

**PHASE 1A  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITY EVALUATION**

**ARDEN HEIGHTS WATERSHED**

**SOUTH RICHMOND DRAINAGE PLANS  
STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK**

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## MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

A Phase 1A cultural resources sensitivity survey was conducted within the Arden Heights Watershed located in South Richmond, Staten Island, New York. This survey was in response to the New York City Department of Environmental Protection's drainage management plan for these watersheds that includes the construction of in-street sanitary wastewater collection lines and Best Management Practice (BMP) features.

Background research did not identify any previously recorded sites and/or information on Native American sites in the watershed. Only one BMP installation will possibly impact an area archaeologically sensitive for Native American resources. This evaluation is based on topographic characteristics, known settlement patterns, and prior disturbance.

Phase 1B field tests for Native American resources are recommended for the BMP AH-3 location.

Only two historic-era resources that might have associated archaeological sensitivity are located in the Arden Heights Watershed area of potential effect: (1) the Journey Family Cemetery that is located on a slight knoll adjacent to the stream that runs between BMPs AH-4 and AH-5; and, (2) a portion of the Legate Avenue roadbed that is slated for installation of wastewater collection pipes and that may correspond to the rear yard of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and possibly earlier, Journey homestead.

HPI recommends non-invasive verification of the exact location of the Journey Family Cemetery so that a construction management plan to insure avoidance during BMP installation and stream restoration can be appropriately addressed. In addition, HPI recommends Phase 1B archaeological testing within a limited section of the Legate Avenue roadbed in order to verify presence/absence of possible mid-nineteenth century homestead resources of the Journey family.

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# I. INTRODUCTION

## A. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) proposes to install a comprehensive sanitary wastewater collection and storm water management system in South Richmond, Staten Island, New York. This project will include the construction of in-street sanitary sewer lines for the collection and conveyance of wastewater for treatment at the Oakwood Beach Water Pollution Control Plant. In addition, storm water drainage facilities and storm water controls termed Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be constructed.

The Arden Heights Watershed (Watershed) is one of the selected areas for improvement. BMP features, designated as Arden Heights [AH] -1 through AH-6, are planned for this watershed. AH-1 is a constructed wetland, AH-2 is an improvement of an existing extended detention wetland, AH-3 is an outlet stilling basin and swale restoration and AH-4 is an outlet stilling basin and stream valley restoration, AH-5 is also an outlet stilling basin and stream valley restoration, and AH-6 is a forebay and pocket wetland.

This report presents the results of a Phase 1A cultural resources sensitivity survey conducted for this watershed, referred to here as the project site. This study was conducted in accordance with the New York City Environmental Quality Review (CEQR) regulations. It is assumed that this report will be reviewed by the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) and/or the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (OPRHP). The objectives of this cultural resources investigation were to evaluate the historic-period and prehistoric archaeological sensitivity of the Watershed project site. A complete environmental analysis of the Watershed is being undertaken as part of the environmental impact statement being prepared by DEP.

## B. PROJECT SITE LOCATION

The Arden Heights Watershed is in the northern reach of the South Richmond Drainage Plan. This watershed is bounded by Arthur Kill Road to the north, Kenilworth Avenue to the northeast, and Arden Avenue to the west. To the south and southeast, it meanders across a number of roadways, but the boundary is generally two to three blocks south and east of Arden Avenue and Woodrow Road, respectively. About half of the watershed is City parkland,

Arden Heights Woods Park (Park). All of the proposed BMPs are within the approximately 183-acre Park but along the outside perimeter of the eastern, southern, and western limits of the Park.

The regional location of the project site is indicated on the Arthur Kill, NY-NJ quadrangle, United States Geological Survey map, 7.5 minute series, 1966/ photo revised 1981 (Figure 1). The project site is also indicated on a DEP watershed boundaries map (Figure 2).

Based on CEQR guidelines, the area of concern for archaeological resources in this investigation was limited to the land that may experience direct, subsurface construction-related impacts.

## II. ENVIRONMENTAL BACKGROUND

The project site lies within the Coastal Plain physiographic province with underlying deposits of sands and clays called the Raritan-Magothy formation laid down during the Cretaceous period some seventy million years ago. Glacial deposits consisting of sands, silts and gravels once overlay those of the Cretaceous period and date to about 14,000 years ago (Britton 1882; Schuberth 1968).

The present topography of the project site can be characterized as relatively flat throughout its central portion, ranging from 10 to 50 feet above mean sea level (msl). Three hummocks, ranging in height from 50 to 90 feet above msl, dominate the northern limit of the Watershed, site of St. Michael's Cemetery, and the southern limit of the Park within the Watershed, approximate location of the Journey Family Cemetery and the Journey homestead. See Figure 1.

Fresh Kills and Richmond Creek are immediately north of Arthur Kill Road, the northern limit of the Watershed. A small stream flows from the center of the Park north into Richmond Creek. Historically, there was another stream, Keteltas' or Moore's Brook, that flowed into Fresh Kills from the Watershed. This stream, which has been diverted, was fed by another stream, Fiddlers Green, that flowed easterly from north of the area now marked by the intersection of Arden Avenue and Woodrow Road. In recent times the extensive wetlands to the north of the Watershed have been filled, in major part through city waste management activities.

In the last 35 years, extensive housing developments have completely altered the lands immediately outside the Watershed to the northeast and to the northwest, i.e., east of Woodrow Road and west of Arden Avenue. In the southern limits of the Watershed, blocks of housing have also been developed in the last 35 years. Sewers have been installed in most of the residential streets that surround the Park. An intercepting sewer is in the Arthur Kill corridor and storm water sewers are already installed in a limited number of Watershed streets. (DEP Storm and Sanitary Sewer Network, Arden Heights Drainage Area, 3/26/01, sheets 1-6)

### III. BACKGROUND RESEARCH: PREHISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

#### A. CULTURAL CONTEXT

The Paleo Indian Period (c. 10,500 B.C. - 8000 B.C.) represents the earliest known human occupation of Staten Island. The Paleo Indians were hunter-gatherers who roamed widely in search of food, and their settlement pattern consisted of small temporary camps on high well-drained land. They traveled in single or multiple family bands and evidence of their presence has been found in Rossville and Kreisherville (Kraft 1977:6), considerably south and west of the Arden Heights Watershed. The material remains of the Paleo Indians includes their stone tools such as Clovis-type fluted projectile points, bifacial knives, drills, graters, burins, scrapers, flake cores, and flake tools.

During the Archaic Period (c. 8000 B.C. - 1000 B.C.) a major shift occurred in the settlement and subsistence patterns of Native American bands. Hunting and gathering were still the basic ways of life during this period, but the emphasis in subsistence shifted from hunting large animals species which were becoming unavailable to smaller game and collecting plants in a deciduous forest. The settlement pattern of the Archaic people consisted of small bands that occupied larger and relatively more permanent habitation sites along the coast of Staten Island, its estuaries and streams and inland areas. Typically such sites are located on high ground overlooking water courses.

The tool kit of the Early Archaic people (c. 8000 B.C. - 6000 B.C.) included bifurcated or basally notched projectile points generally made of high quality stone. Evidence of Early Archaic sites on Staten Island is sparse. One site, known as the Richmond Hill site, was located adjacent to the southern foot of Richmond Hill and contained Early Archaic projectile points (Ritchie and Funk 1971:53-55).

The archaeological record suggests that a population increase took place during the Middle Archaic Period (c. 6000 - c. 4000 B.C.). In addition to projectile points, the tool kits of these people included grinding stones, mortars, and pestles. Such artifacts have been found throughout Staten Island.

Late Archaic people (c. 4000 - 1000 B.C.) were specialized hunter-gatherers who exploited a variety of upland and lowland settings in a well-defined and scheduled seasonal round. The projectile point types attributed to this period



include the Lamoka, Brewerton, Normanskill, Lackawaxen, Bare Island and Poplar Island. The tool kit of these peoples also included milling equipment, stone axes and adzes. During the Terminal Archaic Period (c. 1700 - c. 1000 B.C.) new and radically different broad bladed projectile points were developed including Susquehanna, Perkiomen and Orient Fishtail types. A large number of Late Archaic Period sites have been found on Staten Island.

During the Woodland Period (c. 1000 B.C. - 1600 A.D.) of prehistory, Native American subsistence practices continued to be hunting, gathering and fishing. However, several important changes took place. Clay pottery vessels gradually replaced the soapstone bowls during the Early Woodland Period (c. 1000 B.C. - 1 A.D.). The earliest ceramic type found on Staten Island is called Vinette 1, an interior-exterior cordmarked sand tempered vessel. The Meadowood type projectile point is a chronological indicator of the Early Woodland Period. Cord marked vessels became common during the Middle Woodland Period (c. A.D. 1 - c. 1000 A.D.) Jacks Reef and Fox Creek type projectile points are diagnostic of the Middle Woodland. During the Late Woodland Period (c. 1000 A.D. - 1600 A.D.) collared ceramic vessels, many with decorations, made their appearance. Large triangular projectile points known as the Levanna type became common, and smaller triangular forms known as Madison appeared near the end of the Late Woodland.

Horticulture began at some point during the Woodland Period and included the cultivation of corn, beans, and squash. However, evidence of horticultural practices on Staten Island remain ill-defined. Tobacco pipes and smoking were also adopted and the bow and arrow replaced the spear and javelin during this period. The habitation sites of the Woodland Period Indians increased in size and permanence. A large number of Woodland Period archaeological sites have been found on Staten Island in a variety of environmental settings. A favored situation for occupation during this period was well-drained ground near stream drainages and coastal waterways.

The settlement of New Amsterdam (New York) by the Dutch in the early 1600s initiated the Historic Contact Period between the Indians of Staten Island and the Europeans. A regular pattern of Indian-European trade developed and the Indians began to acquire European-made tools, ornaments, and other items of material culture. At the time of European contact, the Indians who inhabited Staten Island were Munsee speaking groups known as the Lenape or Delaware (Goddard 1978a, 1978b). Journal accounts by European explorers, settlers and

travelers described Indian settlements and lifeways. However, only a few Historic Contact Period sites have been found on Staten Island: at Wards Point, Old Place, Corsons Brook, Travis, New Springfield, and at the PS56R Site in Woodrow (Boesch 1994; HP 1998).

## **B: PREHISTORIC SITES IN THE PROJECT AREA**

In order to assess the potential for prehistoric cultural resources within the Arden Heights Watershed area we reviewed the archaeological site files maintained by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission, and the Staten Island Institute of Arts and Sciences. The relevant prehistoric archaeological literature and previous cultural resource survey reports were consulted to ascertain the presence of known prehistoric sites within the project area. There are no recorded prehistoric archaeological sites located within the Arden Heights Watershed.

According to the LPC's sensitivity model, there are three documented prehistoric sites located within one mile or less of the project site (Boesch 1994). We note that these sites are based on early or old, and often incomplete records; therefore their geographic locations may be imprecise and the descriptions of cultural remains vague or general at best.

<u>Site Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Type / Cultural Remains</u>	<u>Culture Period</u>
Huguenot	Intersection of Huguenot Ave. and Arthur Kill Rd. (west of the project site)	decorated ceramics, and diagnostic lithics	Middle Woodland
Cutting	Intersection of Arthur Kill Rd. and Rossville Ave. (west of the project site)	Campsite; projectile pts.	Paleo, Archaic, Woodland
Benedict Creek	Fresh Kills (north/west of project site)	scattered artifacts	no data

### **C. POTENTIAL FOR PREHISTORIC CULTURAL RESOURCES IN THE PROJECT SITE**

The LPC archaeological sensitivity map has identified the majority of the Arden Heights Watershed area as possessing low sensitivity for Native American resources except for those lands south of Arden Avenue, east of Woodrow Road, and the very slim corridor east of St. Michael's Cemetery, which are considered to have medium sensitivity.

As Boesch states in his 1994 study for LPC, the Staten Island sensitivity assessments are based on a set of variables that include, presence/absence of known Native American sites; presence/absence of fresh water; level of subsistence potential; topographic characteristics; and soil characteristics. Generalized locales are designated for sensitivity on the basis of the number of matching variables. Boesch further states that any given parcel may possess more or less sensitivity than the generalized model based on site-specific characteristics. Therefore, field inspections are necessary and, at times, field testing may be required to fully evaluate prehistoric potential.

## IV. BACKGROUND RESEARCH: HISTORIC RESOURCES

### A. From Fresh Kills to Greenridge

Staten Island has been the New York City borough most slow to settle. In 1664, when the British took Manhattan from the Dutch, very few settlers made their homes here. Under British rule, settlement was encouraged, land was patented and various groups and families moved onto the island. The last Indian claims were extinguished in 1670. In 1683 the island was organized as the County of Richmond and in 1788 the county was organized into five towns (Schneider 1977:13).

The Skene map of land patents on Staten Island granted between 1668 and 1712 shows the project site to be held by a variety of individuals. All of the Watershed site's patented properties are dated prior to the year 1695, but not all of the lots are patented. These lot names are not necessarily the families associated with early Richmond County history: Josiah Cresson, Wm. Douglas, Francis Chartier, Robert Wright, Samuel and Anthony Blackford, and Daniel Shortwell.

Labadenist missionaries Jasper Dankers and Peter Sluyter visited the island in 1679, reporting that "there are now about a hundred families on the island of which the English contribute the least portion and the Dutch and French divide between them about equally, the greater portion" (Dankers and Sluyter 1867:142). The settlers, then, were not the patentees, but Dutch who remained after the English takeover and Huguenot French who sought religious freedom in the New World.

As the British colonies developed, Philadelphia to the south became an important town. The seat of the East Jersey Proprietors was in Perth Amboy across the Arthur Kill from Staten Island. More and more people found it necessary to travel between Manhattan and these seats of power. Developing commerce found Staten Island an important part of the route connecting these towns. In 1722, Anthony Wright gained a license to operate a ferry across the Arthur Kill to New Jersey. The original ferry ran from Smoking Point on the Staten Island side, west of the Watershed project site, to a similarly named point on the Jersey side. There, the Fitz Randolph family also supported this venture (Leng 1940:13).

Soon the ferry operation had moved east along the shore to Rossville, then known as Blazing Star. Historian Charles Leng traces this name to 1727 when a tavern here was given this name. Ira Morris provides Smoking Point and Blazing Star as both early names for the old settlement of Rossville, to the west of the Watershed (Morris 1898:440).

The Watershed land, east of the Blazing Star settlement, is within what is now considered the community of Greenridge (originally, Green Ridge). According to Leng and Davis' Staten Island and Its People, Greenridge "... was once the site of a considerable settlement of Huguenot families in the neighborhood of whom stood the French church. It has been called Kleine Kill by the Dutch, Fresh Kill by the Colonial English, and Marshland" (1930 Vol I: 342-343). Marshland<sup>1</sup> was already a gathering spot by the time of the Revolution, supporting a store, owned by Micheau and Bedell, and several mills (including Stillwell's and Bedell's to the east and Larzalere's to the north) (Ibid., Vol. II: 1001). The Cropsey homestead, built in 1767 and fronting on what is now the Arthur Kill Road, was west of Arden Avenue and just outside the project site. Many of the early families of the community included names still evident on today's landscape: Journey, Benham, Seaman, Cortelyou, and Garretson.

Moillet Journey came to New Netherland as a young man in 1663. His descendent, John Journey, was settled on Staten Island by 1700, purchasing lands in the project site. He and his wife, Elizabeth, had a son John, who married Martha at St. Andrew's Church in Richmondtown, ca. 1750. John and Martha had a number of children, including Albert and Nicholas. Nicholas' children included Nicholas and Joseph, who married Mary; there was also a descendent named Martha Randolph (Morris 1898, Vol. II: 97-98). John Journey was one of five to represent Richmond County at the Provincial Congress in May of 1775 (Ibid. Vol. I:196). It was to a fellow representative, Paul Micheau, that Journey had sold approximately half of his holdings sometime prior to 1748 (Leng and Davis 1930, Vol. II: 914). Richmond County was not considered a supporter of the separation from England and, interestingly, Journey and Micheau seemed to have differed in their commitment to independence (Leng and Davis Vol. I: 170). Although much later in time, land holdings of A. Journey are depicted on the project site on the Butler map of

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<sup>1</sup> Marshland may not necessarily refer to the area's landscape. The Marshol family lived in the Watershed area in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Walling 1959) and may have influenced the village name.

1853. Two buildings are approached from a road that corresponds to today's Woodrow Road. Arden Avenue, originally called Washington, has not been cut through as late as ca. 1850.

The Journey lands, comprising a major part of the watershed project site, adjoined Benjamin Seaman's farm, lending the Journey name to the road that eventually became known as Woodrow Road. Seaman's Lane ran east of what is now Annandale Road.

The British were in possession of Staten Island through most of the Revolutionary War. In 1777, three earthen redoubts were built above Richmondtown on Richmond Hill, north and east of the project site by more than two miles.

To the west of the Watershed land, Blazing Star, both the village and the ferry service, prospered in the years after the Revolutionary War. The formation of the United States with its early capitol at New York and the importance of communication between the growing cities of New York and Philadelphia required expansion and standardization of the stage and ferry service through Staten Island and over to New Jersey. Confiscation of property owned by those loyal to the British during the war gave opportunities to other Staten Island families.

The 1797 Sprong partition map for Richmond County illustrates that the Blazing Star Ferry continued to be the most important feature on this side of the island. It and its dock are the only features both illustrated and named in this area on this map. What will become known as Arthur Kill Road meets and blends with what will become Huguenot Avenue, west of the Watershed lands, to cross the island and connect the ferry to the one road that runs the length of the island.

The Benham family's large stone house commanded frontage on what became Arthur Kill Road. From the early 1800s until it was demolished in the early 1960s, it housed a succession of Benhams, including Admiral Andrew Benham, the first Staten Islander to become a cadet midshipmen at Annapolis. Admiral Benham served in the Civil War and the Spanish American War. According to Beers' 1887 "Atlas of Staten Island," the Benham estate was on the north side of Arthur Kill Road and outside the project site.

"Until the 1830's Staten Island remained chiefly a farming and fishing community. The development of fashionable bathing resorts in the northern part of the island, about 1830, rapidly transformed this sparsely settled farm region into an urban community. The descendants of the first landowners were

crowded out by socially prominent families from New York and the South (WPA 1939: 600-601). French's Historical and Statistical Gazetteer of 1860 portrays the continued rural character of the project site area. The village of Mashland is labeled simply as a post office and its agricultural products are combined with all of western Richmond County (page 567).

The Eagon family moved to Arthur Kill Road just before the Civil War, building a home at the southeast corner of Arthur Kill Road and Arden Avenue outside the Watershed project site. This is depicted on the Walling map of 1859, see Figure 3. One of the Eagon sons, Andrew, earned his medical license in 1890 and served Staten Island's south shore for the next 40 years. He and his brother also maintained a chicken farm on the family lot. Dr. Eagon refused to own a car and still made house calls by horse and buggy into the 1930s. The Eagon homestead was still standing in 1990 (Hurley 1990a).<sup>2</sup>

Colton's *Map of Staten Island* (1866) includes both Eagon's homestead at the intersection of Arden Avenue and Arthur Kill Road and a number of Journey buildings all near what is now the intersection of Arden Avenue and Woodrow Road. According to the Richmond County conveyance records, the Journeys' lost their holdings at the northwest corner of this crossroads location in an 1865 foreclosure to a Mr. Jessup.

It was in 1875 that the people of Marshland, "a self-respecting democratically proud generation of men and women who conscious of their independence, socially, financially, and politically... and ... cared nothing for the fashionables or exquisites of the North shore and the East shore," met and voted to change their name to Green Ridge (*Staten Island Historian* 1939:1). The Green Ridge community boasted forest clad sloping hillsides and ridges dotted with fields, orchards, and barnyards (Ibid.). One of the farms along the south side of Arthur Kill Road, near the northern terminus of Journey [Woodrow] Avenue and within the Watershed was the Frost Farm. The S. Frost holding is illustrated on the Butler map of 1853; a long drive approaches the homestead from Arthur Kill Road.<sup>3</sup>

It was this pastoral quality that led the Presentation Sisters, assigned to teaching positions at St. Michael's Church on 34<sup>th</sup> Street in Manhattan, to open a

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<sup>2</sup>The Eagon homestead is included in the photographic files of the New York Public Library Local History Division (#1196F3-F7).

<sup>3</sup> Between the 1850s and the 1880s when the Order took over the Frost Farm, the 80-acre parcel evidently fell into the hands of a Nelson Post.

retreat on what had been the Frost Farm. Shortly after opening the retreat in 1884, the nuns began hosting needy children from their Manhattan parish for a summer vacation. Within a few years, St. Michael's, fronting on Arthur Kill Road and in the Watershed, had evolved into a home for needy children. Beer's 1887 atlas includes an 80 acre, three building complex labeled St. Michael's Home.

Real estate development schemes were underway for Staten Island as early as 1886. It was reportedly such a 19<sup>th</sup> century real estate promoter and journalist, Erastus Wiman, that named the project area Arden Heights. Despite Wiman's efforts, partially responsible for bringing electricity to Staten Island, also created the transportation hub in St. George. Despite Wiman, the Watershed lands continued to be used for agriculture.

Beer's 1887 atlas clearly includes the Eagan (Eagon) property, plus a hotel and public school fronting on Arthur Kill Road in what is now Park land. (See Figure 4.) The Journey cemetery plot at the intersection of Washington (Arden) Avenue and Journey (Woodrow) Road is also included in the 1887 atlas, as it had been in the earlier, 1874 atlas. There is no Journey homestead on the two Beer's atlases but a dwelling that is further north and west of the earlier portrayed Journey structures. In 1874, this structure, which would fall inside the Park and outside of any possible potential effect, is associated with E. N. Jessup and in 1887 it is associated with Mrs. Bogert.

In 1901, the city published plans for the "general design for a system of streets" in the 4<sup>th</sup> Ward, including the Greenridge area. The system of streets for private residential development never materialized (New York City Topographical Bureau 1901) and the project area remained relatively undeveloped. Although the Wood Harmon Realty company owned the former Journey/Jessup property (21.5 acres) at the corner of Arden and Woodrow Road in 1907, the atlas depicted a cluster of four buildings at the crest of the original Journey homestead knoll. The map included a straight approach road from Woodrow Road to the complex, as well as the creek system to the southeast of the structures (Borough Topographic Bureau 1907).

Highly detailed 1913 Plan Sections (Nos. 59, 67, 68, and 76) of the Borough of Richmond Topographical Survey (Survey) identify the project site by "orchards," "marshes," "wood," many "swamps" and the occasional "cultivated field" well into the twentieth century. The Arthur Kill frontage was still spotted with some private dwellings and public/parochial facility: a two-story, brick public school and a 2 1/2-story frame hotel both west of the substantial St. Michael's



Orphanage near the intersection of Arthur Kill and Journeay Avenue/Woodrow Road. (See Figure 5.)

In 1945, the Presentation Sisters, in response to a need for teaching nuns at the growing number of parochial schools on Staten Island, left St. Michael's. St. Michael's was turned over to the Catholic Archdiocese and the Presentation Nuns relinquished operation of the home to the Sisters of Mercy. In 1971, St. Michael's Home began to accept court referrals and also raised its age limit from 13 to 17 (Guarino 1976). At one time there were as many as 400 children in residence and there was growing neighborhood concern over lack of supervision and discipline within the Home. By the time St. Michael's Home was closed by the Archdiocese in April of 1978 the non-profit orphanage had been in operation for more than 100 years. At the time of closing, the substantial complex supported 12 buildings, including a chapel, gymnasium, administration building, dormitories, and a small cemetery for members of the Presentation Order of Nuns (Fanciullo 1981). "In 1981, most of St. Michael's Home masonry buildings were demolished, save for the gymnasium that now serves as St. John Neumann's Church" (Hurley 1990b). Of the original St. Michael's property, approximately 6 acres were reserved for the new parish church, approximately 27 acres became part of the borough's dedicated open space, and the remainder went into private residential development (Ibid.). None of the proposed project installations will impact archaeologically sensitive sections of the former St. Michael's complex, including the cemetery for Presentation Sisters.

Between 1966 and 1980, a major residential development went up immediately outside the project site, on the south side of Arden Avenue and east of Arthur Kill Road. A major portion of the former St. Michael's Home property, as well as other land parcels inside and immediately surrounding the Watershed site, have been intensely developed since 1980. The west side of Woodrow Road continues to host a combination of private dwellings and parochial facilities.

The development of private homes has involved numerous street openings in the Watershed, also. Certain new residential streets, although mapped, have not been regulated. For example, Carneaux Avenue, between Carlton Boulevard and Arden Avenue has not been created, except on paper. The proposed Carneaux Avenue roadbed, as mapped in 1987 by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), would have cut through the freshwater wetlands at a proposed BMP location.

In the early 1990s, the city's Department of Parks and Recreation gained jurisdiction of the undeveloped lands now designated as the Arden Heights Woods Park. There is an area of the center portion of the Park that is low-lying and wet.

## **B. Historic Period Archaeological Resources in the Project Area of Potential Effect**

### **Journey Homestead**

The 1913 Survey provides minute details on the conditions of the project site and its surroundings in that year. A review of this Survey, in conjunction with earlier atlases and maps, indicates that only one historic complex possibly existed within the proposed project site zone of potential effect. This is the possible Journey family homestead.<sup>4</sup> (See Figure 6.) The two-story frame house (66 ft. x 36 ft.) and barn (23 ft. x 40 ft.) commanded a knoll (approximately 90 ft. above msl) to the west of Journey Avenue (later known as Woodrow Road). The residence straddled what was planned as Legate Avenue near what is now Carlton Boulevard; their barn was to the east and slightly south of the house, closer to the intersection of the proposed Legate and Carlton streetbeds.<sup>5</sup>

### **Journey Family Cemetery**

The Survey, as well as earlier maps in 1874 and 1887, illustrates the Journey family cemetery, established to the south of Carlton Boulevard and west of what is now Halpin Avenue. (See Figures 4, 6, and 7.) The "posted" cemetery is also on a knoll (90 to 90.7 ft. above msl) that is tightly restricted on its southern edge by a 25-30 ft. ravine and streambed. The Journey Family Cemetery is an approximately 100 x 100 foot plot between Carlton Boulevard and Halpin Avenue, with freshwater wetlands to the east and west of the small

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<sup>4</sup> The photographic files of the New York Public Library Local History Division were reviewed for historic house views of the Journey homestead but none were located. The nineteenth century Watershed-area house views that were identified in the Library collection fronted on existing roads/streets (e.g., Arden Avenue and Arthur Kill) and their potential homelot resources would not be impacted by BMP installations or in-street storm/sewer installations.

<sup>5</sup> According to testimony of the Friends of Abandoned Cemeteries of Staten Island, historically, a path was cut from the farmstead to Journey Avenue (Woodrow Road). There is mid-nineteenth century cartographic evidence of this approach.

parcel. This streambed is scheduled for "restoration" as part of the proposed BMP 4 and BMP 5 action.

It became city property in 1953 (Liber 1228 pages 214-230) and is designated as Block 5776, lot 28 on tax maps. The cemetery plot is depicted on numerous historic and compilation maps of the site and it continues to be mapped as a borough feature on Hagstrom street atlases.

As noted in Carolee Inskeep's *The Graveyard Shift* (2000: 91) and numerous files of the Friends of Abandoned Cemeteries of Staten Island, the family plot was established ca. 1760 and legalized through Albert Journey's will of 1860 (see Appendix 1). This will, leaving the family burial plot to his sons, Edward and Alfred, stipulated that there be "a free passage thereto forever," and that it be "used for a burial place." An abstract copy of this will, provided by the Friends of Abandoned Cemeteries of Staten Island, is included in the Appendix.

Gravestone recordations, made in 1889 by William T. Davis, included 10 headstones and six surnames (Stillwell, [Edward P., Joseph, James, Mary, Albert] Journey, Hedden, [Martha Journey] Randolph Fitz, Pearson, and Furman). Davis' notes are included in the Appendix. At that time, the plot was enclosed by a wire fence. In 1948, Loring McMillen surveyed the site and noted 13 individual stones, but this increase may have been due to broken pieces of the earlier count of 10 headstones. Thirteen years ago members of the Friends of Abandoned Cemeteries of Staten Island field verified the plot and noted only part of one remaining headstone. There was, however, "considerable vegetation," making a careful search impossible (see Appendix 1).

In 1992, Jane P. Cleaver, Director of Parklands for the City of New York, wrote that the Parks & Recreation staff had been instructed to "mark this colonial burial ground" (see Appendix 1). As recently as 1997, Leonard A. Robusto, representing the Friends of Abandoned Cemeteries of Staten Island, requested action from City Councilman Vito Fossella in the long-promised preservation of this family plot (see Appendix 1). There are currently no site markers to identify or delineate the burial plot.

As stated by the Friends of Abandoned Cemeteries of Staten Island in a 1992 public hearing, "despite the absence of visible gravemarkers, it is the burials of human beings which makes a cemetery and not merely markers" (see Appendix 1).

## V. FIELD INSPECTIONS

Intensive field inspections were carried out within the Arden Heights Watershed in May and June 2001. This included a pedestrian reconnaissance of six BMPs, which are being planned to control and cleanse storm water runoff (Figure 2). The fieldwork also included a vehicular survey of the roads within the watershed site, a pedestrian inspection of streets and environmental zones adjacent to the six BMP locations, and an intensive inspection of the landform of the Journey Family Cemetery. The objectives of the field investigation included a search for and assessment of potential prehistoric and historic archaeological resources and the 1760-1845 cemetery plot.

### **BMP AH-1:**

This BMP is located on the west side of Woodrow Road, at the intersection of Woodrow Road and Alexander Avenue, within land under the control of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. The proposed BMP location is low-lying and poorly drained. Standing water was noted; phragmites was the dominant vegetation. (See Figure 8.)

A constructed wetland, with the design objective of wetland enhancement and improved water quality, is planned for this undeveloped area.

We conclude that this BMP site has low prehistoric and/or historic-era archaeological potential.

### **BMP AH-2:**

This BMP is located on the west side of Woodrow Road, at the intersection of Woodrow Road and Grantwood Avenue, within land under private ownership. The proposed BMP location, completely enclosed in a high chain-link fence, is an existing detention basin. It is low-lying and poorly drained; phragmites was the dominant vegetation in the center of the basin and the narrow perimeter supports small-caliper trees. Private residential properties are immediately to the south. (See Figure 9.)

Improvements to an existing, extended detention basin, with the design objective of flow attenuation and improved water quality, is planned for this undeveloped area.

We conclude that this BMP site has low prehistoric and/or historic-era archaeological potential.

**BMP AH-3:**

This BMP is located north and west of the Legate Avenue and Halpin Avenue intersection, within Arden Heights Woods Park. The proposed BMP location is lightly wooded, undeveloped and appears to be relatively well-drained. (See Figure 10.) According to historic maps, a small stream flowed roughly east to west, north of this BMP location. The BMP location would have been approximately 25 feet above the stream and approximately 300 feet south of the stream.

An outlet stilling basin and swale restoration, with the design objective of velocity attenuation, is planned for this undeveloped area.

We conclude that this BMP site has medium prehistoric archaeological potential but no historic-era archaeological potential.

**BMP AH-4:**

An outlet stilling basin and stream valley restoration are planned in an area lying immediately west of the Carlton Boulevard curb, between Legate Avenue and Halpin Avenue. This is within the Park property. The BMP area is poorly drained and wooded. An abandoned car, as well as other litter, is at the BMP location. AH-4 is, historically, a wetland outlet. It is connected by stream to the AH-5. This stream is at the base of a small knoll and there is evident stream erosion cutting away the sides of the streambed. It appears that earlier restoration work was completed in the area. (See Figure 11.)

We conclude that this BMP site has low prehistoric archaeological potential. However, it is adjacent to a historic family cemetery. The Journey Family Cemetery is on the top of the knoll, directly above the streambed. This proximity to a burial plot that has not been carefully mapped and fenced must be addressed. The BMP AH-4 site has high historic-era archaeological sensitivity. See the following discussion on BMP AH-5 and the Journey Family Cemetery.

**BMP AH-5:**

An outlet stilling basin and stream valley restoration are planned in an area lying between Halpin Avenue and Arden Avenue. Currently, there is a brick channel that directs water under Arden Avenue and into the BMP 5 location, which is inside the Park bounds. The stream is at the base of a small knoll and there is evident

stream erosion cutting away the sides of the streambed. It appears that earlier restoration work was completed in the area. Private residential properties are immediately to the east. (See Figures 12 and 13.)

We conclude that this BMP site has low prehistoric archaeological potential. However, it is adjacent to a historic family cemetery. The Journey Family Cemetery is on the top of the knoll, directly above the streambed. This proximity to a burial plot that has not been carefully mapped and fenced must be addressed. The BMP AH-5 site has high historic-era archaeological sensitivity. See discussion below on the Journey Family Cemetery.

#### **BMP AH-6:**

This BMP is located inside the Park bounds on the north side of Arden Avenue, near the intersection of Arden Avenue and Hampton Green. It is low-lying, poorly drained, and the site of an abandoned car and other litter. Phragmites, an indicator of wet and/or disturbed soils, is not the dominant vegetation but is an established growth at AH-6. According to the 1913 Survey, this is a natural streambed area. (See Figure 14.)

Proposed improvements include the construction of a forebay and pocket wetland.

We conclude that this BMP site has low prehistoric and/or historic-era archaeological potential.

#### **Legate Avenue / Journey Family Homestead:**

In-street installations along a portion of Legate Avenue will cut through what may have been part of the original Journey homestead grounds.<sup>6</sup> According to comparisons with earlier atlases (e.g., the Walling 1859 and the Beer 1874) and the 1913 Survey, the house and barn, or portions of their original foundation/walls, may be extant. It is possible that when Legate Avenue was officially regulated, the street corridor avoided the Journey home and barn, at least in part because the street was not cut as wide as originally planned. (See Figures 15 and 16.)

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<sup>6</sup> It should be noted that, with the exception of what appears to be the Journey homestead on Legate Avenue, no other historic homesteads were originally sited on the landscape in such a way that potential yard resources would be impacted by any of the proposed installations of the combined storm/sewer drainage plan.

**Journey Family Cemetery:**

Prior to the field inspection of the historic family cemetery between BMP 4 and BMP 5, interviews were held with active members of the Friends of the Abandoned Cemeteries of Staten Island regarding their last inspection, approximately 13 years ago. (Leonard Robusto to David Klinge, personal communication, 5/3/01; Marjorie Johnson to David Klinge, personal communication, 6/11/01)

The small elevated knoll and bordering stream ravines are easily recognizable. However, there are no readily apparent remains of the wire fencing and no engraved headstones are standing. As the Friends noted in their reports to HPI and Community Board 3 in 1992, the vegetative cover is very dense. It is very possible that broken headstones/footstones are buried in the leaf and root mat cover. Three anomalies were noted in the field, including one possible fragment of a brownstone grave marker was. See Appendix 2 for a full description of the field inspection and field photographs.

There is apparent stream erosion along the banks but any drastic changes in the stream channel over the last 240 years are unclear.

## VI. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### A. PREHISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Documentary research revealed that several recorded prehistoric sites are located within one to two miles of the Watershed, both to the east and west. Our research and field reconnaissance indicate that these sites are far removed from the Watershed and will not be impacted by the construction work described for this current project.

A portion of the Watershed lands has been designated by the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission as having medium sensitivity for prehistoric resources. No BMPs are proposed for lands identified as hosting medium sensitivity. Limited construction work is planned within the zone considered to have medium sensitivity for prehistoric resources: installation of storm/sewer lines in active and paved street beds.

Historic and current land use within this medium sensitivity zone has rendered significant portions of this area, such as paved streets, and their infrastructure and highly developed residential and religious areas, low in archaeological potential or sensitivity. Storm/sewer installations within existing active and paved streets will have no adverse impact upon potential archaeological resources. Certain environmental features such as wetlands also have low archaeological potential.

In the course of field inspection of areas to be impacted by the proposed BMP installations, HPI determined that one locus, BMP AH-3, has moderate archaeological sensitivity. This area appears undisturbed, elevated, relatively level and near fresh water resources.

#### *Recommendation*

BMP AH-3, at the intersection of Legate Avenue and Halpin Avenue, has the potential for yielding evidence of prehistoric occupation and should be archaeologically tested prior to the start of construction activity. A Phase 1B survey involving archaeological testing is recommended in the BMP AH-3 area of potential effect. (See Figure 17.)



## B. HISTORIC-PERIOD ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Two loci of historic-era archaeological resource potential have been identified within the areas of potential effect.

### *Legate Avenue: Journey Homestead*

The yard and barn areas of the Journey homestead, as possibly indicated on the 1913 Survey, are, in part, now traversed by Legate Avenue. It may be that a portion of the Journey complex is extant below grade. It is not known if this was the original Journey family residence nor what its occupation dates are but the family was on Watershed lands prior to 1760 and this homestead is in direct proximity to their family burial plot. In addition, the Journey family is mapped as holding this land and some form of structure(s) in this specific locale for at least 35 years, and possible well over a hundred years. The Journey family was important in the early history of Staten Island, settling in the western farm region and participating in the early politics of the island.

Historically, the homestead was oriented toward the Woodrow Road corridor, placing possible, truncated rear yard features in what is now the Legate Avenue roadbed. Currently, there are no storm and sewer lines within Legate Avenue. The excavation for the installation of new lines would traverse what appears to be the potentially sensitive yard area of the Journey homestead.

Dwellings, along with their associated outbuildings and yards, have the potential to contain resources which may furnish information about past lifeways, transitional settlement patterns, socioeconomic status, class distinctions, ethnicity and consumer choice issues. Such archaeological resources could be preserved in privies, cisterns or wells, which in the days before the introduction of flush toilets, septic tanks, electrical water pumps, etc., were an inevitable part of daily life. These shafts, in addition to their official function, were convenient repositories for refuse, providing a valuable time capsule of stratified deposits for the modern archaeologist. They frequently provide the best domestic remains recovered on farmstead sites, including animal bone, seeds, glass, metal, stone, ceramics, and sometimes leather, cloth, wood and even paper. By analyzing such artifacts, archaeologists can learn much about the diet, activities and customs of the site's former inhabitants, and attempt to combine this "consumer choice" data with what the documentary record tells us about their ethnicity, socioeconomic status, gender, environment, etc.

### *Recommendation*

Based on the potential for the recovery of significant historical period archaeological remains related to the mid-eighteenth century to mid-nineteenth century settlement of western Staten Island, field testing to identify truncated domestic yard shaft features is recommended for a portion of the Legate Avenue roadbed. Figure 17 identifies the one corridor of potential historic-era archaeological sensitivity, the portion of the project site that may correspond to the ca. 1760-1850 rear lot of the historic Journeay family homestead.

### ***Journeay Family Cemetery***

There is no question that a small family cemetery, in use from at least 1760 to 1845, is inside the Park and adjacent to proposed action. The cemetery is located on a small knoll that is bounded by the stream that flows between the proposed BMPs AH-4 and AH-5. There is no indication that the burials, ca. 1760-1845, were ever disinterred. Although historic notations indicate 10 burials, it must be assumed that additional grave shafts are in this plot. Often the interments of young children would not involve an elaborate headstone and thus would not have been recorded in the notations of the late 1800s. In addition, it is very possible, if not likely, that there were unmarked graves outside the original plot or that the fencing installed after the interments had ceased did not include all the burials. Slaves, servants and indigents were often buried, usually with insubstantial markers or no markers, at the outer edges of family plots.

According to the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Standards (NYAC 1994), the presence of historic-era human remains would define at least a portion of the project site as a significant archaeological site. Projects proposed on state land, sponsored by a state agency, or reviewed by a state agency must coordinate with the OPRHP for guidance on the appropriate consultation process for human remains.

### *Recommendation*

It is recommended that prior to any stream restoration associated with BMPs 4 and 5 a non-invasive survey be undertaken to verify presence/absence of burial shafts of the Journeay Family Cemetery in the stream restoration zone of potential effect. (See Figure 17.) These findings and recommendations should be submitted

to OPRHP for review prior to any further project action.

In addition, it is assumed that a construction management plan to protect the integrity of the Journey Family Cemetery will be filed with and approved by the OPRHP prior to the initiation of any work on BMP AH-4, BMP AH-5, or the stream that connects the two proposed outlet stilling basins. (See Figure 17.)

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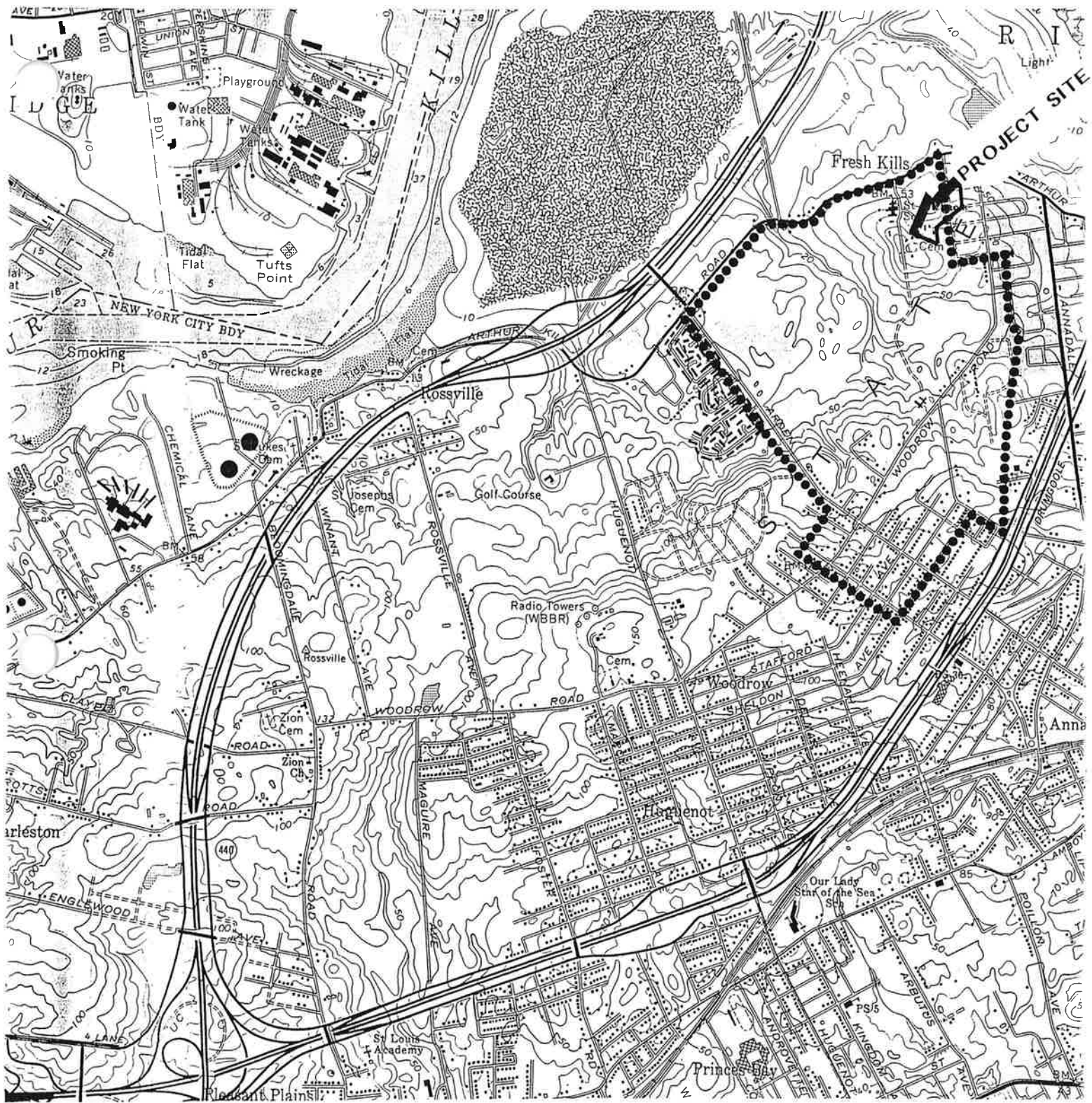
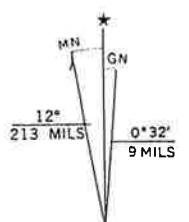


FIGURE 1: Portion of U.S.G.S. map Arthur Kill NY-NJ quadrangle showing location of project area. Scale 1"=2000'





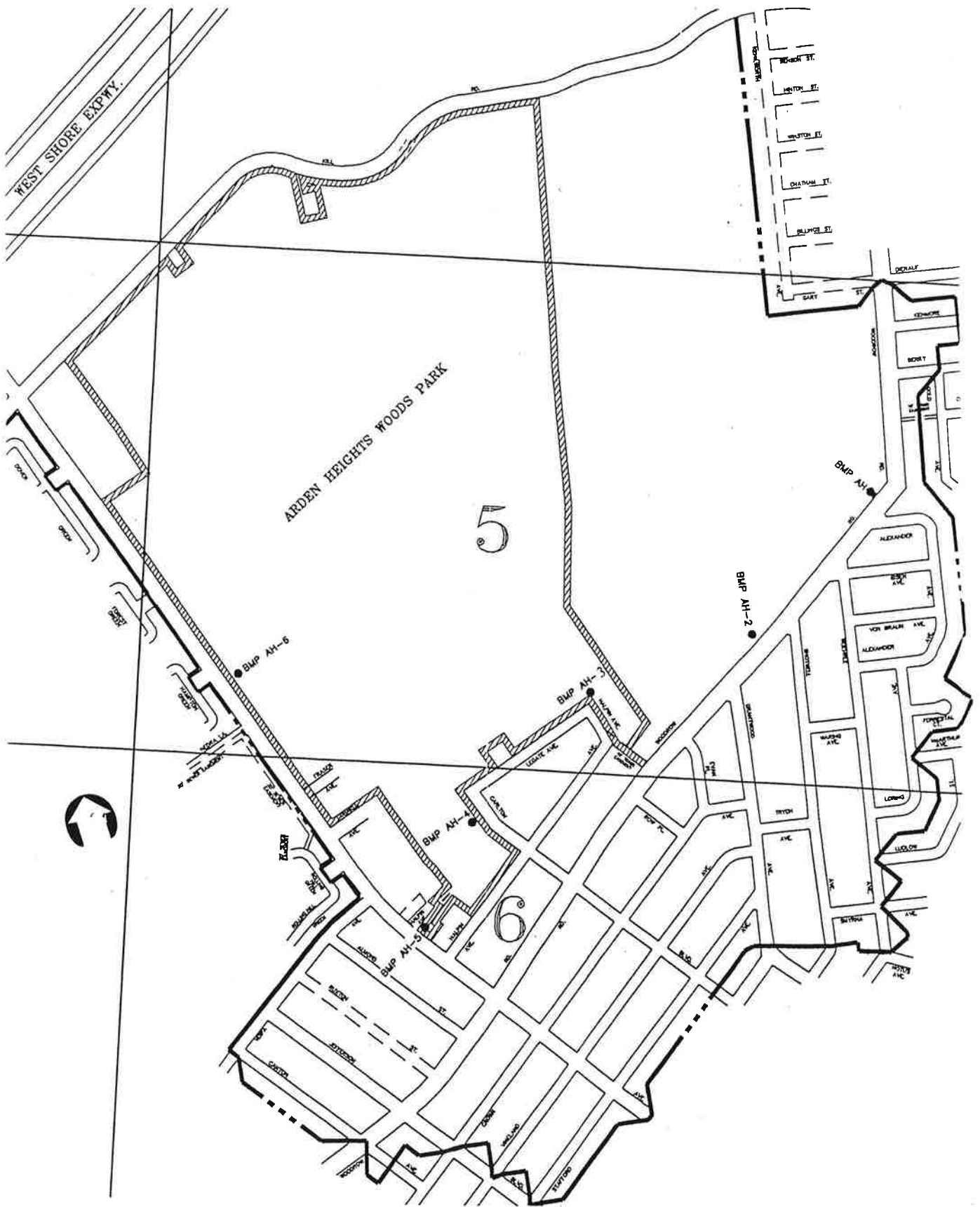


FIGURE 2: Location of Arden Heights Watershed project area, including proposed placement of BMP AH-1 through BMP AH-6.

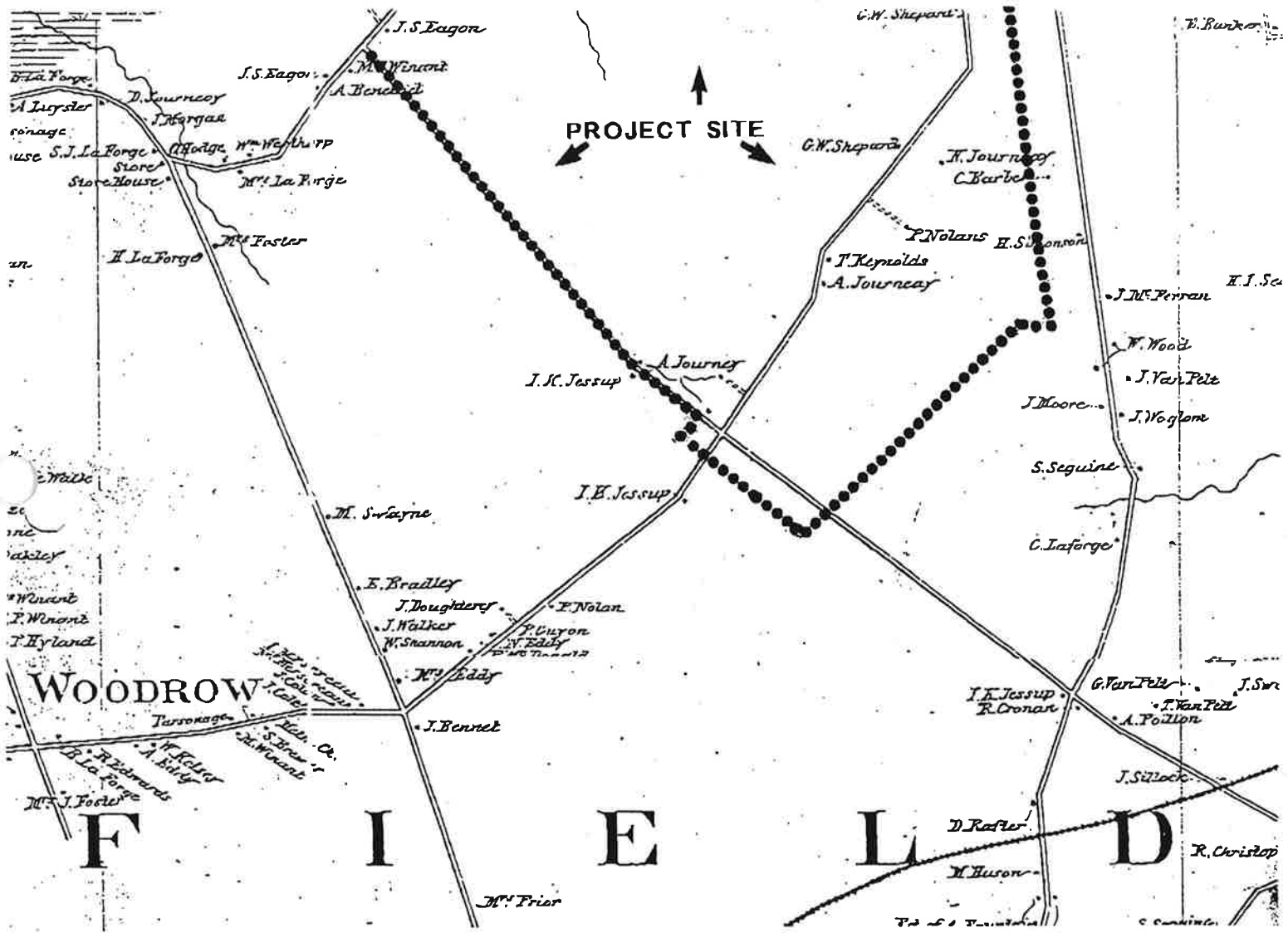


FIGURE 3 Portion of Walling Map, 1859. No scale

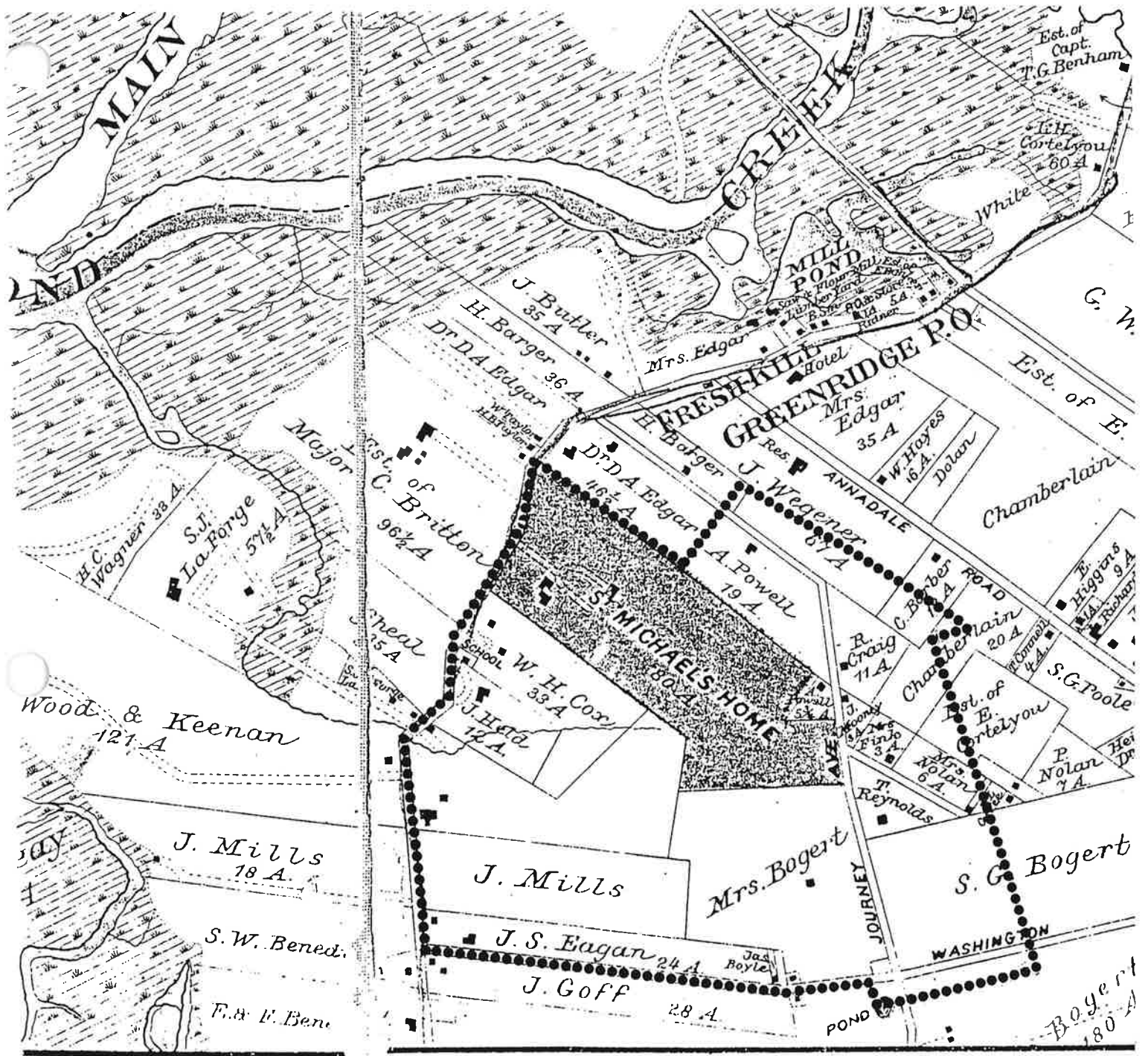


FIGURE 4: Portion of 1887 Map of Staten Island by J.B. Beers. Enlarged to show project area. No scale.

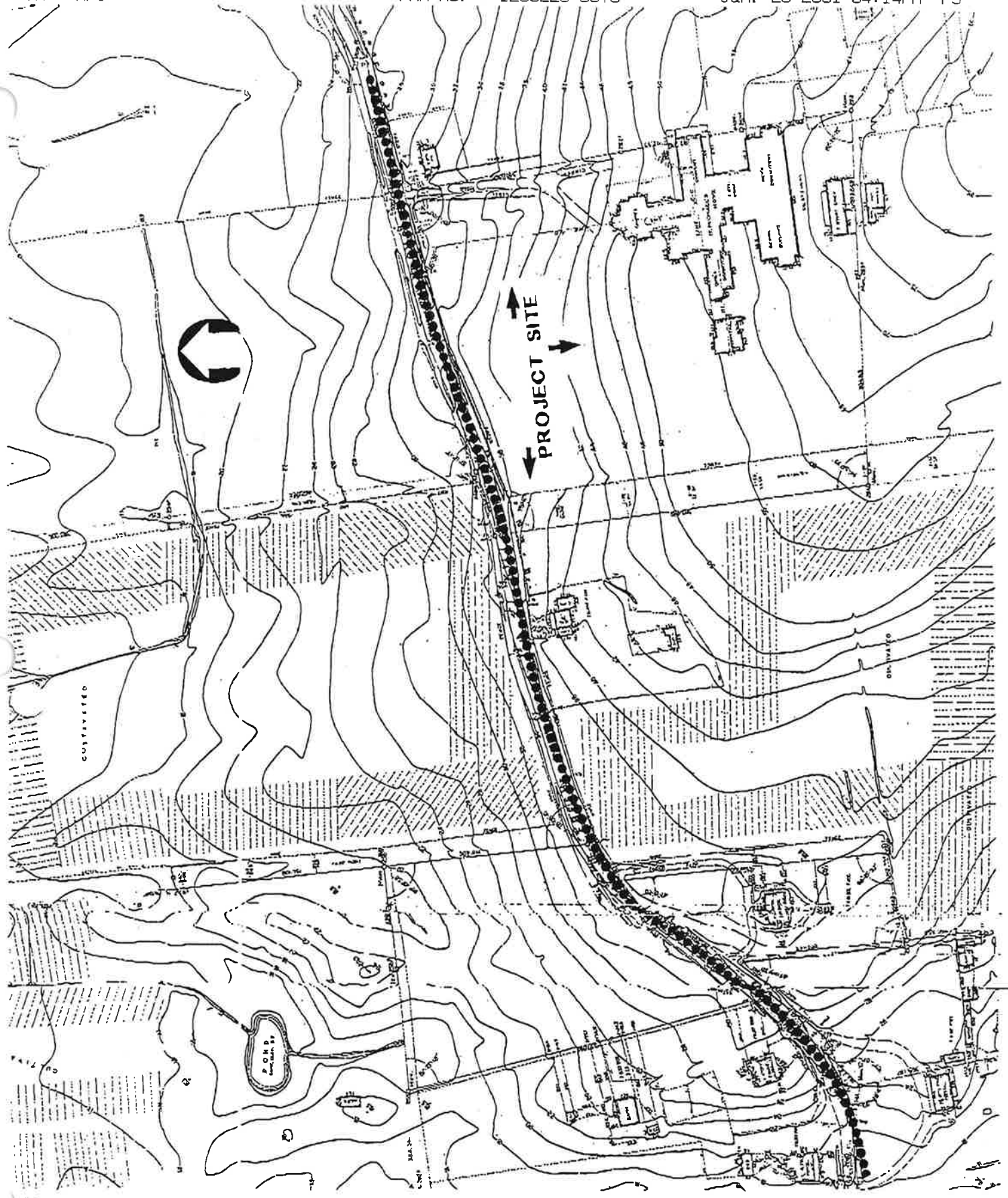


FIGURE 5: Borough of Richmond Topographic Survey 1913, Sheet 59,  
Reduced, not to scale.

BOROUGH OF RICHMOND, TOPOGRAPHICAL SURVEY

NEW YORK, DECEMBER 1913

SHEET NO. 68



FIGURE 6: Borough of Richmond Topographic Survey 1913



SCALE: 1 Inch = 150 ft., or 1/800

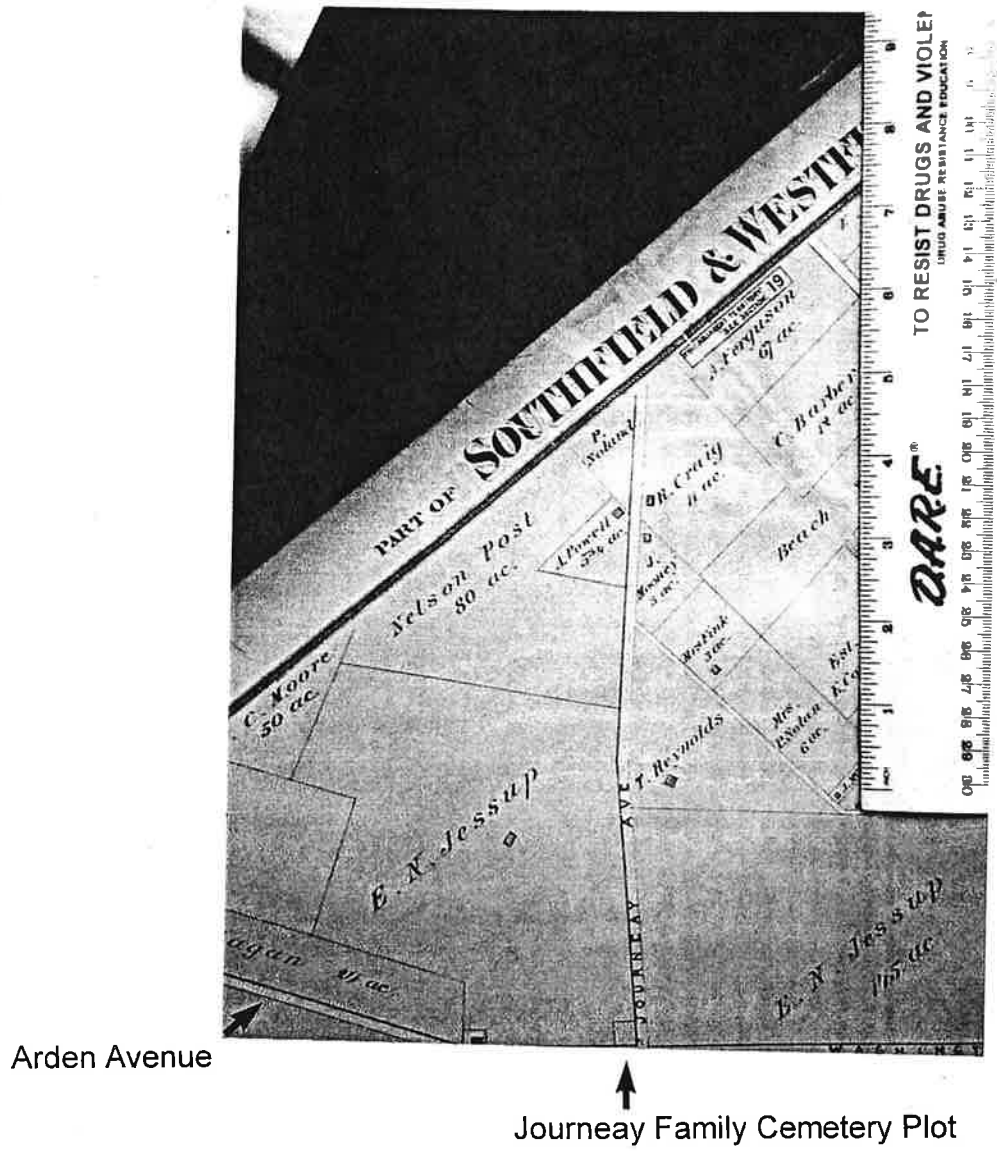


Figure 7: Portion of the 1874 Beers Atlas of Richmond County, Staten Island, NY, Part of Southfield & Westfield.

Note: Journey Family Cemetery Plot is depicted at the intersection of Journey Avenue (Woodrow Road) and Washington (Arden) Avenue.

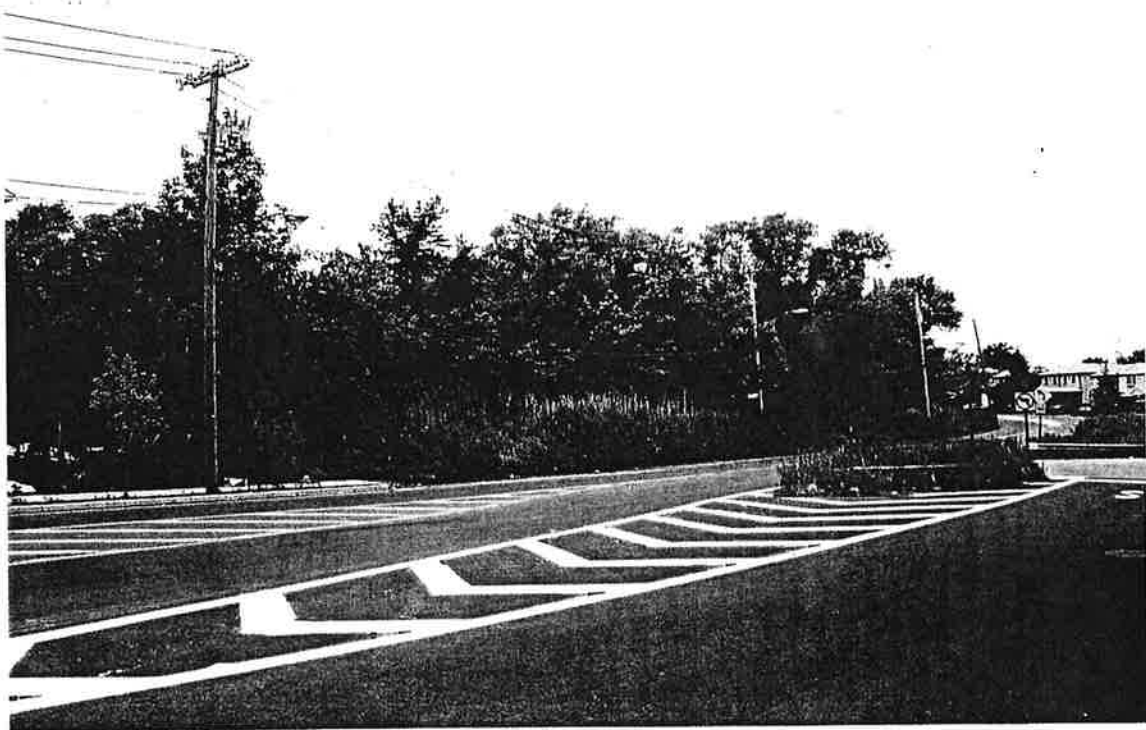


Figure 8: Proposed site of BMP AH-1. View looking north across Woodrow Road.  
Photo by Andrew Fiorillo, June 2001.

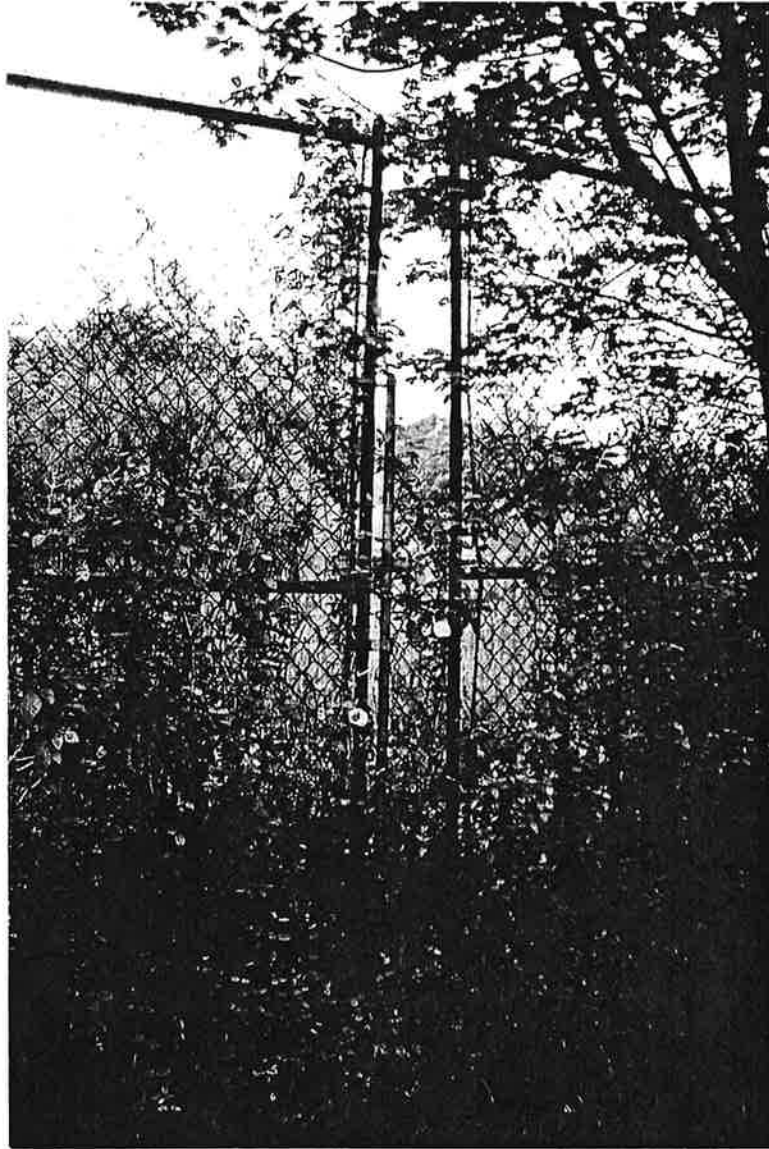


Figure 9: Proposed site of BMP AH-2. View looking west. Photo by Andrew Fiorillo, June 2001.





Figure 10: BMP AH-3 at the intersection of Legate and Halpin Avenues. Roadside view (looking northwest). Photo by Andrew Fiorillo, June 2001.



Figure 11: BMP AH-4, Carlton Boulevard. Roadside view, looking south. Photo by Andrew Fiorillo, June 2001.

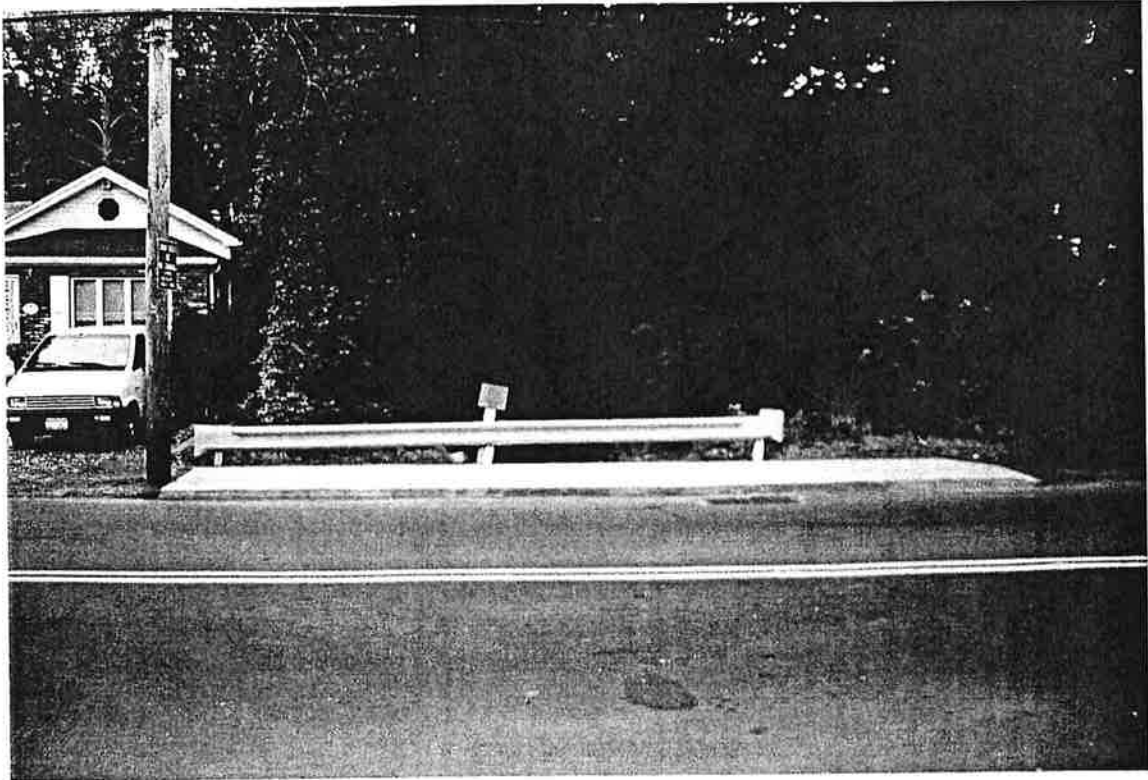


Figure 12: BMP AH-5, Arden Avenue. Roadside view, looking north toward culvert.  
Photo by Andrew Fiorillo, June 2001.

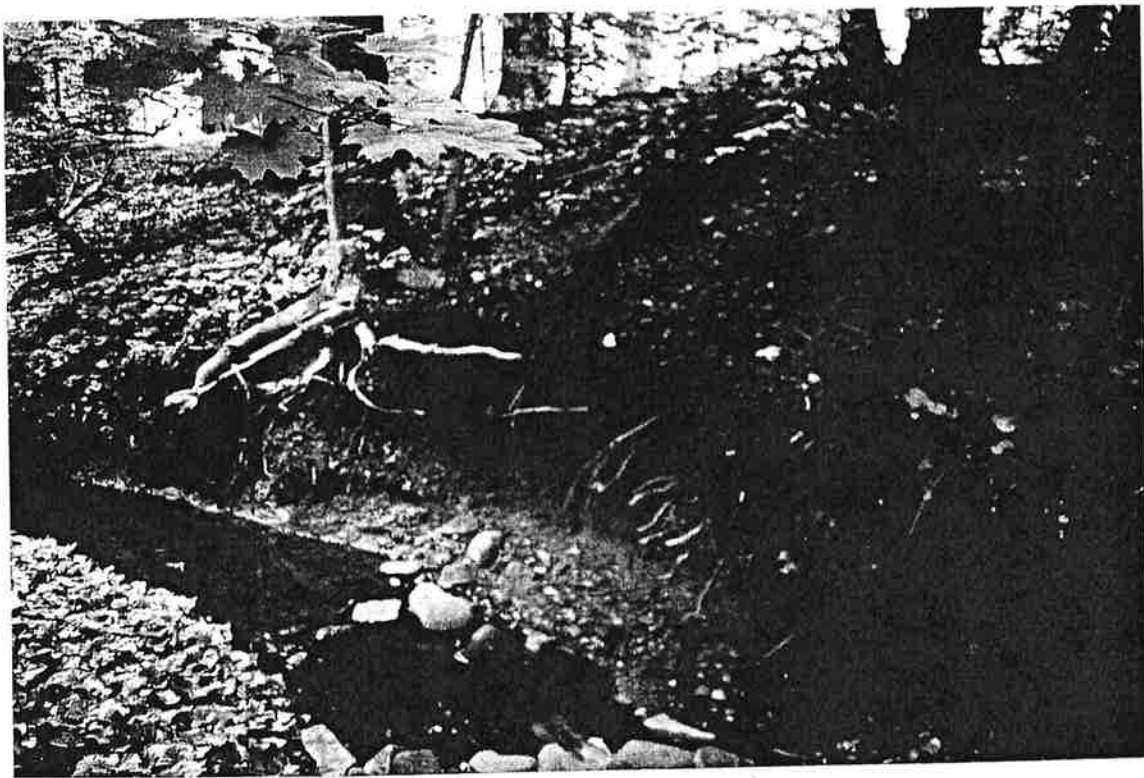


Figure 13: BMP AH-5, Arden Avenue. Brick channel and streambed proposed for restoration. Journey Family Cemetery to the right of the streambed. Photo by Andrew Fiorillo, June 2001.



Figure 14: Site of BMP AH-6, Arden Avenue. View looking south from Arden Avenue. Photo by Andrew Fiorillo, June 2001.



Figure 15: Legate Avenue structure that may be associated with historic Journey homestead. Legate Avenue in foreground. View looking northeast. Photo by Andrew Fiorillo, June 2001.

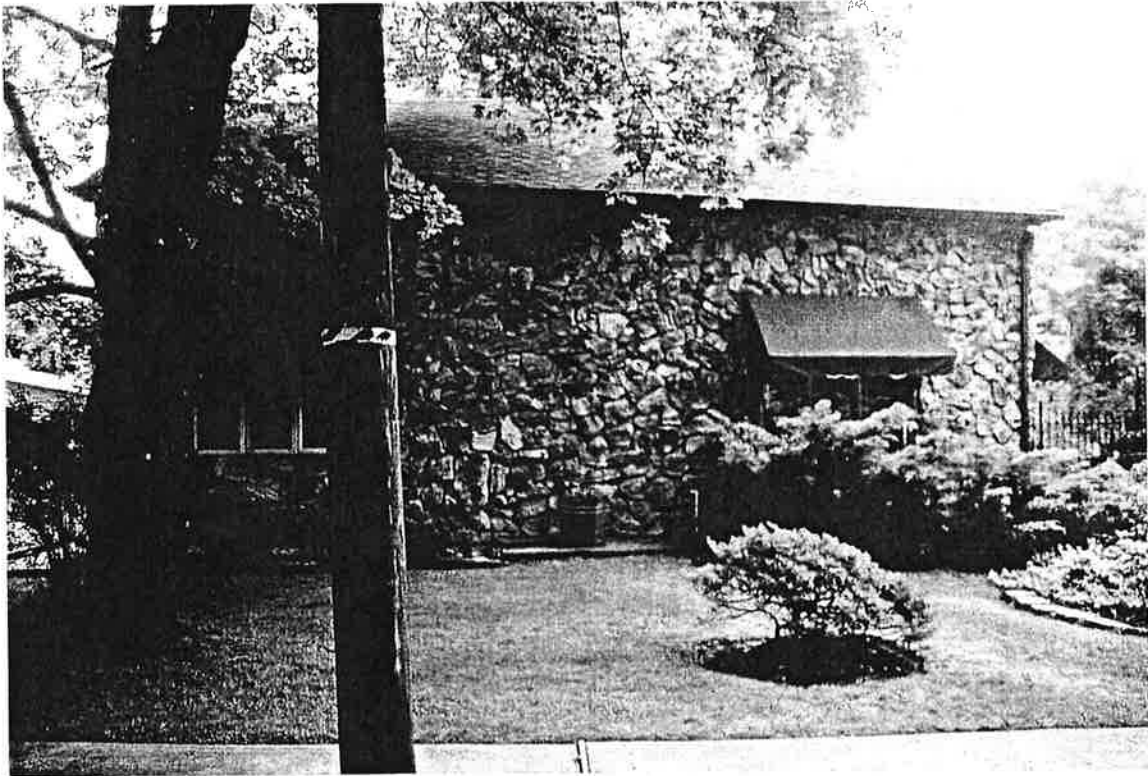


Figure 16: Legate Avenue structure that may be associated with historic Journey homestead. Legate Avenue in foreground. View looking east. Photo by Andrew Fiorillo, June 2001.

ARDEN

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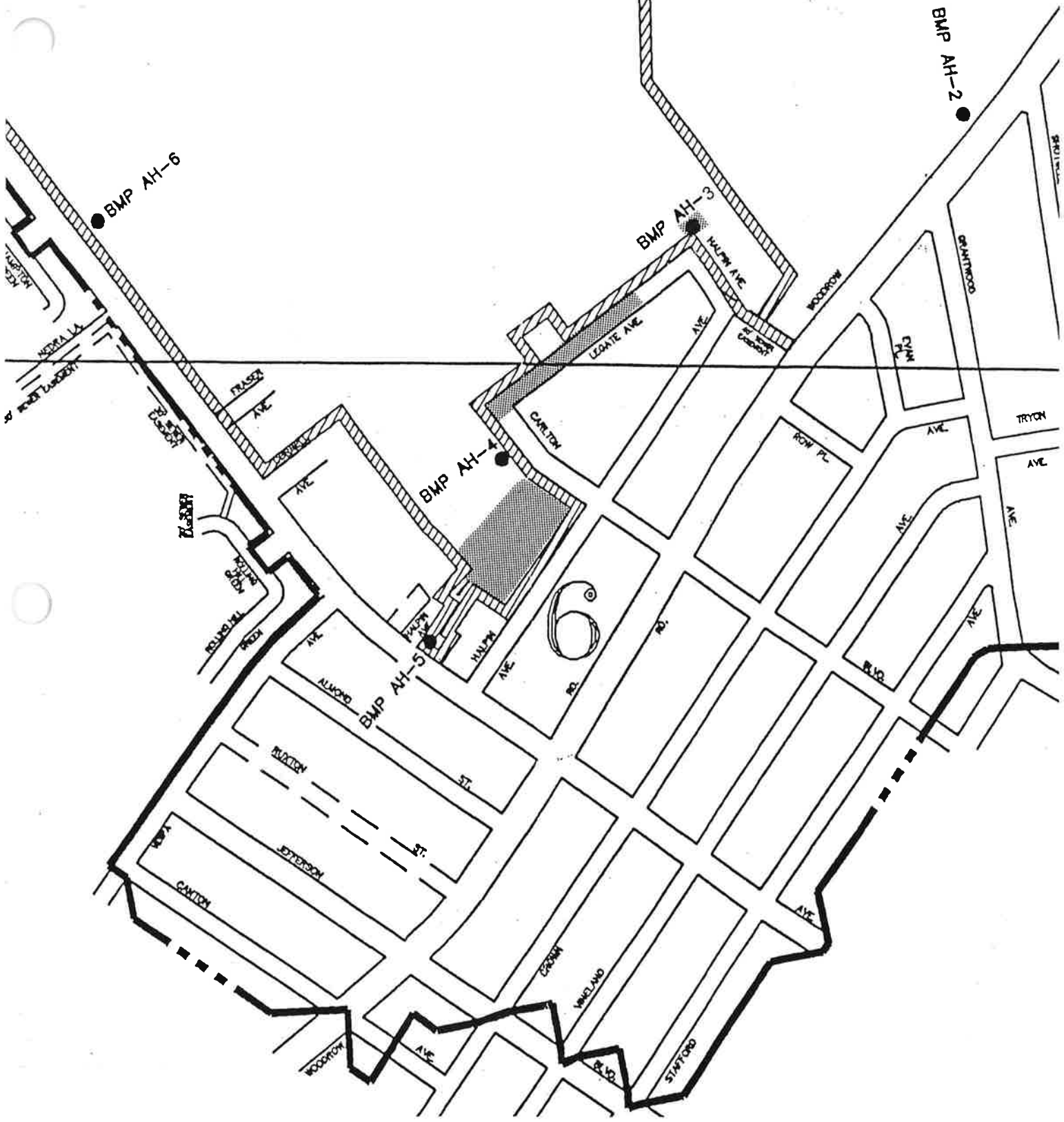


Figure 17:

Areas of Archaeological Sensitivity in the Arden Heights Watershed of the South Richmond Drainage Plan



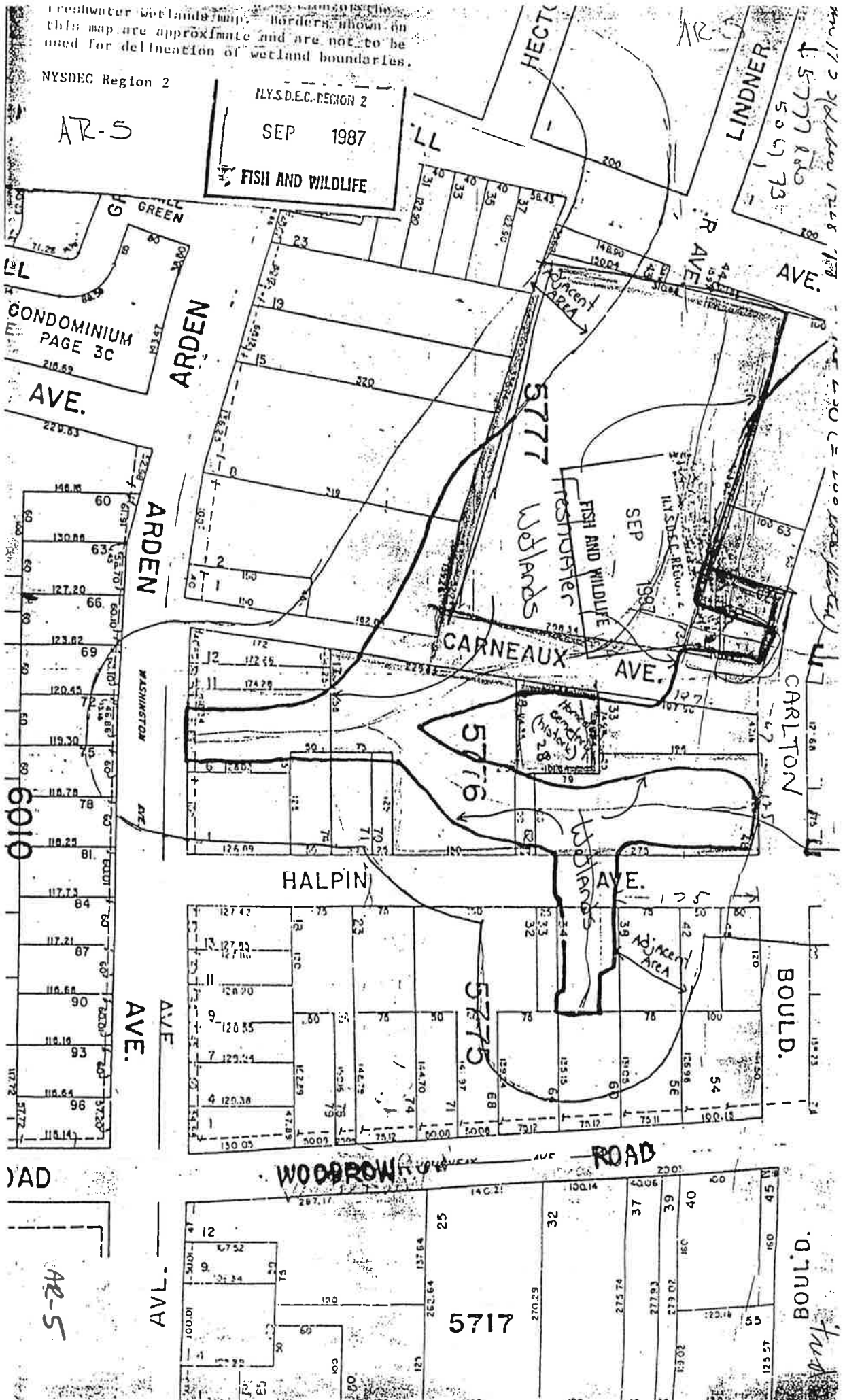
**APPENDIX 1**

**FILES FROM THE  
FRIENDS OF ABANDONED CEMETERIES OF STATEN ISLAND**

Freshwater wetlands map. Borders shown on this map are approximate and are not to be used for delineation of wetland boundaries.

NYSDEC Region 2

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City of New York  
Parks & Recreation

OCT 2 1992

The Arsenal  
Central Park  
New York, New York 10021

Betsy Gotbaum  
Commissioner

October 1, 1992

Mr. Robert Gochfeld  
Department of City Planning  
Technical Review Unit-3N  
New York, N.Y. 10007

Re: Arden Heights Woods  
C 860370 MMR

Dear Bob:

Thank you for bringing the matter of the Journey family cemetery to our attention. The Parks Department would be glad to identify the site with the signage requested by Community Board 3 and the Friends of Cemeteries, along Block 5776, Lot 28. We have instructed our staff to furnish the appropriate indicators to mark this colonial burial ground once this property is mapped and jurisdiction transferred to our Department.

Thank-you for following up on this matter.

Sincerely,

Jane P. Cleaver

Director of Parklands

The Journey Cemetery is located on a 100 x 100 foot plot as indicated on the accompanying map. It is designated as Block 5776, lot 28 on tax maps. We feel that this historic site, which became City property in 1953, (see Liber 1228 pages 214-230), is still bound by the 1855 Will of Albert Journey and, therefore, can only be used as a cemetery. Furthermore, despite the absence of visible gravemarkers, it is the burials of human beings which makes a cemetery and not merely markers. Since the City now seeks to form a park in this area, we strongly request that the City preserve this 232 years old historic site by doing the following:

1. Maintaining the cemetery on all maps. Until recently this was the case. Inexplicably, the cemetery disappeared from City maps. This should be corrected.

2. The area should be carefully inspected for gravestones which may be covered by vegetation or dirt. The Friends will aid in this regard if the City so desires.

3. There should be no change in grade or topography in that 100 x 100 area lest human burials be disturbed.

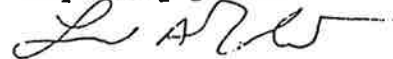
4. Most importantly, the area should be defined and demarcated. The boundaries of the cemetery within the park should be noted by a sign, plaque or other marker. We are not asking for expensive fencing or unusual maintenance - only that the area be clearly shown to be distinct from the rest of the park while still being a part of it.

We are pleased that the City wishes to preserve this area; we ask only that it complete the job by recognizing this cemetery as a separate and distinct area within the park itself so that its historical significance does not disappear forever.

For these reasons, we urge this Committee of Community Board #3 to approve the City's request but only if the Journey Cemetery is preserved as a distinct part of the park.

On behalf of Friends of Abandoned Cemeteries and Southeast Annadale Woodlands Association, we thank you for your kind consideration of this request.

Very truly yours,



Leonard A. Robusto  
President,  
Southeast Annadale Woodlands Association, Inc.  
Membership Chairman,  
Friends of Abandoned Cemeteries, Inc.

The Friends of Abandoned Cemeteries, Inc. and the Southeast Annadale Woodlands Association support the concept of incorporating the 183 acres of property in issue in Arden Heights into a park.

We would like to point out to the Board and Parks Department that there is located within the proposed boundaries of this park a unique cemetery.

Early settlers used a portion of their land as homestead gravesites or family burial grounds. The JOURNEY family did exactly this. The Fourney family settled upon the area in issue in the 1600's. Their estate home was situated on what would be Legate Avenue near what is now Carlton Boulevard; their barn was to the west thereof just off the southerly intersection of those two streets. A path was cut from the estate house to Woodrow Avenue which was then known as Journey Avenue. The cemetery was to the west of Carlton and north of what is now Halpin, on the banks of a stream in a scenic ravine. (See the annexed map).

Over the years, many burials took place at this cemetery, and the area was well preserved. Today it is one of the few remaining colonial burial grounds in the City of New York (C.F. Ridgeway Cemetery in Travis off Victory Blvd. which was saved by the Friends.).

Over the years, at least ten (10) burials are known to have taken place at the Journey cemetery. The names and dates of these people are listed on the annexed document.

By his Will of 1855, Albert Journey left the family burial plot to his sons Edward and Alfred with the stipulation that there be "a free passage thereto forever," and that it be "used for a burial place." (A copy of the extract of his Will is annexed).

In 1889 William T. Davis noted the existence of the cemetery which he described as "a little plot nearby fenced about with the modern galvanized wire only it is without the barbs". (A complete description is annexed hereto). As recently as November 14, 1948, Loring McMillen surveyed the area. He noted thirteen (13) stones (Davis counted ten, raising the likelihood that three had become broken). After that, the area lay forgotten as "development" proceeded nearby.

In 1984, the Friends of Abandoned Cemeteries was founded, dedicated to the identification, beautification and preservation of Staten Island's abandoned and neglected cemeteries (see brochure). In August, 1988 three members of the group, Marjorie Johnson, Janis Kiernan and Fred Crane re-located the area. Although only part of one stone was noted, considerable vegetation made a careful search impossible.

FROM PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATURAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

OF S. I. - DEC 1889

"HOME-STEAD GRAVES" by WILLIAM T. DAVIS

Across the road, on what was once the Journeay farm, is a little plot neatly fenced about with the modern galvanized

wire, only it is without the barbes. The ten stones are inscribed as follows:

Sacred to the Memory of Mr Daniel Stillwell, who departed this life the 20th of May 1760, aged 58 years.

The Voice said cry & he said what shall I cry? all flesh is grass; the grass withereth the flower fadeeth but the word of our God shall stand forever. Isa, 40 v 8 & 7

This stone is particularly interesting, for the reason that it is of a dark blue slate, and it has held the inscription and cherubim's head wonderfully well.

In Memory of Edward P. Journeay, Son of Albert and Mary Journeay, who departed this life the 11 day of April in the Year of our Lord 1796, aged 10 years.

Sacred to the Memory of Martha, widow of David Fitz Randolph, who departed this life 9th Nov. 1810, aged 57 years, 3 mos & 3 days.

She has finished her course in faith And now rests from her labours.

Albert Journeay, Born March 8 1755 Died July 24 1845.

They pass away these men of many years As Autumn's sheaves before the reapers hand Their dim eyes closing on this vale of tears To wake unclouded in the better land.

Sacred to the memory of Mary, wife of Albert Journeay, who departed this life December 27, 1842, in the 68 year of her age.

And is it that body cold in death That form we loved so well And has she drawn her latest breath And gone in Heaven to dwell. They who die in Christ are blest Sweetly with their god they rest All their toils and troubles leaving So be ours the faith that saveth.

In Memory of Moses Pearson, who departed this life 25 August, 1816, aged 48 years & 15 days.

In Memory of Widow, Phoebe Furnan, who departed this life, 10 December 1816, Aged 60 years, 3 months and 20 days.

Sacred to the memory of James Journeay, who departed this life July 16, 1820 aged 40 years & 11 months.

Though deep the slumbers of the tomb Though dark this bed of clay Yet shall he wake & live again In everlasting day

In memory of Joseph Journeay, who departed this life the 14 of May, 1821, Aged 89 Years and 6 months.

The cutting on this stone is quite elaborate. The words are mostly curved and the scrip letters offered an opportunity for flourishing that has not been neglected.

In Memory of Catharine Hedden, who departed this life, July 9, 1805, Aged 86 Years, 9 months & 13 days.

Behold all you that do pass by As you are now so once was I As I am now so you must be Prepare for death & follow me.

Burial dates Journeay Home-stead Cemetery

- 1760 Stillwell Daniel
- 1796 Journeay Edward P
- 1805 Hedden Catherine
- 1810 Fitz Randolph Martha
- 1816 Pearson Moses
- 1816 Furnan Phoebe
- 1821 Journeay Joseph
- 1829 Journeay James
- 1842 Journeay Mary
- 1845 Journeay Albert

(... ..)

File # 784  
Liber I p 403

Sept. 22, 1855  
Sept. 24, 1860

William W. Young  
Geo. W. Stevens  
both N.Y.C.

ALBERT JOURNEY, sr, dec. Sept. 2, 1860, Westfield  
Executors to purchase a plot of ground in St.  
Andrew's Church yard at Richmond and erect a  
vault thereon for the interment of members of  
my family and I direct that they enclose plot  
with a suitable iron fence and I appropriate the  
sum of \$1,000 or more if needed for same.  
I devise unto my sons Edward and Albert the plot  
used for a burial place on my farm Westfield and  
~~a free passage thereto forever, to be used for~~  
~~such of my father's family as may desire to be~~  
~~interred there.~~ To my grandson, Albert Journey  
Acy --- and my gold pencil marked Albert Journey  
Sr.; All remaining estate to my wife, ANN  
JOURNEY, for as long as she remains my widow,  
and at her remarriage or death to fall to my  
sons, Edward and Albert and my daughter, Sarah  
Emeline, wife of Thomas R. Acy, with the exception  
of a certain sum to be set aside for my grandson  
Charles Edward Journey McMillen, child of dec.  
daughter, Mary Ann McMillen ---

Executrix-wife, Ann Journey, sons Albert and  
Edward Journey.

Oct. 18, 1856  
codicil

Benjamin P.  
DeGroot  
Geo. W. Stevens  
both N.Y.C.

revokes item about grandson Charles E. J. McMillen  
and sets up a different trust for him. And  
provides for an annuity for his wife, and lets  
the remaining property be divided at once, after  
his death.

File # 785  
Liber I p 410

June 14, 1860  
Sept. 28, 1860

James B. Brinsmade, Brooklyn  
James C. Ward, New Brighton

GEORGE E. KUNHARDT, dec. July 4, 1860, to my wife  
ELIZABETH KUNHARDT, personal property. Remainder  
to be invested for an annuity for my wife and  
after her death to my children.

Executors- wife, brother, Henry R. Kunhardt.

Probate- names children- Edward M.  
Carl P. Henry G., Kate E.,  
Henrietta and George C. Kunhardt.

File # 786  
Liber I p 417  
Sept. 29, 1860  
Oct. 15, 1860

Joseph B. Pearce  
Thomas Mullin

JOHN JONES, dec. Oct. 1, 1860, Northfield to my  
daughter, Mary Elizabeth and my dau. Margaret my  
estate, and after them to their children if any.

Executors- Ludlum H. Haggerty, and Charles Tranter.

Probate, Mary Elizabeth, wife of Abraham Housman.  
Margaret, wife of Charles Lisk.

## THE JOURNEY HOMESTEAD CEMETERY

EARLY S.I. SETTLERS USED A PORTION OF THEIR  
FARMLAND FOR FAMILY BURIALS.

THE JOURNEY FAMILY WHO SETTLED ON S.I. BEFORE  
1700 HAD SUCH A "HOMESTEAD" CEMETERY.

IT IS AMONG THE VERY LAST REMAINING HOME-  
STEAD BURIAL GROUNDS ON S.I.

BY HIS WILL IN 1855, ALBERT JOURNEY LEFT  
THE FAMILY BURIAL PLOT TO HIS SONS EDWARD  
AND ALFRED WITH THE STIPULATION OF "A FREE  
PASSAGE THERETO FOREVER" /

IT IS DESIGNATED AS LOT 28 BLOCK 5776 ON N.Y.C  
TAX MAPS. IT IS APPROX.  $\frac{1}{4}$  ACRES IN SIZE. IT WAS  
AMONG MANY LOTS IN THE AREA TAKEN BY N.Y.C

IN 1953 (LIBER 1228, PGS. 214-230)



IT IS IN A WOODED AREA, ON THE BANKS OF  
A STREAM IN A VERY SCENIC RAVINE. THE  
AREA IS PART OF A D.E.C. WETLANDS DESIGNA-  
TION (SEE D.E.C. MAP. - SEPT 1987).

THE CEMETERY "HAS RETURNED TO NATURE"  
ALL GRAVE STONES HAVE DISAPPEARED - EITHER  
FROM VANDALISM OR THEFT. HOWEVER, SINCE  
BURIALS, RATHER THAN GRAVESTONES CONSTITUTE  
A CEMETERY, IT IS STILL A CEMETERY.

THE JOURNEY HOMESTEAD CEMETERY HAS  
STOOD FOR AT LEAST 232 YEARS. IT IS A  
SACRED AND HISTORIC SITE AND AS SUCH  
SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED AND PRESERVED.

Major Johnson  
Aug 1992

# Friends of Abandoned Cemeteries Inc

◆◆◆  
140 Tysen street  
Staten Island, New York 10301

July 15, 1997

City Councilman Vito Fossella  
3944 Richmond Ave  
Staten Island NY 10312

Dear Councilman Fossella,

On August 12, 1992 Community Board #3 held a public hearing concerning the establishment of Arden Heights Woods Park, which the Parks Department was then seeking to establish. At that time I testified on behalf of the Friends of Abandoned Cemeteries Inc. in favor of the park, and produced materials which demonstrated that this parkland was once the farm of the Journey family, whose ancestors are still buried thereat.

This colonial family burial ground was identified by the Friends who are anxious to see the area preserved and marked. The Board was very enthusiastic about this information, as was Jane Cleaver, the Director of Parklands.

Ms. Cleaver sent a letter to Mr. Robert Gochfeld, Department of City Planning on October 1, 1992 of which I attach a copy. As you can see, everyone wants to preserve and mark the site.

However, no one has followed up on this item. Marjorie Johnson of the Friends has personally shown city representatives the location for the marker, but no one has actually placed any markers or shown any interest in finalizing this matter.

We are requesting your intervention to move this matter to a satisfactory conclusion. If you have any questions please call me at my office during the day at 212 553-8733. Thank you for your anticipated assistance.

Very truly yours,

Leonard A. Robusto  
membership chairman

**APPENDIX 2**

**FIELD INSPECTION REPORT:**

**JOURNEAY FAMILY CEMETERY PLOT  
BLOCK 5776/LOT 28**



Wednesday June 13, 2001

## Field Inspection: Journey Family Cemetery

The 1913 Topography map of the Arden Heights area and the 1987 Fish and Wildlife (NYSDEC Region 2) map were used to find the location of the Journey family cemetery. Fortunately, the two maps, with respect to the location and dimensions of the cemetery, were similar. Both maps showed the cemetery to be due west of the Carlton Blvd./Halpin Ave. intersection. Also, the center of the cemetery showed to be roughly located 250 feet southwest of Carlton Blvd. and 150 feet northwest from Halpin Ave. The maps also showed the cemetery to be roughly 100 feet by 100 feet in overall size.

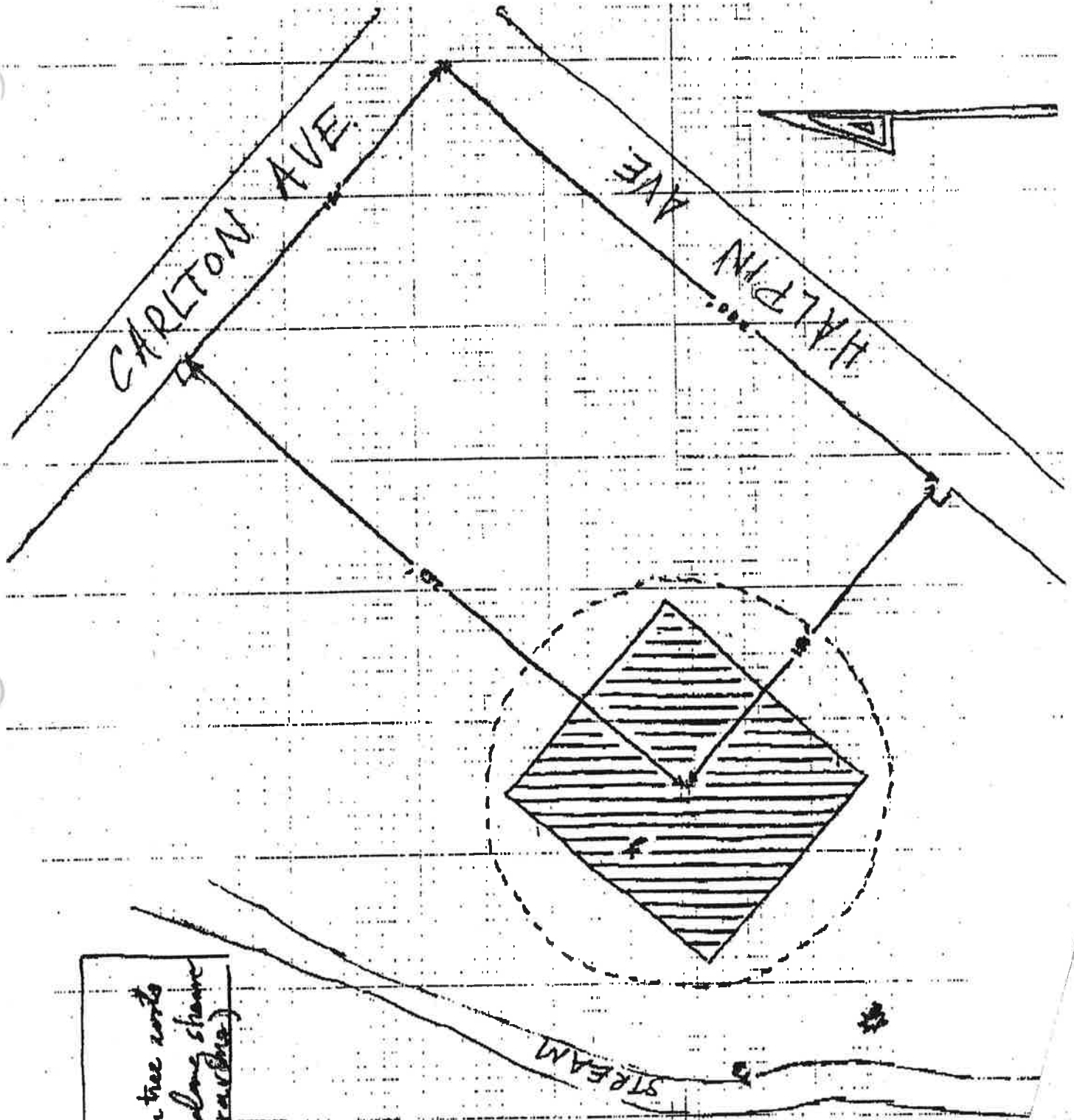
Using a 300-foot tape reel, a distance of 250 feet was measured from the intersection of Carlton Blvd. and Halpin Ave. along Halpin Ave. toward Arden Ave. With this point established, 150 feet was measured from the edge of Halpin Ave. in a northwest direction into the area which, according to the maps, was the supposed center of the Journey cemetery. These measurements are assumed to be approximate since the actual placement and width of the street corridors has certainly changed in the last 88 years. A flag was used to mark the found center of the cemetery. For comparison sake, an estimation of the center of the cemetery was taken using the distance from Carlton Blvd. Again from the intersection of Halpin Ave. and Carlton Blvd.; a distance of 150 feet was measured along Carlton Blvd toward Legate Ave. Once this point was established, a distance of 250 feet was measured off walking perpendicular or southwest from Carlton Blvd. A second center point was marked with a flag. Both estimated center points were within 10 feet of one another. See the attached field sketch and photographs.

With a center of the Journey cemetery established, a space roughly 150 feet in diameter was cleared for a visual inspection. The vegetation found within the cemetery area consisted of thorn bushes (3-4 feet high), general undergrowth (ranging from 4-6 feet high), and 10-12 deciduous trees (approximated to be 30-60 years old). The area cleared was determined to be a rough estimate of the total area of the Journey cemetery. Once the area was cleared, a thorough check was made for any trace of graves, headstones and fences once used in the cemetery. Where needed, a fan rake was used to loosen and remove any of the humus layers that had collected on the forest floor.

The search within and around the cemetery resulted in only three possible anomalies. First, a fragment of a flat stone was found north of the center area. This fragment was found on top of the forest floor, on top of the recently fallen leaves, which would indicate that the piece of rock, if associated with the cemetery plot, was displaced. Second, a particularly unique stone fragment was found wedged in the roots of a tree. The tree that the stone was found near, although falling outside of the cleared area, was close enough to be considered for possible inclusion in the cemetery area. The wedged fragment was

therefore investigated but not removed. Third, another flat stone fragment was found in a search along the stream and ravine that borders the cemetery area. The stone fragment was found on the wall of the ravine closest to the cemetery and was also found on the surface, on top of the leaves. It is important to note that none of the stone fragments found in the investigation had any traces of inscription or etching but were unique rock types to the area (in color, texture and size). It is, however, completely possible for these stones to be of natural occurrence. Photographs were taken of all the fragments. A further, more exact, analysis would be necessary to determine if these pieces could be attributed to the Journey family cemetery.

Andrew Fiorillo  
David Klinge



- 1 - stone fragment found
- 2 - stone fragment found in tree roots
- 3 - stone fragment found along stream (in ravine)

Appendix 2 Photographs



Location of Journey Family Cemetery, Block 5776/Lot 28. Close-up view of possible piece of grave marker. Photo by Andrew Fiorillo, June 2001.

Appendix 2 Photographs



Location of Journey Family Cemetery, Block 5776/Lot 28. View of stream and knoll to the east, looking east. Photo by Andrew Fiorillo, June 2001.



Appendix 2 Photographs



Location of Journey Family Cemetery, Block 5776/Lot 28. View of stream and ravine, looking south. Photo by Andrew Fiorillo, June 2001.

Appendix 2 Photographs



Location of Journey Family Cemetery, Block 5776/Lot 28. View of probable cemetery knoll, ravine in the foreground, looking east. Photo by Andrew Fiorillo, June 2001.