnificent Building Will Harmonize With Architectural Scheme of Leavitt.”

Camden City officials implemented some Leavitt's designs for city beautification. By October 1924 city officials had selected a route for the “bridge entrance road” from four slightly different designs. Contractors began erecting a double-leaf bascule drawbridge over the Cooper River in May 1926 featuring Classic Revival design elements, compliant with Leavitt’s designated styles. And city officials

⁸⁵ *Evening Courier* 1923; *Camden First*, April 1924, pp. 10-11.

⁸⁶ Leavitt, *Camden First*, 1924

⁸⁷ Schopp, op cit., p.14

⁸⁸ Schopp, op.cit, p. 17

⁸⁹ Schopp, op.cit., p. 18

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executed contracts calling for the contractors to complete construction of Bridge Boulevard by July 1, 1927, the date when all the connecting roads would be finished.

The intended annexation of communities within the county to the City of Camden, as part of the Greater Camden Movement, however, never occurred, and the surrounding townships and boroughs resisted Camden's attempts to incorporate them into the city.⁹⁰

Camden Extension

The expanded network of roads constructed in Camden included the Leavitt designed Camden Extension, also known as Crescent Boulevard, which he intended would extend State Highway Routes 2, 3, and 6 into an access road from Camden and the surrounding communities to the new Camden-Philadelphia Bridge. This new semi-circular highway (hence the name Crescent Boulevard), which skirted the edge of Camden, would connect Route 45 in Westville to Bridge Boulevard from the south and the Burlington Pike to Bridge Boulevard from the north, bypassing Westfield Avenue, the traditional route from Burlington to Camden. It also included four traffic circles (originally called "round points") to maintain smooth and continuous traffic flow at intersections, including the first circle constructed in New Jersey, the Airport Circle, at the intersection of Crescent Boulevard, Bridge Boulevard, Kaighn Avenue, Route 40 (now 70) and Route 38.⁹¹

The Camden Extension project began when it became apparent that local roads would not be able to carry the increased traffic associated with the new Delaware River Bridge.⁹² The NJ State Highway Department designed the original plan in 1924 to eliminate congestion by separating local commuter traffic to Camden from through-traffic going to Philadelphia.

In contrast local officials wanted to use existing city streets in downtown Camden. The Highway Department worked with an Advisory Board composed of Camden County officials to try to design a highway route that would satisfy both needs. The Advisory Board favored a parkway with a multi-lane extensively-landscaped thoroughfare on both sides of the Cooper River to be called the Cooper River Parkway. The Advisory Board hired Charles W. Leavitt and Son in 1925 to design the Cooper River Parkway. By then Leavitt had a reputation as a noted landscape architect and parkway designer. Leavitt's plan called for the highway to run parallel to the river on each side.

The state highway department rejected Leavitt's plan and chose a highway route that, until it crossed the Cooper River, ran not parallel to the river, but perpendicular to it. Through negotiation and compromise between officials and state engineers, some portion of the route did travel one way over two city streets (Linden and Pearl) and the entrance to the extension was moved southward to enable the route to more readily tie into a county park bordering the Cooper River (Figure 4).⁹³

⁹⁰ Dorwart, op.cit. pp. 261, 277-278.

⁹¹ Schopp, op cit., p. 10

⁹² For a view of the layout of the roads, railroad lines, and ferries in and adjacent to Camden City prior to the completion of the Delaware River Bridge and the development of the Camden Extension and Cooper River Parkway see J.L. Smith's *Good Roads Map of the Country Around Philadelphia, 1897* at <http://ids.lib.harvard.edu/ids/view/7542244?buttons=y> and http://www.slate.com/blogs/the_vault/2013/11/26/philadelphia_history_map_shows_good_roads_around_the_city_in_1897.html

⁹³ Lichtenstein, 1995, op.cit.

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Leavitt's beautification plan designed for beautifying Bridge Boulevard was never fully accomplished, primarily because the state highway department refused to donate or dedicate the narrow strips of land on either side of the traffic lanes to the CCPC.⁹⁴ Eventually, gas stations and auto dealerships appeared where Leavitt's plans had called for cherry trees. Leavitt's plans did, however, coincided with Camden County's plans to create a park system.⁹⁵

The Camden County Park Commission

The Camden County Board of Freeholders first considered a formal park system for Camden County after World War I during the Greater Camden Movement. The desire for a park system stemmed from several different movements occurring in the country at the same time whose convergence led to the establishment of the CCPC in 1926.

As a part of the City Beautiful Movement, a public parks movement was gaining a foothold in cities and smaller municipalities. New Jersey played a leadership role in the public parks movement when the state passed enabling legislation on May 5, 1895 to provide a framework for developing county-wide park commissions and park systems. The legislation enabled counties with sufficient population to create a commission with the power to establish county parks across more than one municipality. The Metropolitan Park Commission of Boston established in 1893 was the only entity of similar scope, but its jurisdiction was limited to one municipality, the City of Boston. In 1895 Essex County established the first county-wide park commission in New Jersey and hired Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. to propose the scope of a park system.⁹⁶

It took several decades later however before the concept of having a county-wide park system took hold in New Jersey. In 1910, Hudson County, New Jersey, was considering creating a park commission. According to Walter Muirhead, Secretary of the Hudson County Park Commission, the creation of a county-wide system was believed to have been an excellent idea, but it required an education campaign, which he said was at its height in 1910. He claimed that creating county-wide systems was difficult because of the independence of local communities and municipalities and the "spirit of competition and jealousy" among them.⁹⁷ In 1921 Union County, New Jersey, became the second county in the country to establish a park commission, with the Olmsted brothers retained for the design of its park system.

⁹⁴ According to the New Jersey Historic Roadway Study, Admiral Wilson Boulevard is historically significant as a grand avenue, reflective of the City Beautiful Movement. It connected New Jersey's first traffic circle approaches to the Delaware River Bridge, a circle that formed a landscaped terminus for the boulevard and funneled traffic from points north and south to the bridge. The Boulevard also delivered traffic to the Philadelphia region's only airport located immediately adjacent to the traffic circle. The area adjacent to the Boulevard became a destination in itself through the development of recreation spots such as the first drive-in movie theater in the United States, the Whoopee Coaster (an automotive roller coaster), an outdoor boxing ring, and a then rare national department store on Camden's periphery (Sears), as well as scenic spots along the Cooper River and numerous restaurants. Admiral Wilson Boulevard is also historically significant as an example of an aesthetic landscape design reflective of the City Beautiful Movement. Source: <http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/publicat/historicroadwaystudy.pdf>

⁹⁵ Lichtenstein, op.cit.

⁹⁶ Lurie, Maxine and Marc Mappen, eds. *Encyclopedia of New Jersey*. Rutgers, New Jersey: University Press, 2004

⁹⁷ Muirhead, Walter J. "Park System of Hudson County, New Jersey." *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 35 (1910, p. 62).

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Another probable reason for the delay in establishing a park commission in Camden County is the interruption caused by World War I.

Although the CCPC was not established until 1926, City Beautiful thinking had earlier roots in Camden County. As early as 1916, Haddonfield's Civic Association promoted a "Parkway Proposition," a proposed system of linear parks that would incorporate both previously existing parks and newly acquired park land in Haddonfield to form a continuous park system encircling the community. The Civic Association invited the President of the American Civic Association and a nationally known parks advocate and City Beautiful promoter, J. Horace McFarland, to speak to an audience there in February 1916.⁹⁸ Haddonfield's linear park was not developed as planned; smaller parks in the borough that had been proposed for the Haddonfield system were donated instead to the Camden County Park Commission for its new linear park in 1927.

Industrialist and philanthropist Eldridge Reeves Johnson, who founded Camden's Victor Talking Machine Company, Joseph Wallworth, and four other citizens, led the initial movement to create a park system in Camden County. These leaders believed in the principles of the City Beautiful Movement, but also embraced the idea of a county park system based on the notion that "county parks, picnic areas, and playground would attract more convention business to the city."⁹⁹

On January 12, 1925, they held a public meeting attended by three hundred people which formed a committee on organization and nomination to establish a Camden County Park Association to "promote the establishment and development of a general system of parks and to lend aid, as an organized body, to our legislators in procuring the necessary legislation to create a Camden County Park Commission."¹⁰⁰ Johnson and Wallworth were elected President and Vice President, respectively.

Johnson invited Consulting Engineer Charles W. Leavitt, Jr, to speak at another mass meeting sponsored by the Camden County Parks Association to promote the proposed Camden County park on September 10, 1925.¹⁰¹ Leavitt showed stereopticon views of his plan and said:

If you now will provide the parks and parkways suggested, taking for them the unused and so-called waste and swamp lands, purchasable today at a small price, you will save the lands from low-grade real estate development and nuisance, and you will raise the values of adjacent properties.¹⁰²

Such a plan as this is not made with the idea of its complete execution at once; it is given you for

⁹⁸ Haddonfield Historical Society, op.cit.

⁹⁹ Dorwart, 2001, Loc.1508 Kindle version.

¹⁰⁰ Brown, op.cit, p. 15

¹⁰¹ Camden City had hired Leavitt in May 1923. Personal correspondence between Leavitt and Johnson indicates that they had developed a personal and business relationship beyond Leavitt's planning work for Camden City. For example, Leavitt sent two separate letters to Johnson both dated September 14, 1923: one about a real estate development opportunity between Westfield Avenue and the Delaware River below Fish House station that "could take care of one thousand houses;" the other about the real estate possibilities of a Wharton tract. On December 6, 1927, Leavitt wrote to Johnson endeavoring to make an engagement for Johnson to lunch or dine with him and William K. Vanderbilt.

¹⁰² Brown, op.cit, p. 16

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adoption as a guide, in order that the first parks chosen and constructed may be part of this general plan of the future. Of the system as shown, only one portion has been planned out definitely and that is the Cooper River Parkway.¹⁰³

Leavitt and Engineer J.C. Remington, Jr. submitted an "Engineers' Report Concerning the Feasibility and Advisability of a Camden County Parks System" to the Association and a Preliminary CCPC, appointed by Camden County Freeholders, on March 6, 1926. The report included suggested new parks and parkways for Camden County that followed almost exclusively the drainage valleys of the county and urged that lands be acquired "while such lands could be obtained at a reasonable expense."¹⁰⁴

Implementation of the Camden County Park System

Camden County voters approved the creation of the CCPC by referendum on November 2, 1926.¹⁰⁵ The state enabling legislation authorized CCPC to spend up to two million dollars to acquire and develop land for a park system. Camden County Freeholders made funds available to the commission in 1927 to commence land searches and surveys.

On May 5, 1927 the Borough of Haddonfield offered land to CCPC. On June 23, 1927 the Commission ordered a plan to be prepared showing the land that would be required for park purposes and a boulevard from Grove Street, Cherry Hill, to Kings Highway, Haddonfield. The CCPC ordered a search and survey of the Munn Meadow property whose owners, the Alliance Development Realty Company, proposed to dedicate about sixteen acres for park purposes in order that a system would be made possible to connect with the land and waters to be dedicated by the Borough of Haddonfield.

On September 2, 1927 the Commission hired Charles W. Leavitt and Son as consulting engineer for a fee of \$7,500.00 per year plus traveling expenses.¹⁰⁶ This gave Leavitt an opportunity to expand his planning influence beyond Camden City deeper into Camden County and to plan regionally for the area's future. He had already designed a Cooper River Parkway from Camden to Haddonfield in 1925 and draft plans for Cooper River Valley improvements.

The CCPC retained Leavitt after he presented a memorandum stating that his firm would prepare a general landscape plan showing the location of roads, walks, playgrounds, gardens, bridle paths plantations, shelters, pavilions, boat houses, and other features. He also offered that his landscape plan would include a detailed planting plan which would describe and specify the proposed location, size, and character of each plant. He stated that he would charge \$1,500 for the documents for each of the three parks, Munn's Meadow, Evans Pond, and Hopkins Pond.

The CCPC's engineer, J.C. Remington, of the Camden firm of Remington and Vosbury, offered his

¹⁰³ Brown, op.cit., p. 17

¹⁰⁴ Brown, op.cit., p. 194

¹⁰⁵ The state legislature authorized the creation of the CCPC by "An Act to Establish public parks in certain counties of this State and to regulate same — Chapter 331, Laws of 1926."

¹⁰⁶ Camden County Park Commission (CCPC). Meeting minutes of the Camden County Park Commission meetings between 1927 and 1945, Camden, New Jersey, various dates.

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firm's engineering services until the CCPC had its own engineering force.¹⁰⁷

At the same September 1927 meeting the CCPC requisitioned \$100,000 of the \$500,000 that had been set aside for park purposes by Camden County and committed itself to three projects, including the development of the Cooper River Valley parks and boulevards from Camden to Haddonfield.

On October 20, 1927, the CCPC authorized the preparation of data necessary for awarding a contract to develop the Munn Meadow property. Seventeen days later Leavitt presented his Landscape Plan (Drawing No. 3329-C dated October 1927) for Munn's Meadow Park to the CCPC (Figure 10). The CCPC approved the plan, directed the construction engineer, J.C. Remington, to prepare detailed engineering drawings and specifications, and approved the land acquisition.¹⁰⁸

Charles Leavitt's contract with the CCPC was short-lived. On November 29, 1927 the CCPC voted to terminate his planning services effective December 31, 1927 "in view of the fact that the CCPC was in possession of sufficient data and had been furnished with adequate planning necessary to substantially carry through its program for the greater part of 1928."¹⁰⁹

Leavitt asked the CCPC, "What I want to know is if this resolution was caused by dissatisfaction with my services?" The CCPC responded that they were very satisfied, but that Leavitt had completed enough planning to carry out the work through 1928. According to one local historian, "it appears the commission wanted to terminate Leavitt and replace him with a local engineering firm."¹¹⁰

Leavitt's termination was headline news on December 2, 1927. Under the title "Leavitt Ousted by Park Board for "Economy --- Noted Planner Given Thirty Day Notice --- Services Termed Satisfactory" a local Camden newspaper article said the dismissal of the "noted international planning expert" came as a bomb-shell" and raised concerns that the "action may slow up the county-wide program" especially since the Parks Commission had "marked time" for almost a year since it had been organized "giving as its reason for inactivity the excuse that it was seeking a competent planning engineer."

One week after the CCPC terminated Leavitt, Camden City also fired him as Camden City planner, a position he had held since 1923. And, "as if to add insult to injury," the Camden City Commissioners not only voted to retain Dr. Warren P. Laird, dean of the University of Pennsylvania School of Architecture, on December 8, 1927 "for making a survey to determine the necessity for the character of and location for a new city hall,"¹¹¹ they also voted to empower and instruct the Mayor of Camden to purchase all the land and real estate on the west by Fifth Street, on the north by Market Street, and on the east by Sixth Street for the purpose of erecting a

¹⁰⁷ CCPC, op.cit.

¹⁰⁸ Ibid.

¹⁰⁹ Brown, op.cit., p. 30. It appears that Leavitt's company was either retained or rehired at least in connection with landscape work. Charles Leavitt & Son completed a *Munn's Meadow Park Planting Plan* in December 1927 (Drawing No. 3350-C, a copy of which Leavitt published in Health, Sunshine and Wealth.

¹¹⁰ Schopp, op.cit. p.14

¹¹¹ Schopp, Ibid.

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new municipal building and housing a modern transportation system.¹¹² Leavitt and Johnson had both favored Leavitt's plan to build the new municipal building the civic center location.

Eldridge Johnson was disturbed about Leavitt's terminations and wrote several highly critical letters demanding to know why. In a letter to Joseph Wallworth, President of the Commission, dated December 5, 1927 Johnson wrote:

I learned with surprise of the dismissal of Charles W. Leavitt as consulting engineer of your commission, only three months after he was retained by you...

It is hard for me to imagine any new factor of economy which could have developed within 90 days to compel such drastic and sudden curtailment...

As former president of the Camden County Park Association, which first proposed and originated this park movement, I deeply deplore the dismissal of this most capable and experienced engineer. From observance of Leavitt's work for Camden City as well as for other communities, I feel it would be a grave mistake to lose his counsel at this stage of our development. It jeopardizes the completion of the County park system as originally conceived...I will and do hereby personally guarantee the payment of Leavitt's salary for the next three years...

The Commission responded that the termination was through no disregard of Leavitt, but because of a desire to act in the best interests of the county's taxpayers.¹¹³

Leavitt believed that the CCPC had taken advantage of him. In a letter to Eldridge Johnson dated December 10, 1927 he wrote:

All that I can say is that while it looks rather mixed up at the present time, I hope things will get straightened out and that I shall be allowed to carry on this work...

From the newspapers I see that the Park Commission state that their progress for 1928 will not include a Consulting and Planning Engineer because "Mr. Leavitt had for two years given considerable thought to the Park project prior to his appointment by the Camden County Park Commission," but they did not state that this study and work that had been done had never been paid for and that they are apparently intending to take advantage of work that I did for the various municipalities along the Cooper River which have never paid for it. Also they do not seem to realize that after having engaged me by the year they feel free to cut me off after three months because I gave them so much information. While this sort of thing is not unusual among business people I do not wish to complain as it might make matters worse.

The CCPC at first seemed receptive to Johnson's offer but did not indicate that it would reinstate him as the chief planning engineer. It resolved to send the following response to Johnson's offer:

We welcome your suggestion that you intend to revive the Camden County Park Association with Mr.

¹¹² Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of the City of Camden, New Jersey, December 8, 1927

¹¹³ CCPC, op.cit.

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Leavitt at the head as Consulting Engineer. We should be more than pleased to welcome the cooperation of the Association to the end that the Park Movement be stimulated and enlarged by the added services of such an energetic and helpful organization.¹¹⁴

Johnson replied that the Association would not employ an engineer and that his offer was to pay for Leavitt's services directly to the CCPC. He wrote to CCPC Chairman Wallworth:

...I am beginning to suspect that you are being cornered in the matter by politicians. A story has reached me that the so-called Republican leader¹¹⁵ has offered to impose his dead body between Mr. Leavitt and the park enterprise. Well, he is working on the right lines; there is no more certain way to commit political suicide than to obstruct the completion of the Camden parks, and when the people of Camden find out that this man is he will be "dead" politically, in short order.

The Camden County Park Commission should never have been allowed to come under the control of the political element. That is the old fashioned way of doing things. All progressive cities now maintain their park commissions and everything else possible, independent of political organizations, which are generally composed of stupid, short-sighted men who do not have the true interests of the city at heart, but who organize themselves into a gang for personal gain and march under the banner of whichever party happens to be in power.¹¹⁶

Johnson closed this letter asking Wallworth to "notify me plainly, without equivocation or the intimation that you do not understand my offer," whether he would accept Johnson paying for continuing Leavitt's services as a consulting engineer to the CCPC.

Wallworth tried to meet with Johnson unsuccessfully in the ensuing months to review the Leavitt matter and Johnson's offer. On March 22, 1928 the CCPC voted to:

...accept the offer of Eldridge Johnson and enter into negotiations for the improvement and beautification of Cooper Valley with the end in view of the Camden County Park Commission contributing \$500,000 and other municipalities a like amount and the balance of \$1,000,000 to be raised and paid by Eldridge Johnson and his associations, said improvement and beautification to include a rowing course of from one and one-half miles to two miles in length.

By letter dated April 20, 1928 to the CCPC Johnson withdrew his offer writing that the March 22, 1928 CCPC resolution was "inaccurate and misleading" and that the plans he had discussed with the CCPC "were conditioned absolutely upon their being carried out by Mr. Leavitt." He reminded the CCPC that he had proposed Leavitt's reinstatement four months ago and that this was sufficient time to allow the CCPC to fully consider the matter. Charles W. Leavitt, Jr. died two days later on April 22, 1928.

Leavitt's termination may have been attributable to his close association with the Commission's political

¹¹⁴ CCPC Resolution Letter to Eldridge Johnson dated December 22, 1927.

¹¹⁵ Johnson was probably referring to Republican party chairman David Baird Jr. who took control of city politics and secured all five city commission seats in the 1927 election. Baird, who engaged in the lumber business and banking in Camden from 1903 to 1929, was appointed U.S. Senator from New Jersey, where he served from November 30, 1929 to December 2, 1930. He was an unsuccessful candidate for NJ Governor in 1931.

¹¹⁶ Eldridge Johnson Letter to Joseph F. Wallworth, President, CCPC, dated December 29, 1927.

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opponents. Leavitt and some Democrats, opposed to the Republican-dominated Board of Freeholders, had charged members of the park commission with real estate speculation near proposed park developments and alleged the commission had purchased some park properties solely to enhance the property values in which they had a personal financial interest. Those accused included several well-connected Camden businessmen, one of whom was Senator Joseph Wallworth, Park Commission Chair. Chairman Wallworth¹¹⁷ admitted part ownership of lucrative property next to Munn Meadows.¹¹⁸ The Alliance Realty Company owned land the CCPC purchased between 1928 and 1934 (Figure 2). Leavitt opposed the purchase of some CCPC proposed land acquisitions because they simply enhanced the nearby property values of park commissioner Stem and state senator Wallworth and failed to meet the best interests of the Camden County public.¹¹⁹

Eldridge Johnson and Leavitt's firm continued to support the development of the Cooper River park system despite Leavitt's termination as CCPC primary planning engineer on November 29, 1927. Leavitt's Evans Pond Park Preliminary Study and his Cooper River Two Mile Rowing Course are both dated June 1928 -- six months after his termination and three months after his death (Figures 9 and 12).

On October 11, 1928, almost a year after Leavitt's termination, Johnson hosted a dinner for about 200 "leading men of Camden" at the Walt Whitman Hotel to arouse their interest in the City Athletic Club and "to stimulate" their interest "in the civic affairs of Camden in general, especially in the Cooper River Park." Johnson told his guests that the Cooper River Park "is going to be the most wonderful Park in the world for the younger generation of Camden and surrounding towns" and that the "Park Commissioners are anxious to finish," but "there is not sufficient money in hand." He called for a "proper civic committee" to secure the appropriation and to "build the parks even if the money must be borrowed" since the parks and other civic improvements "pay for themselves."¹²⁰

At his own expense Johnson subsequently published and distributed to all the invited dinner guests a thousand copies of four of the speeches and what he called "an accompanying brochure, *Health, Sunshine, and Wealth*," that was prepared by Leavitt's firm and containing a description of Leavitt's proposed Cooper River Park design and conceptual plan, some photographs of existing conditions, and a number of renderings of the proposed park as it would appear once completed (Figures 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 12).

At Johnson's expense, Charles Wellford Leavitt & Son produced two reports related to the Two Mile Rowing Course that was near and dear to Johnson's heart. The first was a "Report of the Stream Flow of the Cooper River" in November 1929 to ascertain its probable minimum flow. The report concluded that the damming up of the Cooper River is a feasible and reasonable project and that there would be sufficient water flowing at all times to insure a clean and pure watercourse. The second was a report on bridges over the Cooper River affecting the Two mile rowing course, which examined the existing

¹¹⁷ Wallworth was found dead in his Haddonfield home on August 20, 1923 with a bullet wound in his head which authorities said was self inflicted. He had been recently engaged in the cotton and wool business in Philadelphia. The Camden County Coroner listed Wallworth's death as a suicide but advanced no motive. (Source: news article on Ancestry.com)

¹¹⁸ Dorwart, 1976, op.cit., p. 223

¹¹⁹ Dorwart, 2001, op.cit. Loc 1513 Kindle edition.

¹²⁰ Johnson, Eldridge, op.cit.

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bridges, call attention to those that are too low, and suggest types and locations for new bridges to accommodate future traffic.¹²¹

The report covered the river downstream to Baird Boulevard and upstream to Evans' Pond as Leavitt's firm considered "this entire portion of the river suitable for water sports, together with the ponds above for canoes and light rowboats, by means of the two portages mentioned." The report said that the Browning Road Bridge "is narrow for present day high speed traffic, and is near the end of its usefulness. It also reported that a new bridge might become necessary at some future date as the distance between the Browning Road and Stoy Landing Road Bridge is over two and one quarter miles. The report recommended that such a bridge might be on a continuation of New Jersey Avenue in Westmont and that it be constructed at right angles to the flow of the river. The recommended new bridge was ultimately built in 1939 to carry Cuthbert Boulevard traffic over the Cooper River.

When the state Assembly authorized spending \$3.5 for Camden County parks if approved by local voters¹²² prominent citizens met to support its approval in a referendum scheduled for May 19, 1931. The Camden County Park Association was reorganized on April 13, 1931 to fight for the bond issue and chose Eldridge Johnson, the President of the original Park Association, as the Honorary President of the reorganized group. The bond issue was approved.

But while Leavitt's plans lived on in the plans of the CCPC, Camden County and City officially killed Leavitt's plans for a new Camden Civic Center on May 10, 1928. At a Chamber of Commerce luncheon, Mayor Winfield Scott Price outlined what the chamber's president called "the greatest step forward and the greatest movement ever proposed for Camden" --- a project for combined government buildings -- including City Hall, the Court House Annex, a Bus Terminal, a City Square between Market, Arch, Sixth and Fifth Streets, and a public square that would provide space for 500-600 private cars.

Camden's new City Planner said:

The big feature in the growth of a City is the determination of a relief of traffic -- parking of automobiles. Don't drive them out of Camden. And here everything seems to be done to let them get out of the City -- you will never make any success letting them get away... The main thing we want to work for is to get rid of out "blight" and to relieve the arteries in the commercial heart of the City.¹²³

Following these remarks the Chamber voted unanimously to approve the plans, which were approved by the City that same afternoon.

While Leavitt's grand civic center plan was never to be, his designs, architectural preferences, and plans lived on, especially for the Cooper River Park.

Design of Cooper River Park

Leavitt initially proposed a county-wide system of interconnected parks and parkways extended in a

¹²¹ Transmitted to Eldridge Johnson by letter dated January 13, 1930.

¹²² Bill No. 158 passed and was signed into law by Governor Larson in March 1931.

¹²³ Dr. Lewis F. Pilcher remarks contained in Morning Post article about the luncheon, May 11, 1928, extract attached to letter from Publisher Secretary to H. R. Hathaway, June 1, 1928.

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southeastern direction from Gloucester City and the City of Camden. The comprehensive plan was intended as a planning tool to be gradually and systematically implemented over 20 years (Figure 2).¹²⁴ Leavitt and J.C. Remington, Jr.'s March 6, 1927 *Feasibility Report* suggested the acquisition of inexpensive, undesirable land in low-lying, unpopulated drainage areas for the system. Leavitt presented a conceptual drawing in the report that showed possible locations and routes for parks and parkways throughout the county (Figure 3).

Charles Leavitt's use of an existing watercourse as the focal point of his Cooper River Park design followed landscape architecture concepts that had originated in the mid nineteenth century. Leavitt's experience as a civil engineer on large municipal projects informed his Cooper River Park plans, which proposed to convert the narrow Cooper River into a Cooper River Lake and make the lake the central feature of the proposed park. Leavitt planned a dam in the area east of Crescent Boulevard, as well as tide gates, elevation control weirs, and a system of dikes to control water and prevent flooding. He also incorporated winding roads, footpaths, open fields, and scenic overlooks throughout his park plan. Individual parks along the river were to be linked by a continuous parkway.¹²⁵ In keeping with City Beautiful planning practices Leavitt's comprehensive designs emphasized the connection of recreational areas with transportation networks and the surrounding urban areas.

Leavitt centered a number of recreation features on the proposed Cooper River Lake, including a two-mile, eight-lane rowing course designed for regulation competition (Figures 4 and 12), several boathouses, and a model yacht club basin for model builders and sailors. He planned many land-based recreation facilities for the park including six tennis courts and a club house; an amphitheater; a stadium and athletic field with a running track; a grandstand; baseball and football fields; occasional fireplaces for cookouts; picnic groves; and an archery range.¹²⁶

Not all of the proposed park amenities planned by Leavitt came to fruition. Those that were installed or completed were the model yacht basin, the tennis clubhouse, the running track with grandstand, the rehabilitation of the Ebenezer Hopkins House, the filled and landscaped areas of the Cooper River Park (Berger 1993), and the two mile rowing course. The two mile rowing course was one of the most important objectives of the Park's primary booster, Eldridge Johnson, who wrote:

The thing I hope to bring about, and still hope for, is a rowing basin similar to Princeton. It would seem to be an easy matter to dredge a portion of the Cooper River so as to create a basin of this kind. There are lots of low lands where the dredging could be used for fill to great advantage. With such a rowing basin the high schools of all the surrounding towns could build boathouses and have rowing crews similar to the colleges. This, in my opinion, would be one of the finest things in the world for the high school boys and the girls also. It has been my thought to create along the Cooper River a condition somewhat similar to the River Thames in England ...[which] is the greatest sight in the world in summer time when the upper Thames is covered with punts, houseboats, canoes and various other watercraft.¹²⁷

¹²⁴ Cranston, Paul F. *Camden County 1681-1931, Two Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary, The Story of an Industrial Empire*, (Camden, New Jersey: Camden County Chamber of Commerce, 1931), p. 45.

¹²⁵ Brown, op.cit., pp. 85-90

¹²⁶ Brown, op.cit., pp. 90-91

¹²⁷ Letter to C.W. Leavitt dated December 9, 1927.

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In 2006 Camden County completed construction of its Boathouse at Cooper River at 7050 North Park Drive near the Drive's intersection with Browning Road on almost the exact same site that Charles Leavitt had planned for a "Boat House & Casino" on his June 1928 "Cooper River Two Mile Rowing Course Landscape Plan (Drawing No. 928-J).¹²⁸

The CCPC applied for Federal government assistance to complete the park and received funds through the WPA and the Department of the Interior's CCC program. Engineering and administrative staffs were established in the park to assist the CCPC in completing the Cooper River Lake section, while a CCC camp was constructed in Haddon Township to complete the park's eastern sections.

The CCPC planned to implement Leavitt's original concept of an interconnected county park system following creeks and rivers to the Atlantic County line even after the WPA office was established. This can be seen in the 1936 conceptual park plan produced by the CCPC (Figure 11). WPA staff and the park CCPC staff worked together in producing plans for the completion of the park, as evidenced by title blocks of both agencies on a 1937 "Proposed Landscape and Development and Planting Plan" (Figure 16).

Once completed in 1940, Cooper River Park was turned out to be very similar to its original, Leavitt design and remains so today. The present layout of the lake, river, and drives, shows that they were constructed mostly according to Leavitt's design. North Park Drive is generally in the same location and in the configuration is as Leavitt designed. South Park Drive differs slightly from the original plan in that it does not extend all the way between Kaighn Avenue and Kings Highway. Instead, the drive currently begins at Crescent Boulevard and terminates at its intersection with Saginaw Avenue two blocks west of the New Jersey Transit railroad line. The planned railroad underpass was not constructed and the railroad interrupts South Park Drive. What would have been South Park Drive resumes east of the railroad bridge as Coles Mills Road and extends east across Grove Street along the south bank of the Cooper River before turning south and then west again as Pardee Lane.

Another current feature of the park that is somewhat different than Leavitt's original design is the existing 2,000 meter rowing course that includes six straight rowing lanes from Crescent Boulevard to a finish line located on the north bank of the Cooper River just south of and at a point along a straight line extending from Donahue Avenue across Park Boulevard in Cherry Hill. Leavitt's original plan proposed a two mile rowing course between the Browning Road Truss Bridge and the railroad bridge two miles east, as shown on Leavitt's 1928 plan of the rowing course (Figure 12). A 1938 CCPC drawing shows the altered course location (Figure 13). To accommodate the relocated rowing course the Browning Road Bridge was removed, as evidenced by CCPC meeting minutes of 1938 and a

¹²⁸ The Camden County Boathouse features six boat bays for storage of close to one-hundred racing shells and is home to seven local rowing clubs that train daily on the Cooper River, from middle-school aged to adults in their senior years. Cooper River Park has hosted numerous major state and national rowing events, including the IRAs, NCAAs, and SRAA regattas, in addition to many local run high school, college and master regattas. (Camden County website, 2013). While the balance of the Boathouse is not a "Casino" as Leavitt intended, it features complete facilities for receptions as corporate meetings and training and a Banquet Room that seats up to 200 guests.

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drawing of the same year showing the proposed bridge removal (Figure 14). A 1937 as-built landscape plan indicates the terminated Browning Road on the lake's southern shore (Figure 15). Although the western terminus of the rowing course was relocated from Leavitt's original plan, the western portion of the rowing course between South Crescent Boulevard and the East Cuthbert Boulevard bridge is still in the same location as it was originally constructed in 1938.

The design and construction of the district's facilities included several notable landscape features, including a concrete and stone dam with wing walls across Wallworth Pond¹²⁹ and the following stone masonry structures: 1 staircase leading from Kaighn Avenue to Tidal Gate Gateway Park, 3 staircases leading from Crescent Boulevard to North and South Park Drives, 3 staircases and retaining walls south of Cooper River Lake between the residential neighborhood in Collingswood and South Park Drive, a retaining wall and staircase at Wallworth Pond, a covered pavilion on North Park Drive, 3 scenic lookout platform along the Cooper River south shore in Haddon Township, and 7 tree planters. A stone masonry bridge leading to a landscaped island in the middle of the lake was constructed; however, it is no longer standing.

The stone masonry features are not shown on Leavitt's 1925 drawing. There is evidence that they were designed at a later time when WPA funding and personnel assisted with the completion of the park. The CCPC's landscape architect and a WPA draftsman designed two of the stairways that led from Crescent Boulevard to the southern side of the park as shown on the circa 1937 "As-Built Landscape Development and Planting Plan" (Figure 15) and the stone retaining walls and stairways on the park's southern side and leading to adjacent Collingswood as shown on the 1937 plan entitled, "Proposed Landscape Development and Planting Plan" (Figure 16).

Financial audits of the work indicate that some of the stone masonry work was executed by Italian-American stone masons, Dominic and Anthony Perla, who were listed in a 1940 account of WPA construction personnel.¹³⁰ It appears that the stone used in the park was obtained from several sources, including the Kingston Trap Rock Quarry, of Somerset County, New Jersey. According to accounting records, over \$13,000 of stone material was purchased for the park between September 1936 and December 1937.¹³¹

Construction of Cooper River Park

Camden County authorities constructed the Cooper River Park over a 12 year period between 1928 and 1940 because of a number of factors that slowed the pace of development. The CCPC encountered resistance from private landowners and needed time to acquire riparian rights along both sides of the river from the State of New Jersey.

In May 1931, with voter approval of the bond issue referendum, the CCPC adopted a program for spending the first \$750,000 to further develop the park system, including the immediate start of work

¹²⁹ CCPC 1938.

¹³⁰ Liebman, Morris, and Company. "Special Examination of the Financial Books and Records of the Camden County Park Commission." Camden County, New Jersey, 1940.

¹³¹ *Ibid.* The NJ DOT report on the reconstruction of the Crescent Boulevard Bridge indicates that the stairways were constructed using Pennsylvania mica.

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developing the Cooper River Parkway from the Camden-Pennsauken Township line and continuing towards the section already completed near Haddonfield.¹³² In June 1931 CCPC authorized construction of one mile of the North Boulevard, a part of the parkway program to extend the boulevard to Grove Street, Haddonfield to connect with the completed section extending to Caldwell Road.

The onset of the Depression slowed the work. In February 1932 the Camden County Treasurer asked the Freeholders to suspend temporarily all County capital expenditures pending recovery of the bond market. This effectively ended all new park work and forced the CCPC to lay off nearly all parks employees engaged in construction work since there were no funds to pay them.¹³³

The ensuing financial problems forced the CCPC to apply to the Federal government for assistance. In November 1933 the CCPC approved a plan of systematic development through Federal loans and grants totaling \$3.2 million for ten projects to use labor under the Civic Works Administration and to provide for future planning of a co-ordinate park system for the future.¹³⁴ These included the following Cooper River park related projects: completing a connecting link to Browning Road, completing the Cooper River Parkway from Haddonfield to Camden, including the acquisition of land, construction of underpasses, drainage, dredging, filling, grading, landscaping and planting; connecting link between Evans Lake, Haddonfield, and Big Timber Creek.

In November 1933, ninety seven CWA workers started work redressing and graveling Cooper River North Boulevard at Central Airport.¹³⁵ In March 1934 forty seven men worked on improving the boulevard in Delaware Township (now Cherry Hill).

In 1934 CCPC also used assistance from the Emergency Relief Administration to employ one hundred and eight white collar men to perform a variety of other park planning and development work in the historic district, including the following :

Preparing topographical and title surveys and plans for future development of the park system along Cooper River from Memorial Avenue, Camden to Grove Street, Haddonfield;

Preparing architectural designs and plans for park shelters, comfort stations, fireplaces, bridges, band stands, outdoor theaters, tourist camps, etc. to be located throughout the entire county park system;

Surveying tree and shrub species, conditions, and locations, and listing areas from which they can be moved and where new trees and shrubs are needed;

Developing plans for completing landscaping of the entire park system;

Surveying and recording points of historical interest connected with the County Park System and compiling the data for the proposed historical year book of the CCPC.

¹³² Brown, op.cit, p. 39

¹³³ Brown, op.cit., p.41

¹³⁴ Approved Federal funding the project became CWA Project No. 870-C001-870A.

¹³⁵ Federal rules and regulations required that CCPC exercise the "utmost care" in placing CWA men on work that required no money for mechanical equipment and material. Brown, op.cit., p. 47.

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Surveying and studying the need for and location of recreational areas existing and proposed in the Camden County Park System.¹³⁶

The depression created a large potential workforce and efforts to transfer relief clients to work projects. At the start of 1935 more than 13,000 unemployed men and women were on the relief rolls of the Emergency Relief Administration in Camden County.

By the summer of 1935 the CWA was reorganized and became the WPA. The completion of Cooper River Lake was then funded and expedited by the WPA, who wrote to the CCPC in 1936 advising it to proceed quickly with the acquisition of all of the land for the section of park between Kaighn Avenue and the Railroad Bridge, known as Section No. 11.

From November 1935 to February 1936 the CCPC employed about 1400 men who were transferred from the relief rolls to work on a number of park projects including developing the Cooper River area between Kaighn Avenue and Crescent Boulevard and from Crescent to the Delaware River Railroad.¹³⁷ Four additional projects followed in quick succession, including work on the North Boulevard of the Cooper River Parkway from Crescent to Grove Street, Haddonfield and the South Boulevard of the Cooper River Parkway.

The CCC was enlisted to complete the park east of the railroad bridge, known as Section No. 12, and the CCC established a campsite to house its workers in Haddon Township.¹³⁸

The WPA staff included a 13-person engineering staff, with a chief engineer, an assistant engineer, a consulting engineer, design engineers, junior engineers, a draftsman, an assistant draftsman, a rod-man, and a stenographer. The WPA's 10-person administrative staff included a comptroller, bookkeeper, clerk, cost accountant, purchasing agent, solicitor, two negotiators, a junior clerk typist and a clerk stenographer. The WPA's 43-person construction labor force included two landscape architects, five inspectors, a master mechanic, three assistant mechanics, a mechanic supervisor, a crane inspector, two stone masons, five carpenters, a labor foreman, six laborers, six watchman, a helper, two teamsters, and two truck drivers.¹³⁹

WPA workers extensively dredged, filled in, graded, and shaped the Cooper River and its surrounding wide marshlands to create Cooper River Lake. They used dynamite, dredging, and other mechanized equipment, along with manual labor to convert the waterway's adjoining flood plains into a lake and channel. Workmen constructed a concrete dam, originally planned across the River east of Crescent Boulevard, at a different location west of South Crescent across the River just south of Kaighn Avenue by the end of 1938. Workers removed the metal truss Browning Road Bridge and re-graded the land for the relocated rowing course.¹⁴⁰ By 1939 the airport adjacent to North Park Drive, Central Airport, had

¹³⁶ Brown, op.cit., p.32

¹³⁷ Brown, op.cit., p.55

¹³⁸ CCPC 1934

¹³⁹ Liebman. op.cit.

¹⁴⁰ CCPC 1938

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initiated a boat and canoe concession with the CCPC, and the lake was ready for use by 1940. The lake for model yachting was completed in 1941.¹⁴¹

The CCPC and the WPA funded the Cooper River Lake project. Between 1935 and 1940 the CCPC contributed \$987,926 and the WPA \$8,053,521.¹⁴²

Cleanup of the Cooper River by another New Deal agency, the CCC, allowed Camden County to hold its first intercollegiate sculling (rowing) regatta in 1930, a tradition that continues to the present.¹⁴³

The History of Camden County Park Commission summed up the development and improvements within the historic district from 1933 to 1937 as follows:

Cooper River Parkway ---

Dredging and filling to form lakes, a rowing course, a model yacht basin, dikes, island and reclaimed land; the construction of masonry bridges, a masonry and concrete dam four hundred and twenty-five feet wide, twelve tennis courts; two baseball grounds, an amphitheater; a boat club house; a tennis club house; a running track; parking spaces; drainage systems; out-door fireplaces; overlooks; the remodeling of an old farm house; the construction of bituminous treated North Boulevard from Crescent Boulevard, Pennsauken, to Grove Street, Haddonfield; the construction of South Boulevard, bituminous treated from Browning Road, Collingswood, to Saginaw Avenue, Westmont; branch roadways and paths; the grading, shaping and seeding of the grounds and other planting and landscaping; the installation of a parkway electric lighting system.

Wallworth Park -

Resurfacing of six tennis courts.¹⁴⁴

Cooper River Park after 1940

World War II stopped the CCPC's land acquisition plan for a county-wide park system. Instead of connecting with other parks leading to the Great Egg Harbor River and running to the Atlantic County line as originally envisioned by Leavitt in the 1920s, the CCPC revised its interconnected park system largely centered on Cooper River Lake and the surrounding Cooper River Park, extending only to Haddonfield. Funds and manpower for maintenance were scarce following World War II. While many parts of the park became overgrown and some facilities were vandalized the Camden County Cultural and Heritage Commission and the CCPC continued to present entertainment and musical programs each summer in the park.

¹⁴¹ CCPC 1938; 1939; 1941

¹⁴² The New Deal had a large impact improving Camden County's infrastructure beyond the parks program. WPA hired 11,000 unemployed locals and spent \$3.5 million rebuilding county roads and bridges. It constructed swimming pools in Collingswood, Haddon Heights, and Pennsauken.

¹⁴³ Dorwart, 2001, op.cit., loc 1577 Kindle edition.

¹⁴⁴ Brown, op.cit., p.56

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For decades communities along the Cooper River used it to flush their treated sewage and industrial wastes. Over time local sewage plants became overburdened and were inadequate to meet changing standards. The Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1967 required each state to develop water quality standards to protect surface water and groundwater. The New Jersey Department of Health (now the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection) developed regulations that spelled out how wastewater had to be treated. New Jersey State legislation required all future sewerage systems to be developed regionally.

In 1971 Camden County conducted a survey of the entire park system and confirmed the deteriorated conditions of Cooper River Park. The survey showed that water was the severely polluted throughout the system, recreation facilities were unusable, park land was poorly maintained, and facilities had deteriorated. The ensuing report proposed that the County improve the park system, repair of existing facilities, improve underdeveloped lands already owned, and complete the planned linear park along major creeks and rivers, and purchase of additional land to meet acreage deficits.¹⁴⁵

The Clean Water Act of 1972 mandated the cleanup of the Cooper River through pollution control and wastewater cleanup. In 1972 the Camden County Board of Chosen Freeholders also created the Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority to meet these requirements. The CCMUA has the responsibility and the sole authority to plan for and treat wastewater within Camden County as required by the Federal Clean Water Act.

CCMUA constructed a system to divert millions of gallons of sewage from the Cooper River to massive concrete or iron pipes leading to an expanded treatment plant operated by the authority on the Delaware River in southern part of Camden County. A 22-mile swath of pipeline linking the old sewer plants of 16 towns along the Cooper River to a newer \$600 million regional treatment system and plant in Camden allowed the discharge released into the Delaware River to be three times cleaner than the discharge from local plants. CCMUA reported that within two years of operation it had eliminated 99 percent of the bacteria in the Cooper River.

In 2004 the Trust for Public Lands produced a study on the role of Camden's parks and green spaces in the city's redevelopment in the last quarter of the twentieth century.

In May 2004 the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission also published a Camden County Open Space and Farmland Preservation Plan funded by the Camden County Board of Freeholders. The plan identified the past and future open space needs in the county, inventoried natural and cultural resources, proposed an open space system, and proposed an action plan and preservation tools. The plan noted that the massive development plans for parks along the Cooper River from the pre-World War II period included parks as highly manicured social gathering places that were clearly valued over protection of natural resources because the ecological functions of streams and floodplains were not yet well understood.¹⁴⁶ Table 6 and Map 18 in the plan list the historic resources in Camden County. These include The Cooper River Park Historic District (Map 18 Site #81) and the following other sites within

¹⁴⁵ Camden County Planning Department 1972)

¹⁴⁶ Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, *Camden County Open Space and Farmland Preservation Plan*, Philadelphia, DVRPC, May 2004, p. 13

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the historic district: Ebenezer Hopkins House (#122), the *Hadrosaurus Foulkii* Leidy Site (#131), and the Kay-Evans Farmstead (#86).

The 2005 construction of a new boathouse reinstated Cooper River Lake and the park's prominence in the rowing community.

On March 28, 2012 Camden County officials unveiled a five year \$23 million project to upgrade Cooper River Park. The plan calls for improvements to expand park access, provide better river views, create boardwalks and vista decks, and improve athletic fields, memorial areas and the park's stadium. Concurrent with the park revitalization is a \$4 million project aimed at enhancing water quality, stabilizing the riverbanks, and improving the river rowing course funded by the Delaware River Port Authority. The Cooper River Park Vision Plan that details all the proposed park improvements contain an "Inventory and Analysis" chapter that located and defined the park's surface cover, access and circulation pathways for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists, and flood prone low areas and zones, views. It proposed to "expand and refine the current qualities and attributes of the park so that it could continue to serve a diverse and large volume of users and to improve existing facilities to enable a phased, flexible and sustainable park of international caliber."¹⁴⁷

The Vision Plan proposed landscape design measures to protect land and water quality and four public space typologies (puncture, slot, vista, and ribbon) for Cooper River Park inspired from existing conditions. It states that refinements "can be employed which will greatly enhance the quality of the space... without dramatically altering the structure or current program for any portion of the park."

¹⁴⁷ Cairone Kaupp, Inc, *Cooper River Park Vision Plan*, Camden County, N.J., 2012

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Datum: NAD27 (taken from paper USGS map)

	<u>ZONE</u>	<u>EASTING</u>	<u>NORTHING</u>
5	18	497254	4418333
6	18	497633	4417962
7	18	498325	4416570
8	18	498045	4415976
9	18	497270	4416685
10	18	497254	4417871
11	18	496322	4418185
12	18	495416	4418827
13	18	492977	4419050
14	18	492540	4419420

Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary begins at the northeastern corner of the intersection of North Park Drive and Kaighn Avenue, and thence proceeds easterly along the northern edge of the parkland north of North Park Drive. At the intersection of North Park Drive and Crescent Boulevard, cross Crescent Boulevard (U.S. Route 130) and proceed along the northern edge of North Park Drive to the end of the road (there Park Boulevard) at the western side of the New Jersey Transit Railroad Bridge. Following the northern boundary of the land associated with a pedestrian path that crosses underneath the railroad bridge, to the easterly side of the bridge and to northern edge of Park Boulevard, and then continuing along the northerly edge of Park Boulevard to the westerly edge of Block 373.01, Lot 3 in Cherry Hill Township. The boundary then continues along the westerly and southerly lines of Lot 3 and the southerly and easterly lines of Block 373.01, Lot 2 to Park Boulevard and then crosses to the northerly line of Park Boulevard. The boundary thence continues easterly along the said northerly line of Park Boulevard to the westerly line of Kings Highway South (Cherry Hill Township). The boundary thence continues along the northerly boundary of parkland in Wallworth Park to the westerly edge of Caldwell Road in Haddonfield Borough. Thence proceeding southeasterly to the northerly corner of the intersection of Caldwell Road and Bortons Mill Road; thence proceeding westerly along the northerly side of Bortons Mill Road to Evans Pond and then in a clockwise direction around the edge of the parkland bordering Evans Pond as shown on the district map, returning to the parkland bordering the southwesterly side of Wallworth Lake. Thence proceeding along the said southerly edge of the parkland south of Wallworth Lake, crossing Kings Highway East (in Haddonfield Borough) to the southerly edge of Pennypacker Park, thence and proceeding along the lines of Block 14 Lot 3 in Haddonfield Borough, crossing Hopkins Lane and turning southwesterly along the outer edge of the parkland bordering Hopkins Pond to the easterly side of Grove Street. The boundary then continues along Grove Street to the southerly side of Hopkins Lane. At this point, the boundary continues northeasterly along the line of Block 12, Lot 1 to where it crosses Hopkins Lane, and continues still in a northerly direction along the line of Block 14, Lot 1, to the southwesterly line of Block 2, Lot 13. The boundary thence continues in a northwesterly direction along the boundary line between the residential parcels and the parkland south of the Cooper River until it reaches Coles Mill Road. The boundary thence continues along the northern edge of Coles Mill Road to and across Grove Street, and then continuing along the northern edge of Coles Mill Road until it reaches the northerly edge of Village Court. The boundary then turns northerly along the line of Block 10.13, Lot 34.01 until it reaches the line of Block 23.02, Lot 5. The boundary thence continues along the said Lot 5 to the edge of the New Jersey Transit railroad bridge across the Cooper River. Thence following a line of convenience across the NJ Transit right-of-way to the corner of Block 25.03, Lot 1,

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Cooper River Park Historic District
Camden County,

NJ

Section number 10 Page 2

and thence along said Lot 1 to Block 25.02, Lot 9, and along southerly and westerly lines of Lot 9 until the boundary reaches a point in range with the southerly edge of South Park Drive. The boundary thence continues along the southerly edge of South Park Drive, across Cuthbert Boulevard until it reaches the easterly line of Block 19.01, lot 45 in Haddonfield Borough near the northerly end of East Knight Street; thence along the easterly line of Lot 45 and the southwesterly lines of Block 19.01, Lots 44 and 45 and Block 18, Lots 42 and 43 to the northern end of Crestmont Terrace. The boundary continues along the edge of the county parkland along Block 19.08, Lots 66, 67, and 68 until it reaches the southwesterly line of South Park Drive. The boundary then continues along South Park Drive to the easterly line of Block 1.07, Lot 2, and thence by the outer edge of Lot 2 and Block 1.07, Lot 1 and across Pacific Avenue along the southerly line of Block 1.01, Lot 1 to the easterly line of Crescent Boulevard (U.S. Route 130). Thence turning northerly along the easterly line of Crescent Boulevard to the northerly side of the Cooper River, excluding the recently-constructed U.S. Route 130 Bridge over the Cooper River. The boundary thence continues along the northerly shore of the Cooper River as it extends westerly and then northerly to a point 20 feet from the centerline of the Cooper River Tidal Gate and Dam. Thence westerly across the Cooper River on a line parallel to the centerline of the dam to a point in range with the end of the dam, and then turning northerly along the end of the dam to a point 20 feet northerly from the said centerline of the dam. The boundary thence continues easterly across the Cooper River to its northerly side and then continues northwesterly along the northerly side until it reaches the southerly line of Kaighn Avenue. The boundary thence continues easterly along the southern boundary of Kaighn Avenue until it reaches the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries were selected to encompass the interconnected park sections included in the park system as it was designed in 1925 by the firm of Charles Wellford Leavitt and Son and constructed in the 1930s. The northwestern end of the district begins at Kaighn Avenue at the beginning of North Park Drive, a contributing resource in the district. The district does not include the area to the southwest of the river or land in the Harleigh Cemetery because South Park Drive, another contributing resource in the district, does not extend through the cemetery but instead begins at Crescent Boulevard. The Crescent Boulevard (Route 30/130) bridge currently under construction would be non-contributing, and has been excluded from the boundary. The principal roads along the edges of the park (North Park Drive, Park Boulevard, South Park Drive) are included in the nomination as they are integral to the design and functioning of the park. West of Crescent Boulevard, the land between the river and Harleigh Cemetery in this area is marshland and inaccessible by vehicular traffic, pedestrians, or boats, negating its active use as a park, and has therefore been excluded from the district. The tidal gate dam at the western end of the park is an essential park feature and is included, but the adjacent land of Harleigh Cemetery is excluded.

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Cooper River Park Historic District
Camden County, NJ

Section number Photographs Page 1

Current Photographs

The following information is the same for all photographs submitted with the nomination:

Name of Property: Cooper River Park Historic District
City or Vicinity: [six municipalities]
County: Camden
State: New Jersey
Name of Photographers: Alison Ross (AR), Robert Shinn (RS)
Date of Photographs: December 17, 2010 (AR), November/December 2013 (RS)

AR Photo locations are shown on Figures 17a, b, and c.

RS Photo locations are shown on Figures 18a, b, and c.

Historic photos in italic boldface.

- Photo 1 (AR) North Park Drive (contributing resource), open park land and wooded areas in park section between Kaighn Avenue and Crescent Boulevard (contributing resource), camera facing northwest.
- Photo 2 (AR) Cooper River Tide Gate and Dam (contributing resource) east of Kaighn Avenue, camera facing southwest.
- Photo 3 (AR) Camden County Golf Academy (non-contributing resource) at northwestern quadrant of Crescent Boulevard Bridge, west façade (left) and south façade (right), camera facing northeast.
- Photo 4 (AR) Cooper River Lake from north side of Cooper River Par showing section of rowing course, camera facing south.
- Photo 5 (AR) Open park land and wooded areas in Cooper River Park between North Park Drive and Cooper River Lake, camera facing east.
- Photo 6 (AR) South Park Drive (contributing resource) south of Cooper River Lake showing paved footpath (contributing resource), open parkland, and parking area, camera facing west
- Photo 7 (AR) Memorial statues for Polish-American war heroes (non-contributing resource) on northern side of lake, camera facing south.
- Photo 8 (AR) Sculpture in Memorial Grove (non-contributing resource) on northern side of lake, camera facing west.
- Photo 9 (AR) Ebenezer Hopkins House (contributing resource) on South Park Drive, south of Cooper River Lake, camera facing east.
- Photo 10 (AR) Lobster Trap Restaurant building (non-contributing resource) on northern side of lake, camera facing southeast.
- Photo 11 (AR) Cooper River Yacht Club building (non-contributing resource) on southern side of lake, camera facing northwest.
- Photo 12 (AR) Camden County Boathouse (non-contributing resource) in front of rowing course, camera facing east.
- Photo 13 (AR) Greenwald Park showing open park land and stands of trees, camera facing southwest.
- Photo 14 (AR) Pennypacker Park showing open and densely wooded park land, camera facing north.
- Photo 15 (AR) Hopkins Pond in Pennypacker Park, camera facing east.
- Photo 16 (AR) Driscoll Pond in Pennypacker Park, camera facing southeast.
- Photo 17 (AR) Wallworth Lake in Wallworth Park, camera facing west.
- Photo 18 (AR) Evans Pond in Wallworth Park, camera facing south.
- Photo 19 (AR) Concrete arch footbridge (contributing resource) in Wallworth Park, camera facing northwest.
- Photo 20 (AR) Concrete and stone dam (contributing resource) on Wallworth Lake, camera facing northeast.

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Camden County, NJ

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- Photo 21 (AR) Club House (contributing resource) northeast of Wallworth Lake in Wallworth Park, camera facing north.
- Photo 22 (AR) Crescent Boulevard Bridge (contributing resource), eastern elevation, camera facing southwest.
- Photo 23 (AR) Railroad Bridge (non-contributing resource), eastern elevation, camera facing southeast.
- Photo 24 (AR) Stone masonry stairway (contributing resource) leading from Crescent Boulevard to park, at northeastern quadrant of bridge, camera facing west.
- Photo 25 (AR) Stone masonry pavilion (contributing resource) on north side of Cooper River Lake, camera facing north.
- Photo 26 (AR) Concrete and stone masonry retaining wall and staircase (contributing resource), east end of East Madison Avenue, south of South Park Drive, camera facing south.
- Photo 27 (AR) Stone masonry bleachers (contributing resource) on north side of Cooper Lake, camera facing northeast.
- Photo 28 (AR) Stone masonry lookout platform (contributing resource) along South Park Drive, camera facing east.
- Photo 29 (AR) Stone masonry tree planters (contributing resource) along South Park Drive on southern side of lake, camera facing east.
- Photo 30 (RS) Crestmont Terrace Stone Masonry Retaining Wall and Staircase (contributing resource) south of South Park Drive, camera facing south
- Photo 31 (RS) East Night Avenue Stone Masonry Retaining Wall and Staircase (contributing resource) south of South Park Drive, camera facing south.
- Photo 32 (Google earth) Pink granite stone and masonry footbridge and walkway Park Boulevard (contributing resource), west of Cuthbert Boulevard, camera facing south.
- Photo 33 (RS) Cuthbert Boulevard Bridge (contributing resource), camera facing southeast, floating dock in foreground.
- Photo 34 (RS) Concrete Dock Park Boulevard (contributing resource), north shore of Cooper River Lake east of Cuthbert Boulevard Bridge, camera facing south.
- Photo 35 (RS) Concrete Dock South Park Drive (contributing resource), south shore of Cooper River Lake, east of Cuthbert Boulevard Bridge, camera facing southeast.
- Photo 36 (RS) South Park Drive stone masonry lookout platform (contributing resource) east of Cuthbert, camera facing north. Riverstone tree planter in foreground.
- Photo 37 (RS) Stone masonry retaining wall and tree planter (contributing resource) south shore of Cooper River Lake near railroad bridge(contributing resource), camera facing north.
- Photo 38 (RS) Stone masonry lookout platform (contributing resource) south shore of Cooper River Lake, west of railroad, camera facing northwest.
- Photo 39 (Google earth) Stone Masonry Staircase Grove Street Bridge northwest side (contributing resource), camera facing southwest.
- Photo 40 (RS) Stone Masonry Staircase Grove Street Bridge southwest side (contributing resource),camera facing northeast.
- Photo 41 Victims of Terrorism Memorial, (non-contributing resource) 7000 North Park Drive, Pennsauken Township, camera facing south.
- Photo 42 (RS) Floating dock (non-contributing resource). A rowing shell launch area with two floating docks North side of Cooper River Lake, camera facing south.
- Photo 43 (RS) Japanese Pagoda (non-contributing resource) North Shore of Cooper River south of Park Boulevard, camera facing north.
- Photo 44 (Google earth) The starting line of the 2,000 meter rowing course, 6 floating docks, covered pavilion (non-contributing resource). Rowing race course start area on the south side of Cooper River Lake near intersection of South Park Drive and Crescent Boulevard, aerial camera facing east.
- Photo 45 (CCPC) CCC boys, at Camp Cooper. [Historic photo]**

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- Photo 46 (RS) Footbridge 4 (contributing resource) crosses the North Branch of the Cooper River between Park Boulevard and South Branch of the Cooper River, camera facing west.
- Photo 47 (RS) Footbridge 5 is near the center of Greenwald Park crossing the Cooper River where it joins with a stream that drains Driscoll Pond, camera facing south.
- Photo 48 (RS) Footbridge 7 (contributing resource) crosses the Cooper River at south end of Greenwald Park north of the Kings Highway Bridge, camera facing north. Footbridge framed by Kings Highway Bridge Arch.
- Photo 49 (RS) Watchable Wildlife Park Trail wayside exhibit map showing 6 footbridge locations in Maria Barnaby Greenwald Memorial Park and Pennypacker Park, camera facing southeast.
- Photo 50 (RS) Stone staircase at Kings Highway Bridge (contributing resource), southwest quadrant of Kings Highway Bridge, camera facing southeast.
- Photo 51 (RS) Driscoll Pond Dam (non-contributing resource), camera facing south.
- Photo 52 (West Jersey History Project) Haddon Mill ruins about 1905.**
- Photo 53 Birdwood Farm House.
- Photo 54 (RS) Hopkins Pond Dam (non-contributing resource) north side, view from Driscoll Pond (foreground), Camera facing west.
- Photo 55 (RS) Kings Highway Pennsylvania mica stone masonry stairs and retaining wall (contributing resource) south side of Kings Highway at intersection with Evans Pond Road, camera facing southwest.
- Photo 56 (Brown) Interior of the Wallworth Park Club House, 1937 (Brown, op.cit., p. 119).**
- Photo 57 (Brown) Wallworth Park Club House 1937 (Brown, op.cit., p. 118).**
- Photo 58 Wallworth Park Club House ca. 1964, Haddonfield Historical Society.**
- Photo 59 (RS) Pennsylvania mica stone and masonry footbridge (contributing resource), Wallworth Park east of Wallworth Lake, camera facing northwest.
- Photo 60 Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr. portrait photo.**

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Additional Documentation

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Rendering by Charles Wellford Leavitt and Son, undated

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undated

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Figure 12.
Cooper River Two Mile Rowing Course
by Charles Wellford Leavitt and Son, 1928

Figure 13.
Plan of Proposed Change in Location of Cooper River Rowing Course
Cooper River Park Commission, 1938

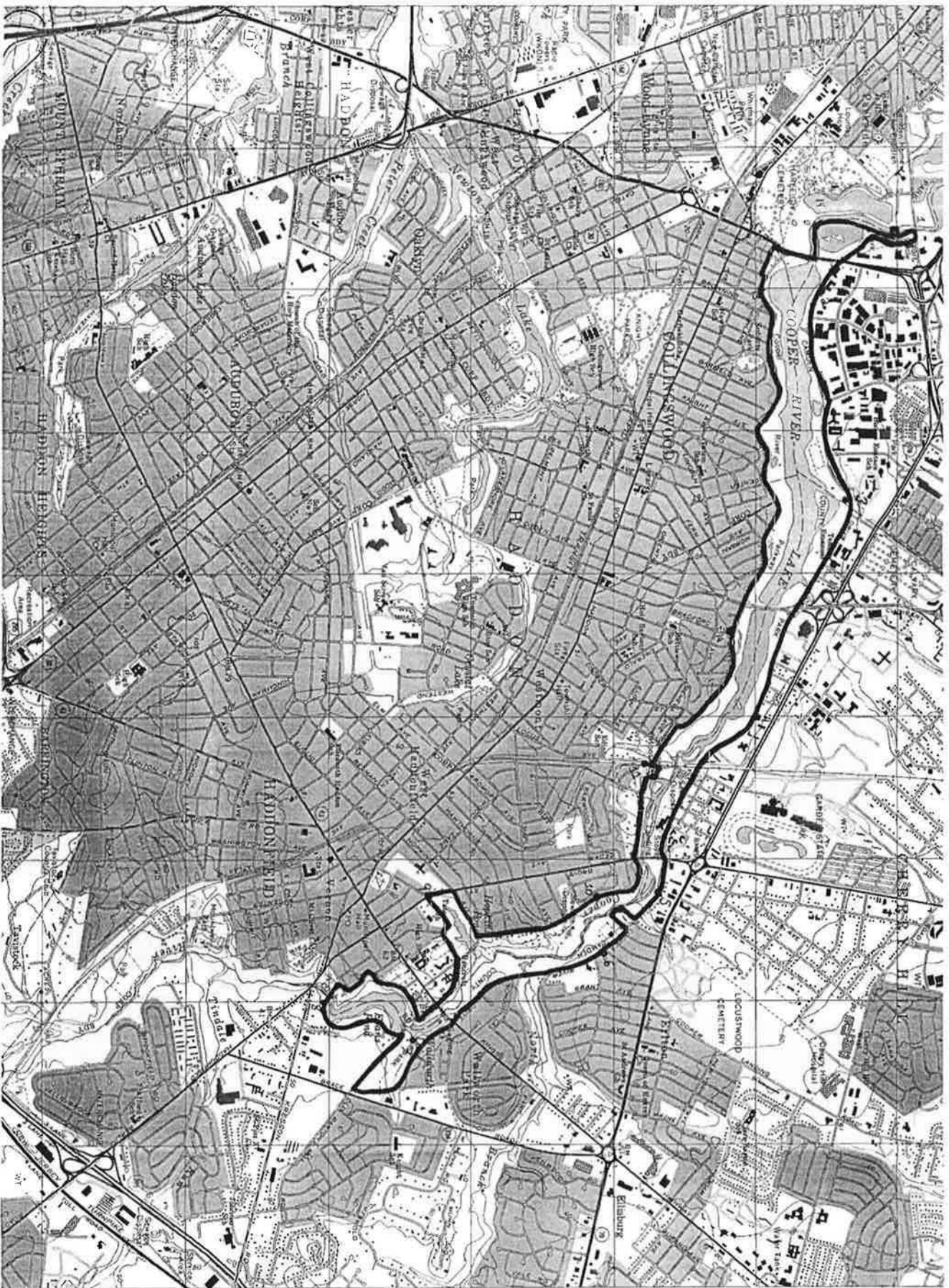
Figure 14.
Plan showing removal of Browning Road Bridge
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Figure 15.
As-Built Landscape Development and Planting Plan
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Figure 16.
Proposed Landscape Development and Planting Plan
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Figures 17a, 17b and 17c.
Aerial Maps of Cooper River Park Historic District Boundaries
Includes photo locations and directions and locations of non-
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Figures 18a, 18b and 18c Cooper River Park Historic District
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Showing Block and Lot numbers of land parcels within the
Historic District

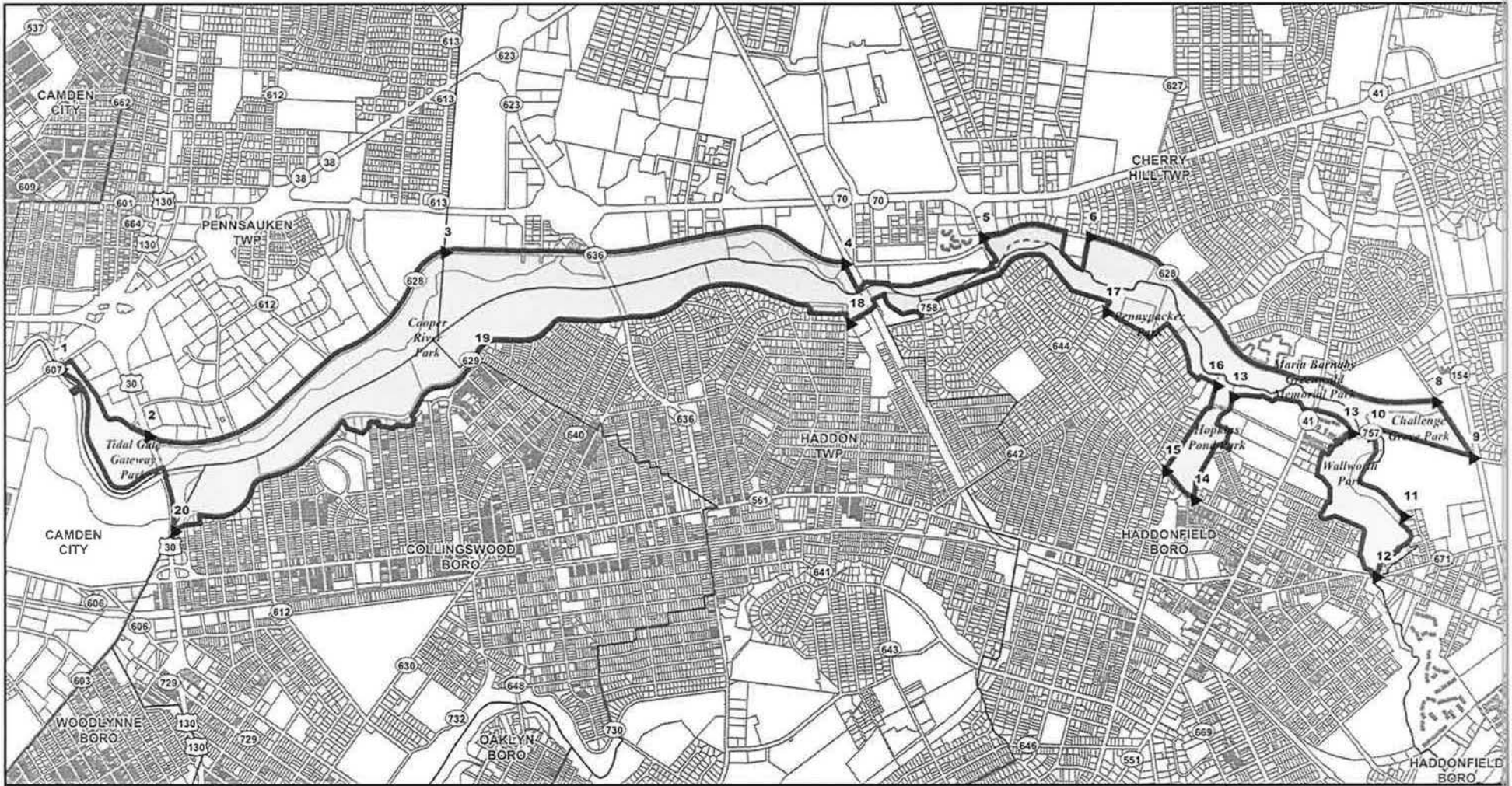


COOPER RIVER AREA
 METCAL DISTRICT
 -CAMDEN COUNTY
 N5

UTM REFERENCES

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	4422000
2. 18N	4432000
	4421000
3. 18N	4444000
	4419000
4. 18N	4456000
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9. 18N	4516000
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10. 18N	4528000
	4405000
11. 18N	4540000
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UTM COORDINATE
 18N SOUTH



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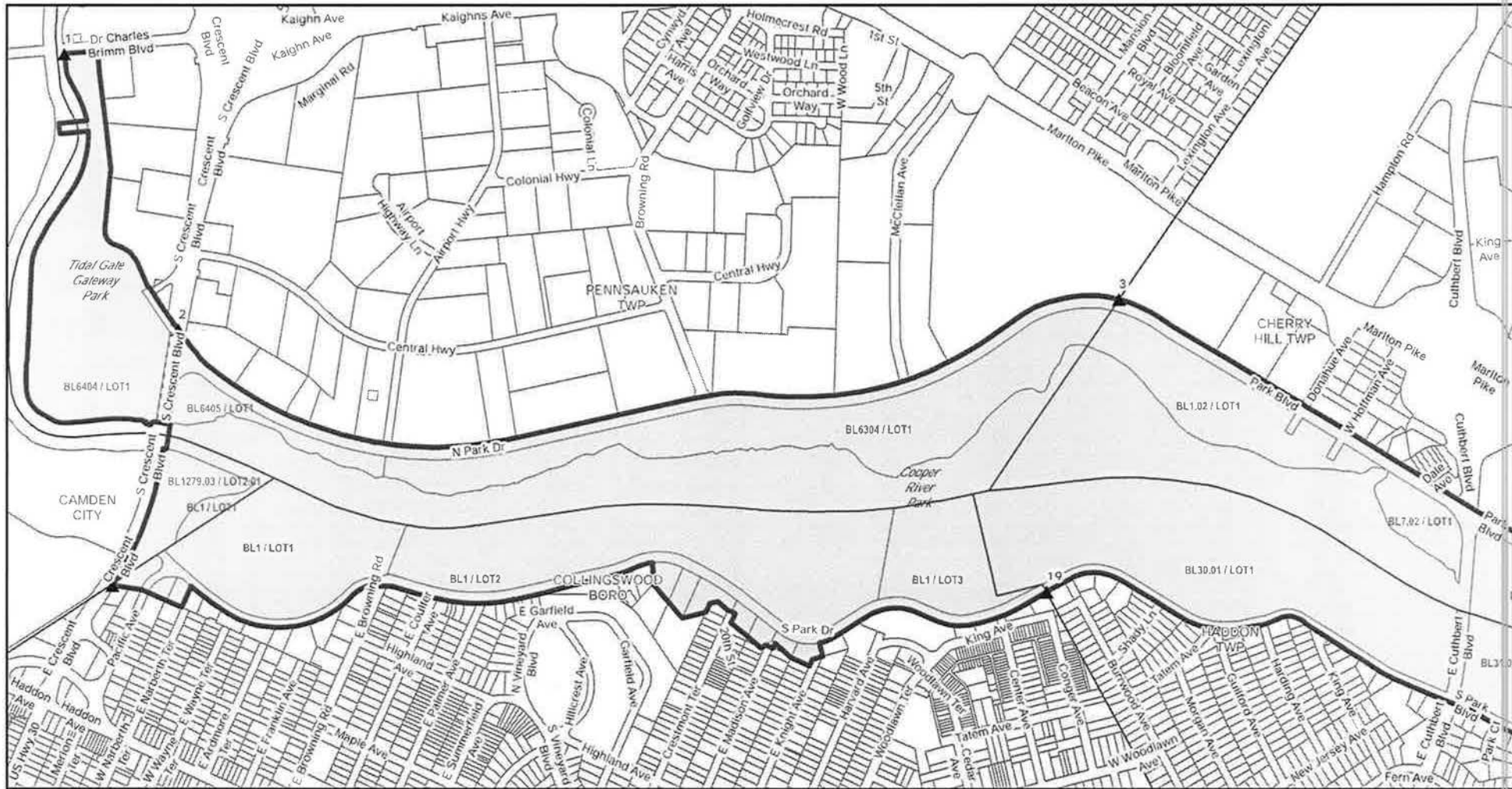
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- ▭ Cooper River Park HD Boundary
- ▭ Municipalities
- ▭ Parcels (Block and Lot)
- - - Individual Park Areas



Cooper River Park Historic District
National Register Nomination
Camden County, New Jersey

Boundary and Tax Map

Scale: 1:18,848
NJDEP, Historic Preservation Office
August 2014

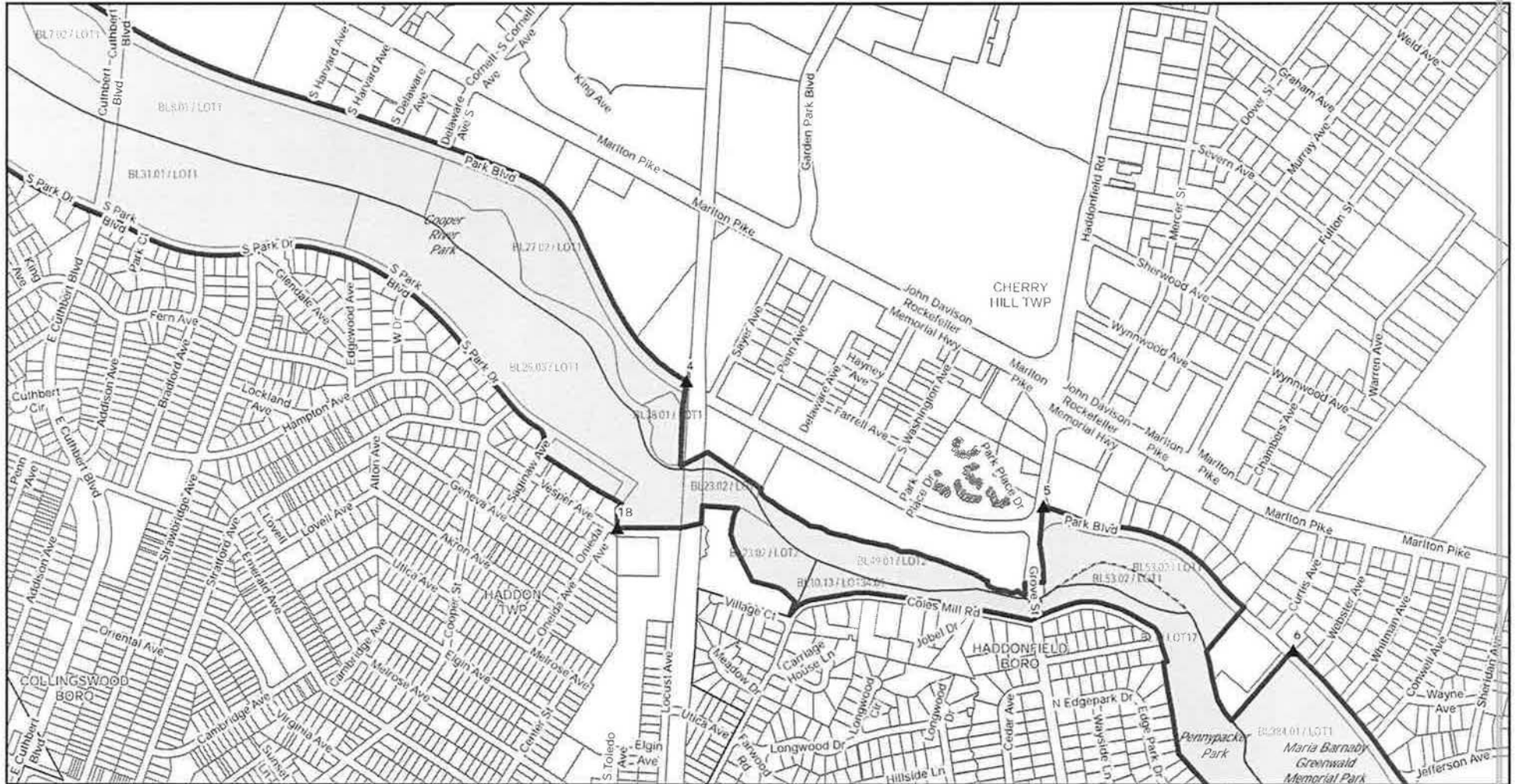


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-  UTM Coordinates
-  Individual Park Areas
-  Municipalities
-  Parcels (Block and Lot)

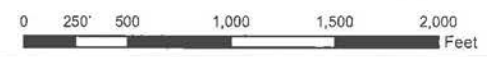


Cooper River Park Historic District
 National Register Nomination
 Camden County, New Jersey
 Boundary and Tax Map



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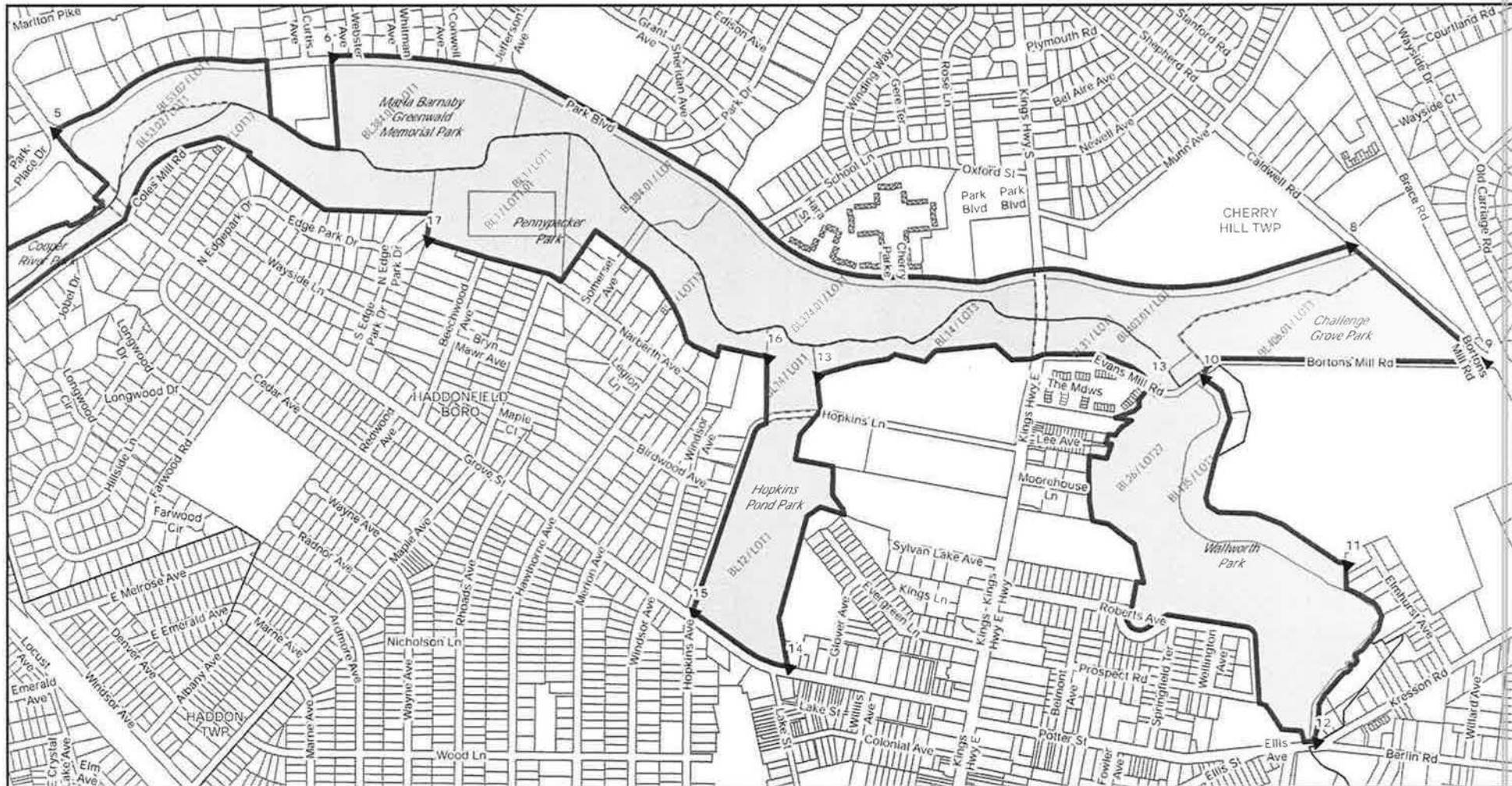
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-  Individual Park Areas
-  Municipalities
-  Parcels (Block and Lot)



Cooper River Park Historic District
 National Register Nomination
 Camden County, New Jersey

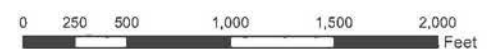
Boundary and Tax Map

*NUDER Historic Preservation Office
 August 2014*



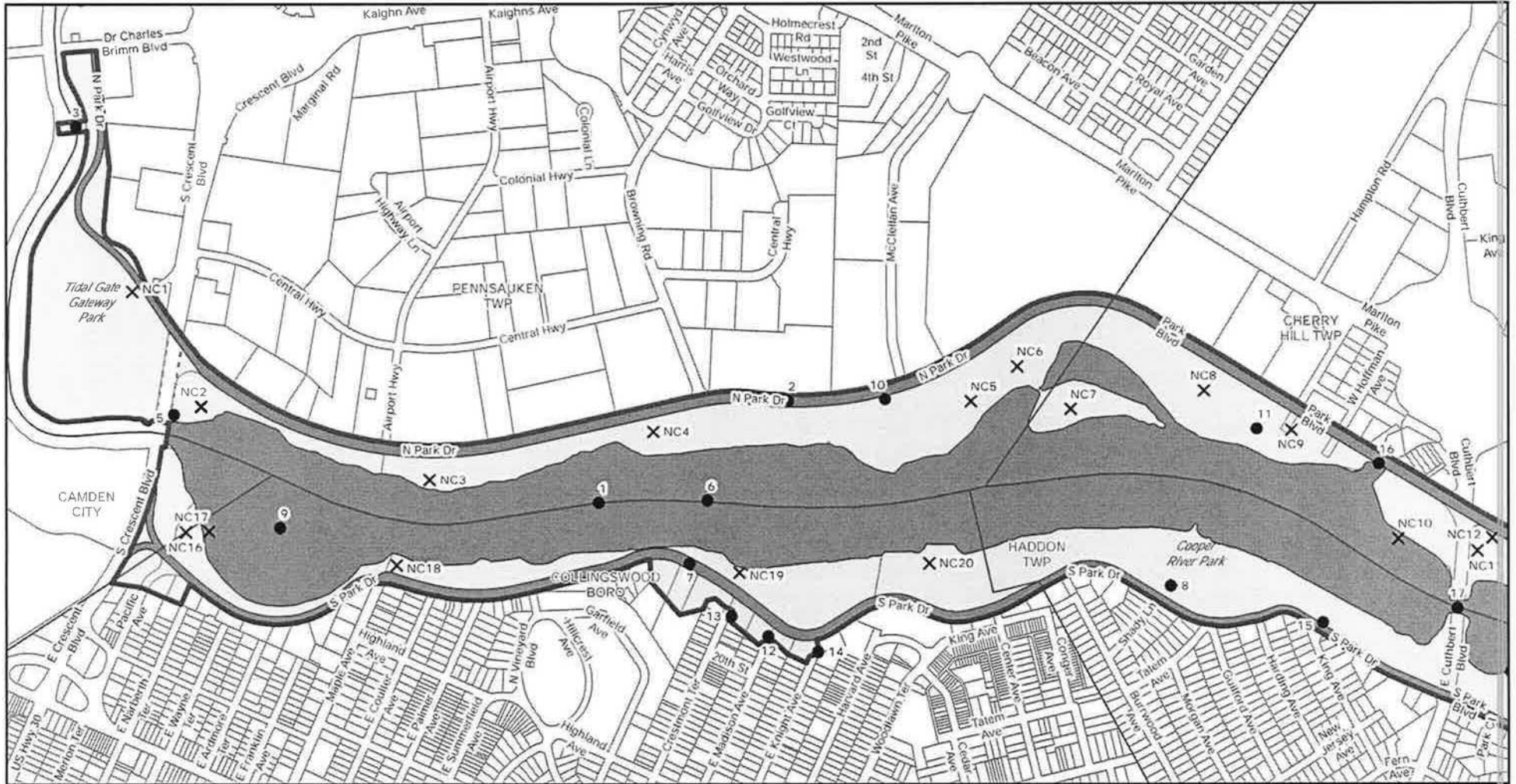
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-  Cooper River Park HD Boundary
-  UTM Coordinates
-  Individual Park Areas
-  Municipalities
-  Parcels (Block and Lot)



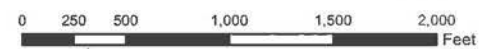
Cooper River Park Historic District
 National Register Nomination
 Camden County, New Jersey
 Boundary and Tax Map

Scale: 1:7,000
 NJDEP Historic Preservation Office
 August 2014



Legend

- Resource Inventory
- ★ Key-Contributing
- Contributing
- ✕ Non-Contributing
- ▭ Cooper River Park HD Boundary
- ▭ Municipalities
- ▭ Linear Resources
- ▭ Parcels (Block and Lot)
- ▭ Individual Park Areas

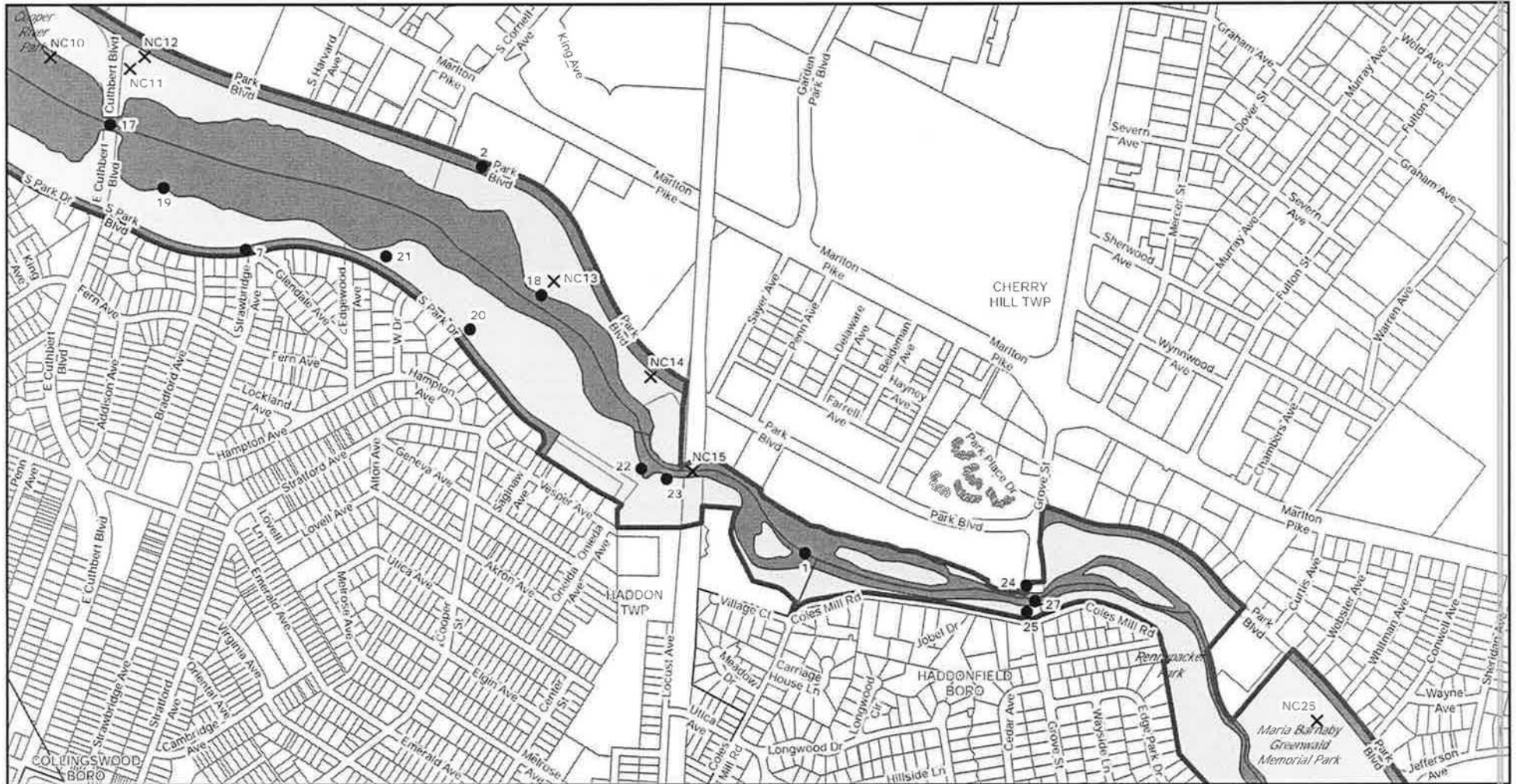


Cooper River Park Historic District
 National Register Nomination
 Camden County, New Jersey

Resources Map

*NJDEP Historic Preservation Office
 August 2014*

Scale: 1:7,000



Legend

- Resource Inventory
- ★ Key-Contributing
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- ▭ Individual Park Areas

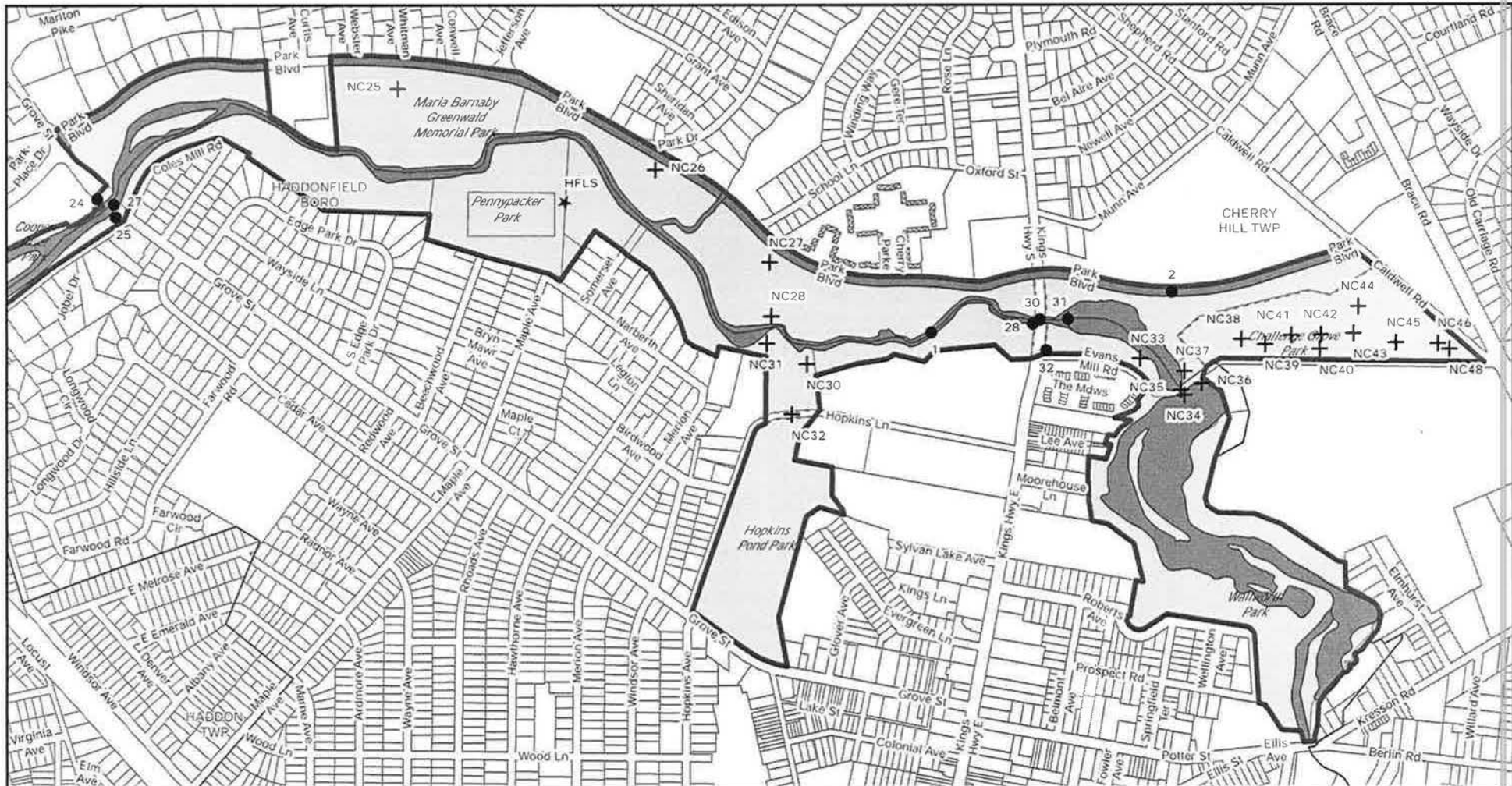


Cooper River Park Historic District
National Register Nomination
Camden County, New Jersey

Resources Map

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NJDEP, Historic Preservation Office
August 2011



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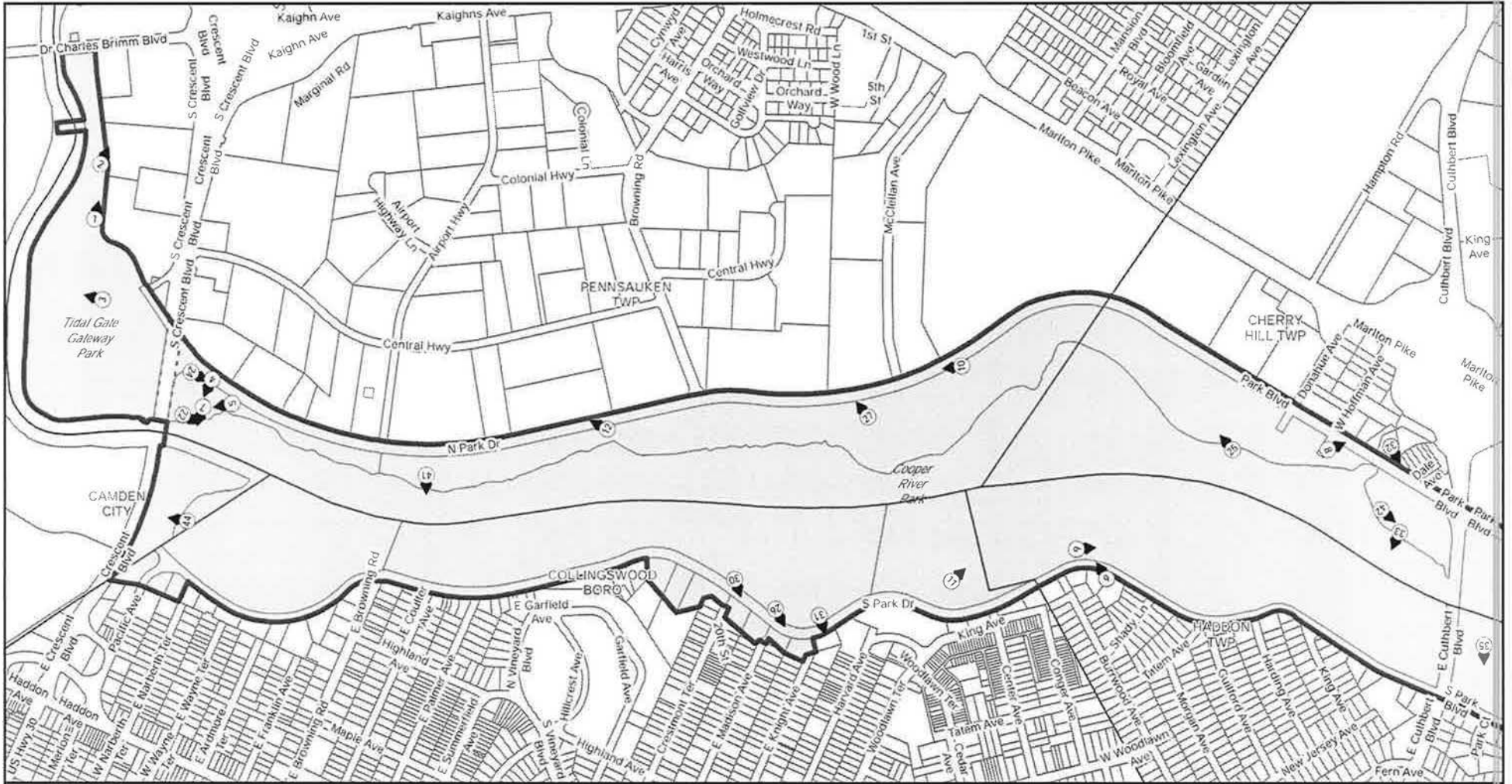
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- ▭ Linear Resources
- ▭ Parcels (Block and Lot)
- - - Individual Park Areas



Cooper River Park Historic District
National Register Nomination
Camden County, New Jersey

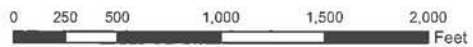
Resources Map

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NJDEP, Historic Preservation Office
August 2012



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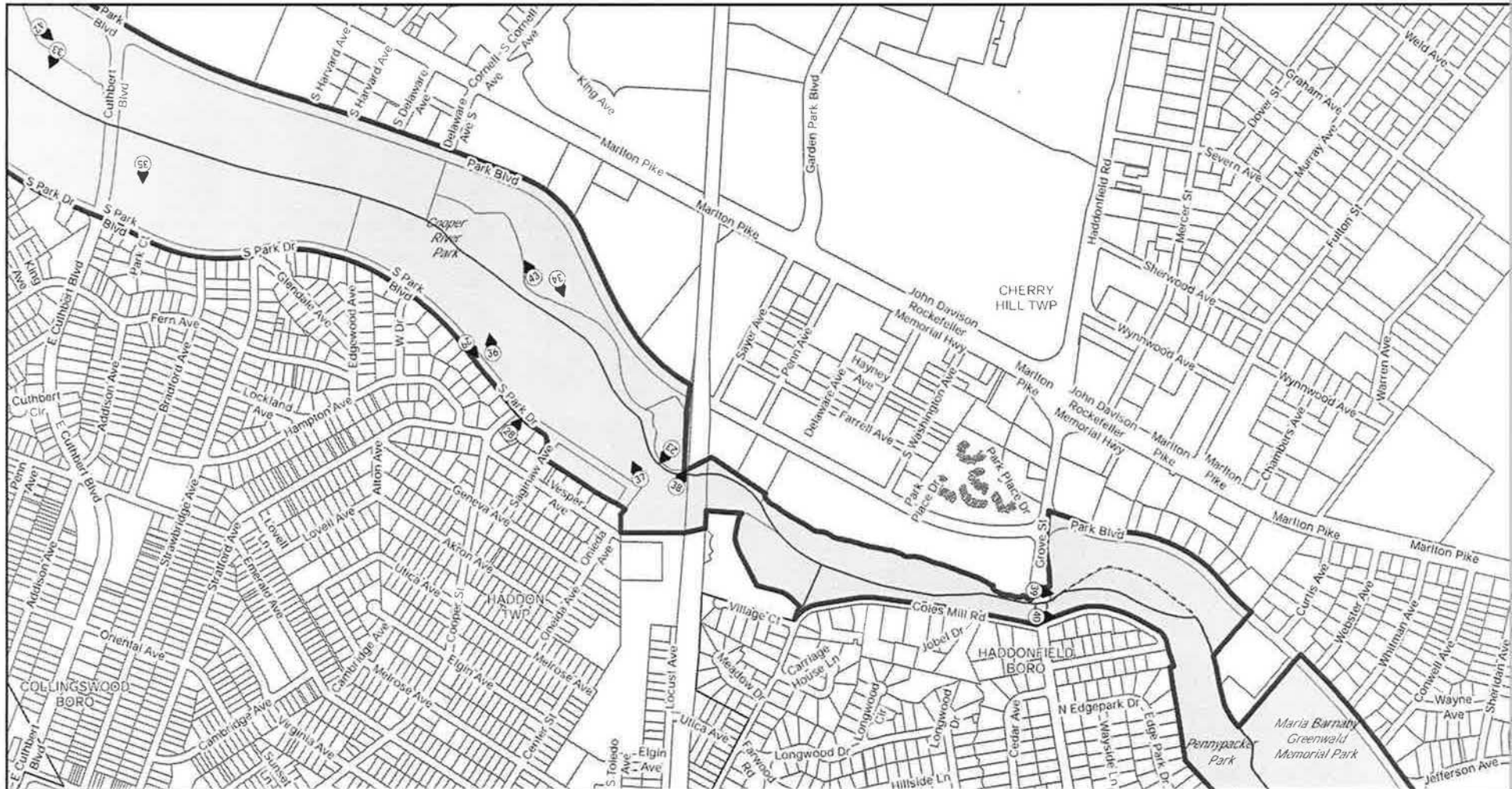
- Photo Locations
- Cooper River Park HD Boundary
- Municipalities
- Parcels (Block and Lot)
- Individual Park Areas








Cooper River Park Historic District
 National Register Nomination
 Camden County, New Jersey

Photo Location Map

Scale: 1:7,000
 N.J.D.P.R. Historic Preservation Office
 August 2011



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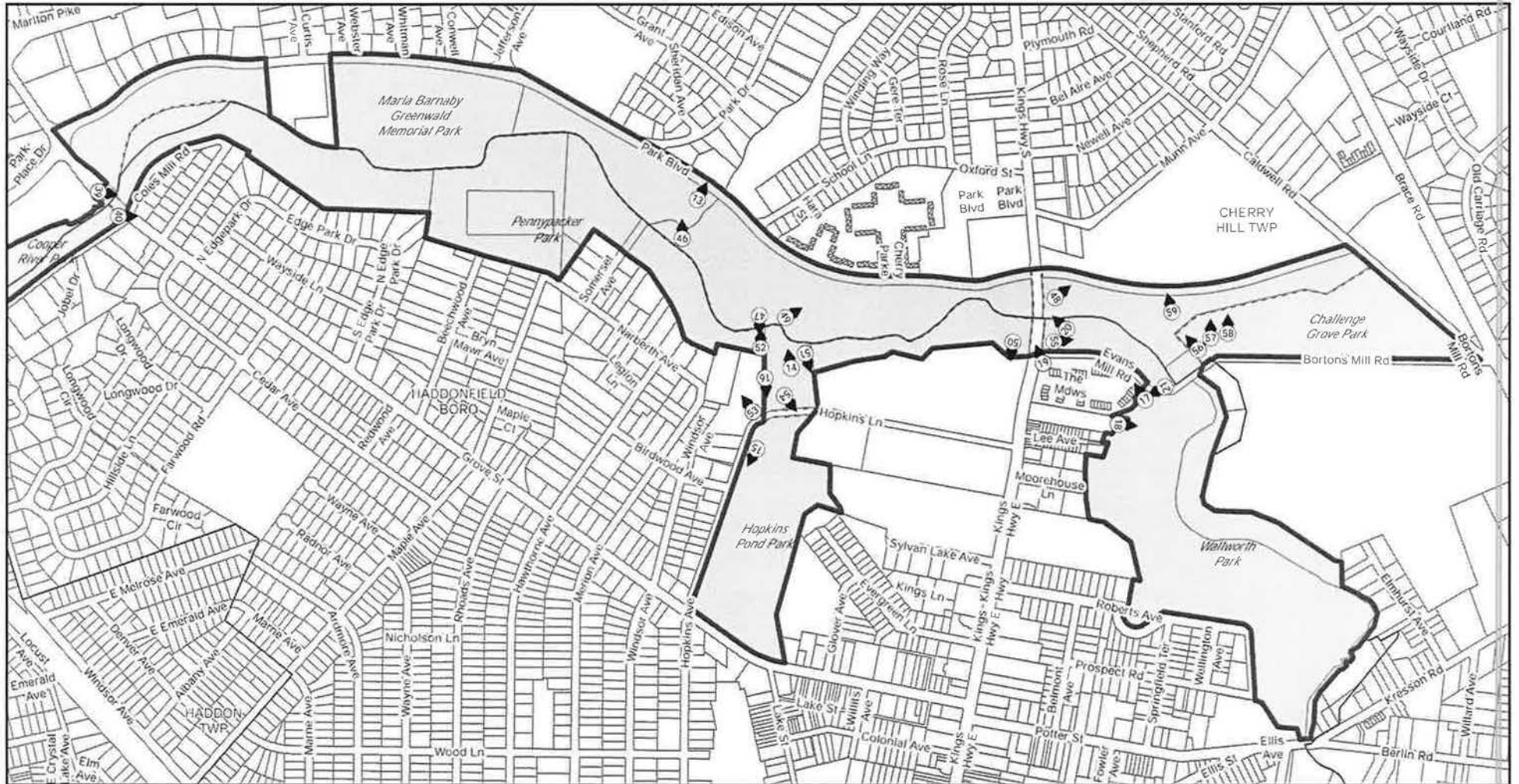
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-  Municipalities
-  Parcels (Block and Lot)
-  Individual Park Areas








Cooper River Park Historic District
 National Register Nomination
 Camden County, New Jersey

Photo Location Map

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 NJDEP, Historic Preservation Office
 August 2011



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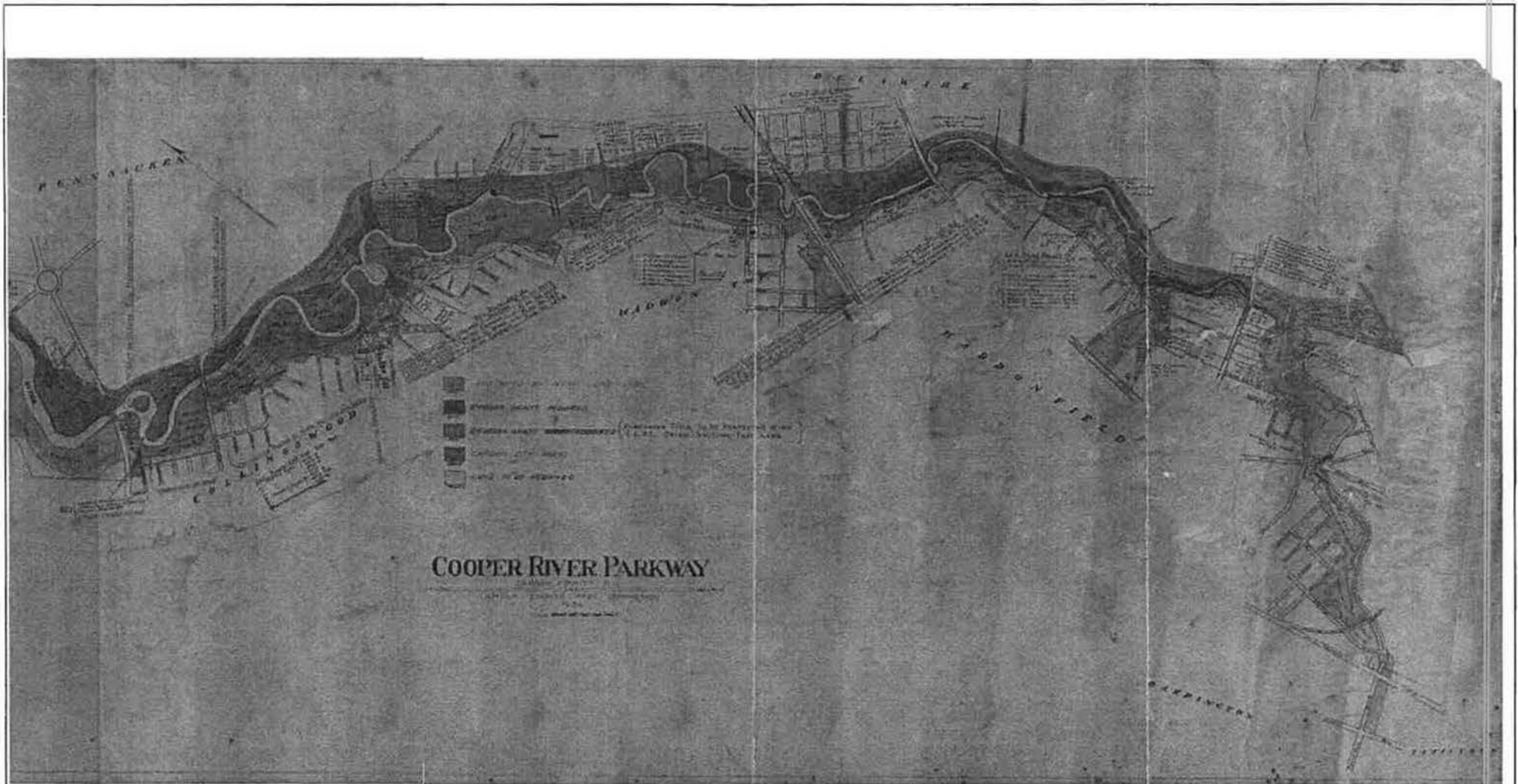
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-  Municipalities
-  Parcels (Block and Lot)
-  Individual Park Areas



Cooper River Park Historic District
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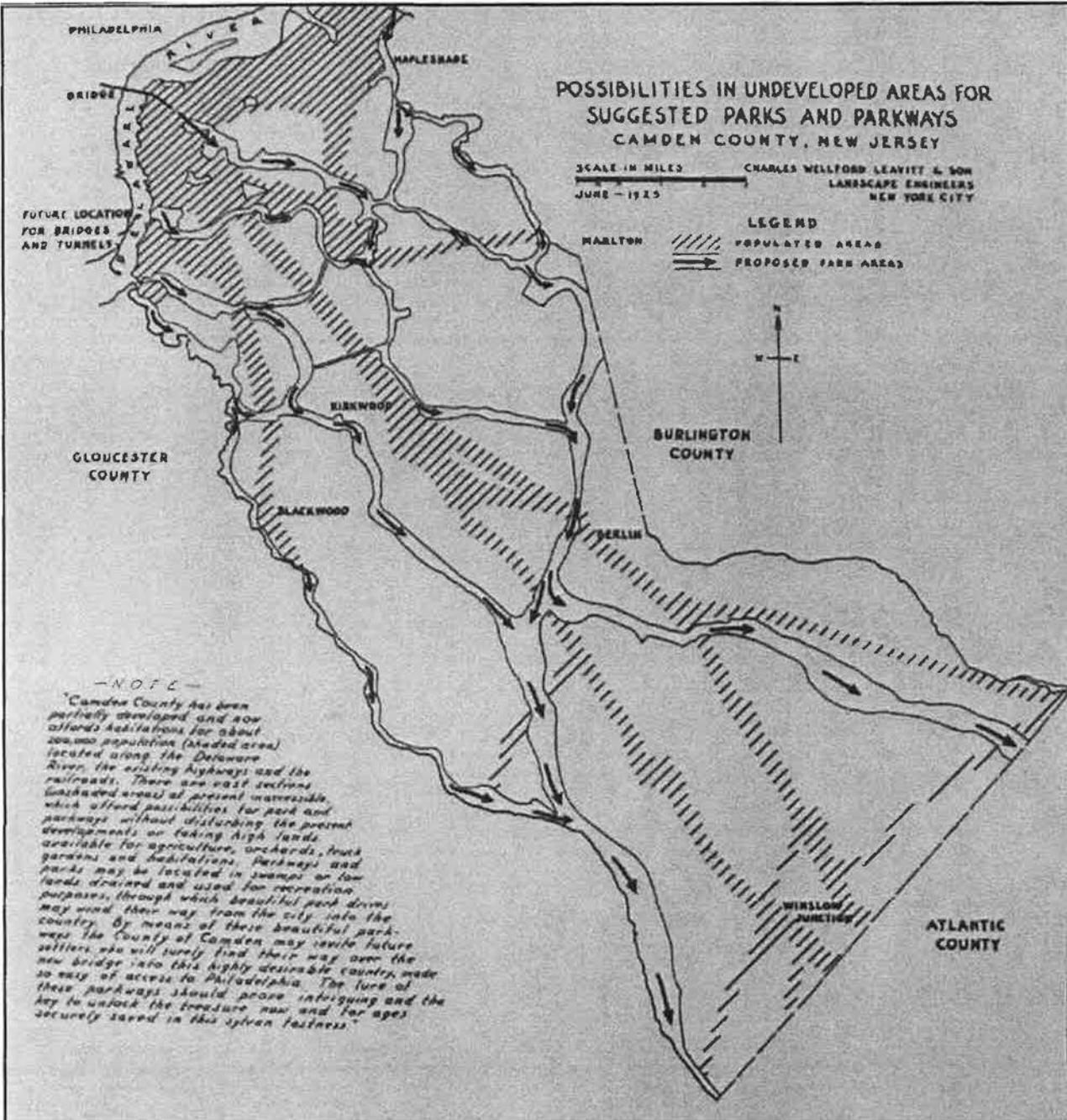
Photo Location Map

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NJDEP Historic Preservation Office
August 2011



Source: New Jersey Department of Transportation
 G:\00 120 green\proj\trk\trk Cooper River Park\COOPER RIVER\Figure 2.mxd

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	
COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY	
Land Acquisition Map for Cooper River Parkway Camden County Park Commission, 1934	
SCALE: None	DATE: March 2011
Dewberry	FIGURE 2



NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT
 NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION
 CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

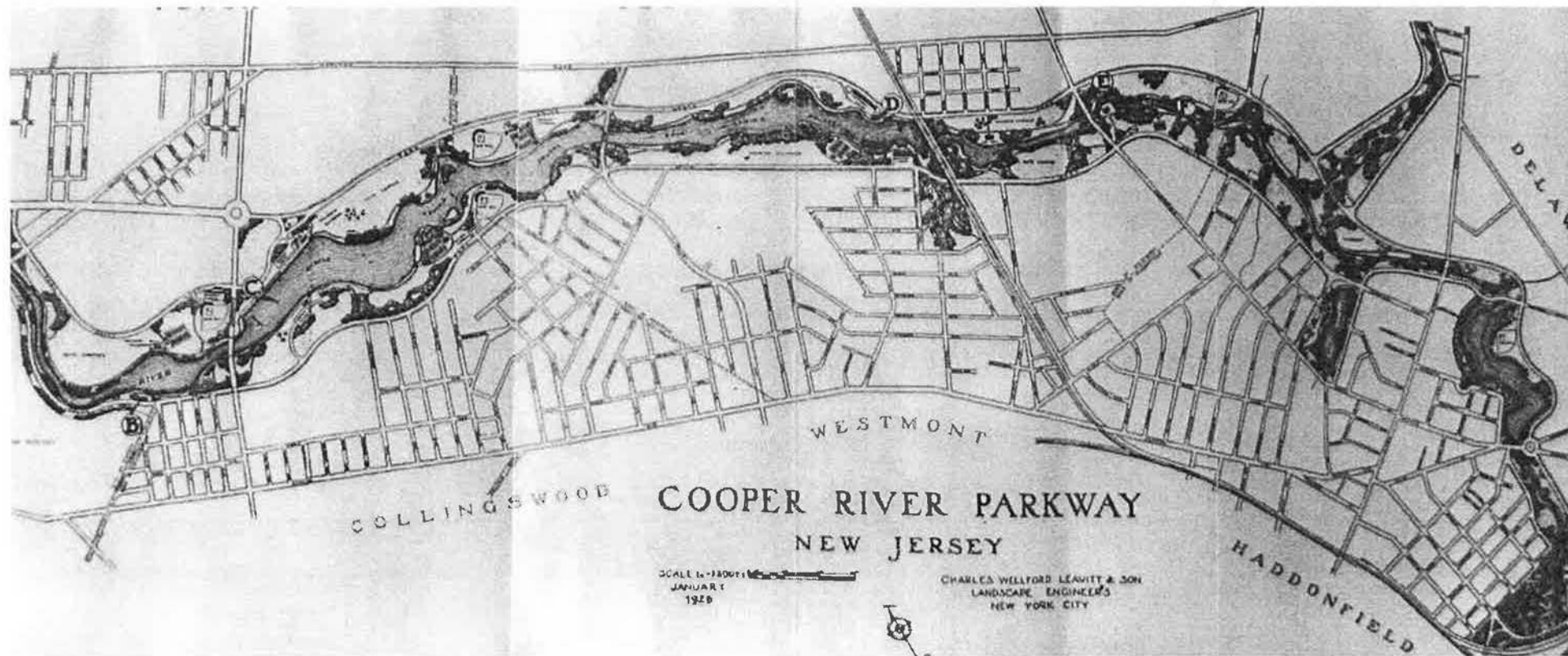
Conceptual Plan for County-wide Park System
 Charles Wellford Leavitt and Son, 1925

SCALE: None DATE: March 2011



FIGURE 3

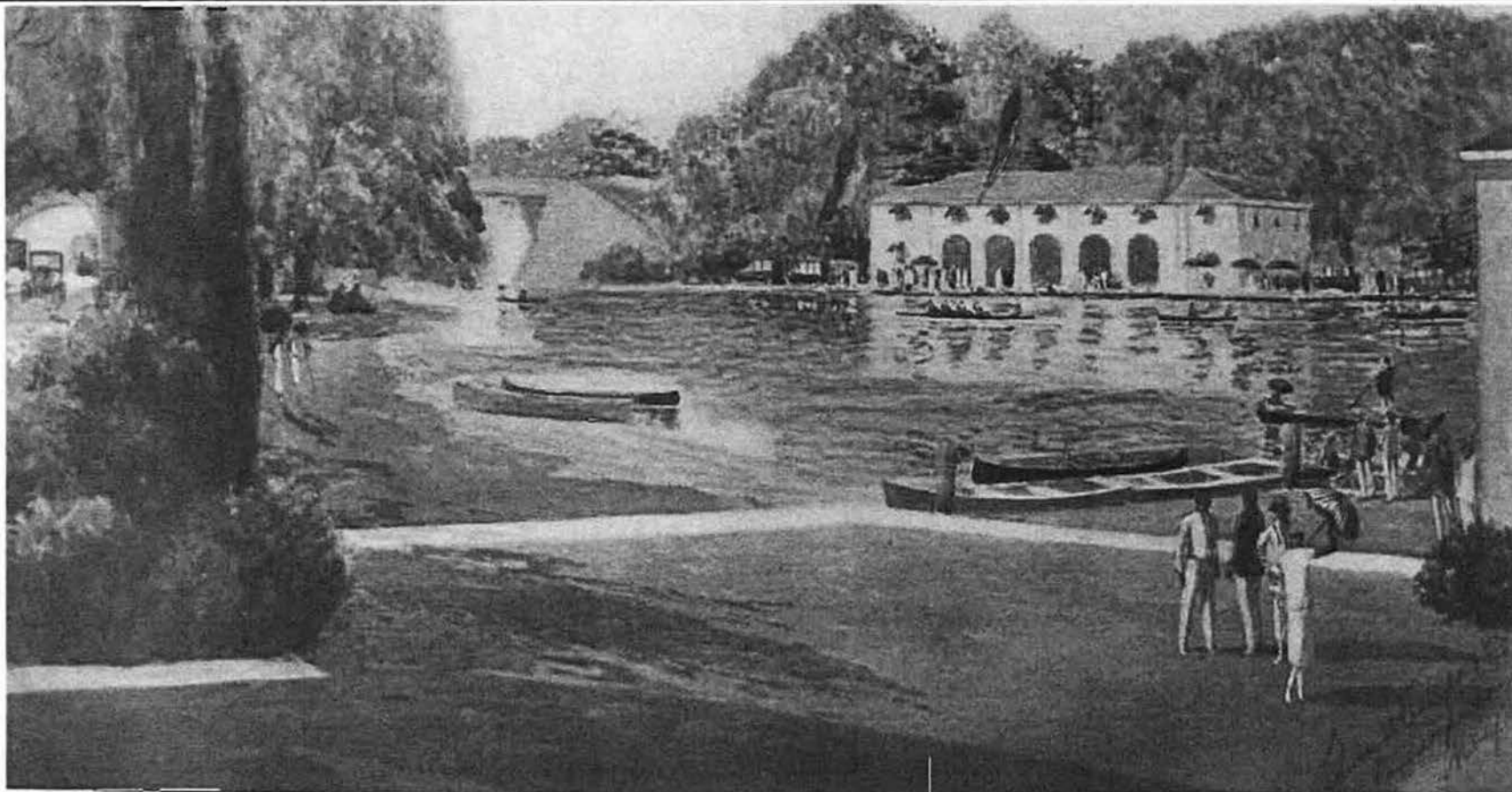
Source: Camden County Park System as Constructed by Camden County Park Commission, Compiled by Oscar C. Brown, Ed., 1937. Camden County Park Commission, Camden, New Jersey.



Source: Health, Sunshine, and Wealth by Charles W. Leavitt, 1925, Haddonfield Historical Society, Haddonfield, NJ

© 1925. 130 green acres. Historic Cooper River Parkway. Figure 4.1.1.1

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	
COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY	
Cooper River Parkway Plan	
Conceptual Plan by Charles Wellford Leavitt and Son, 1925	
SCALE: None	DATE: March 2011
Dewberry	FIGURE 4



COOPER RIVER AT WESTMONT (proposed)
Park development created by dredging

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT
NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION
CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Cooper River at Westmont (proposed)

Rendering by Charles Wellford Leavitt and Son, undated

SCALE: None

DATE: March 2011



FIGURE 5

Source: Health, Sunshine, and Wealth by Charles W. Leavitt,
1925, Haddonfield Historical Society, Haddonfield, NJ.

G:\30 130 green acres\Historic Cooper River Park\COOPER RIVER\Figure 5.mxd



COOPER RIVER AT HADDONFIELD (proposed)
Park development making area available for the public

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT
NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION
CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Cooper River at Haddonfield (proposed)

Rendering by Charles Wellford Leavitt and Son, undated

SCALE: None

DATE: March 2011



FIGURE 6

Source: Health, Sunshine, and Wealth by Charles W. Leavitt,
1925, Haddonfield Historical Society, Haddonfield, NJ.

G:\30 130 green acres\Historic Cooper River Park\COOPER RIVER\Figure 6.mxd



COOPER RIVER AT PENNSAUKEN (proposed)
One of the Recreation Centers

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT
NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION
CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Cooper River at Pennsauken (proposed)

Rendering by Charles Wellford Leavitt and Son, undated

SCALE: None

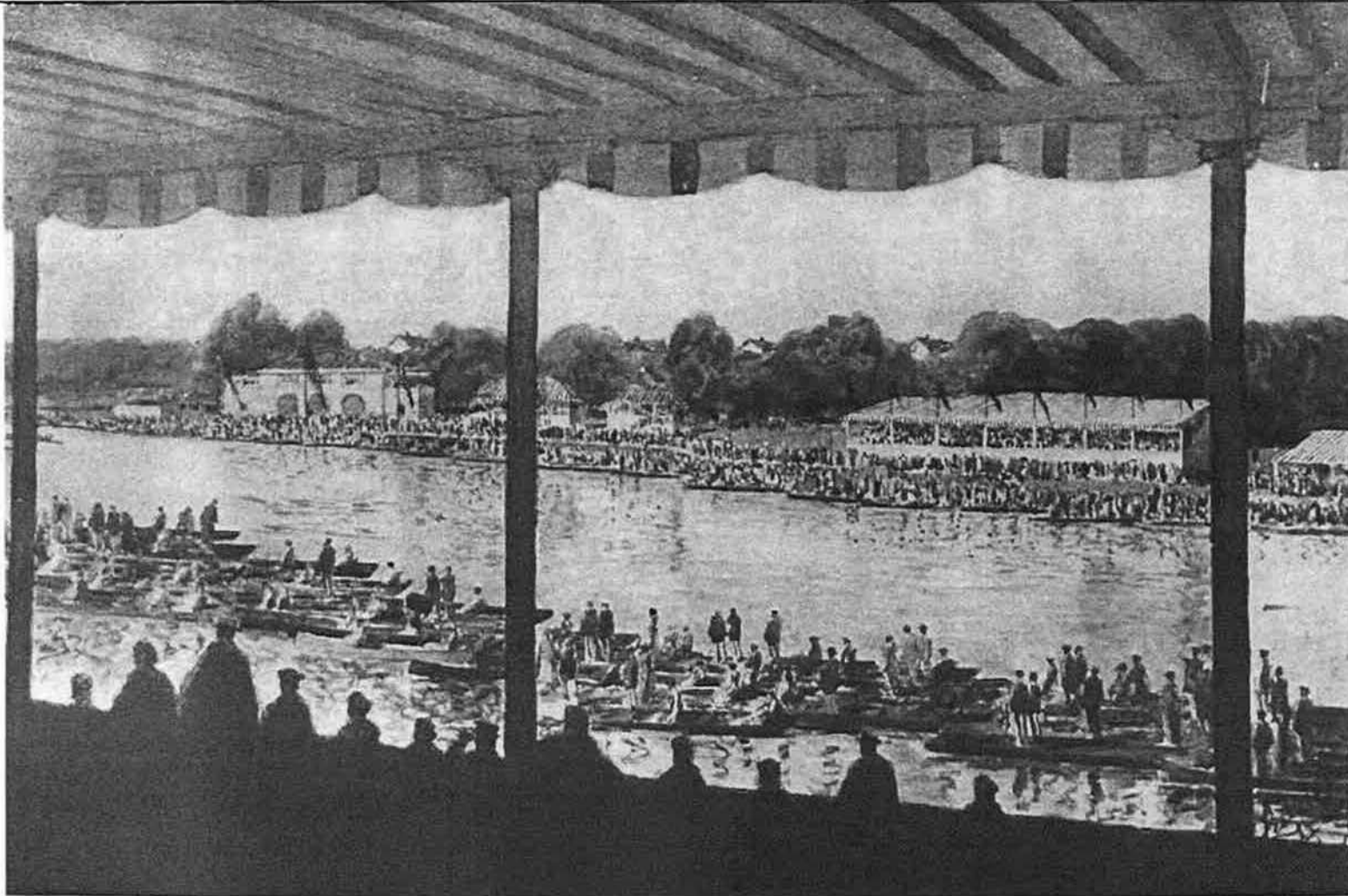
DATE: March 2011



FIGURE 7

Source: Health, Sunshine, and Wealth by Charles W. Leavitt,
1925, Haddonfield Historical Society, Haddonfield, NJ.

G:\30 130 green acres\Historic Cooper River Park\COOPER RIVER\Figure 7.mxd



COOPER RIVER AT COLLINGSWOOD (proposed)
Finish of Rowing Course

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT
NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION
CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Cooper River at Collingswood (proposed)

Rendering of rowing course by Charles Wellford Leavitt and Son, undated

SCALE: None

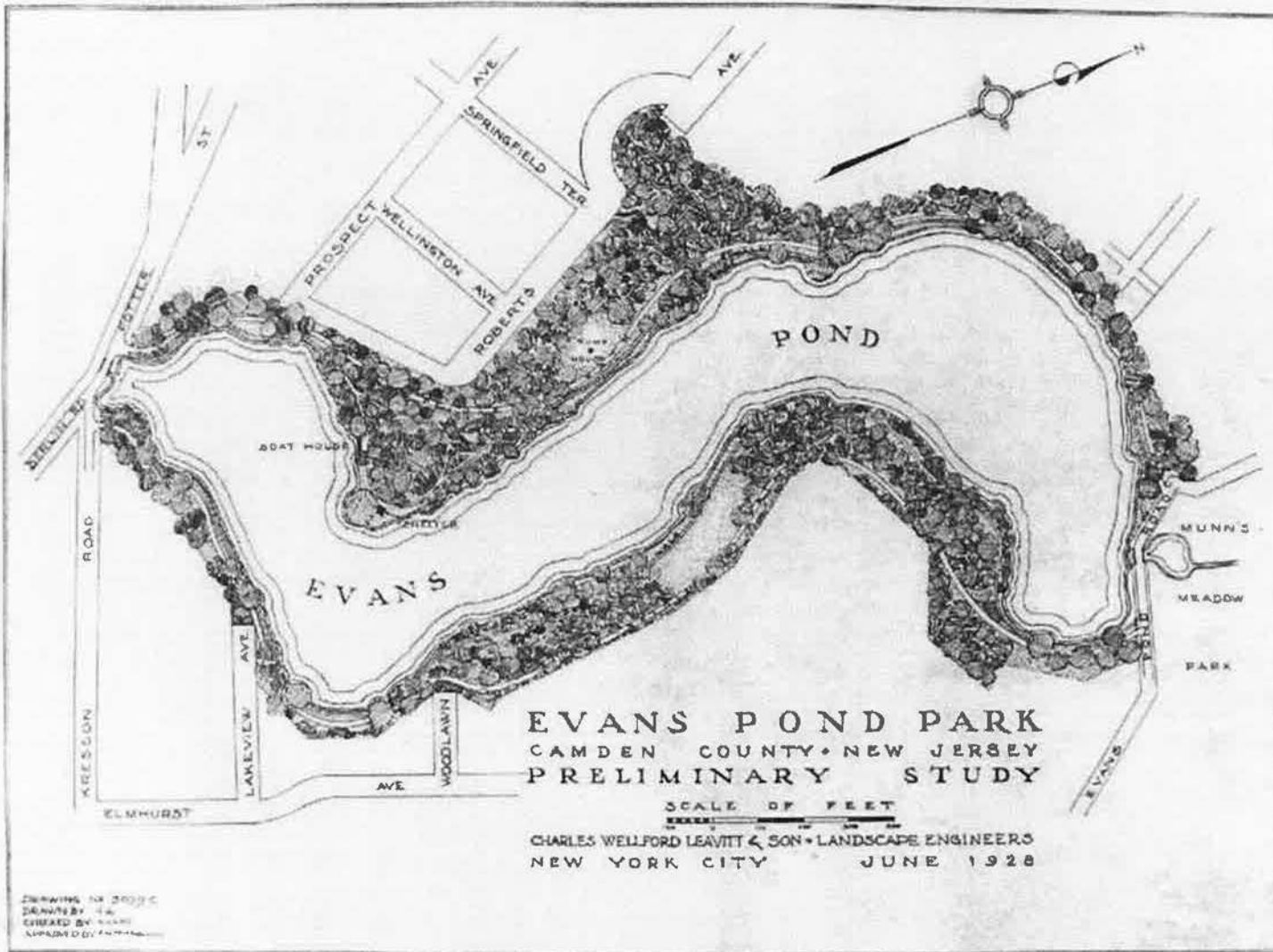
DATE: March 2011



FIGURE 8

Source: Health, Sunshine, and Wealth by Charles W. Leavitt,
1925, Haddonfield Historical Society, Haddonfield, NJ.

G:\30 130 green acres\Historic Cooper River Park\COOPER RIVER\Figure 8.mxd



NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT
 NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION
 CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Evans Pond Park Preliminary Study

by Charles Wellford Leavitt and Son, 1928

SCALE: None

DATE: March 2011



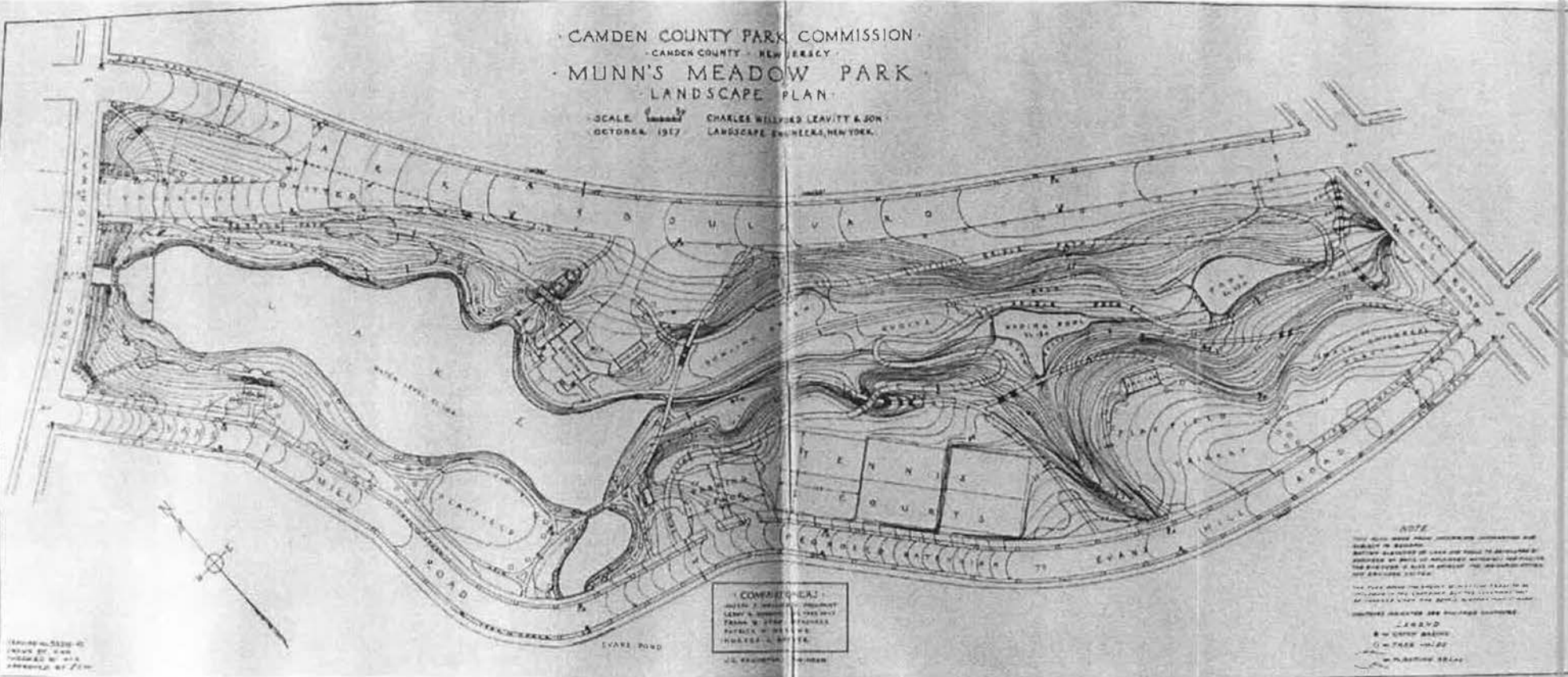
FIGURE 9

Source: Health, Sunshine, and Wealth by Charles W. Leavitt,
 1925, Haddonfield Historical Society, Haddonfield, NJ.

G:\130 130 green acres\Historic Cooper River Park\COOPER RIVER\Figure 9.mxd

CAMDEN COUNTY PARK COMMISSION
 CAMDEN COUNTY - NEW JERSEY
MUNN'S MEADOW PARK
 LANDSCAPE PLAN

SCALE: 1" = 100' CHARLES WELFORD LEAVITT & SON
 OCTOBER, 1927 LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS, NEW YORK.



COMMENTS:
 1. ALL DISTANCES SHOWN
 ARE IN FEET.
 2. ALL DISTANCES SHOWN
 ARE IN FEET.
 3. ALL DISTANCES SHOWN
 ARE IN FEET.
 4. ALL DISTANCES SHOWN
 ARE IN FEET.

NOTE:
 THIS PLAN SHOWS THE PROPOSED LAYOUT AND
 LOCATION OF BUILDINGS.
 ALL DISTANCES SHOWN ARE IN FEET.
 ALL DISTANCES SHOWN ARE IN FEET.
 ALL DISTANCES SHOWN ARE IN FEET.
 ALL DISTANCES SHOWN ARE IN FEET.

UNIVERSITY OF
 PENNSYLVANIA
 ARCHIVES

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT
 NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION
 CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Munn's Meadow Park Landscape Plan
 by Charles Welford Leavitt and Son, 1927

SCALE: None DATE: March 2011

Dewberry

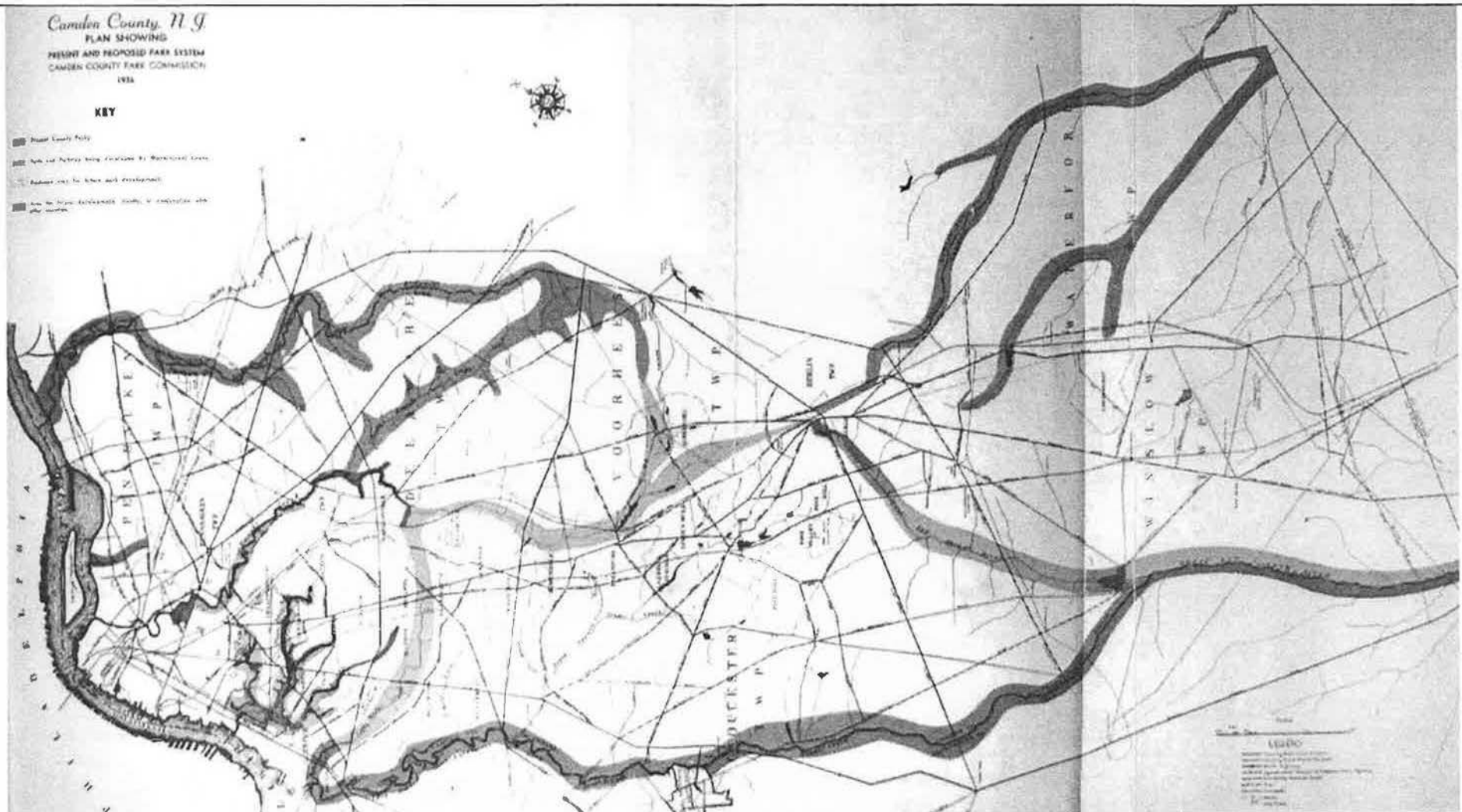
FIGURE 10

Source: Health, Sunshine, and Wealth by Charles W. Leavitt,
 1926, Haddonfield Historical Society, Haddonfield, NJ.
 © 2011 by the Haddonfield Historical Society

Camden County, N. J.
 PLAN SHOWING
 PRESENT AND PROPOSED PARK SYSTEM
 CAMDEN COUNTY PARK COMMISSION
 1936

KEY

- Present County Parks
- Parks and Parkway being developed by Municipalities
- Parkway only to sites and developments
- Area for future development, roads, or structures and other features



NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT
 NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION
 CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

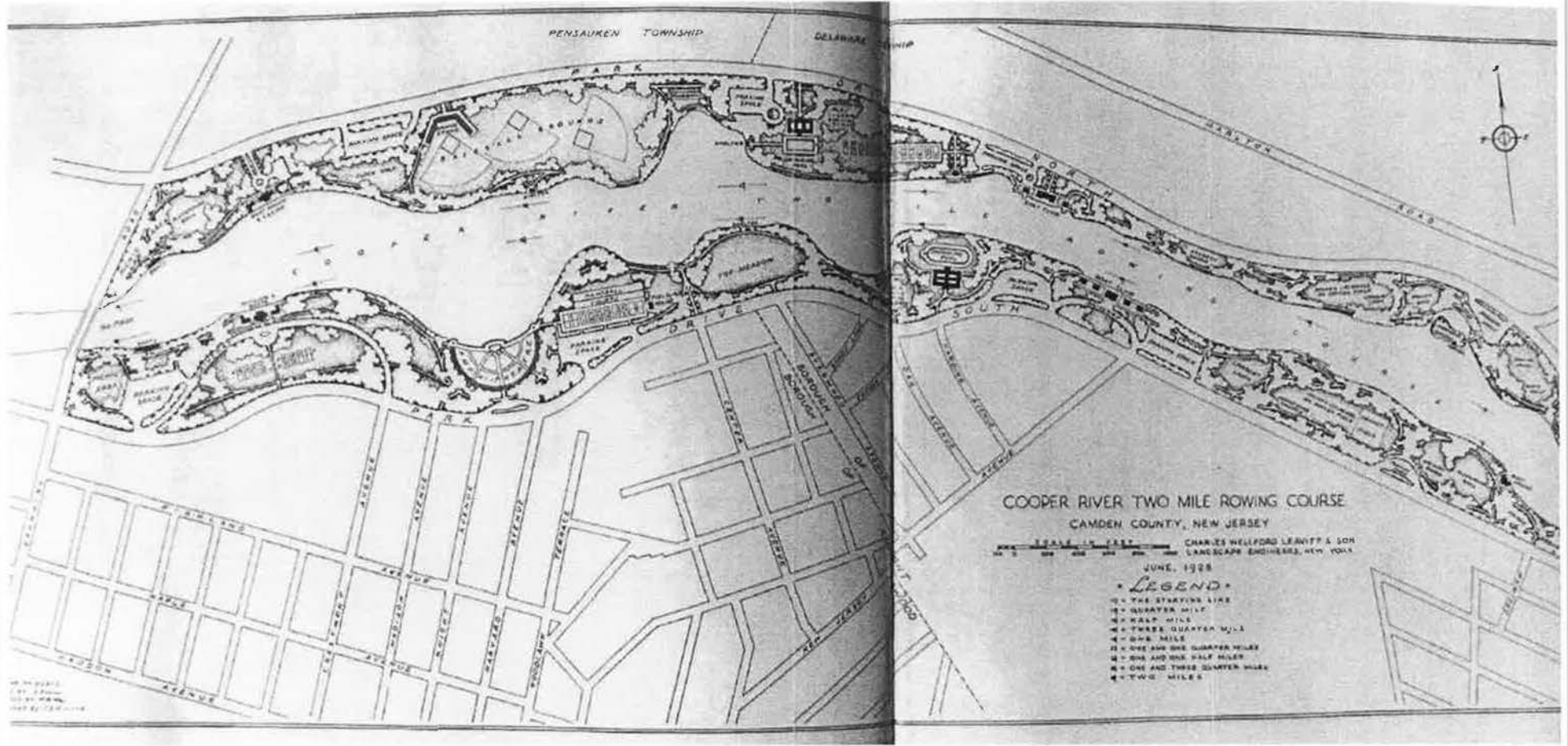
Plan Showing Present and Proposed Park System
 by Camden County Park Commission, 1936

SCALE: None DATE: March 2011

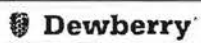
Dewberry

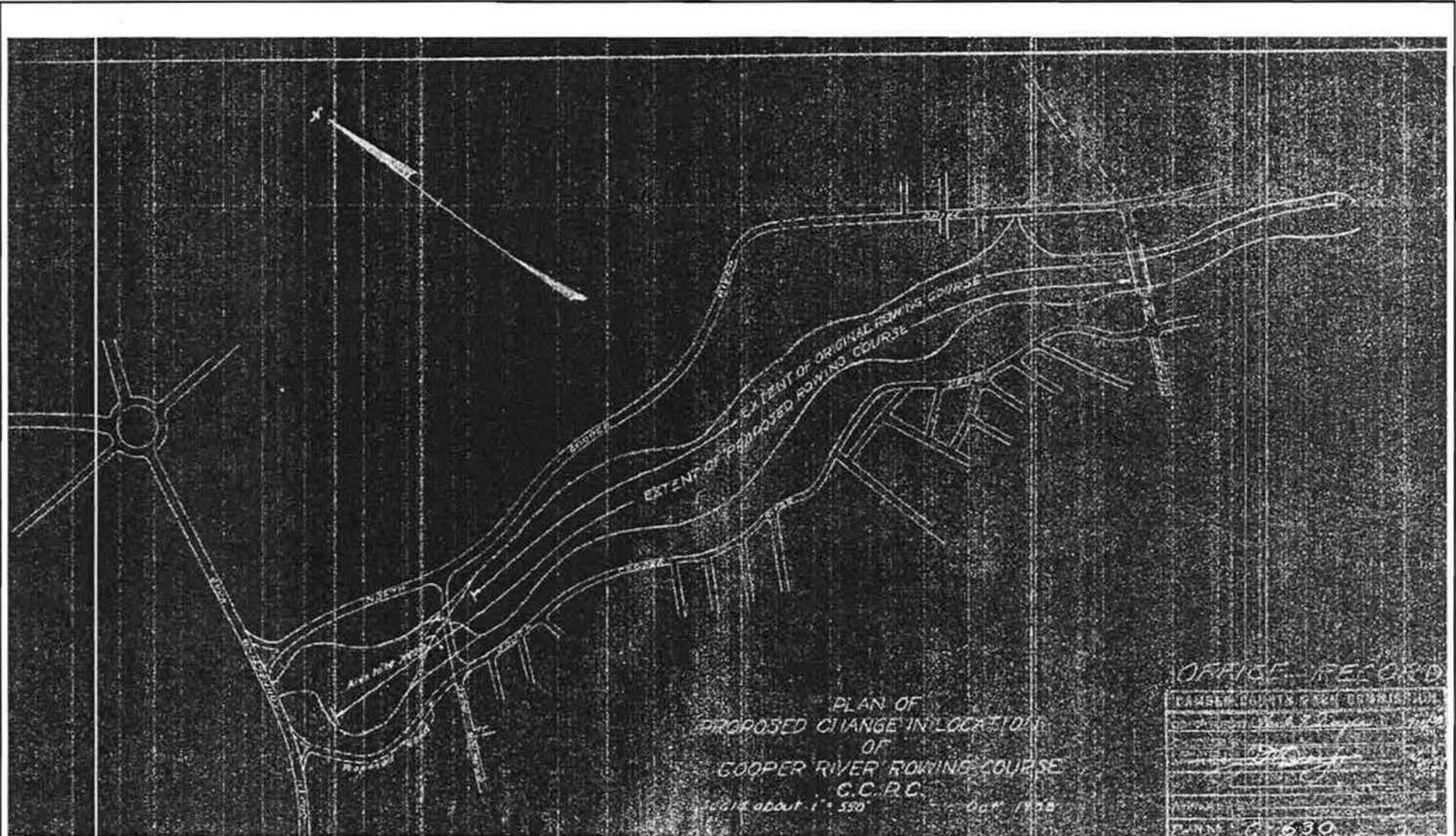
FIGURE 1'

Source: Camden County Park System as Constructed by Camden County Park Commission,
 Compiled by Oscar C. Brown, Ed., 1937. Camden County Park Commission, Camden, New Jersey.



Source: Health, Sunshine, and Wealth by Charles W. Leavitt, 1926, Haddonfield Historical Society, Haddonfield, NJ.

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
 COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT
 NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION
 CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
Cooper River Two Mile Rowing Course
 by Charles Wellford Leavitt and Son, 1928
 SCALE: None DATE: March 2011

FIGURE 12



NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT
 NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION
 CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Plan of Proposed Change in Location of
 Cooper River Rowing Course

Cooper River Park Commission, 1938

SCALE: None

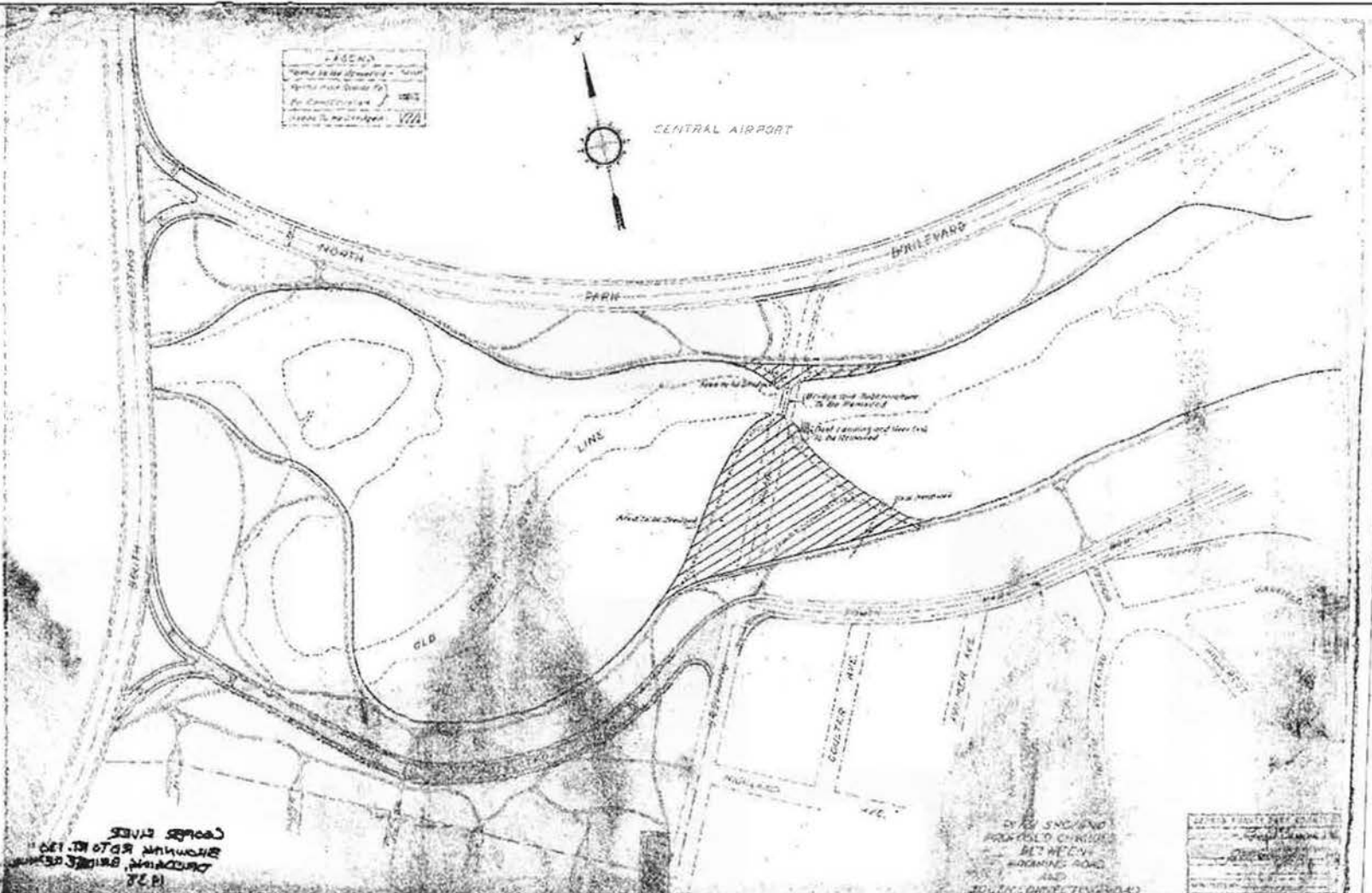
DATE: March 2011



FIGURE 13

Source: New Jersey Department of Transportation

G:\30 130 green acres\Historic Cooper River Park\COOPER RIVER\Figure 13.mxd



COOPER RIVER
 BROWNING ROAD BRIDGE
 1928

BY THE SING AND
 PROPOSED CHANGES
 BETWEEN
 BROWNING ROAD
 AND
 DOWNING ROAD

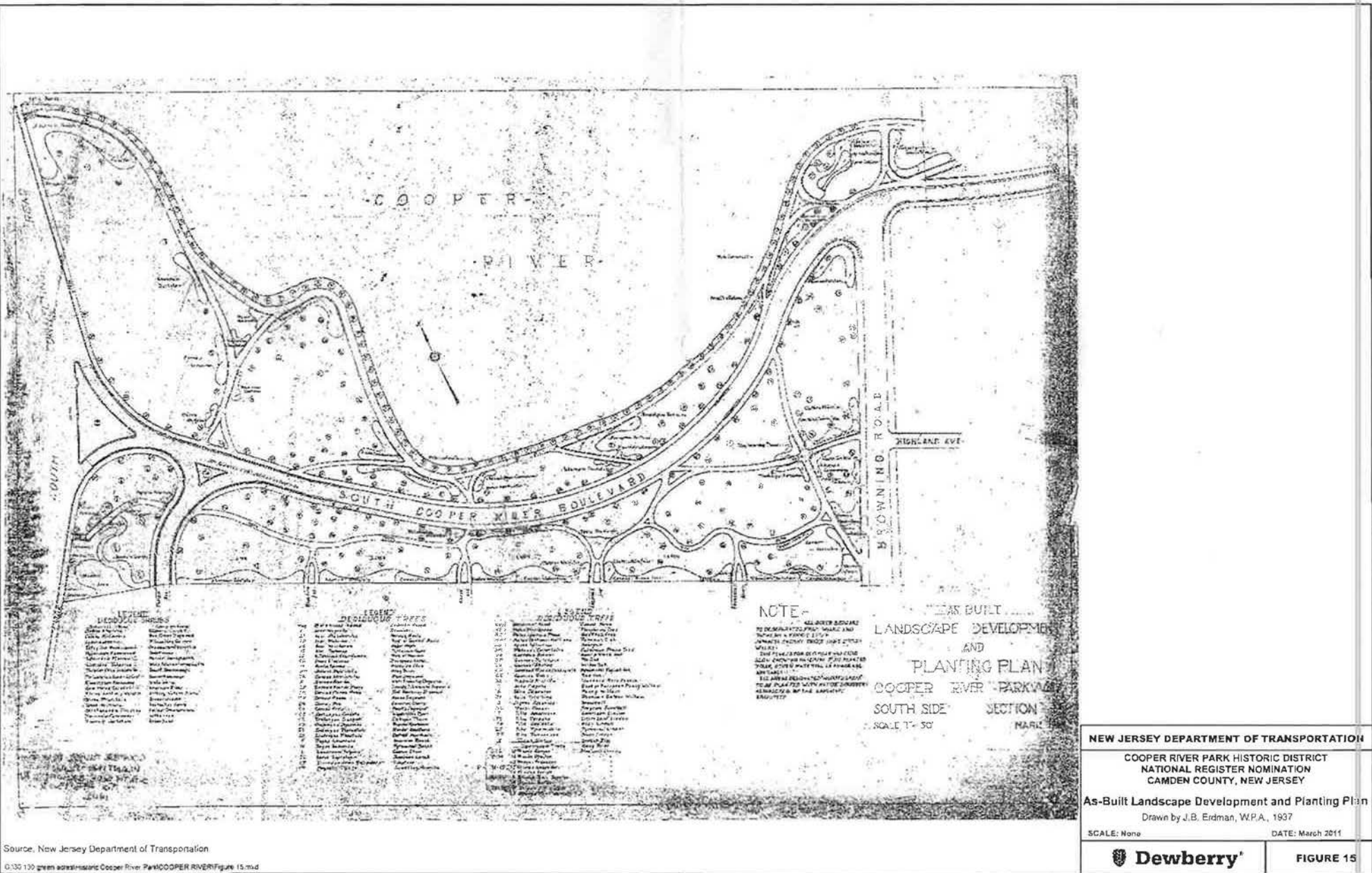
NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
 COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT
 NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION
 CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
 Plan Showing Removal of Browning Road Bridge
 Camden County Park Commission, 1938

SCALE: None DATE: March 2011



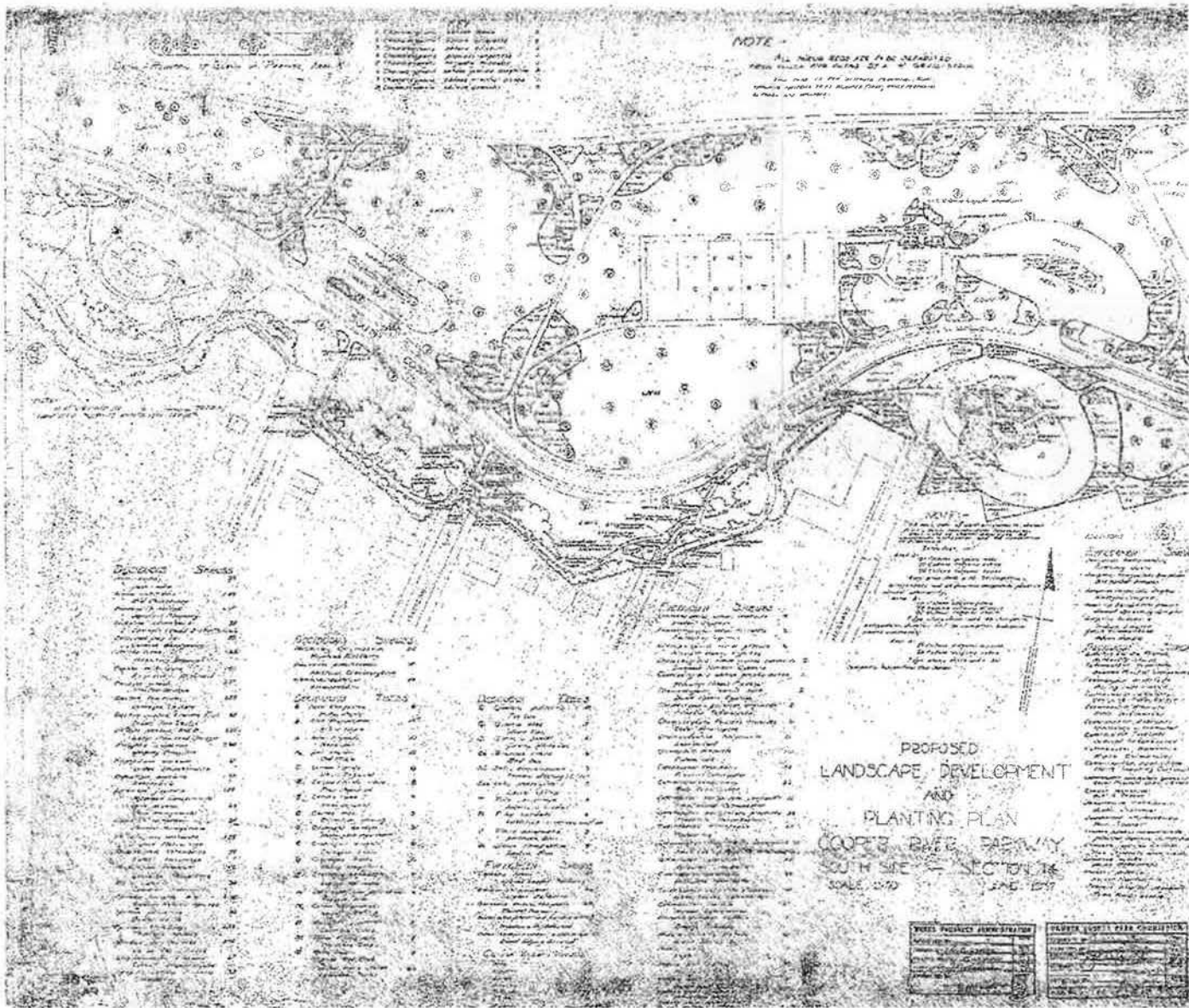
FIGURE 1

Source: New Jersey Department of Transportation
 G:\30_130\plans\2011\130 Cooper River Park\COOPER RIVER\Figure 13.mxd



Source: New Jersey Department of Transportation

G:\30130 green\as-built\Historic Cooper River Park\COOPER RIVER\Figure 15.mxd



NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

COOPER RIVER PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT
 NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION
 CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Proposed Landscape Development and Planting Plan
 Drawn by J.B. Erdman, 1937

SCALE: None DATE: March 2011

Dewberry **FIGURE 16**

Source: New Jersey Department of Transportation
 G:\00-130 green areas\historic Cooper River Park\COOPER RIVER\Figure 16.mxd

Exhibit
A2



RECEIVED 2280
SEP 11 2015
NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE





3



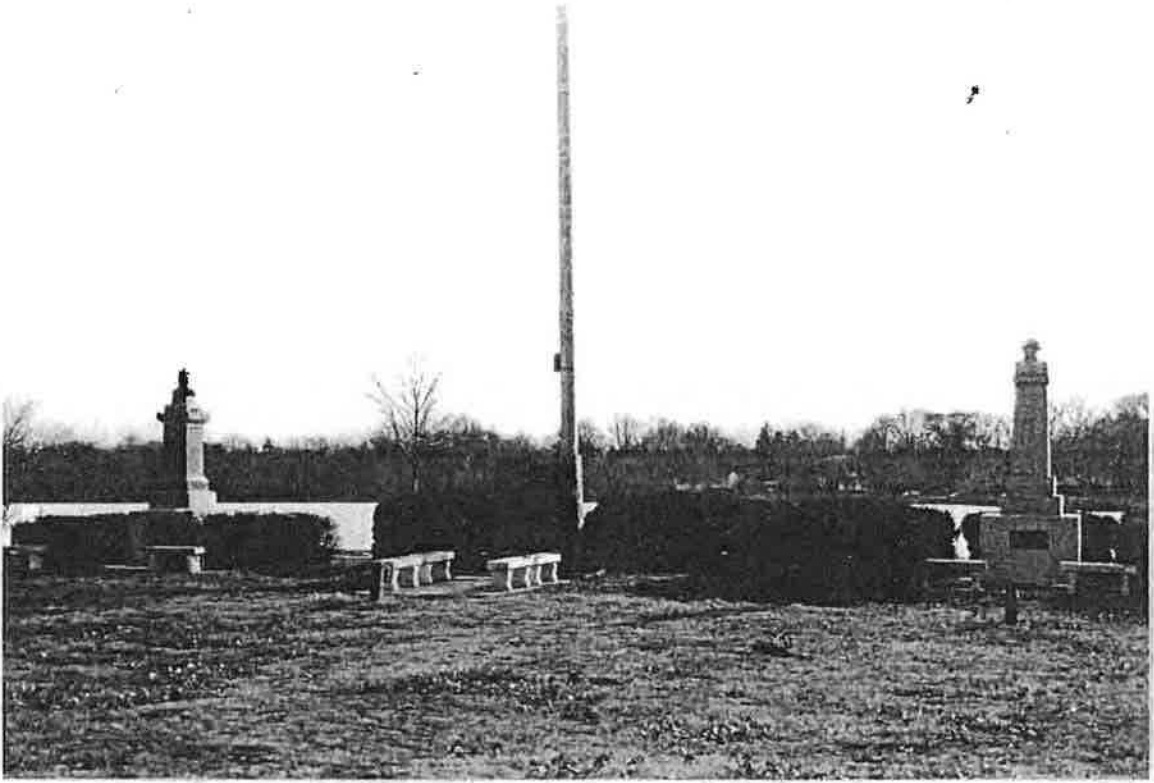
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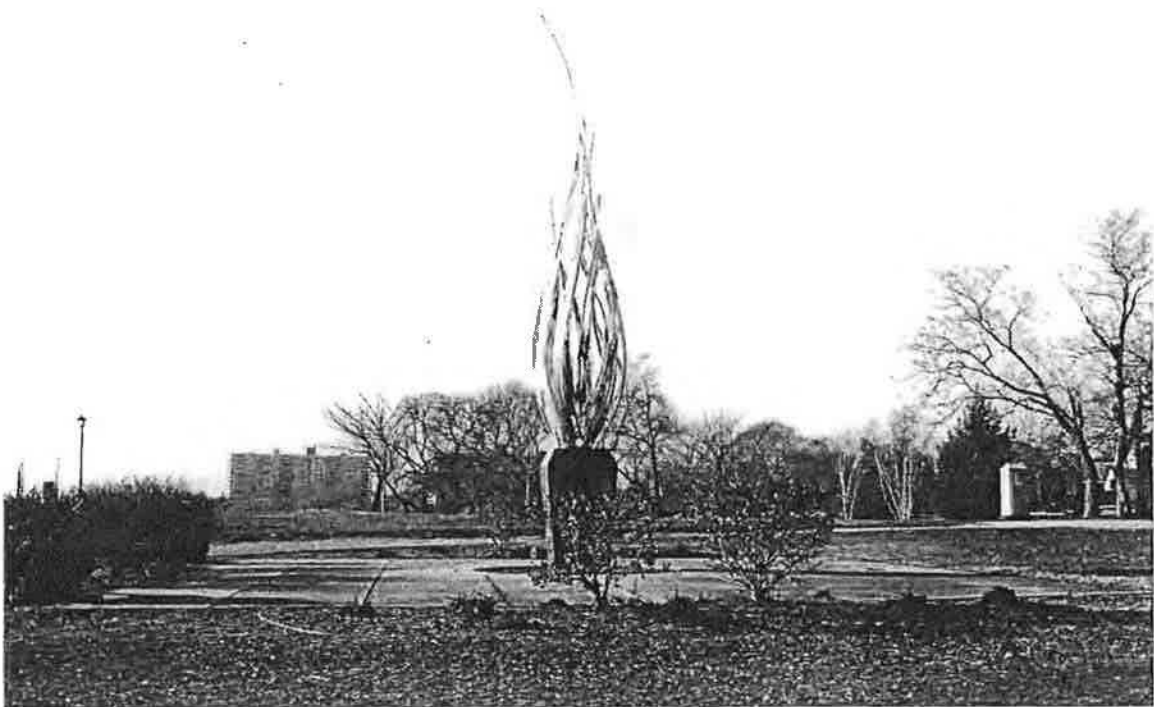
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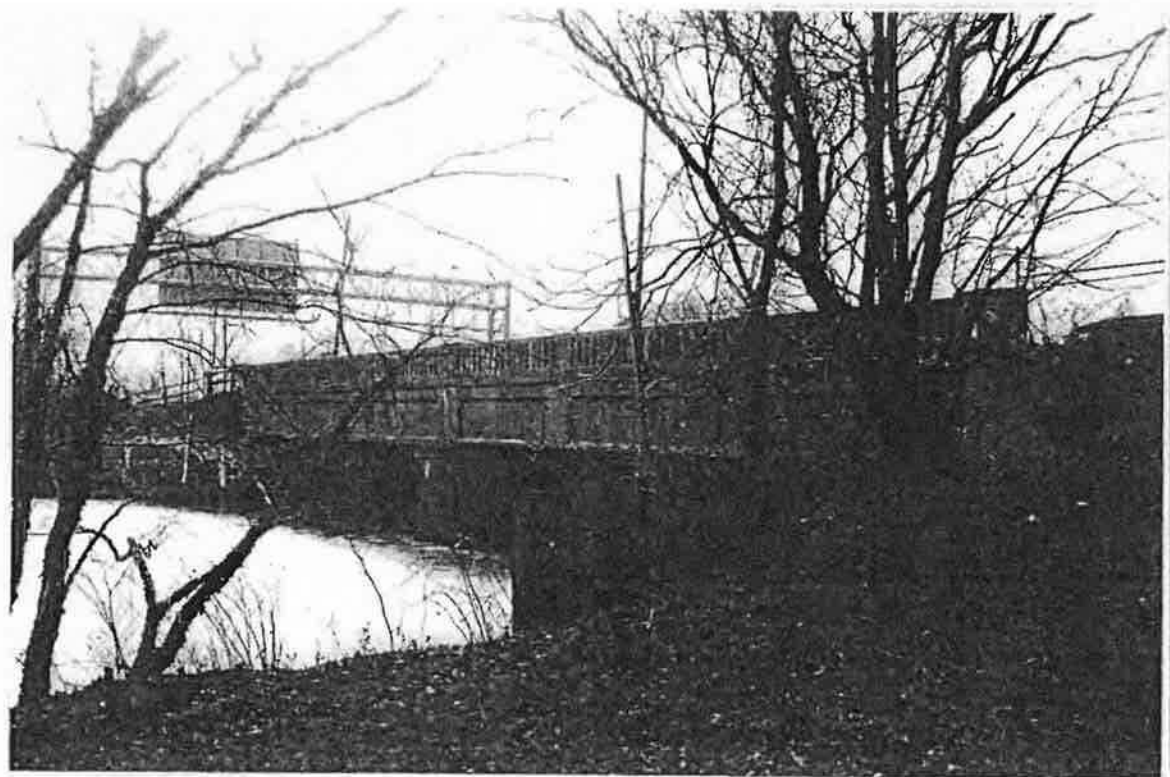
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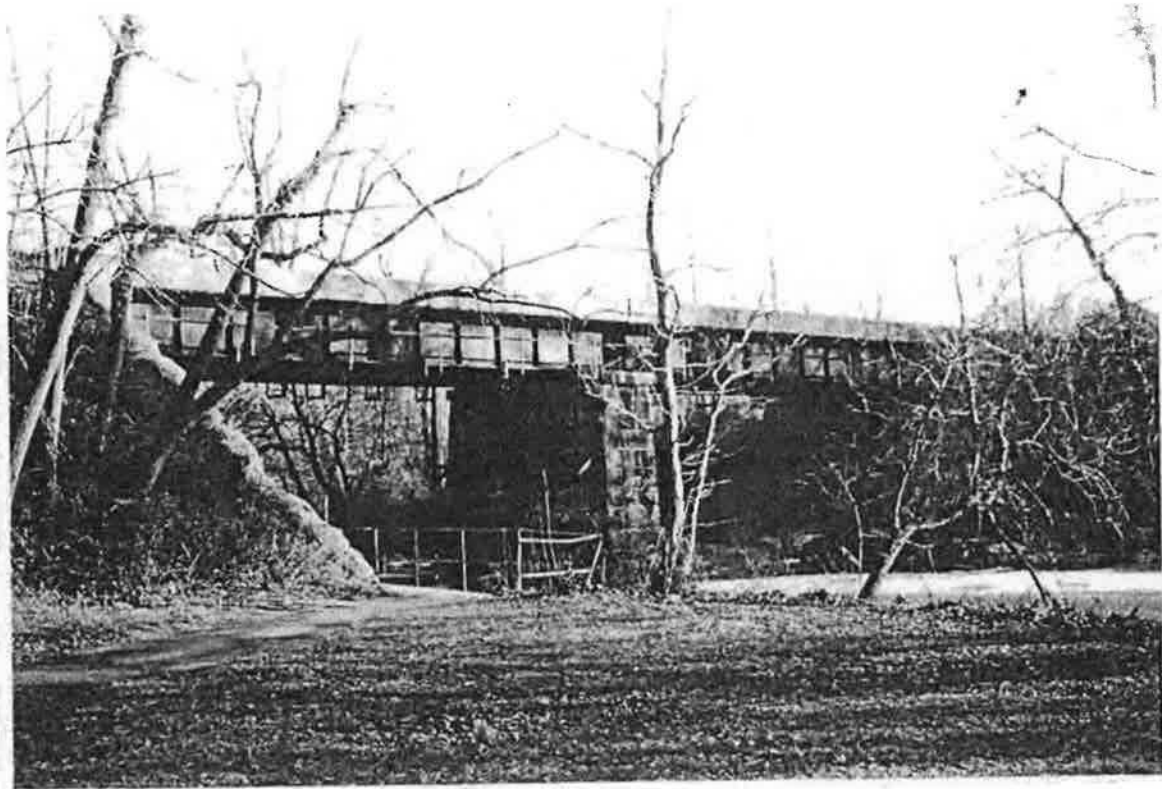
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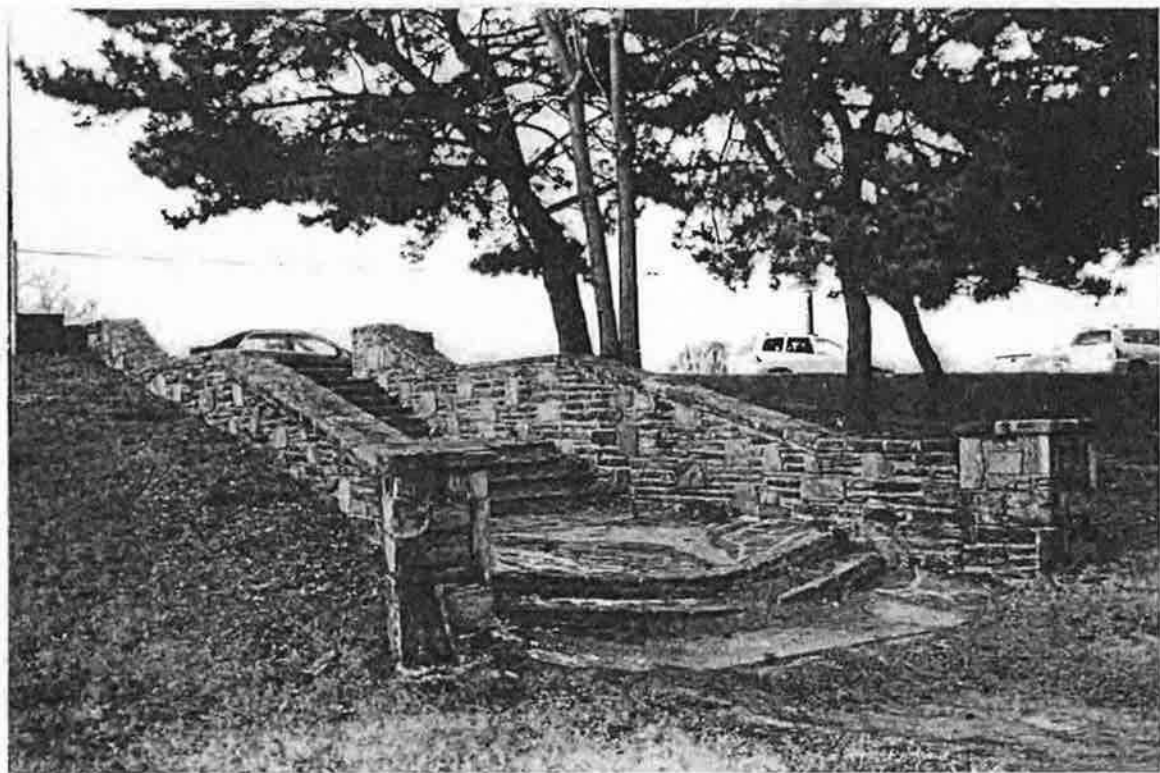
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23



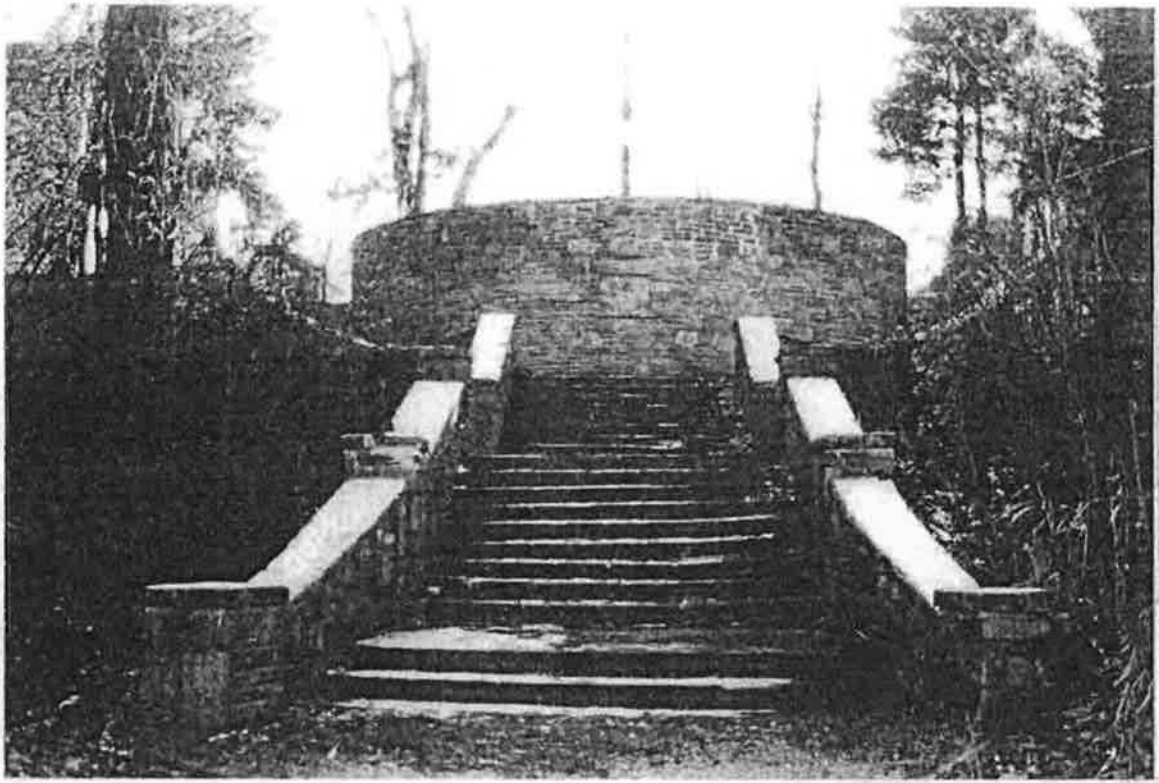
24



25



26



27



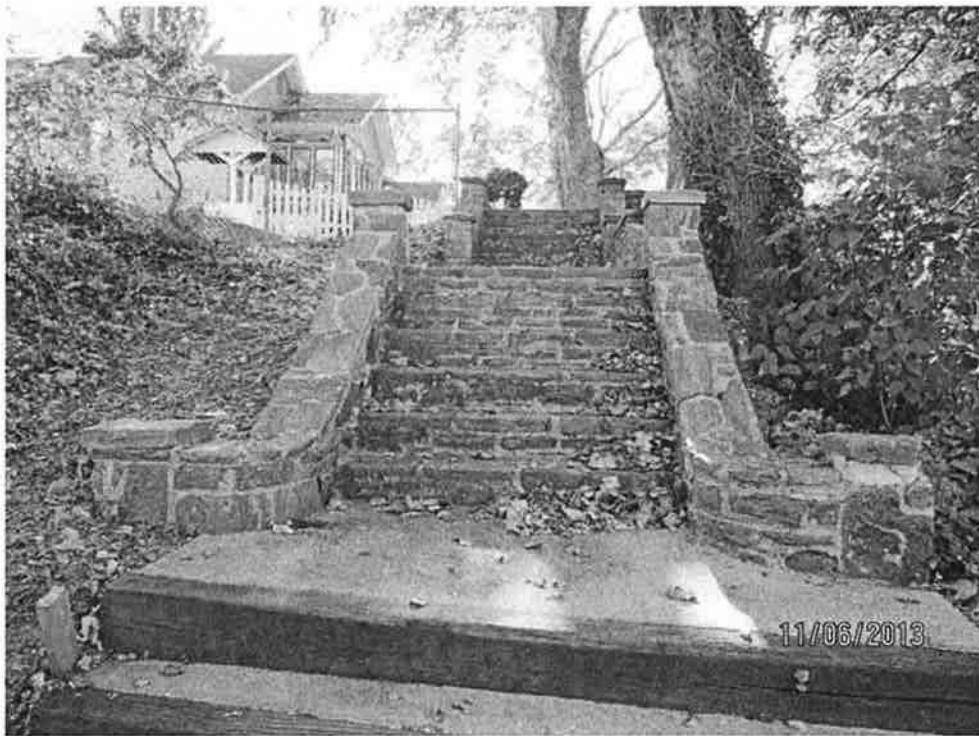
28





Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ
Photo 30 (RS)

Crestmont Terrace Stone Masonry Retaining Wall and Staircase (contributing resource)
south of South Park Drive, camera facing south.



Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ
Photo 31 (RS)

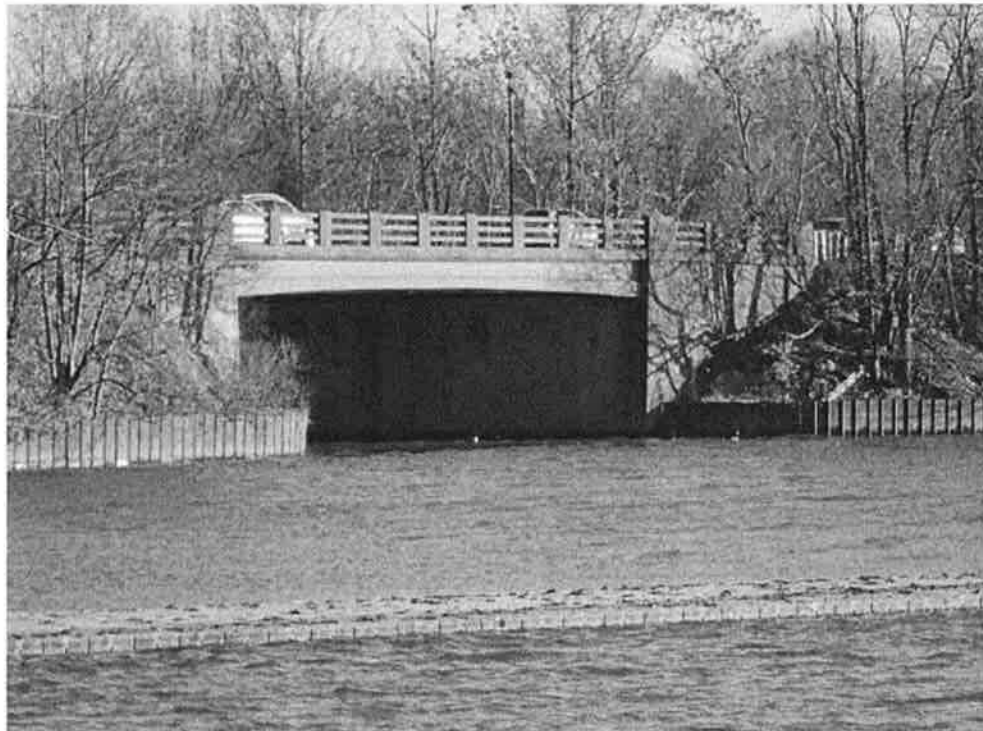
East Night Avenue Stone Masonry Retaining Wall and Staircase (contributing resource)
south of South Park Drive, camera facing south.



Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ

Photo 32

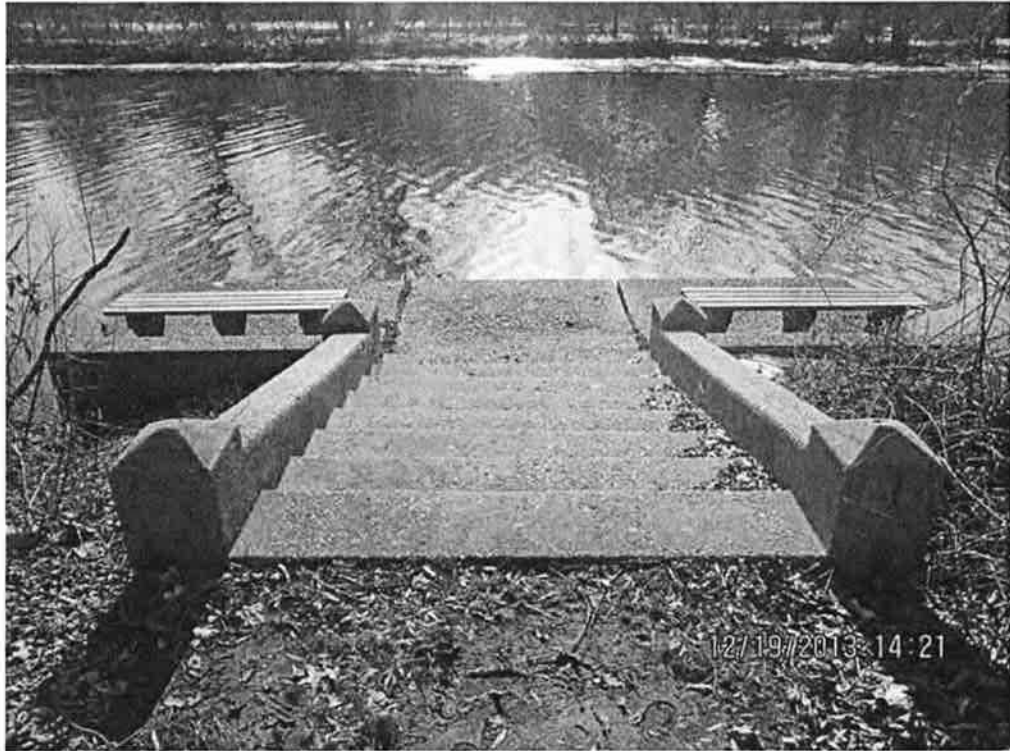
Pink granite stone and masonry footbridge and walkway Park Boulevard (contributing resource), west of Cuthbert Boulevard, camera facing south.



Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ

Photo 33 (RS)

Cuthbert Boulevard Bridge (contributing resource), camera facing southeast
Floating dock in foreground



Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ
Photo 34 (RS)

Concrete Dock Park Boulevard (contributing resource), north shore of Cooper River Lake east of Cuthbert Boulevard Bridge, camera facing south.



Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ
Photo 35 (RS)

Concrete Dock South Park Drive (contributing resource), south shore of Cooper River Lake, east of Cuthbert Boulevard Bridge, camera facing southeast.



Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ
Photo 36 (RS)

South Park Drive stone masonry lookout platform (contributing resource) east of Cuthbert, camera facing east



Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ
Photo 37 (RS)

Stone masonry retaining wall and tree planter (contributing resource) south shore of Cooper River Lake near railroad bridge(contributing resource),camera facing north.



Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ

Photo 38 (RS)

Stone masonry lookout platform (contributing resource) south shore of Cooper River Lake, west of railroad,
camera facing northwest



Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ

Photo 39

Stone Masonry Staircase Grove Street Bridge northwest side (contributing resource)
Camera facing southwest



Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ

Photo 40 (RS)

Stone Masonry Staircase Grove Street Bridge southwest side (contributing resource)

Camera facing northeast



Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ

Photo 41

Victims of Terrorism Memorial, (non-contributing resource) 7000 North Park Drive, Pennsauken Township, camera facing south



Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ

Photo 42 (RS)

Floating dock (non-contributing resource). A rowing shell launch area with two floating docks
North side of Cooper River Lake, Camera facing south.



Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ

Photo 43 (RS)

Japanese Pagoda (non-contributing resource) North Shore of Cooper River south of Park Boulevard
Camera facing north



Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ

Photo 44

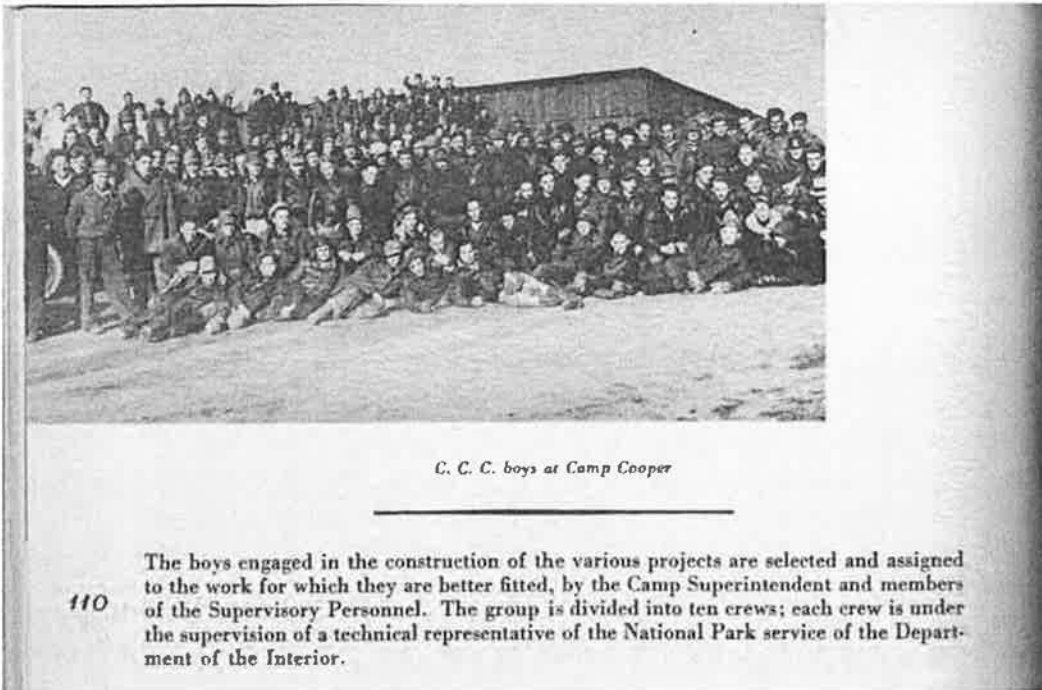
The starting line of the 2,000 meter rowing course and 6 floating docks (non-contributing resource).
rowing race course start area on the south side of Cooper River Lake near intersection of South Park Drive and
Crescent Boulevard, aerial camera facing east.



Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ

Photo 44

The starting line of the 2,000 meter rowing course and 6 floating docks (non-contributing resource).
rowing race course start area and pavilion on the south side of Cooper River Lake intersection of South Park
Drive and Crescent Boulevard , camera facing east.



C. C. C. boys at Camp Cooper

110 The boys engaged in the construction of the various projects are selected and assigned to the work for which they are better fitted, by the Camp Superintendent and members of the Supervisory Personnel. The group is divided into ten crews; each crew is under the supervision of a technical representative of the National Park service of the Department of the Interior.

Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ

Photo 45

CCC boys, at Camp Cooper. Source: Brown, C. Oscar. *Camden County Park System As Constructed by Camden County Park Commission*, p. 110.



Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ

Photo 46 (RS)

Footbridge 4 (contributing resource) crosses the North Branch of the Cooper River between Park Boulevard and South Branch of the Cooper River. Camera facing west



Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ

Photo 47 (RS)

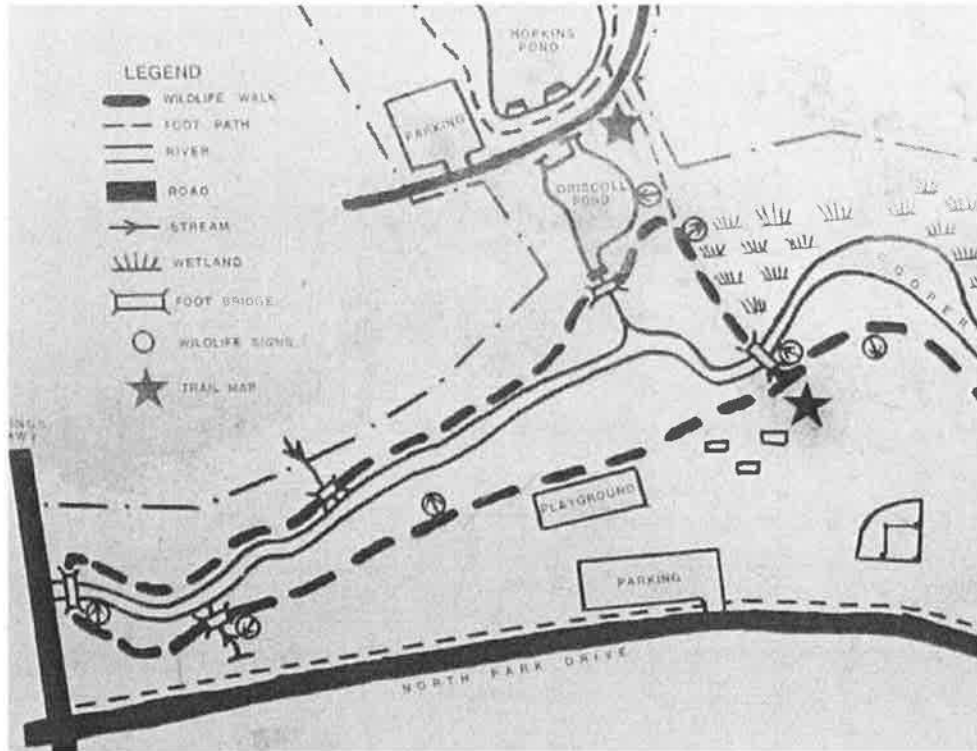
Footbridge 5 is near the center of Greenwald Park crossing the Cooper River where it joins with a stream that drains Driscoll Pond, Camera facing south



Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ

Photo 48 (RS)

Footbridge 7 (contributing resource) crosses the Cooper River at south end of Greenwald Park north of the Kings Highway Bridge, camera facing north footbridge framed by Kings Highway Bridge Arch



Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ
Photo 49 (RS)

Watchable Wildlife Park Trail wayside exhibit map showing 6 footbridge locations
Maria Barnaby Greenwald Memorial Park and Pennypacker Park camera facing southeast.



Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ
Photo 50 (RS)

Stone staircase at Kings Highway Bridge (contributing resource), southwest quadrant of Kings Highway
Bridge, camera facing southeast



Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ
Photo 51 (RS)
Driscoll Pond Dam (non-contributing resource), camera facing south



Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ
Photo 52
Haddon Mill ruins about 1905 (non-contributing resource), West Jersey History Project
<http://www.westjerseyhistory.org/images/pcards/camden/hddnfldevansml1haddnml10510.jpg>



Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ
Photo 53
Birdwood Farm House

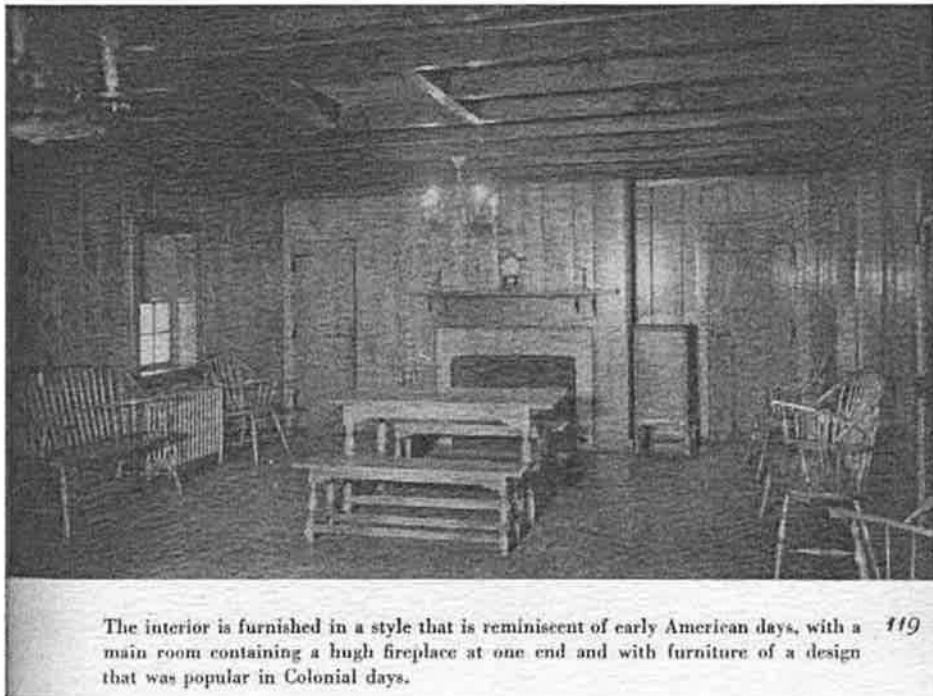


Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ
Photo 54 (RS)
Hopkins Pond Dam (non-contributing resource) north side, view from Driscoll Pond (foreground),
Camera facing west

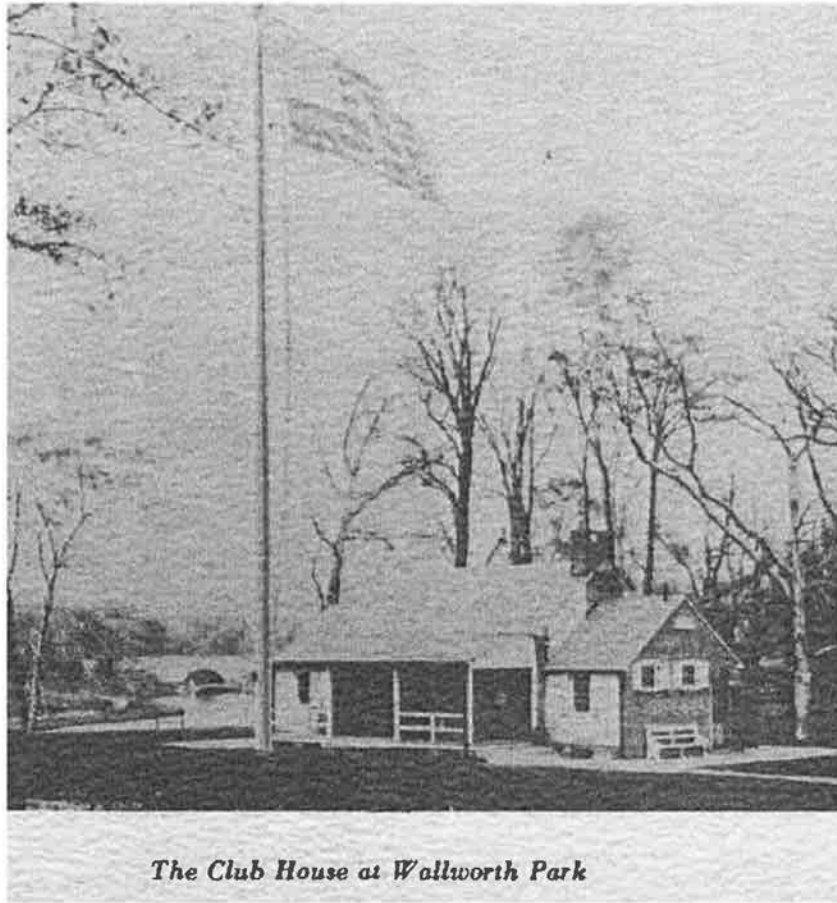


Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ
Photo 55 (RS)

Kings Highway Pennsylvania mica stone masonry stairs and retaining wall
(contributing resource) south side of Kings Highway at intersection with Evans Pond Road,
camera facing southwest



Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ
Photo 56
Interior of the Wallworth Park Club House, Brown, op.cit., p. 119.



The Club House at Wallworth Park

Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ
Photo 57
Wallworth Park Club House 1937, Brown, op.cit., p. 118

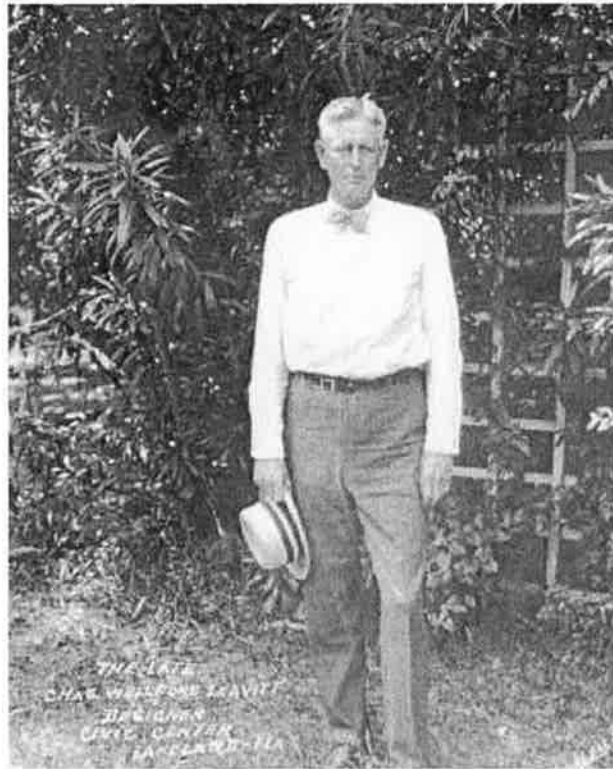


Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ
Photo 58
Wallworth Park Club House ca 1964, Haddonfield Historical Society



Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ
Photo 59 (RS)

Pennsylvania mica stone and masonry footbridge (contributing resource)
Wallworth Park east of Wallworth Lake. Camera facing northwest.



Cooper River Park Historic District, Camden County, NJ
Photo 60
Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr



MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

**BETWEEN THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION AND
NEW JERSEY STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER
REGARDING ROUTE 30/130 COLLINGSWOOD/PENNSAUKEN (PHASE B),
BOROUGH OF COLLINGSWOOD, TOWNSHIP OF PENNSAUKEN, CITY OF CAMDEN;
CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) divided the Collingswood Circle Elimination Project into two phases (A and B) and is currently completing construction of Phase A, which includes removal of the Circle and reconfiguration of Route 30/130; the NJDOT proposes to construct Phase B of the Collingswood Circle Elimination Project, which involves the widening of Route 30/130 from two (2) to three (3) lanes from Haddon Avenue north to the Cooper River Bridge, rehabilitating the Haddon Avenue Bridge over Route 30/130 (Structure No. 0405-152), and replacing the Rt. 30/130 Bridge over the Cooper River (Structure No. 0405-153) in the Borough of Collingswood, Township of Pennsauken and City of Camden, Camden County.

WHEREAS, the FHWA, the New Jersey State Historic Preservation Officer (NJSHPO), the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (Advisory Council), and the NJDOT executed a Programmatic Agreement in November of 1996 which stipulates how FHWA's Section 106 responsibilities for NJDOT-administered federal aid projects will be satisfied; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with that agreement, the NJDOT has consulted with the NJSHPO in order to determine the Area of Potential Effect (APE), to identify significant National Register eligible and listed properties, and to assess the effects of the project on both eligible and listed properties within the APE pursuant to the requirements of 36 CFR Part 800, the regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470f)¹; and

WHEREAS, the consultation has resulted in a determination that the following five (5) properties are eligible for or are listed in the National Register of Historic Places; and

- Camden and Atlantic Railroad Historic District (SHPO Opinion: 9/17/01)
- The Harleigh Cemetery (SHPO Opinion: 6/15/95)
- Cooper River Park Historic District (SHPO Opinion: 2/28/94)
- Collingswood Circle (White Horse Pike Rond Point) (SHPO Opinion: 6/15/95)
- Collingswood Circle Pure Oil Service Station (Wayne's Used Cars) (SHPO Opinion: 6/15/95); and

WHEREAS, the FHWA has determined that the construction of this project as proposed will have a No Effect on the Camden and Atlantic Railroad Historic District, a No Adverse Effect on the Harleigh Cemetery, an Adverse Effect on the Cooper River Park Historic District, an Adverse Effect on the Collingswood Circle (White Horse Pike Rond Point) and an Adverse Effect on the Collingswood Circle Pure Oil Service Station (Wayne's Used Cars); and

¹ Copies of the cultural resources report for the project are on file at the New Jersey Historic Preservation Office and at the NJDOT cultural resources library, Trenton, New Jersey.

WHEREAS, the following Stipulations for Phase A of the subject project, the Rt. 30/130 Collingswood Circle Elimination Project, were carried out as required per the 9/26/96 Memorandum of Agreement, which did not contain a sunset clause:

- The NJDOT documented the Collingswood Circle Pure Oil Service Station (Wayne's Used Cars), Collingswood Circle (White Horse Pike Rond Point), and Crescent Boulevard Bridge (Structure No. 0405-153) to Level II of the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) standards. The documentation was sent to the Chesapeake/Allegheny System Support Office of the National Park Service in September 1997 and was accepted as complete on February 27, 1998. Copies were also sent to the NJSHPO and the NJ State Library Archives in September 1997.
- A marketing plan was developed in consultation with the NJSHPO for the Collingswood Circle Pure Oil Service Station (Wayne's Used Cars) in 1997; the Station was successfully marketed to private individuals for use in Watertown, NY.

WHEREAS, the archeological survey for the Old Black Horse Pike Drive-Inn that was to be conducted as part of Phase A was instead conducted as part of a completely separate project and no significant archeological resources were encountered; and

WHEREAS, the Route 30/130 Bridge over the Cooper River was originally to be reconstructed during Phase A, but now requires *complete replacement*, which will occur as part of Phase B. Removing the bridge, a contributing resource to the Cooper River Park Historic District (HD), results in an Adverse Effect to the HD; design feature to complement the HD will be implemented.

WHEREAS, the project/new bridge will be designed to include compatible historic elements such as the construction of the bridge on the historic footprint; use of an aesthetic parapet (e.g., Texas type railing), tinted and form-lined parapets and other design features to complement the above ground features of the Cooper River Park Historic District, where appropriate; and

WHEREAS, the NJDOT and FHWA have considered alternatives to avoid or minimize the adverse effects and found that they are not feasible; and

WHEREAS, the FHWA has consulted with the NJDOT, NJSHPO, Borough of Collingswood, Township of Pennsauken, City of Camden, Camden County, and Camden County Department of Parks to develop a plan to mitigate the adverse effects; and

WHEREAS, the NJDOT has solicited comments from the Camden County Department of Parks, Harleigh Cemetery & Crematory, Clerk/Borough of Collingswood, Clerk/Township of Pennsauken, Camden County Engineer, Historic Review Committee, Camden County Historical Society, Pennsauken Historical Society, Camden County Cultural & Heritage Commission, Archaeological Society of New Jersey, Newton Colony Historical Society, Camden County Improvement Authority, Friends of the Collings-Knight House, Camden City Business Administrator, PATCO Hi-Speed Line, and the Collingswood Library and received comments from the Camden County Department of Parks, which stated they preferred a single-span bridge design so recreational boats could easily travel under the bridge and that they do not want any stormwater basins located on their property; and

WHEREAS, the bridge was offered under the Surface Transportation and Uniform Relocation Assistance Act to sixteen (16) consulting and interested parties on March 10, 2008; was declined by three (3) parties; thirteen (13) never responded; while one, the Harleigh Cemetery, expressed interest in taking ownership in a letter dated 4/7/08, but later did not respond after additional information regarding the STURAA and the bridge's condition was provided in a 4/17/08 package; and

WHEREAS, an Alternatives Analysis was prepared and was accepted by the FHWA on August 11, 2008; and

WHEREAS, the NJDOT has participated in the consultation and has been invited to concur in the MOA; and

WHEREAS, the Advisory Council was notified of the adverse effect finding to the Cooper River Park Historic District during Phase A on April 1, 1997 and no response was received; a decline in participation was assumed; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the FHWA and the NJSHPO agree that the undertaking shall be implemented in accordance with the following stipulations in order to take into account the effect of the undertaking on historic properties.

STIPULATIONS:

The FHWA will ensure that the following measures are carried out:

1. **Aesthetics:** The new bridge will be designed to include an aesthetic parapet that will emulate the look of the existing (e.g., Texas type railing), tinted concrete for the bridge abutments and wingwalls, and other design features to complement the above-ground features of the Cooper River Park Historic District, where appropriate; lighting installed over the Route 30/130 Bridge over the Cooper River will consist of powder-coated black tear-drop lights, as used in Phase A of the referenced project.
2. **Pennsylvania Mica Staircases:** The two (non-contributing) Pennsylvania mica staircases located south of South Park Drive and at the bridge's southeast quadrant, which will be removed, will be carefully disassembled; salvaged materials will be reused in the repair/reconstruction of the debilitated (contributing) Pennsylvania mica staircase located at the northeast quadrant of the bridge crossing.
3. **Signage:** An interpretative sign concerning the history of the Cooper River Park Historic District will be developed in consultation with the SHPO, and placed at the Northeast Quadrant of the bridge crossing on NJDOT right-of-way, at an appropriate location at the top of the staircase.
4. **National Register Nomination:** A draft final National Register nomination will be prepared for the Cooper River Park Historic District (HD), a resource which is eligible for listing on the National Register (SHPO Opinion: 2/28/94). The HD was determined to be eligible under Criterion A in the areas of community planning and development and entertainment and recreation as an example of an early-twentieth-century park. Under Criterion C, the HD is eligible for its landscape architecture that embodies the design concepts heralded by the Olmstead Brothers at the turn of the century and for its embodiment of the work of a master,

Charles W. Leavitt and Son, one of the most prominent early-twentieth-century landscape architecture firms in the United States. The HD qualifies for listing in the Register because it incorporates scenic overlooks, docks, footbridges, footpaths, and staircases into its design. Important aspects of integrity include setting, design, location, and materials.

5. Archeological Monitoring Program: An archeological monitoring program has been developed and is attached for reference (see Attachment A); the program was approved by SHPO on 9/17/08.

ADMINISTRATIVE CONDITIONS:

1. Professional Qualifications: The NJDOT, on behalf of FHWA, will ensure that all work is carried out by/under the direct supervision of a person or persons meeting at a minimum the *Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards*[48 CFR 44738-44739].
2. Dispute Resolutions: At any time during the implementation of the measures stipulated in this MOA, should an objection to any such measure or its manner of implementation be raised, FHWA will notify all signatories to the agreement, take the objection into account, and consult as needed to resolve the objection. Disputes regarding the completion of the terms of this agreement as necessary shall be resolved by the signatories. If the signatories cannot agree regarding a dispute, the FHWA shall then initiate appropriate actions in accordance with the provisions of 36 CFR 800.6(b) and 800.7 as appropriate. Modification, amendment, or termination of this agreement as necessary shall be accomplished by the signatories in the same manner as the original agreement.
3. Design Changes: If there are any major design changes to the Rt. 30/130 Collingswood/Pennsauken (Phase B) project, the FHWA shall consult with the New Jersey SHPO in accordance with the provisions of 36 CFR Part 800.
4. Project Completion:

Stipulations 1-3: Design work required by Stipulations 1, 2, and 3 will be completed prior to seeking federal authorization to advertise the project; all construction items which result from the work in Stipulations 1, 2, and 3 will be completed prior to final acceptance from the contractor.

Stipulation 4: Work required by Stipulation 4 will be completed as follows: Within a six-month period, a draft document will be submitted to the Historic Preservation Office's Registration staff for review and comment; a draft final will be supplied which incorporates all comments from the initial review; and an electronic copy of that document will be furnished to the Registration staff for their use in advancing the nomination through the State Review Board. The HPO will be responsible for the notification to property owners and county and local officials who are given an opportunity to comment, for scheduling of and holding of a public meeting, and for changes that may be required of the document as a result of review by the State Review Board. The following is the submission schedule:

- 0-2 months: NJDOT prepares and submits draft National Register nomination.
2-4 months: HPO Registration staff reviews, comments, and returns draft National Register nomination to the NJDOT.

4-6 months: NJDOT addresses comments, prepares draft final, and submits draft final and electronic file of the National Register nomination to the HPO Registration staff for HPO's future use.

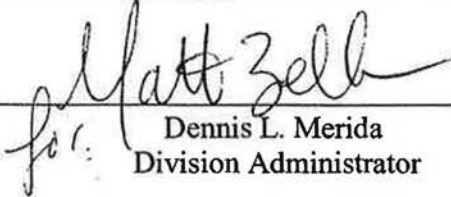
The final submission must be substantive and technically complete pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act and the New Jersey Register of Historic Places Act.

Stipulation 5: Monitoring will occur during all earth-moving activities within the limits detailed in the attached Archeological Monitoring Program.

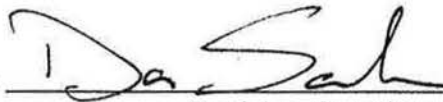
5. Documentation of Satisfaction of Stipulations: NJDOT shall submit a short narrative report with appropriate illustrations demonstrating satisfaction of all of the requirements of this agreement to all signatories within 120 days of completion of construction.
6. Review of Implementation: This agreement shall become null and void if construction is not initiated within five years from the date of execution unless the signatories agree in writing to an extension. If, after five years without action the FHWA chooses to continue with the undertaking, it shall re-initiate its review in accordance with the provisions of 36 CFR Part 800.

SIGNATORIES

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

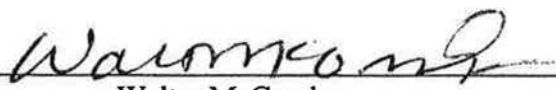
By:  Date: 1/5/09
for: Dennis L. Merida
Division Administrator

NEW JERSEY STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

By:  Date: 12/23/08
Daniel D. Saunders
Acting Administrator/Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

INVITED SIGNATORY

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

By:  Date: 12/26/08
Walter McGrosky
Director, Division of Capital Program Support

ATTACHMENT A
Memorandum of Agreement

Archeological Monitoring Program
for
Route 30/130 Collingswood/Pennsauken (Phase B)
Borough of Collingswood, Township of Pennsauken, City of Camden
Camden County

August 2008

Purpose

The Purpose of this Archeological Monitoring Program for the above-referenced project is to identify, evaluate, and treat archeological properties, if encountered, within the North Park Drive alignment's area of+ potential effects, and to ensure that no potentially-significant archeological deposits will be adversely affected by the proposed project. Due to time constraints, the NJ Historic Preservation Office (NJHPO) requested the monitoring program in the vicinity of North Park Drive, rather than a revised Phase IB archeological report, in a letter dated July 18, 2008 (HPO-G2008-172 PROD; Log # 03-0776-4).

It was agreed after a telephone conversation on July 29, 2008, between Dave Mudge, staff archeologist at NJ Department of Transportation (NJDOT), and Vincent Maresca, staff archeologist at the NJHPO, that archeological monitoring should only be conducted in *areas of non-fill* in the vicinity of North Park Drive Intersection. Monitoring from the Route 30/130 Bridge over the Cooper River north to approximately Station No. 78+50 is not necessary because there's very low probability that significant archeological resources will be encountered; the area is within the floodplain and no known prehistoric sites have been recorded. Please see enclosed Construction Plans for more detail.

Monitoring Protocol

In order to successfully ensure that no potentially significant archeological deposits or features are destroyed by the proposed undertaking, several conditions will be met:

- A pre-construction meeting will be held between representatives of the NJDOT Bureau of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Solutions (BLAES), NJHPO, NJDOT approved contractor, and the project archeologist at least 7 days prior to any land disturbance activities within the area of concern.
- Under stipulations and guidelines detailed below, all excavations will be performed with the project archeologist present to observe materials as they are removed from the ground.
- Under stipulations and guidelines detailed below, the project archeologist will be authorized to halt work until such time as NJDOT BLAES and the NJHPO cultural resources specialist(s) can visit the site and make a determination regarding a course of action.
- A copy of this archeological monitoring program shall be included by reference in any contract bid documents.

Health and Safety

For the purposes of this proposal, it is assumed that all areas to be impacted by the North Park Drive Intersection improvements will have been screened for the presence or absence of hazardous materials and that a Health and Safety Plan (HASP), developed by others, will have been developed to avoid any physical exposure to those materials. If hazardous conditions exist, the DOT staff archeologist who will be monitoring the proposed project will be OSHA HAZWOPER (1929CFR 1910.120) or compliant archeologist. It is also assumed that the HASP will specify conditions for fieldwork and correct procedures for the handling of artifacts in off-site laboratories and the disposal of by-products from cleaning those artifacts.

Any substantive changes to the archeological monitoring protocol proposed here that are required by the HASP will be presented to the NJDOT and the NJHPO for approval before being implemented.

Monitoring Methodology

All monitoring activities will be conducted under the supervision of Lauralee Rappleye, a qualified NJDOT project archeologist meeting the qualifications specified in the Secretary of the Interior's Standards. All work shall be performed under the instructions and intents set forth in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Archeological Documentation http://www.cr.nps.gov/local-law/arch_stnds_0.htm and the "Guidelines for Archeological Investigations" issued by the former Office of New Jersey Heritage, currently known as the New Jersey Historic Preservation Office (HPO).

Monitoring will take place for all earth-moving (i.e., excavation) activities but will not be present for the installation of the water quality chamber or roadway improvements at the intersection.

It is assumed that the water quality chamber excavation will be performed with mechanical equipment (i.e., a backhoe). The project archeologist will be present for all backhoe excavations and will observe the work as it progresses, and will have the authority, through the Resident Engineer, to request that the backhoe operator temporarily halt work in order to enter the trench excavations (under OSHA 29CFR 1929 Subpart P-compliant conditions) and inspect the excavation, soils, and/or artifact deposits. The monitoring of construction activities will be closely coordinated with the Resident Engineer in order to obtain the maximum amount of information and to prevent the loss of data from misunderstanding and logistical problems. For planning purposes, it can be assumed that the excavations may be halted for inspection up to, but not be limited to, one (1) hour per eight-hour work day.

Trench excavation walls, if applicable, will be selectively hand-cleaned with shovels and trowels to expose soil horizons and/or artifact deposits and features. All exposures will be documented photographically. Scaled drawings of wall profiles and/or cultural features will be made as necessary. The location of any potentially significant archeological deposits will be recorded on scaled profile drawings and plan view maps of the project.

There will be no systematic screening of soils for artifacts. However, representative samples of artifacts encountered during the monitoring procedure will be collected and their provenience recorded as closely as possible. If the artifacts are recovered from contaminated soils, the appropriate precautions for cleaning and processing them will be taken in the laboratory. The protective measures to be taken will be detailed in the HASP. Processing shall include cleaning and cataloging all artifacts, regardless of age or provenience. The catalog shall consist of a description of artifact type, style, construction material, age, or any other diagnostic or culturally significant characteristics.

If cultural deposits are encountered during the course of archeological monitoring that in the opinion of the project archeologist may be considered eligible for inclusion in the *National Register of Historic Places*, a work stoppage will be called for the area in which the deposits are located. This stoppage will last as long as necessary for representatives of NJDOT BLAES and the NJHPO to visit the site and make a determination of the appropriate course of action to take. Work may be allowed to continue in other sections of the culvert alignment to the extent that it will not affect the potentially eligible resource(s). For planning purposes, it can be assumed that work may be halted in a sensitive area for up to two working days.

Reporting

A brief report presenting the results of the archeological monitoring will be prepared at the conclusion of the project, which will be considered an addendum to the Cultural Resources Survey Report *Route 30/130 Mainline Roadway Improvement, Phase B*, prepared by Dewberry-Goodkind (September 2007) and approved by your office in a letter dated 7/18/08. Additionally, no background research of the area will be conducted as this information is contained in the above-noted report. The report will contain a description of the results of the monitoring including photographs, plan, and profile drawings. A catalog of all artifacts collected during the monitoring will be included. The report will be produced in accordance with the 1996 New Jersey SHPO *Guidelines for Cultural Resources Investigations: Identification of Archeological Resources*. A copy of the monitoring report with original photographs will be submitted to the NJHPO Library.

Exhibit C

Office of County Counsel

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County Counsel
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First Assistant County Counsel

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February 27, 2014

FEB 28 2014

Mail Code 501-04B

State of New Jersey
Department of Environmental Protection
Natural and Historic Resources
Historic Preservation
PO Box 420
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420

ATTN: Daniel D. Saunders, Administrator

RE: "Cooper River Park Historic District"
Nomination to NJ and National Register of Historic Places

Dear Mr. Saunders:

Please be advised that I am in receipt of your letter and package of materials of January 8, 2014 regarding the reconsideration of the nomination of the Cooper River Park Historic District for the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places. The purpose of this correspondence is to advise you that the County of Camden **objects** to this nomination and to placement within the New Jersey and National Registers.

After a thorough review of the materials enclosed in the January 8, 2014 correspondence, there are significant technical errors in and substantive issues with the Registration Form that has been provided. The County of Camden submits the within objection in accordance with New Jersey and Federal regulations, specifically *N.J.A.C. 7:4-2.2(c)(8)* and *36 C.F.R. §60.6*, and well within sixty (60) days of the receipt of your January 8, 2014 correspondence.

Initially, there are several lots in question that have already been designated as preserved under the NJDEP - Green Acres Program and/or part of the Open Space plan for the County of Camden and do not require, nor does the County desire historic designation. The lots in question are as follows (See 10-2, 3 of Registration Form):

<u>Municipality</u>	<u>Block</u>	<u>Block</u>
Cherry Hill	7.02	1
	8.01	1
	27.02	1
	38.01	1
	49.01	2
	373.01	1
	403.01	1
	403.01	2
Haddon Twp.	23.02	3 ¹
	25.02	9
	25.03	1
	30.01	1
	31.01	1
Haddonfield	1	1 ²

All of the above parcels are contained in the Recreation and Open Space Inventory (ROSI) for the County of Camden, and therefore, are encumbered under Green Acres regulations and subject to existing restriction/preservation under the Green Acres Program. *N.J.A.C. 7:36-25.3(c)*. Specific to the proposed Cooper River Park "Historic District", the County and State have several ongoing and anticipated projects for which contracts and funding have been designated. These projects include, but are not limited to:

- **Cooper River Park "Vision Plan"**, in which the County of Camden has allocated approximately \$7,000,000.00 of an anticipated project budget of \$23,000,000.00;
- **Cooper River Water Quality project**, under contract and ongoing;
- **NJDOT Reconstruction** of the Route 130 overpass adjacent to Cooper River Park;
- **Destruction of structures** posing a risk to public safety and welfare of residents and visitors.

¹ Block 23.02, Lot 3 is not a parcel owned by the County of Camden or the Camden County Parks Department, as incorrectly listed in the Registration Form.

² The parcels above are not exclusive, and may include additional lots and blocks contained in the proposed "historic district" that are not updated on the Recreation and Open Space Inventory.

More importantly, the residents of the County of Camden, in 1998 and again in 2005, have spoken and have made clear their support for an appropriation of tax dollars for the Camden County Open Space Trust Fund. Now a small number of individuals are attempting to circumvent the will of the voters by submitting this application. This application would preclude the County's elected leaders from spending for the benefit of its parks and open space and runs contrary to the restrictions placed on those lands by Open Space and Green Acres. The elected officials of Camden County would, in fact, either have their hands tied to any further spending, or be compelled to endure additional levels of approvals for projects for which those funds are ideally suited.

While the County has been given verbal assurance from representatives of the State Historic Preservation Officer, by way of the Director of Parks, Frank Moran, that projects that are considered ongoing will not be interrupted, it is rather disconcerting that parklands and preserved properties could be further burdened by the state and national Registers simply due to the actions of a select group of individuals.

Equally objectionable in the Registration Form is that **the County of Camden is not the record owner of at least three (3) of the lots subject to re-consideration for historic preservation.** Specifically, in Cherry Hill, Block 373.01, Lot 3 is owned by the Erlton Swim Club. In Haddon Township, Block 23.02, Lot 3 and Lot 5, are listed within tax records as owned by the Township of Haddon. This objection also includes the roadways listed that are not owned, controlled or maintained by the County.

Despite this fact, on page 4 of the Registration Form, the section entitled Property Owner lists the owner of the properties listed in the packet, without limitation, as the "Camden County Parks Department". Clearly, it would be inappropriate to pass a resolution or take any action on behalf of this application while there exists such glaring inaccuracies.

Pursuant to *N.J.A.C. 7:4-2.2(8)* and subsection (i), **the owner(s) listed are to be notified by the SHPO with the appropriate amount of time to file an objection.** In this particular instance, only the County of Camden (Parks Department) was notified, despite the fact that there are at least two other owners of property with regard to the lots and blocks in question for this "district". **This is a clear violation of both state and federal regulations.** (This appears virtually identical to the federal requirements of 36 *C.F.R.* §60.6(c)).

Furthermore, several blocks and lots that have been listed are not even recognized within tax databases as proper block and lot designations. This information is taken from the New Jersey Association of County Tax Boards web-portal/database, which takes information supplied to county tax boards by municipal assessors.

Specifically, Block 1279.03, Lot 2.01 in Camden City is an unidentifiable lot and block.

In Cherry Hill Township, Block 373.01, lot 2 is not a lot listed in municipal records, nor is Block 384.01, Lot 1.

In Collingswood, Block 19.8, Lots, 66, 67, and 68 are not recognized by the municipality as a designated block and lot.

Finally, the County of Camden objects, specifically, to the list of contributing and non-contributing resources of which the nomination form is comprised. The applicant has not addressed how any of the following resources have satisfied either of the following criteria, as noted in the materials:

- *(A) Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; and/or*
- *(C) Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction or represents the work of a master, possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.*

A significant portion of the historic analysis is provided without citation, specifically the information upon which applicant so heavily relies in its request for historic preservation. This shortcoming runs rampant throughout the application. Additionally, the submission is interlaced with noncontributing resources which muddle the nomination and make it appear as if the area is one district versus a small number of alleged contributing resources.

As per the definition under N.J.A.C. 7:4-1.3, a noncontributing resource is a "building, site, structure, or object that does not add to the historic architectural qualities, historic associations, or archaeological values for which a property is significant because:

1. It was not present during the period of significance or does not relate to the documented significance of the property;
2. Due to alterations, disturbances, additions, or other changes, it no longer possesses historic integrity reflecting its character at that time or is incapable of yielding important information about the period; or
3. It does not independently meet the New Jersey Register criteria set forth in N.J.A.C. 7:4-2.3.

The County submits that the following items submitted do not meet the criteria as required under national or state registers:

Cooper River Park (346.55 Acres) & Tidal Gate (25 Acres)³

1. Cooper River (contributing resource)

While the architecture by Leavitt & Son (hereafter "L & S") as well as the landscape changes during the Works Progress Administration (WPA) are noted, no information is referenced to support the contention that the Cooper River itself has made any contribution to broad patterns of history. There is nothing cited by the applicant that lends to the conclusion that the type and/or method of construction was so unique as to qualify as masterful, artistic or otherwise.

2. N. Park Drive and Park Blvd (contributing resources)

Applicant notes that while L & S designed these two roadways, this analysis is flawed as well. Taken as represented in the nomination packet, L & S designed plans for the Cooper River Parkway, Munn's Meadow Park and the Cooper River Two Mile Rowing Course. Although minimized as "minor exceptions" to the original plans, it is stated that alignment of N. Park Drive "east of Kings Highway in Cherry Hill Township" matches almost exactly on a 1927 L & S landscape plan but is different from their 1925 plan. Immediately following it is noted that the 1927 plan "also appears to have evolved" when compared to the actual roadway. On the one hand the applicant cites to the original design and immediately thereafter refers to the fact that these roadways are not in line with the original design.

Again, there is no information that either the design of or the roadway itself made any contribution to broad patterns of history. There is nothing cited by the applicant that lends to the conclusion that the type and/or method of construction was so unique as to qualify as masterful, artistic or otherwise. With roadways in particular, mostly all roads have been reconstructed and repaved over the last 100 years.

3. Cooper River Tidal Gate and Dam (contributing resource)

Nothing is referenced in the applicant's submission which places the Cooper River Tidal Gate and Dam under any historic perspective. Its description is devoid of information which refers to either selected criteria. It is questionable as to the reason this is listed is a contributing resource, when it should be labeled noncontributing.

³ All acreage information is taken from the application/nomination and is neither admitted nor denied by the County of Camden.

4. Crescent Blvd Bridge (contributing resource)

As admitted by the applicant, the bridge, due to its reconstruction by the New Jersey Dept. of Transportation was in the process of being replaced when this application was submitted. It is therefore **objectionable** that the applicant has it listed as “contributing,” when it is clearly made noncontributing under the law – specifically, “due to alterations, disturbances, additions, or other changes, it no longer possesses historic integrity reflecting its character at that time.” *N.J.A.C. 7:4-1.3.*

However, with no reference to design or significance, applicant simply attempts to join the newly constructed bridge to further this “district”. Per the very definitions of the New Jersey Administrative Code, this must not be permitted over the County’s objection. Incidentally, the right of way itself, Route 130, is a State highway, and while the County may own the surrounding areas, the State, by way of the NJDOT has not been notified of the attempt to restrict its property. This is yet another flaw in the application and procedure associated with this application.

5. Stone Masonry stairway Crescent Blvd. (contributing resource)

Again, the applicant summarizes the masonry, but after referring to same as a contributing resource immediately notes that the NJDOT has disassembled the stairway as part of the reconstruction of the Crescent Blvd. Bridge. This was so at the time of the nomination. Therefore, this resource cannot be considered “contributing” based on the definitions. This is **now** clearly evidence of and alteration or disturbance of the original stairway. *N.J.A.C. 7:4-1.3.* It is equally objectionable that applicant states that the NJDOT, with no citation, “will create an interpretive sign on the history of the Cooper River Park Historic District” when this is the very district under review in this nomination.

6. Cooper River Lake (contributing resource)

Other than the creation as part of the WPA, no information is referenced to support the contention that the Cooper Lake itself has made any contribution to broad patterns of history. There is nothing cited by the applicant that lends to the conclusion that the type and/or method of construction was so unique as to qualify as masterful, artistic or otherwise.

7. South Park Drive (contributing resource)

There is no information that either the design of or the roadway itself made any contribution to broad patterns of history. There is nothing cited by the applicant that lends to the conclusion that the type and/or method of construction was so unique as to qualify as masterful, artistic or otherwise. The

simple fact that it may be in line with Leavitt's 1925 plan should have no bearing when all roads have been reconstructed and repaved over the last 100 years.

8. Hopkins House (contributing resource)

While the County of Camden does not dispute the historic analysis provided by the applicant, it requests clarification from the SHPO with regard to acceptable uses in the event it is accepted as historic. Specifically, while the County has no plan to alter, renovate or otherwise improve the premises known as the Hopkins House, it does desire to utilize the structure as a Visitor's Center for tourism in Camden County.

9. Two Mile Rowing Course (contributing resource)

There is no information that either the design of or the rowing course in general made any contribution to broad patterns of history. There is nothing cited by the applicant that lends to the conclusion that the type and/or method of construction was so unique as to qualify as masterful, artistic or otherwise. More importantly, to list the rowing course as a contributing resource when the Cooper River is also listed is redundant.

10. Jack Curtis Stadium Masonry Bleachers (contributing resource)

There is no information that either the design of or the bleachers in general made any contribution to broad patterns of history. There is nothing cited by the applicant that lends to the conclusion that the type and/or method of construction was so unique as to qualify as masterful, artistic or otherwise.

11. Stone Masonry Pavilion North Shore (contributing resource)

Other than providing a simple description of the pavilion, there are no historic references, details of significance of design or construction, or any historic information which complies with the criteria. It is questionable that this resource had any impact on local Camden County history.

12. East Madison Avenue Stone Masonry Wall and Staircase (contributing resource)

13. Crestmont Terrance Stone Masonry Wall and Staircase (contributing resource)

14. East Night Avenue Stone Masonry Wall and Staircase (contributing resource)

There is no information that either the design of or the masonry walls and staircases in general made any contribution to broad patterns of history. There is nothing cited by the applicant that lends to

the conclusion that the type and/or method of construction was so unique as to qualify as masterful, artistic or otherwise.

15. River Stone Masonry Tree Planters (contributing resource)

Again, this is another entry by the applicant with no narrative in support of historic criteria.

16. Pink Granite Stone and Masonry Footbridge and Walkway (contributing resource)

Initially, no reference is made to this item as either contributing or non-contributing. On that basis alone, it should not be considered.

Regardless, nothing is stated in connection with its construction, design or overall contribution to broad patterns of history.

17. Cuthbert Blvd. Bridge (contributing resource)

There is no reference as to whether the bridge remains within its original design and plan as in 1940. There is nothing provided that could be considered noteworthy by way of its history or design and construction.

18. Concrete Dock Park Blvd (contributing resource)

19. Concrete Dock South Park Drive (contributing resource)

While it is noted that the original docks were constructed by and during the WPA, there is an absence of information regarding the current versus historic condition of the docks, let alone any information regarding the design and construction, or impacts on broad patterns of history.

20. South Park Drive Stone Masonry (contributing resource)

21. South Park Drive Stone Masonry Lookout Platform East of Cuthbert (contributing resource)

22. Stone Masonry Retaining Wall and Tree Planter (contributing resource)

23. Stone Masonry Lookout Platform – South Shore Near Railroad Br. (contributing resource)

24. Stone Masonry Stairway Grove St. Bridge NW (contributing resource)

25. Stone Masonry Stairway Grove St. Bridge SW (contributing resource)

After a brief description of each of the above resources, no reference is made to either an artistic or masterful design or construction, or how each has contributed to any impact on broad patterns of history.

26. Pedestrian Footpaths and Sidewalks (contributing resource)

While there is reference to Leavitt's design of these items, the Camden County Parks Department has repaved and redesigned many of the sidewalks surrounding Cooper River Park. It is more than likely that these should be considered noncontributing in the overall submission.

References made by footnote to the potential for visitors to encounter wildlife along footpaths are not relevant to the current analysis. In fact, those very footpaths are protected as part of the overall Open Space and Green Acres landscape. Therefore, they do not support the criteria and should not be considered for historic preservation.

Moreover, there is no recital by the applicant as to the historic significance in design or construction, let alone is there any reference for how these sidewalks and footpaths have contributed to any impact on broad patterns of history.

Cooper River Park Noncontributing Resources

Although considered part of the overall schematic of the proposed district, none of the noncontributing resources listed by the applicant qualify for historic preservation. In fact, applicant attempts to make historic items that certainly are not. For instance, simply because Leavitt, clearly the focal player in applicant's submission, had conceptualized a boathouse in 1925, the actual facility was not constructed until after 2005.

None of the Cooper River Park - noncontributing resources satisfy the components of the historic criteria delineated.

Greenwald Memorial Park (47.21 Acres)

27. Grove St. Bridge (contributing resource)

There is no information that either the design of or the bridge in general made any contribution to broad patterns of history. There is nothing cited by the applicant that lends to the conclusion that the type and/or method of construction was so unique as to qualify as masterful, artistic or otherwise.

28. Seven Footbridges (contributing resource)

Applicant simply describes the geographic layout of the footbridges, again, without any reference to the significance of them on history, either in design, construction or impact or contribution to broad patterns of history.

The only significance is their connection with the natural landscape of the park, and as previously stated, this is a factor associated with the Open Space and Green Acres restrictions which exist on all parkland. This is supported by the fact that every other cited resource is listed as noncontributing.

Greenwald Memorial Park – Noncontributing Resources

Noted by applicant as noncontributing (NC24) is the Erlton Swim Club. Although listed as noncontributing to the overall district, it is troublesome that applicant fails to note now and in its lot and block descriptions of the application that this is a site not owned or controlled by the County of Camden. The regulations, again, require that **each owner of property in a nomination receive notice**. See *N.J.A.C. 7:4-2.2* and *36 C.F.R. §60.6*. That could not be the case here, since applicant incorrectly notes that the County of Camden (Parks Department) owns the entire parcel collectively. This is simply not so.

Pennypacker Park (32.27 Acres)⁴

29. Stone Staircase at Kings Highway Bridge (contributing resource)

There is no information presented by the applicant that can state with certainty that this staircase is the original as designed, only that it closely matches a 1937 photo of the Camden County Parks Commission. There is no mention as to its significance in design or constructions, let alone any impact this staircase may have had on broad patterns of history.

Hopkins Pond Park (33.1 Acres)

The County objects to the inclusion of this in the proposed "district" since there are no contributing resources identified by the applicant.

⁴ The reference to the existence of the *Hadrosaurus foulkii* is irrelevant since it is already listed in the National Register. However, mention of it in the context of this nomination is inappropriate given the absence of other contributing resources whatsoever in Pennypacker Park as stated herein.

Wallworth Park (55.65 Acres)

30. The Kings Highway Bridge (contributing resource)

Except for the year built, which is provided without citation to any authority, the applicant does not reference any significance in design or construction.

Placing every road connecting the "district" is as senseless as including parks that have no contributing resources (Hopkins Pond Park/Challenge Grove Park). It unfairly and without historic connection creates a span of lands and noncontributing resources that should have no bearing on the overall application.

31. Wallworth Lake Concrete and River Stone Faced Dam (contributing resource)

32. Kings Highway Pennsylvania Mica Stone Staircase and Retaining Wall (contributing resource)

There is no information that either the design of or the dam and retaining wall in general made any contribution to broad patterns of history. There is nothing cited by the applicant that lends to the conclusion that the type and/or method of construction was so unique as to qualify as masterful, artistic or otherwise.

33. The 1928 Wallworth Park Club House (contributing resource)

The Wallworth House may have had historic significance many years ago. However, its current condition requires it be demolished. In cooperation with the Haddonfield Historical Society, the Camden County Parks Department has been working on a new plan to erect a pavilion in place of the Wallworth House. The demolition could occur prior to the state's consideration of this nomination.

The County of Camden has been advised in a conversation with Daniel Saunders, Administrator of the SHPO, that the pending nomination would not serve as an impediment to this demolition.

Challenge Grove Park (17.77 Acres)

The County objects to the inclusion of this in the proposed "district" since there are no contributing resources identified by the applicant.

State of New Jersey
Department of Environmental Protection
Natural and Historic Resources
February 14, 2014
Page 12

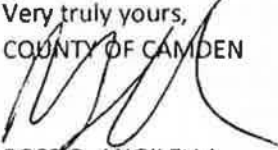
Based on the technical flaws and inaccuracies contained in this National Register Nomination Form, as well as the failure of the applicant to satisfy the criteria required for historic preservation, the State Historic Preservation Officer, pursuant to *N.J.A.C. 7:4-2.2(c)(14)*, may not sign the National Register Nomination Form since he will be unable to certify that:

- *The National Register Nomination Form is adequately documented;*
- *The National Register Nomination Form is technically and professionally correct and sufficient; and*
- *In the opinion of the SHPO, the property meets the criteria for evaluation set forth in N.J.A.C. 7:4-2.3.*

In conclusion, the County of Camden hereby submits this letter in objection to any consideration or re-consideration for listing of the "Cooper River Park Historic District" in either the New Jersey or National Registers of Historic Places.

In the event the State Historic Preservation Officer and the Commission vote to place the subject parcels in the State and National Registers, the County of Camden will file the appropriate petition with both the SHPO and the Keeper of the National Registers.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,
COUNTY OF CAMDEN

ROSS G. ANGILELLA
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

cc: Office of County Counsel
Parks Department, County of Camden

Exhibit D

Cooper River Park Historic District

VIA E-MAIL AND REGULAR US MAIL



March 10, 2014

Mail Code 501-04B
State of New Jersey
Department of Environmental Protection
Historic Preservation Office
PO Box 420
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420

ATTN: Daniel D. Saunders, Administrator

RE: Cooper River Park Historic District
Nomination to NJ and National Register of Historic Places
Camden County Administrator objection letter dated February 27, 2014

Dear Mr. Saunders:

This letter responds to a Camden County Administrator letter to you dated February 27, 2014 (the "Objection Letter") which urges the State Review Board ("SRB") to disapprove the nomination of the Cooper River Park Historic District for the New Jersey and National Register of Historic Places (the "Register Nomination") and which has been distributed to the SRB.

This letter also suggests several amendments to the Register Nomination draft and conditions that the SRB could attach to a resolution approving the Register Nomination to avoid a reconsideration for eligibility a third time.

Please convey a copy of this response letter to the SRB prior to its March 13, 2014 meeting.

The Objection Letter alleges first that the Register Nomination should be rejected because it was prepared by "a small number of individuals" who "are attempting to circumvent the will of the voters by submitting this application." (p. 3, para. 1). The Objection Letter ignores the following:

(1) We are not the original advocates or authors of this Register Nomination.

(2) The State Historic Preservation Office ("SHPO") has determined in at least three prior and separate opinions that the Cooper River Park Historic District is eligible for listing in the New Jersey and National Register of Historic Places: SHPO Opinions: 2/28/1994; 2/16/2000; and 4/5/2013.

(3) The New Jersey Department of Transportation (“NJDOT”) contracted with the Dewberry consulting firm to prepare and submit the first Register Nomination for the Cooper River Park Historic District (dated August 2012) as part of an agreement to mitigate the adverse impacts of an encroachment on the historic district caused by widening the Crescent Boulevard (Route 130) Bridge that crosses the Cooper River. (Memorandum of Agreement between the Federal Highway Administration and New Jersey State Historic Preservation Officer regarding Route 130/30 Collingswood/ Pennsauken (Phase B), Borough of Collingswood, Township of Pennsauken, City of Camden; Camden County, New Jersey, signed by the NJSHPO on 12/23/08).

(4) As required by state regulation, SHPO reviewed the August 2012 Dewberry Register Nomination draft, found that it had been professionally done, had adequately and appropriately identified qualified contributing resources to the historic district, and found that it merited consideration by the SRB. The SHPO then sent written notices to the Camden County Administrator and the appropriate local municipalities that a Register Nomination for the Cooper River Historic District was going to be considered by the SRB at its March 2013 meeting. According to SHPO records, no Camden County or municipal official submitted any objection to the Register Nomination prior to or at the SRB’s meeting.

(5) Our role in preparing the current Register Nomination was limited to revising the August 2012 draft Register Nomination to answer the questions and to respond to the concerns raised by the SRB prior to voting to table the matter. We also responded to the SRB’s suggestion that the district’s contributing resources be “field verified.” We did numerous field inspections of these resources, including on one occasion with a senior SHPO staff member. As a result, we corrected the August 2012 draft Register Nomination and added some resources that had been overlooked.

If, as the Objection Letter suggests, the Register Nomination should be rejected because a “small number of individuals” attempting to “circumvent the will of the voters,” then the SHPO staff (in 1994, 2000, and 2013), the NJDOT, the Federal Highway Administration, the employees of Dewberry, and the members of the SRB in 2013 are all part of that conspiracy.

Approval of this Register Nomination cannot wait another year or another month. Until this past week the district contained 33 character-defining contributing resources (including the Cooper River and Lake, 2 buildings, 5 vehicular bridges, 2 dams, 2 meandering drives, miles of winding footpaths, 12 concrete and wood footbridges, and 14 stone masonry features.

On the eve of this matter being considered a second time by the SRB, Camden County officials flouted county and state historic preservation policies and processes by demolishing one of the two buildings that was a contributing resource to the historic district.

This unnecessary act can only be interpreted as disrespectful to the SHPO, the SRB, and the citizens who value and advocate for historic preservation.

As it reconsiders the Register Nomination in the face of the Objection Letter it is important for the SRB to know why it now needs to be amended. The 1928 Wallworth Club

House (described in Section 7, Page 26 of the Register Nomination) as one of the two contributing resource buildings in the Cooper River Park Historic District needs to be deleted from the final version of the Register Nomination. To our dismay we discovered on March 7, 2014 that the Club House was demolished.

We reject the Objection Letter's unsubstantiated claim (p. 14) that while "the Wallworth House may have had historic significance many years ago," its "current condition requires it be demolished." In response to Open Public Record Act requests concerning county records relating to the Wallworth Park Club House, the Camden County Records Custodian has responded that County officials have no reports, studies, or memoranda on any of the following: (1) the structural condition of the building as a result of architectural or engineering inspections; (2) any fires or the fire damage to the building; (3) the estimated costs of demolition by an on-site engineering evaluation; and (4) the estimated costs of restoration.

Camden County park officials advised us that a fire had occurred many years ago that had weakened the structural supports of the Club House roof and, as a result, that they were unwilling to direct park employees to repair a hole in its roof.

The Objection Letter's suggestion that the Wallworth Club House had to be destroyed because it posed a "risk to public safety" and the "welfare of residents and visitors" is patently false (see bottom of page 2). If it were true, why wasn't the building repaired or demolished twenty years ago when the alleged damaging fire took place? Why has every County Park's Administrator in all the years subsequent to the alleged fire ignored the "risk to public safety?" Why did they demolish it one week before the SRB meeting?

We hope you will ask any Camden County officials who attend the SRB's March 13, 2014 meeting to answer these questions. The public deserves to know if they demolished the Wallworth Club House because they believed your approval of the Register Nomination might have required them to restore it. **The SRB and the public also deserve to know why, in March 2013, when this same nomination was on the SRB's agenda, no Camden County official made any objection.**

The Objection Letter raises no issue with the draft Register Nomination that cannot be cured with some minor edits. These could be included as conditions to the SRB's resolution approving the the Register Nomination and would obviate the need to table it again. The suggested edits and revisions are described in Exhibit A attached hereo.

Apart from some nitpicking over block and lot number consistency and some irrelevant discussion about green acre blocks and lots, the bulk of the Objection Letter raises unfounded objections about almost all of the historic district's contributing resources. The author of the Objection letter had not read or mistakenly believes the SHPO and SRB do not know the difference between what qualifies as a contributing resource in an historic district and what qualifies as an historic, stand-alone building, object, or structure under the criteria set forth in the New Jersey rules and the federal guidelines for the National Register of Historic Places.

In short, as the SHPO and SRB have understood in past reviews of this district, but which the Objection Letter ignored, it is the qualities of the district as a whole -- not the individual contributing resources -- that meets state and national qualifying criteria for the state and national

registers of historic places. The comprehensive design of the Cooper River Park system and its features, including its designed landscape centered on the Cooper River and the former swamp land surrounding it, its location near the City of Camden, and its design by the professional landscape architecture firm Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr. and Son, and their successors at the Works Progress Administration and Camden County Park Commission, all embody hallmarks of the City Beautiful Movement. The Cooper River Park Historic District is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A in the areas of Community Planning and Development and Conservation and under criteria C for its embodiment of the work of a master landscape architect Charles Wellford Leavitt, Jr. who shaped the development of the City of Camden and Camden County, N.J., and for its exceptional landscape architecture.

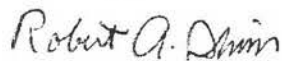
There are no valid reasons provided in the Objection Letter for the SRB to not approve or table the current Register Nomination at its meeting on March 13, 2014. If it declines to approve the Nomination, Camden County will continue to be free to demolish, irreparably damage, or encourage upon the park's historic resources.

Rather, the Objection Letter clearly indicates that certain county officials do not want any other government entity telling them what they can and can not do with what they perceive to be "their" park. The Objection Letter states on page 3 that "the application would preclude the County's elected leaders from spending for the benefit of its parks and open space" because "the elected officials" would "either have their hands tied to any further spending, or be compelled to endure additional levels of approvals for projects."

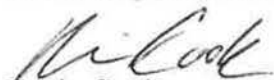
The failure of your office, the SRB, and the State's Historic Preservation Officer to approve and sign this nomination will be a license for the county to continue pursue its misguided destruction or damage to the Cooper River Park Historic District resources.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Robert A. Shinn
10 White Oak Court
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034
bobshinn@gmail.com



Kevin Cook
206 Horeshoe Court
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034
Kcook77@gmail.com

Exhibit A

Proposed Revision to Draft Cooper River Park Historic District Register Nomination dated December 19, 2013. (Suggested conditions to State Review Board resolution approving Register Nomination)

1. Delete contributing resource #33, The 1928 Wallworth Park Club House, in Sect. 7, Pg.s 26-27, delete photo 21, and the reference to photo 21 on Figure 17c. Delete footnote 80 Sect. 7, pg. 26. Delete photo 56 and footnote 81 on Sect. 7, pg. 27. Renumber following contributing resources, photos, and footnotes accordingly. Reduce from 2 to 1 the number of buildings that are Contributing in Section 5 and reduce the number of Total Contributing Resources to 32.
2. Delete reference to Block 373.01, Lot 3 (the Erlton Swim Club owned parcel) on Figure 18c and redraw bold black border line of the Cooper River Park Historic District around Lot 3 along its border with Block 53.0, Lot 1; Block 1, Lot 17; and Block 373.01, Lot 2. Delete NC 24, The Erlton Swim Club from Sect. 7, Pg. 19. Renumber following Non-Contributing Resources. Reduce from 17 to 16 the number of structures that are Noncontributing in Section 5 and reduce the number of Total Noncontributing Resources to 47.
3. Amend Sect. 11 (on sheet 4) of the Register Nomination to add the following phrase on the "name" line under "Property Owner" to read as follows after the phrase "Camden County Parks Department: "for all properties, except for Block 23.02, Lots 3 and 5, which are owned by Haddon Township."
4. If, after review, the SHPO determines that Cooper River Park Contributing Resources # 4. Crescent Boulevard Bridge in Sect. 7, pgs. 6 and 7, or #5. Stone Masonry stairway Crescent Boulevard in Sect. 7, p. 7 should no longer qualify as contributing resources despite a legal agreement SHPO negotiated to mitigate an encroachment on the district such that that (1) the bridge reconstruction will include compatible historic elements, such as the construction of the bridge on the historical footprint, the use of an aesthetic parapet similar in design to the original, tinted and form-lined parapets and other design features to complement the above ground features of the district, and that (2) NJDOT will repair and reconstruct the stone and masonry staircase located at the northeast quadrant of the bridge crossing, then delete either or both as determined by SHPO from the above referenced pages, delete photos 24 and 4 and their references on Figure 17a, and reduce the number of structures that are Contributing and reduce the number of Total Contributing Resources in Section 5 accordingly. Renumber all subsequent contributing resources.

Exhibit E



HPO-E2014-493
11-0925

State of New Jersey

MAIL CODE 501-04B
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
NATURAL & HISTORIC RESOURCES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
P.O. Box 420
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420
TEL. (609) 984-0176 FAX (609) 984-0578

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

BOB MARTIN
Commissioner

KIM GUADAGNO
I.t. Governor

May 23, 2014

Robert A. Shinn
10 White Oak Court
Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08034

Kevin Cook
206 Horseshoe Court
Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08034

Dear Mr. Shinn and Mr. Cook:

I write in response to your letter of May 12, 2014 concerning the nomination of the Cooper River Park Historic District. The application was withdrawn from the March 13, 2014 State Review Board meeting when, on February 27, 2014, Ross Angilella, Camden County Administrator, submitted a written objection to the nomination on procedural and substantive grounds. Given those objections, the Historic Preservation Office will move carefully and methodically to ensure that the nomination will survive any legal challenge before moving the nomination forward. In this case, I do not believe it will be difficult to address the County's concerns and ensure that the nomination is technically and professionally correct and sufficient, but I want to take the time to make sure that we get it right. This approach is in the interest of historic preservation; in my long experience here at the Historic Preservation Office, there is no slower way to move a nomination forward than to do so under legal challenge. Our goal is to have the nomination revised and re-presented to the State Review Board at the Board's November 13, 2014 meeting.

The fate of the Wallworth Lodge is indeed sad. In the course of a long conversation with County Counsel about the implications for the County of New Jersey Register listing, the County realized that the New Jersey Register Review would not be in place until the property is listed. In that context, I accurately told Camden County that I objected to demolition of the building, but that absent New Jersey Register listing, I did not have review authority over the project that would allow me to prevent demolition. The County's subsequent action speaks for itself.

We will continue to work diligently to get the Cooper River Historic District listed on the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places. Finally, we will forward a copy of your letter to the members of the State Review Board as you request.

If you have any questions about what is needed to move the nomination forward, please contact Bob Craig of my staff at (609) 292-0032. If you want to reach me, I am at (609) 633-2397.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Saunders", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Daniel D. Saunders
Administrator

Cooper River Park Historic District

VIA E-MAIL dan.saunders@dep.state.nj.us & CERTIFIED US MAIL

May 12, 2014

Mail Code 501-04B
State of New Jersey
Department of Environmental Protection
Historic Preservation Office
PO Box 420
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420

ATTN: Daniel D. Saunders, Administrator

RE: Cooper River Park Historic District
Nomination to NJ and National Register of Historic Places

REF: Letter to Historic Preservation Office from R. Shinn and K. Cook dated March 10,
2014

Dear Mr. Saunders:

As historic preservation advocates, we respectfully request that you reschedule the Cooper River Park Historic District Nomination to the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places (Register Nomination) for the next State Review Board (SRB) meeting on July 17, 2014 and send out timely public notice of same. We also request that you send a copy of this letter to each member of the SRB prior to their July meeting.

If there is a valid reason for not rescheduling this application on that date please let us know as soon as possible by e-mail or a phone call to 856 428 8672 (Shinn) or 609 458 4008 (Cook).

As we outlined in our review letter to you dated March 10, 2014 there is nothing in the letter (dated February 27, 2014) you received from the Camden County Administrator objecting to the draft Register Nomination that cannot be cured with some minor edits. We first sent these to you as an attachment to our March 10, 2014 letter and suggested that they be included as conditions to the SRB's resolution approving the the Register Nomination. These revisions are in Exhibit A attached hereto. Your staff also needs to respond to the County's public notice concerns by adding the NJ Department of Transportation and New Jersey Transit to the "60 day public notice list." It is our understanding that you are required to send this notice by the end of this week (May 16, 2014) to meet public notice requirements.

While we are disappointed that you have not returned our phone calls on this matter, we remain optimistic that you will make your nomination scheduling decision in the interest of historic preservation. As suggested by Mr. Bob Craig and others on your staff, we have sought support for this nomination from the certified local government municipalities (CLGs) who are part of the historic district. To date, of the three CLG's that are part of the district, one mayor, Jeff Kasko of Haddonfield, has agreed to send you a letter expressing support of the nomination, and one historic commission (Collingswood) has agreed to review and consider supporting the nomination at its June meeting. Camden City demurred.

As you make your scheduling decision, it is also important to recap the history of this nomination:

1. The State Historic Preservation Office ("SHPO") has determined that the Cooper River Park Historic District is eligible for listing in the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places in at least three prior and separate opinions dated 2/28/1994; 2/16/2000; and 4/5/2013.
2. SHPO obtained an agreement from the New Jersey Department of Transportation ("NJDOT") to mitigate an encroachment on the historic district, in part by hiring the Dewberry firm to prepare the first draft Register Nomination for the Cooper River Park Historic District (dated August 2012). SHPO determined that the draft had adequately and appropriately identified qualified contributing resources to the historic district.
3. The SHPO then sent written notices to the Camden County Administrator and the appropriate local municipalities that a Register Nomination for the Cooper River Historic District was going to be considered by the SRB at its March 2013 meeting. According to SHPO records, no Camden County or municipal official submitted any objection to the Register Nomination prior to or at the SRB's meeting.
4. At its March 2013 meeting the SRB voted to table the nomination until the draft was revised to address members' concerns.
5. We subsequently addressed the SRB's concerns in our revision of the draft, including field verifying the contributing resources with Bob Craig of your staff. Our revision satisfied Mr. Craig and others on your staff that the nomination was ready to be reconsidered at the SRB March 13, 2014 meeting.
6. The Camden County Administrator's February 14, 2014 objection letter asserts that you gave the County the go-ahead to demolish Wallworth Lodge. On page 11 he wrote:

Cooper River Park Historic District
May 12, 2014

“The County of Camden has been advised in a conversation with Daniel Saunders, Administrator of the SHPO, that the pending nomination would not serve as an impediment to this demolition.”

This is probably a self serving interpretation of your conversation with them, but would appreciate hearing back from you that it was not true and that you did not encourage them to demolish the building to “beat the clock.”

7. Two weeks later and on the eve of the SRB’s March 13, 2014 meeting to consider the Register Nomination, Camden County officials ordered the demolition of Wallworth Lodge, despite the fact that it was identified as a contributing resources and one of only two historic buildings in the Cooper River Park Historic District,.

While it is now immaterial to the nomination since the building has been demolished, it is important to know that that County’s claim in its letter to you that the “current condition requires it be demolished” was false. Cherry Hill’s property maintenance inspector had inspected the building as recently as October, 2013 and found it to be structurally sound and not a public safety threat. Also, according to a Camden County Parks memorandum dated August 6, 1993, the Wallworth Building featured a very solid design, made up of “12” cinder block walls below grade and above ground is 8” cinder block with 4” brick face” and “the porch foundation... is made of cinder block with 4” concrete slab on top. And while the same memorandum indicated there had been a “small fire in the fireplace which created damage to the knotty pine paneling” in the building in 1990, the damage was small enough that the County publish a request for proposals seven years later to lease the building as a refreshment/ food stand.

Finally it is important for you to know that Camden County previously submitted to NJDEP a completed “State and National Register Questionnaire” indicating that it was “possible” that Wallworth Lodge itself may have been “register eligible” and had “significance” because it was “a unique structure in the Camden County Park system” specifically designed to harmonize with the architecture of nearby Haddonfield.

Please adhere to the principles of historic preservation and allow the SRB to decide whether the Cooper River Park Historic District should be listed on the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places. Please reassure us that the SHPO did not waste public resources by requiring the NJDOT to prepare the Cooper River Park Historic District nomination as encroachment mitigation if it is going to bury them when an objection arises.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Shinn
10 White Oak Court
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034
bobshinn@gmail.com

Kevin Cook
206 Horeshoe Court
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034
Kcook77@gmail.com

Cooper River Park Historic District
May 12, 2014

CC: Robert Craig

Exhibit G



Robert Shinn <bobshinn@gmail.com>

Cooper River Park Historic District

Saunders, Dan <Dan.Saunders@dep.nj.gov>

Fri, May 1, 2015 at 11:17 AM

To: Kevin C <kcook77@gmail.com>, "Cantor, Ray" <Ray.Cantor@dep.nj.gov>

Cc: Bob Shinn <bobshinn@gmail.com>, "Craig, Bob" <Bob.Craig@dep.nj.gov>

Kevin,

Ray Cantor has asked me to reply on his behalf. As you know, the Department has worked to list historic properties on the New Jersey and National Registers since the inception of the current National Register program. Our long experience is that getting buy-in from the property owner is important for the long term preservation of properties that are to be listed.

This is an unusual case, the Department has already presented the nomination to the State Review Board. The Board tabled the application. It was only after re-notification to property owners of the re-presentation of the nomination to the Board, that the County expressed concern. From our discussions with the County, it is clear that their prime concern is how listing would affect the projects proposed in the Cooper River Park Vision Plan. The Vision Plan is available on line at: <http://www.camdencounty.com/sites/default/files/files/1132-cooper%20river%20booklet.pdf>

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss the nomination with you. I have conflicts with both of the days you suggested for a meeting. I am available on May 11th and 15th. I would like to take another look at the Cooper River Park, so I could meet you somewhere in Camden County if that is convenient.

Dan

From: Kevin C [mailto:kcook77@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2015 11:47 AM
To: Cantor, Ray
Cc: Saunders, Dan; Bob Shinn
Subject: Re: Cooper River Park Historic District

Mr. Cantor,

Thank you for responding.

I am encouraged by the progress you have made, but I still fail to see how Camden County's objection to the Cooper River Park Historic District has any impact on the presentation of the facts to the State Review Board.

My understanding is that an owner's objection is irrelevant to the site being heard. Please correct me if I am wrong.

As you may be aware, we are nearing the notification deadline (May 15 for the July, 2015 meeting) in which the Historic Preservation Office is required to notify the property owners within the proposed Historic District of the pending meeting of the Historic Sites Council/ State Review Board so time is of the essence.

Previously, you mentioned that you would be open to meeting with me after your meeting with the Camden County officials. Are you available to meet next Wednesday (5/6) or the following Wednesday (5/13) to discuss this matter further?

Respectfully,

Kevin Cook

On Wed, Apr 29, 2015 at 5:27 PM, Cantor, Ray <Ray.Cantor@dep.nj.gov> wrote:

We had a very productive meeting with the County. We are continuing to dialogue with the County and share information before we make a final decision on whether to move forward with the designation. No timeframe is set but we are confident that there will be a good resolution.

From: Kevin C [mailto:kcook77@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2015 10:45 AM
To: Cantor, Ray
Cc: Saunders, Dan; Bob Shinn
Subject: Cooper River Park Historic District

Mr. Cantor,

When should I expect to receive feedback from you regarding your meeting with Camden county park officials about the Cooper River Park Historic District on April 17?

Respectfully,

Kevin Cook

Exhibit H

VIA FAX (609) 292-7695, EMail Bob.Martin@dep.nj.gov, and Regular U.S. Mail

May 4, 2015

The Honorable Bob Martin
NJ DEP Commissioner
401 E. State Street
PO Box 402
Trenton, NJ 08625-042

Subj: New Jersey State Review Board for Historic Sites
July 17, 2015 Proposed Agenda Item:
Cooper River Park Historic District

Dear Commissioner Martin:

On behalf of two of the three Certified Local Governments which include parts of the Cooper River Park Historic District (Haddonfield and Collingswood) and the seventy citizens who signed the attached petition, Kevin Cook and I respectfully request that you remove the roadblocks and allow the N.J. State Review Board for Historic Places (SRB) to consider the nomination we prepared with the assistance of the N.J. State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to list the Cooper River Park Historic District (CRPHD) in the N.J. Register of Historic Places. The nomination includes thirty two (32) character defining contributing resources, including one (1) building, the Cooper River and Lake, five (5) vehicular bridges, two (2) dams, two (2) meandering drives, miles of winding footpaths, twelve (12) concrete and wood footbridges, and fourteen (14) stone masonry features on park land owned by Camden County along the Cooper River between Kaighn Avenue (in Pennsauken) and the Ellis Street Bridge (in Haddonfield).

Because the SRB only meets four times each year and public notice of its agenda must be published and mailed to affected parties sixty days in advance of its meetings, we request that you give the SHPO your permission to put the nomination on the SRB's July 17, 2015 Agenda on or before Thursday, May 14, 2015.

We are making this appeal to you directly because Mr. Ray Cantor directed the SHPO to remove the CRPHD from the SRB's November 13, 2014 Agenda in order to meet with the Camden County Administrator who had raised concerns about the nomination. Apparently no meetings took place before April as the March SRB meeting came and went without the CRPHD item on its agenda. Now we have learned that the meeting finally took place on April 17, 2015. On April 29, 2015 Mr. Cantor reported:

“We had a very productive meeting with the County. We are continuing to dialogue with the County and share information before we make a final decision on whether to move forward with the designation. No timeframe is set but we are confident that there will be a good resolution.”

While New Jersey state law allows private land owners the right to veto proposed listings of their private property in the New Jersey Register of Historic Places, local governments do not have the right to stymie legitimate nominations of historic public property for listing in the register. Camden County's Administrator has the right to submit evidence that CRPHD does not satisfy New Jersey's criteria for such listings, but he does not have the right to perpetually veto the nomination simply because he believes the listing would compel county officials "to endure additional levels of approvals for projects for which those funds are ideally suited." (R. G. Angilella letter to D. Saunders dated February 27, 2014). In short, this county official would forgo the numerous marketing and financial benefits of the honor of being listed on the state and national registers of historic places so that his administration would have the unrestricted right to adversely affect CRPHD's historic contributing resources without any oversight from your Department.

There is no better proof of this administrator's callous disregard for the spirit and intent of New Jersey laws protecting historic resources than the timing and manner with which Camden County demolished one of two buildings that had been listed as contributing historical resources to the CRPHD. In late February 2014, just two weeks before the SRB was to have reviewed the nomination a second time, the county administrator approved the demolition of the Wallworth Park Clubhouse, despite pleas from local citizens and the SHPO staff that the building be reviewed for preservation.

We appreciate the SHPO Administrator's observation and experience that "getting buy-in from the property owner" is important for the long term preservation of properties that are to be listed. We also appreciate that, as set forth in the attached narrative, this is an unusual case. But as your representatives have certainly learned in their discussions with Camden County's Administrator, his primary concern about the proposed listing is how it will affect future projects proposed in Camden County's Cooper River Park Vision Plan. (available on line at: <http://www.camdencounty.com/sites/default/files/files/1132-cooper%20river%20booklet.pdf>).

In particular, it is apparent that the county is opposing historic designation because it does not want the state to review its plans to expand and convert the historic 1737 Ebenezer Hopkins House, one of the CRPHD's contributing resources (and the last building now that the Wallworth Clubhouse was demolished), to yet another dining venue on Cooper River Lake. The budget of the aforementioned Vision Plan includes an approximate \$4 million for conversion of the building into a restaurant and catering "event venue" facility, with two new buildings attached, a new motor court, dining terraces, a new sculpture garden, and a slot deck in order to generate "additional revenue sources through festivals, weddings, and corporate events." (Vision Plan, pp. 53 and 54: Zone 10. Hopkins House Sculpture Gardens,) The Hopkins House is one of Camden County's oldest structures and was the home of the adopted son of Haddonfield's founders. The county's "vision" plan for the "Hopkins House Sculpture Gardens" is *exactly* the kind of plan that should be reviewed by professional historians to insure that valuable historic resources, such as the Hopkins House, are not adversely affected.

We respectfully submit that the Camden County Administrator will never “buy-in” to having the CRPHD listed in the New Jersey Register unless and until he is assured by State officials that the listing will have no affect on the county’s plan – an assurance that should never be given, and, if given, would not only be illegal, but would also render listing in the state historic register a meaningless exercise.

The county’s strategy is clear. It will continue to try to prevent the SRB from considering the nomination to list the CRPHD. Its goal is to have the nomination “tabled” indefinitely. The nomination was first prepared in July 2013 and has been on and off the SRB’s agenda now three times over the last two years.

N.J.S.A. 13:1B-15.128 provides that the New Jersey Register of Historic Places permanently record areas, sites, structures and objects within the State determined to have significant historical, archeological, architectural or cultural value according to the criteria established by the Historic Sites Council for receiving and processing nominations and approvals for inclusion in the Register of Historic Places. After careful review and revision, the professional historians in the SHPO and their legal advisors have found that the CRPHD nomination meets the criteria and, according to the law, should be considered for review and listing.

Please ensure that the State Review Board professionals are allowed to do their legal duty without further political interference.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Shinn

CC: Governor Chris Christie
Ray Cantor
Dan Saunders
Kevin Cook

Exhibit I

(11-0925) BC

Mayor Jeffrey Stephen Kasko
Director of Revenue & Finance
Commissioner John Moscatelli
Director of Public Works, Parks & Property
Commissioner Neal P. Rochford
Director of Public Affairs & Public Safety



Borough of Haddonfield
Camden County, New Jersey

June 10, 2014

RECEIVED

JUN 3 0 2014

The Honorable Bob Martin
Commissioner
N.J. Department of Environmental Protection
401 East State Street
P.O. Box 402
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0402

RECEIVED

Re: Cooper River Park Historic District – Nomination
to N.J. and National Registers of Historic Places

Dear Commissioner Martin:

I write to you in support of the nomination of the Cooper River Park Historic District, located in Camden County, for inclusion on both the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places. Nomination advocates have advised me that the State Office of Historic Preservation has determined this park district's eligibility in three written opinions, issued in February 1994, February 2000, and April 2013, and has recommended approval by the State Review Board for Historic Sites.

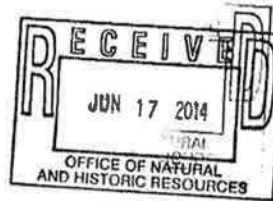
The Cooper River and this parkland border the Borough of Haddonfield and will be further protected from future encroachment and development by inclusion on the state and federal Registers. I am asking that you please support this nomination.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very Truly Yours,

Jeffrey S. Kasko
Mayor

cc: R. Boornazian, Assistant Commissioner
D. Sanders, Administrator, Office of Historic Preservation



COLLINGSWOOD HISTORIC COMMISSION
678 Haddon Avenue
Collingswood, New Jersey 08108

August 4, 2014

Cooper River National Registrar – Bob Shinn Representative

Report was prepared by Robert A. Shinn and Mr. Kevin Cook to revise the nomination that was formerly prepared in August 2012 under a contract with the N.J. Department of Transportation. The Cooper River Park Historic District is located on both sides of the Cooper River between Kaighn Avenue in Pennsauken Twp. and the Ellis Street Bridge in the Borough of Haddonfield. The district covers over 550 acres and includes the seven Camden County parks. As shown in the report submitted for review by the Collingswood Historic Preservation Commission at their regularly scheduled June 2014 meeting. There are new areas of the park that fall under the Historic Functions and should be added to the registry such as Landscaping of Park/Transportation – Road Related/Transportation- Pedestrian related. Mr. Shinn is looking for the support of this Commission to have these areas added to the registry list and would like to present his case to the New Jersey State Register of Historic Places.

After a presentation by the representative, Mr. Chambers made a motion to support the findings of the report presented and would support adding these locations to the Registry. Ms. Gustafson seconded the motion. All members of the Collingswood Historic Preservation Commission voted in favor.

Sincerely,



Keith Haberern
Chairman
Collingswood Historic Commission

Exhibit K

PETITION: Sign the Petition to Bob Martin, NJ DEP Commissioner, 401 E. State St. 7th Floor, East Wing P.O. Box 402 Trenton, NJ 08625-0402

To: Bob Martin, NJ DEP Commissioner, 401 E. State St. 7th Floor, East Wing P.O. Box 402 Trenton, NJ 08625-0402

Please allow the NJ State Review Board for Historic Places to review and vote on the application nominating the Cooper River Park Historic District for listing on the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places and, if approved, please direct the NJ Historic Preservation Office to sign and send the application to the U.S. Department of Interior for the National Register.

77 SIGNATURES

	NAME	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY	DATE SIGNED
1	Robert Shinn	08034	United States	Apr 18, 2015
2	Susan Wolf	08002	United States	Apr 18, 2015
3	Margaret Westfield	08035	United States	Apr 18, 2015
4	George Aaron	08109	United States	Apr 18, 2015
5	Edie Rohrman	08027	United States	Apr 18, 2015
6	Maureen O'Connor Leach	07728	United States	Apr 18, 2015
7	Debbie Marquis Kelly	08515	United States	Apr 18, 2015
8	Jane Ryan	08515	United States	Apr 18, 2015
9	John Tremble	08003	United States	Apr 18, 2015
10	David Schure	08540	United States	Apr 18, 2015
11	George Hickman	08002	United States	Apr 18, 2015
12	Nancy Collotti	08106	United States	Apr 18, 2015
13	John Swanson	08034	United States	Apr 18, 2015
14	Brian Kelly	08033	United States	Apr 18, 2015
15	Sharon Aveni	19144	United States	Apr 18, 2015
16	Christine Carroll Downs	77859	United States	Apr 18, 2015
17	David Stewart	08033	United States	Apr 18, 2015
18	Joe O'Hara	08332	United States	Apr 18, 2015
19	David Shields	08033	United States	Apr 18, 2015
20	Sue Martin	08033	United States	Apr 18, 2015
21	Martha Goettelmann	08033	United States	Apr 19, 2015
22	Kimberly Carroll	34222	United States	Apr 19, 2015
23	Tom Knoche	08108	United States	Apr 19, 2015
24	Jack Natalini	08055	United States	Apr 19, 2015

	NAME	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY	DATE SIGNED
25	Kimberly Samuels	08033	United States	Apr 19, 2015
26	Gail Markman Barna	08036	United States	Apr 19, 2015
27	Bobby Covotta	08080	United States	Apr 19, 2015
28	Mary Knight	08019	United States	Apr 19, 2015
29	Kevin Cook	08034	United States	Apr 19, 2015
30	Stephen Dobbs	08043	United States	Apr 19, 2015
31	Alan L Husted	08043	United States	Apr 19, 2015
32	Kim Carmany Langon	08088	United States	Apr 19, 2015
33	Bob Hafner	08012	United States	Apr 19, 2015
34	Lou Doerr III	08002	United States	Apr 19, 2015
35	Barbara Berman-Hender	33432	United States	Apr 19, 2015
36	Donna Marthins	08004	United States	Apr 19, 2015
37	Gregory Watson	08004	United States	Apr 19, 2015
38	Ruth Moore Romin	19962	United States	Apr 19, 2015
39	Laura Lyons	08043	United States	Apr 19, 2015
40	Marie Horton	32779	United States	Apr 19, 2015
41	Scarlett Horsburgh	78374	United States	Apr 19, 2015
42	Kathleen Cramer	91702	United States	Apr 19, 2015
43	Linda Moken Talotta	08055	United States	Apr 19, 2015
44	John Riley	08332	United States	Apr 19, 2015
45	Lisa Cannavo	08034	United States	Apr 20, 2015
46	Lynne Sparks Reiss	08026	United States	Apr 20, 2015
47	Jack Abgott	19063	United States	Apr 20, 2015
48	Ken Roginski	07728	United States	Apr 20, 2015
49	Annamarie Sebastiano	08052	United States	Apr 20, 2015
50	Cate Litvack	08540	United States	Apr 20, 2015
51	Dolly Long	08007	United States	Apr 20, 2015
52	James Orefice	08034	United States	Apr 20, 2015
53	Anne Weber	08540	United States	Apr 20, 2015
54	Patricia Spithaler	21901	United States	Apr 21, 2015
55	Tracy Steele	08034	United States	Apr 21, 2015
56	Jean Singer	08034	United States	Apr 22, 2015
57	Robin Paclik	08034	United States	Apr 22, 2015
58	Barbara Krowicki	08002	United States	Apr 22, 2015
59	Joseph Spatola III	08034	United States	Apr 22, 2015
60	Carmella Doerr	08002	United States	Apr 22, 2015
61	Arlene Lentini	08002	United States	Apr 23, 2015

	NAME	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY	DATE SIGNED
62	Naomi Lubkin	08003	United States	Apr 23, 2015
63	Rena Conway	08012	United States	Apr 24, 2015
64	Kathy Angier	08030	United States	Apr 24, 2015
65	Michael D Druz	07719	United States	Apr 28, 2015
66	Ron Emrich	19107	United States	Apr 28, 2015
67	Tim Oglie	08053	United States	Apr 28, 2015
68	Teresita Bastides-Heron	08648	United States	Apr 28, 2015
69	Ann Miller	08520	United States	Apr 28, 2015
70	Roxane Shinn	08034	United States	May 03, 2015
71	Adin Mickle	08083	United States	May 04, 2015
72	John Blourne	08107	United States	May 04, 2015
73	Patrick Stewart	08108	United States	May 05, 2015
74	Mindy Binder	08094	United States	May 05, 2015
75	Bill Brookover	08002	United States	May 06, 2015
76	Diane Reignn	08108	United States	May 27, 2015
77	Elena Waters	08094	United States	May 30, 2015



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240

OCT 13 2015

OCT - 8 2015

H32(2280)

Mr. Bob Martin, SHPO
Department of Environmental Protection
401 East State Street
PO Box 402
Trenton, NJ 08625

Dear Mr. Martin:

On July 3, 2015, Mr. Robert A. Shinn and Mr. Kevin Cook appealed the State's decision not to nominate the Cooper River Park Historic District in Camden County, NJ, to the National Register of Historic Places. This appeal is pursuant to Federal regulations 36 CFR Part 60.12(c)(2). On October 2, 2015, we received an e-mail from Deputy SHPO Dan Saunders, responding to our request for information related to the nomination.

After carefully reviewing the documentation submitted on appeal, including the appeal letter, the National Register nomination form, minutes of the State review board, and correspondence between the State, the appellant, and various interested parties, I have sustained Mr. Shinn's and Mr. Cook's appeal. The Cooper River Park Historic District appears to be of historic and landscape architectural significance under National Register Criteria A & C, and the nomination form appears to adequately document that significance. I hereby request that you, as State Historic Preservation Officer, process the nomination form as outlined in 36 CFR 60.6. The nomination should be processed at the next available State review board. Please note that due to passage of time, re-notification of owners and local elected officials is required as per 36 CFR 60.6(c).

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Deline of the National Register staff at (202) 354-2239 or Lisa_Deline@nps.gov.

Sincerely,

J. Paul Loether

J. Paul Loether, Deputy Keeper and Chief,
National Register of Historic Places Program
and National Landmarks Program

cc: Robert Shinn
10 White Oak Court
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034

Kevin Cook
206 Horeshoe Court
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034

Dan Saunders, NJ Deputy SHPO

NEW JERSEY STATE REVIEW BOARD FOR HISTORIC SITES

A meeting of the New Jersey State Review Board for Historic Sites was held **March 10, 2016** in the Public Hearing Room, DEP Building, at 401 East State Street, Trenton, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order at 10:06 AM by Chairperson Gorostiza.

The Open Public Meeting Act notice was read by Bob Craig.

The meeting was conducted in accordance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act. In keeping with the requirements of that law, the Historic Preservation Office submitted written notification to six newspapers on February 9, 2016. The Historic Preservation Office also gave adequate notice to all parties as required by 36 CFR 60.

Roll call was taken. There was a mathematical as well as a professional quorum.

Members Present

David Abramson
Janet Foster
Felipe Gorostiza (Chair)
Kate Ogden (vice-Chair)
Tony Puniello
Connie Webster
Peter Wacker (by phone)

Members Absent

Gregory Lattanzi
Lorraine Williams

Also Present

Ryan Benson, DAG (counsel)

Historic Preservation Office

Dan Saunders	Bob Craig
Kat Cannelongo	Andrea Tingey
Doug McVarish	Jesse West Rosenthal
Sarah Scott	Deirdre Kelleher
Kate Marcopul	Barbara Swanda

Visitors in Attendance

Joshua Friedman	Bob Patten
Chris Carson	Kathy Patten
Roxane Shinn	Robert Shinn
Kevin Cook	Ray Thomas
Virginia Snyder	Norman Lin
Ed Woney	Susan Yu-Ling Lin
Connor Montferrat	John Kiubridl (sp)
Joan Berkey	Janet McShain
Jack Connolly	Michael Margulies

Bob Craig proposed that the St James Lutheran Church and Cemetery Nomination (Pohatcong and Greenwich Townships, Warren County) be heard first in order to allow Peter Wacker to participate by phone.

Historic Preservation Office Report

Bob Craig noted that Peter Wacker and David Abramson have now been members of the SRB for 40 years. Cards of Congratulations were signed by the HPO staff and the board members and given to David and Peter. Bob advised the board that the *Cashier*, Headquarters Historic District Boundary Increase, and Neshanic Station Historic District have been added to the National Register. He also reported that the Warehouse MPDF and two accompanying warehouse properties, along with the two Wistar Farms nomination were returned by NPS

Approval of Minutes

Upon motion of (David Abramson/Kate Ogden), the Board approved the minutes of the Board Meeting of November 12, 2015. Connie Webster abstained.

NOMINATIONS

Chairman Gorostiza explained the Board's responsibilities and the process to the audience.

Warren County

St. James Lutheran Church & Cemetery, Pohatcong and Greenwich Townships

Presented by Chris Carson, Peter Wacker participated by phone

Board Comments:

Peter Wacker, participating by phone, stated that he liked the nomination. David Abramson did not have a question about eligibility, but he did question some terms used which did not seem appropriate – has never seen “bulk construction” used in this fashion, and suggested that another architectural phrase be used as a means of description. He also noted that the style is described 3 different ways – there should be consistency in the descriptions. David suggested that the word “vernacular” be inserted in Section 8, Page 2, Line 1. Janet Foster questioned the period of significance. 1835 happened 180 years ago, but was curious as to what happened since 1835 (like the windows). She also suggested that Asher Benjamin should have more than one line. Tony Puniello had the same concern about the POS and feels that the document does not support it. Bob Craig suggested extending the Period of Significance as a later amendment. Janet Foster would like to see a more articulate statement of why the date was chosen. She also wants the nomination to emphasize the building and not the congregation and would like to see more about the architectural evolution of the building in Anglo New Jersey. She asked what other members thought about the end date of significance - she was worried about things that would be removed during possible later restorations. Connie Webster noted that the historic photos show an exterior center stairs and wanted to confirm that it was no longer there. She also asked about the ramp and stated that it should be noted, along with other changes, and with their dates. Felipe Gorostiza asked about the use of the term “volume” with respect to achieving the clear span of the nave, and asked that the wording should perhaps be clarified. Felipe asked if the Delaware Indians just withdrew from the area, or was there a reason for them leaving. Kate Ogden expressed approval that the text includes specific names of some of the gravestone carvers. She

also asked if the stained glass artist was known, and added that the quality of stain glass may speak to Janet's concern over period significance. Carson responded that one of the window dates from the 19th century, but that the others were installed about 1980, and that the church is not being nominated for the significance of the stained glass.

Public Comments:

Ed Weney asked about Revolutionary War connections.

Corrections:

Change the beginning of the period of significance to ca. 1768, to reflect the beginning of the congregations occupancy of the property. Change Section 5 of the Registration Form to check the box for "district". Treat the cemetery as a contributing site, and the non-extant church sites (if their location is accurate) also considered contributing sites. Consult further with the HPO if needed. Registration Form, Section 8, "Significance dates", delete "c. 1760" (falls outside period of significance.) Registration Form, Section 8, "Cultural Affiliations", delete "German-American" and replace with "N/A". (Note: this line is completed only if Criterion D box is checked. Enhance the reasoning for the chosen Period of Significance, and further develop the architectural argument.

Section 7 (church exterior): include a short description and discussion of the physical changes to the front, i.e. the front stairs and the ramp; develop the description of how the volume was achieved.

Section 7, Page 5, Paragraph 3, Line 1: replace "bulk construction" with a more a commonly used architectural term.

Section 7, Page 6, Paragraph 3, Line 8: remove "s" from "Casts".

Section 8, Page 1, Paragraph 2, Lines 3&4: change "1734" to "1739" and "1823" to "1824".

Section 8, Page 2, Paragraph 1, Line 1: add "vernacular" to description of church. Remove citation #2.

Section 8, Page 7, Paragraph 2, Line 4: add "to" between "addition" and "caring".

Section 8, Page 18, Paragraph 3 (indented), Line 1: add "number" between "the" and "of".

Section 8, Page 18, Paragraph 4, Line 4: add "s" to "parishioner".

Action:

A motion was made and seconded (David Abramson/Kate Ogden) to approve the nomination unanimously with conditions.

Peter Wacker stated that the connection was not good and could not hear the Board's discussion, but he did like the Hightstown nomination. He disconnected at 10:57 AM.

OLD BUSINESS

Camden County

Cooper River Park Historic District, Borough of Collingswood, Cherry Hill Township, Borough of Haddonfield, Haddon Township, City of Camden, Pennsauken Township

Presented by Bob Shinn

Bob Craig reminded the board that this nomination was first prepared and presented by a Consultant (Dewberry) three years ago, and ultimately tabled. Bob Shinn and Kevin Cook have now assisted the Department in its revision. The NPS has instructed the HPO to bring the nomination back to the SRB for National Register consideration.

Board Comments:

Connie Webster asked what materials were used for the footpaths and sidewalks. She also noted that some of the contributing sites do not have construction dates, such as the pagoda and the boathouse, and she would like to see more precise dating of both contributing and non-contributing resources. She suggested that the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago be cited as the start of the City Beautiful Movement in 1893. Connie thought "improving" would be a better word, rather than "reforming", when describing its effect on the citizens. She suggested including "stepson and nephew" to identify John Charles Olmsted. She stated that the nomination was greatly improved over the previous version. David Abramson noted that while the Hopkins House is contributing, he questions its relationship to the Period of Significance. He also asked why the Haddon Mill Site is non-contributing. He further questioned if it can be demonstrated that something was there? Bob Craig responded that it is a question of interpretation of the National Register criteria, and they can have a discussion later about that. Janet Foster expressed her appreciation for how much work was done to make such an improvement in the nomination.

Public Comments:

Joshua Friedman – Assistant County Counsel – relayed the objection of Camden County and noted that the park does not need another encumbrance since it is already encumbered by a Green Acres designation. He noted that the map gives a less than accurate description and also includes one park that does not have a single contributing resource. He stated that taxpayers have already given their approval for Green Acres preservation, another level of restriction will add an unnecessary encumbrance. Currently, 5-7 footbridges are presently under contract for replacement, five of which have safety issues, as was the situation concerning the Walworth House.

David Abramson responded to the Camden County attorney's objection by noting a like situation concerning the Branch Brook Park within Newark, which he worked on. He stated that the board only looks at eligibility criteria, not other issues such as future use. He also suggested that while listing adds another level of recognition, in the Branch Brook Park situation, it also resulted in sequential restoration as well as the construction of new facilities, all within the umbrella of the nomination, and encouraged the establishment of a partnership which was a model in the state.

Corrections:

Section 5: Update resource numbers to 30 contributing, and 50 non-contributing.

Include the materials of the footpaths and sidewalks.

Section 7, P13, NC6, L2: Sentence beginning with "Camden County constructed..." needs to be reworked. Is there a date for the construction of the boathouse?

Section 7, P19, NC33, L4: Haddon Mills ruin is Photo 52.

Section 8, P2: Include the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago as the place where the movement first gained ground in 1893.

Section 8, P3, P3, L4: change “sent” to “to send”.

Section 8, P6, P4, L2: Add “Club” after Rumson Country.

Section 8, P10, P4, L3: add “a stepson and nephew of ...”

Action:

A motion was made and seconded (Connie Webster/Janet Foster, Kate Ogden and Tony Puniello) to approve the nomination, and passed unanimously with minor changes.

Cape May County

Dennisville Historic District (Boundary Increase), Dennis Township

Presented by Joan Berkey.

Board Comments:

Janet Foster stated that the explanation of the pond is now clearer and well justified.

Public Comments:

Ed Weny stated that the pond was originally excluded, so why include it now? He also contends that there is nothing in the pond, and the people on the pond do not want it.

Roy Thomas spoke on behalf of the Lins (owner of lot 67-77.07), whose property borders the pond. They are asking for either rejection of the whole district, exclusion from the district, or a redoing of time to recheck what they believe are errors in the nomination. He stated that the map lists properties that do not exist (45+46), and asked for list of property owners because the township list of owners had errors. He noted that there is a discrepancy in the name of the pond – Johnson Pond or Johnson Mill. In the draft, they list the number of resources as none, yet lot 42 contains about 75% of pond but has no buildings, so would that not be classified as a site?

Thomas asserted that that was an error in the document. He said that the nomination does not conform to Criterion D and claimed that the pond has no significant history, and asked why the district is being expanded so dramatically. He then asked that, for 51% majority of property owners, are both the owners of the old and new areas counted? Bob Craig explained that it was of the area of the boundary increase only. He noted that there are 36 property owners, which includes the Condo Association as one owner, so a majority would be 19 private owners. We have 7 or 8. He further explained that it is the HPO, not the SRB, that has legal requirements to do notifications, and that matter pertaining to notifications must be addressed to HPO directly. Notification letters are issued not less than 60 days before the date of the SRB meeting, and are required to be sent to the owners of record, as represented on the notarized list from the municipality. Roy Thomas asked for the name of the person to whom the notification was mailed for Lot 45. Bob Craig responded that we would provide that information.

Shen-Hung (Susan) Lin stated that there are 10 owners of properties along the pond, and only two want the listing. She does not feel comfortable and does not want to be designated historic. She stated that most of the photos are already, why not show more expand boundary (*sic*).

Janet McShain stated that the pond is part of the setting from early 18th century forward, and believes that the expansion is important.

Jack Connolly, President of the Dennisville Homeowners Association, noted that they paid for the nomination, and thanked the board and the staff of SHPO. He noted that there are 19 owners within the expansion who support this nomination, as well as the Dennis Township governing body.

Chairman Gorostiza closed the Public Comment Period.

Corrections:

There were no suggested corrections by the board.

Action:

A motion was made and seconded (Janet Foster/Tony Puniello) to approve the nomination, and passed unanimously.

Business was paused for lunch at 12:05 PM.

Business reconvened at 12:40 PM.

NEW BUSINESS

Consent List

No nominations were put on the consent list.

Mercer County

Camden & Amboy Railroad Right-of-Way Site, Hightstown Borough

Presented by Kathy Patten

Board Comments:

Janet Foster asked where the rail line goes from there. Is there presumptively more?

Bob Craig explained that there are other sites along the 34 mile right-of-way, but none exposed as a site for interpretation and preservation. Janet Foster thought it was a wonderful nomination.

Public Comments:

Connor Montferrat, a Hightstown Borough Councilman, here on behalf of the mayor and council spoke briefly in support.

Corrections:

There were no requested revisions from the board.

Action:

A motion was made and seconded (Tony Puniello/David Abramson) to approve the nomination, and passed unanimously.

David Abramson and Janet Foster requested to have both bridge nominations presented, discuss them together because they were similar, and then vote separately. All members agreed.

Hunterdon County

Strimple's Mill Road Bridge, Delaware Township

Presented by Kat Cannelongo of the HPO

Stone Sign Post Road Bridge, Delaware Township

Presented by Kat Cannelongo of the HPO

Board Comments (for both):

David Abramson noted that the Pratt Truss is described as most popular for the Strimple Mill Road Bridge, and the Warren Truss is noted as most popular for the Stone Sign Post Road Bridge. He suggested adding a timeline to the nominations to show the evolution/progression of truss bridge design and bridge connections. Connie Webster observed that the difference was perhaps the result of the different locations in which the bridges were designed and constructed – Strimple Mill having been constructed by an Ohio company, and Stone Sign Post constructed by a Flemington, NJ company. She also noted that John Scott was not an engineer. David Abramson suggested that clarification of why or how one replaced the other in importance. Janet Foster stated that if these were buildings, she would expect a plan sketch, or drawing of how it works, but none are included. Bob Craig noted that these are part of the Delaware Bridges MPDF which was approved by the board over a year ago, and we should have included the MPDF with the nominations for their review. Connie Webster asked how many bridges in total are there with the MPDF, and how many has the board seen. Bob Craig indicated there were approximately 30, and the board has now seen 3. Felipe Gorostiza noted that Stone Sign Post is missing some footnote citations. Felipe Gorostiza also questioned the fluctuation of the labor force numbers for the Flemington company, and wondered if it was due to lack of business or if the business deteriorated.

Public Comments: (Strimple's Mill)

There were no public comments.

Corrections (Strimple Mill):

Add a timeline to show the evolution/progression of truss bridge design and bridge connections to clarify the different versions being considered “most popular”.

Add plan sketch of bridge.

Section 7, Page 1, Paragraph, 3, Line 2: “floodplain” instead of “flood plane”. Line 3: remove “that” before “retaining”.

Section 7, Page 2, Paragraph 5, Line 1: add “the” between “during” and “period”.

Action:

A motion was made and seconded (Connie Webster/Kate Ogden) to approve the nomination, and passed unanimously with conditions.

Public Comments: (Stone Sign Post)

There were no public comments.

Corrections (Stone Sign Post):

Add a timeline to show the evolution/progression of truss bridge design and bridge connections to clarify the different versions being considered “most popular”.

Add plan sketch of bridge.

Add citation information to bottom of pages were missing.

Regis Form Section 7, Materials/Other: correct spelling of “steel”.

Section 7, Page 1, Paragraph 3, Line 5: take out "all" between "most" and "connections".
Section 8, Page 1, Paragraph 4, Line 4: remove "between", add "in".
Section 8, Page 3, Paragraph 3, Line 2: add "an" between "completed" and "iron". Paragraph 5,
Line 1: Remove letter "n" between "and" and "Tewksbury".

Action:

A motion was made and seconded (David Abramson/Felipe Gorostiza) to approve the nomination, and passed unanimously with conditions.

Felipe Gorostiza informed the board that the next meeting was Thursday, July 21, 2016.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made, seconded (Janet Foster/ Kate Ogden) and approved unanimously at 1:25 PM.

Minutes by Kat Cannelongo and Andrea Tingey

Robert W. Craig
Registration Coordinator, NJ HPO

Motion / second to Approve these minutes: (_____ / _____)

Date:

Felipe Gorostiza, Chair



Project # 11-0925
HPO-E2016-219

RECEIVED 2280

JUN - 3 2016

State of New Jersey

MAIL CODE 501-04B
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
NATURAL & HISTORIC RESOURCES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
P.O. Box 420
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Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

BOB MARTIN
Commissioner

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

May 26, 2016

Paul Loether, Chief
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Loether:

The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the Cooper River Park Historic District, located in the Borough of Collingswood, Cherry Hill Township, Borough of Haddonfield, Haddon Township, City of Camden, and Pennsauken Township, Camden County, New Jersey.

On July 3, 2015 Mr. Robert A. Shinn and Mr. Kevin Cook appealed the State's failure to move the Cooper River Park Historic District nomination forward. Your October 8, 2015 letter (copy attached) requested that we process the nomination per 36 CFR 60.6. Accordingly, my staff forwarded the nomination to the New Jersey State Review Board for Historic Sites on March 10, 2016. The State Review Board unanimously recommended that the nomination meets the criteria for listing, I have enclosed a copy of the meeting minutes. All procedures, including re-notification of owners and local elected officials were followed in accordance with regulations published in the Federal Register.

Should you want any further information concerning this application, please feel free to contact Kathrine J. Marcopul, Acting Administrator, New Jersey Historic Preservation Office, Mail code 501-04B, P.O. Box 420, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420, or call her at (609) 984-5816.

Sincerely,

Rich Boornazian
Deputy State Historic
Preservation Officer

Enclosure