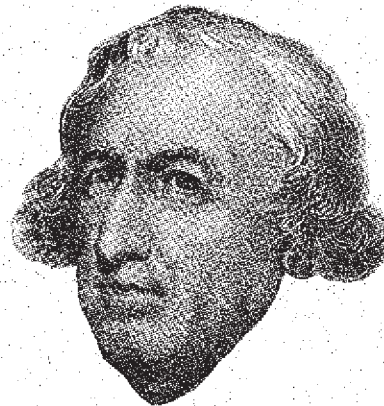


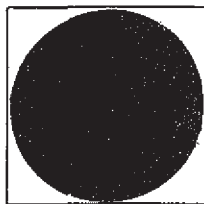
MASTER PLAN

SARATOGA



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
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MASTER PLAN

SARATOGA
National Historical Park.

New York

1969
U.S. DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



Master Plan

date

8/23/68

Regional Director

1/8/69

Associate Director, Management and Programming

1/8/69

Associate Director, Planning and Development

Harthon L. Bill

~~Deputy director~~

1/8/69

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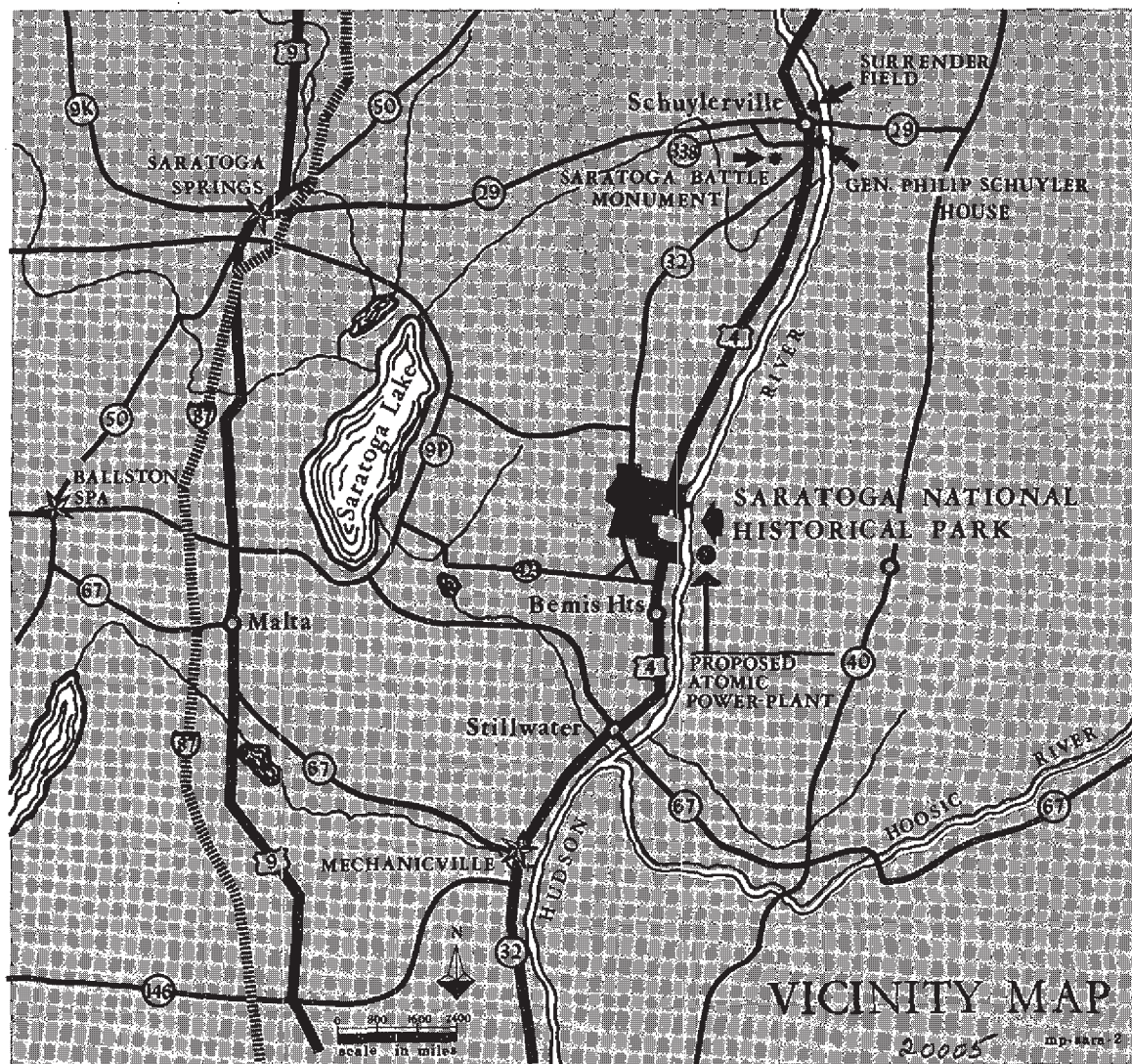
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ON MICROFILM

PURPOSE

The purpose of Saratoga National Historical Park is to preserve the battlefield on which General John Burgoyne's British army was defeated, and to make available and interpret this field and its significance as a turning point in the American Revolution to the American people.

OBJECTIVES

To achieve this purpose, the National Park Service will work toward the following objectives:

1. Provision of Facilities: To expand existing facilities as need arises up to optimum Park capacity, providing new facilities only as needed to tell the Park story more effectively.
2. Visitor use and Enjoyment: To encourage visitor use of the primary resources of the Park through an effective interpretive program stressing on-site presentation of the Park story.
3. Greater Opportunity for Use: To encourage the widest use of the Park by developing such facilities as hiking trails and encouraging such uses as sledding and cross-country skiing to the extent compatible with the Park's purpose.
4. Participation in Regional Planning: To cooperate with State and local land use planning programs, and to initiate cooperative planning for the Revolutionary War bicentennial.
5. Conservation Through Knowledge: To base all Park programs on knowledge gained from historical and archeological research, basing such research upon the work already done.

6. Architectural Theme: To design all developments to harmonize with the historic setting.

7. Museum Collections: To collect only artifacts recovered from the battlefield and such other objects related to the campaign as may be needed for the interpretive program. Library material pertaining to the campaign will be added to the existing strong base.

8. Interpretive Theme: To present the Park story effectively. This story is the British campaign of 1777, the two battles in the vicinity of Freeman's Farm, the retreat of the British to and their surrender at Saratoga, and the significance of these events. General Philip Schuyler and his role in these events will be presented at the Schuyler House, and the events of the surrender will be presented there also.

9. Interpretive Method: To center interpretation upon the restored battlefield, supplemented as necessary by demonstrations, exhibits, audiovisuals and so forth.

10. Cooperation in Interpretation: To continue cooperating with the Old Saratoga Historical Society, and to work closely with other historical agencies in presenting the story of the American Revolution.

11. Environmental Education: To give particular emphasis to telling the Park story to school groups, and to support environmental education programs by providing environmental study plots.

SUMMARY

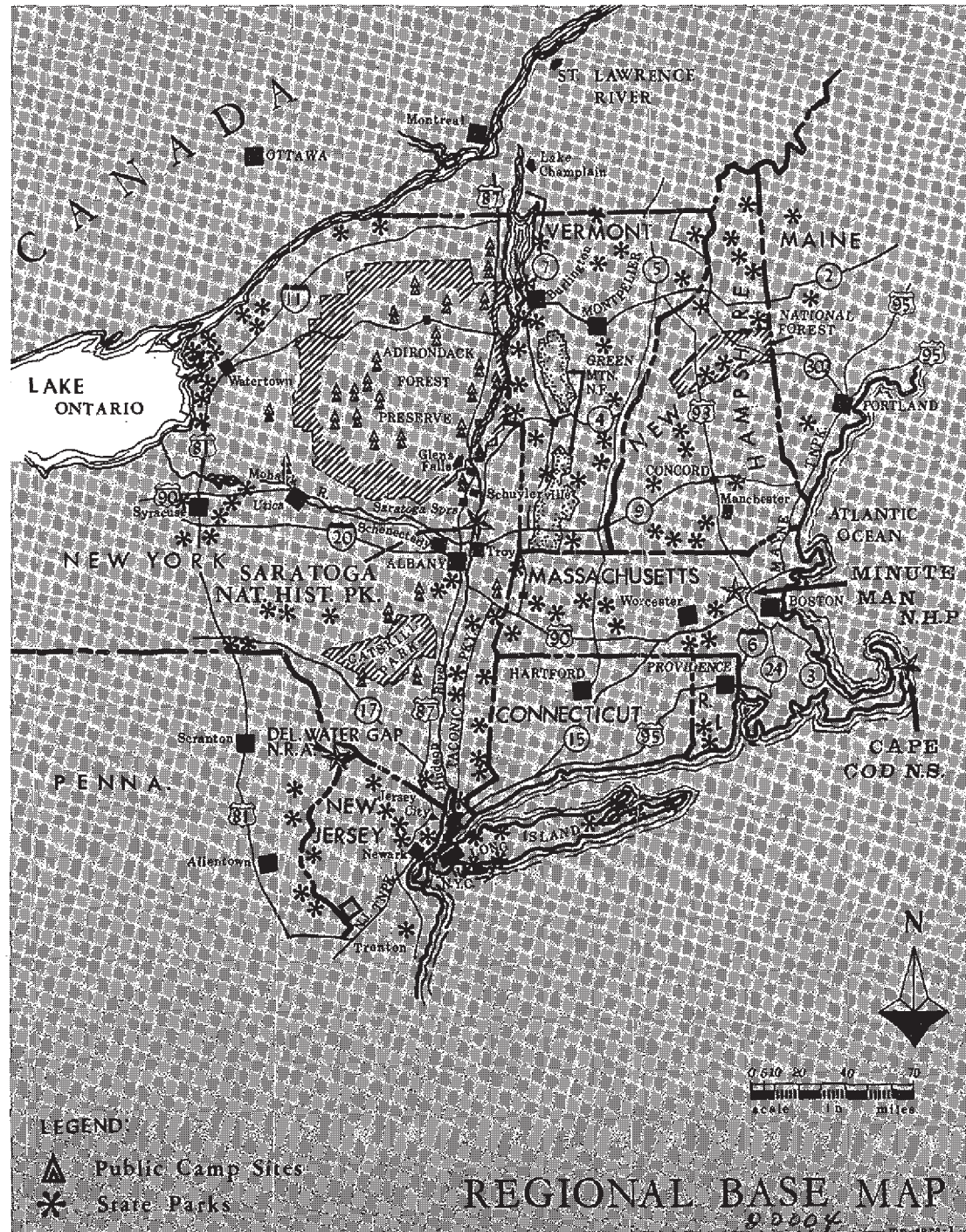
Saratoga National Historical Park has been developed so that it communicates its Park story reasonably well to a steadily increasing number of visitors. At the same time, fully effective communication of the Park story has not been attained, the relatively unspoiled setting of the Park is threatened by impending change in uses of surrounding lands, and increasing visitor use requires some expansion of visitor facilities in the foreseeable future.

This plan is addressed to these points. It recommends strengthening interpretation by eliminating those visitor center exhibits which duplicate the audiovisual program, and enlarging the auditorium into the space thus saved. It endorses the interpretive prospectus recommendations for a Kriegspiel film, and for reconstruction of portions of the 1777 entrenchments. It further recommends that parking at the Visitor Center and tour road interpretive stops be increased, as need arises, up to double present capacity.

The plan proposes that the National Park Service acquire 385 acres of land, 125 acres of which is outside the present boundary, to protect and assure public access to those portions of the 1777 field fortifications not yet in public ownership. It further recommends that the National Park Service seek controls over another 1,535 acres within the existing boundary to assure that these lands continue in uses which are compatible with the Park purpose and with visitor enjoyment.

In addition, the plan proposes an interpretive theme for the General Philip Schuyler property and suggests a means of improving the

visitor circulation pattern in the Schuyler House, recommends an entrance fee for Saratoga, and proposes closer cooperation with regional school systems both in presenting the Park story to school groups and in starting an environmental education program. Finally, it recommends continuing and encouraging present off-season recreational use.



ON MICROFILM

REGIONAL CHARACTERISTICS AND ANALYSIS

Saratoga National Historical Park is located on the west bank of the Hudson River twenty-three miles north of Albany, New York. Its effective region extends from the Capital District of Albany on the south to the Adirondack Mountains on the north and Vermont to the east, and includes Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady and Washington Counties.

Access and Circulation

As shown on the Regional Map, access by highway is good. Two major north-south highways, Interstate Route 87 (the Northway) and U.S. Route 4, are intersected by a number of major east-west highways. U.S. 4 passes through the Park; Interstate Route 87 is connected to the Park by New York Routes 9P, 32 and 423.

Connections with the Delaware and Hudson Railway system may be made at Saratoga Springs; Albany is served by the Penn-Central. Local and interstate bus systems serve Mechanicville, Stillwater, and Saratoga Springs. The only public transportation to the Park is by taxi from Mechanicville, Schuylerville, or Saratoga Springs. Car rental service is available in Saratoga Springs and Albany. Albany County Airport and Glens Falls Airport are serviced by regularly scheduled airlines with connections to Canadian and transcontinental flights. Circulation within the Park is by a Park road system.

Population Data

The five-county region had a 1960 population of 705,979, of which 455,447, or 64 per cent, was concentrated in the Albany-Schenectady-Troy urbanized area. Saratoga and Washington Counties, with 1960 populations of 89,096 and 48,476 respectively, are primarily rural, with some sub-

urban populations in Saratoga County and numerous smaller cities and villages in both. Saratoga County's population increased 19 per cent between 1950 and 1960; a rate of increase exceeded by only thirteen other New York State counties.

Nearby centers offering most community services are Saratoga Springs (1960 population of 16,630), 14 miles northwest of the area and Mechanicville (6,831), 9 miles to the south. Stillwater township had a 1960 population of 4,416, Saratoga township a 1960 population of 3,414.

Park and Recreation Facilities

Existing Park and recreation areas in the region are shown on the Regional Base Map.

Numerous though these features are, a glance at the map shows very few recreation facilities along the Hudson River within the five-county effective region, and a scarcity of them elsewhere in the five counties. As the New York Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan points out, the Albany area needs facilities for day use, camping, and multiple use. It adds that the "Hudson and Mohawk River Valleys need special efforts, such as careful zoning, coordinated public-private planning for land use and development and the close cooperation of all in carrying out the State's current pollution abatement program if their scenic and recreation values are to be protected from further damage."

Historic sites abound. Those associated with Burgoyne's campaign are shown on the map of this campaign, and include:

1. Crown Point: Although more closely associated with earlier wars, this was a temporary staging area for Burgoyne's army. Now a Registered National Historic Landmark, the Crown Point Reservation is in quasi-public ownership.

2. Fort Ticonderoga: This ancient fort, the capture of which was Burgoyne's first notable success, is in private ownership, and open to the public. It, too, is a Registered National Historic Landmark. Nearby are such associated points of interest as Fort Mount Hope and Mount Defiance, both of which are open to the public.

3. Mount Independence: In 1776, this site on the Vermont shore across from Fort Ticonderoga was fortified and linked to Fort Ticonderoga by a floating bridge. The retreating Americans and pursuing British passed over it after the Americans evacuated Fort Ticonderoga. Half of the site is in public ownership and a lease on the other half is being negotiated. The Mount Independence Associates, Incorporated, plans to develop the site and open it to the public.

4. Hubbardton: Site of a short but bloody action which occurred when Burgoyne overtook the American rearguard; this site is a Vermont State Park.

5. Whitehall (Skenesborough), New York: Arnold's fleet was built here in 1776. A regional museum emphasizing the Revolutionary War history of the area is located in town.

6. Fort Edward: The town of Fort Edward has been built on the site of the historic fort. However, a small regional museum, the Old Fort House, exhibits historical relics.

7. Bennington, Vermont: Though the battle of Bennington was fought in New York State, an excellent private museum and the Bennington Battle Monument are located here.

8. Bennington Battlefield, New York: Currently a State Park in the process of development, the site consists of a hill believed to be part of the battlefield. It is a Registered National Landmark.

9. Oswego, New York: This was the base for Barry St. Leger's thrust down the Mohawk. Fort Ontario is a State historic site.

10. Site of Fort Stanwix, Rome, New York: Fort Stanwix, whose successful defense halted St. Leger, has long since disappeared under later structures. Fort Stanwix National Monument was authorized in 1935; no action has been taken to establish the area but reawakened public interest has led to preparation and approval of a master plan. The Rome Historical Society maintains an excellent museum at the site.

11. Oriskany Battlefield: This site is an undeveloped New York State Park.

In addition, there are many other historic sites and structures in the vicinity, as well as such cultural attractions as the Saratoga Performing Arts Center.

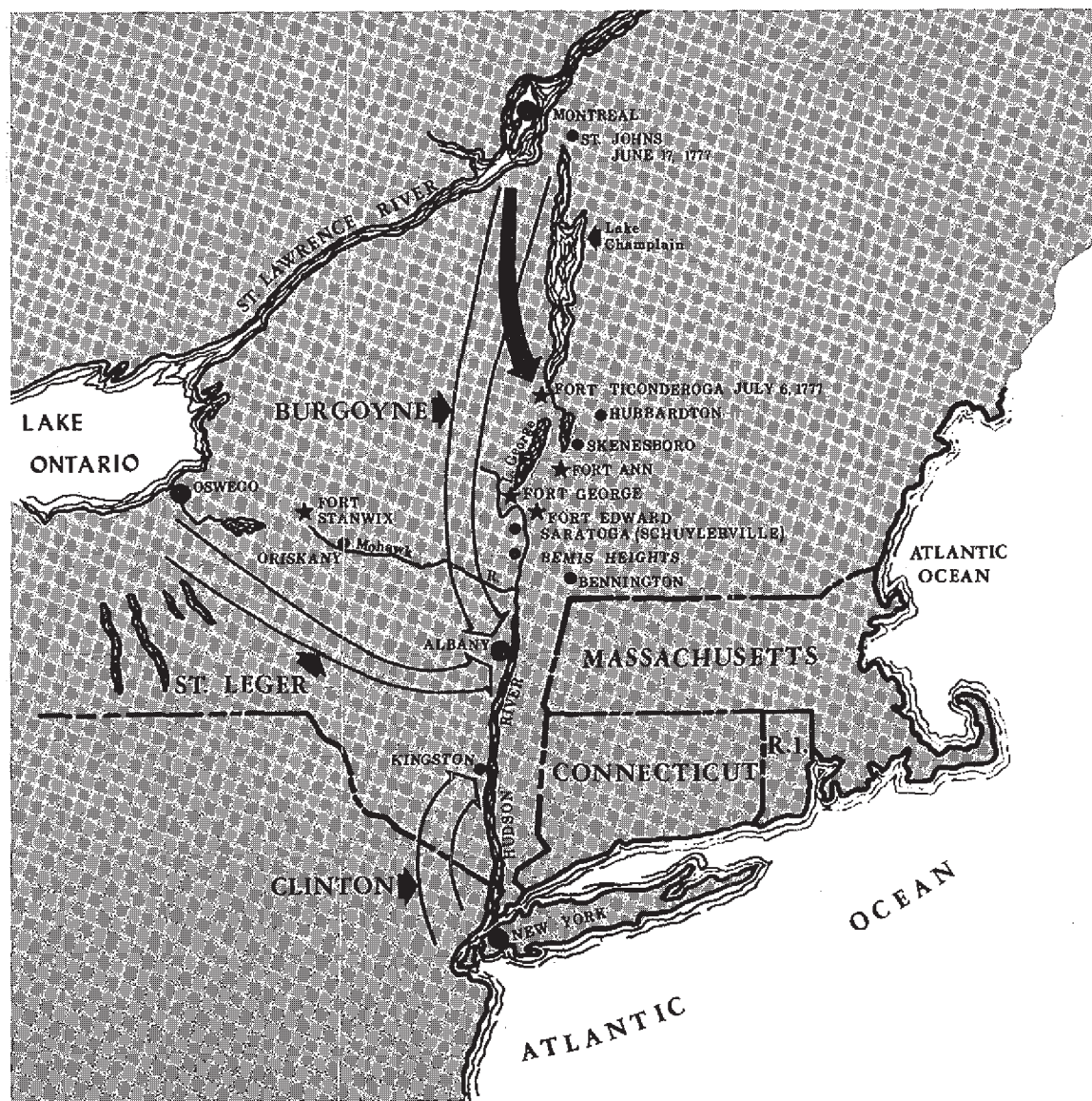
Surroundings and Existing Use

Lands around the Park are now used primarily for dairy farming, though residential use is increasing. A thorough discussion of this subject, which is an extremely important element in planning for Saratoga, will be found under the heading Existing Land Use on page 21.

Regional Analysis

Saratoga National Historical Park is the largest and most significant historical area in the region. Providing as it does a variety of scenic views and interpretive facilities, it attracts visitors from throughout the region and the Northeast. The Park also provides a relaxed setting for leisurely exercise, to a degree supplementing the more rugged physical activities offered at nearby ski resorts, lake areas, hunting preserves and golf courses.

The Park is affected by the region in that the region provides its setting. This setting is now a good one, but is changing. In New York State, zoning authority is vested in the township, and neither Saratoga nor Stillwater have town plans or zoning ordinances. Saratoga County has a County Planning Board with a full time, highly competent and well-trained director, and has tentatively identified the lands adjacent to the Park as agricultural reserve lands, but has no authority to require town plans or zoning, or to enact land use controls. The county also participates with Albany, Schenectady and Rensselaer Counties as a member of the Capital Region Planning Commission.



20006
**BURGOYNE'S
 CAMPAIGN
 OF 1777**

mp-sara-3

ON MICROFILM

RESOURCE DESCRIPTION

History

Saratoga National Historical Park is included under the theme "The War of Independence" of the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings.

For centuries before 1777, the Lake Champlain-Hudson River route had been a strategic highway between Canada and New York City. It had frequently been bloodied during the wars between France and England for control of North America. Only a year earlier, a British fleet and army had started down from Canada, only to be turned back by American fortification at Fort Ticonderoga and by the approach of winter. In 1777, another British force under General John Burgoyne would try again.

Burgoyne's plan for the campaign of 1777 was relatively simple. His army would push south up Lake Champlain, overland to the Hudson, and down the Hudson to Albany. At the same time, a force of Canadians, Regulars, Tories and Indians under Colonel Barry St. Leger would move from Oswego down the Wood Creek-Mohawk River Valley and link up at Albany. The reunited force would then place itself under the command of General William Howe, who would open the Hudson below Albany. A successful campaign would cut communications between New England and her sister colonies, and end the rebellion.

Howe, meanwhile, moved on Philadelphia by way of the Chesapeake Bay, leaving only a small force under Sir Henry Clinton in New York. Thus, when Burgoyne ran into trouble and needed help, an adequate relief force was not available.

Burgoyne embarked his force, which totaled about 9,400 men and

included 4,200 British Regulars, 4,000 Germans, and several hundred Canadians and Indians on June 17, and moved south to attack the Fort Ticonderoga defenses. On July 6, these fortifications were abandoned and their 3,500 defenders retreated. On July 7, the British pursuit caught the American rear guard near Hubbardton, Vermont, and, after a short but fierce battle, routed it.

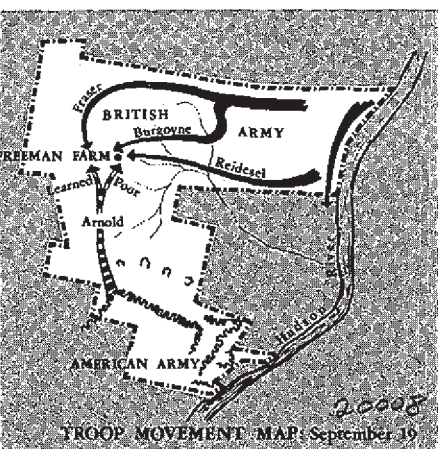
The way south cleared, Burgoyne moved southward to Skenesborough; halted for three weeks to bring up his artillery and supplies, then moved southward again through Fort Ann and Fort Edward, impeded in his march by rough terrain and American delaying tactics.

Time and the tide of events now began to run against the British. St. Leger halted his advance down the Mohawk Valley to besiege Fort Stanwix. In the battle of Oriskany, August 6, he stopped an American column marching to aid the fort. But learning that a strong relief force under General Benedict Arnold was on its way, he raised the siege and retreated toward Canada.

Even more serious was the fate of a detachment Burgoyne sent to Bennington, Vermont. On August 16, John Stark's New England militia and Seth Warner's Continentals shattered this force, inflicting about 800 casualties.

Despite these setbacks, Burgoyne decided to sever his communications with Canada and risk all on a push to Albany. On September 13, he crossed to the west bank of the Hudson at Saratoga (now Schuylerville) and began marching southward toward Albany.

Four miles north of the village of Stillwater, Burgoyne came upon the Americans, 9,000 strong. In command now was General Horatio Gates, who



ON MICROFILM

had replaced General Philip Schuyler. The Americans were entrenched on Bemis Heights, a strong position where the road to Albany squeezed through a defile between the hills and river, as does today's U.S. 4. American artillery on the heights and in redoubts on the flats below commanded both road and river. The route to Albany was blocked.

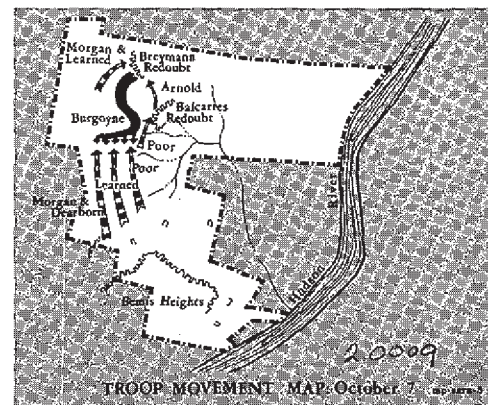
Burgoyne now had three choices. He could retreat to Fort Ticonderoga and renew his campaign in 1778, he could attempt to smash through along the river to Albany, or he could try to turn the left flank of the American position. He chose the latter.

On September 19, and again on October 7, Burgoyne struck the American left. On the 19th, a strong American detachment met him at Freeman's Farm. After fierce fighting, darkness found Burgoyne's battered army in possession of the field, but still over a mile from his objective, the left flank of the American lines. On October 7, he tried again. Again, he was met by an American force, and this time the Americans not only held their ground but counter-attacked and captured the Breymann Redoubt, which formed the right anchor of the British defenses.

Burgoyne's situation was now desperate. His supplies nearly exhausted and his army becoming weaker every day, he slowly retreated to Saratoga. There, on October 17, he surrendered.

The surrender of the British Army not only restored the sagging confidence of the Americans in their own military abilities at a time when it was most needed, but brought foreign recognition and assistance from France and later from Spain. This aid would make possible the final victory at Yorktown four years later.

There are numerous sites in the Park which are of major importance



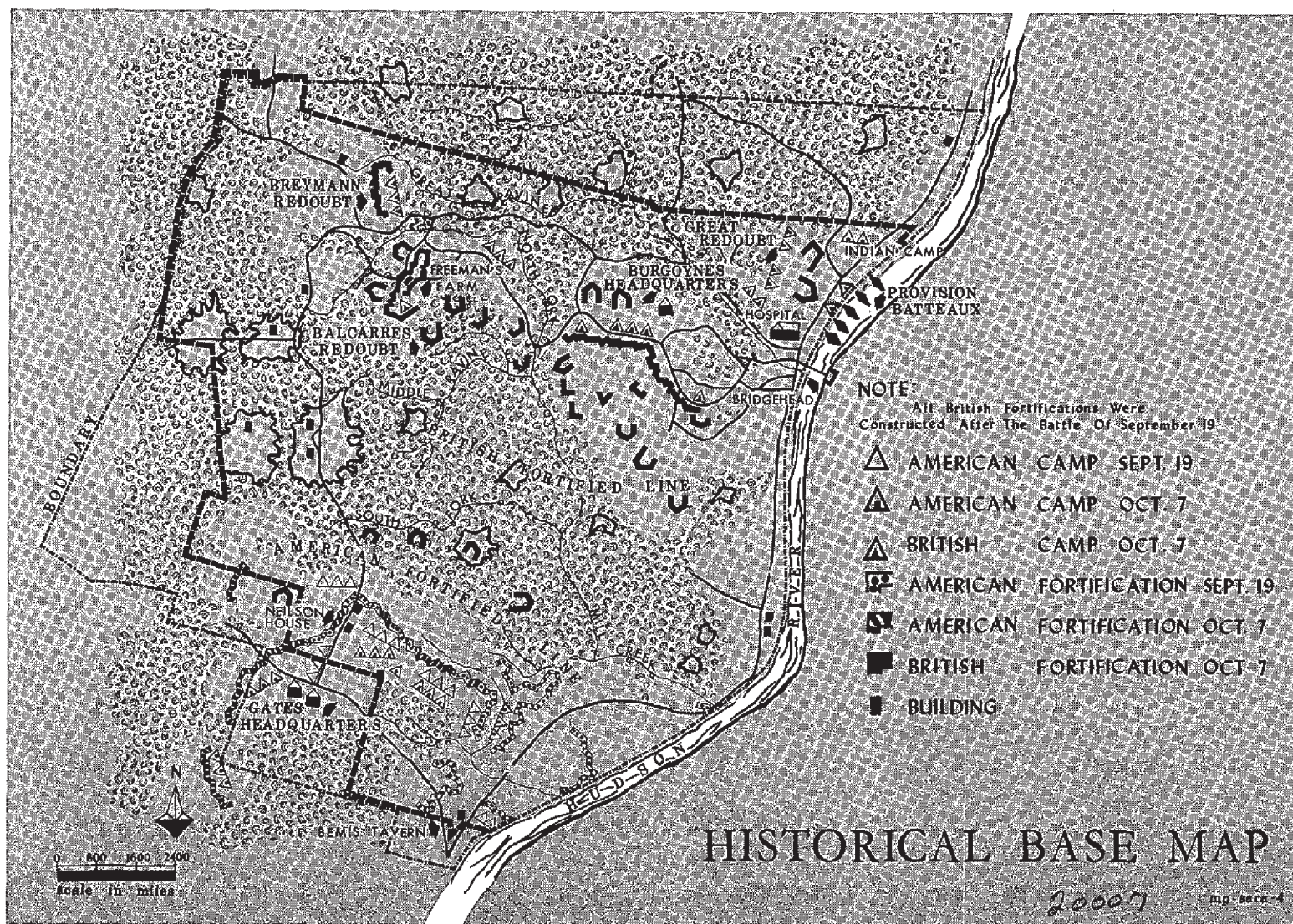
ON MICROFILM

to the story. The General Philip Schuyler Home in Schuylerville, the John Neilson House, the American River Fortification, Chatfield Farm, Barber Wheatfield, Freeman Farm and Cabin (reconstructed in June 1964), Breymann Redoubt and Great Redoubt are all within the present boundaries and included within the Tour System. The sites of General Gates' Headquarters, the southwest corner of the main American defenses, and a section of the American River Batteries are within the authorized Park boundaries but not presently included in the Park.

Natural History

The Hudson River with its short portage connections with Lake George and Lake Champlain provided a natural physiographic route for General Burgoyne to follow in his attempt to separate the New England States from the rest of the struggling colonists. In the vicinity of the Park a series of glaciated ridges run generally north and south parallel with the Hudson River on the east. These ridges and flats above the Hudson River are breached at intervals by ravines caused by erosive water action. Fraser Hill, the highest point in the Park, is located in the northwest corner of the area.

Second growth mixed forest of conifers and hardwoods cover about 700 acres of the Park, especially the bluffs and ravines overlooking the Hudson River. Brush and young forest growth cover about 740 acres and 960 acres are cleared. This provides an excellent habitat for Virginia white-tailed deer, rabbits, woodchucks and the introduced ring-necked pheasant.



ON MICROFILM

RESOURCE EVALUATION

Saratoga National Historical Park preserves the site of the decisive American victory over Burgoyne in 1777, which marked the turning point of the American Revolution. Although final victory was not to be won until four years later, the news of Saratoga electrified the civilized world and had far reaching effects that would eventually make the final victory at Yorktown a reality.

The battle has been described as one of the most decisive battles in world history.

FACTORS AFFECTING RESOURCES AND USE

Legal Factors

The State of New York acquired part of Saratoga battlefield in the late 1920's for State Park purposes. Federal interest in the site was first expressed with the approval on June 2, 1930, of an act directing the Secretary of War to study, investigate and survey the battlefield and report a plan for properly commemorating the battle.

On June 1, 1938, an act authorizing establishment of Saratoga National Historical Park was approved (52 Stat. 608). This act provided that when title to all the lands, structures and other property on which the battle was fought were vested in the United States, the Park would be established. It authorized the Secretary of the Interior to accept donations of lands and interests in lands, and to purchase with donated funds. It also provided that the area should include the portion of the field owned by New York State and any additional lands which the Secretary might designate within the six months following approval of the act.

Pursuant to the Act, the Acting Secretary of the Interior on November 22, 1938, approved a boundary containing about 2,600 acres. Over the next few years, all lands within this boundary except one block of 144 acres were conveyed to the Federal Government by donation, most of it by the State of New York.

On January 1, 1948, the Director of the National Park Service approved Drawing Number NHP-SAR-7007, which recommended an extension of the boundary. On June 22 of the same year, an Act to establish Saratoga National Historical Park was approved. In addition to establishing the Park, this Act authorized the Secretary of the Interior to accept all or any

part of the General Philip Schuyler property, comprising approximately 50 acres, for administration as part of the Saratoga National Historical Park, and provided that the Park shall not exceed 5,500 acres.

Finally on December 16, 1958, the Associate Director approved a boundary status report enlarging the Park boundary to include approximately 4,260 acres.

No ceiling has been placed on development costs. Up to 5,500 acres of land, inclusive of the Schuyler property, may be acquired, but only by donation or purchase with donated funds.

Land Status

| | |
|--|-----------------------|
| Legislative Acreage Limitation | 5,500 acres |
| Federal | 2,432.35 acres |
| State | 15.95 acres |
| County (abandoned Champlain Canal lands, unused) | 29.50 acres |
| Private | <u>1,915.51 acres</u> |
| Total within Boundary | 4,393.31 acres |

Climate

The Park is near the Adirondack Mountain area, where the influence of northern mountain climate is manifested by cool summers and relatively long, cold winters. Average annual temperature is about 46 degrees. Record high is 104°; record low-26°. Precipitation averages 35" for a year. Snowfall averages 62" a year. Maximum 24-hour rain and snowfall are 4.75" and 30.4" respectively. The prevailing wind is from the south in summer and west-northwest in winter. The maximum recorded velocity is 71 m.p.h. Severe ice storms occur periodically.

The relatively severe winter weather limits winter use of the Park,

although the use of toboggans, snowshoes, and over the snow motorized vehicles is encouraged.

Fire History

Saratoga has had only three minor grass fires, each burning only 0.1 acre, since 1941. Normal fall fire season is September 15 to November 15 or later, depending on snowfall. Normal spring fire season is from April 15 to June 15. The potential for serious fires is increasing with forest maturation, recent droughts, and increasing visitor use.

Terrain and Soils

The Park is on rolling hills rising from the alluvial plain and swamps along the Hudson River. A relatively low but steep escarpment marks the boundary between hills and flood plain.

Numerous glacial ridges and ravines drain generally east into the Hudson. Elevations range from 85 feet above sea level along the river plain to 407 feet at the summit of Fraser Hill where the Visitor Center stands.

Although the land along the Hudson River is often swampy, it is rich in mineral content, and crops grow very well. Soils are alluvial clays and loams. The hills rising from the river flats are gravel topped with sands of various description. Sands with enough binder to be useful as molding sand have been removed over the years, leaving piles and ridges of sand mixed with some humus and surface debris. Quite generally, at a distance of 2,000 to 2,400 feet west of the escarpment above the flood plain, the sandy character of the soil changes to clayey loam, with the higher ridges composed of gravel and out-croppings of shale bedrock and occasional boulders. Most of the sandy areas near the Hudson River are

underlain with clay and deep drainage is poor. Drainage in the clay loam soils is even poorer and surface water forms ponds and marshes with the usual wet area plant associations.

Depth of water table ranges from 8 to 24 feet. Permeability is poor, ground water being retained above the underlying layer of impervious shales. Frost penetration averages about 48 inches, 60 inches of penetration is not unusual, and the maximum known penetration is 78 inches.

RESOURCE USE

Existing Land Use

For the most part, surrounding lands are privately owned and are used for dairy farming, residences or summer cottages. Agriculture is declining as marginal lands are abandoned and as farmers take jobs in nearby communities and continue to farm, if at all, only as a secondary activity.

As agricultural use declines, former farmlands pass into residential or summer cottage use, as suburbanites move into the area. Stillwater, the nearest village, has pushed northward toward the hamlet of Bemis Heights, a portion of which is within the authorized Park boundary. Ten years ago, Bemis Heights had only a scattering of houses; today it has about 30 homes and cottages, and several house trailers. House trailers are not regulated by the town of Stillwater, and they are increasing in numbers both within and adjacent to the authorized Park boundary.

An important factor influencing both land use and the setting of the Park is the recent proposal, by Niagara Mohawk, to build an atomic power plant across the Hudson from Bemis Heights. This proposal has been dropped, but Niagara Mohawk retains ownership of the land, and may eventually propose a conventional power plant there.

A project of this type would intrude upon the view from the Visitor Center, from the British Great Redoubt, and particularly from Bemis Heights and the American River Fortifications. Moreover, coupled with New York's proposal to clean up the upper Hudson by 1972, it would accelerate the change in land use from farming to residential and summer cottage development.

Visitor Use of Resources

Visitor use has increased steadily from 60,100 in 1961 to 140,900 in 1967.

Visitors coming to the Park generally stop first at the Visitor Center for information. Most of them receive an interpretive folder, see the audiovisual program, tour the museum and then drive through the battlefield, stopping, perhaps, two or three times along the tour route. The average visitor spends an hour and a half in the Park. Visitor activities are as follows:

| | <u>Yr. ending Nov. 30, '67</u> | <u>Month of Aug., '67</u> |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <u>Automobile Sightseeing</u> | 59,092 | 12,771 |
| <u>Conducted Trips</u> | 11,218 | 2,196 |
| <u>Interpretive Talks</u> | 5,693 | 1,393 |
| <u>Attended Stations</u> | 57,693 | 15,395 |
| <u>Demonstrations</u> | 8,768 | 1,485 |
| <u>Automatic Presentations</u> | 108,896 | 30,603 |
| <u>Bicycling</u> | 300* | ---- |
| <u>Horseback Riding</u> | 20* | ---- |
| <u>Picnicking</u> | 14,000* | ---- |
| <u>Winter Activities:</u> | | |
| <u>Sightseeing</u> | 200* | ---- |
| <u>Sledding</u> | 175* | ---- |

*Estimates

THE PLAN

Optimum Carrying Capacity

The optimum carrying capacity of Saratoga National Historical Park is approximately 3,600 people per day. This capacity is determined by the capacity of the Park tour road and Visitor Center parking, assuming that this parking will eventually be doubled, and that the turn over rate is six times per day.

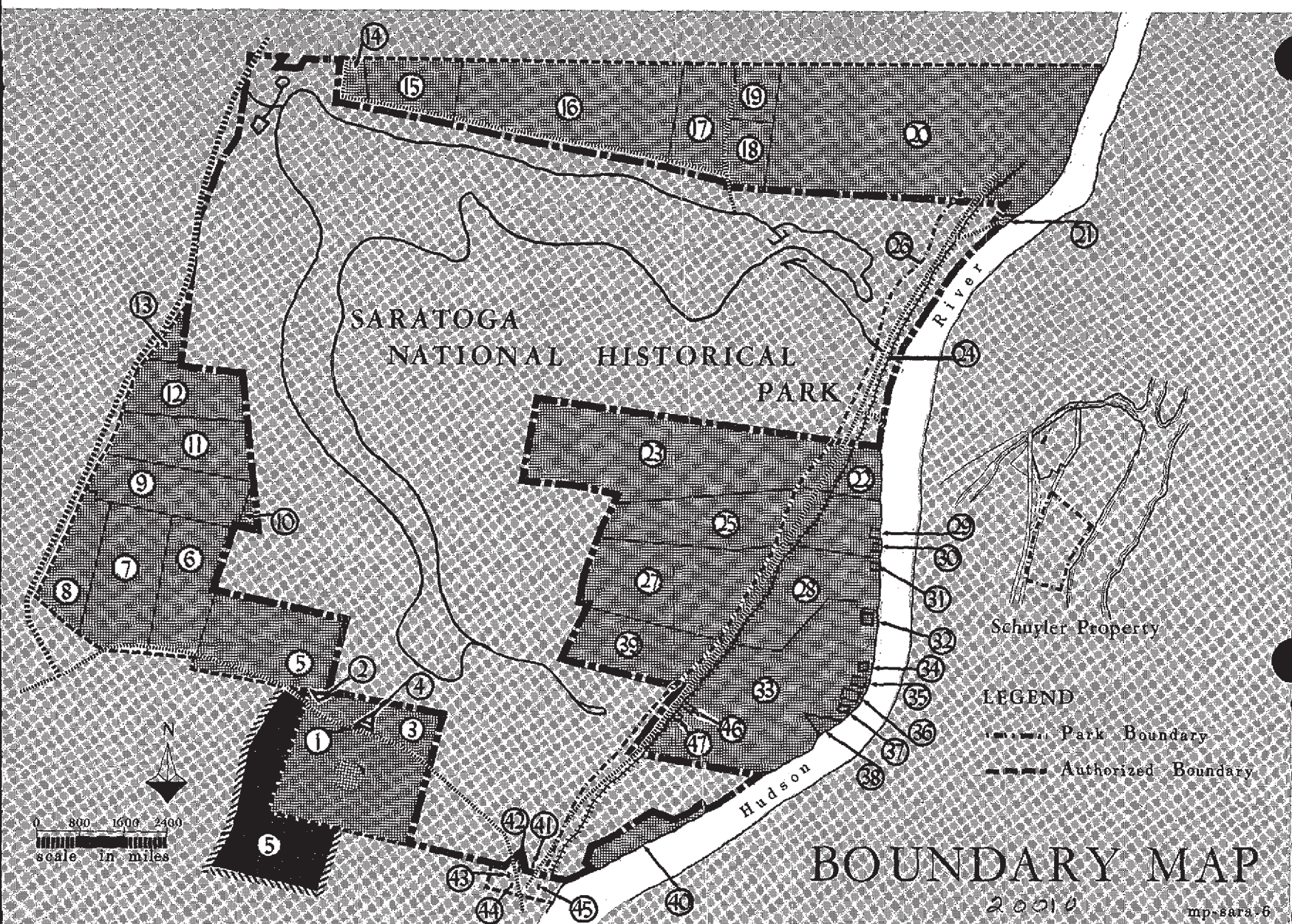
Circulation System

The Park road system is adequate for foreseeable needs. Visitor Center parking is inadequate on pleasant summer Sundays and holidays. It is hoped that this can be alleviated by moving weapons demonstrations from the Visitor Center plaza area out to one of the tour road stops, thus reducing the time each visitor spends at the Visitor Center and raising the effective capacity of existing parking.

As visitor use increases, especially as the bicentennial nears, parking at both the Visitor Center and the tour road stops may become inadequate. Each existing lot could be doubled in capacity without overtaxing the facility it serves or unduly damaging the historic scene. This should be done as the need arises.

Entrance Stations

No entrance or user fees are now collected. Visitors enter over a short spur road from New York Route 32 or over an entrance road from U.S. 4. The two roads intersect just before reaching the Visitor Center parking lot. An entrance fee is recommended, and a developed area plan for an entrance station is needed.



KEY

| <u>New Tract No.</u> | <u>Owners</u> | <u>Area</u> | <u>Old Tract No.</u> |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|---|
| 1 | William and Clara H. Price | 127.0 | 10-a-1-a |
| 2 | Hazel Farrell | 1.0 | 10-a-1-b |
| 3 | Nelson and Sarah Armlin | 18.0 | 10-a-2 |
| 4 | Patrick Lavigna | .25 | 10-b |
| 5 | Theresa A. and Anthony R. Burdyl | 215.0 | 12 (95 acres) (120 acres) |
| 6 | Edward Gilgallon | 57.0 | 13 |
| 7 | Amelia Zuzick | 71.7 | 24 |
| 8 | John P. Gannon | 33.2 | 25 |
| 9 | Edward Feigel | 47 | 14 |
| 10 | Douglas Kipp | 5.0 | 15-c |
| 11 | Edward Feigel | 49.0 | 15-a |
| 12 | Douglas Kipp | 27.0 | 15-b |
| 13 | James Mansell | 7.5 | 55 |
| 14 | James Brooking | 10.0 | 16-a |
| 15 | Catherine Sanders | 40.0 | 16-b |
| 16 | Daniel and Pauline Arnold | 150.0 | 17 |
| 17 | Peter Brandese | 77.0 | 18 |
| 18 | Jennie and Raymond Phillips | 24.0 | 19 |
| 19 | Raymond Stewart | 16.0 | 20 |
| 20 | George Ensign | 185.0 | 21 |
| 21 | Ralph Crandall | .5 | 21-a |
| 22 | Carr | 17.0 | 49-a |
| 23 | Adolph Schoen | 165.0 | 11 (70 acres) 49 (95 acres) |
| 24 | Niagara Mohawk | 10.73 | 54 |
| 25 | Fred Teimer | 110.0 | 48 |
| 26 | Saratoga County | 29.5 | 53 |
| 27 | Glenn F. Larson | 147.0 | 27 |
| 28 | Livingston Coulter | 66.0 | 27 |
| 29 | Earl Cole | 1.0 | 45 |
| 30 | Mrs. Louis Wills | .5 | 46 |
| 31 | Clarence and Marguerite Stephens | .5 | 47 |
| 32 | Philip Meader | 1.0 | |
| 33 | Philip Griffin | 152.53 | 26 (78 acres) 50 (45.69 acres) 51 (28.84 acres) |
| 34 | Myron Hurd | .6 | |
| 35 | Clifford Holmes | 1.0 | |
| 36 | Paul Grady | 1.5 | |
| 37 | Paul Grady | .5 | |
| 38 | State of New York | 2.65 | 52 |
| 39 | De Roy Carpenter | 67.0 | 26 |
| 40 | State of New York | 13.3 | 34 |
| 41 | Kenneth DeCoteau | .25 | |
| 42 | Bemis Heights Grange | 1.0 | 28 |
| 43 | James Coons | .25 | |
| 44 | Ieland Moll | .5 | 30 |
| 45 | Peter Dunk | 9.0 | 32 |
| 46 | Clifford Holmes | 1.0 | |
| 47 | Earl Lane | .5 | |

Land and Boundaries

As is shown on the Boundary Map, Saratoga National Historical Park encompasses approximately 4,260 acres, of which 2,432.35 acres are now in Federal ownership. Most of the land in Federal ownership was donated by the State of New York in the 1930's and early 1940's. Except for the Schuyler House property, only a few small parcels have been acquired over the past decade. Donations have not been forthcoming in amounts required to solve the land problems outlined below.

Unacquired land within the authorized boundary falls into two classes: That required to assure preservation of and public access to features which were central to the events of September and October 1777; and lands over which sufficient control is needed to prevent development destructive to Park atmosphere and inimical to visitor enjoyment of the resource and to effective presentation of the Park story.

Lands needed to assure preservation of an public access to features associated with the fighting here include 11 parcels totaling 385.55 acres. Parcel 1 is the site of Gate's Headquarters and the American Field Hospital. Parcel 5 was the site of the left anchor of the American Fortifications-- Burgoyne's objective in both attacks. Parcels 2, 3 and 4 lie between parcels 1 and 5 and present Park lands. Parcel 40, owned by the State of New York, contained a portion of the American River Fortifications, which blocked the main road and river route to Albany and forced Burgoyne to try a flanking movement. Parcels 41-45 are required as a buffer for the American River Fortifications and to provide space for an entrance and for interpretive development. These lands should be acquired in fee.

Parcel 26 consists of the abandoned Champlain Canal right-of-way and is apparently owned by Saratoga County. The county has donated the part

of this right-of-way within Federal lands to the National Park Service. The remainder of the right-of-way within the authorized boundary should be acquired by donation or a cooperative agreement obtained so that the entire right-of-way can be worked into the Park's trail system.

Lands over which controls to prevent adverse development are needed, but for which fee acquisition is unnecessary, include 23 parcels totaling 1,534.66 acres.

Eight of these parcels, totaling 297.4 acres slope up from the western property line to New York Route 32, and are visible from the Visitor Center, the tour road, and the key Neilson Farm interpretive development. Recreation of the historic forest-field pattern will partially screen these lands, and local zoning controls will provide adequate protection for this part of the Park's setting. The Service should work with appropriate local agencies to secure such controls. Typew of development which would be acceptable are shown on the Zoning Plan.

Six more parcels containing 317 acres adjoin the north property line, and are visible from the Visitor Center, the entrance road, or both. These properties lie so close to the entrance road that recreation of the historic forest-field pattern will not effectively screen them, particularly since the historic forest was deciduous. Less-than-fee rights should be acquired to prevent adverse development of these lands. Acceptable uses and developments are indicated on the plan.

Nine parcels totaling 920.26 acres lie along the Hudson between the sites of the American and British lines. These parcels are not visible from the Visitor Center, but are the foreground view from the interpretive stops at the American River Fortifications and the British Great Redoubt. Re-establishment of the historic forest-field pattern will do nothing

to screen these properties; they cannot be screened from view from the interpretive stops because of the the terrain.

Adverse use or incompatible development of these nine parcels would seriously impair the setting of the Park and the achievement of the Park's purpose. Acquisition of less-than-fee rights or interests in these parcels is recommended to prevent adverse use and development. Compatible uses and developments are shown on the accompanying plan.

Several small parcels within the boundary need not be acquired or subject to controls. They are so small that any likely development on them should not prove intrusive; present developments are acceptable.

Additionally, the distant views up and down the Hudson Valley and along the eastern bank are an important part of the Park's total environment. The Service should encourage and cooperate with the Hudson River Valley Commission, Saratoga and Washington Counties, and the Easton Township Planning Board in an effort to preserve this setting.

Schuyler House: The tract between the Schuyler House and the Hudson River is owned by the State of New York. Its donation as an addition to the Park should be sought.

This program will require either legislation to authorize appropriations for buying lands and interests in lands, or the donation of funds for this purpose. It will also require that the Service work closely with local governmental and private groups to carry out the program as harmoniously and with as little hardship to individuals or the community as possible.

Interpretation

The interpretive method followed at Saratoga was described briefly in

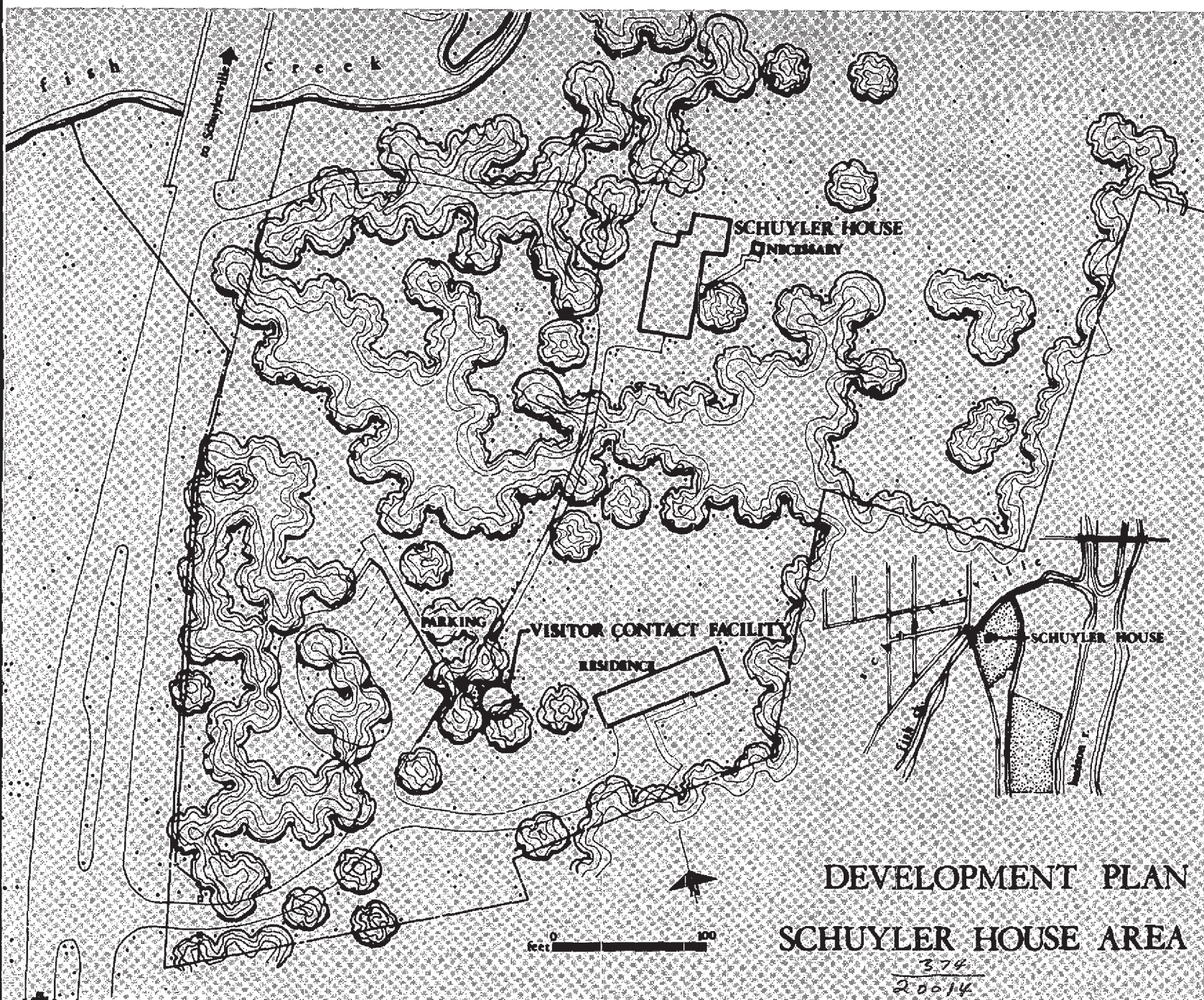
the Visitor Use Section, above. Burgoyne's campaign, the battles at Saratoga and their significance are treated in exhibits and an audio-visual program in the Visitor Center. More detailed interpretation is provided at stops along the tour road.

Both the Visitor Center and the Park tour road seem adequate to meet present and future needs, though parking capacity at the Visitor Center and at the tour stops should be increased up to twice the present capacity as need arises. The interpretive program, however, is not fully effective in communicating the story of the two battles and their significance. An interpretive prospectus now in preparation recommends methods for more effectively communicating the Park story. These recommendations are reflected in this plan.

The Visitor Center auditorium is now crowded on peak days, and will be too small to meet increasing visitor use and the new demand which the recommended Kriegspiel film will generate. The existing exhibits to a large extent duplicate the story now told in the slide program and to be told in the Kriegspiel film. Additional auditorium space should be provided by sharply reducing the number of exhibits and combining the exhibit space saved by so doing with the present auditorium.

Effective field interpretation is hampered by the absence of any physical remains of those fortifications which determined the course of battle and figured prominently in the fighting of October 7, 1777. Selected sections of both the British and American fortifications should be reconstructed. Reconstruction should not be undertaken until archeology has either recorded all subsurface evidence on the site to be reconstructed or has shown that no evidence remains.

Some additional facilities are required to complete the historic setting at key interpretive points and for visitor convenience. These



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are shown on the General Development Plan. Some additional interpretive devices will be required. These will be determined in the interpretive prospectus.

The Schuyler House

This property is operated on a seasonal basis by the Old Saratoga Historical Society under a cooperative agreement. The visitor enters the front door, purchases a ticket, and has an opportunity to purchase interpretive literature and appropriate souvenirs. He then is given a conducted tour of the house.

The interpretive method generally functions well, but requires improvement in three aspects to attain full effectiveness.

First, the interpretive theme, which is General Philip Schuyler, his services to the nation and particularly his role in the events of the Burgoyne campaign, should be carried through the interpretive program. The house and furnishings should not be emphasized except as they reflect Schuyler's personality and interests.

Second, while the significance of Burgoyne's surrender can and should be presented in the Park Visitor Center, such events as the negotiations leading to the surrender, the grounding of arms by the British army, and Burgoyne's offer to his sword to Gates can and should be presented at the Schuyler property. This property was at the center of these events, and most of them took place on land owned by the General.

Third, ticket sales, literature and souvenir sales, grouping visitors for tours, and the initial stage of the house tour all take place in the main hall. When visitors are arriving in a steady stream, this combination of activities conflicts, and visitor enjoyment and operating effi-

ciency both suffer. Continued operation of the Schuyler House by the Old Saratoga Historical Society is highly desirable, and both ticket and souvenir and literature sales are an essential source of revenue to finance such operations.

An effort should be made to resolve this problem through reallocation of existing space. If this cannot be done, a new structure to provide space for ticket sales, souvenir and interpretive literature sales, space to group visitors to await the next tour, and visitor restrooms should be provided as shown in the General Development Plan.

Environmental Education

At present, Park efforts in this area are directed toward presenting the historical events which took place here. Schools in the region are contacted, and urged to schedule their visit in advance. Scheduled groups are given an orientation talk at the Visitor Center. Guided tours of the battlefield have been given to scheduled school groups in the past, but have been dropped because they tied up staff needed to orient unscheduled groups.

As time and staffing permit, the Park should augment this school program. Regional school systems should be contacted to urge all schools to make reservations well in advance, and to spread class visits over the full school year, to that guided tours can be resumed. A pre-visit orientation program should be worked out in cooperation with the New York State Department of Education.

The Park staff, with assistance from the Northeast Region, has studied the Park and identified environmental study plots, and, within the limits of present staff, will stimulate regional school systems to develop conservation education programs using these plots.

Regional Planning

Park participation in both regional land use planning and in planning for the Revolutionary War bicentennial is important and should be encouraged.

Saratoga County has an active County Planning Commission which, as a member of the newly formed four-county Capital Region Planning Commission and a consultant and advisor to Town Planning Boards within the county, is in touch with all aspects of regional planning. The Park should maintain a close liaison with this commission, keeping the commission informed of the Park's needs and its plans for meeting them, and keeping itself informed of all aspects of regional planning which might affect the Park.

A number of sites associated with the British Campaign of 1777 are in public or quasi-public ownership. Most if not all of these sites will participate in the forthcoming Revolutionary War bicentennial. This celebration, as did the campaign, will culminate at Saratoga. The National Park Service, to the extent funds and staff permit, should begin now to work with the owners of all sites associated with Burgoyne's campaign to plan a well thoughtout, coherent bicentennial observance.

Recreation

At present, open areas of the Park are used by Park neighbors for sledding, tobogganing and cross-country skiing. The Park tour road is not plowed, and use of a four-mile section of it for snowmobiling is encouraged. Snowmobile operators are required to get a permit for their protection and that of the Park. A small lunch area is provided. A five-mile award hiking trail has been designated for use by Boy Scouts, and a well-screened area has been designated as a camp site for troops

using the award trail. No facilities are provided at the designated site, and use has been light.

The land now in Federal ownership is not suited to development for such recreational use as picnicking and camping. Either it is open land which was fortified or fought over, or it is too steep or too wet to develop. Hiking trails should be provided; the Park staff will examine the terrain and recommend one or more such trails in locations where they will provide a pleasant hike but will not conflict with effective interpretation.

Resource Management

The major objective of this program is to restore the pattern of open fields and forests which existed in 1777. Areas which were then wooded are being let alone to go back to forest. Areas now in woods and brush which were cleared in 1777 are gradually being cleared as funds and staff permit. Open areas are maintained by neighboring farmers under special use permit or by periodic rough mowing.

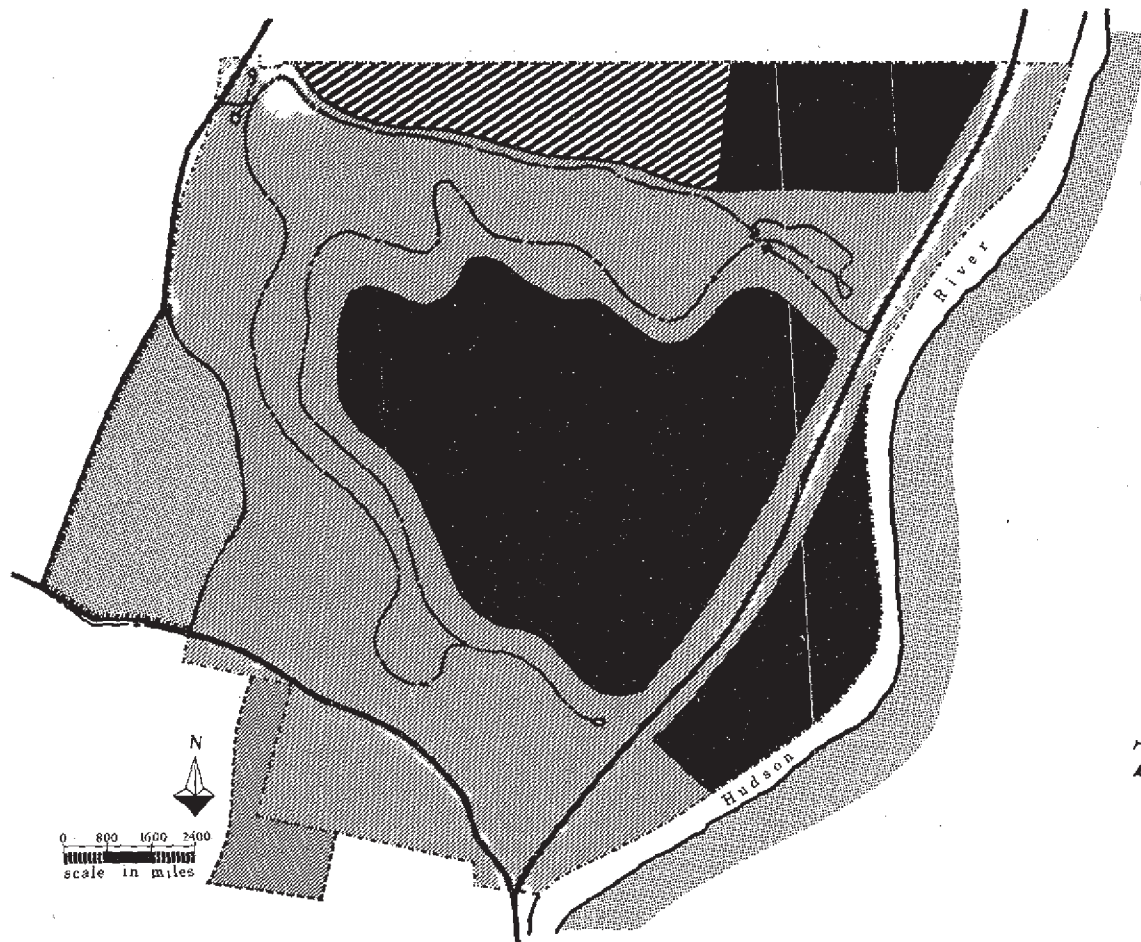
This program is adequate. As an opportunity presents itself, those fields where the crops growing in 1777 influenced the fighting, as at the Barber Wheatfield, should be planted to those crops. Where possible, this should be done through special use permits.

Possible Additions to the Park

Certain sites in Schuylerville associated with Burgoyne's surrender are in public ownership, including one-acre of the field on which his army surrendered their arms, a plot containing a large monument with interior stairs and observation platform which honors the American soldiers killed at Saratoga, and a small parcel where Burgoyne is supposed to have surrendered his sword to Gates. (See Vicinity Map)

The New York Trust for Historic Preservation is studying and preparing a report on these sites, and the sites of Fort Clinton, a French and Indian War Fort and Fort Hardy, a Revolutionary War blockhouse, both on the alluvial plain south of the Schuyler property. The Trust's report may recommend National Park Service administration of one or more of these sites.

If this should occur, each site should be studied and evaluated. Factors to be considered would include the amount of administration, maintenance and protection required, the difficulty in precisely locating the sites of such actions as Burgoyne's personal surrender, and the fact that the events associated with the surrender took place on and around General Philip Schuyler's property and can be affectively interpreted in the Schuyler House and on its grounds.



Authorized Boundary

Zone 1

Public Use and Development

Zone 2A

Conservation-Preservation
Less than fee acquisition — acceptable
uses are farming and forestry.

Zone 2B

Conservation-Preservation
Less than fee acquisition — acceptable
uses are farming, forestry and large-lot
residential development with frontage
and set-back requirements.

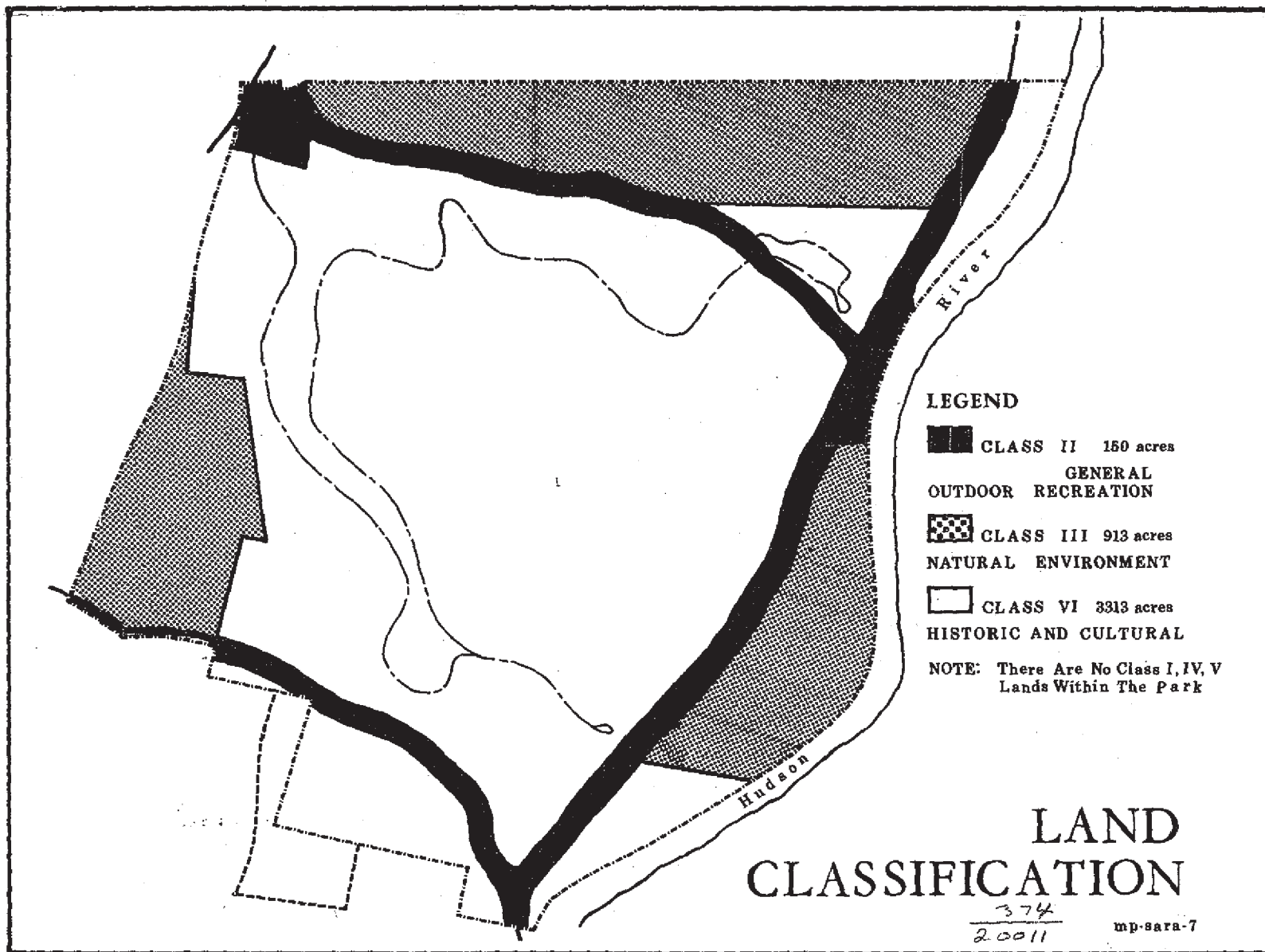
Zone 3

Private Use and Development
Local zoning to be sought — acceptable
uses are farming, forestry and large-lot
residential development.

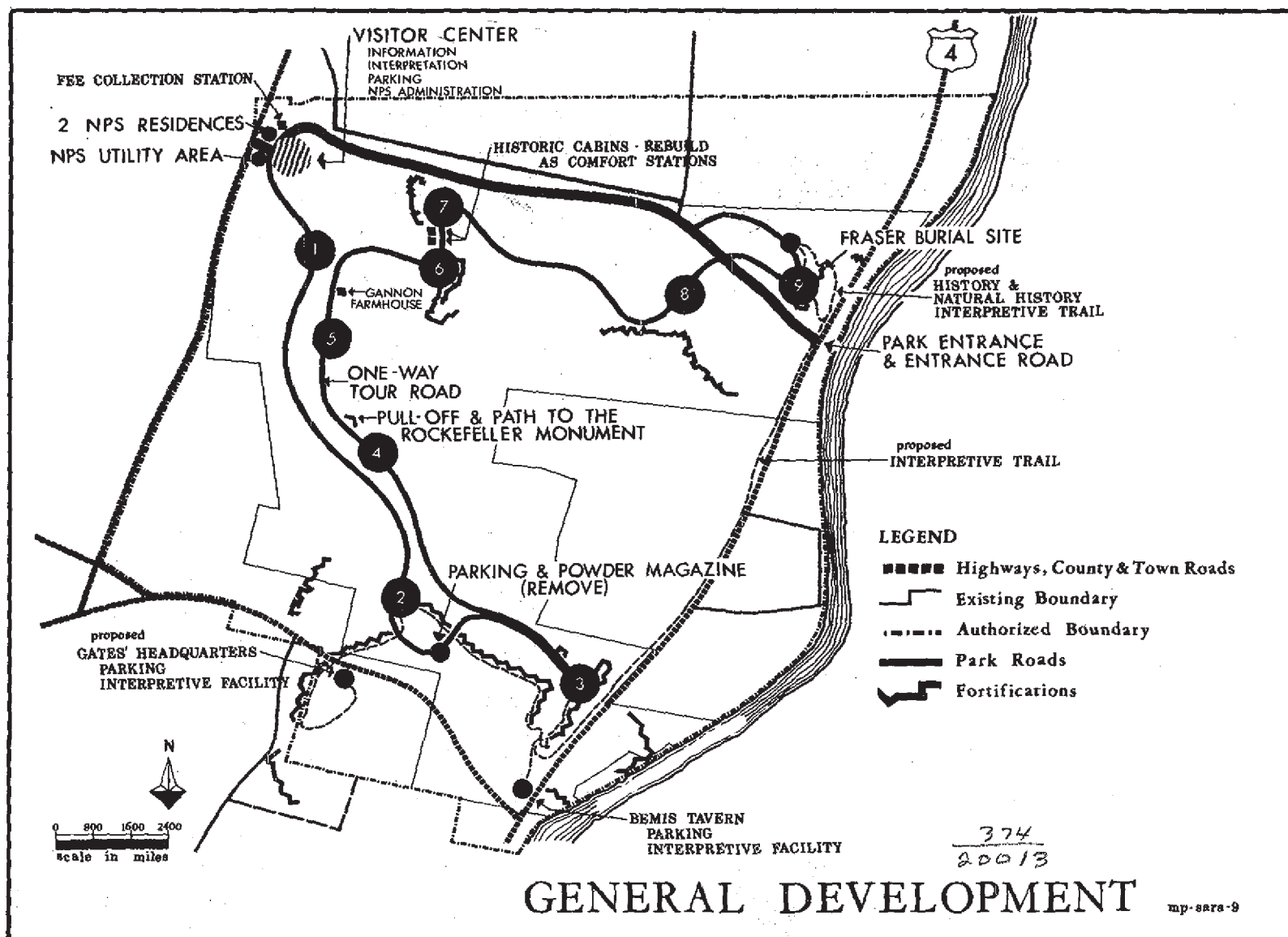
ZONING PLAN

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TOUR STOP 1

Freeman Farm Overlook:
Interpretive facility

TOUR STOP 2

Neilson Farmhouse:
Interpretive facility
Monuments
Blockhouse (remove)
Old Office Building (remove)
Comfort Station (remove)

Proposed:
Barn (with comfort facilities)
Potential demonstration site

TOUR STOP 3

American River Fortifications:
Interpretive facility

Proposed:
Rebuild fortifications

TOUR STOP 4

Chatfield Farm:
Interpretive facility

TOUR STOP 5

Barber Wheatfield:
Proposed:
Replace existing interpretive
facility with outdoor cyclorama
Plant wheatfield

TOUR STOP 6

Balcarres Redoubt:
Interpretive facility
Freeman Cabin

Proposed:
Rebuild barn
Potential demonstration site
Rebuild fortifications

TOUR STOP 7

Breymann Redoubt:
Interpretive facility

Proposed:
Rebuild fortifications

TOUR STOP 8

Burgoyne Headquarters:
Interpretive facility

TOUR STOP 9

Great Redoubt:
Interpretive facility

Proposed:
Rebuild fortifications

(Features are existing unless
indicated as proposed.)

PRIORITY OF NEEDS

This Master Plan recommends acquisition of additional lands and interests in lands, and additional, relatively minor, developments to improve interpretation and facilitate visitor use and resource management. In most instances, recommended development can proceed independently of land acquisition.

The priority of land acquisition needs are first, to seek authority to acquire lands, or interests in lands with appropriated funds, or to secure donated funds for this purpose. While this is being done, the National Park Service should work with officials of the towns of Stillwater and Easton, Saratoga and Washington Counties, and New York State in an effort to assure compatible use of those lands needed to protect the Park setting through zoning, land use controls, or some form of less-than-fee acquisition. The order of importance of lands in this class are, first, those between the Park and the river; second, those along the northern boundary; and third, those along the western boundary.

Second, lands needed to protect and provide public access to features related to the battle should be purchased. This can be done as the various tracts come on the market, unless adverse development or price escalation threatens.

The priority of development needs begins with submission and approval of an interpretive prospectus. Then, the Visitor Center auditorium should be enlarged, and reconstruction of parts of the 1777 fortifications begun. As visitor use increases, tour road interpretive stop parking should be expanded up to double existing capacity. An entrance station should be provided. As lands containing features of the 1777 campaign

are acquired, they should be linked to the tour road by trails or road extensions and interpreted.

Such other recommended actions as closer liason with regional schools, an environmental education program and development of hiking trails can and should procede as funds and staff permit.