A more detailed plan published in 1895 (Illustration 29) reveals a design that had advanced remarkably, and had achieved a level of landscaping sophistication that did not exist previously in the Croton System. It can be seen that rather than being like the New Central Park Reservoir, the 1895 design of the Jerome Park Reservoir actually had more stylistic kinship with the Lake and the Pond in Central Park, smaller bodies of water designed by Olmsted. In scale, it resembled the picturesque artificial lakes of the storage reservoir system in the Croton Watershed.

The 1895 design of the Jerome Park Reservoir called for sloped earth embankments rather than a retaining wall around most of the reservoir. This design also had two islands and a peninsula. Jerome Park Clubhouse Island and Oak Ridge Clubhouse Island, one in each basin, were planned for existing highpoints where existing clubhouses from the race track would be preserved. The peninsula, at the northwest side of the reservoir, was the intended location of Shaft No. 21. The roadway on the dividing wall (the East Basin Wall along the Goulden Avenue side of the as-built Reservoir) jogged to provide access to both islands. The bridge from Gate House 5 to Shaft No. 21 would have allowed access to Gate House 5 from the peninsula, which projected from the area where Fort Independence Park is today.

Chief Engineer Alphonse Fteley wrote in 1895 that, "...it is expected that the new reservoir will add greatly to the attractiveness of the surrounding grounds."[57]

The designers were instructed in 1895 to revise the plan to allow for more water storage without increasing the footprint of the site, so the islands and peninsula were eliminated to allow for more excavation.[58] In the final design, as reflected in the plan from the 1907 Commissioners Report (Illustration 30), the jog in the wall remains though the islands have been eliminated, and the bridge from Gate House No. 5 to Shaft No. 21 remains. Also stone face walls were planned all around the reservoir rather than the earthen banks, except for a short strip along the northern side, where a sloped concrete bank was designed.

The construction of the reservoir aroused several controversies. The Merchants' Association demanded a grand jury investigation into poor workmanship at the New Croton Dam and Jerome Park Reservoir. It was reported that the reservoir's walls were not watertight, that, "...the commissioners seldom visit the Jerome Park Reservoir and that the [New Croton] dam was like a sieve with water spouts gushing

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[57] Alphonse Fteley, Report of Chief Engineer, Aqueduct Commission, *Report to the Aqueduct Commissioners,* 1895, p.80

[58] Aqueduct Commission, *Report to the Aqueduct Commissioners, 1895 - 1907,* 1907

through cracks with such force to permit a man to walk under the arch of the streams without getting wet..."[59]

To investigate the allegations concerning the reservoir, a Special Committee of Engineers was set up under William Burr and John Freeman. Their 1903 report, submitted to the Aqueduct Commissioners, contains an evaluation and remedial recommendations for the concrete floor of the reservoir, the workmanship of the stone walls, and the use of "stone dust" from the site as aggregate for mortar. The report did not find major flaws, but called for more careful inspection. The mortar composition was approved.[60]

According to Walter H. Sears, Chief Engineer in 1907, "Assistant Engineer F. S. Cook had charge of the Draughting Bureau of the Aqueduct Commissioners, where all the important works constructed by the Commissioners were designed, from January 23, 1884, to March 1, 1905, when he was promoted to the position of Division Engineer and placed in charge of the construction of the Jerome Park Reservoir."[61]

Designs for the gate house superstructures were not shown in the 1887, 1895 or 1907 reports. Preliminary designs were underway as of 1903 (and probably much earlier), and proposed designs, along with a model of Gate House No. 5 were publicly exhibited by Cook at the 1904 Lousiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis, Mo., in a joint display of the Aqueduct Commissioners and the Department of Water Supply,[62] but they were never permitted to be published in the Reports to the Aqueduct Commissioners.

The substructures of Gate Houses Nos. 1 to 7 were completed in 1905. Trowbridge and Livingston, Architects were retained to prepare plans and specifications for the superstructures (Illustration 31), and their design drawings were dated 1906.[63] Trowbridge and Livingston, Architects were a well known New York firm whose work included the St. Regis Hotel, and the B. Altman Department Store on 34th Street. We do not known why a consultant was retained for this project, while the other works had been designed in-house by the Aqueduct Commissioners. It may be

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[59] D'Alvia, p.162

[60] Prof. Wm. H. Burr and Mr. John Freeman, "Report of the Special Committee of Engineers Upon Certain Details of Construction of the Jerome Park Reservoir, July 27 1903"

[61] Aqueduct Commission, *Report to the Aqueduct Commissioners, 1895 - 1907*, 1907, p. 138

[62] Cook and Taber, pp. 14, 16

[63] Aqueduct Commission, *Report to the Aqueduct Commissioners, 1895 - 1907*, 1907, p. 15

that the of the Aqueduct Commissioners' engineers wanted to impress upon a fickle city government the significance of the reservoir.

The proposed superstructure designs for the reservoir gate houses were not published in the 1907 *Report to the Aqueduct Commissioners*. It is peculiar that there was such a strict prohibition against publishing the proposed superstructures, whether or not they had been funded or approved, or if their construction was postponed. Other proposed or schematic works had been published, and these were omitted in 1895 as well. This may reflect an ongoing effort by the Department of Water Supply, inherited from the Department of Public Works, to minimize the scope and cost of the reservoir, and to delay or prevent its being built.

The 1907 report states that, "...the construction of the superstructures has been postponed at the request of the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity until it is decided whether a filter plant is to be built in the East Basin of the Jerome Park Reservoir."[64] This is a reference to the 1905 Burr-Hering-Freeman Commission recommendation to filter the water of the Croton through a slow sand filter in the East Basin of the Jerome Park Reservoir. Jerome Park had originally been intended to purify water by subsidence, with the idea that most of the water of the new aqueduct would pass through the reservoir to allow settlement. The Burr-Hering-Freeman Commission recommended filtration of the proposed Catskill system as well (land was purchased in Peekskill for the purpose, but the Peekskill filters never materialized).[65]

The Bureau of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity requested the Aqueduct Commissioners to suspend construction of the East Basin of the Jerome Park Reservoir until it was decided whether to build the filter there. In 1907 the Bureau requested permission to, "install an experimental filter station by the National Roche Filtering Company at the Jerome Park Reservoir."[66] In 1910 it was decided to add chemicals to the water, particularly chlorine, in the gate houses of the West Basin, and not to filter the water.

There were several structures of the Croton system designed by the Department of Water Supply personnel even after the Aqueduct Commissioners were given general design responsibility. The Amawalk dam and reservoir was designed by the Department of Water Supply.[67] The Amawalk dam made visual reference back to the heritage of the Old Croton Aqueduct: the spillway had the sinusoidal curve of

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[64] Aqueduct Commission, *Report to the Aqueduct Commissioners, 1895 - 1907*, 1907, p. 15

[65] Weidner, p. 104

[66] *Minutes of the Aqueduct Commissioners*, 1907, p. 94

[67] Cook and Taber, p.12

Jervis's Old Croton Dam, and the neo-Egyptian portal over the tunnel entrance is reminiscent of the original receiving and distributing reservoirs. Perhaps this reflects a nostolgia for the days before the Aqueduct Commissioners.

The High Pumping Station on Jerome Avenue (Illustration 32) was also designed by the Department of Water Supply, under George W. Birdsall, Consulting Engineer, and constructed from 1901 to 1906. While contemporary with, and connected to, the Jerome Park Reservoir, the pumping station is stylistically different, being Romanesque Revival, rather than the style of the Aqueduct Commissioner's work. Also, the High Pumping Station is constructed of brick, whereas the Jerome Park Reservoir structures, like all of the works of the Croton system, were of stone.

While the High Pumping Station is a valuable historic structure in its own right, its stylistic and material differences from the architecture of the Aqueduct Commissioners can be interpreted as defiant or hostile. Brick is a less "noble" and more utilitarian material than stone. The High Pumping Station was constructed next to the Jerome Park Reservoir Keeper's House (Illustration 33), one of the finest of the architectural works designed in Cook's Draughting Bureau (the Keeper's House, which stood at the intersection of Jerome Avenue and Mosholu Parkway, was demolished in the late twentieth century to make way for Tracey Towers, a high-rise housing project).

Birdsall, who had been appointed Chief Engineer of the Water Works by Department of Public Works Commissioner Allan Campbell, had used stone for the nearby Williamsbridge Reservoir structures and Keepers House, part of the Bronx and Byram system completed in 1889. Birdsall was probably not appreciative of the public ridicule that the Bronx and Byram system had received at the hands of Church's club-mates in the 1880's, which had contributed to Church's ascendancy to Chief Engineer of the Aqueduct Commissioners.

The Aqueduct Commissioner's work was descended from the Roman Revival work of the Old Croton Aqueduct with traces of Renaissance Revival, Italianate and Romanesque. The sub-structures of their work, such as the Jerome Park gate houses, tended to be pure, muscular Roman Revival. The style of their designs was consistent over the twenty-seven years that their works were under construction, while it also had an eclectic quality that enriched the system. The 135th Street Gatehouse and the New Croton Dam, for example, had a Romanesque flavor while maintaining the essential character of Croton system architecture. This consistency is appealing, because it gives the whole Croton system a coherence, even though it evolved in numerous campaigns in far-flung places over many decades.

The Aqueduct Commissioners prepared a new set of designs for the Gate House Superstructures at the Jerome Park Reservoir, that superseded the Trowbridge and Livingston designs. The new designs were produced by the Draughting Bureau

while F. S. Cook had risen to the position of Acting Chief Engineer. They were completed in 1909, and were signed prominently by Cook (Illustration 34). Contract Drawings and Specifications were prepared and approved by the Corporation Counsel of the Commissioners for bidding on September 21, 1909 for Gate Houses No's 2,3,4,6 and 7, and on October 13, 1909 for Gate Houses No's 1 (in Van Cortlandt Park) and 5.[68]

The new design of the Gate House No. 5 superstructure included a tower nearly ninety feet tall with a red terra-cotta tile roof that would have projected a commanding presence across the expanse of the reservoir.

The Aqueduct Commissioners were gearing-up to complete the Jerome Park Reservoir, the gate house superstructures and the unfinished East Basin, as the final masterpiece of the Croton system.

The Aqueduct Commissioners were abolished on June 1, 1910, and their plans for Jerome Park were indefinitely shelved. In 1911, the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity constructed wooden frame sheds over the gate houses to shelter them until such time as superstructures might be constructed.

Because the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity had decided not to filter the water, they turned over the unfinished East Basin to other city agencies for their use. In 1912 construction began on the Eighth Coastal Artillery (Kingsbridge) Armory, in the south end of the East Basin. In the following years, a number of public schools and other city facilities were constructed in the East Basin.

The trail of urgency, money and political intrigue was now leading further north, into the Catskill Mountains. In the 1890's, it had been known that a Catskill system would most likely be built, and a corporation called the Ramapo Water Company had been empowered by the state legislature in 1895 to acquire property and lay pipe in the Catskill Watershed. In 1899, a move was made by the water department to rush through legislation to purchase high-priced water from the Ramapo Water Company, based on a tour of the Catskill Mountains by President Holahan, Water Commissioner Dalton and Chief Engineer George Birdsall.[69] Characterized as an, "Unholy alliance of Boss Platt's Republican machine which controlled the legislature and Boss Croker's Tamany Democrats who ruled the city,"[70] the move caused a major scandal in the press, which led to the repeal of the Ramapo Water Company's charter.

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[68] Minutes of the Aqueduct Commissioners, 1909, pp. 52, 67, 88, 94

[69] Weidner, p. 147

[70] Weidner, p.151

The Catskill system then followed a somewhat more orderly development, after a study was performed from John R. Freeman, followed by a detailed survey by Birdsall and a major study by the Burr-Hering-Freeman Commission. There was legislation in 1904 allowing the city to borrow $200 million to build the Catskill system, and in 1905, the creation of a State Water Commission. It was a project of an unprecedented scale, and after construction began in 1907, interest in the Croton System waned. By 1910, most portions of the Catskill Aqueduct were under construction, except the great Hudson River siphon. [71] Uptake and downtake chamber superstructures with a close resemblance to the proposed Jerome Park gate house superstructures were constructed at the Hillview Reservoir in 1915 from drawings prepared by H. Lincoln Rogers, Architect.

Gate house superstructures were finally constructed at the Jerome Park Reservoir in 1938, after being on hold for forty years. They were built by the Design Unit of the Works Progress Administration, under the direction of T. Hochlerner, Division Engineer, and Patrick Quilty, Acting Chief Engineer of the Bureau of Water Supply. The gate house superstructures at the Jerome Park Reservoir were built a year after construction had begun on the Deleware Aqueduct system, whose buildings are principally made of brick masonry. The Jerome Park Reservoir gate houses were constructed of brick masonry with stone trim in a muted Art Deco style that was integrated with the architecture of the original stone gate houses. (The gate house superstructures are discussed further in Section III.C below.)

This 1938 work at Jerome Park was about the same time as other works at city reservoirs under the WPA, including the infilling of Williamsbridge Reservoir to make a park/playground, the conversion of High Bridge Reservoir to a public swimming pool, and the demolition of the original Yorkhill Receiving Reservoir in Central Park to create the Great Lawn.

Portions of the Jerome Park Reservoir property were stripped from the reservoir to create parks: Fort Independence Park (1915), Old Fort Four Park (1913, 1931, and 1934), and Harris Park (1940, known as Harris Field and Harris Park Annex). Original reservoir landscaping -- stone walls, gate posts and wrought iron fences -- remain at some of these parks. The walls of Fort Independence Park along Sedgwick Avenue, for example, suggest how the reservoir perimeter landscaping appeared before the current cyclone fencing and barbed wire were installed.

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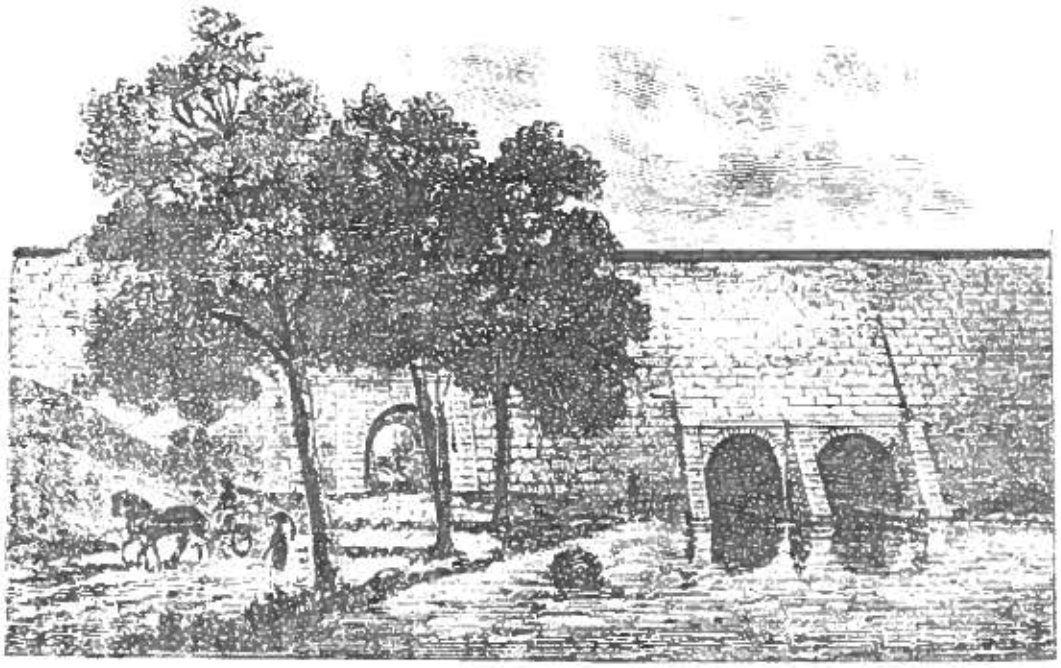
[71] Weidner, pp. 159, 177, 209

Illustration 7: Horseback riders on the Old Croton Aqueduct berm near the Pocantico River in Westchester County.

Illustration 8: The Old Croton Aqueduct Trailway, at Fordham Road in the Bronx, runs atop a stone-faced berm that is landscaped as a linear park.



VIEW OF THE AQUEDUCT BRIDGE AND ROADWAY,

AT SAW MILL RIVER, NEAR YONKERS.

Illustration 9: Historic illustration of the Saw Mill River Bridge, Old Croton Aqueduct, Yonkers (Tower, 1843).

Illustration 10: Historic illustration of the High Bridge over the Harlem River, just prior to its completion. Manhattan Island is at left, "The Continent of America" at right (Schramke, 1846).

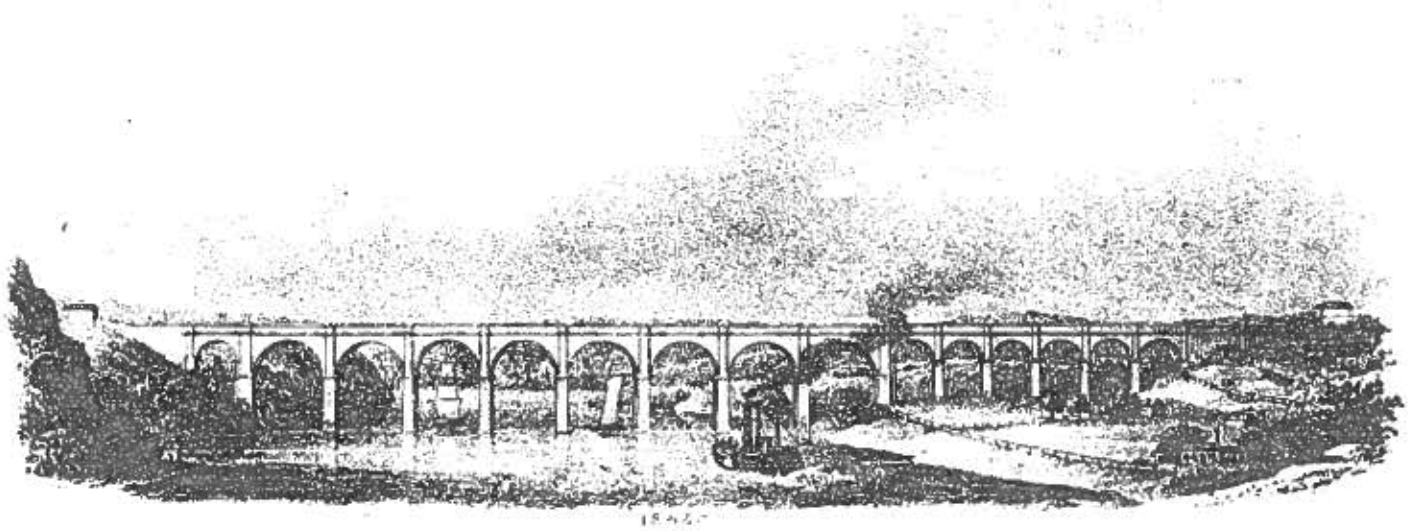
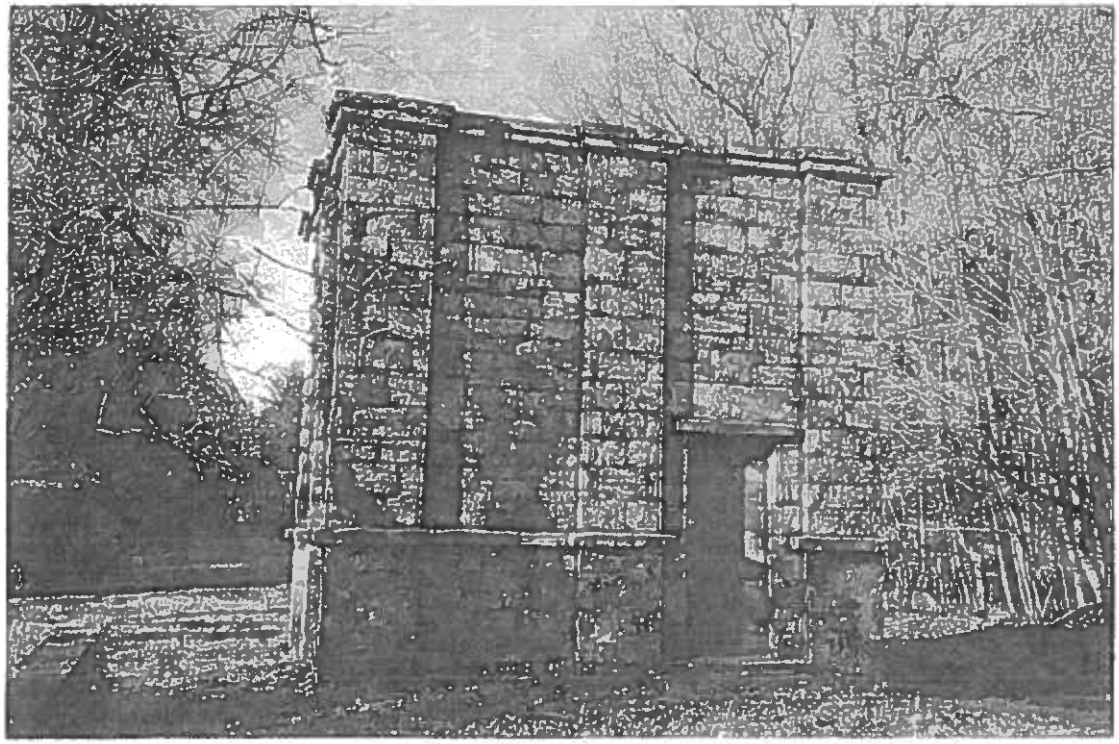


Illustration 11: Stone ventilator shaft on the Old Croton Aqueduct in Ossining.

Illustration 12: Weir building on the Old Croton Aqueduct in Pocantico.



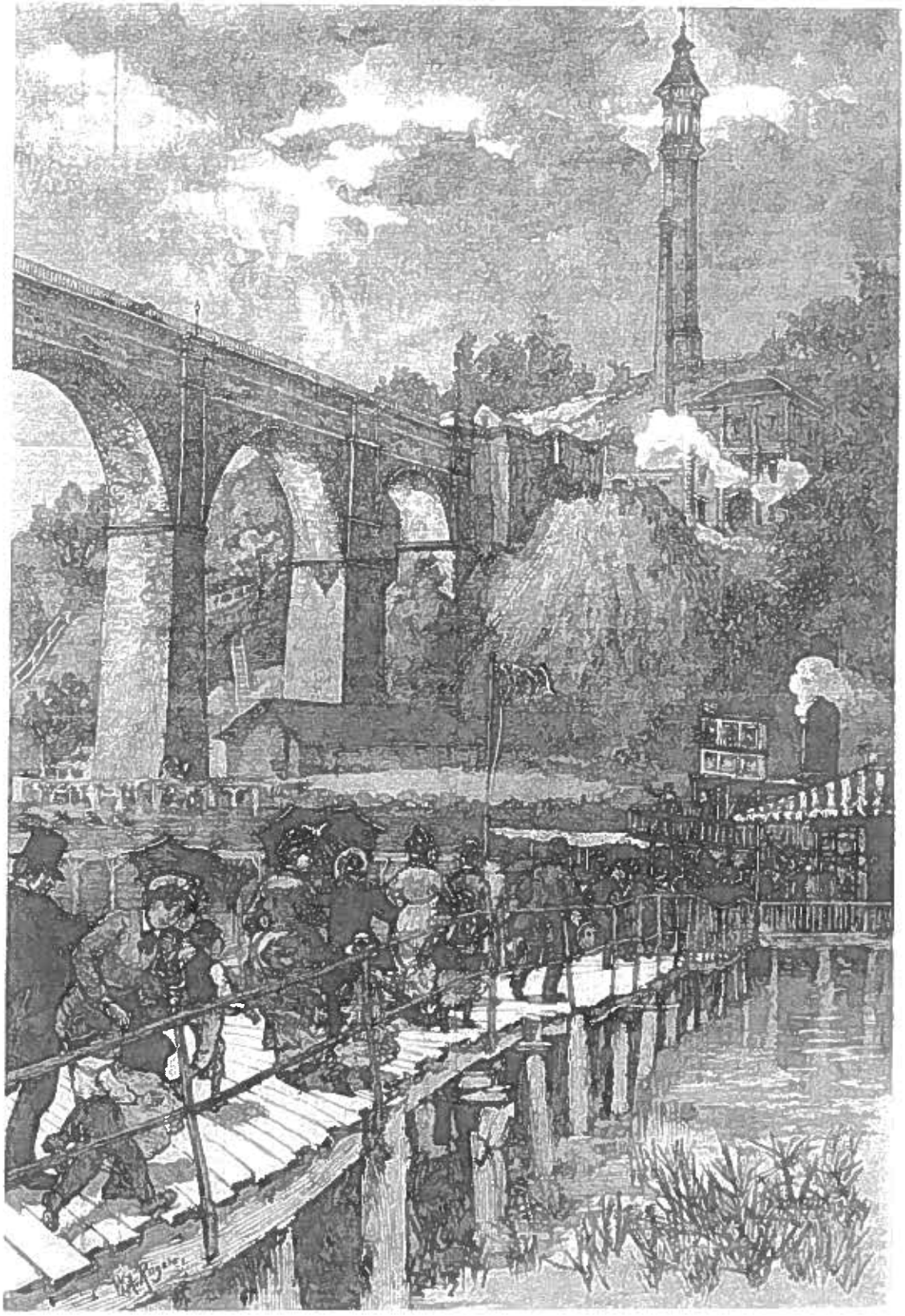


Illustration 13: Ferry landing by the High Bridge. The High Bridge Tower and pumping station can be seen on the opposite bank of the Harlem River. (Harper's Weekly, 1880)

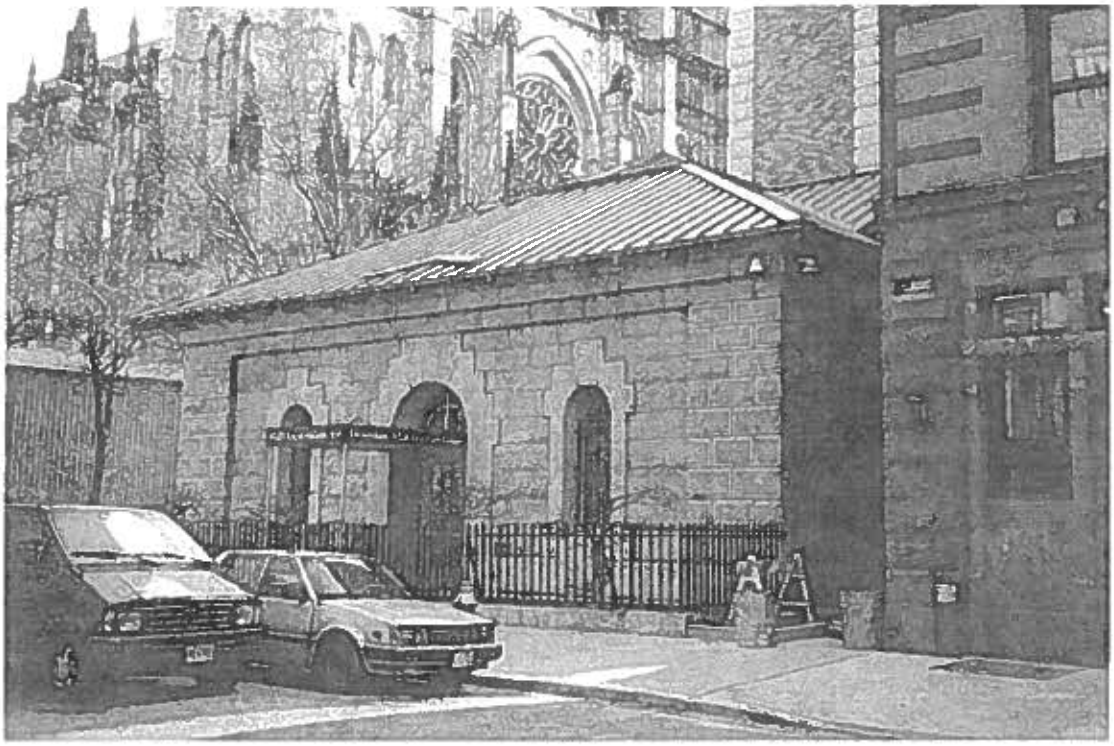
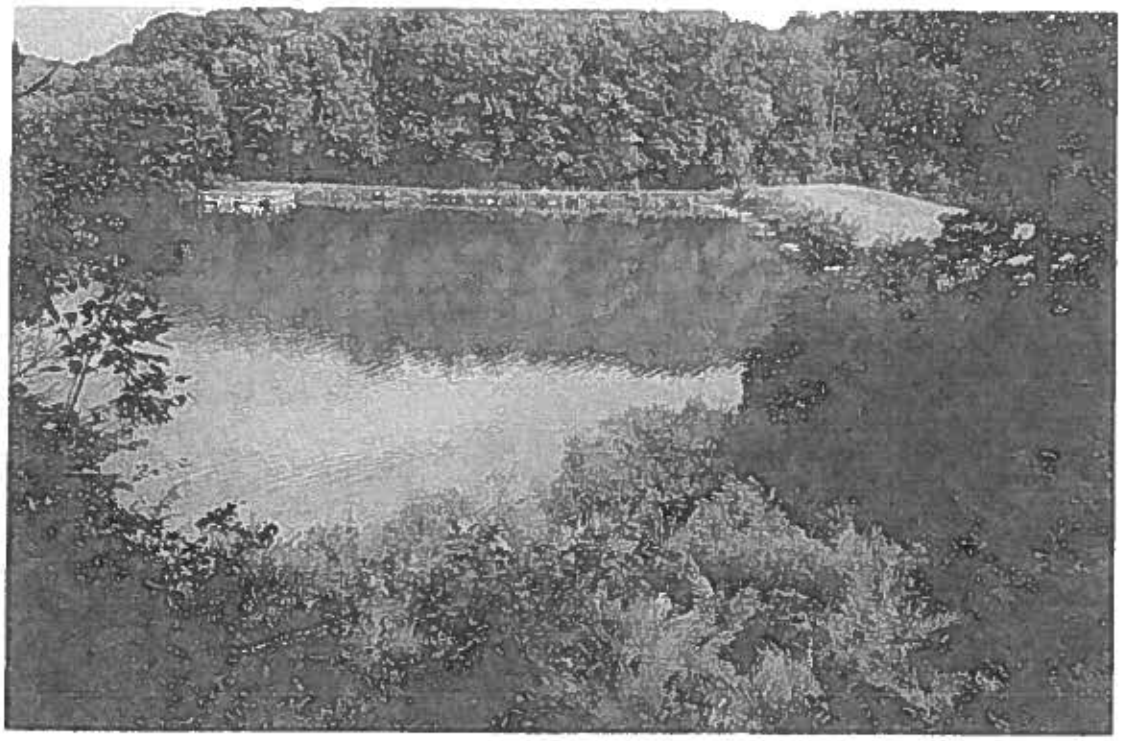


Illustration 14: 113th Street Gate House, Amsterdam Avenue, Manhattan, built in the 1870's along the Old Croton Aqueduct.

Illustration 15: Middle Branch Reservoir dam, Putnam County.



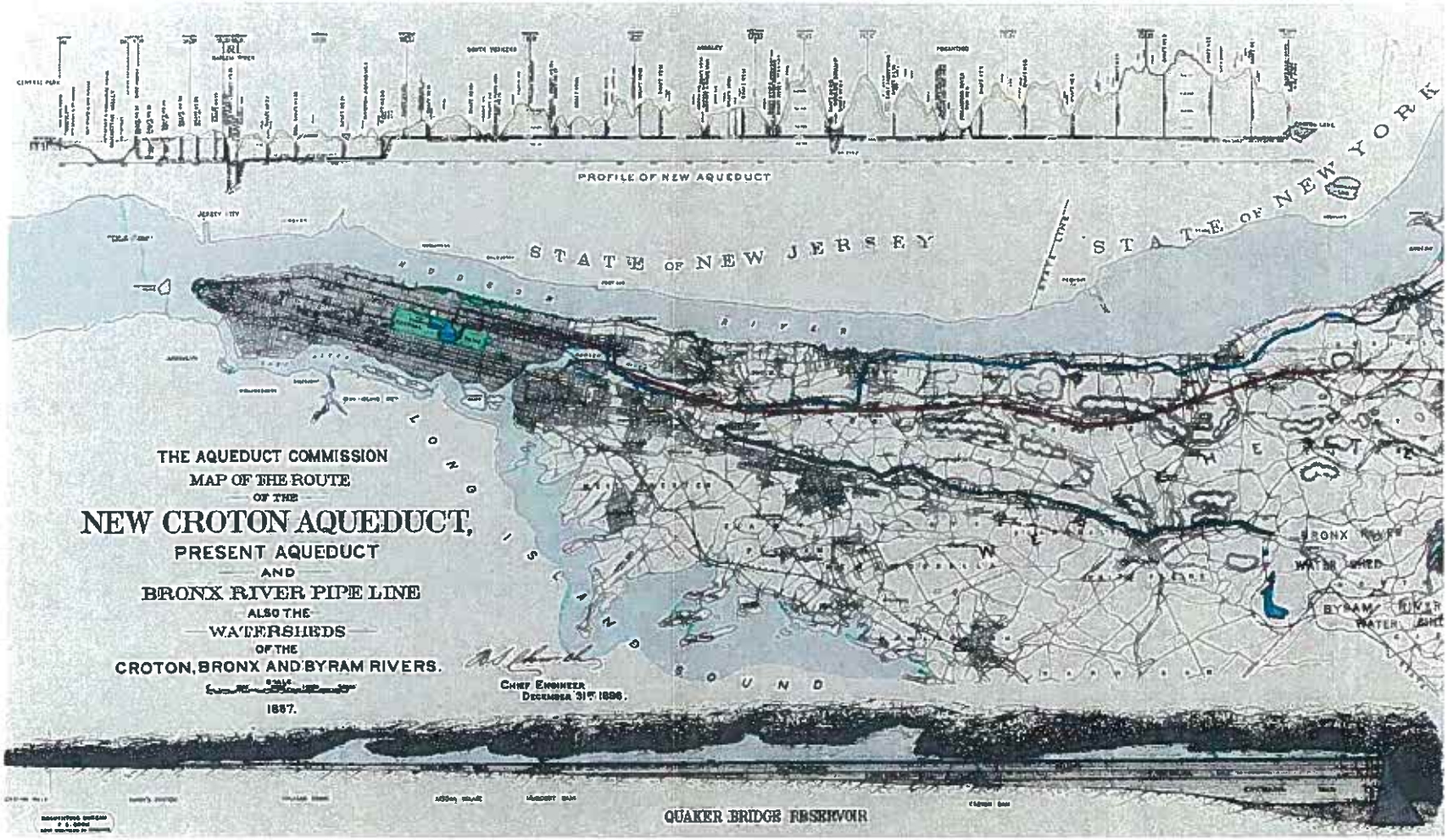


Illustration 16:
System plan showing the Old Croton Aqueduct, the New Croton Aqueduct and the Bronx and Byram system. Above is a hydrographic profile of the New Croton Aqueduct. Below is a cross section through the New Croton Reservoir, based on the proposed Quaker Bridge Dam (1887 Report to the Aqueduct Commissioners).

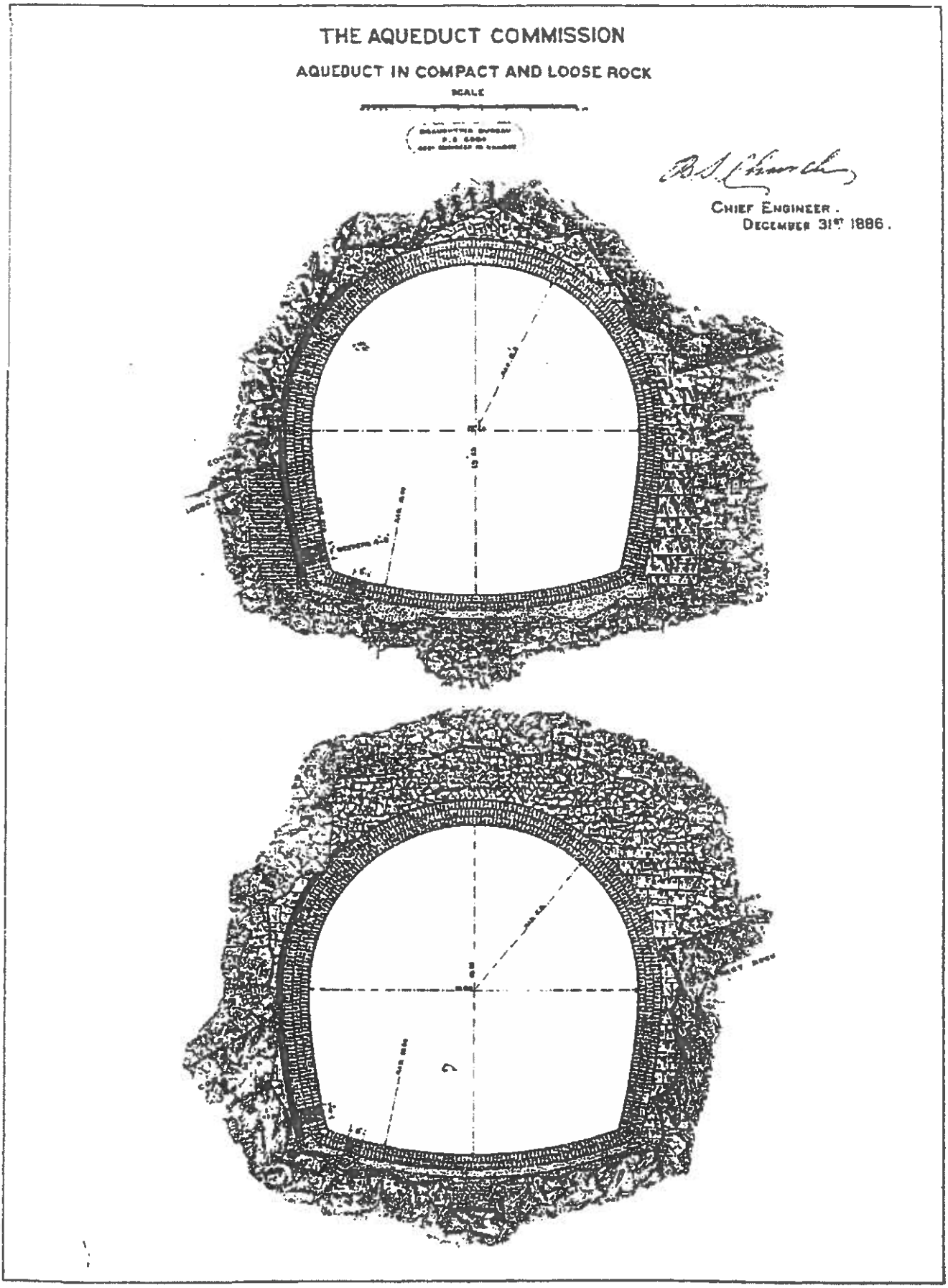


Illustration 17: Cross sections of the New Croton Aqueduct. (1887 Report to the Aqueduct Commissioners)

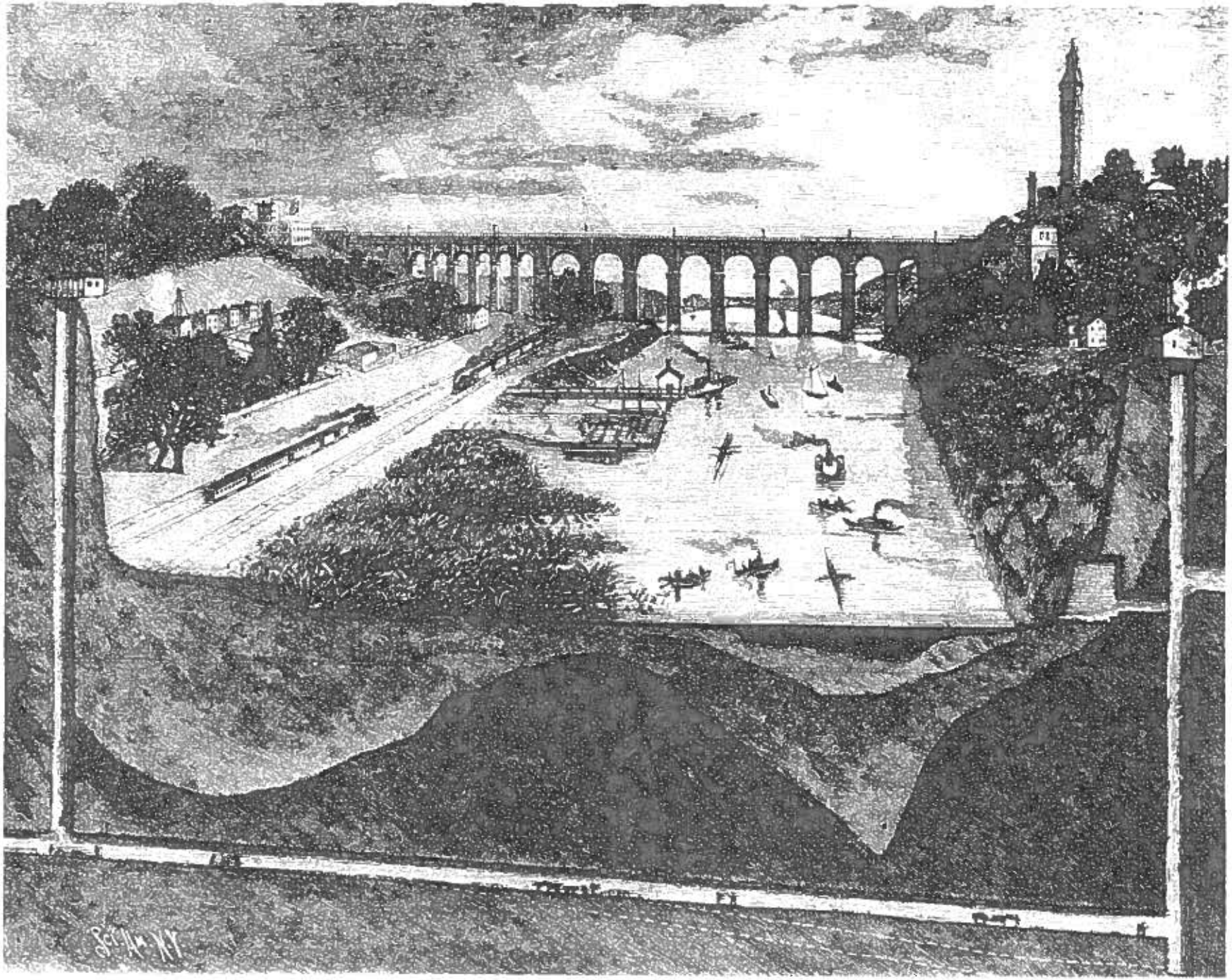


Illustration 18: Sectional perspective drawing showing the New Croton Aqueduct under construction beneath the Harlem River. High Bridge is in the background, High Bridge Park, Manhattan and Shaft No. 25 are at right. (Scientific American, 1880's)

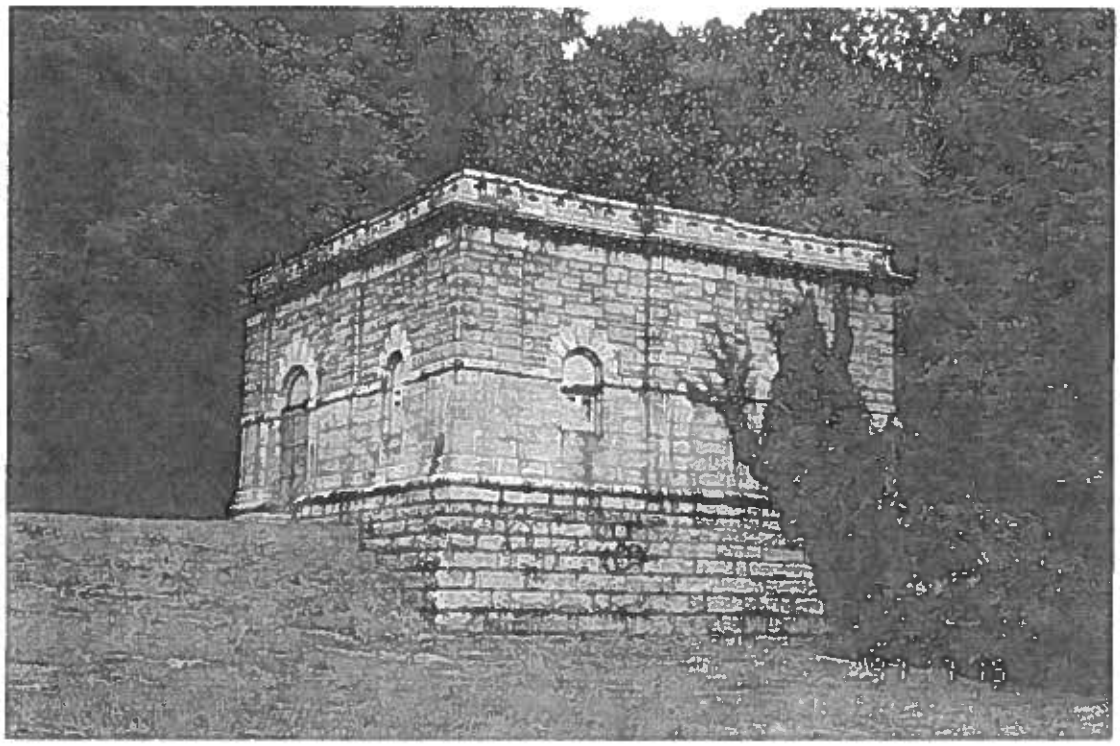
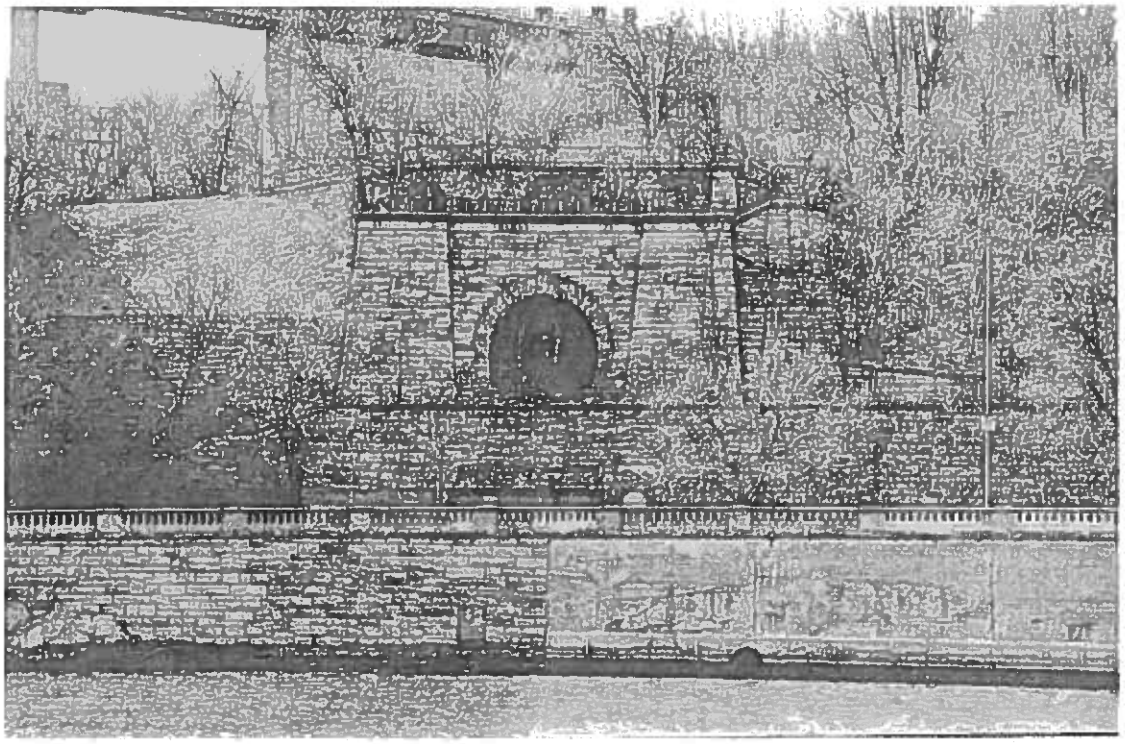


Illustration 19: Weir building on the New Croton Aqueduct at Pocantico (see Illustration 21 for original drawing).

Illustration 20: Shaft No. 25, stair and retaining wall complex, New Croton Aqueduct, High Bridge Park, Manhattan. The horseshoe-arched portal is emblematic of the aqueduct beneath.



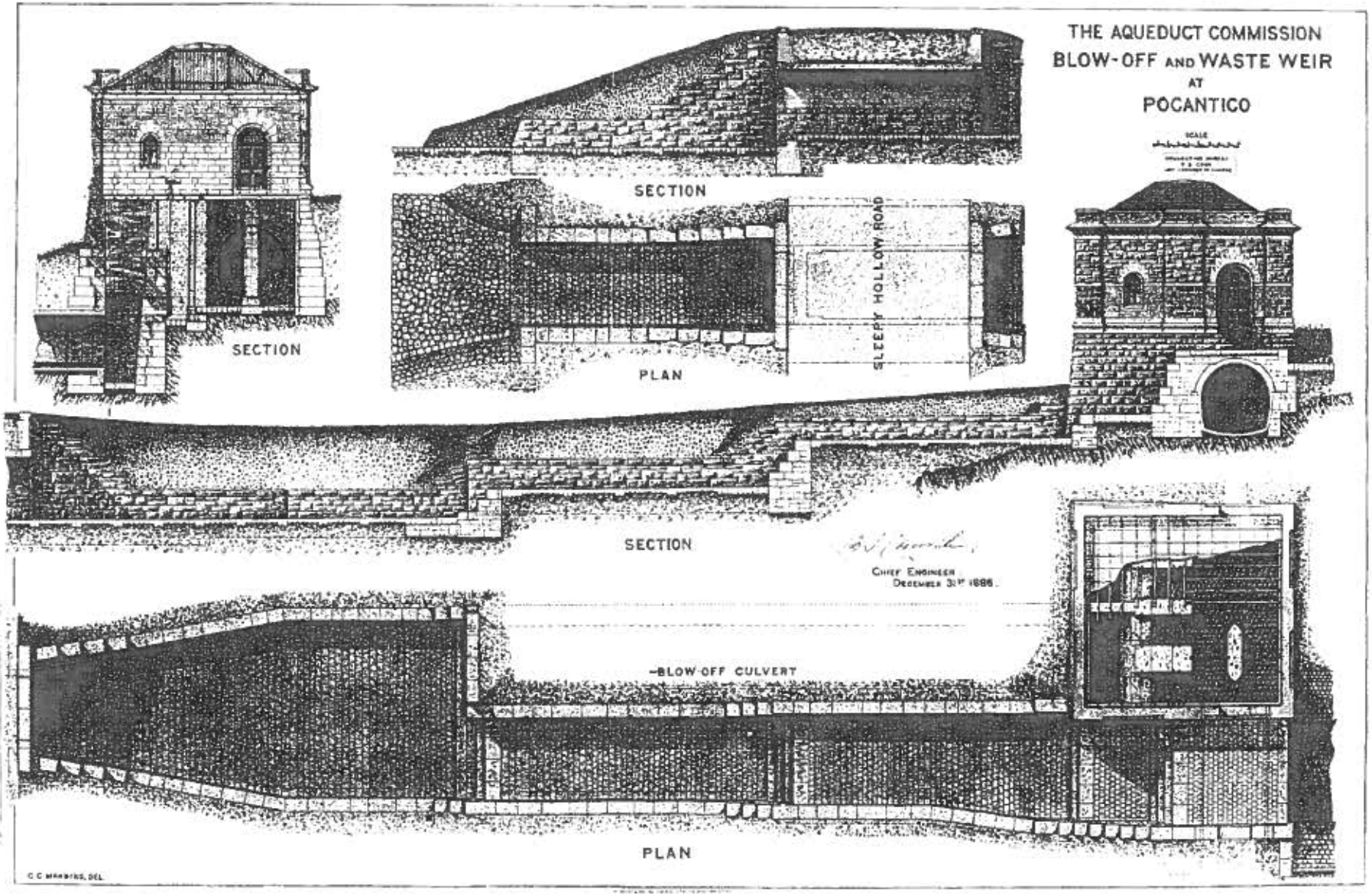


Illustration 21:
Weir building on the New Croton Aqueduct at Pocantico (1887 Report to the Aqueduct Commissioners)

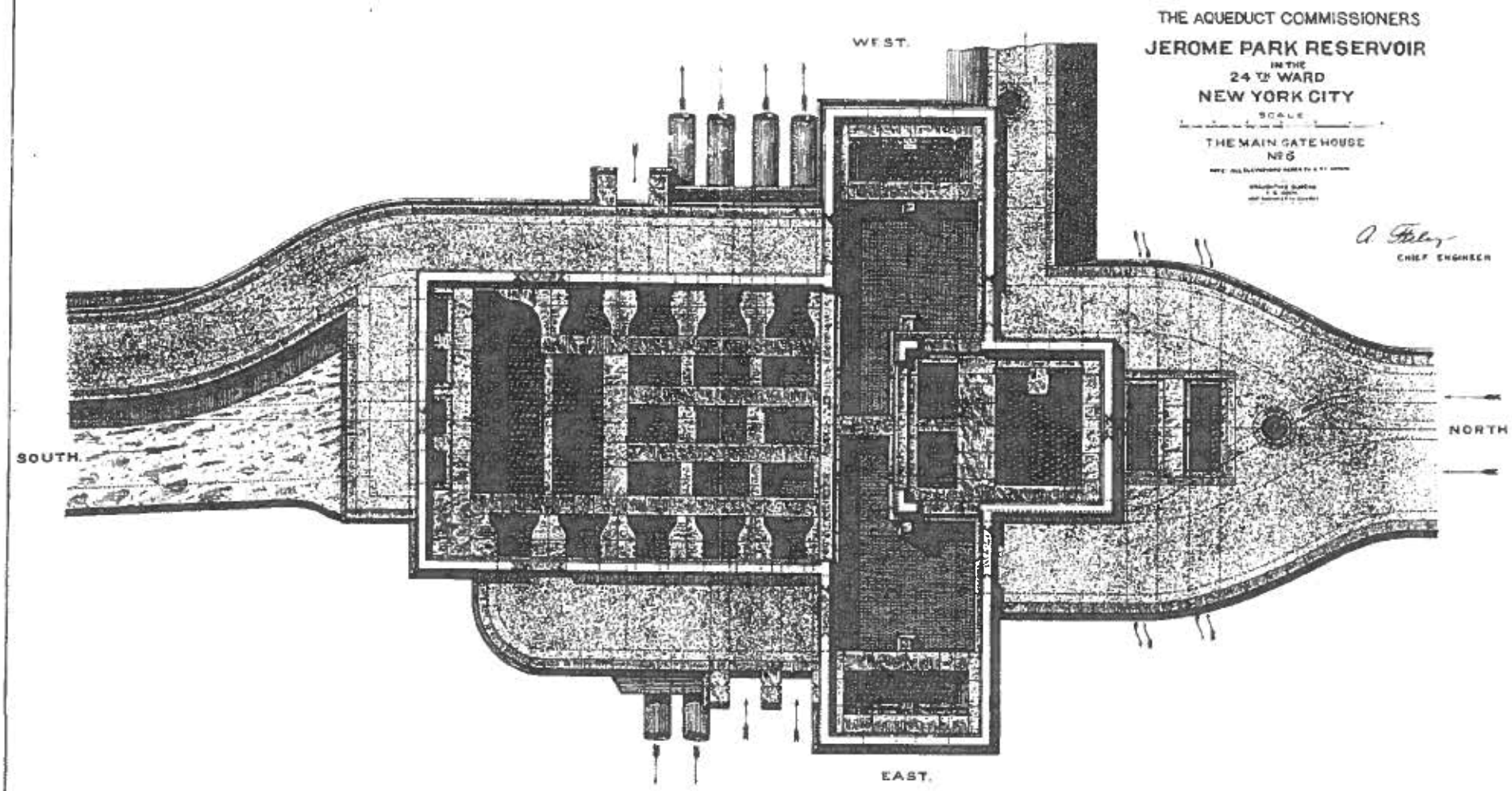


Illustration 22:
Plan of Gate House No. 5, Jerome Park Reservoir (1895 Report to the Aqueduct Commissioners)

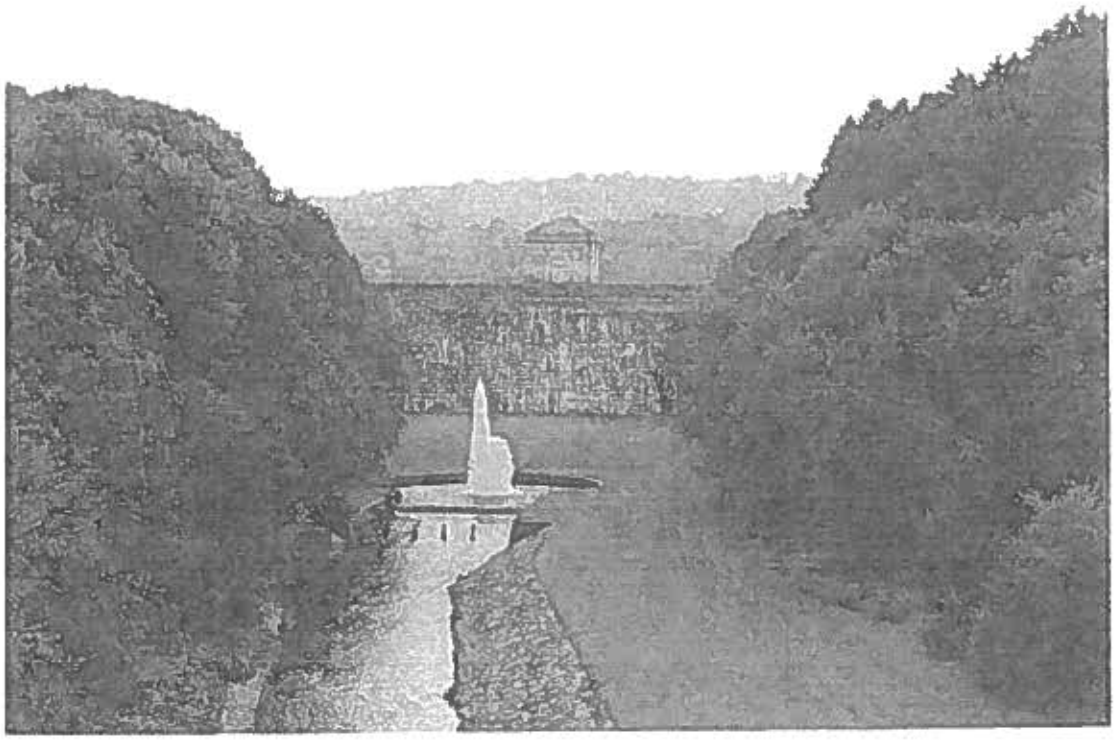
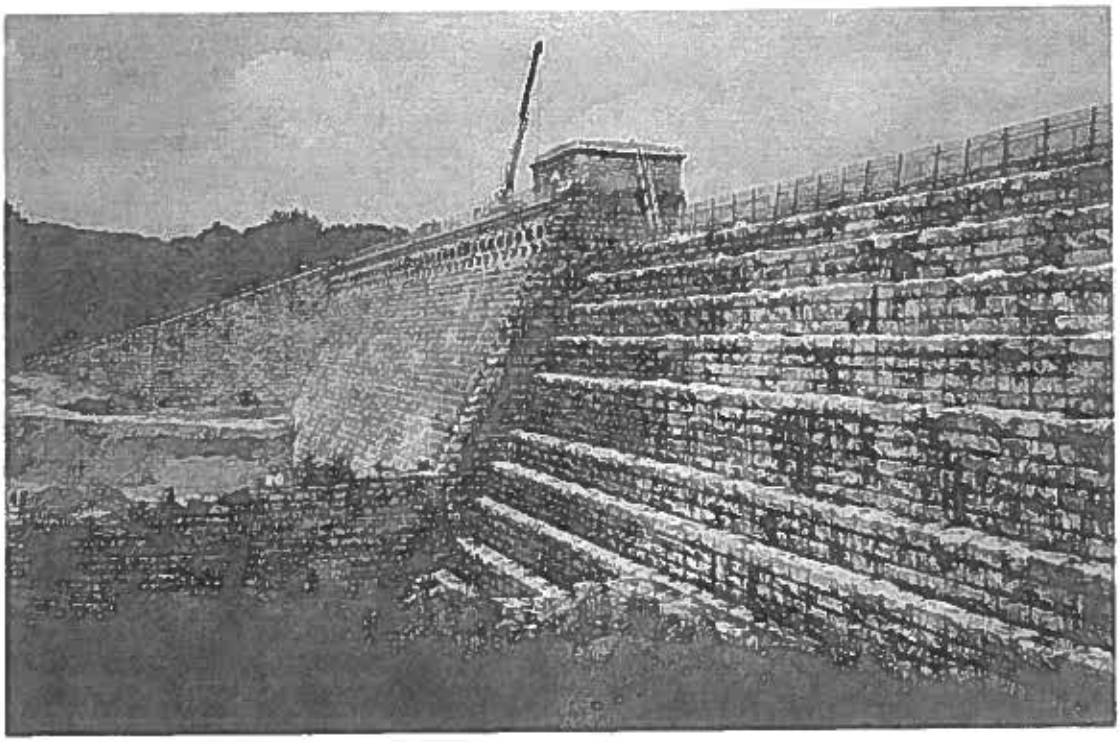


Illustration 23: East Branch Dam, Putnam County.

Illustration 24: Titicus Dam, Westchester County.



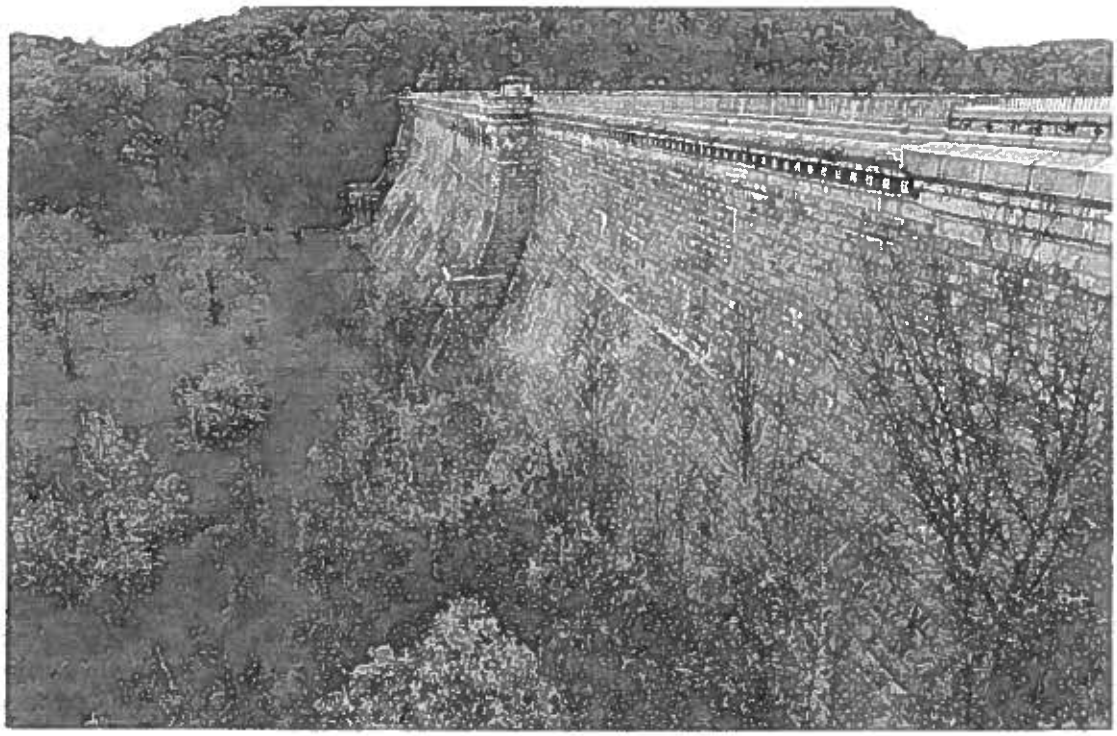
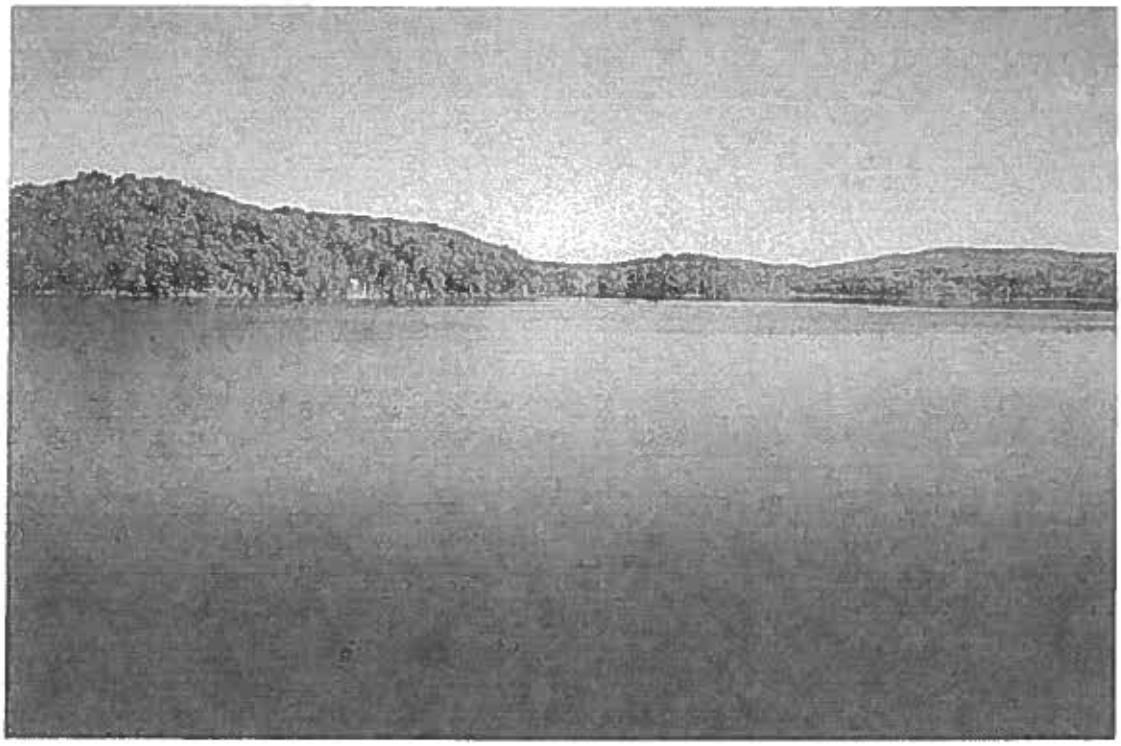


Illustration 25: New Croton Dam (Cornell site), Westchester

Illustration 26: Croton Reservoir, Westchester.



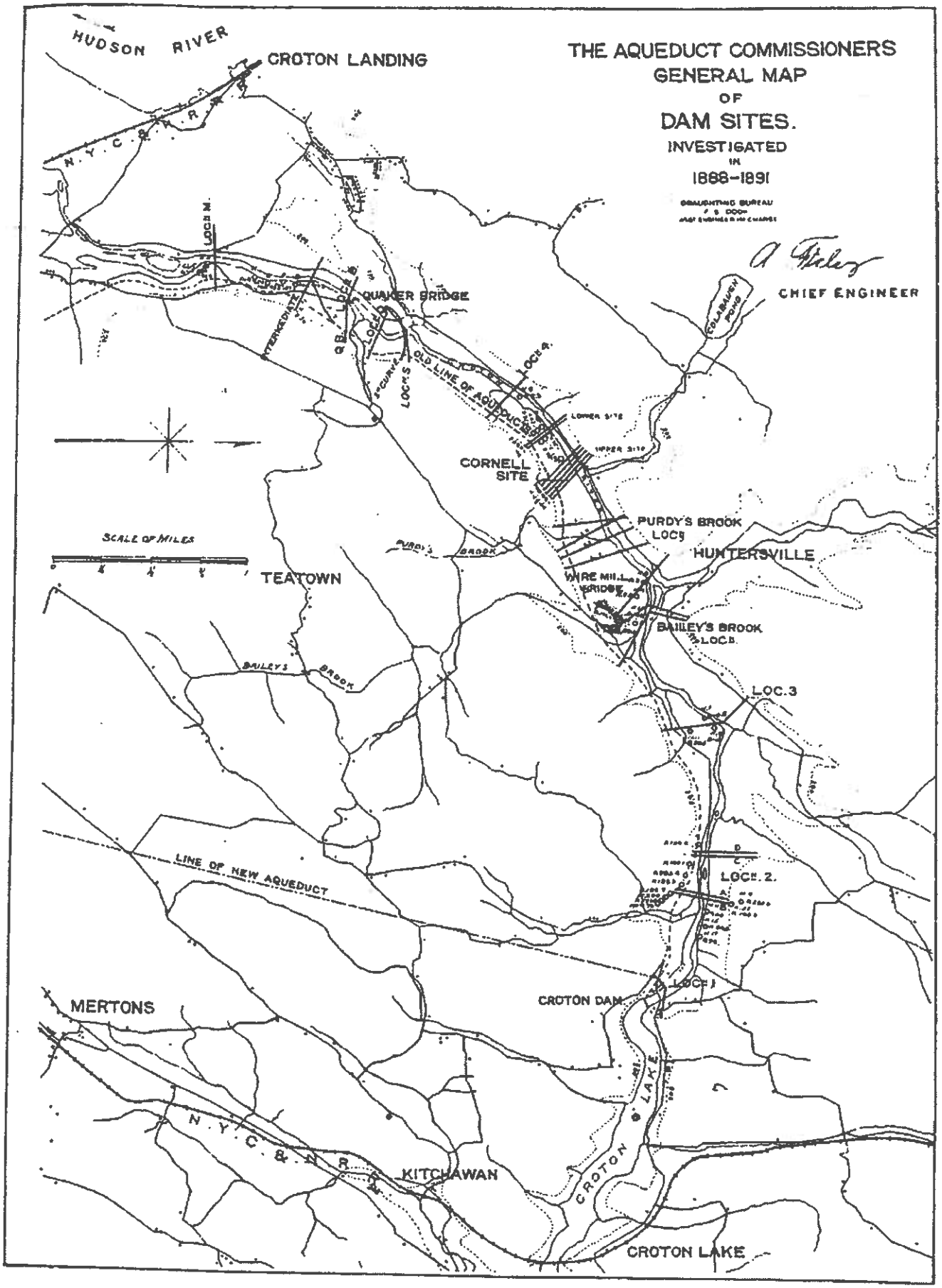


Illustration 27: Dam sites investigated for the New Croton Dam. The Quaker Bridge site was eventually abandoned in favor of the Cornell site (1895 Report to the Aqueduct Commissioners).

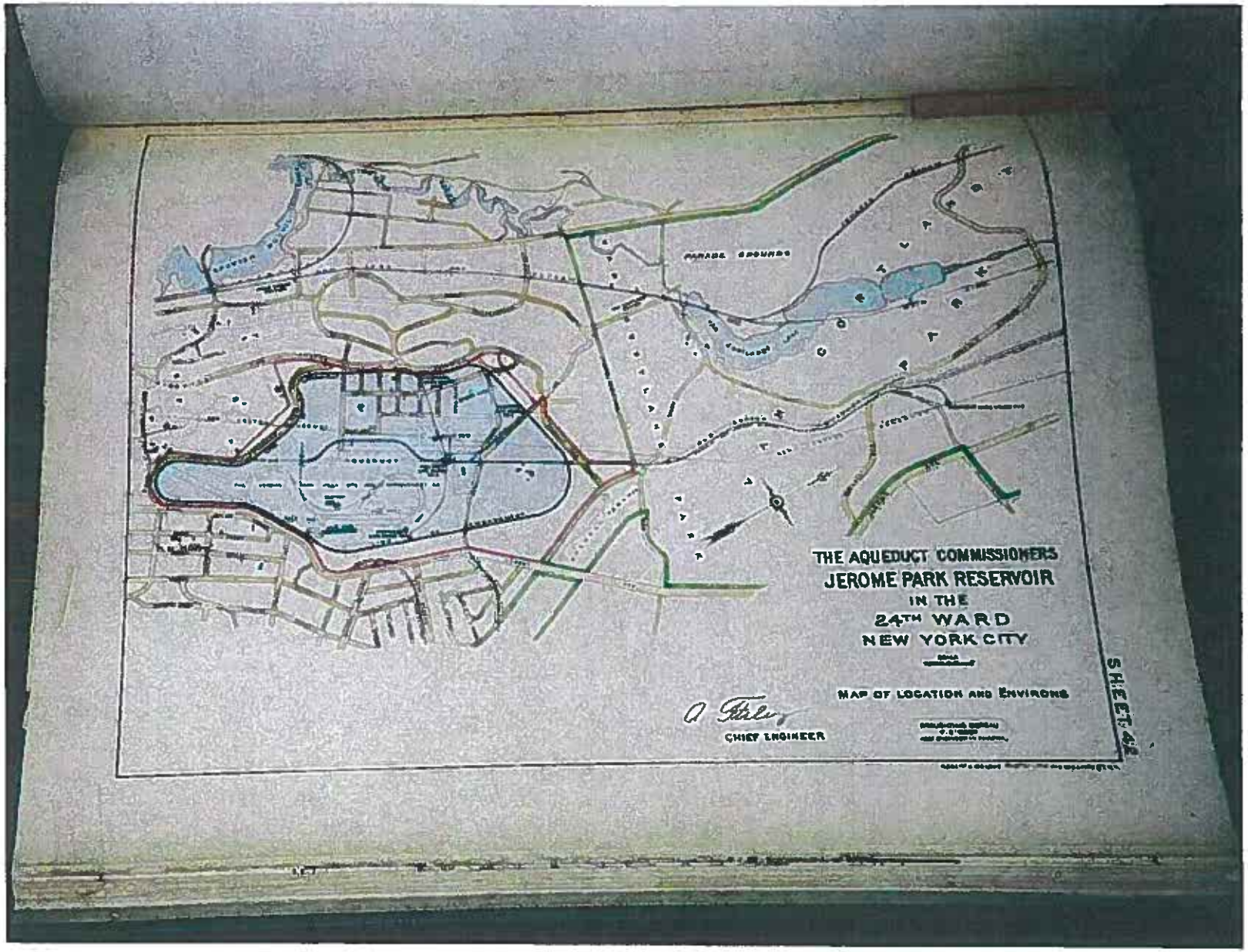


Illustration 28: Site plan of the Jerome Park Reservoir showing its relationship to the 'Olmsted streets,' Mosholu Parkway, and Van Cortlandt Park (1895 Report to the Aqueduct Commissioners).

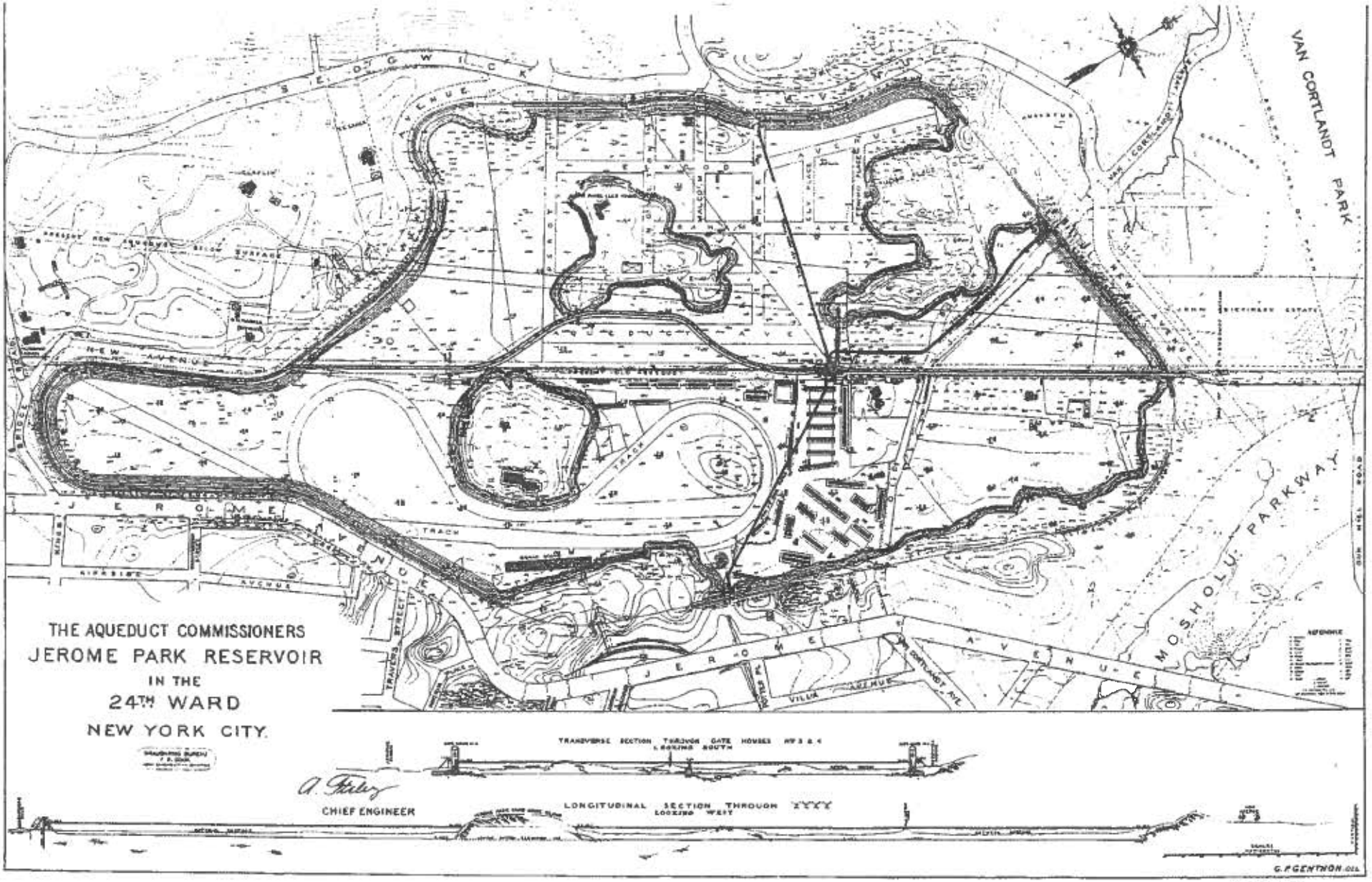


Illustration 29:

Plan of the Jerome Park Reservoir showing new work and existing conditions. The design includes a peninsula and two islands (1895 Report to the Aqueduct Commissioners).

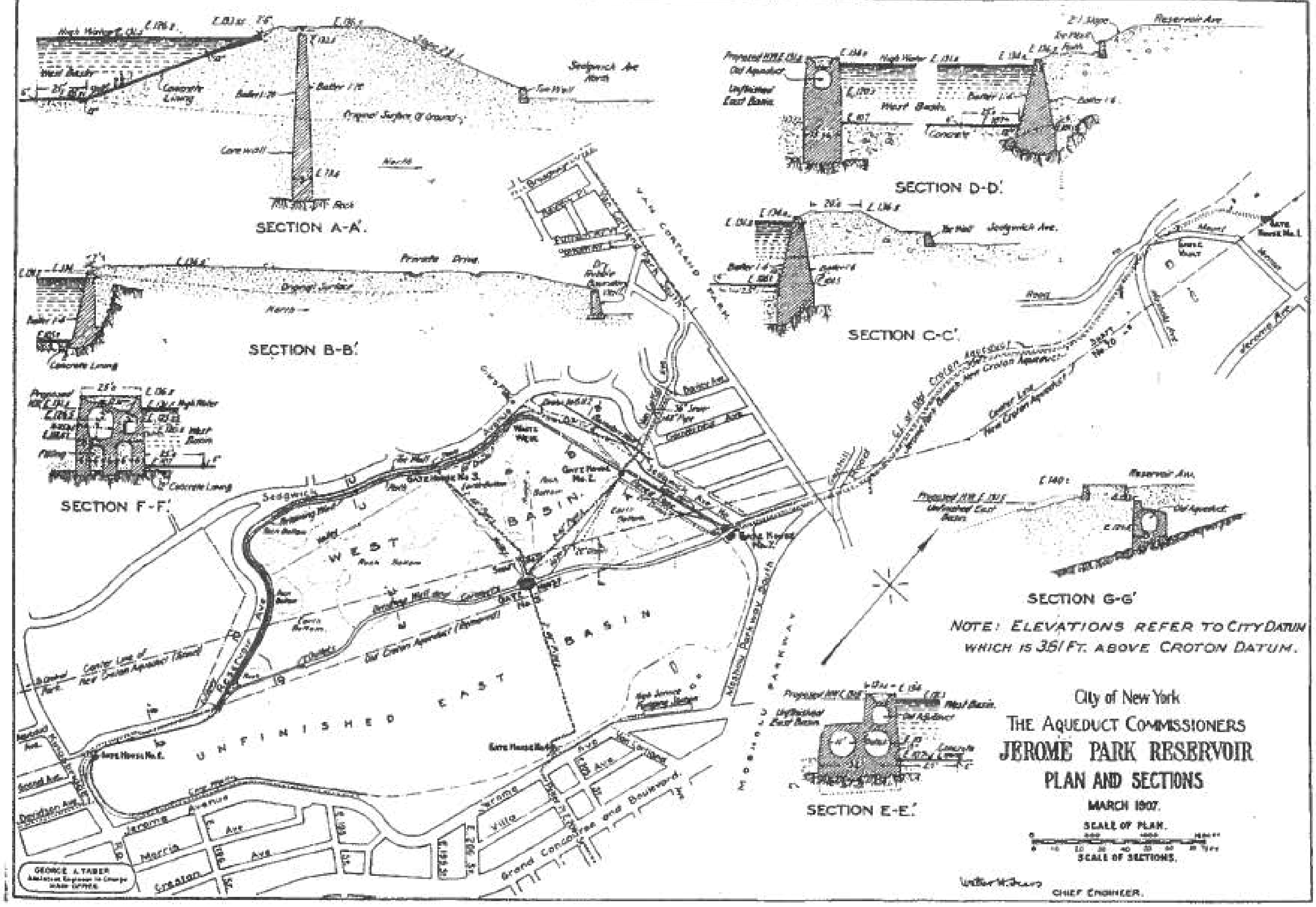


Illustration 30:
Plan and sections of the Jerome Park Reservoir, indicating the state of completion as of 1907 (1907 Report to the Aqueduct Commissioners).

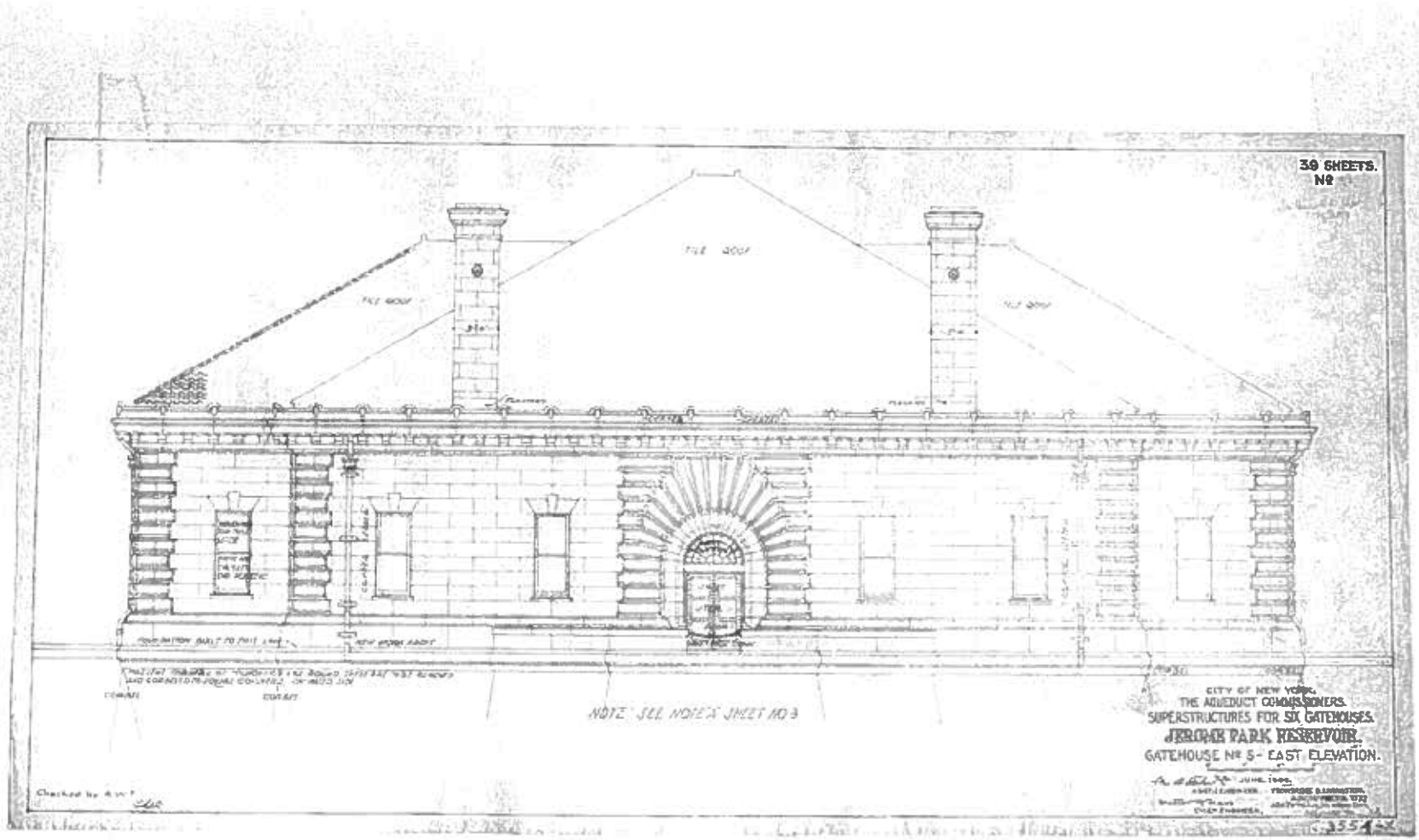


Illustration 31: Design (unbuilt) of Gate House No 5 superstructure, prepared for the Aqueduct Commissioners by Trowbridge and Livingston, Architects, 1906 (DEP Archive).

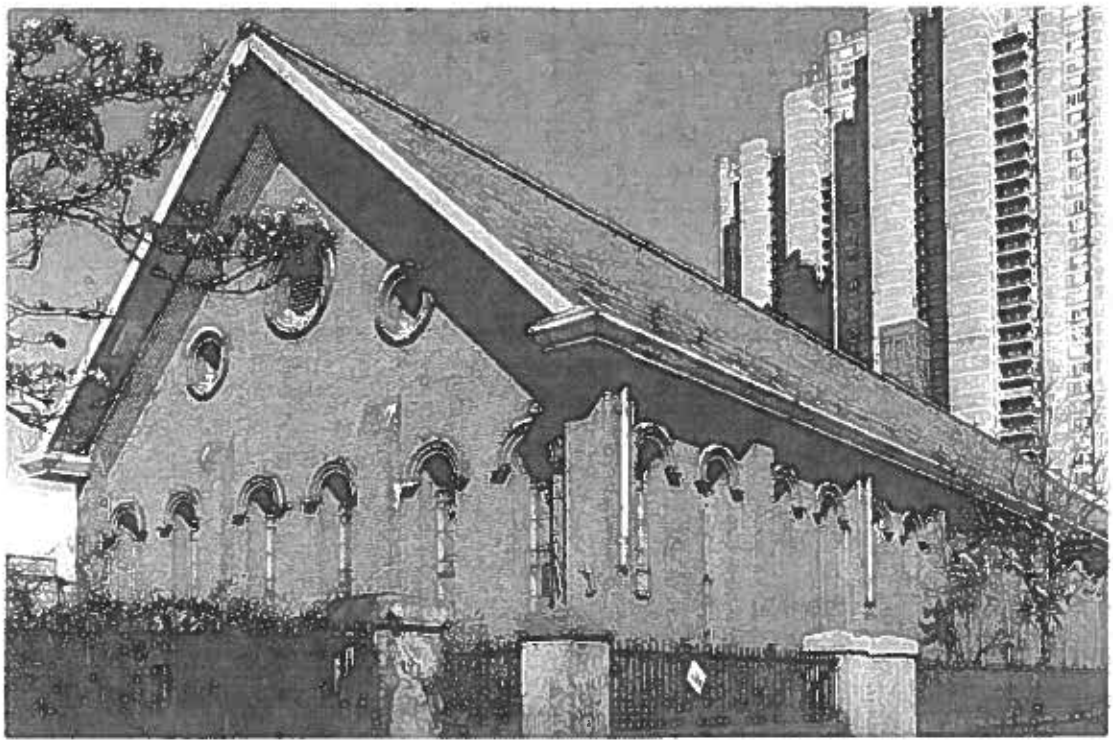
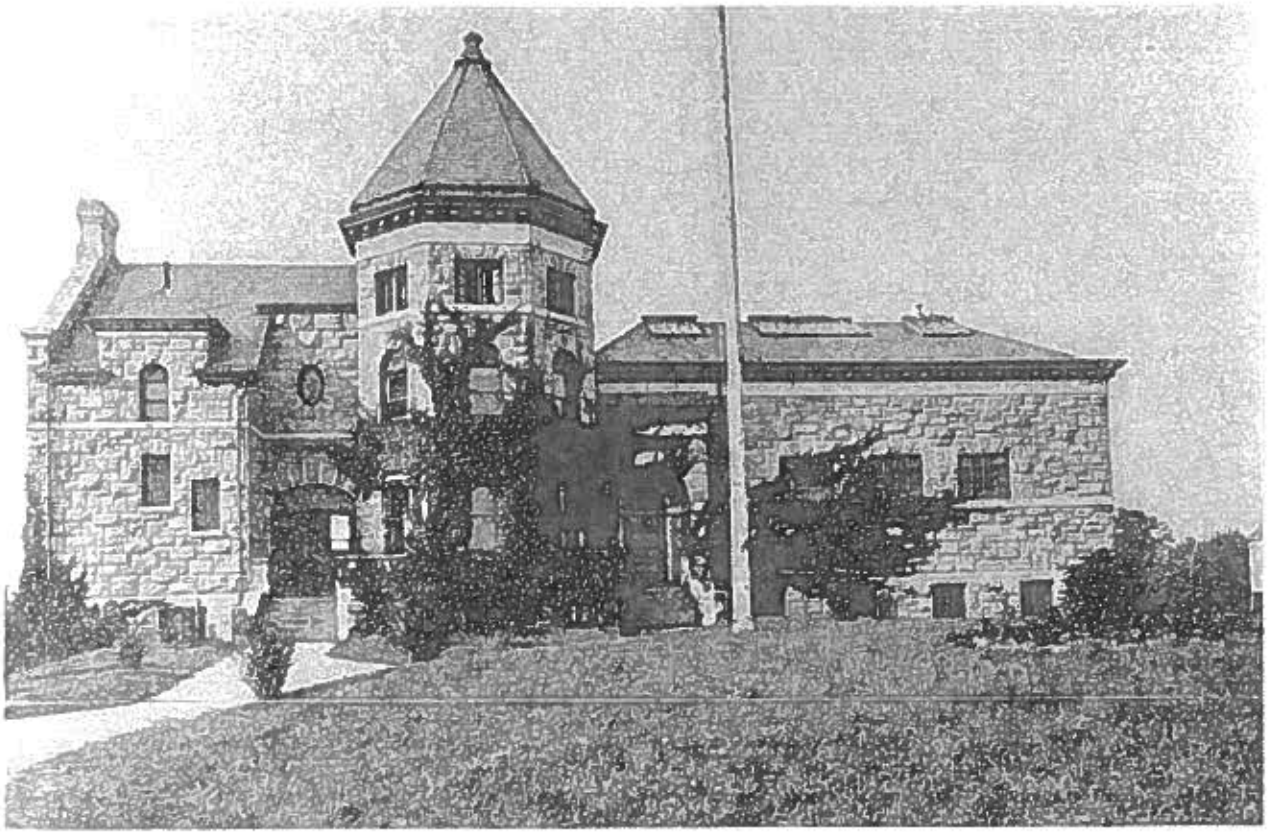


Illustration 32: High Pumping Station, Jerome Park Reservoir, designed by G. W. Birdsall, Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity.

Illustration 33: Historic view, Reservoir Keeper's House (demolished), Jerome Park Reservoir, designed by F. S. Cook, Aqueduct Commissioners.



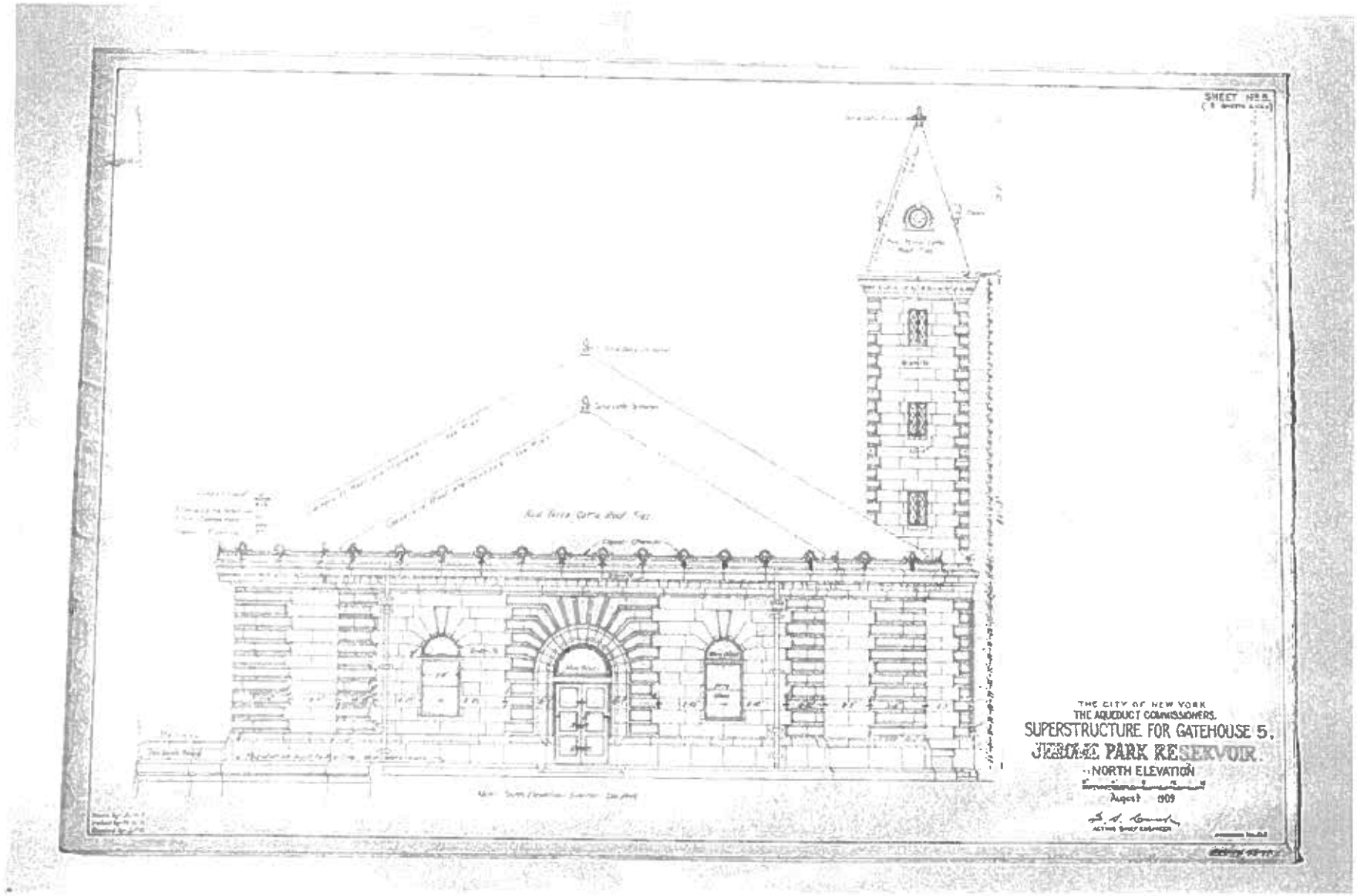


Illustration 34: Design (unbuilt) of Gate House No. 5 superstructure, prepared by the Aqueduct Commissioners under F. S. Cook, Acting Chief Engineer, 1909 (DEP Archive).

II. HISTORY OF THE JEROME PARK COMMUNITY

A. Early History

While there was widespread settlement of this area by Native Americans, this site has been so extensively excavated in construction of the reservoir, that the mounds adjacent to Fort Independence Park are thought to be the only undisturbed area where Native American artifacts or remains of early European settlements might be found.

B. The American Revolution

Kingsbridge Heights was an area of great strategic importance in the Revolutionary era. The area was often thought of as part of Fordham Heights or called the heights overlooking Kingsbridge. It overlooked and dominated the plain where the Van Cortlandt House and the King's Bridge were located, in the valley of the Tibbett's Brook, between the heights and Riverdale (once known as Cordlands Hill). The King's Bridge over the Harlem River was Manhattan Island's overland connection with the mainland. At this point the road from the city divided and led to the three major routes to the north, the post roads to Albany, White Plains and Boston.

There were a number of Revolutionary War forts in Kingsbridge Heights for defense of the King's Bridge over the Harlem River. George Washington stayed at the nearby Van Cortlandt mansion and made a temporary headquarters there early in the Revolutionary War, before retreating to the north. The area fell to the British and was occupied. General Washington also stayed in the Van Cortlandt mansion at the end of the war, during his triumphant return to New York, which became the first capital of the U.S. Revolutionary war relics were found during construction of the Jerome Park Reservoir. Sites of two of the forts have become neighborhood parks around the reservoir: Old Fort Four Park and Fort Independence Park.

C. Nineteenth Century

In the second half of the 19th century, the Kingsbridge Heights area consisted of large estates and farmland, such as the Augustus Van Cortlandt and John Dickinson Estates, with the beginnings of residential development.

In 1866, the American Jockey Club developed a racetrack called Jerome Park, named for Leonard W. Jerome, the Wall Street speculator whose daughter, Jennie Jerome Churchill, was Winston Churchill's mother. The track was located on the Bathgate Estate, approximately where Lehman College is today (Illustration 29). Jerome, who was head of the NY Jockey Club, had been encouraged by the success

of the track at Saratoga Springs, New York. Jerome Park was the first formal, commercial racetrack in New York City, and was the original home of the Belmont Stakes race, named for August Belmont, one of Jerome's friends and backers. The track was closed in 1887.[72]

Jerome Avenue, which ran past the race track, was also named for Leonard Jerome. It was also known as Central Avenue and was a continuation of the Central Avenue that ran from White Plains down through Westchester, Van Cortlandt Park and the Bronx to the Macombs Dam Bridge (which spans the Harlem River to Manhattan). The relation of Central Avenue in Yonkers to Jerome Avenue in the Bronx is no longer apparent, because the Major Deegan Expressway runs along the bed of the former Central Avenue in Van Cortlandt Park north of East 233rd Street, severing the connection for local traffic.

Jerome Park was in the 24th Ward of New York City, a part of the territory annexed from Westchester in 1874, and consolidated into the Borough of the Bronx in 1898.

In 1877, the Department of Public Parks issued plans of existing streets and planned streets and parks designed by Frederick Law Olmsted, Landscape Architect and J. J. R. Croes, Civil and Topographical Engineer. This project, intended to develop the newly acquired districts in a way that would preserve the beauty and park-like character of certain areas, such as Riverdale and Kingsbridge Heights. According to Charles E. Beveridge, Editor of the Frederick Law Olmsted Papers, the plan for the 23rd and 24th Wards was Olmsted's, "...largest and most comprehensive city planning project for which he actually prepared plans as well as written reports...the closest thing to a full city plan that Olmsted ever attempted."[73]

The area surrounding the Jerome Park Reservoir is a remarkably intact portion of the Olmsted and Croes plan of 1877.[74] According to Daniel J. Donovan, the Topographic Engineer of the Borough of the Bronx:

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[72] Ron Hale, "New York Tracks - A Short History", The Mining Company, General Internet Inc. v5.2, December, 1997, p.1

[73] Charles E. Beveridge. Editor of the Frederick Law Olmsted Papers, Department of History, The American University, Wahington, D.C., in a letter to Bronx Borough President Stanley Simon, July 3, 1984

[74] Adopted Map D No. 23, Dept. Of Public Parks, Plan of Streets, Roads and Avenues Lying West of Jerome Avenue and South of the Road from Mosholu to Williams-Bridge, in the Twenty-fourth Ward, 1877, Topographic Bureau, Office of the Bronx Borough President

> "To determine the extent to which Olmsted's design was actually followed in the Kingsbridge Heights vicinity, the plan [Adopted Map D No. 23] was compared with the final adopted map: *Section 21 of Final Maps and Profiles of the 23rd and 24th Wards*, dated June 17, 1895, Topographical Bureau, Louis A. Risse Chief Engineer. Comparison of these plans confirms that the Final Map of 1895 is substantially in conformance with the 1877 Olmsted plan, much of it, in fact, in exact conformance. The most significant change in the Kingsbridge Heights vicinity from the 1877 Olmsted design to the Final Map of 1895 is the inclusion of the Jerome Park Reservoir."[75]

It is clear that Olmsted's intent in providing neighborhoods like Kingsbridge Heights with narrow, curvilinear streets was to assure that they would maintain their residential character, discourage inappropriate development, and preserve their existing natural beauty. The charming character of the residential neighborhoods surrounding the reservoir is due not to chance, but to the intervention of Olmsted, whose influence similarly saved Riverdale from the imposition of a rectilinear street grid.

One of the great distinctions between Olmsted's work in Central Park and in the Riverdale and Kingsbridge Heights areas was that the site on which Central Park was built was not considered attractive: it consisted of empty lots, squatter camps, marshes and even a bone boiling yard. The landscape of the park is almost entirely artificial. Riverdale and Kingsbridge Heights, on the other hand, had a naturally exquisite landscape which had only to be enhanced with the skillful introduction of roadways, and limited commercial areas to serve extensive residential areas.

One wonders why this ambitious and sophisticated design by Olmsted, undertaken just a few years after the opening of Central Park in 1874, is so little known. While his plans for the Bronx were adopted by the city and went into construction, Olmsted fought bitterly against politicians whom, "...he accused of interfering with his designs and according more importance to patronage than to ... proper administration."[76]

Olmsted was dismissed by the Department of Public Parks in 1878. He moved to Brookline, Massachusetts in 1882, just before the appointment of the Aqueduct Commissioners, when debate on the design of the New Croton Aqueduct and Jerome Park Reservoir was heating up. Olmsted may have maintained contact with Benjamin S. Church, his club-mate from the Union League Club, until Church's

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[75] Daniel J. Donovan, RA, Topographic Engineer, in a letter to Jerome Park Conservancy Preservation Committee Chairman Robert Kornfeld, Jr., February 6, 1998

[76] Kenneth Jackson ed., The Encyclopedia of the City of New York, Yale University Press, 1995, p. 864

own downfall with the city bureaucracy. Olmsted is known to have, "...continued to concern himself with the fate of public parks in New York City..."[77]

According to the Encyclopedia of the City of New York:

> "[Olmsted] considered his landscapes both works of art and social experiments that would have a civilizing influence. He denounced the gridiron system of streets as a relic of an earlier stage of urbanization and envisioned instead a compact business district surrounded by more open residential neighborhoods and spacious, naturalistic parks; this vision is most clearly set forth in his proposals for the Bronx and for the Parkways in Brooklyn. Although often frustrated by political maneuvering and competing ideas of what a park should be, Olmsted and his collaborators had a profound influence on New York City."[78]

In the decades following Olmsted's dismissal detailed plans for the Mosholu Parkway were developed. In 1888 the Van Cortlandt estate and many other parcels became parks. The planning of streets in the 23rd and 24th Wards was turned over from the Department of Public Parks to the Commissioner of Street Improvements. In 1892 Heintz and Risse prepared the design for the Speedway Concourse (later named the Grand Boulevard and Concourse) to the east of Jerome Avenue.

When the Jerome Park Reservoir went into construction, the surrounding streets had single family homes with some small farms remaining. When the east basin of the reservoir was turned over to other city agencies, the Kingsbridge Armory was constructed, followed by schools, including DeWitt Clinton High School, Bronx High School of Science and Hunter College (now Lehman College, Illustration 40). As the twentieth century progressed, apartment buildings were constructed to take advantage of the view of the reservoir and its grounds (Illustrations 1 and 5).

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[77] Jackson, p. 864

[78] Jackson, p. 864

III. LANDSCAPE FEATURES AND HISTORIC STRUCTURES AT JEROME PARK RESERVIOR

A. Siting and Landscape Features

The Jerome Park Reservoir, the largest body of water in the Bronx, was set into the street plan designed by Frederick Law Olmsted and J. J. R. Croes, and over succeeding decades became the nucleus of a diverse residential community (Illustrations 1, 5 and 35). The surrounding parkland was originally part of the reservoir grounds. The residential and academic communities that evolved around the reservoir, were influenced by its open space, landscaped edge, and water views.

The adjacent parks, Old Fort Four Park, Fort Independence Park, Harris Field and Harris Park Annex, originally part of the reservoir grounds, share scenic vistas across the water (Illustration 36). Combined with surrounding roads such as the curvilinear, tree-lined Sedgwick (Illustration 6) and Reservoir Avenues, they are an extension of the greenbelt surrounding the reservoir. The elements of park, roadway, and reservoir, combined with their landscape elements of stone walls, paved walks, terraces, seating areas, and stairs, and natural elements such as trees and rock outcroppings, evoke the style of other Olmsted landscapes in the city, such as Central and Riverside Parks.

The connection with Van Cortlandt Park and Mosholu Parkway link Jerome Park with a fabric of green space extending from Riverdale to Bronx Park. The connection with the Old Croton Aqueduct Trailway links Jerome Park with an historic greenway extending from the New Croton Dam to the High Bridge. The Olmsted plan showed a promenade, over the Old Croton Aqueduct, connecting the Jerome Park racetrack site with the future Van Cortlandt Park.

The Jerome Park Reservoir exemplifies Olmsted's landscape and city planning principles, providing a naturalized setting, and serving to create beauty, serenity and outdoor recreation in the midst of urban residences and institutions. Were it not for this reservoir, there would not be a majestic, landscaped body of water in the Bronx.
The surrounding community also exemplifies the design principles of Olmsted, with curvilinear streets used to create intimate residential neighborhoods, and discourage inappropriate, large-scale or industrial development.

B. Historic Stone Walls

There are several types of stone wall on the Jerome Park Reservoir site. They generally fall into three categories: the original dividing wall (now the east basin

wall); basin walls around the rest of the reservoir; and site retaining walls, used to accomodate site elevation changes, create boundaries, and provide dignified landscaping. There are some miscellaneous stone features of interest as well.

1. The East Basin Wall (Original Division Wall)

The East Basin Wall (the original division wall when there was an east basin) is a massive stone structure on which the Old Croton Aqueduct was reconstructed. It was created because the original foundation of the Old Croton Aqueduct was not large enough to withstand the hydrostatic pressure of a full basin on one side and an empty basin on the other. This structure was completed in approximately 1889. The roadway along the east bank of the reservoir is directly over the Old Croton Aqueduct.

The portion from the north end of the reservoir to Gate House No. 5 is 30 feet wide and contains the Old Croton Aqueduct and the horseshoe-shaped Branch Aqueduct of the New Croton Aqueduct (Illustration 37).

The portion of the wall from Gate House No. 5 south to the South Portal is 35 feet thick at the base, and contains the Old Croton Aqueduct on top with two 11 foot diameter brick conduits to supply the east and west basins side-by-side beneath (Illustration 39). The conduits end at the South Portal, where they open into the reservoir.

The Old Croton Aqueduct continues past the South Portal, carried alone atop a stone wall approximately 16 feet thick, to the southern end of the reservoir and on to Kingsbridge Road (Illustration 38).

The lower portion of these walls is constructed of large blocks and stone excavated at the site, and the upper portion consists of the coursed, rock-face granite of the Old Croton Aqueduct (Illustrations 40 and 41), laid with random range ashlar jointing.

2. Basin Walls

Most of the stone facing of the reservoir walls has a rock face finish, and is laid with random range ashlar jointing at the upper portion that is normally visible. The coping stones typically have a pointed finish. One portion of the west wall of the reservoir is finished as rubble masonry.

The lower portion of the walls is typically cyclopean blocks of stone excavated at the site and laid with mortared joints to make the wall watertight.

The typical height of the stone reservoir walls is twenty-seven feet from the reservoir floor to the top of the wall, with two and a half feet of wall exposed above the high water level. Typically, the water level is lower, exposing more wall.

The walls vary in thickness. The typical wall construction is about three feet thick at the top, battered out to about sixteen feet thick at its foundation. The resistance to the lateral force of the water in the reservoir was provided by the stone walls in conjunction with natural geological structures and large masses of compacted fill. The earthen dam along the north end of the reservoir from Gate House No. 2 to Gate House No. 7 has a masonry core.

3. Site Retaining Walls

There is a range of finishes and jointing, from rough uncoursed fieldstone to dressed stone elements such as gateposts. The most common type of retaining wall is of rock face stone laid as squared-stone masonry or coursed rubble (Illustration 42). The retaining wall along the south end of the reservoir is of particular interest for its large stones and dry-laid construction.

C. Structures

1. Gate Houses

The stone Gate Houses of the Jerome Park Reservoir were constructed between 1895 and 1905 in a Roman Revival style reminiscent of ancient public works. They have coursed ashlar jointing and stone voussoir arches. The field of the walls has a rock face finish. Portions, such as the intrados of the arches, have a rough pointed finish. The corners were accented with a small six-cut fascia.

The tops of the Gate Houses are set three and a half feet above the top of the reservoir walls. With the reservoir filled they appear only about six feet above the water level. They are in fact more than thirty feet tall, rising from the reservoir floor.

Gate House No. 1, north of the reservoir in Van Cortlandt Park, was constructed entirely below grade. No superstructure was built over it. This is where the New Croton Aqueduct divides into the Branch Aqueduct to the reservoir and Shaft No. 20 to the pressure tunnel below the reservoir.

Jerome Park Reservoir (JPR) QUESTIONS June 19, 2008 – Jane Sokolow et. al

What conditions or information changed between the writing of the original EIS and now to indicate that the mechanical methods stated in the EIS are not preferred for this job? And if nothing changed, then is this yet another example of how the EIS and other information given to the public and legislatures was deliberately slanted to get the Bronx site approved?

When was it decided that blasting was preferred for this part of the project and why wasn't there immediate notification to the public about this significant change?

A. Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and/or Environmental Assessment (EA)

1. How will this decision to change the method described in the EIS affect the schedule for a new Environmental Assessment and/or Supplemental Impact Statement and analysis? When will you start the public scope and how long will the study take? Won't this further delay the project as no work on this part of the project can be done while the EAS and supplemental EIS are being done?
2. How do you plan to mitigate the noise from surface blasting and excavation since the EIS stated that raise bore drilling is the most practical and feasible method, and no other method was studied for impact and mitigation purposes?
3. How do you plan to mitigate the air pollution from the blasting in an area of the City with high asthma rates?

D. New Consolidated Valve Chamber impact on Harris Park Annex public access – Jane S

4. It seems that the valve chamber is substantially bigger than what is described in the FSEIS[1]. Whether or not consolidating the facilities is a good idea is not the issue here. If all of the faculties are below grade in Harris Park Annex, do you plan to allow public access to the area above the facilities upon completion of the project? Need I remind you that the construction of the Third Water Tunnel Valve Chamber in the Woodlawn section of Van Cortlandt Park resulted in the loss of eleven acres of parkland from 1968-2005 (37 years) and today is not really parkland, but a gated and guarded unwelcoming part of the park.
5. If you do not plan to return the park to the public, the parkland will have to be alienated and this will trigger multiple processes that have to be completed before you can begin work. Won't this further delay the project and add to the already growing costs? How will all of this affect public access to JPR and the lands and parkland surrounding it?

B. Specific information concerning the work methods at JPR – Lynn Schwarz

6. Where near the worksite (the Jerome Park Reservoir) will the Construction Manager's office be located? What is the contact number for the community?
7. How do you plan to notify residents in case of extraordinary circumstances or emergency situations?
8. How do you intend to remove the debris and muck from surface blasting?

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[1] The SDEIS described separate and small facilities around JPR, including the Harris Park Annex and on the street for each of several valve chambers and meter chambers. This can be found on pages 8-13 http://www.nyc.gov/html/dep/pdf/croton/8-02jeromepark.pdf .

9. Since there were no prior traffic impacts with the raised bore drilling method, and now there may be impacts, how will you find a route that the contractor will use to truck material in and out of the site that will not adversely impact the neighborhood and/or the schools' students? Where do you plan to wash the trucks and/or the streets? Will you put in a weigh station? How are you going to mitigate traffic congestion?
10. Where will you relocate the school buses so that they do not interfere with Scott Tower residents?
11. How are they going to organize the traffic flow and mitigate its affects to the community? Also, what is the affect on parking on Goulden Avenue?
12. What is your projected need for night work and/or blasting? Many of us remember the midnight lights, noise, dust and rats during the Dividing Wall construction. We are not in favor of night work.

C. Specific methodology used to compare and contrast the two methods – Phil McDonnell

13. Can you provide us with your studies which determined that surface blasting would take less time than raise bore drilling?
14. Did you review the risk to the Branch Aqueduct? Did you review the risk to other under and above ground structures?
15. What is the risk assessment to the students in the schools and the community?
16. Can you compare impacts of removing the spoils through the tunnel to CWTP to trucking the spoils through the streets of the JPR community and the surrounding communities?

E. Contract and Costs – Karen Argenti

17. Can you provide us with the details of the contracts, such as the cost and when it was awarded and to whom? How much money do you plan to save? Explain how it would cost the city less money now that the contract is already bid?
18. If you have a provision in the contract which expressly details this new method, please prepare those documents for distribution. When did you first discuss this new method with the contractor?
19. Can you provide other examples of how a contractor suggested method saved the city money? For instance, we understand that CRO-311 was completed sooner than expected, but it still had a cost over run of $6 million.

F. Miscellaneous – Karen Argenti

20. Now that you are suggesting opening up avenues not previously explored in the 2004 FSEIS, let's make another change. Review Membrane Filtration which is proven to be a better, cheaper and smaller process train than the one chosen in 2004. Please add the comparison of Membrane Filtration as well as the study of Blasting for the Shaft and Valves at JPR to the scope of the new EIS.

Karen Argenti
Lynn Schwarz
Jane Sokolow
Phil McDonnell

Provided by Karen Argenti from EIS

The rehabilitation work and the construction of the weir at Gate House No. 2 are scheduled to take place between 2009-2010 for the Mosholu and Harlem River alternatives and between 2011 and 2014 for the Eastview NCA alternative. This work would not take place if the Eastview Site with KCT option were selected.

8.2.1.7. New Shaft Chamber and Tunnel

In the proposed project, a new Shaft Chamber would be constructed in the Harris Park Annex north of Gate House No. 5, west of Goulden Avenue. The new Shaft Chamber would provide a central point for distributing treated water to the High Level and Low Level services.

The construction of the new chamber would not occur for the Eastview Site with the KCT option. It would only be built if the Mosholu, Harlem River or Eastview with NCA alternatives are selected.

For the Eastview Site with NCA alternative, the New Shaft Chamber would convey High Level treated water via two 48-inch diameter pipes to City Tunnel No. 1, Shaft No. 3; a 48-inch diameter pipe to City Tunnel No. 1, Shaft No. 4; and an 84-inch diameter pipe to City Tunnel No. 3, Shaft No. 4B. High Level treated water would also be conveyed from the new Shaft Chamber to the Low Level system through sleeve valves. A new 48-inch diameter pipe would be constructed from the new Shaft Chamber to the existing Valve Chamber C, to deliver Low Level treated water to the East Bronx. An additional Low Level 144-inch diameter connection would be made from the new Shaft Chamber to the NCBA, to provide service to Low Level Manhattan and South Bronx. High Level water would be supplied from the NCA through a 126-inch diameter connection the NCA to the New Shaft Chamber.

For the Mosholu Site alternative, the new Shaft Chamber would convey High Level treated water via two 48-inch diameter pipes to City Tunnel No. 1, Shaft No. 3, a 48-inch diameter pipe to City Tunnel No. 1, Shaft No. 4, and an 84-inch diameter pipe to City Tunnel No. 3, Shaft No. 4B. Connections to the existing high level services are all in the ground below Harris Park Annex and Goulden Avenue. A new 8-foot diameter tunnel from the new Shaft Chamber would convey Low Level treated water to Manhattan via the NCA (downstream Shaft No.21). Low Level connections from the new Shaft Chamber would also be made to the South and East Bronx service.

For the Harlem River Site alternative, treated water would be conveyed from the water treatment plant to the distribution system via a nine (9) foot diameter tunnel carrying High Level treated water. The New Shaft Chamber would contain a riser pipe that would connect to a 96-inch manifold in the chamber. Two 48-inch diameter pipes would discharge into the High Level system through City Tunnel No. 1 at Shaft No. 3. The 96-inch diameter pipe manifold would also connect to two new pipes, a 48-inch diameter pipe (servicing City Tunnel No. 1 Shaft No. 4) and an 84-inch diameter pipe (servicing City Tunnel No 3 Shaft No. 4B).

The construction of the New Shaft at this location would be done using the raised bored construction method. This method involves drilling of a pilot hole from the surface. A boring drill rig would be assembled at the bottom of the shaft where the tunnel would terminate, and

turned by a machine at the top. The boring spoils would fall into the tunnel, and would be removed as the drill is raised from the bottom of the shaft. Using the new tunnel for access, all the debris would collapse into the new tunnel and would be removed at the water treatment plant site for either the Mosholu or the Harlem River Site alternatives. For the Eastview Site, the material would be removed through the NCA from shafts upstream of the Reservoir. This method would reduce the impact caused by construction in the area.

The drilling of the New Shaft via raised bore construction would take place in the first summer of the scheduled construction period. The new tunnel lining would be installed before the New Shaft Chamber construction commences. In response to public comment, construction of the New Shaft Chamber would occur during the school year with the concrete pours taking place during the summer months, Saturdays, or holidays to avoid disturbance of the nearby schools while they are in session. The construction of the New Shaft Chamber would be simultaneous with setting the piping in the New Tunnel from either the water treatment plant or the NCA, depending on the site selection, to the New Shaft Chamber.

~~Distribution to the High Level service would receive priority during normal operation for the Eastview (with NCA) and Harlem River Sites. The Low Level service would be supplied through the High Level service via existing regulators dispersed through the system~~. For the Mosholu site, both High and Low Level services would be supplied from the new Shaft Chamber.

This work is expected to be completed during approximately two seasons per year from 2008 through 2011, before the scheduled plant start-up date.

8.2.1.8. Flow Meter Chambers

Other work related to the construction of the New Shaft Chamber includes the construction of at most four Flow Meter chambers in Jerome Park Reservoir area. ~~These meter chambers would not be needed if the Eastview with KCT alternative is selected~~.

~~For~~ the Eastview with NCA and Harlem River Site options, Flow Meter Chamber A would be ~~constructed to~~ measure the flow from the new Shaft Chamber to the ~~East~~ Bronx Low Level service connection. ~~The same~~ Flow Meter Chamber would measure the flow from the new Shaft Chamber to the East Bronx and ~~South~~ Bronx Low Level service connections for the Mosholu site. The proposed chamber would be an underground ~~concrete~~ vault containing a single 48-inch diameter Venturi meter and would be located approximately 300 feet north of Gate House No. 5 ~~beneath~~ Harris Park Annex.

Flow Meter Chamber B would be constructed to measure the flow from the new Shaft Chamber to City Tunnel No. 1, Shaft No. 3 High Level Service. The proposed chamber would be an underground concrete vault containing two 48-inch diameter Venturi meters and would be located approximately 480 feet north of Gate House No. 5 beneath Goulden Avenue.

Flow Meter Chamber C would be constructed to measure the flow from the new Shaft Chamber to City Tunnel No. 1, Shaft No. 4 and City Tunnel No. 3, Shaft No. 4B High Level Service. The

proposed chamber would be an underground concrete vault containing one 48-inch diameter and one 84-inch diameter Venturi meter and would be located beneath the intersection of Goulden Avenue and W. 205th Street.

Flow Meter Chamber D would be constructed to measure the flow from the Shaft No. 21 to the South Bronx Low Level service connection only for the Eastview site with NCA alternative. The proposed chamber would be an underground concrete vault containing a single 48-inch diameter Venturi meter. The proposed Flow Meter Chamber D would be located in Jerome Park Reservoir near the existing butterfly valve at the dividing wall, which connects to the South Bronx Low Level service for the Eastview Site.

This work is associated to the construction of the New Shaft Chamber. The construction of the proposed New Flow Meters would take place seasonally from 2008 through 2011 with excavation of the New Flow Meter chambers taking place in the second summer of construction. The construction of the Flow Meter chambers would occur during the second school year with concrete work performed on Saturdays and school holidays.

8.2.1.9. Jerome Pumping Station

The Jerome Pumping Station is located on Jerome Avenue between Mosholu Parkway and West 205th Street in the Bronx. The pumping station was built in 1906 to house steam driven pumps, which were replaced in 1938 by three 19 million gallons per day (mgd) electric pumps that are capable of delivering 50 mgd of water to the Bronx Intermediate Level Service. The pumping station superstructure is a three-story building, but only the main floor is at grade. The basement and mezzanine levels are below grade. The basement level contains pumps, motors, and piping. The mezzanine level contains electrical switchgear. The Jerome Pumping Station currently pumps water from Jerome Park Reservoir to the Intermediate Level service area.

In the proposed project, the Intermediate Level service would be supplied from the in-City High Level Service using existing pressure reducing valves and regulators for all site alternatives. The Jerome Pumping Station would no longer be needed and would be taken off line, but would be retained for BWSO use. All the mechanical equipment, suction mains and discharge mains would be capped at the face of the building. A portion of the water treatment plant staff may occupy the Jerome Pumping Station. Other future uses of the Jerome Pumping Station would be the subject of further study.

The work required to place the Jerome Pumping Station off-line is expected to take place between 2010-2014 for all alternatives.

Jerome Park Conservancy

The Outdoor Urban Ecology Lab (OUEL)

What is it?

The Outdoor Urban Ecology Lab is one of two demonstration projects that the Jerome Park Conservancy is creating with the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation and the NYC Department of Environmental Protection. These projects are part of the 125-acre park being proposed for Jerome Park. The Ecology Lab is about one acre in size and will include planting beds, a pond, a greenhouse and cold frames – all for the study of urban ecology.

Who is it for?

The Outdoor Urban Ecology Lab is for the entire community:

Schools – teachers, students and staff
Residents – youth, families and senior citizens
Community groups – institutions and neighborhood organizations

How will it be used?

1. Schools (or community groups) will visit with classes for formal presentations, sign-guided field trips, or teacher-led field trips.
2. Teachers will be trained in urban ecology.
3. Students, teachers and community members will conduct research.
4. Experiments will be conducted in water ecology. Best management practices for improving water quality and natural purification methods will be demonstrated.
5. Native species will be grown for transplanting into parkland
6. Residents will help maintain garden plots during the summer (grandparent mentors).
7. Residents will have community gardens and will hold small group gatherings.

Where is it?

The Outdoor Urban Ecology Lab will be located in Harris Park Annex, which runs along Goulden Avenue. The demonstration project will be near the intersection of 205th Street, across the street from the Bronx High School of Science.

When will it be open?

The Outdoor Urban Ecology Lab will be open by appointment. Depending upon the availability of staff and funding, it could be open in all seasons, seven days a week, during daylight and dusk.

A groundbreaking ceremony was held on October 21, 1997 and the first seeds will be planted in the spring of 1998.

Jerome Park Conservancy

The Outdoor Urban Ecology Lab - *October 1997*

The future scientists of P.S. 246 pose for a picture. The students of Class 3-2 were on a walking tour "Inside the Fence" of Jerome Park Reservoir on October 21, 1997. They joined the Jerome Park Conservancy in celebrating the groundbreaking for the Outdoor Urban Ecology Lab.

Groundbreaking for the Jerome Park Conservancy's Outdoor Urban Ecology Lab was held on October 21st at 11 am in Harris Park Annex, on Goulden Avenue just north of 205th Street in the Bronx. The one-acre Ecology Lab will include planting beds, a pond, a greenhouse and cold frames. The planting areas will be available to teachers, students and residents for "hands-on" study of urban ecology; the pond will exhibit natural methods of purifying water.

Two New York City Commissioners, Henry J. Stern, of Parks and Recreation, and Joel A. Miele, Sr., of Environmental Protection addressed the gathering of local residents and the principals, teachers and students of the surrounding schools. These include Lehman College, the Bronx High School of Science and DeWitt Clinton High School.

"Those of us who live and work around the Jerome Park Reservoir are excited about the possibilities for environmental education at this site," said Ricardo R. Fernandez, President of Lehman College and founding chairman of the Jerome Park Conservancy. "The new Urban Ecology Lab will be a wonderful resource for the more than 25,000 students who attend schools in this neighborhood."

The Ecology Lab is part of the Conservancy's plan for a 125-acre park in and around the Jerome Park Reservoir. On the day of the groundbreaking ceremony the "inside path" of the reservoir was open to the public from 11 am to 6 pm.

A grant from the Fund for the City of New York paid for the design of the Outdoor Urban Ecology Lab. And a recent award from the New York Times Foundation will enable the Conservancy to continue its park planning and environmental education.

Online at http://members.aol.com/jeromepark/ouel.htm - ***courtesy of the Friends of Jerome Park Reservoir.*** **Reprinted for distribution June 19, 2008**

FJPR

Jerome Park Reservoir Community

Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow:

Safety, Security & Quality of Life

June 19, 2008

Introduction

Along with the new Croton Water Treatment facility, there are now four major water supply system facilities located in this north west Bronx, south Yonkers area – Hillview Reservoir, Third Water Tunnel, Croton Water Treatment Plant (CWTP) and Jerome Park Reservoir (JPR). In siting the CWTP and keeping JPR online, the city choose to violate the tenets of anti terrorist security measures by the fact that four major water supply facilities would be within one mile or less from each other. A possible explosion or attack on one part of the system will leave other sites vulnerable, and thus imperil our entire water system. The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) police are far from equipped or far from prepared to be the first line of defense for such a highly sensitive area of water supply facilities. There are already questions concerning lack of training, technology, and equipment for our Fire Department & Police Department - surely we can not assume that the DEP Police have the training, manpower and equipment which our primary emergency services currently lack!

As a result of public access questions concerning these facilities, we prepared this report to the Croton Facilities Monitoring Committee (CFMC).

~~Karen Argenti, Lynn Schwarz, Jane Sokolow, Sally Regenhard

Walk around Jerome Park Reservoir

While the safety of the water supply raises valid concerns, it should not mean we cannot live in the drinking water watershed, nor does it mean that we should not walk around the Jerome Park Reservoir. More importantly, we are not moving. The enormity of sustaining safety protection is insurmountable. One only has to take a walking tour of the Jerome Park Reservoir to see the difficulty in securing the circumference, not to mention maintenance. The safety & security of the Jerome Park Reservoir's community residents, students, and employees from terrorism, and/or accidental explosion is a major concern. With thousands of pounds of chemicals on site, there is danger of these materials -- a terrorist weapon of choice -- being stolen, as well as the potential for accidents.

See next page for photo's or online at www.waterblogged.org for the key. From top left (1) to right (4) to second row left (5) and so on . . .

1. Remains of a truck that went on fire NYFD was called to put out. **2.** Walking along the path where the DEP is currently working – in need of maintenance. **3.** What the DEP project looks like to the community. **4.** Outside the DEP contractor's work on the Demonstration Plant – in need of maintenance. **5.** Lehman College can keep up with cutting grass and cleaning. **6.** Turning the corner at 197th Street onto DEP responsibility. **7.** Sign hung up side down and graffiti'd – not a very secure circumference. **8.** Vendors can hang signs and no one from DEP patrols. **9.** Rubble on the sidewalk that the DEP is supposed to maintain. **10.** Graffiti on the historic wall. **11.** Traffic sign leans on DEP property – not a good indication of protecting the circumference. **12.** Neighbors grow a vegetable garden, but it is not at the OUEL. **13.** Weed tree has signs pasted on it. **14.** Tree is in need of removal. **15.** DEP park benches are not maintained. **16.** Micro screen building looks horrible and filled with asthma inducing weeds.

Walk around Jerome Park Reservoir

The Community's Right to Know

The community does have a "right to know" about security for Jerome Park Reservoir, the Croton Filter Plant and the Third Water Tunnel, including plans for:

- New York City's security and evacuation plans for emergencies at those facilities
- Joint Plans with the NYPD and NYDEP for terrorist threat incidents and/or natural disasters at those facilities
- Provisions for Homeland Security concerns, for dedicated NYPD coverage, or for HazMat operations of the FDNY or NYPD
- Coordinated Transit security with nearby elevated and underground trains, and the potential for sparks or other malfunctions
- Health Emergency Responder Team associated with these facilities.
- When we are in potential danger: 50,000 residents, 25,000 students and their teachers (and other support staff) that live, work and/or study in the area around the Jerome Park Reservoir. Many thousands more travel through this area to other parts of our borough and city.

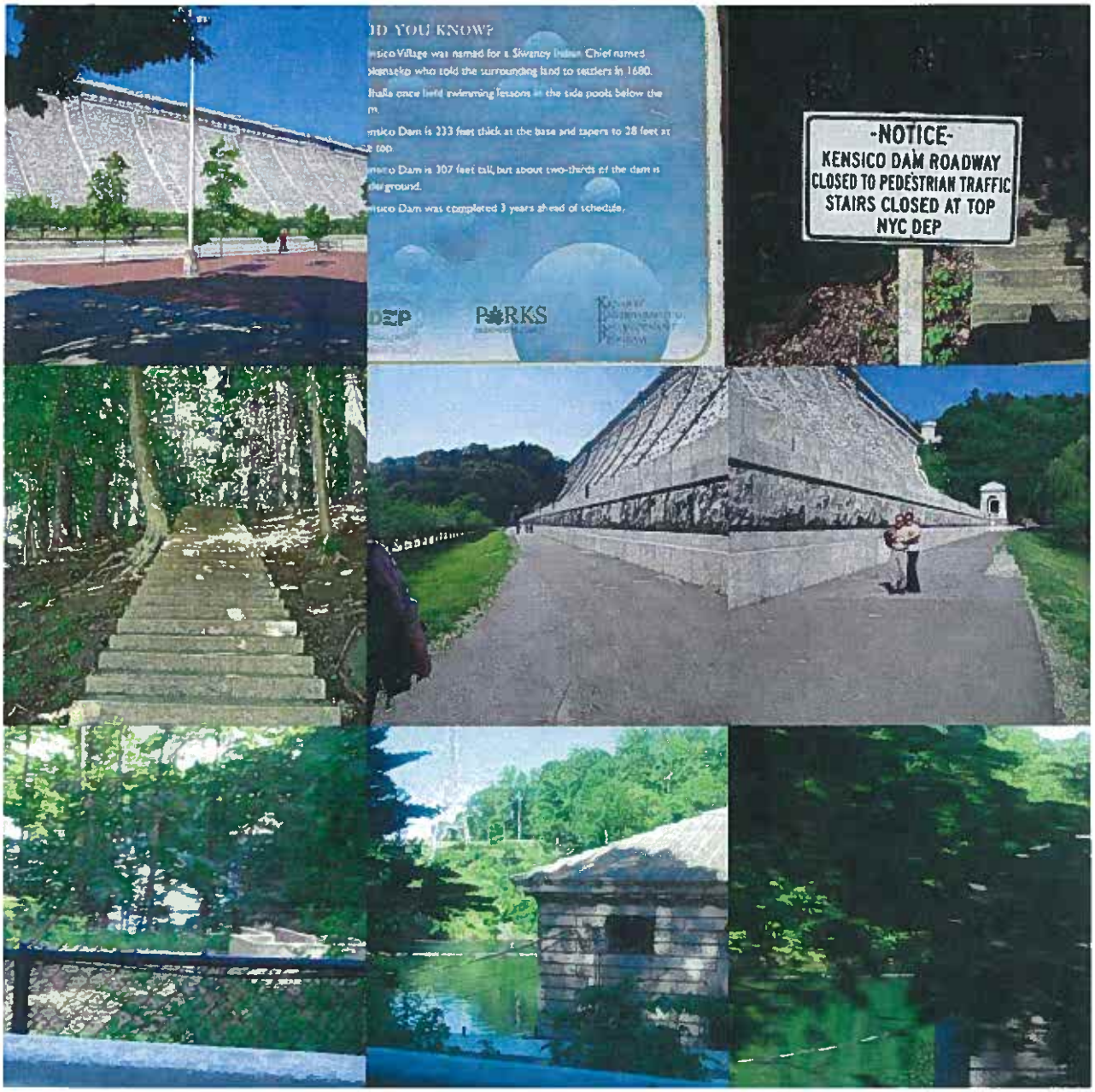
Promises Broken

"Walk Inside the Fence."

Open an Outdoor Urban Ecology Lab (the OUEL) for the schools and residents

- Blasting at the Jerome Park Reservoir
- Take more parkland at the JPR
- Maintain the area around the outside fence and pick up the garbage, etc.
- Disturb the peace, with potential plans are to work on weekends, holidays, and evenings without consideration for the people who live in our community
- Create a pathway around Jerome Park Reservoir ($5 million from Croton Parks Amenities).

Other water supply parks have access



From top left (1) to right (4) to second row left (5) and so on . . .

1. Man in red walking along the base of the Kensico Dam; 2. Description of the size of the Kenisco Dam; 3. Notice that the roadway is closed to pedestrians. No barriers at ground level, and roadway has signs that it is being reconstructed. 4. Easy to reach the top of the Kensico dam. 5. Walking westward along the base of the Kensico Dam. 6. Walking eastward along the base of the Kensico Dam. 7. Roadway looking into the Kensico Reservoir; 7. Along a country road looking into the Kensico Reservoir and the Gatehouse; 8. Looking into the Kensico from the road right before it is chlorinated at big facility along Columbus Avenue.

Conclusion

Finally, questions remain on how to resolve the access inconsistencies throughout the city and even in our own community? Whether the same argument against public access at JPR, will ultimately prohibit the use of the CWTP roof for the golf range?

There is only one answer/solution and that has been there from the beginning. The community and the DEP must become partners. We are already the eyes and ears of the community—e.g. notifying appropriate City agencies when the regulations are not being adhered to. We have to walk inside the fence and be their eyes and ears and use and create the OUEL and the Park We can build a people wall of public access and encourage volunteer environmental "reservoir keepers."

The Mayor says he wants communities to create conservancies, but actions speak louder than words: how can they deny us public access?

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