

1979

LIBERTY STATE PARK

Master Plan

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The Master Plan for Liberty State Park has been developed by the State of New Jersey, with the direction, guidance and participation of the following officials and agencies:

- State of New Jersey
Brendan Byrne, Governor
- Department of Environmental Protection
Daniel J. O'Hern, Commissioner
Betty Wilson, First Deputy Commissioner
- Division of Parks and Forestry
Alfred T. Guido, Acting Director
- Bureau of Capital Planning and Improvements
Jerome J. McCabe, Chief
- Department of the Treasury
Division of Building and Construction
S. Leonard DiDonato, Director
Alfred W. Wensley, State Architect
Herbert Wettstein, Deputy Director/Design
- David J. Bardin and Rocco D. Ricci, former Commissioners of the Department of Environmental Protection

The Master Plan was prepared for the State of New Jersey by a team of consultants under the direction of Geddes Brecher Qualls Cunningham, Architects and Planners. The Planning Team included the following firms:

- Geddes Brecher Qualls Cunningham, Architects and Planners; Zion & Breen Associates, Inc., Site Planners and Landscape Architects; Alan M. Voorhees & Associates, Inc., Transportation and Planning Consultants; Economics Research Associates, Economic Planners in Recreation and Tourism; Taylor, Wiseman & Taylor, Consulting Engineers.
- Environmental studies and designs for stabilization of the shoreline were prepared for the State of New Jersey by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

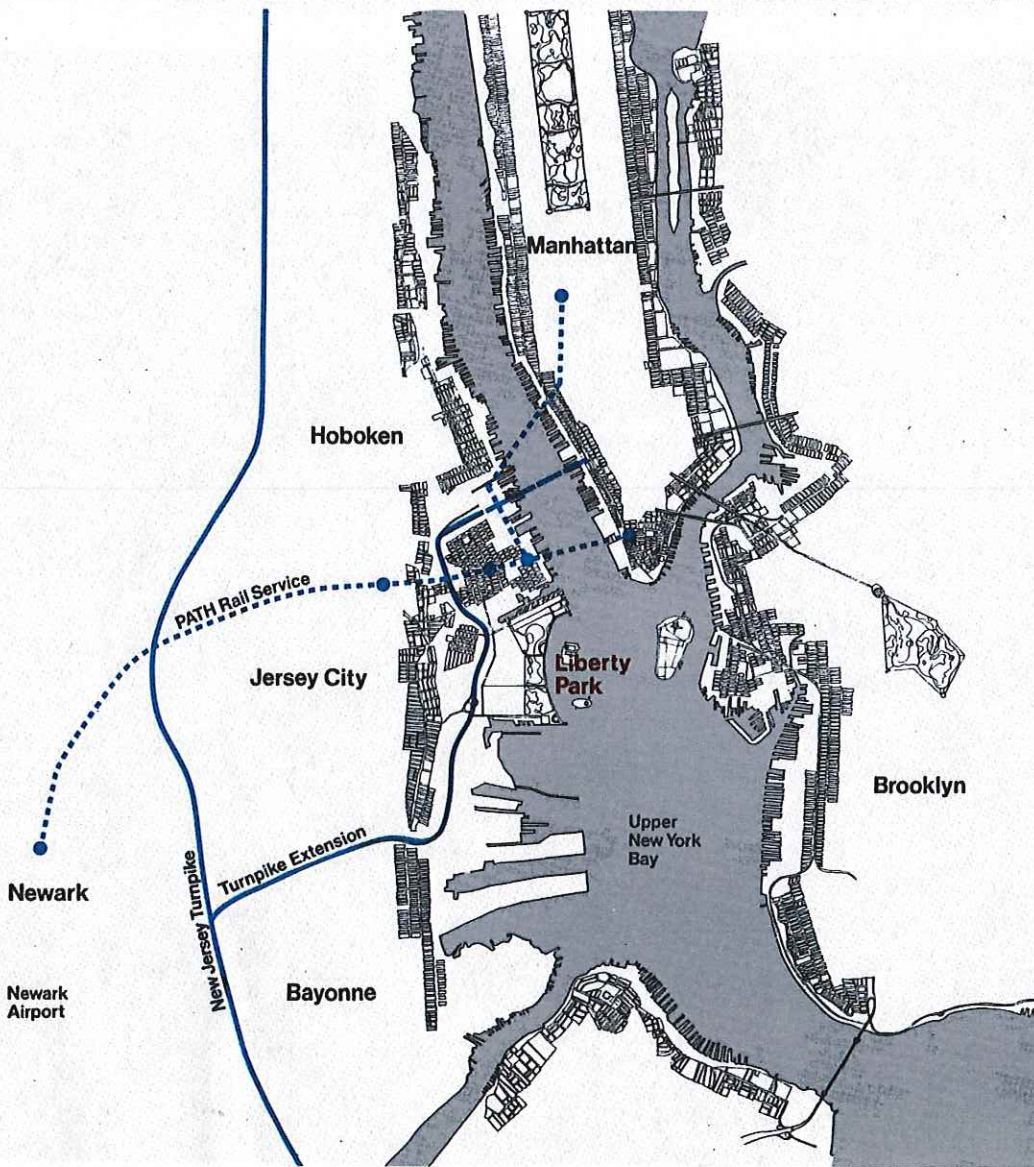


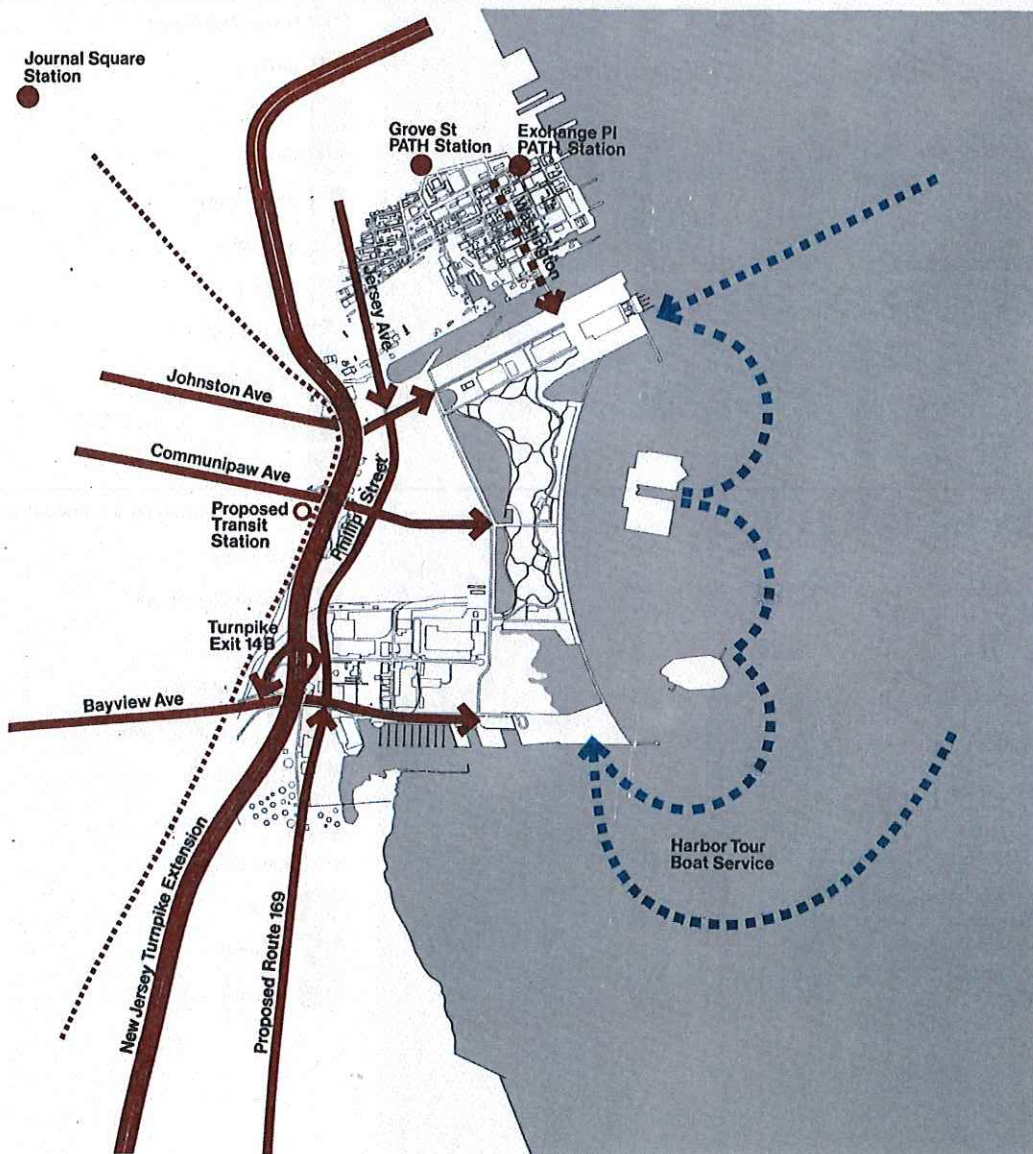
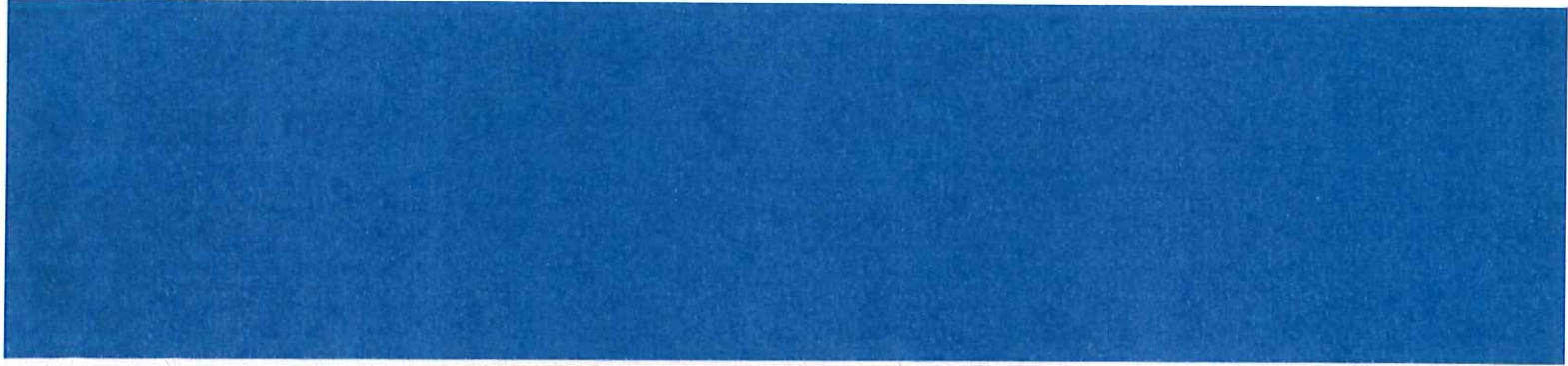


Location

Liberty State Park is located on the Upper Bay of the New York Harbor in Jersey City. Its region is the highly urban northeast sector of New Jersey and the City of New York.

- The Park is New Jersey's first urban State Park.
- In conjunction with the two national monuments—the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island—the Park will complete a triad of attractions with not only regional, but national and international drawing power.
- Located at the heart of the New York/New Jersey metropolitan region, the Park will serve as a catalyst for the revitalization of Jersey City and the older surrounding cities of the region.
- The Park will offer public access to the Harbor waterfront and provide the citizens of New Jersey and the region with a major recreation source.
- The location serves three types of users: first, the residents of the neighboring cities and counties, for whom the Park will be easily available for recreation and pleasure; second, the residents of the State and region for whom the Park will be the central park of the New York harbor; and third, national and international visitors to the harbor and its two famous monuments.
- The site has some of the most spectacular scenes in the State and region. It is the western shoreline of the harbor at the dramatic part of the upper Bay, where the tip of Manhattan appears like the prow of a great ship. In the distance, the views are the harbor's great bridges, on the left the Brooklyn Bridge, on the right the Verrazano Narrows Bridge. The vast sweep of the upper Bay is in the foreground. And, for unique visual and emotional impact, there are intimate views of Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty.





Access

Because of the Park's attractiveness to local, regional, state and national visitors, there have been many kinds of access facilities planned for the Park.

- The existing highway network serving Liberty Park provides excellent regional access. The most important access is the New Jersey Turnpike along the Park's western boundary.
- Mass transit is available to Park visitors by bus and PATH systems.
- Bayview Avenue and Wolf Drive provide direct access to the south end of the Park.
- Johnston Avenue allows excellent access to the north end of the Park.
- Improvements to Communipaw Avenue would create a third source of local access to the Park.
- The New Jersey Turnpike to the west of the Park site provides northbound and southbound access to Bayview Avenue and Wolf Drive via Exit 14B.
- Bus service to Liberty Park is provided along both Johnston Avenue and Wolf Drive.
- The Grove Street and Exchange Place PATH stations in Jersey City would be within walking distance of the north embankment of the Park via a proposed pedestrian bridge over the Tidewater Basin at Washington Street.
- A potential future transit station at Communipaw would provide excellent pedestrian access to the Park.
- Harbor boat service linking the Park to the national monuments and to Lower Manhattan will be available at the south and north embankments.

Users & Activities

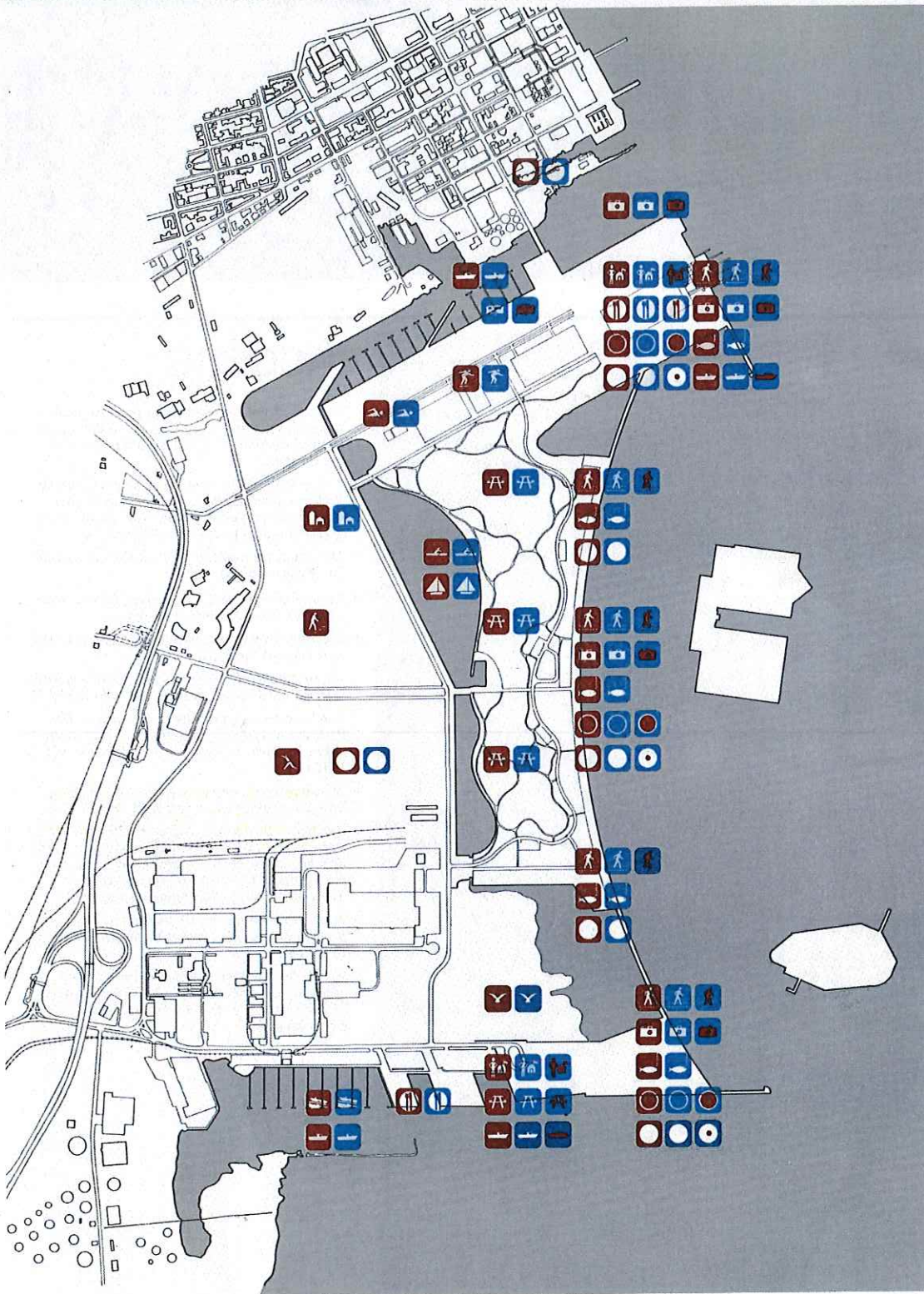
With its superb waterfront location, Liberty Park will offer spectacular harbor and skyline views and an array of water-related recreational activities. Traditional park pastimes will be combined with extraordinary recreational and cultural amenities to produce a park with unique powers to draw visitors from every segment of society. The activities presented below are a partial listing of potential future developments at Liberty Park.

Park Activities

-  Harbor Sightseeing
-  Boating
-  Sailing
-  Rowing
-  Boat Launch
-  Swimming
-  Fishing
-  Harbor Walk
-  Restaurant
-  Cultural Events and Exhibits
-  Trailer Camping
-  Park Administration and Orientation
-  Picnicking
-  Wildlife Observation
-  Skating
-  Organized Sports
-  Demonstration Farm
-  Garden Plots
-  Future Activities

Geographic Appeal

-  Local
-  Regional
-  National



Zones of Development

The development plan for Liberty Park is composed of four zones unified by interdependent functions, integrated landscape design, and interrelated systems of Park circulation.

North Embankment

- The CNJ Railroad Maritime Terminal is being restored and will become a focal point for cultural activities and visitor orientation.
- The waterfront around the Tidewater Basin will be a continuous band of landscaping with areas for sightseeing, trailer camping and picnicking.
- Sites for active recreation, such as swimming and skating, will be developed along Johnston Avenue.

Greenpark

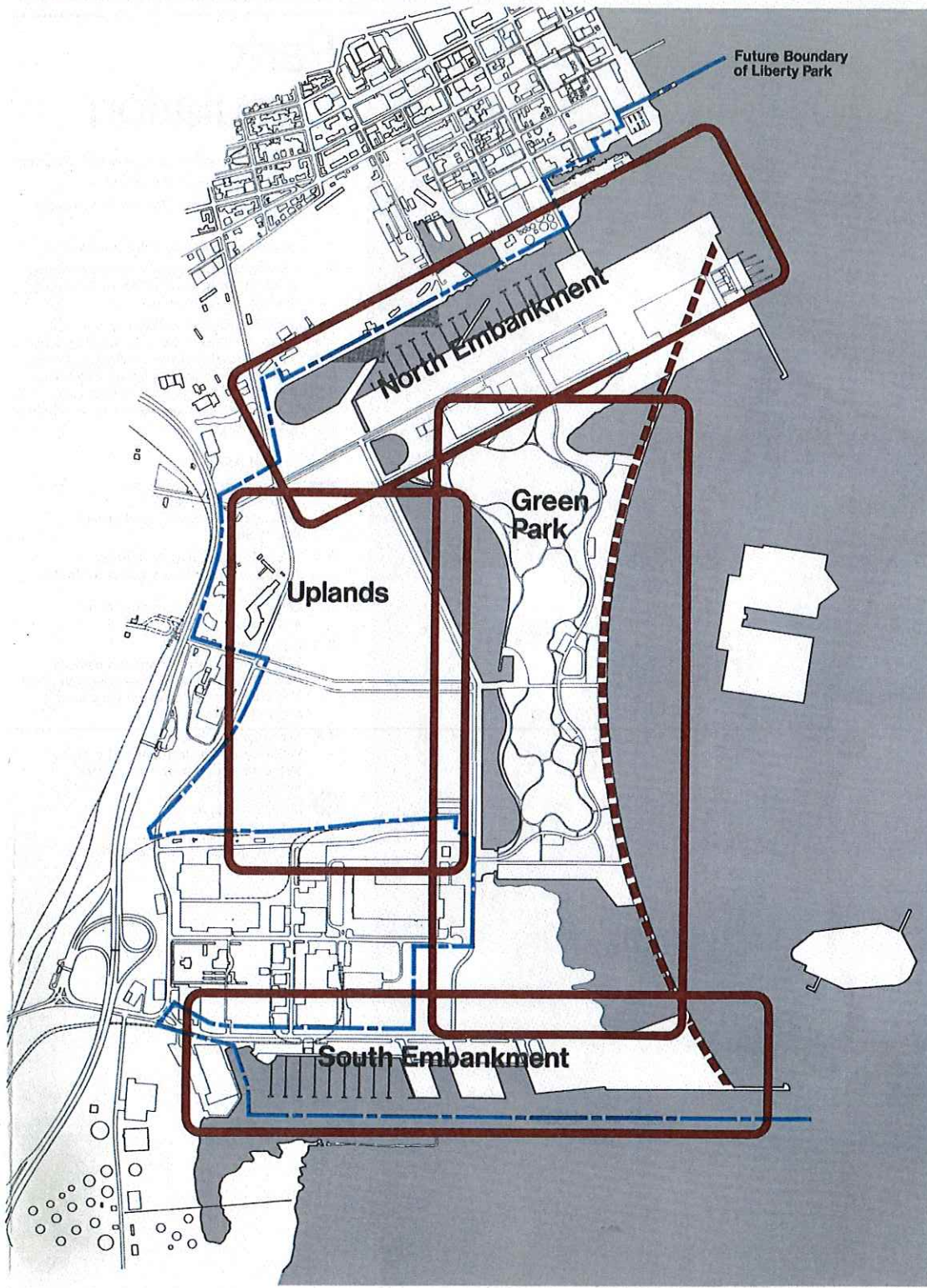
- The crescent walk along the harborfront will be a tree-lined promenade providing spectacular views of New York Harbor.
- Within the Greenpark, there will be picnic areas, open spaces for informal recreation, paved walkways and trails for nature walks.
- At the north and south ends of the Greenpark, large areas of existing wetlands will remain as wildlife preserves.
- The Inland Watercourse will be a major naturalistic and recreational attraction in the inner reaches of the Greenpark.

South Embankment

- The South Embankment will offer the most dramatic vistas of the Statue of Liberty and the Harbor.
- Facilities at the South Embankment will be related to harbor activities and will include fishing piers, a large marina, waterfront restaurants and picnic areas.
- The first phase of Liberty Park, a 35-acre landscaped overlook opposite the Statue of Liberty, was opened to the public in 1976.

Uplands

- The areas along Phillip Street are closest to existing residential districts, and provisions will be made to satisfy local open spaces needs with such community amenities as playfields and garden plots.
- The inner portions of the Uplands will be developed in response to broad local and regional interests.










Park Circulation

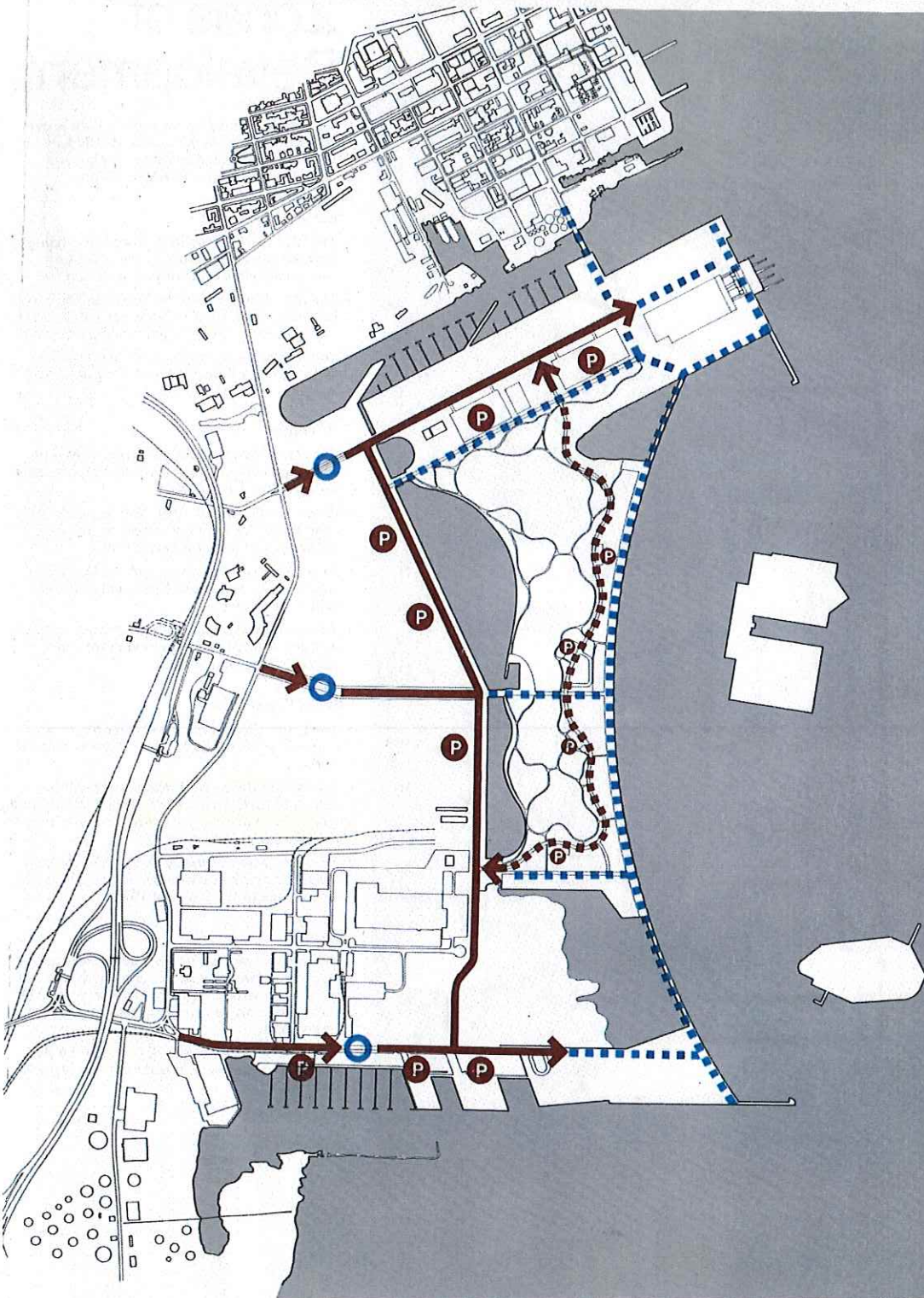
Access into Liberty Park will be at four locations:

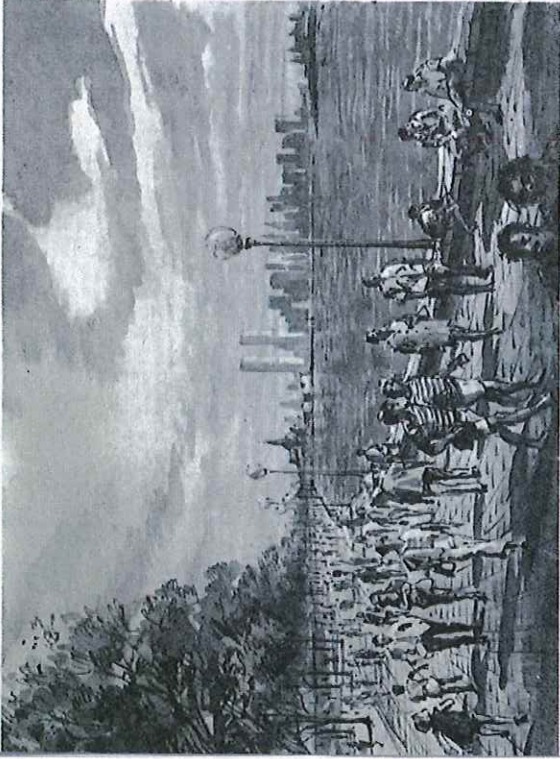
1. At the south end, at Wolf Drive
2. In the middle, the Uplands entrance off Phillip Street
3. At the north end, at Johnston Avenue
4. For pedestrians, a bridge across the north basin to the neighborhoods of Jersey City and the PATH tube lines

The primary innerpark roadway system will channel automobiles to parking lots distributed around the perimeter of the Greenpark. During peak visitation periods, circulation within the Greenpark will be restricted to pedestrians, cyclists, and the Park transit and service vehicles.

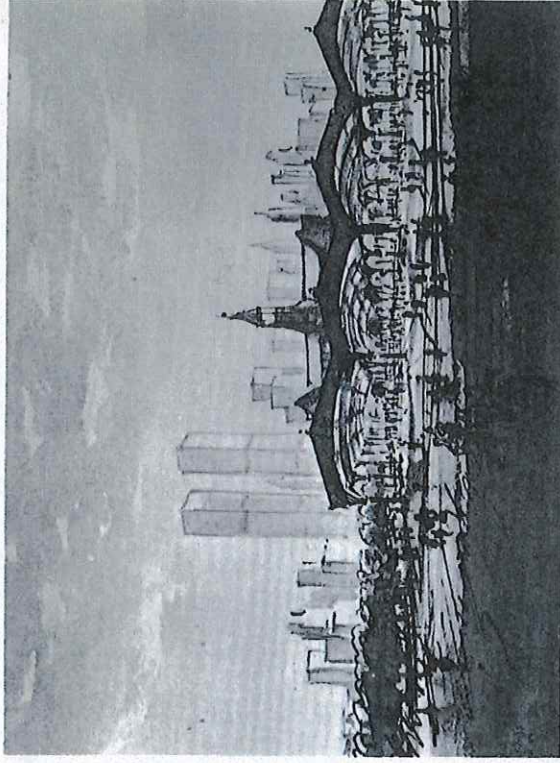
Park Circulation Key

-  Control Points
-  Primary Circulation Routes
Roadways for vehicles
Separate pathways for pedestrians and cyclists
-  Secondary Circulation Routes
Roadways for vehicles; access limited to off-peak periods
Separate pathway for pedestrians and cyclists
-  Primary Walkways
Walkways for pedestrians and cyclists combined with areas for passive recreation
Vehicular access limited to park transit and service vehicles
-  Secondary Walkways
Walkways for pedestrians and cyclists
Vehicular access restricted to park service vehicles
-  Major Parking Areas
-  Minor Parking Areas
For use during off-peak periods

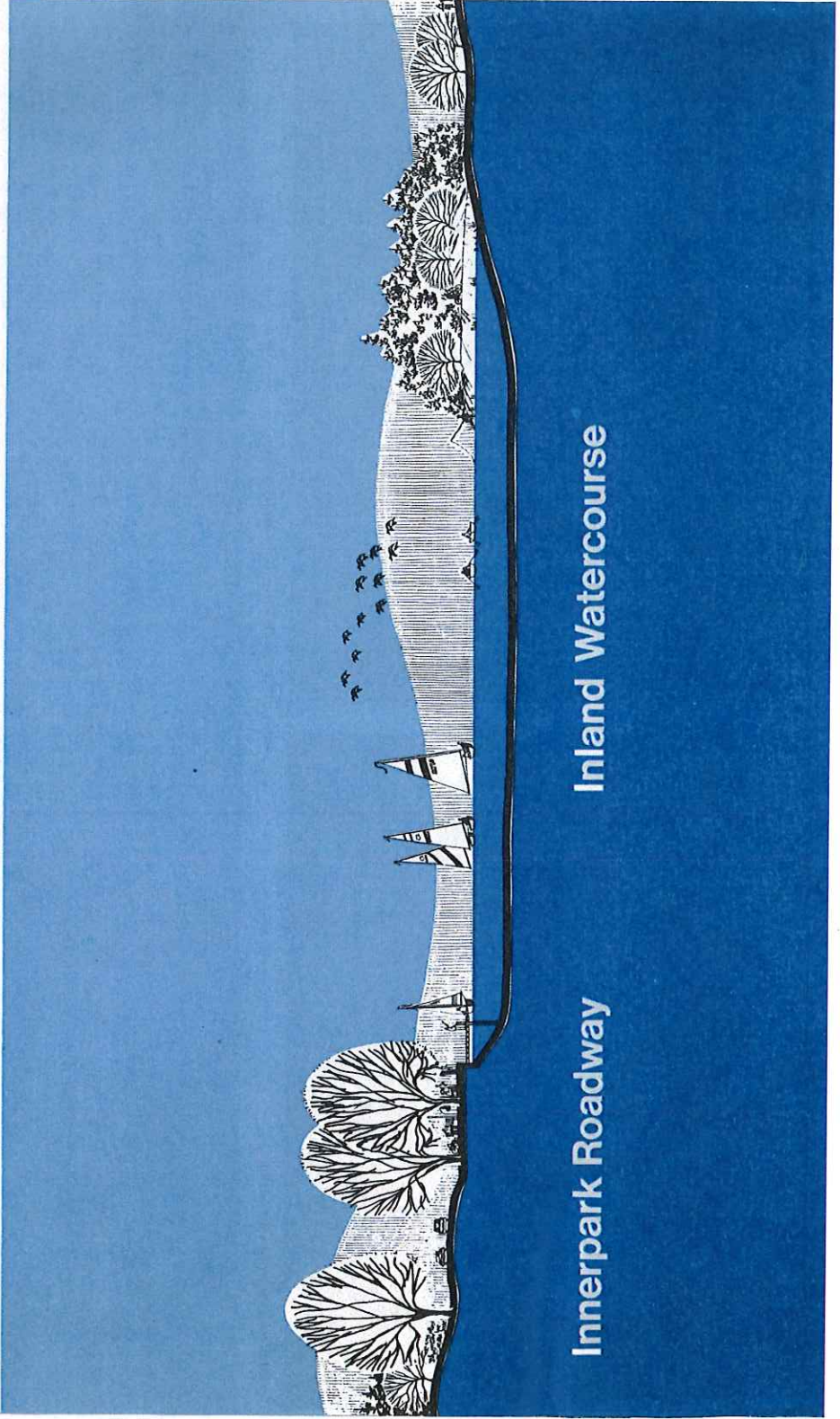




Liberty Walk



Restored CNU Train Sheds

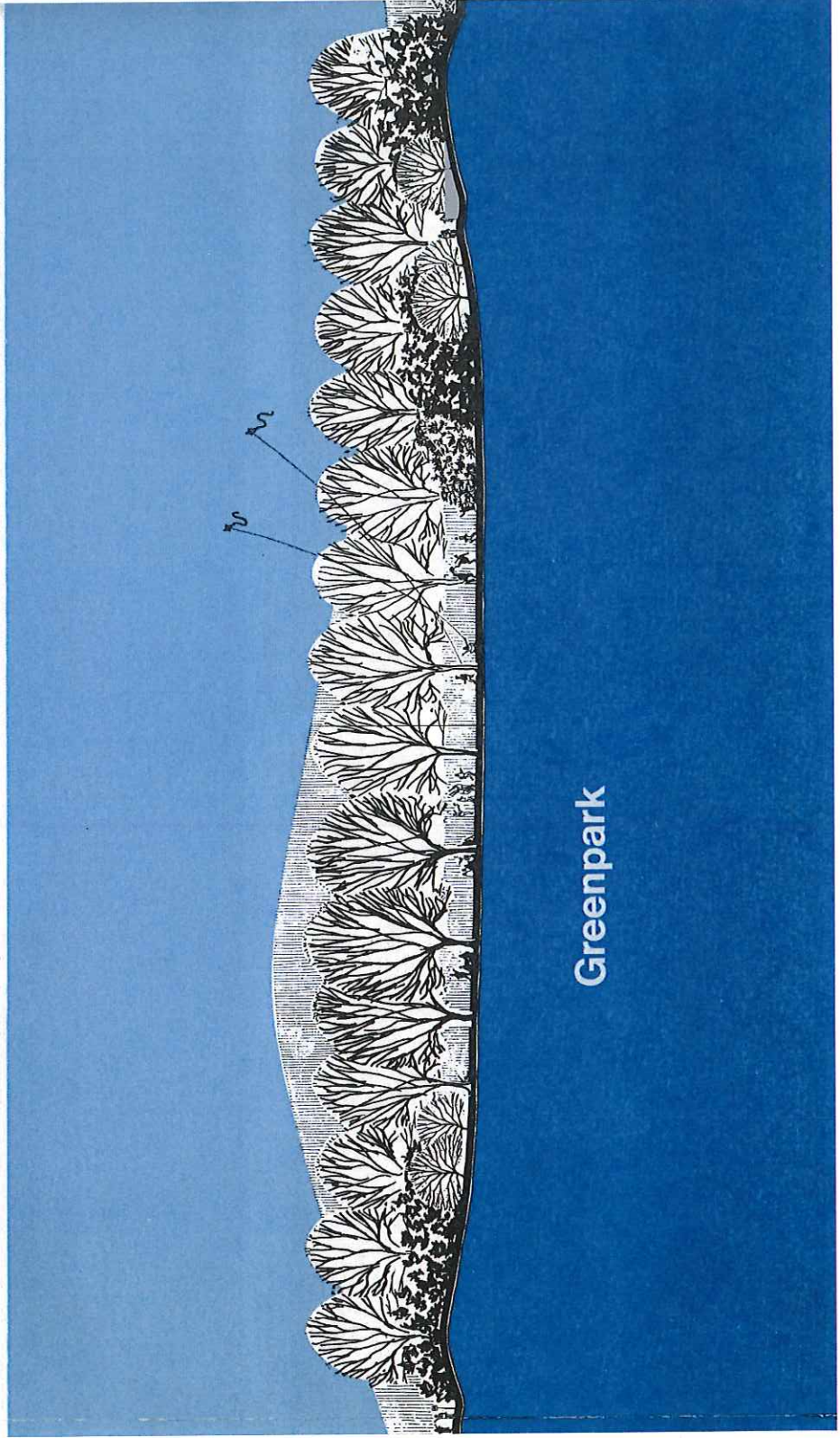




The Bowl with View of Ellis Island

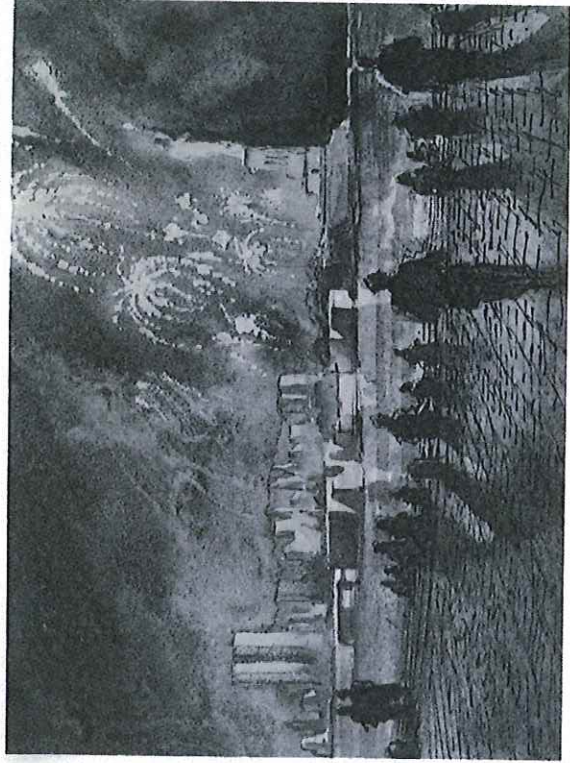


Informal Activity in the Greenpark





Wildlife Habitat



Fireworks Display at Liberty Island

