

INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM

NHDHR INVENTORY DUR0025

Name, Location, Ownership

1. Historic name: UNH Outdoor Pool
2. District or area: N/A
3. Street and number: 5 Edgewood Road
4. City or town: Durham
5. County: Strafford
6. Current owner: University of New Hampshire

Function or Use

7. Current use(s): sports facility – pool
8. Historic use(s): sports facility – pool

Architectural Information

9. Style: N/A
10. Architect/builder: Weston & Sampson engineers/ UNH & WPA builders
11. Source: UNH Archives
12. Construction date: ca. 1937-38 (University Pond (1924-25))
13. Source: UNH Archives
14. Alterations, with dates: concrete over stone walls and slopes, ca. 1960s-1990s
15. Moved? no yes date: N/A

Exterior Features

16. Foundation: stone-lined bottom
17. Cladding: N/A
18. Roof material: N/A
19. Chimney material: N/A
20. Type of roof: N/A
21. Chimney location: N/A
22. Number of stories: N/A
23. Entry location: N/A
24. Windows: N/A

Replacement? no yes date: N/A

Site Features

25. Setting: Institutional-college campus
26. Outbuildings: other - treatment plant
27. Landscape features: fence – chain link, paths, dam
28. Acreage: pool approximately 1 acre
29. Tax map/parcel: 01/4-34 (19.5 acres)



35. Photo 1

Direction: SE

36. Date: Sept. 2013

37. Image file name: DUR0025_01

30. UTM reference: 19.342822.4778077

31. USGS quadrangle and scale: Dover, NH West, 1:24000

Form prepared by

32. Name: Kari Laprey and Lynne Monroe

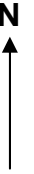
33. Organization: Preservation Company, Kensington, NH

34. Date of survey: September 2013

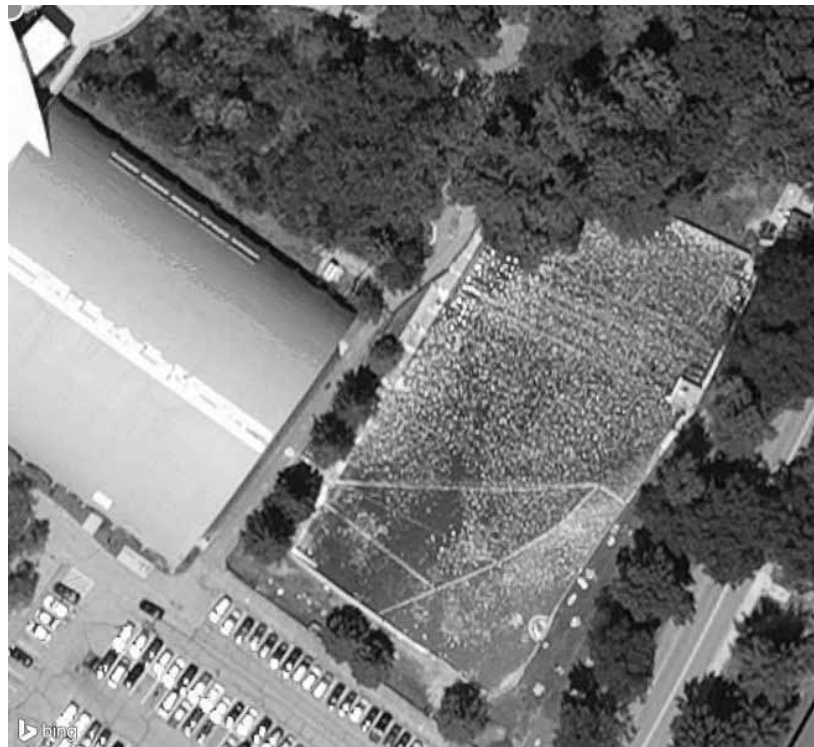
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39. LOCATION MAP: Bing Aerial 2013



40. PROPERTY MAP: Bing aerial close-up



41. Historical Background and Role in the Town or City's Development:

Introduction and Methodology

The University of New Hampshire Outdoor Pool was built by the University and the Works Progress Administration (WPA) in 1937-1938. The plans were developed for the University in 1936-1937 by Boston engineers Weston and Sampson. The design incorporated a portion of the existing University Pond created in 1924 as a man-made pond fed by Pettee Brook. Construction of the large stone-lined pool took a year and a half. The UNH Outdoor Pool opened in June 1938. In 1939, the University and Town of Durham entered into an agreement for public use of the pool by local residents who purchased an annual pool pass. The pool has served the community since that time. The University has determined that it must address the deficiencies in the 75-year-old pool identified by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) in 1999 and reiterated in a 2013 assessment.

This NHDHR Inventory Form was prepared for the University of New Hampshire Office of Campus Planning in October 2013. Background research in UNH Archives and Special Collections was conducted by Campus Planning staff. Information was also provided by the Friends of the UNH Outdoor Pool group. Historic photographs from the UNH Archives are included in this documentation, as well as plans from Archives and the Campus Planning office. Additional original plans for the pool are from the Weston and Sampson company archives in Peabody, Massachusetts.

Geographic Context

The UNH Outdoor Pool is located within the University of New Hampshire campus in Durham. The outdoor pool is part of an extensive group of recreational facilities and playing fields. The pool is located just north of Main Street, which runs through the center of the campus. It lies on the northwest side of Edgewood Road, a southwest-northeast cross road between Main Street and Madbury Road.

The large, oblong, nearly rectangular pool, parallel to Edgewood Road, is enclosed by chain-link fence. On three sides the surrounding ground is raised on terraces built up by fill. Fronting on Main Street is New Hampshire Hall, originally the gymnasium and armory, built in 1906 and remodeled as the women's gym in 1940, and again in 2008 as the Kinesiology Department. A paved parking lot fills the area between Main Street and Edgewood Road, behind New Hampshire Hall. This was originally playing fields and the military parade ground, which was improved in 1925-26 (*TNH* Sept. 23, 1925). The paved parking area was created in the 1940s-50s. It was leveled and raised on fill in the 1950s along with the nearby hockey rink.

Above the northwest side of the pool is the Hamel Student Recreation Center. Built in 1965 as Snively Arena, the arch roofed structure was renovated following construction of the Whittemore Center in 1995. The site was originally part of the 1924 University Pond, separated from the pool when it was built in 1937 and filled in, beginning in the 1940s. A raised terrace was built in the 1950s for the construction of the Batchelder Hockey Rink, which was later enclosed as Snively Arena. The Whittemore Center, attached to the northwest end of the Hamel Recreation Center, is a large oval shaped arena and auditorium set back from Main Street behind Memorial Field. Farther west are the railroad tracks and the old railroad station, now the UNH Transit Center/Dairy Bar. Memorial Field was the original playing field, built in 1921 with funds raised by the alumni, and dedicated as a memorial to UNH men who died in WWI (Ross and House 1996:79). Used for women's sports for many years, it was renovated for lacrosse and field hockey in 2002.

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Edgewood Road was originally the route of the Boston and Maine Railroad. The railroad bed was built up along the edge of the low-lying area that became the pond site. The tracks were shifted west to their current path in 1911. The rail-bed was laid out as a street in the 1920s and the first houses were built at the northern end. Edgewood Road and adjacent residential neighborhoods were subdivided and built in the 1940s-50s, filling the land on the north side of campus. The lower end of Edgewood Road, near the pool and Main Street, remained a dirt track until improved in the 1940s. To the east of Edgewood Road is the main dormitory area of the campus. Congreve Hall, built in 1920 and enlarged in 1938 and 1940, stands on the southeast corner of Main and Edgewood. Directly across Edgewood Road from the outdoor pool are the backs of McLaughlin Hall and Lord Hall, built in the 1955 and 1958.

The north end of the pool is bordered by an area of woods. This hilly uneven ground is traversed by paths connecting to the Elliott Alumni Center (built 1976) off of Edgewood Road and the large Woodside Parking lot. Pettee Brook, the original source of water for the pool, originates at the Old Reservoir northwest of campus. It flows southeast under the railroad tracks and through a marshy area north of the Whittemore Center and Hamel Recreation Center. The 2.6-acre pond that became the pool site was created by damming a wide spot at a bend in the brook. To create the pool of just under one acre, the lower end of the pond was separated by a masonry dike, above which the remaining water was gradually filled in. There is little evidence left of the pond, but the dam still serves as the northeast wall of the pool. Construction of the pool involved diverting Pettee Brook through a 36" pipe around the north end. The pipe empties into the brook below the dam. The dam formerly served as pool overflow outlet, but in 1999 a gutter was added to prevent chlorinated pool water from entering the brook. From the valley north of the dam, Pettee Brook flows north a short distance and then turns southeast through a culvert under Edgewood Road. The pool filter house sits at the northeast end of the pool, accessed by stairs from Edgewood Road above.

1924-1936: University Pond

The precursor to the UNH Outdoor Pool, the University Pond, was dug in 1924 as a site for winter ice hockey and summer swimming. The improvement of the pond, adjacent to the first playing field, Memorial Field, and the gymnasium in New Hampshire Hall, took place during a period of expansion of athletic programs at the University. The low-lying meadow had been flooded in winter to make ice for skating as early as the 1910s, but the initial attempt to form a hockey team was unsuccessful (UNH 1941:228). In 1923, an inter-fraternity hockey association used a rink on the old reservoir, but this was an isolated inconvenient location (*The New Hampshire* Jan. 10, 1923). At the same time, swimming became a widely popular activity and the University had plans to develop it as an organized sport. Student enrollment had more than doubled in five years, from 600+ students in 1919 to over 1,200 in 1924. Summer use of the campus also increased with the first Summer School session held in 1921. Farmer's and Homemaker's Week was an annual event in late August from 1918 onward (Ross and House 1996:80).

In the spring of 1924, Superintendent of Property Frank L. Hayes directed the construction of a man-made pond in a natural basin and bend in Pettee Brook. On "New Hampshire Day," an annual day of campus improvement projects, some two-hundred men began clearing and digging with picks and shovels. The slightly boggy area was covered with a dense growth of small trees and bushes, old logs and debris. These were cut and pulled and burned in piles (*TNH* May 9, 1924). A dam was built across the valley near the old railroad embankment (now Edgewood Road). The brook flowed into the pond from the northwest and the outlet was at the northeast corner. The pond covered 2.6 acres. The stream flow was small, but water could be provided from the University Reservoir when needed (*TNH* Sept. 26, 1924). The fill from the pond was used to level nearby areas including a

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weight event field used for the hammer throw, shot-put and discus. The University Pond was nicknamed "Lake Hayes" for its builder who died not long after it was complete. Frank Lincoln Hayes (1866-1927) came to work for UNH ca. 1923, having been Superintendent of the State House in Concord since 1915. Originally from Dover, Hayes was a painter by trade and was appointed to oversee the State House and its grounds after completing contracts for painting and decorating the interior of the building.

The pond was intended for skating in winter, with a temporary hockey rink placed on top. The UNH hockey team was established in the winter of 1924. However, the first dam was mud with a concrete spillway and was insufficient to support the weight of the ice. The dam developed a leak in January 1925 and gave way in March 1925 (*TNH* March 19, 1925). During the summer of 1925, Superintendent Hayes and his workmen built a new concrete dam (*TNH* May 1, 1925). During the winter of 1926, a new sturdier rink was erected. The ice was scraped and swept daily and the area was lit by electric lights (*TNH* Sept. 23, 1925; *TNH* Jan. 21, 1926). UNH held its first home hockey game in February 1926.

The lower end of the pond, near the dam, was the swimming area in summer. A dive tower was built where the water was 10' deep. The bottom of the pond was clay and mud with weeds and grasses. Stone walls retained the southeast and southwest sides. The pond served as the local swimming hole for about a dozen years. However, it became a source of concern to the University Physician, because the flow was not enough to change the water, and waste from the college barns drained into the watershed. On June 9, 1936, Dr. William Prince recommended closing the pond, because the State Board of Health had found the water unsuitable for swimming (UNH Archives). The University Pond was drained that summer.

1936: Pool Design and WPA Funding

Plans to improve the pond were begun immediately. Commodore W.E. Longfellow of the American Red Cross was asked to make recommendations. In a letter of July 1936, he suggested a large concrete pool, deep in the middle and shallow at one or both ends. The shallow end would range from 2½' to 5' deep, with 9'-10' depth in the diving area, and swimming lanes for racing in an area 6' deep with lane-lines painted on the bottom. The separate areas for play, instruction, diving, etc. were to be divided by floating life lines. A 1' rim raised 2" above the deck, and a concrete deck to keep grass and dirt away from the water, were recommended. Longfellow noted that many such pools had been built as federal projects in recent years (UNH Archives).

Superintendent of Property H.W. Loveren reported to Interim President Roy Hunter that the project was too complicated for university staff and asked to consult with engineers. The possibility of WPA funding for this type of project was discussed from the beginning. Loveren was given approval to contract with Weston & Sampson of Boston for a study, and he met with Sampson later in July.

George A. Sampson was a civil engineer and Robert Spurr Weston, a sanitary engineer. They were in partnership from 1916, specializing in water supply, purification and sewerage. (The large Weston and Sampson engineering firm still operates, head-quartered in Peabody, Massachusetts.) Robert Spurr Weston (1869-) was born in Concord, New Hampshire. He was an M.I.T. graduate and lived in Brookline, Massachusetts. George A. Sampson (1880-) lived in Newton, Massachusetts. UNH Superintendent Harold William Loveren (1894-1976) worked for the University for just over ten years, throughout the 1930s. Roy D. Hunter (1873-1944) of the UNH Board of Trustees was Acting University President for about a year in 1936-1937.

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Sampson & Weston submitted a report and proposal on August 10, 1936 (see page 33). They suggested improving the bottom and slopes of the pond for control and installing a filtration system. The proposal was to replace the 115,000 square foot, 4.4 million gallon pond, with a 42,000 square foot, 1.7m gallon pool. The recommended area per bather was 25 square feet, so the pool capacity would be over 1,000, though only about 100 were estimated to use it each day. The swimming pool would be separated from the existing pond by building an earthen dike. The pool would be paved with granite blocks laid on an 8" gravel base, with cement mortar joints. A filtration plant would recirculate the water once every 24 hours, adding chlorine and ammonia for sterilization. The filter would operate twelve hours a day with a capacity of 70,000 gallons per hour. The pool had three inlets and a bottom drain. Pettee Brook was diverted through a pipe bypassing the pool, but up to 35,000 gallons of filtered water from the pond above could be added per day to address evaporation and other losses. In case of drought the University water supply could be used. The southwest corner would be a shallow wading area, less than 30" deep, with a 16" sand bottom and a sand beach above. The pre-existing dive tower, stone perimeter walls on two sides and concrete dam were incorporated into the plan (UNH Archives).

The total cost estimated by Weston and Sampson was \$26,000. The work proposal included removing 600 cubic yards of mud and excavating 2,250 cubic yards from the bottom of the pond, as well as for pipe trenches. Materials would be gravel, stone, sand, concrete, various pipes and fittings and a 6' iron fence. The filtration plant would require excavating 560 cubic yards, plus ledge removal. The initial proposal was for a concrete building with concrete roof. The estimated cost of the filter unit was \$1,600.00. The pump and motor cost was \$500. The alum and soda feeder cost \$500 and the ammoniator \$800 (UNH Archives).

A WPA Project Proposal was submitted by the University to the WPA Eastern New Hampshire Division on September 2, 1936. The work was described as an outdoor swimming pool, 150' x 300', and capacity 1,700,000 gallons, for 1000 users per day, plus a treatment plant with equipment to filter and chemically treat the water. The proposed budget was for \$38,264.43, nearly split between federal funds and sponsor contributions. The labor was budgeted at \$17,246.00 which was the bulk of the federal share. UNH would provide material and equipment totaling \$18,955.50. The project was to be on public property which was state-owned. The surveys and plans were complete. University funds would be budgeted for operation after the project was complete. The work was estimated to be 334 "man-months." This included 220 man-months of common labor, seventeen man-months for a carpenter, twelve man-months of truck driving and eleven man-months for mason, mason's helper, and carpenter's helper. The project was expected to take six months to complete. There were six months of work for the engineer, six for a blacksmith and five for a piper. The Superintendent and foreman were expected to work for six months. Equipment to be provided by the University included two 1½-yard dump trucks, a compressor, a cement mixer, and a 40 H.P. tractor, as well as twenty-four wheelbarrows, thirty-six picks and thirty-six shovels, misc. small tools, and first aid kits (WPA microfilm). Two Roberts filter units were on-hand. The university was to provide gravel and sand fill, concrete pipe, sand and stone. The amount was approved by the WPA State Administrator William Fahey on Sept. 17, 1936, with some adjustments worked out between Fahey and Loveren. The University was asked to assume \$5,343.50 above the initial \$18,955.50 in the application. The project included a total of twenty-eight "man-years" of work. An average of forty-eight persons from public relief rolls would be employed per month and six non-relief workers. The total federal expenditure per man-year of labor was to be \$689 (WPA microfilm).

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The application for WPA funding for the UNH outdoor pool and treatment plant was approved at the end of December 1936.

Swimming Pool Context

The UNH Outdoor Pool reflects a major period of swimming pool construction in the country. Between 1920 and 1940 nearly 2,000 municipalities established public pools (Wiltse 2007:91, 95). The first phase took place in the 1920s period of prosperity. Cities built pools to meet demands for outdoor recreation and leisure activities. A second wave of pool building in 1934-1940 took place under the public works WPA, when large numbers of pools were constructed on municipal or other publically-owned land (Wiltse 2007:88).

Swimming pools had evolved from the first public baths of the nineteenth century when private charities and city governments opened the pools as part of an attempt to instill middle class values in the working class. Boston had early public river baths in the 1860s and built an indoor pool facility in Roxbury in 1868. Philadelphia had river baths and then built six outdoor pools in the 1880s (Wiltse 2007:19-24). The primary users of the pools were working class boys seeking amusement rather than cleanliness. Pools became obsolete as baths with the understanding of modern germ theory and public bathhouses adopted “shower baths” by the late 1890s. At the same time, swimming as exercise increased during a fitness craze in the 1890s, particularly among middle class young men who swam in private athletic club pools (Wiltse 2007:26, 29). Public officials also saw sports and exercise as a means for reforming the working classes (Wiltse 2007: 31, 36). Pools were increasingly promoted for exercise; diving boards and lap lanes were added and water polo introduced. River swimming was discouraged as dangerous and unsafe due to pollution. The early public pools were usually gender separated with different sections or bathing schedules. Before 1920, only large communities of more than 30,000 people had public pools. Smaller towns might have a local swimming hole dug out of a creek or stream bed (Wiltse 2007:91). During the 1920s, hundreds of pools were built in smaller cities and towns. In 1929, there were a total of 700 outdoor pools in 308 different communities in the United States. Another 122 cities had a total of 310 indoor pools (Wiltse 2007:92).

The popularity of swimming in the inter-war period was influenced by several factors. The 1920s were a period of relative economic prosperity. More leisure time resulted in a demand for public recreation activities, such as parks and zoos (Wiltse 2007:91, 87). Improvements in pool sanitation relieved fears of communicable diseases. Chlorine was discovered in the early 1900s and advances in filtration and chlorination systems were made in the 1920s. In the 1920s social lines between the working and middle classes were re-drawn. Racial segregation was not an issue in New England as it was elsewhere in the country (Wiltse 2007:3). Pools were gender integrated and men, women and children swam together, promoting family and community sociability (Wiltse 2007:103). New more comfortable and more revealing swimsuit designs made swimming more enjoyable. Pools became a place to see and be seen. By the 1930s, women’s suits had short trunks in place of skirts and open scoop backs. Two-piece suits were introduced late in the decade. Men’s suits had shorter bottoms, and tops were eliminated in the mid to late 30s (Wiltse 2007:111). Olympic swimming stars were popular public figures. According to a 1933 survey, swimming was by far the most common form of active recreation, more popular than hiking or biking. It ranked as a leisure activity only behind reading newspapers and books, listening to the radio, movies, visiting friends and auto driving (Wiltse 2007:96-97).

Public pools of the 1920s-30s were designed as large park-like leisure “resorts” used for day-long family outings. Unlike the first pools in the urban city centers, pools were sited in suburban parks more desirable to the middle class. The pool tanks were built in a variety of shapes with sandy

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beaches, concrete decks, waterfalls and diving board, as well as lanes for lap swimming. The irregular shaped pools promoted a casual atmosphere. The largest pools were bigger than a football field (360' x 160'). Lounging, sunbathing and socializing were as popular as swimming (Wiltse 2007:88, 97, 99). Pools became a focus of community spirit, an informal community center, used for town events and celebrations (Wiltse 2007:87-88).

WPA Context

During the Great Depression, a second major phase of pool building was funded by federal public works projects. The Civil Works Administration established late in 1933 was responsible for 351 new swimming pools and improvements to 226 more. Between 1935 and 1943, the Works Progress Administration built 850 new pools and remodeled another 339 (WPA 1943). Thousands of "wading pools" were constructed during the same period by the WPA and the Public Works Administration (PWA) (Wiltse 2007:93).

The Federal Emergency Relief Administration Act was passed by Congress and signed by President Roosevelt in April 1935. In May 1935, an Executive Order created the work program structure including the Works Progress Administration. The WPA operated until 1943, its name changed to the Work Projects Administration in 1939. The purpose was to move unemployed workers from the relief roles into jobs and to rebuild the National infrastructure. The WPA built roads, bridges, sidewalks, schools, hospitals, libraries, dormitories, municipal airports and dams. Water and sewer projects included treatment plans, pumping stations and mains. Recreational facilities projects involved construction, landscaping, repair or improvement of non-federal parks and recreation areas on publicly owned, non-federal property (WPA microfilm). More than 450,000 acres were improved (WPA 1943). Nationwide, WPA projects included work on nearly 3,300 stadiums grandstands and bleachers and about 5,600 athletic fields, as well as auditoriums, parks and fairgrounds. The WPA worked on over 600 golf courses. Playgrounds constructed or improved totaled almost 12,800, many of them public school playgrounds. The WPA worked on over 600 golf courses. A total of 1,185 ice skating rinks were completed, and over 13,000 tennis courts. Some 369 miles of ski trails and eighty ski jumps were built. Other projects included 302 band shells and 170 amphitheaters (WPA 1943). Construction work was the main emphasis of the WPA, but cultural programs employed artists, writers and performers. Murals in public buildings are one of the most well-known WPA programs. The WPA sponsored concerts and theater performances. Guidebooks were compiled for each state and historic documents were transcribed. As part of its service programs, the WPA also employed recreation leaders in some communities trained in public safety. They conducted "Learn to Swim" campaigns under the sponsorship of the Red Cross and park department agencies (Davis-Stephens 2001).

Over the eight year period, the WPA employed a total of 8.5 million individuals. The peak was late in 1938, when 3.3 million people were employed. Between 1935 and 1938, the WPA provided about three-quarters of all the Works Program employment, compared to one-eighth by the CCC and one-eighth by the PWA and other agencies (WPA 1943). The WPA funded and oversaw state and local projects through grants and loans. WPA projects were intended to make a lasting contribution and not to compete with private businesses. Construction work was the major emphasis. Projects required large numbers of unskilled laborers, as well as some professional and technical persons, such as engineers, architects and draftsmen, mechanics, truck drivers, building trade workers, and clerical workers. Local relief agencies certified employable persons from relief rolls. The U.S. Employment Service assigned workers to various jobs. As of 1936, over a third of WPA workers were employed on highway and road projects. Just over ten percent worked on park and recreational facilities. Public buildings employed 9.6 percent of WPA workers, utility projects 8.4 percent and

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airports 2.3 percent. Conservation jobs accounted for 4.2 percent and other 10 percent white collar/clerical work (WPA 1936).

WPA projects required a sponsoring state or local agency or tax supported entity. Sponsors provided the publicly-owned land and partial financial support, often including the materials and engineering plans. The sponsor had to agree to complete the project if the WPA was unable to. Project proposals were often prepared with the cooperation of the local office and WPA District Engineer. The WPA guided sponsors in developing plans that would meet its guidelines. Federal funds for a project were capped at \$52,000, though some received additional rounds of funding in phases. The WPA funded university and college buildings nationwide, including classroom buildings, dormitories and faculty housing, student union buildings and recreational facilities.

The UNH Outdoor Pool was not the first WPA project undertaken by the University. The University Reservoir (now known as the Old Reservoir) was completed in 1935 with the assistance of the WPA (UNH 1941:280). Construction of Lewis Fields, stadium and field house on the west side of the railroad tracks and was begun under the CWA and completed by the WPA in 1938, for a total cost of \$218,000. In 1938, the University commissioned WPA murals by New Hampshire artists in its Hamilton Smith Library. Another WPA project, the Historic Buildings Survey was supervised by UNH architect Eric T. Huddleson and employed twenty-five architecture students and graduates beginning in 1936. The WPA Historic Records Survey of New Hampshire was also established in 1936 and UNH sponsored the survey in 1939-1942 creating an inventory of early town records.

WPA projects in New Hampshire are documented on microfilm available at the New Hampshire State Library in Concord. The "Records of the Work Projects Administration relating to New Hampshire 1933-1943" from the National Archives (R69) are on fifty-three rolls of microfilm, each labeled only with a number. The unlabeled reels are broken down geographically, with each project documented in different sections for proposals, final reports, etc. There is no index or overall list of the contents.

1937-1938: WPA Construction of the UNH Pool

Weston and Sampson's overall plan for the UNH Outdoor Pool is dated January 11, 1937, the day the work on the project began (WPA Project 1078 Durham Swimming Pool, O.P. 165-13-3501). Shortly thereafter, President Roosevelt was inaugurated for his second term. Preliminary work on the pool involved installing drainage, excavating and clearing the pond bottom, preparing the sub-base for the pool and preparing the ground for the clay and sand dike. Thirty workmen were under the supervision of Bill Wright (*TNH* Feb. 2, 1937). The pool basin was widened and deepened. The dike across the lower end of the pond was constructed of clay and sand removed from the bottom (Barbett 1938). In March, concern was raised over slow progress. The original schedule had called for fifty laborers during the first two months, forty for the next two months and twenty thereafter. However, there had never been more than forty men working at a time, and usually only about twenty.

WPA labor was diverted for the other UNH projects, construction of the athletic fields and stadium. Work on all jobs was hindered by a lack of skilled masons (UNH Archives). The athletic fields and stadium were completed during 1936 and dedicated in October. The project included a concrete stadium seating 5,000, with locker rooms below, six playing fields, a running track, twenty tennis courts, and four baseball diamonds with bleachers. Construction of the field house began in 1937 at the same time as the pool. It was also completed in 1938. Enclosing nearly a half acre, it had a dirt floor used for track, baseball and football practices and removable wooden flooring and bleachers for basketball season (University of New Hampshire 1941:284).

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WPA work was done by hand to maximize labor needs and local materials used to minimize costs. The granite for the pool was quarried in the local Chesley quarry, about three miles away off the Durham-Dover Road/NH 108 (now site of Durham Public Works Department). Daniel Chesley (1859-1953) was a successful local contractor and stonemason specializing in granite masonry and later concrete (Stackpole 1913:320). He had a large business employing as many as eighty men at one time, but was nearing retirement in the 1930s (Census 1930, 1940). Weston and Sampson provided plans for the filter room and filter house in February and March of 1937. Historic photographs from April 1937 show piles of granite blocks along the edge of the site. During the summer, some students were employed on the project and dormitory housing was provided (UNH 1941:282).

In September 1937, a report was filed on work accomplished to-date on the pool. Some 2,982 cubic yards of earth had been excavated and 693 cubic yards of ledge removed. A temporary dike was 150' long and 5' high. The permanent earthen dike had been constructed, 225 linear feet, approximately 7' high. Stone quarried and hauled totaled 438 cubic yards. A total of 1,875 square feet of grouted stone paving had been placed, 6" thick. 22.7 cubic yards of concrete wall footing and 7.4 cubic yards of stone masonry wall underpinning had been constructed. The 2' x 3' x 2½' concrete drain intake and the 4' x 4' x 2' inlet were complete. Still to be done were 31,725 square feet of grouted stone paving, construction of the filter house and installation of equipment, and erection of 1,000 linear feet of fencing (WPA microfilm). Photographs from October show the on-going stone paving of the dike and pool floor. In November the dike was nearly complete. Paving of the bottom progressed through December (UNH Archives). In the spring of 1938, the 30' x 30' below-ground filter plant with three horizontal pressure filters was constructed. Considerable work was required to excavate through sixteen feet of ledge (Barbett 1938). It took a year and a half to transform the old pond into a modern swimming pool.

1938-1963 : University Pool, First 25 Years

Water was pumped into the pool in late June 1938. The official opening event included participants from area boys and girls camps. On August 19, 1938, the University held a grand opening during the 20th Annual Farmers' and Homemakers' Week. Draped with white cloth, the diving tower was transformed into a lighthouse for the folk extravaganza "Lamp Black and the Seven Giants." It was presented by the Rural Recreation Branch of the Extension Service in cooperation with the WPA. Participants were from all over the state. They included local bands, singing quartets, log rollers, canoe tilting and diving, divers and swimmers from summer camps dressed as mermaids. Some 3,000 people watched the show.

The outdoor pool operated for the six weeks of summer school during 1938, from June 27 to August 5. According to rules governing use of the outdoor pool prepared in 1938, the pool had not been constructed as a public bathing or recreation center, but was intended primarily for instructive purposes, with recreation as a secondary use (UNH Archives). The pool was open for recreational swimming was from 2 to 8 PM, Monday through Saturday. The Youth Council of Durham offered swimming instruction during this first season.

When the pool closed in August 1938, discussion immediately began about keeping it open all summer in future years and making it accessible to local residents in addition to UNH students and staff. The effort was led by Cooperative Extension Service, which ran water safety programs in other New Hampshire towns. There was a clear need for a safe and healthy swimming area in Durham. The Oyster River Mill Pond above the dam was not suitable for children and Great Bay had a high bacteria count and was accessible only from private properties. Mendum's Pond was eight miles away and the public beach on the river in Dover was overcrowded. To help meet

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operating costs, a fee system was proposed. The University estimated that the cost for the eight week season would be \$1,500 including the filtration and chlorination process, attendants and lifeguards (UNH Archives).

During its first winter, it was expected that the outdoor pool would be flooded for use as an ice rink as it was intended (Barbett 1938). Its large size could accommodate a standard sized hockey rink of 200' x 85' and was big enough for a speed skating loop. However, just after the pool was completed in 1938, the University constructed a new hockey rink in a more sheltered and shaded area at the edge of College Woods, near the new men's locker rooms in the stadium. The work was done by the National Youth Association, another WPA program (UNH 1941:280).

To meet state health regulations, a small bathhouse with foot-baths and showers was erected in the spring of 1939 at the southwest corner of the pool where the entrance gate was located. The square, one-story building had a hip roof like the filter house. Small additions with hip roofs were built in the 1940s (see aerial photographs). The bathhouse stood for about twenty-five years.

A new set of pool guidelines was adopted by UNH for the pool's second season in 1939 when it was open from June 26 to August 26. A lifeguard was on duty. Summer school students used the pool free of charge, but were required to obtain a metal token for display to the pool attendant. Families of summer students who accompanied the student to Durham were eligible for passes and members of conferences and institutes held on campus also had access to the pool. For the public, seasonal pool passes were available for \$5 to staff members, their families and Durham residents. The pool was open from 9:30-noon and 1-3:30 for general swimming; and from 3:30-6:30 for adults only. In 1941 the policy was changed to allow children after 3:30. On Sundays, the hours were 1:00-6:00 (UNH Archives). Durham's population grew during this period with the expansion of the University, from 749 residents in 1920 to 1,217 in 1930 and 1,533 in 1940.

In 1940, New Hampshire Hall adjacent to the pool was renovated as the women's gymnasium, after the men relocated to the new field house. The women also took over nearby Memorial Field. Swimming was one of the many activities offered to physical education classes, which were required for male students during their first two years and women for three years (UNH 1941:301). The late 1930s saw additions to a number of buildings on campus as the university was restored to full funding. Additions were built on the Hamilton Smith Library in 1937 and 1938, wings on Congreve Hall in 1938 and 1940 and Nesmith Hall in 1939 (UNH 1941:286).

The large swimming pool was divided into areas for different swimming abilities using floating lines and more recently painted bottom lines. The five sections and their names, Minnow, Perch, Salmon, Shark and Whale were in place by the 1950s. Lap lanes running cross-wise were approximately Olympic-sized at fifty yards long. The high, four-level diving tower was in use until ca. 1951 when the upper two tiers were removed. A two-level diving board was in place in the 1950s-1970s. Red Cross swimming lessons were sponsored by the Durham Youth Association, formed in 1947 to offer recreational activities to local young people. DYA Programs included swimming, skating, hockey, softball, tennis, ski trips, movies, dances, etc. The swimming program was a major activity. Pool time was scheduled with the University in the morning before it opened to the public (Durham Historic Association 1985:289-291). The swimming classes were run by local residents and advanced swimmers were trained to teach the younger children. A. Barr "Whoop" Snively, coach of the football and lacrosse teams from 1953 and men's hockey from 1963, lifeguarded and taught Sr. Lifesaving.

Filling of the pond above the dike began in the 1940s and by the 1950s only a small marshy area remained. In 1954-55, a raised terrace was built northwest of the pool as the site for a new hockey

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rink. The Batchelder Rink opened in February of 1955. The nearby parking lot was leveled and improved at the same time. The refrigeration equipment was in a small building in the corner by the pool. The system used water drawn from the pool for cooling. University enrollment increased rapidly after WWII to over 5,400 students. The local population continued to grow, reaching 4,770 by 1950 and topping 5,500 in 1960.

1963-present: UNH Outdoor Pool, Past Fifty Years

The pool was in use by students, faculty, staff and Durham residents for seventy-five summers. Annual pool passes have always been available for purchase by users. The pool is operated by the University, without town funding. Recently the Town of Durham established a system of vouchers to pay for pool passes for certain residents.

Construction of Snively Arena adjacent to the pool began in 1964, enclosing the older hockey rink. The first game was held there in February 1965. A new refrigeration system and piping were installed, eliminating circulation of pool water. The pool bathhouse was demolished and fencing reconfigured. Bathrooms were provided for pool users inside the arena. The parking lot was expanded and paved (Perry, Shaw, Hepburn and Dean 1964).

The replacement of stone masonry with concrete around the perimeter of the pool began in mid to late 1960s. The length of the sloping dike and the deck along the northwest side of the pool was covered with concrete. In 1969 plans were drawn by the University to rebuild a section of the southeast wall with reinforced concrete. The pool was fed by water from the University system, eliminating Pettee Brook as the water supply source.

The Durham Youth Association swim team was established in the 1960s. Daily practice was held at the pool and occasional swim meets. In 1971 the team built a wooden dock at the northwest end of the pool to serve as starting blocks. In 1972 the Oyster River Youth Association (ORYA) incorporated the towns of Lee and Madbury. The swim team was known as the Oyster River Otters. Swimming lessons were held at the pool every summer and several generations of Durham residents learned to swim there. In 1969, the Swasey Indoor Pool was built for the UNH swim team in the new Lundholm Gymnasium.

In the 1980s, the University considered closing the pool due to budget shortfalls. Durham residents held fundraisers including a Luau to raise money in support of the pool. The price of pool passes was raised in the 1990s. In 1999, a University/Town Pool Committee began looking at options for replacing the existing outdoor pool.

Pool use statistics fluctuate each year, probably depending on weather, length of season and recordkeeping accuracy. Average participation ranged between 16,000 and 24,000 pool visits a year. Students usually accounted for less than 10 percent of usage. Average daily attendance was around 250-300 people. According to Campus Recreation statistics, in 1991 there were a total of 23,210 pool visits over a sixty-eight day season. The average was 341 people daily, with 683 visitors on the busiest day. About 8 percent of the users were UNH students. In 2012, the pool saw a total of 17,080 visits. One fifth of which were students. The pool was open for seventy-seven days. The average daily visitation was 222, with over 600 people on a peak day. Pool pass options included a punch pass, family pass, youth pass or day pass. Summer camps also made use of the pool. In 2008-2012 total income per year was between \$20,000 and \$25,000 (UNH Campus Recreation 2012). The outdoor pool has operated at a loss for the past nine years (UNH Campus Recreation 2013).

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Modern upgrades included the replacement of the three horizontal filters in 1990 with a single dual-stage vertical filter of the same total capacity. The chemical control system was also upgraded. The sand was removed from the beach and wading area and the surface paved with concrete. The wooden diving block dock was removed something in the 19990s. The Oyster River Otters now practice in Dover. In December 1998, NHDES issued a letter to the University citing a number of deficiencies related to water quality, clarity of water, and chlorinated water being discharged into the Pettee Brook. By 2000, the overflow into the brook had been eliminated and NHDES allowed the pool to continue operation as long as progress is made in upgrading the pool infrastructure. In 2001, NHDES defined the UNH Outdoor Pool as a “modified flow-through pool.” Two areas requiring better turnover of water are addressed by added piping. Painted depth markings were added to the pool. In 2006 the University made major upgrades to the Swasey Indoor Pool. The work was carried out by Weston and Sampson engineers, the original designers of the UNH Outdoor Pool. In 2009, a drain cover was added to the main drain to prevent entrapment and meet requirements of the Virginia Graeme Baker Act. The stone wall at the northern end of the pool was repaired. The ladder in the northeast corner was replaced. In 2010, the stone wall along eastern side of the pool was repaired. A new curb and drain near the southeast corner to minimize puddles on the walkway. In 2011, a chairlift was installed along southwest wall. Pieces of ledge projecting into the bottom of the pool were removed and patched with patio stone. In 2012, a second ADA access point was added at the north end of the pool (UNH Campus Planning 2013).

Although some of NHDES’ concerns about the pool were satisfied, a number of deficiencies remain and were identified in an updated assessment of the pool prepared by NHDES for the University in October 2013. The filtration system is undersized and circulation is inadequate. Pool water is filtered once each twenty-four to thirty-six hours, three to four times as long as the recommended turnover rate of eight hours. The pool has only three inlets for filtered water returned to the pool, plus an added section of distribution piping in one area. Current standards call for inlets every 20', placed around the perimeter of the pool, which in this case is 800', requiring forty inlets. The sloped edges are much steeper than the recommended 1:12. There is no defined deck and varied elevations around the perimeter. The pool’s unique stone bottom offers poor visibility for lifeguards. Perimeter decks sloping away from the water are called for so that dirt and other materials are not washed in. Without a gutter system, leaves and debris remain in the water and settle to the bottom, which is difficult to clean due to its irregular surface and the size of the pool. Some 30,000-40,000 gallons of water lost to evaporation and seepage must be replaced daily from the UNH/Durham water system. Based on pool use statistics, this amounts to over 100 gallons a day per swimmer (UNH Campus Recreation 2013; NHDES 2013).

In 2013, the University also began planning to address the need for more student recreation and fitness facilities. The preferred plan recommended by the University Building Committee calls for an addition to the Hamel Recreation Center that would encompass a portion of the New Hampshire Hall parking lot and about forty percent of the outdoor pool area. An Outdoor Pool Working Group determined that a new, smaller pool of 16,000 square feet plus outdoor social space would be sufficient for UNH and community uses and much more economical to maintain. The University Steering Committee recommended that the costs of the outdoor pool should be funded by a combination of central University funds and Town money, not by student recreation fees (UNH Campus Planning 2013). On reviewing the list of ways the existing outdoor pool does not meet current standards for public swimming pools, the University concluded that the cumulative effect was an unacceptable level of risk of injury or illness. UNH announced that it would close the pool at the end of the 2013 season. Local citizens formed the Friends of the Outdoor Pool (FUNHOP) organization in July 2013 and began a campaign to preserve the historic pool, recognizing its

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importance in the lives of Durham residents. The University continues to review alternatives for a facility that is safe, accessible, and financially sustainable.

42. Applicable NHDHR Historic Contexts:

- 78. Outdoor recreation in New Hampshire.
- 97. Engineering in New Hampshire, 1623-present.
- 104. Higher education, 1770-present.
- 109. State government, 1680-present.
- 111. Fighting the Depression in NH: The CCC, WPA, and other public works programs, 1929-1940.

43. Architectural Description and Comparative Evaluation:

The University of New Hampshire Outdoor Pool is a large masonry in-ground pool of nearly an acre. Built in 1937-38, the pool has had minimal alterations. It retains an irregular, naturalized shape. The bottom is paved with mortared granite. The principal changes were the covering of most of the stone walls and slopes with concrete and the elimination of sand from the gently sloping beach in the shallow end. The system of piping is mostly original. The filter house is extant, the filters replaced. The asymmetrical pool is five-sided, nearly rectangular overall, with one short diagonal wall and one slightly serpentine wall and rounded corner. Sloping dikes form the northwest and north edges of the pool. The northeast wall is the concrete dam and abutments. On the southwest and southeast, the pool is bordered by straight-sided retaining walls. One section of mortared stone wall remains intact in the southern corner. The rest of the walls were repaired with concrete. The southern corner of the pool is a wading area, originally sand, now concrete, with gently sloping floor and beach area above the water-line. The pool's stone-lined bottom slopes gradually from all sides, toward the deepest point near the northeast corner. The design incorporated the topography of the University Pond from which the pool was created. The area enclosed by the pool walls and dike measures approximately 40,800 square feet. The size of the pool is 42,000 square feet if the concrete covered dike and deck on one side are included. The pool holds nearly 1.75 million gallons of water. It has a park-like setting, surrounded by grassy slopes and shaded by trees. The main entrance is near the southwest corner of the pool, down a set of concrete steps from the sidewalk above. The small ticket booth is modern. The pool is enclosed by high chain-link fence, much of which is original.

The UNH Outdoor Pool is divided into a series of progressively deeper swimming areas. The divisions and their "fish" names have been in use since at least the 1950s according to long-time local residents. Painted lines on the bottom and floating rope lines in-season, demarcate the swimming areas. The wading area called "Minnow" in the southern corner of the pool, separated by a diagonal line. The Perch area is a roughly rectangular space in the southwest corner of the pool. The intermediate Salmon area is bounded by parallel lines on either side. A triangular out-of-bounds area separates Salmon and Minnow from the deep area. The large central area of the pool is known as Shark. The deepest point is in front of the diving platform on the southeast wall. Lap lanes extend across the pool at the northeast end of the Shark area. Beyond the lap lanes, the northern deep end of the pool toward the dam is called Whale.

Access to the Perch, Salmon and Shark areas is from the 220'-long sloping dike along the northwest side of the pool. Originally granite, the 45° slope is covered in concrete down to the pool floor. The

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top of the dike (elevation 49'), also concrete over granite blocks, creates a flat deck on one side of the water. For a few years after the pool was constructed, the back side of the dike sloped down to the pond area, but this was filled in beginning in the 1940s and built up to a raised terrace in the 1950s. At the northern end of dike are the lap lanes. From ca. 1971 through the 1990s a wooden dock structure served as the starting blocks and turning boards for the lap lanes. A modern lifeguard seat is centrally positioned, at the edge of the water. At the north end of the slope are new concrete stairs with metal railings for safer access. At the south end of the dike a new concrete ramp enters the Perch area.

The southwest pool wall is a straight-sided wall rising above the water surface. The northwestern two-thirds of this stone wall (90') were covered with concrete in recent years. The main water inlet is in this wall, centered in the Perch area. The southwestern corner of the pool wall, surrounding the wading area, is the one section of unaltered historic stone wall, 105' long, wrapping around the southwest and southeast sides. The wall was initially built ca. 1924 retaining the edge of the University Pond and was incorporated into the pool design in 1937. The mortared stone wall is built of random granite chunks. The wall is serpentine and curves around the outer edge of the pool. Set inside the wall is the sloping beach area, now with a brushed concrete surface. The full water line of the wading area (Minnow) is at elevation 48.5' and the ground slopes down to the north to elevation 47'. The sand was removed in the 1990s for sanitary reasons. The concrete area, formerly sand, measures 6,476.37 square feet below water, with 1, 213.07 square feet above the waterline. Brightly painted fish decorate the bottom. The pool was built to incorporate the natural topography and pieces of ledge were left exposed. A triangular boulder rising from the beach area is painted as a turtle.

The southeast pool wall was rebuilt in reinforced concrete from this boulder to the diving platform (140'). The first work was done in 1969-1971. The specs called for removal of the first layer of stone as a base for the concrete with reinforcing steel. The 27' of wall nearest the diving platform was rebuilt with concrete at a later date. This area retains its sloping granite paved bottom. The diving platform is a square structure projecting into the pool from the southeast wall, in the middle of the deep (Shark) area. The platform has a concrete base and steel beams supporting a concrete slab deck. The structure originated in the University Pond. It had a tall four-level diving tower, replaced in the 1950s by a lower two-level tower. Diving boards were eliminated in the 1980s or 90s. The 95' of wall between the diving platform and the dam in the northeast corner of the pool is concrete, newly repaired. The steeply sloped pool edge is also concrete over the stone paving. The ladder next to the diving platform was recently replaced.

The northeast pool wall is formed by the 70'-long concrete dam. The northern edge of the pool has a concrete covered sloping dike (80' long) with mortared stone retaining wall along the top (elevation 50'). The wall was recently repaired and re-pointed.

The pool varies in depth. In the southwestern half of the pool, the bottom slopes gradually toward the northern deep end, the contour lines in line with the edges of the pool. The bottom of the large Shark area is flat from the base of the dikes at an elevation of 41'. The floor slopes gradually to the low point near the diving platform and drain in the northeast corner, which has an elevation of 39.5'. All parts of the pool, but the formerly sand wading area, retain granite paved flooring beyond the slopes, which are covered with concrete. The granite pavement is 6"-8" inches thick laid on 8" of gravel according to the specs. The exposed surfaces are the flush edges of large granite chunks with cement mortar filling the spaces between. Patching has been done in many places. Pieces of natural ledge the projected into the bottom were recently removed and the spaces filled with stone pavers.

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Dam

The concrete dam that forms the northeast pool wall was originally built in 1925 to form the University Pond. The concrete dam and abutments were incorporated into the 1937 design. A 36" reinforced concrete pipe carries Pettee Brook underground across the north end of the pool, behind the northern retaining wall. The inlet of the pipe is on the northwest side of the asphalt path outside the pool fence. The outlet is at the base of the stone training wall downstream from the dam.

The dam measures 70' long overall. The crest elevation is 48.5'. The northwestern abutment has a sluice gate with 12" outlet pipe that previously ran behind the stone training wall to empty into the brook, and now runs into a catch pipe. The gate mechanism is on top of the abutment. The dam formerly served as an outlet for overflow from the pool. Water slopped over the spillway with wave action and when the pool was full due to rain. A catch pipe was added across the back side of the dam ca. 1999 to prevent the pool water from entering the brook. Water caught in collection trough is channeled into the filtration system. The overgrown gravel streambed is now dry below the dam.

Filtration System

The filter house built in 1938 stands near the southeast end of the dam at the edge of the woods, on the hillside below Edgewood Road. A gate opens through the northeast corner of the perimeter fencing. The small square 11' x 12' wooden building with hip roof shelters the entrance to a large below-ground mechanical room. The building is unchanged, but the equipment is modern. The original filtration was by three horizontal pressure filters (see 1937 plans). New vertical filters were installed ca. 1990. The pump motor is also new. The walls and floor of the 29' x 32' mechanical room are poured concrete. A steep metal staircase leads down from the ground floor room. The wooden filter house building is balloon framed with a pyramidal hip roof. The exterior is sheathed in original novelty siding. The roof is asphalt shingled. Windows on three sides contain original wooden double-hung 6/6 sash. There is a metal ventilator atop the roof. The metal door is new. Adjacent to the building is a battery of four modern tanks for holding backwash water for gradual discharge into the sewer system. Access to the filter plant from Edgewood Road is down a steep metal staircase with a gate at the bottom.

The pool's cast iron piping is original. The present filter and circulation pump have a capacity of 1,350 gallons per minute. The water is pumped from the bottom drain near the northeast corner, through the filtration plant, and returned through pipes passing under the pool to inlets in three places. The locations of the pipes have been estimated by metal detectors. There are three water inlets. The main inlet is in the southwest wall. Water is piped from the filter house, through a 10" cast iron pipe along the southeast edge of the pool and diagonally across the shallow end to the inlet. 8" pipes cross the pool to inlets in the dikes at the northern end of the pool. Low lying ground along the southeast side of the pool is drained by a tile drain. Formerly the water went into the brook, now it enters the sewer system.

Site

The entire site is enclosed by perimeter fencing. The 7'-high steel chain link is topped by barbed wire. Sections are original, while others were moved or replaced. The pool deck varies around the perimeter. The main deck is the flat concrete surface at the top of the slope along the northwest side. Grassy slope borders the deck rising to the terrace on which the adjacent Hamel Student Rec. Center sits. Five evenly spaced evergreen trees planted in the 1970s now shade the deck area. The perimeter fence lines the top of the slope in front of the adjacent building. The gate rolls on a metal track. This area of fencing dates from the late 1960s-ca. 1970. The pool entrance is down a set of concrete stairs near the southwest corner of the pool. A modern small ticket booth sits to one side. This small building is too small to be counted as noncontributing. At the northern end of the

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concrete deck the fencing comes closer to the edge of the pool. A new gate was recently installed in the fence for ADA access.

The southwest edge of the pool, retained by a low wall, now concrete, is bordered by an uneven sandy path. The outer grassy slope is lined by the fence, which was shifted away from the pool to the edge of the parking lot in the late 1960s-ca. 1970 period. Three evergreen trees were planted on this side of the pool in the late 1970s. The original plans for the pool called for 6' of bituminous pavement around the pool, but there is no evidence that it ever was paved and pool users remember only sand and grass. A small square sandbox was constructed near the wading area when the sand was removed from the beach in the 1990s.

An area of lawn occupies the southern corner of the site, along the southeast edge near the wading area. The grass now grows up to the edge of the stone pool wall. Formerly sand path continued along the southeast side of the pool. The perimeter fence has a double hinged gate in the corner near the Edgewood Road parking lot entrance. This serves as access for service vehicles. The asphalt pavement extends inside the gate. These gates are new, but there has always been a service gate in this vicinity. Narrow lawn extends along the southeast side of the pool past the diving platform to the dam at the end. The fencing separates the edge of the lawn from the wooded hillside. This section of fence is the original fence installed in 1938, in its original location.

A gate to the filtration plant is located in the northeast corner of the fence. Historic images show that this section of fence and the gate are original. The pool fence runs directly over the top of the dam. The fence continues in a straight line enclosing a small section of woods at the north end of the pool where mature pine trees shade the water.

Setting

The Hamel Student Recreation Center, formerly Snively Arena, overlooks the northwest side of the pool. The asphalt paved walkway on the southeast end of the building is the access to the pool entrance. The flat paved area fills the space between the building and the pool perimeter fence. To the northeast, the walkway slopes downhill along the edge of the fence. North of the pool is a wooded area, hilly with ledge outcroppings. Paved paths lead north to the Elliott Alumni Center and the Woodside Parking Lot. The southwest edge of the pool site is defined by the flat paved parking area, now identified as H Lot. The lot sits above the pool on fill added to level the site in the 1950s. The paved sidewalk on the edge of the parking lot runs along the outside of the pool fence. The fencing was moved up to the top of the slope, outward from the pool, sometime in the late 1960s or early 70s. The parking lot entrance is near the southern corner of the pool on Edgewood Road. The lot fills the area between the pool and the back of New Hampshire Hall. The northeast side of the pool is parallel to Edgewood Road. Along the road, the steep slope is lined with trees, mostly hardwoods. The pool fence has always been located at the base of the hillside. The setting of the pool on its southeast and northeast sides is essentially unchanged since it was constructed. The placement of fencing and configuration of the parking lot and the arena on the southwest and northwest took place in the 1960s-70s.

Comparative Analysis – WPA Pools and Other Historic Pools

Within New Hampshire, the UNH Outdoor Pool is one of the oldest (if not the oldest) pool remaining in use, in its original form. It is the largest pool in the state and it is the only stone-lined pool. It is unique for its naturalized form and is the only modified flow-through pool in operation in the state. The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Public Pool and Spa Program is responsible for monitoring public pools in the state, but several of the larger cities do their own monitoring, so there is no complete inventory of the pools. No other swimming pools have been

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recorded on NHDHR Inventory forms to-date. There are no known studies of historic swimming pools in New Hampshire.

According to NHDES, Phillips Exeter Academy had a 1918 pool which was the oldest in the state, but it closed a few years ago and its status is unknown. The Spaulding Pool at Dartmouth College dates from 1919. It is a small indoor pool, featuring original mosaic tiling. The age of the Knight Natatorium at Colby Sawyer College has not been identified. Other early outdoor pools that existed until recently in the state were at the Rye Beach Club and at Sky Meadow Country Club in Nashua. The Mount Washington Hotel replaced a pool from the late 1940s. A flow-through pool in Lisbon was rebuilt.

The specifics of WPA projects and other relief programs in New Hampshire are not well documented. The WPA program was de-centralized by nature. There is no complete list of projects and no list of which swimming pools were built during this period. cursory on-line research identified some of them. Portsmouth's Pierce Island Pool, which opened in 1937, is a 100 x 33 yard rectangular concrete pool ranging from 18" to 6' deep. It was fully refurbished in 2003 with new 20'-wide concrete deck, new gutter and sewage discharge system and new fencing. In Manchester, the Dupont Pool in Rock Rimmon Park remains in use. It is a rectangular concrete pool that has its original shape and size, but few other features. There is a rustic park bathhouse. The 1936 Adams Pool in Peterborough was completely renovated in 2013 with a spiral slide, new stairs, diving board and zero-depth splash pad. Nashua Centennial pool next to Holman Stadium may be from this era. It is a rectangular concrete pool with adjacent bathhouse. The stadium was a WPA project in 1937. In Berlin, remnants of the abandoned Berlin Mills Pool survive, along with the bathhouse. They were built in 1936 by the National Youth Administration and the City of Berlin.

WPA outdoor pools are located throughout the country. Many WPA pools have been listed in the National Register of Historic Places, often as part of New Deal Resources Multiple Property Nominations. However, there has been no nationwide study or inventory completed. Out of the 387 new pools built and 128 remodeled by the WPA between 1935 and 1938 (Wiltse 2007:93), the number of surviving pools is unknown.

Elsewhere in New England, Massachusetts WPA projects were documented in a series of bulletins. In 1936, the Forest River pool in Salem was rebuilt, improvements were made to the Greenfield pool and a park with tennis courts, wading pool, etc. was constructed in Bridgewater. The Ashland Pool was built by the WPA in 1937. The current status of these pools has not been identified. The Tufts Park Pool in Medford included an Art-Deco style bathhouse. It is a large concrete pool with concrete deck and remains in use. In Vermont, the Montpelier Recreation Field Swimming Pool built by the WPA is an oval saucer shaped pool that opened in 1940 and still operates. In Cranston Rhode Island, the Budlong Pool built by the WPA in 1940 renovated in 1997. It claims to be one of the largest outdoor pools in the country, at over one million gallons. "The nation's oldest outdoor community pool," the Underwood Pool in Belmont, Massachusetts, was philanthropically funded, predating the WPA. The oval pool was originally spring-fed with a cobblestone bottom and sand edge. Later it was rebuilt with concrete. The historic pool closed in 2013 due to maintenance issues and the Town of Belmont is now considering replacing it.

Cursory internet research yields information about historic swimming pools, particularly WPA pools farther afield. In New York City, eleven municipal pools were built with WPA funding. Proposed in 1934, they opened in 1936. The largest is the Astoria Park Pool 330' x 165'. All of the NYC pools were renovated in the 1980s, except the McCarren Pool in Greenpoint. It was vacant for many years, restored and reopened in 2012. All of the WPA pools were designated as New York City

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Landmarks in 2007. A naturalized stone pool in Bear Mountain New York was re-done in concrete. A large naturalized outdoor pool with sandy bottom and stone walls that remains in use is the Graydon Pool in Ridgewood, New Jersey, which was improved by the WPA.

National Register of Historic Places listed pools include the Columbus Grove Ohio Municipal Pool built in 1935-36. It was a limestone pool with rustic stone walls and bathhouse. After closing in 2003 it was rebuilt with a giant slide and larger deck. In Cameron, West Virginia, a semi-circular pool was PWA project of 1939. The Decorah Municipal Pool and Bathhouse in Iowa, the Fowler Swimming Pool and Bathhouse and the Colby Municipal Swimming Pool and Bathhouse in Kansas, the Pawnee Municipal Pool and Bathhouse and the El Reno Municipal Pool and Bathhouse in Oklahoma are all National Register-listed WPA pools. The Pawnee pool has stone retaining walls and stone bathhouse. The Garden City Kansas pool at 218' x 337' and 2.2 million gallons is said to be the largest concrete pool in the country. Originally hand dug in 1922, it was enlarged by the WPA. In Missouri the Fayette City Park Swimming Pool is National Register listed. It is a "Bintz" designed above-ground pool with attached WPA bathhouse. Another Bintz pool is in Chaffee, Missouri. Terry, Montana, has a large concrete WPA pool recently refurbished. The Wallace, Idaho, pool built in 1939 by the WPA is a large rectangular concrete pool. The Bonner's Ferry, Indiana, pool is another example. The Deep Eddy Pool in Austin, Texas, is the oldest pool in that state. Originally a swimming hole, a concrete pool was built in 1915 and rebuilt by the WPA after a flood in 1936. In 2012, the bottom was rebuilt, the pool extended, and the deck widened. The Swenson Pool and bathhouse in Spur, Texas, were built out of local stone and petrified wood by the WPA in 1937, but closed in 2009. The world's largest spring-fed pool is in Balmorhea State Park in Toyahvale, Texas. It covers 1¾ acres and is up to 25' deep with a capacity of more than 3.5 million gallons. The 1924 Venetian Pool in Coral Gables, Florida, is spring-fed, freshwater pool of 820,000 gallons, which is emptied and refilled daily. At one time, the largest pool in the U.S. was the Fleishhacker Pool in California, 1000' x 150', but it closed in 1971.

A few other WPA-built swimming pools are known to remain in-use on college campus elsewhere in the country. The University of Washington Husky Pool is a small indoor pool built in 1938. The 160' x 75' University of Georgia Pool in Athens, Georgia, was recently saved from demolition. Another example is the Southwest Missouri State Pool in Springfield, Missouri.

The UNH Outdoor Pool may have significance as the work of the Weston and Sampson engineering firm which has been in business in Massachusetts for nearly a century. Swimming pool construction and filtration systems was a specialty. The numbers of pools designed and extant are unknown. In 1921, Weston published an article about Weston and Sampson's designs for a combined open-air swimming pool and hockey rink in Milton, Massachusetts. Like the UNH Pool, the Cunningham Park Pool was created in a meadow previously flooded for skating in winter. The 315' x 150' pool was designed with an irregular curving shoreline (Weston 1921). The concrete-lined pool had a sand bottom and beach around the perimeter. The pool was renovated in the 1960s with a painted concrete deck and remains in use today. Research in the company archives of Weston and Sampson at its headquarters in Peabody, Massachusetts would be required to identify other pools of the same period and then to determine which ones are extant.

44. National or State Register Criteria Statement of Significance:

Criterion A: The UNH Outdoor Pool is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for associations with the New Deal WPA program and with the history of both the Town of Durham, New Hampshire, and the University of New Hampshire.

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The UNH Outdoor Pool is significant in the area of Politics and Government for construction by the Works Progress Administration. New Deal programs played an important role in aiding the rebuilding of local, state and national economies during the Great Depression of the 1930s. The WPA provided relief assistance and created large numbers of new public properties, including recreational facilities. The construction of swimming pools was a major component of the WPA in New Hampshire and nationwide. Work relief programs organized public works projects and provided temporary employment for able-bodied men (and a few women) on the public relief roles. WPA efforts served to boost moral during the period by providing recreational activities such as safe, sanitary pools. Swimming pools served as a tangible reminder of the federal government helping people. They created a symbolic antidote to heat and dust associated with hard times, and encouraged leisure activities and fellowship (Wiltse 2007:88, 94, 103). The cooperation between a state university and the federal government was typical of the program, which required sponsorship by a non-federal government entity. The UNH Outdoor Pool differed from other WPA municipal swimming pool projects in that it was not sponsored by the local community, but within a year it was opened for a fee to Durham residents.

The UNH Outdoor Pool has significance in the area of Entertainment and Recreation as an outdoor sports facility. The pool made a significant contribution to the overall development of the UNH Campus. It documents a period of expansion of college athletics in the 1920s-30s, at a time of increasing interest in swimming for recreation and physical education. The WPA offered many state universities the opportunity to expand their athletic facilities by funding playing fields, stadiums gymnasiums and indoor and outdoor pools. A swimming pool was necessary for a well-founded collegiate sports program and a safe swimming hole was also requisite to expanding use of the campus for summer school and institutes.

The UNH Outdoor Pool is important for its original construction by the University, and also for the way it was adapted as the local public swimming pool. During its seventy-five years of continuous seasonal use, the pool played a significant role in the lives of four generations of Durham residents. An outdoor pool provided a unique setting where a large portion of the population could congregate. This was particularly important in small towns with limited recreational opportunities. Public pools became informal community centers and promoted family togetherness and socialization (Wiltse 2007:103, 107).

The history of the UNH Outdoor Pool relates to the evolving gown-town relationship, in which the University the Town had several joint use agreements, including combined libraries and fire departments. The pool opened during a period of growth in the local population and student enrollment. At a time when the vast majority of faculty members lived in Durham and nearly all families in town had ties to the University, the pool played a major role in the lives of faculty families.

Criterion B: There are no significant individuals specifically associated with the pool to make it eligible under this criterion.

Criterion C: The UNH Outdoor Pool is eligible for the National Register under Criterion C for embodying distinctive characteristics of the outdoor swimming pool structural type and the New Deal era. The pool and its filtration system represent methods of construction

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of the 1930s period and the WPA. Complete information about comparable WPA pools in New Hampshire and elsewhere is not available. The UNH Outdoor Pool appears to be one of the most intact pools still in use, unusual for its naturalized modified flow-through form and stone lined bottom, despite the replacement or covering of a large portion of the historic stonework with concrete.

The UNH Outdoor Pool has the distinctive characteristics that make it a good example of the early twentieth century outdoor pool type. It includes the basic structural elements with which it was designed, such as the irregularly shaped masonry tank, pipes and filter house. The filtration system has been upgraded, but remains in use. The historic shape and configuration of the pool walls has not changed. The extent to which the original granite remains underneath the concrete is not known. Perimeter fencing is a crucial component of a pool site. Original fencing remains on at least two sides of the pool. The site was changed somewhat when the fence was shifted outward in the late 1960s-ca. 1970

The UNH Outdoor Pool has characteristics of WPA construction. New Deal pools were typically large, varied in shape, with natural, park-like settings. Leisure spaces such as sand beaches, grassy lawns and concrete decks were an integral part of the designs (Wiltse 2007:88). Typically plans for WPA projects were provided by the sponsors and there was no standardization. In this case, the engineering cost was paid by the University, which hired pool specialists Weston and Sampson. The existing pool closely matches the description in the 1936 proposal and the 1937 plans, despite the loss of stone detail. It is a good example of the early twentieth century work of a well-known engineering firm. A number of WPA pools incorporated earlier swimming holes. Weston and Sampson redesigned the University Pond as an artificial pool with filtered re-circulated water, adapting the existing topography, and paving the bottom and slopes. WPA projects were intentionally labor-intensive. WPA workers performed all phases of a project including site work and providing raw materials. The use of local material, like the Durham granite, was typical. The WPA mission was to spend as little as possible on materials, in order to maximize funding for labor. In addition to manual labor excavating, quarrying, etc., WPA projects often involved extensive use of stone masonry. Led by one or more skilled masons, workers learned on the job. While much of the granite is concrete-covered the pool bottom retains its native stone and masonry craftsmanship.

Other individual UNH buildings are listed in the National Register of Historic Places, but the eligibility of the University of New Hampshire campus as a historic district has not been evaluated. Some part of the campus would likely be eligible, but the boundaries of such a district are unknown. The Outdoor Pool would be a contributing structure in a district if one were identified.

45. Period of Significance:

1937-1963: The Period of Significance begins with the start of construction of the pool in January 1937. Components of the 1924 pond were incorporated into the design, but the new pool reconfigured the site so substantially that it does not have integrity for the earlier time. The Period of Significance under Criterion A was continuous from the 1937 until fifty years ago, which is the cut-off for National Register eligibility.

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46. Statement of Integrity:

The UNH Outdoor Pool retains integrity of location. It has not been moved, expanded or reduced in size. The shape and volume of the pool have not changed since its construction. The concrete dam and sections of stone wall were part of the pre-existing University Pond, but the design and engineering of the pool date from its re-design by Weston and Sampson and construction by the WPA in 1937-38. The UNH Outdoor Pool has integrity of association with the UNH campus of which it is a part. Since its earliest years, the pool has been used by University students and faculty, as well as local residents. The feeling is that of a large, naturalized, pond-like pool with irregular edges. The main change to the natural look was the covering of stone and sand areas with concrete. The bathhouse was not part of the original design, built as an after-thought. It stood for just twenty-five years, demolished ca. 1965.

The setting of the pool within the University of New Hampshire Campus is the same, although newer buildings were erected in the surrounding area in the 1960s and after. The pool site has always been surrounded by chain-link fence, with informal lawn on the southeast and southwest sides. The area was enlarged and the fence moved back slightly on the southwest and northwest during the mid to late 1960s. The concrete deck and entrance stairs and terrace along the northwest side of the pool date from the same period. The raised terrace on the northwest side of the pool was created for the hockey rink in the 1950s. The filling of the former pond area had begun shortly after the pool was created. Snively Arena, now the Hamel Recreation Center, was erected in 1965 and has been a prominent part of the pool setting since that time. On the southeast side of the pool, Edgewood Road has always been raised, with trees lining the slope; the relationship between the road and pool is unchanged. The flat parking lot southwest of the pool was modified over time beginning the early 1950s.

The overall form of the pool is unchanged. The layout of the site and the engineering of the water circulation system are essentially as built. The shape of the pool tank and the position and form of the various walls that enclose it are unaltered. The major loss of integrity of design, materials and workmanship was caused by the application of concrete over the original stonework. This was done over time, starting in the mid-1960s, which was after the end date of the historic Period of Significance. Two sections of stone wall, less than a quarter of the overall length, remain in place. The stone-lined pool floor is original. Concrete covers much of the stone perimeter wall, the former sand beach and the sloping dike and deck along the northwest side of the pool. The loss of the sand was a major change, but the bottom level and slope is unchanged. The concrete base of the dive tower remains in place. The original diving board was replaced in the 1950s and later removed. The concrete dam remains intact. The water circulation system is essentially as designed. Some additional exposed piping was added in the 1990s. The filter house remains in operation. The filters were replaced in the 1990s and holding tanks have been added for chemicals and discharge water.

47. Boundary Discussion:

The UNH Outdoor Pool covers approximately 0.93 acre. An area of 1.4 acres is enclosed by the perimeter fencing, with an additional 0.1 acre around the filter house. The pool is located within the University of New Hampshire Campus. It is on a large 19.5 acre parcel. MLB 01/ 4-34 includes the Whittemore Center, the Hamel Recreation Center (former Snively Arena), New Hampshire Hall, the Eliot Alumni Center and University parking lots.

The individually National Register UNH Outdoor Pool is the area within the perimeter fence, as well as the filter house below the dam. The fencing forms a clearly defined boundary, separating and

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securing the pool area. The utility building at the northeast corner is a key feature of the site. The pool has always been surrounded by a chain-link security fence. The poolside area was enlarged when the fencing was moved back on the southwest and northwest sides in the 1960s. The only other change to the fencing was the reconfiguration of the path and accessible pool entrance in the northern corner of the pool. The filter house has always been outside the pool fence that runs along the top of the dam on the northeast edge of the pool.

The roughly rectangular tract is bordered by Edgewood Road on the southeast, by parking lot on the southwest and by the Hamel Student Recreation Center on the northwest. To the north is a wooded area, separating the pool from the Eliot Alumni Center beyond.

The western corner of the pool site is immediately adjacent to the southwest corner of the Hamel Rec. Center at the edge of the parking lot. The fence runs parallel to the northwest side of the pool along the paved sidewalk in front of the Hamel Center. The fence is at the top of the embankment above the pool deck. The slope is grass with five evenly spaced mature evergreens. The fencing with gate at the top of the pool steps has been in place here since the 1960s. Near the northwest corner of the pool, the fence jogs with the curvilinear paved path that leads through the woods to the parking lots beyond. This portion of fence was recently replaced. Northeast of the pool, the fencing has always been parallel to the pool shore, in-line with the dam. The pool fence runs across the top of the dam. The boundary of the National Register eligible property extends outside the fence to encompass the outlet of the pool below the dam. The boundary line follows the stone training wall northeast of the dam, then turns at a right angle, southeast toward Edgewood Road, and joins fencing across the back (northeast) side of the filter plant. The boundary follows fencing between the filter house and Edgewood Road to meet the pool fence enclosure at its northeast corner. The fence runs in a straight line parallel to the road, at the base of the slope. Within the fence is an area of lawn at the southeast edge of the pool. The southeast corner of the pool enclosure is a canted corner adjacent to the entrance to the parking lot. Parallel to the southwest side of the pool, the boundary runs northwest in a straight line along the fence at the edge of the sidewalk on the northeast side of the parking lot.

The boundary is shown below on a 2010 aerial photograph of the pool.



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Surveyor's Evaluation

NR listed: individual
within district

Integrity: yes
no

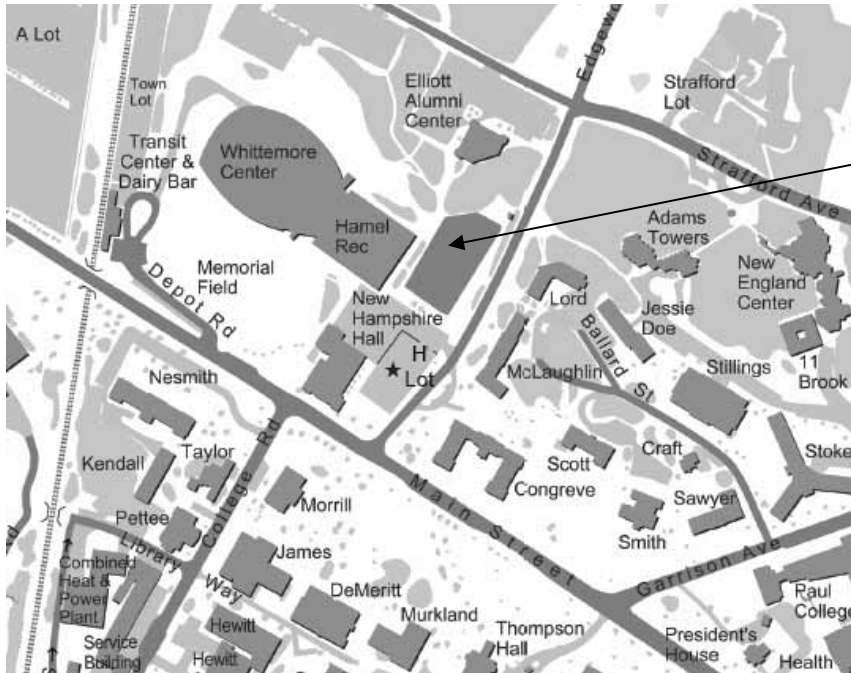
NR eligible: individual
within district
not eligible
more info needed

NR Criteria: A
B
C
D
E

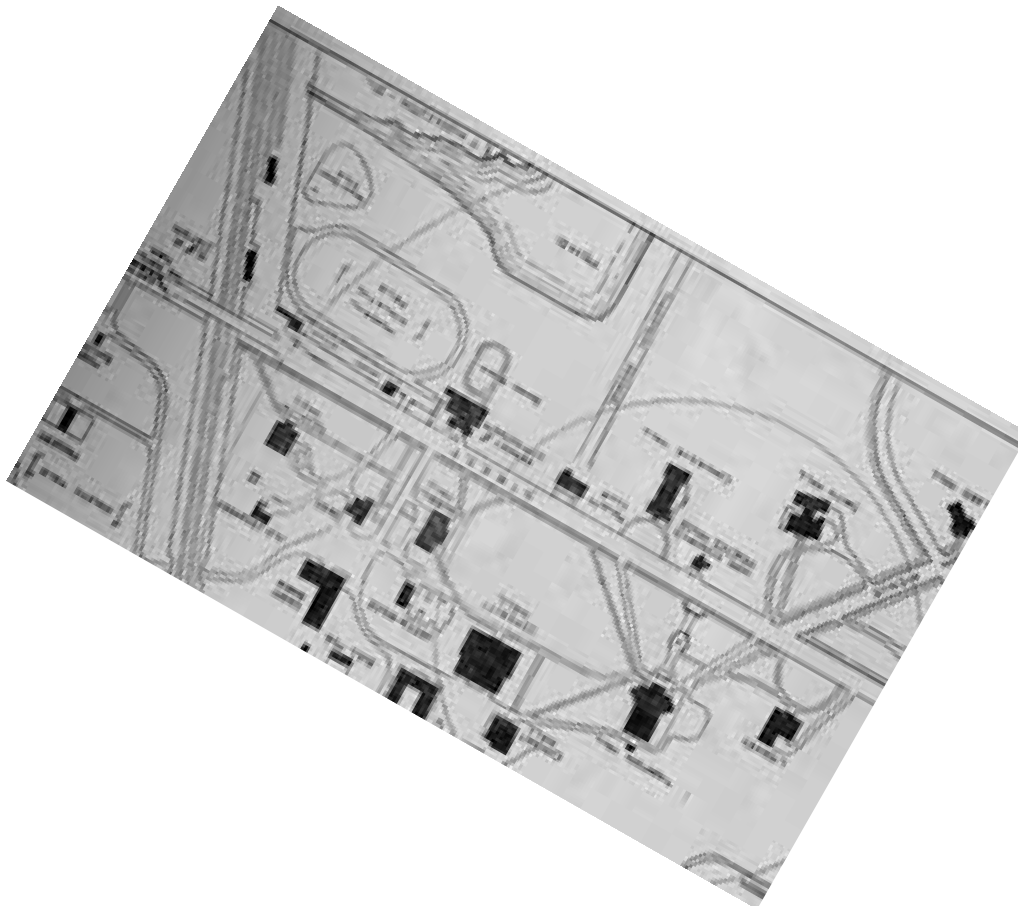
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Maps and Plans



Current UNH Campus map (http://www.unh.edu/facilities/campus_maps.html)



1924 Campus Map showing University Pond (UNH Archives)

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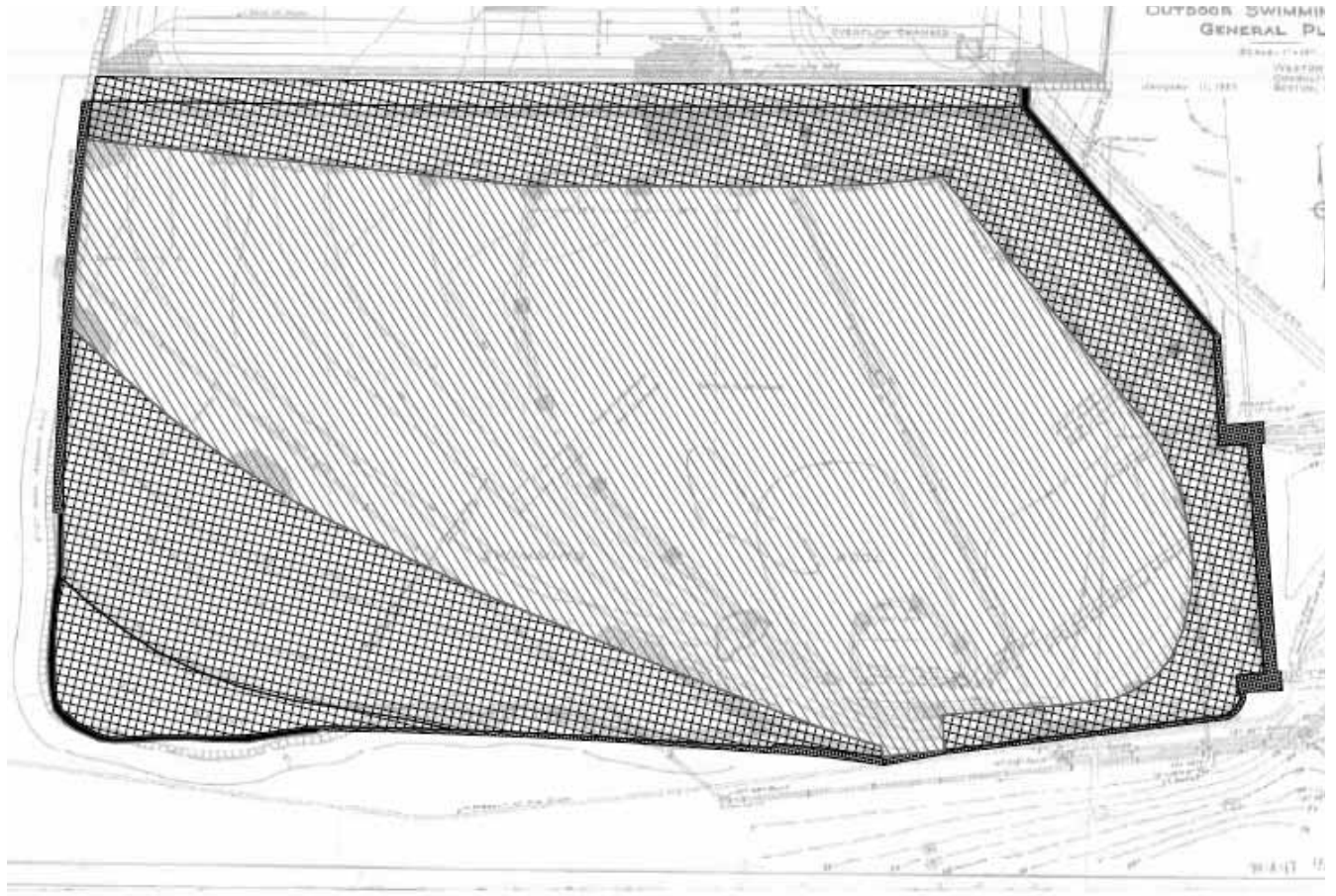
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USGS 1956 detail of Dover, NH West quadrangle

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Outdoor Pool
Materials

Legend

Material

-  Concrete
-  Concrete Wall
-  Stone
-  Stone Wall

Current materials overlaid on original plan (UNH Facilities Campus Planning GIS Group)

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Original 1936 Construction Proposal

ROBERT SPURR WESTON
SANITARY ENGINEER
G. A. SAMPSON
CIVIL ENGINEER
TELEPHONE CAPITOL 3506
"CABLE ADDRESS WESSAM"

WESTON & SAMPSON
CONSULTING ENGINEERS
14 BEACON STREET
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

SPECIALTIES:
WATER SUPPLY
WATER PURIFICATION
SEWERAGE
SEWAGE DISPOSAL
DISPOSAL OF MUNICIPAL
AND FACTORY WASTE
HYGIENIC ANALYSES

August 10, 1936.

University of New Hampshire,
Durham, N. H.

Gentlemen:

In compliance with your instructions of July 9, 1936, we have made a careful study of University Pond as a location for an outdoor swimming pool. In addition to inspections of the site made by Mr. Sampson, we have been greatly assisted by a topographical map of the Pond prepared by the University, and by conferences with Mr. Loveren and Mr. Huddleston, representatives of the University, and with Mr. Trager, assistant sanitary engineer of the N. H. Board of Health.

UNIVERSITY POND

University Pond is an artificial storage basin formed by constructing a concrete dam across the valley to the rear of the gymnasium. The pond is about 500 feet in length by 230 feet in average width, flooding 2.61 acres of low land to a maximum depth of 8-1/2 feet. The storage capacity at the level of the crest of the spillway is 4,450,000 gallons. The bottom of the basin is a natural clay, now covered with a deposit of mud in which various species of water weeds, grass, algae and other aquatic growths flourish. The drainage area tributary to the pond is small and of such character that during dry periods the runoff is less than the evaporation, resulting in a stagnant body of water.

The pond has been used in the past for outdoor swimming in the summer season and for skating during the winter months, but on account of the present unsatisfactory physical and sanitary conditions of the water, the State Board of Health has recently closed the pond to bathing.

Because of the recognized advantages of outdoor swimming, this study has been undertaken to decide whether it is practicable and financially advisable to develop a suitable swimming pool as an adjunct to University Pond.

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U. of N. H.

8-10-36

2.

OUTDOOR SWIMMING POOLS

The usual methods of providing outdoor fresh water swimming are as follows:

(1) The development of a selected area in a large, natural lake, pond or river where the water is of approved quality with sufficient circulation by wave action or flow to keep the swimming area in a good sanitary condition.

(2) The utilization of a comparatively small body of water, either natural or artificial, where an adequate supply of satisfactory water is available for frequent emptying and filling or continuous displacement.

(3) The construction of an artificial pool where the supply of water is limited, resulting in the filtration, chlorination and re-circulation of the water thru the pool, with enough fresh water to take care of evaporation, leakage, waste and other losses.

The conditions at University Pond are such as to require the last method for providing a swimming pool.

There are two types of pools that should be considered:

(A) The usual indoor type with a concrete floor and walls, rectangular in plan, and provided with scum gutters, distributing pipes, drains, vacuum cleaner and other adjuncts, except on a much larger scale.

(B) Adaptation of the existing topography as far as possible, with sufficient improvements to the bottom and slopes to provide proper control of the pool.

Both types would require the filtration, chemical treatment and re-circulation of the water in the pool, and the addition of a comparatively small amount of fresh water. Without entering into an extended discussion of a concrete pool, it is sufficient to state that this type is somewhat preferable from a sanitary control standpoint, but on account of an estimated construction cost of \$40,000 and because of a desire to maintain the naturalness of University Pond, it seems advisable to adapt the type herein proposed.

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U. of N. E.

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3.

PROPOSED SWIMMING POOL

For proper sanitary control of a pool, it is necessary to keep its size and capacity within the time limit of effectiveness of chlorine treatment and within a reasonable period of re-circulation. On the other hand, the area allotted to each bather should be in excess of 25 square feet. As a basis for design, it is estimated that several hundred persons, with a probable maximum of 1000, may use the pool during one day.

For the maximum bathing load, the effective area should be at least 25,000 square feet. The capacity of the pool should not exceed the ability of the filtration plant to re-circulate the water within 24 hours. With three horizontal pressure units, each 8 feet in diameter by 14 feet overall length, and operated at a normal swimming pool rate of 4 gals. per sq. ft. per minute, the filters would deliver 70,000 gals. per hour, or 1,680,000 gallons in 24 hours.

The desired results can be accomplished by building an earth dike across the lower end of the pond, as shown on the accompanying drawing, thereby forming a pool about 150 feet in width by 300 feet in length, with a water surface of 42,400 square feet and a capacity of 1,700,000 gallons.

The dike would be constructed of clay and sand removed in excavating the bottom of the pool. The top of the dike would be at elevation 49.0, or 6" above the crest of the spillway. For winter sports, it is proposed to raise the flow line of the pond 12" by means of wooden flashboards on the spillway in order to flood the dike and allow the use of the entire area for speed skating. The slopes of the dike would be paved with stone laid on a layer of gravel.

In order to prevent the water in the pond from entering the pool during the swimming season, in case of heavy rains, a concrete spillway shaft would be constructed with its overflow crest at elevation 48.0. The shaft would connect with a 36" reinforced concrete pipe discharging into the channel below the dam.

In order to avoid turbid water that would result from the natural clay bottom, and to protect the slopes against wave action, the swimming pool area would be paved with stone, preferably granite paving blocks laid on an 8" gravel base.

The southwest corner of the pool above contour 46.0, where the water would be 30" in depth, is set aside for a wading area and marked off with posts and a rope. The bottom of this area would be covered with 16" of clean, medium-sized sand.

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NHDHR INVENTORY DUR0025

U. of N. H.

E-10-36

4.

Above the wading area is a sand beach about 50 feet in length and 20 feet in width, extending to the present stone wall.

To allow the bottom of the pool to be readily cleaned, the stone paving should be carefully placed and the joints filled with cement mortar.

The present diving tower would be used in its present position. It may be desirable to provide a 10 ft. depth of water immediately in front of the tower for high diving.

The filtration plant to purify and re-circulate the water would consist of three 8' x 14' horizontal pressure filters with a normal capacity of 70,000 gals. per hour; an electric-motor-driven centrifugal pump of the same capacity to discharge the pool water thru the filters and to re-wash the filters as necessary; alum and soda solution feeders to prepare the water for filtration; chlorino and ammonia feeders for sterilizing the filtered water entering the pool; connecting piping and appurtenances.

The filter house would be about 30' x 30', sunk into the ground, and constructed of reinforced concrete with a concrete roof.

The University has on hand two Roberts 8' x 14' filter units and a Wallace & Tiernan chlorinator that can be used in the filtration plant.

The pool water would be taken from the deep end at the bottom and the purified water discharged at the opposite end to provide circulation. About 35,000 gallons of fresh water would be needed each day for evaporation and other losses. It is proposed to obtain this requirement and also water for filling the pool from the University Pond by passing it thru the same purification process as the pool water.

The 12" pipe leading from the pond to the filter house would also serve as a drain for the pond.

If the water in the pond should fail in case of an extreme drouth, the University supply could be utilized for fresh water.

The connection between the pool and filter house is also a drain for emptying and cleaning the pool, discharging into the channel below the dam. The pool can also be drained

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U. of N. H.

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5.

to elevation 42.21 by the present 12" outlet at the dam.

ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION COST

The following estimate assumes that the work be done by contract under competitive bids. The quantities are given for the various items in order that comparable costs may be computed for a Federal project.

Swimming Pool and Piping

Removing mud and sand	600 c.y.	@ \$0.75	\$ 450.
Excavation in bottom of pool	2250 "	" 0.60	1350.
Excavation for pipe trenches	450 "	" 0.50	225.
Earth embankment for dike	2250 "	" 0.20	450.
Gravel beneath stone paving, 8"	1000 "	" 1.70	1700.
Stone paving, 8"	900 "	" 4.00	3600.
Sand for wading area and beach	300 "	" 2.50	750.
Concrete in overflow shaft and sumps	10 "	" 20.00	200.
Steel reinforcement for concrete	600 lbs.	" 6-2/3¢	40.
36" concrete pipe	150 ft.	" 4.50	675.
12" C. I. B&S pipe	370 "	" 2.50	925.
8" " " "	350 "	" 1.70	595.
12" & 8" C. I. B&S fittings	1200 lbs.	" .06	72.
" " " flanged pipe	2400 "	" .07	168.
2" wrought iron pressure water supply	500 ft.	" .80	400.
Iron fence, 6'0"	1000 "	" 1.50	1500.
Board walk around pool	800 "	" .50	400.

\$13,500.

Filtration Plant

Earth excavation	560 c.y.	" 0.75	420.
Rock excavation	50 "	" 5.00	250.
Concrete	107 "	" 16.00	1710.
Steel reinforcement for concrete	11000#	" 5-1/2¢	605.
Steel I beams & columns	3340#	" .03	100.
12", 8" & 6" valves	12 "	" 50.00	600.
" " " flanged pipe & Fittings	6900 lbs.	" .09	620.
Cast iron entrance manhole and stairway			150.
Ventilators in roof	2 "	" 35.00	70.
Moving and erecting old fil- ter units	2 "	" 150.00	300.
New filter unit complete	1 @	1600.00	1600.
Filter sand and gravel	50 c.y.	@ 5.00	250.

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8-10-36

6.

(Filtration Plant - cont'd)

Pump and motor	\$ 500.
Alum and soda feeders	500.
Ammoniator	300.
Small piping	125.
Electric power and light wiring	200.
Miscellaneous	<u>200.</u>
	9,000.
	<hr/>
Total construction cost --	\$22,500.
Engineering & contingencies, 15% -	<u>3,500.</u>
TOTAL ESTIMATED COST --	<u>\$26,000.</u>

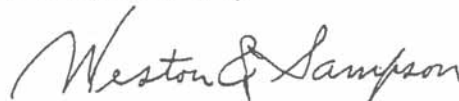
COST OF OPERATION

The yearly cost of operating the swimming pool is estimated as follows:

It is assumed that the swimming season would extend from June 1 to September 30, a period of 122 days, and that the filtration plant would be operated 12 hours per day, at a rate of 70,000 gallons per hour.

Electric power	15,000 KWH @ \$0.02	\$ 300.
Alum	17,000 lbs. @ 0.02	\$ 340.
Soda	50,000 " @ 0.025	125.
Chlorine	900 lbs. @ 0.08	72.
Ammonia	80 " @ 0.16	<u>13.</u>
		550.
Attendance at filtration plant	300 hrs. @ \$0.50	150.
Sanitary supervision		<u>125.</u>
TOTAL YEARLY OPERATING COST --		<u>\$1125.</u>

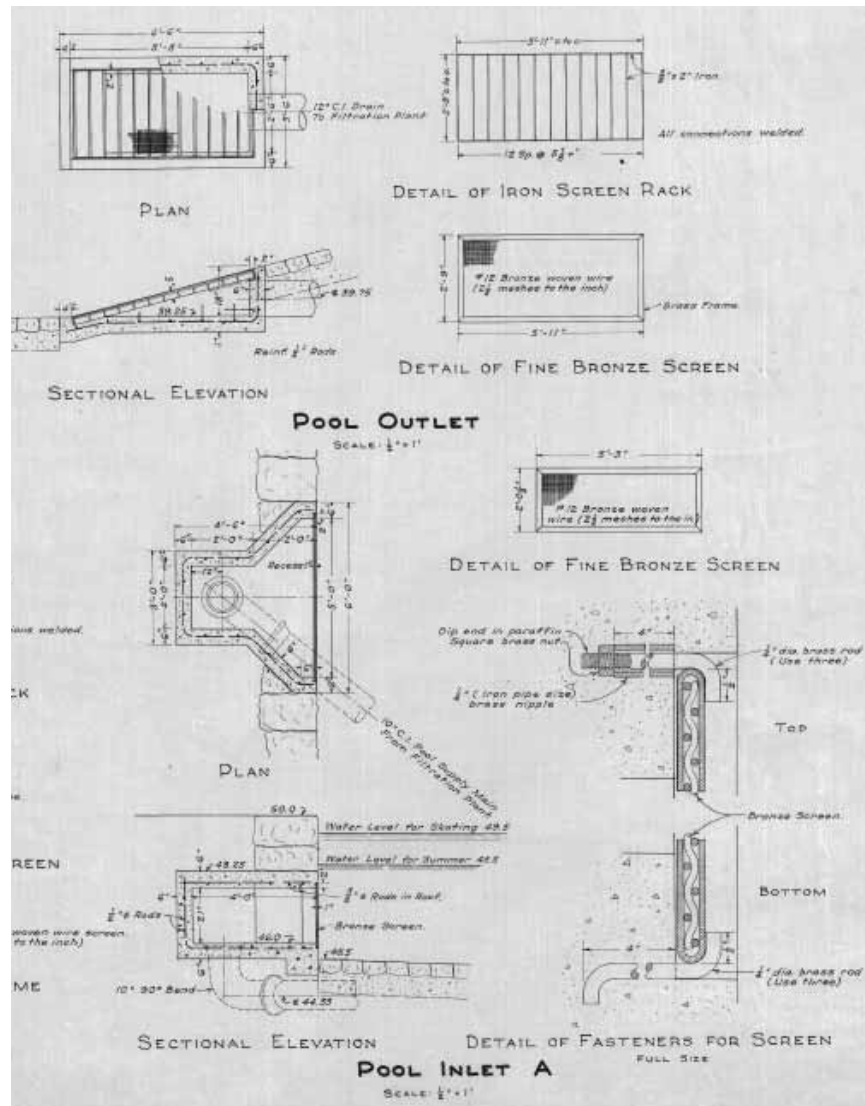
Yours respectfully,



Copy to N. H.
Board of Health
2 copies to Univ.
C. H. C.

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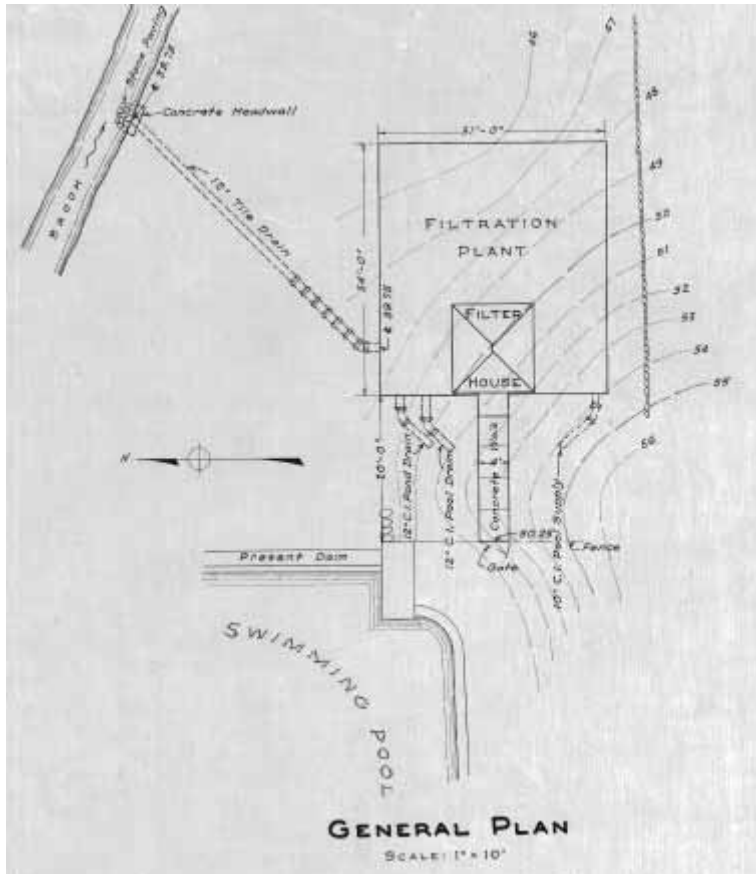
NHDHR INVENTORY DUR0025



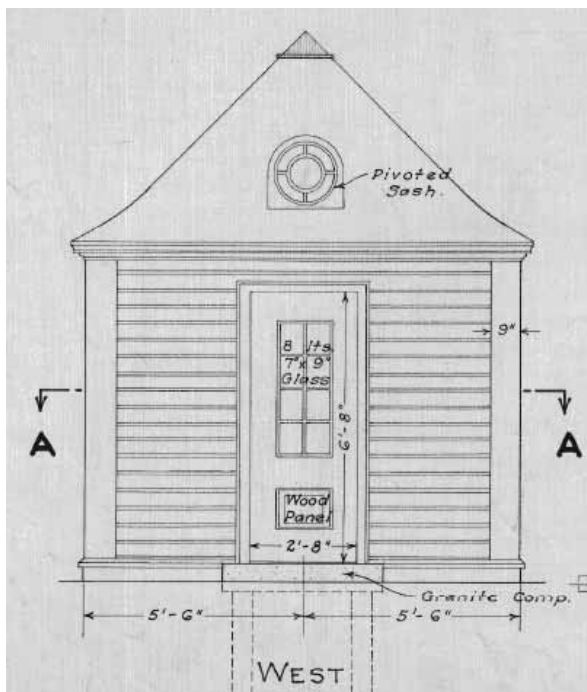
1937 Pool Outlet and Pool Inlet details

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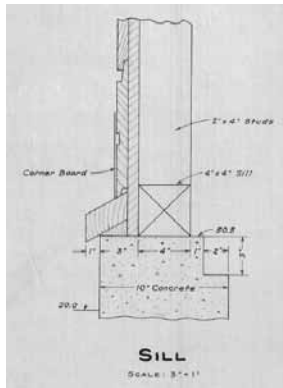
1937 Filter House site plan (Weston and Sampson February 1937)



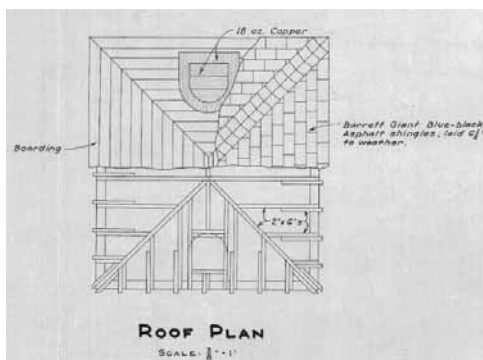
1937 Filter House elevation – not as built (Weston and Sampson March 1937)

INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM

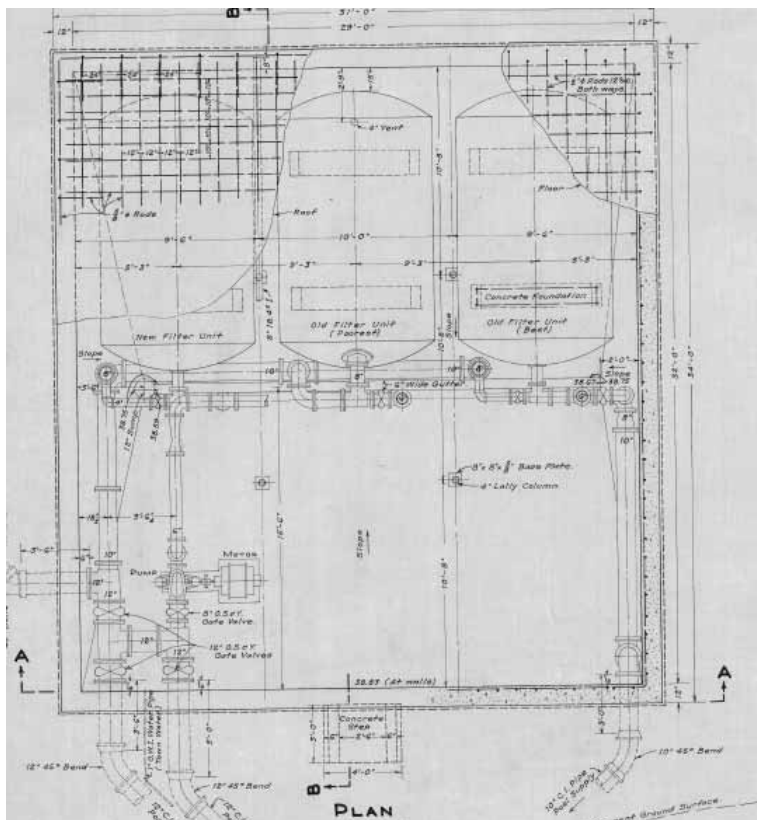
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1937 Filter House Sill detail



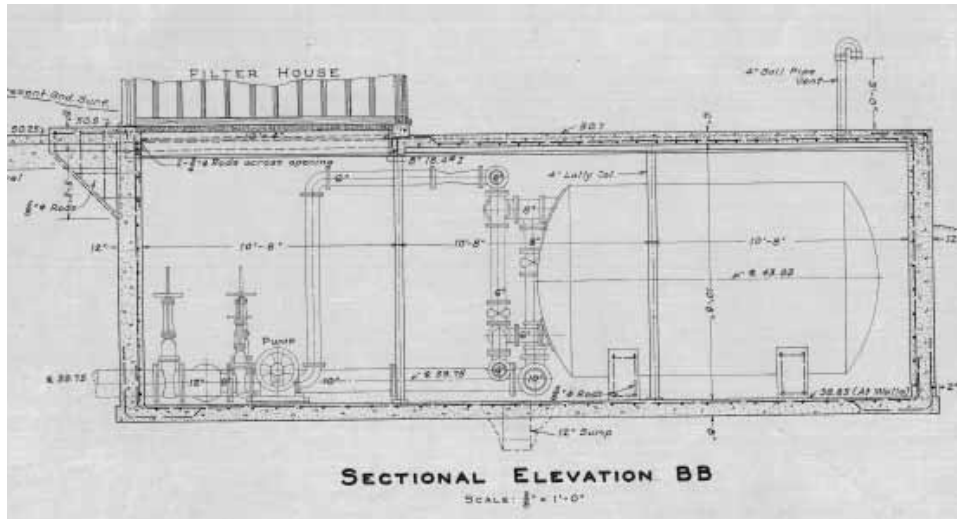
1937 Roof Plan, not as built



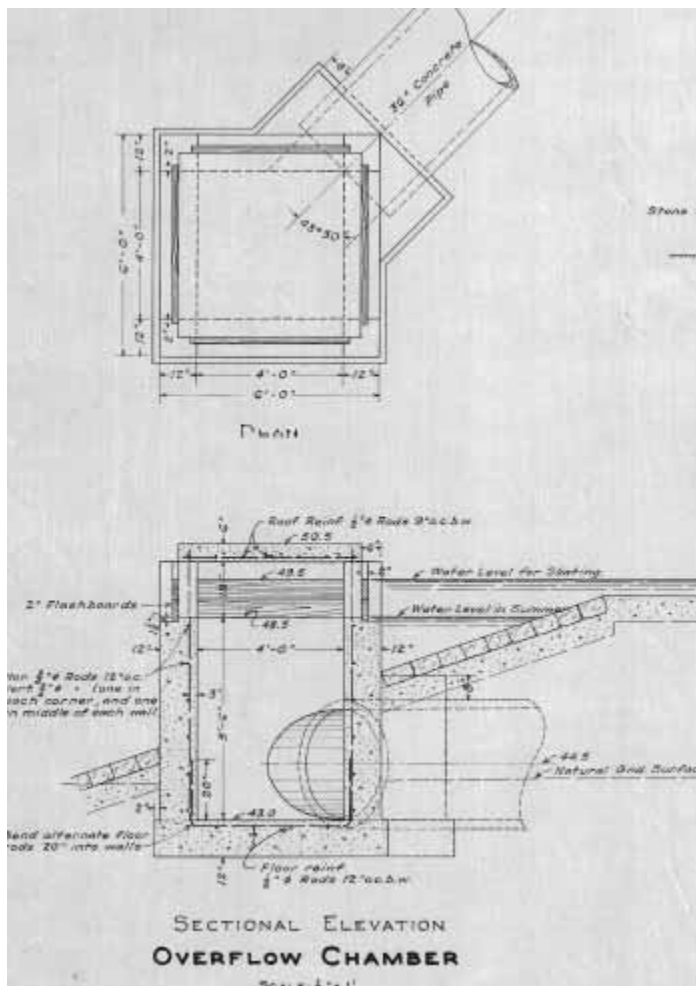
1937 Filter Room Plan (Weston and Sampson February 1937)

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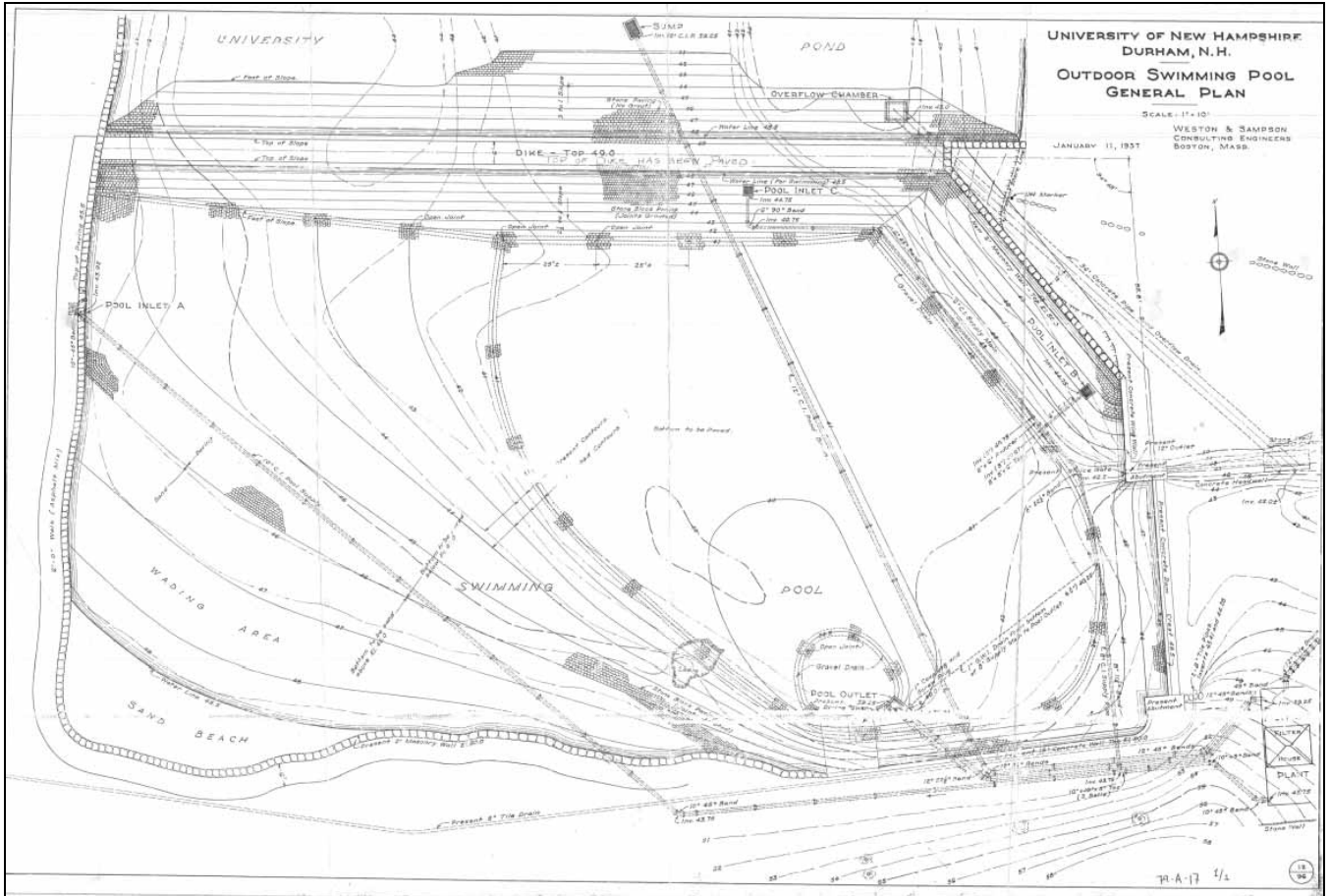
1937 Filter Room Section



1937 Overflow Chamber

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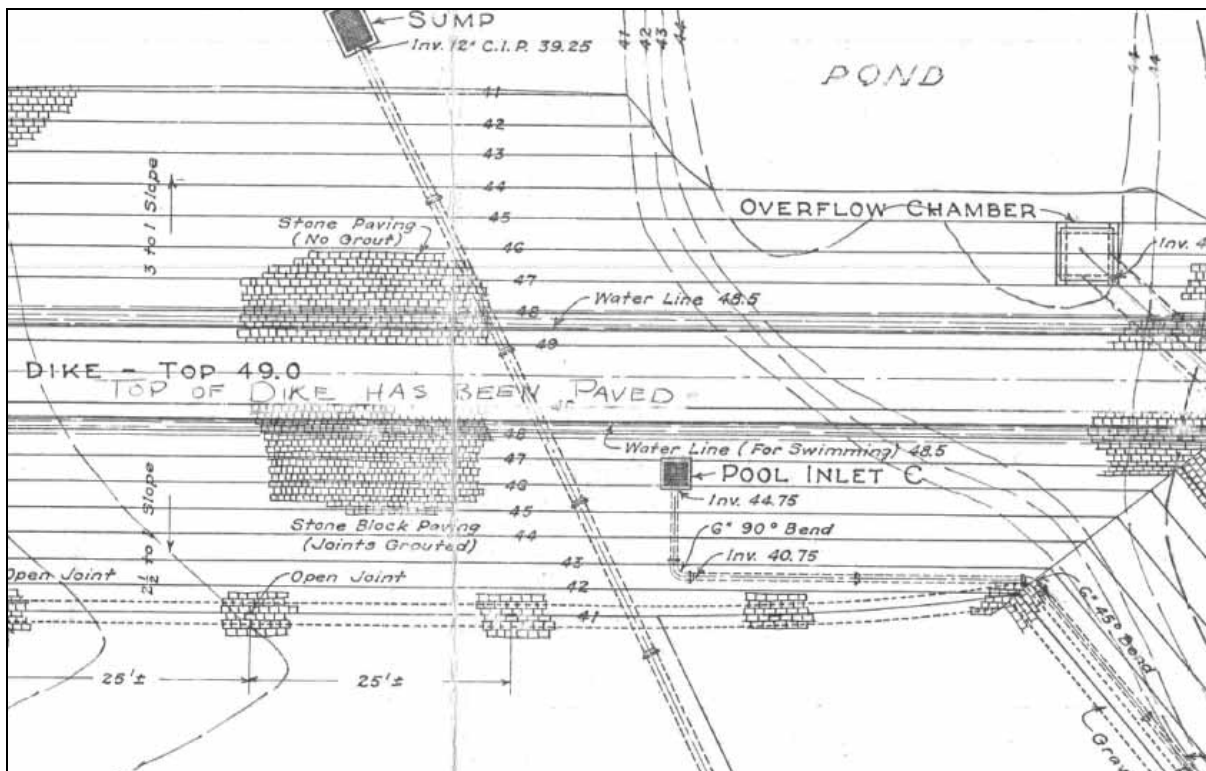
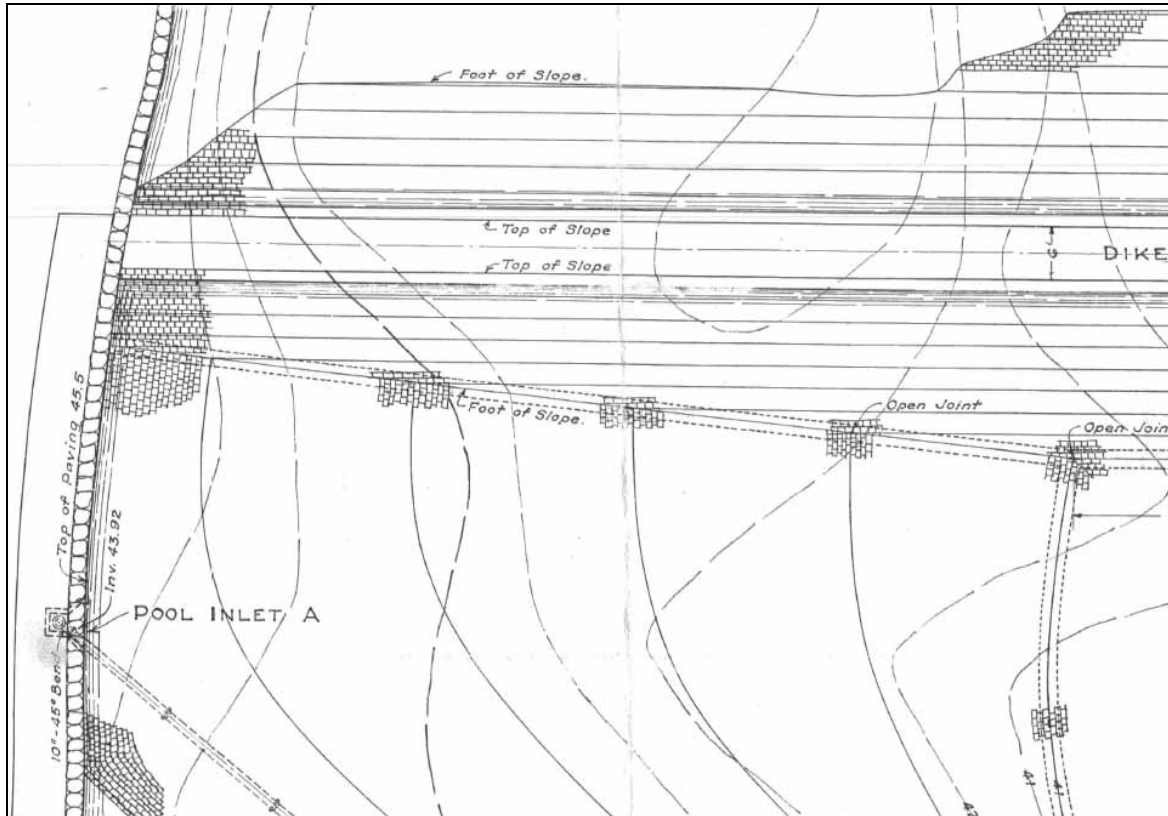


1937 Weston and Sampson Plan (UNH Archives).

INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM

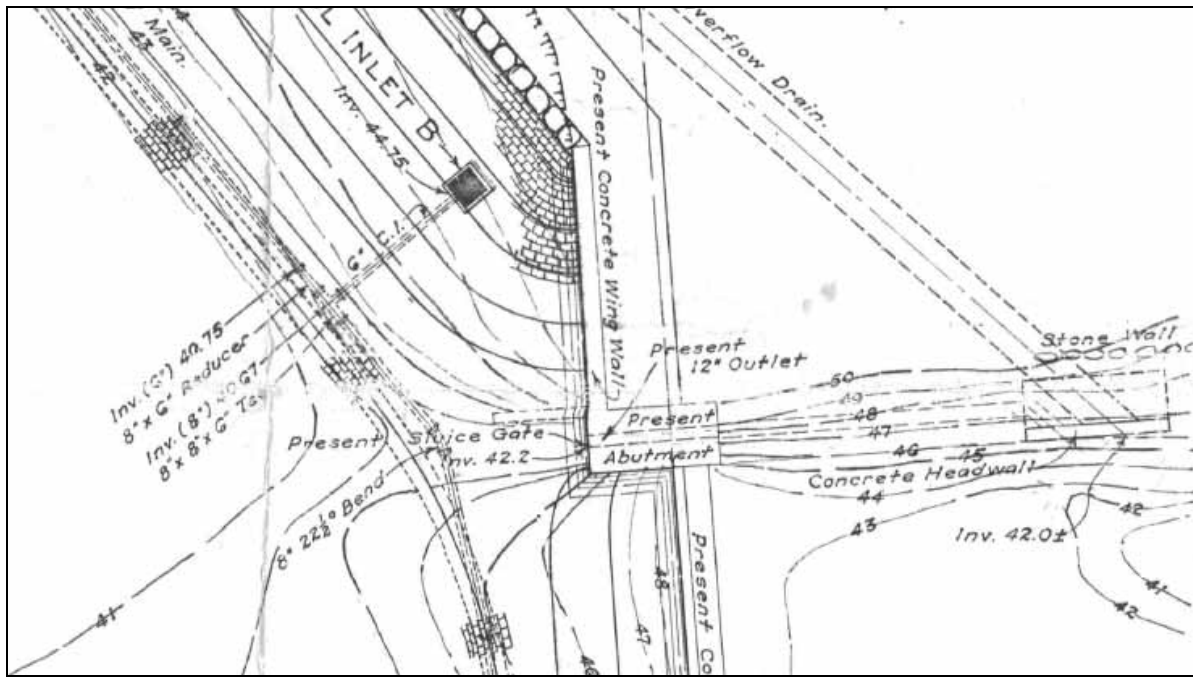
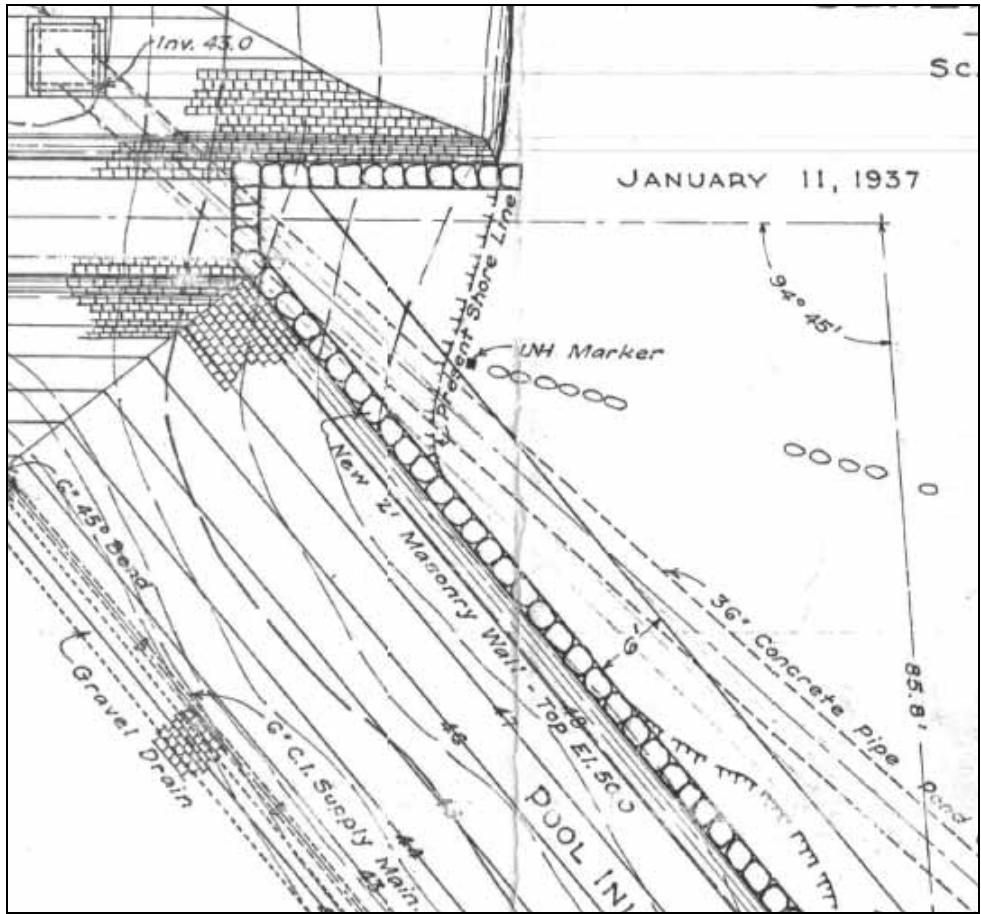
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1937 Details



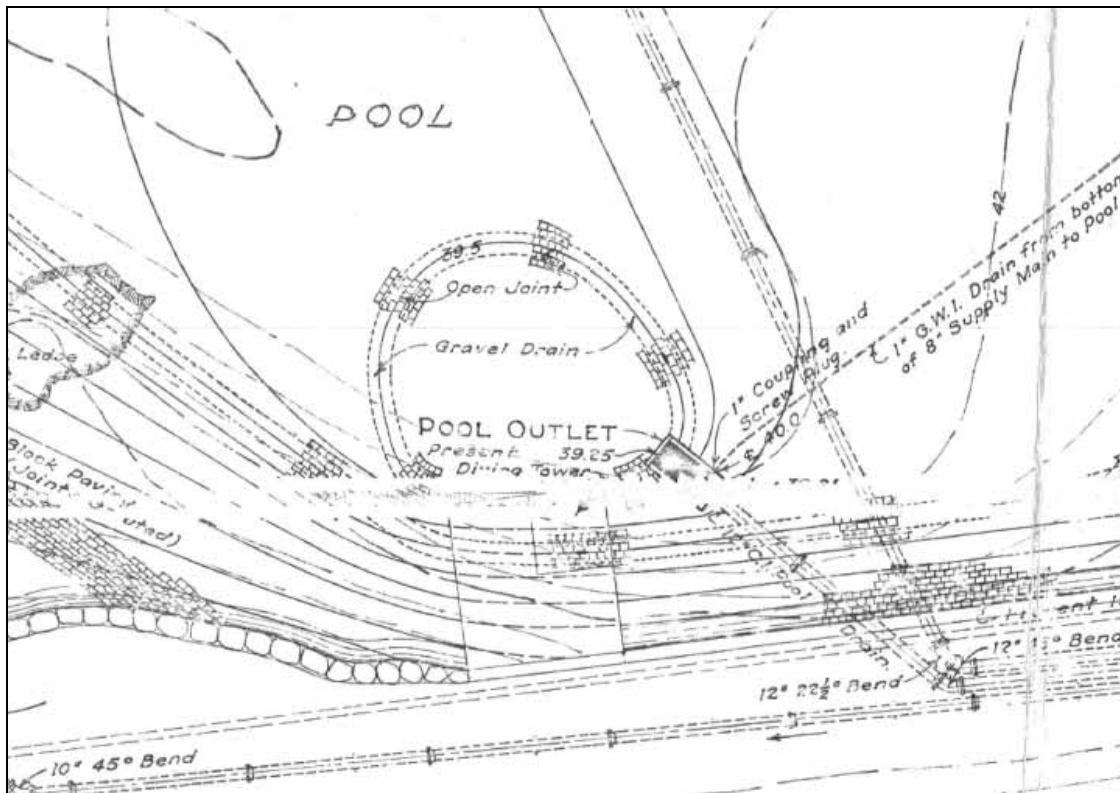
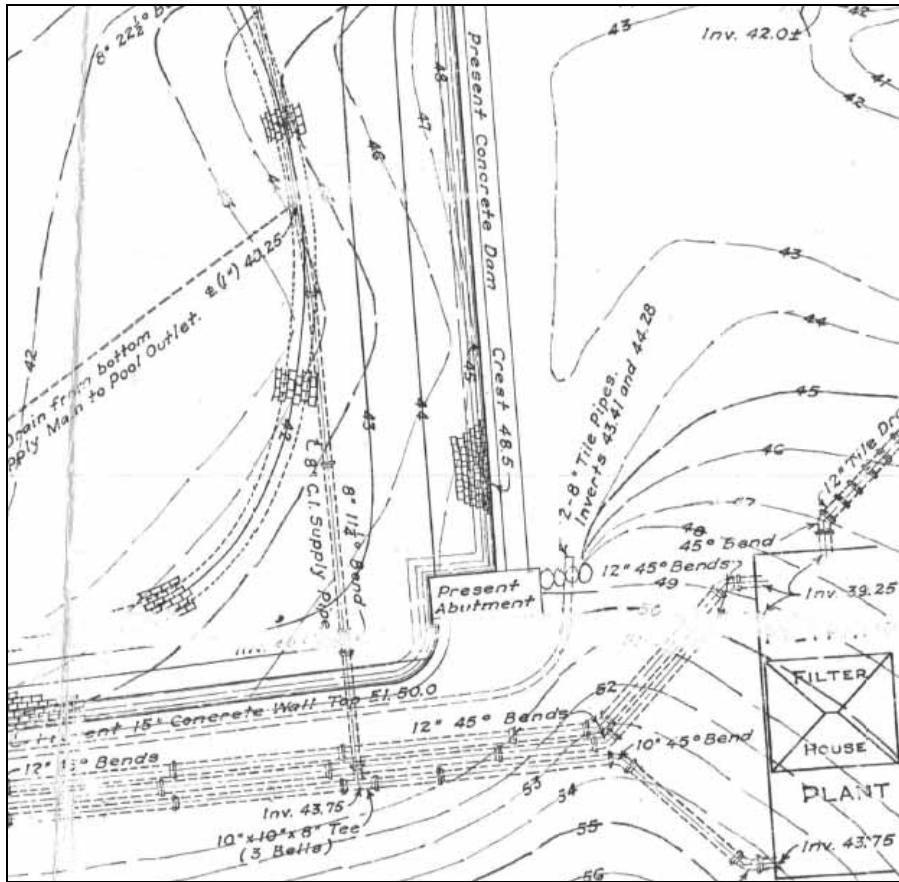
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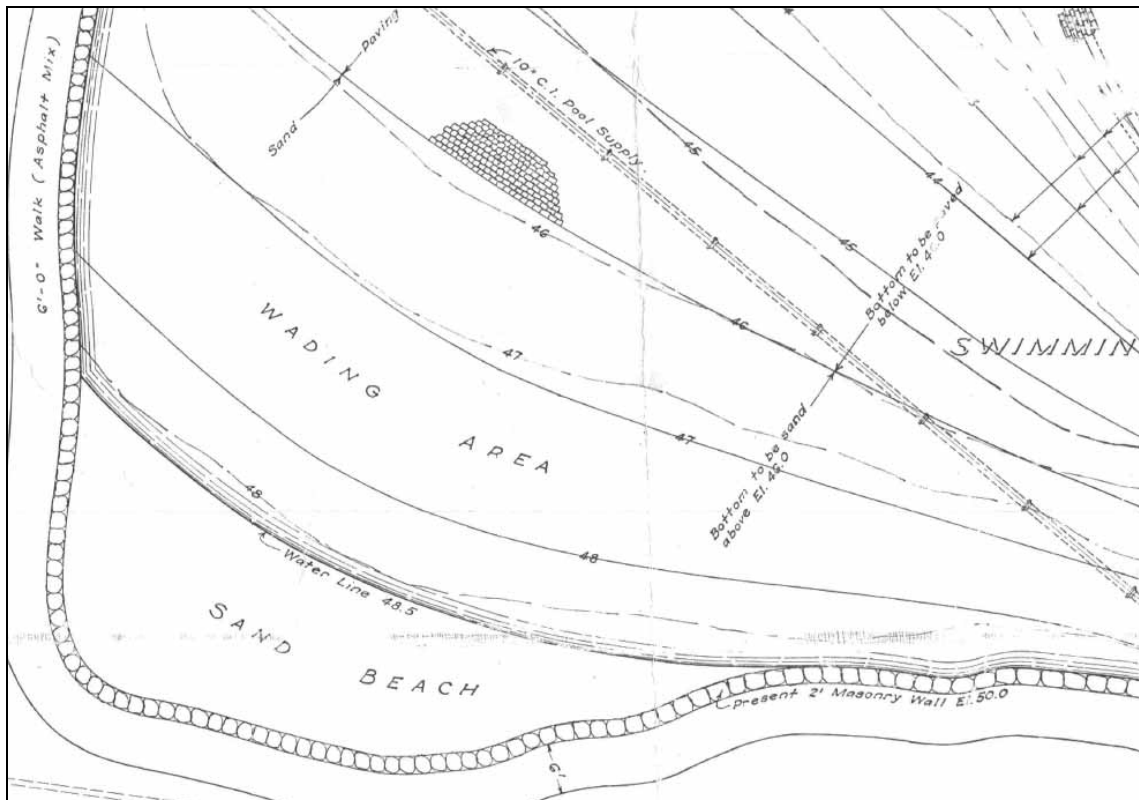
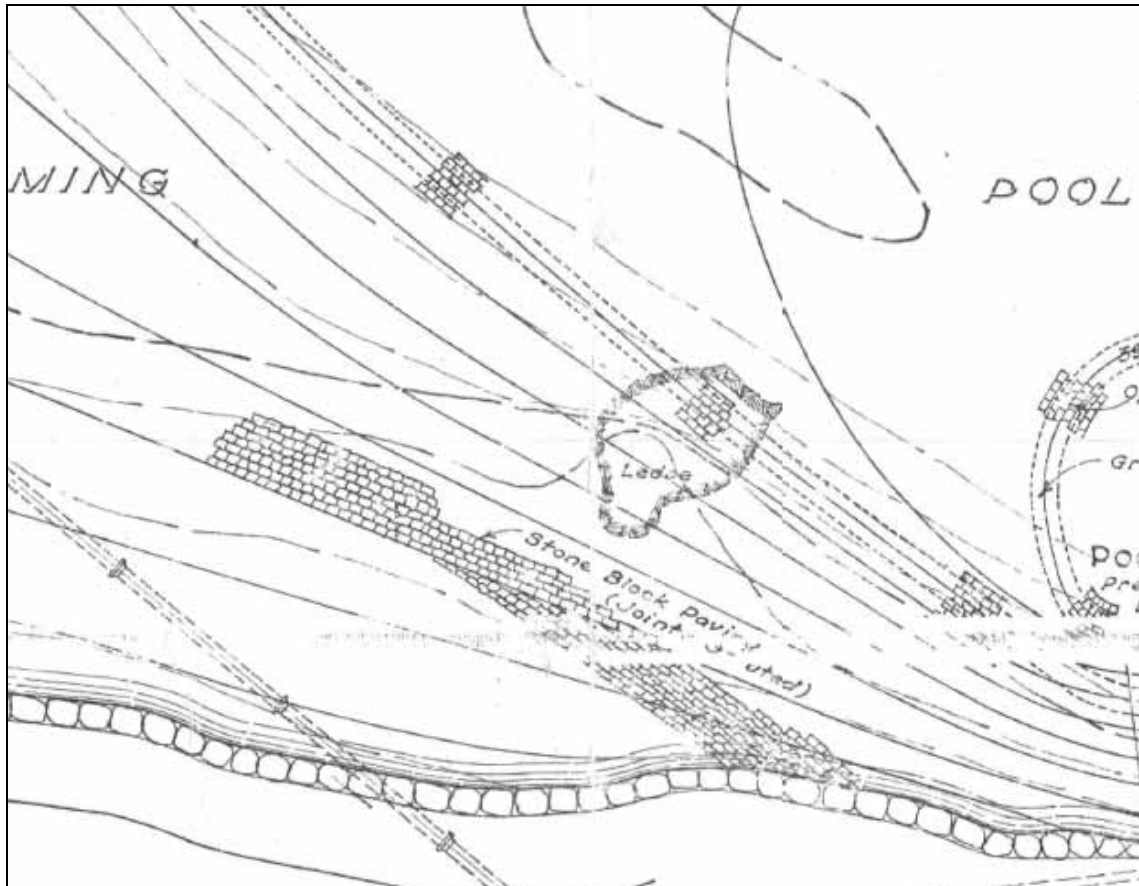
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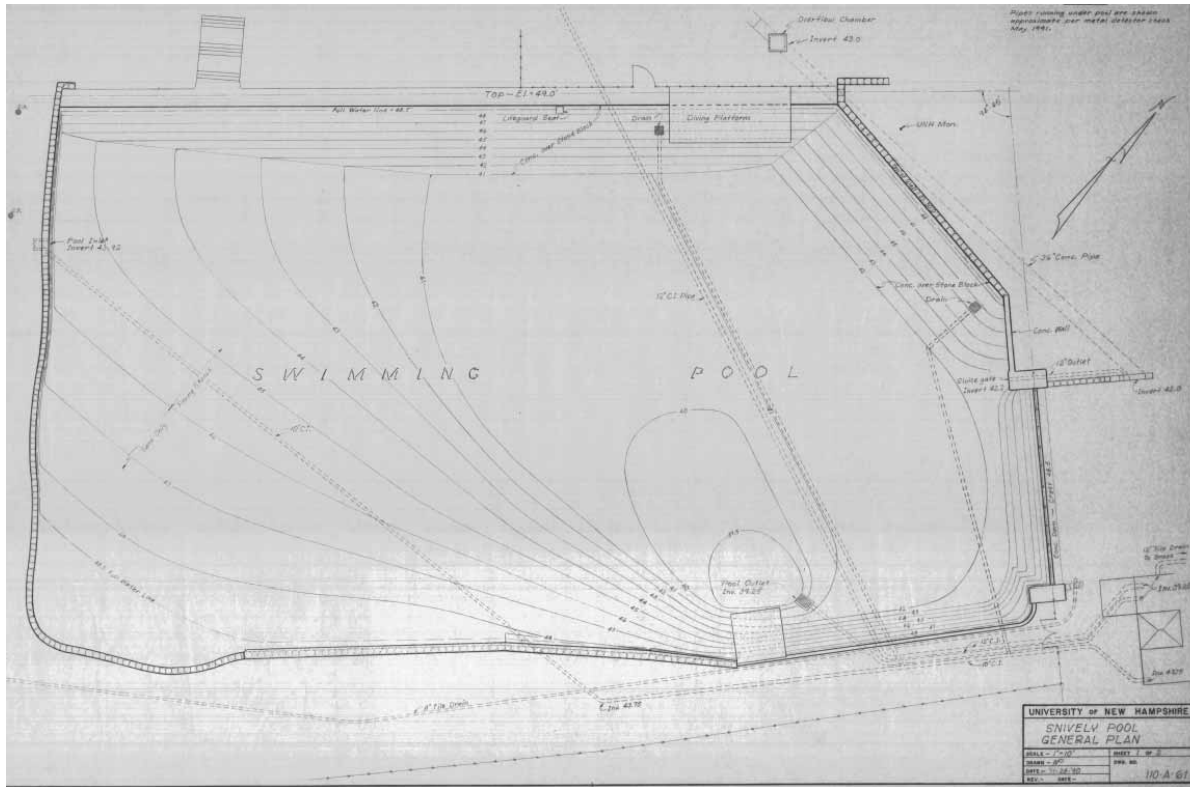
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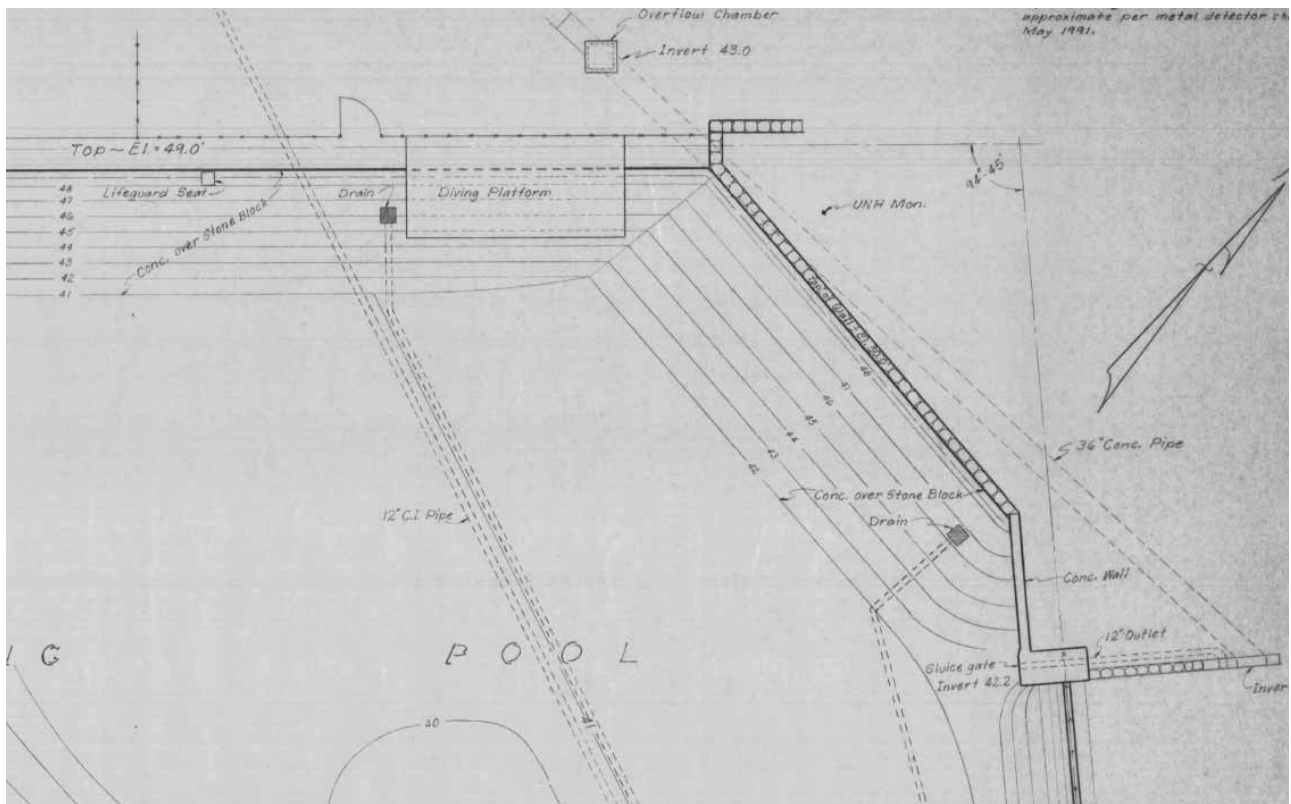


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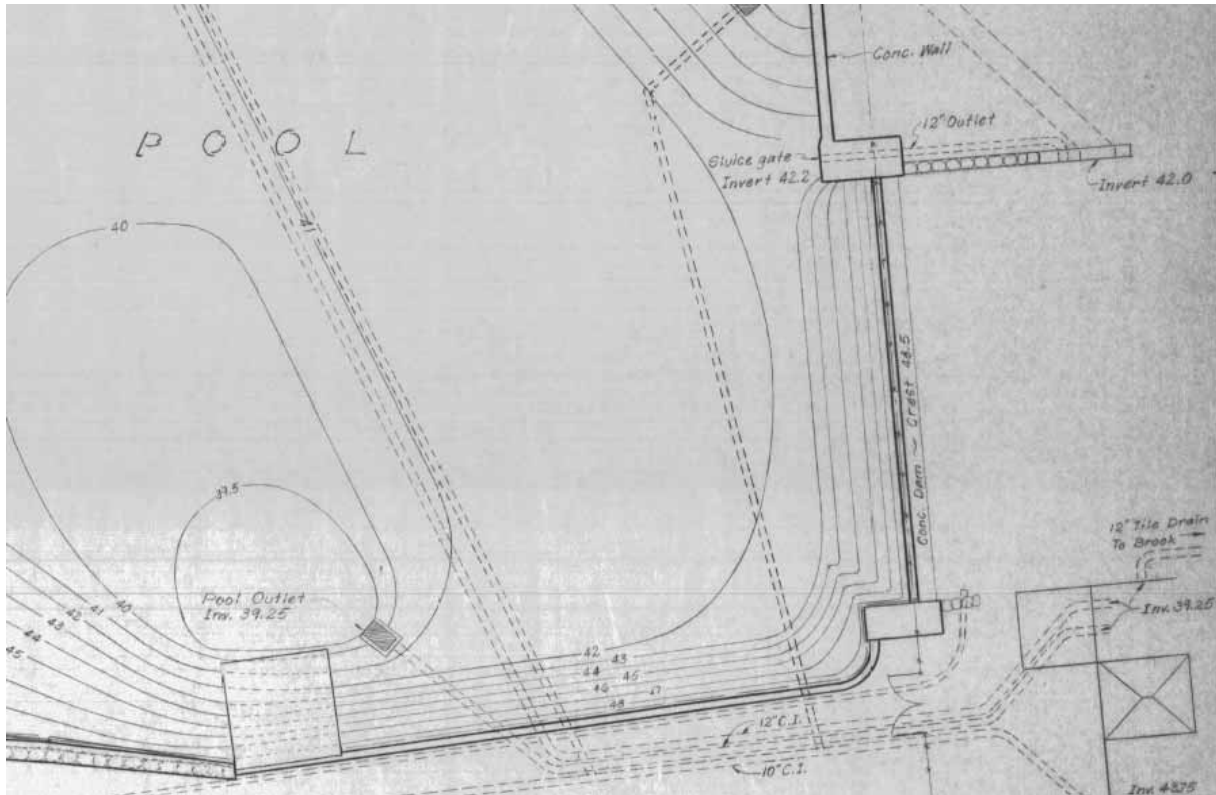
1990 Plan "University of New Hampshire Snively Pool General Plan"



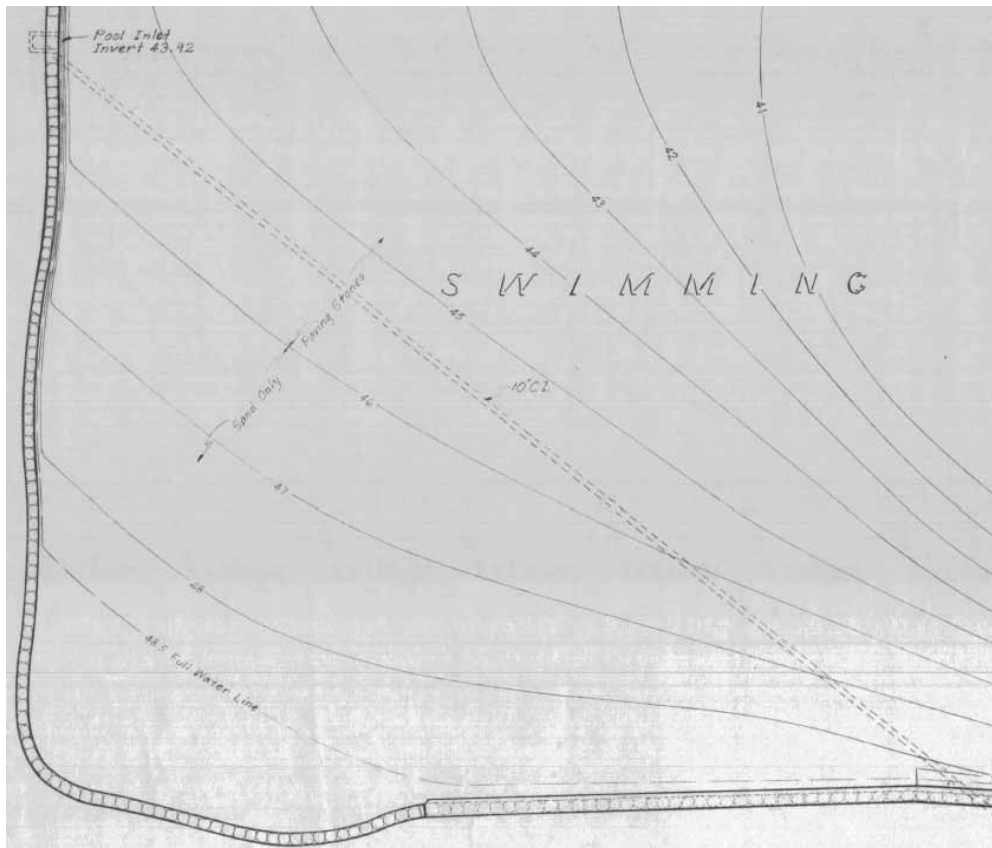
1990 Detail

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1990 Detail



1990 Detail

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Aerial Photograph Chronology

UNH Facilities Campus Planning GIS – Images from UNH Archives



1941



1961

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1975 Aerial



1994 Aerial

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2005 Aerial



2010 Aerial

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Historic Photos

University Pond



Pond site August, 1924 (UNH Archives)



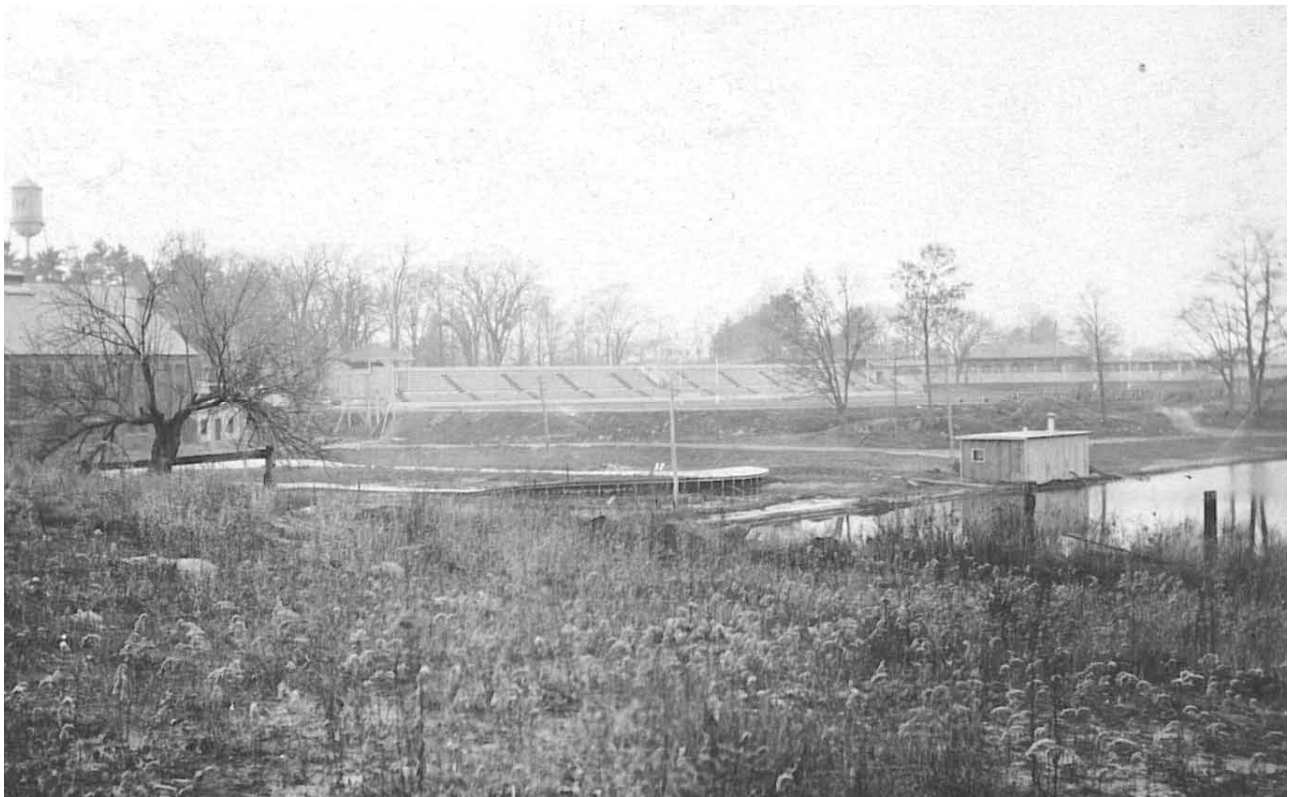
1924 Pond construction, looking toward dam (Collection Durham Historic Association)

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November 1924 Pond, facing west (University Archives 143-91)



November 1924 University Pond rear of New Hampshire Hall, looking southwest, Memorial Field in background (NH Archives)

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1924 Pond, showing dam at right edge, facing southwest (UNH Archives).



Second dam construction 1925 (UNH Archives)

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1925 University Pond, showing new dam, facing west (UNH Archives).



1926 Aerial view, facing southeast, showing pond at left (UNH Archives).

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1937-1938 Pool Construction



January 28, 1937 – facing east toward dam, dive tower at right (UNH Archives 12711a)



April 1937 - Quarried stone piled near dive tower, dam at rear (UNH Archives 12712a)

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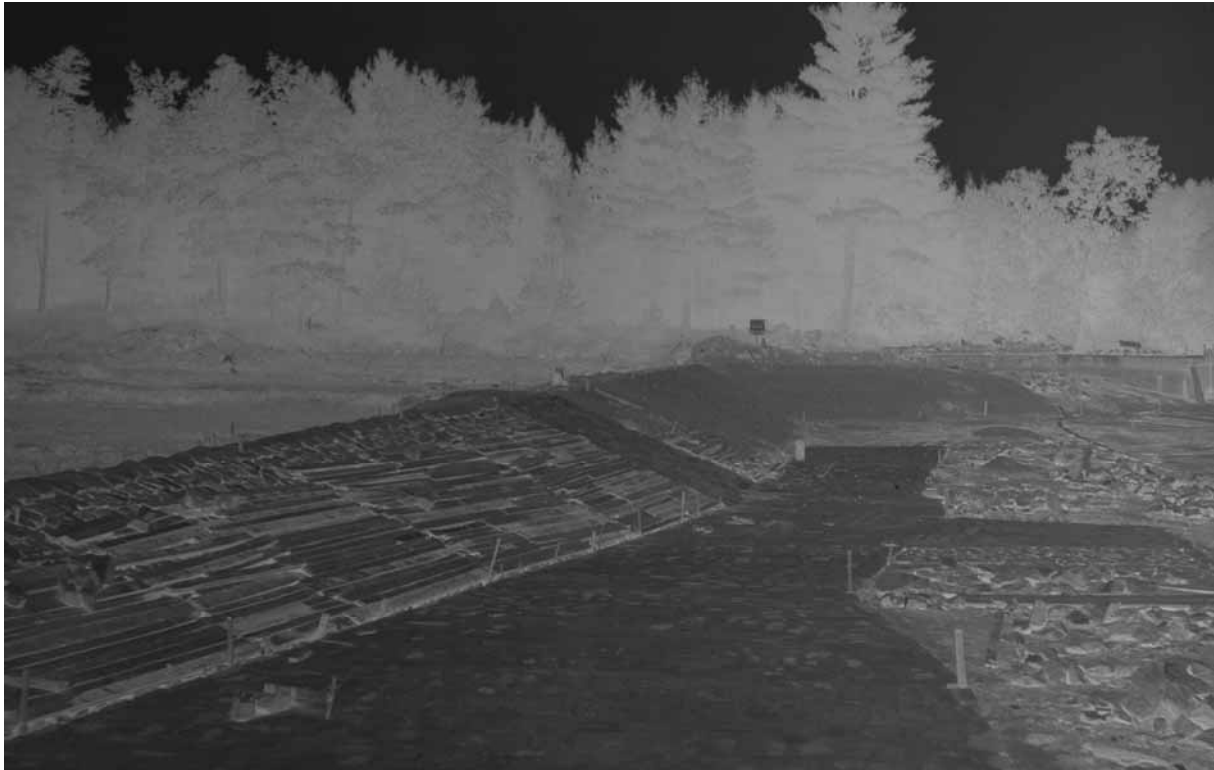
April 1937 beginning construction of dike, looking east toward pool area, Edgewood Road in back (UNH Archives 12712b)



October 1937 Negative, facing southwest showing dive tower at left, dike right (UNH Archives 13.760).

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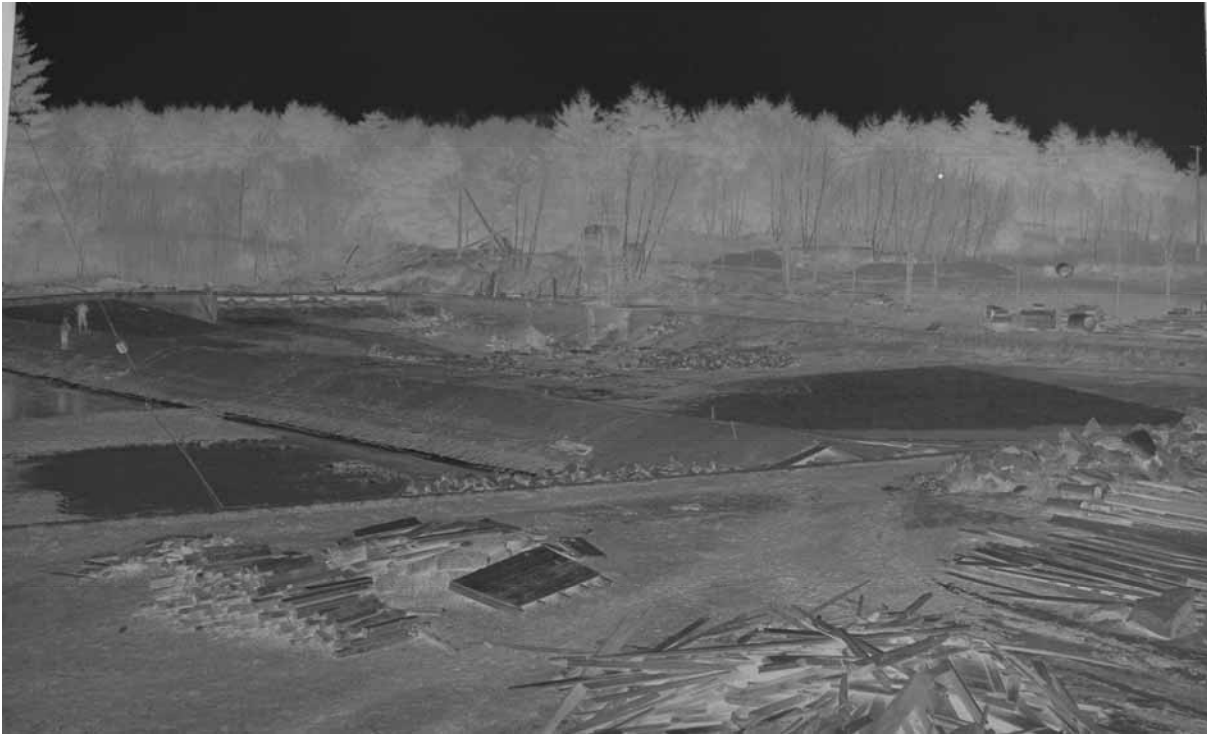
October 1937 negative, showing on-going stone paving of dike, facing north-northeast (UNH Archives 13.758).



November 1937 negative - northern end of dike, showing completed paving, facing north-northeast (UNH Archives 13.761).

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December 1937 Back side of dike facing east across pool, dam and dive tower in background (UNH Archives 13.763)



December 1937 negative showing north end of pool, dam at right, facing northeast (UNH Archives 13.764).

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April 1938 looking northeast across pool (UNH Archives 13.765).



June 1938 Negative, facing-northeast, northern end of pool, looking toward dam and filter plant being built (UNH Archives 13.766)

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June 1938 negative showing south corner, beach area, facing east, Edgewood Road in back (UNH Archives 13.767).



June 1938 Negative, construction of filtration building northeast corner of pool, facing northeast (UNH Archives 13.768).

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UNH Outdoor Pool 1938 to present



1938 Newly completed pool (UNH Archives)



Undated view of dive tower

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ca. 1938 (UNH Archives)



2013 View (UNH Facilities –Campus Planning)

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1940 WPA Poster (<http://www.loc.gov/pictures/resource/cph.3b48996/>)

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1940 aerial view, facing southeast, showing pool and remaining pond area, Memorial Field and Main Street lower right (UNH Archives)

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1954 looking south toward Main Street, pond filled in. Hockey rink not yet built (UNH Archives).



1954 detail, facing south toward Edgewood Road

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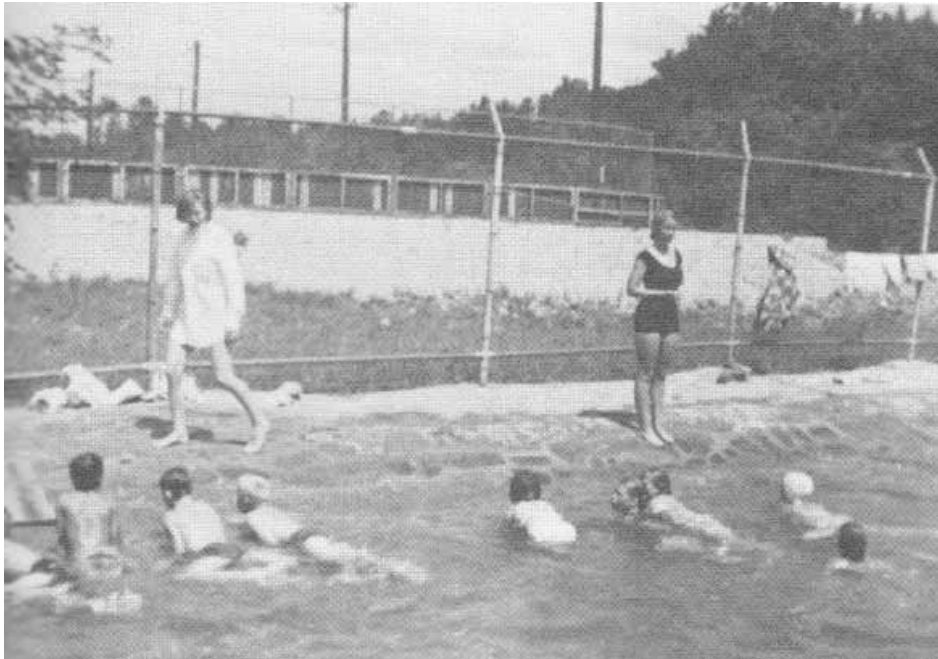
1955 Batchelder Rink construction, facing south, showing newly built McLaughlin Hall across Edgewood Road (UNH Archives).



1955 detail

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Early 1950s photograph of swimming lesson (Durham Historic Association 1985:289)



1961 swimming lessons showing stone paved dike, facing southwest (UNH Archives).

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2013 view (UNH Facilities - Campus Planning)



1961 diving platform, facing northeast (UNH Archives)

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2013 view (UNH Facilities - Campus Planning)



1961 facing north, dam and diving platform at right (UNH Archives)

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2013 view (UNH Facilities - Campus Planning)



1965 aerial view, facing southeast toward Edgewood Road, Snively Arena newly built (UNH Archives)

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1965 detail



1970s postcard view of Snively Arena from across Edgewood Road, facing north
(<http://www.cardcow.com/391659/university-new-hampshire-snively-arena-outdoor-swimming-pool-durham>)

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Digital Photo Log


The photos for this project are named:

DUR0025_01 through DUR0025_41

where the first 7 digits are the survey number of the individual property and the last two digits are the photo number.

Digital Photography Statement

I, the undersigned, confirm that the photos in this inventory form have not been digitally manipulated and that they conform to the standards set forth in the NHDHR Draft Digital Photo Policy. My camera was set to the following specifications: “fine” image quality (compression ratio 1:4) and “large” image size (3008 x 2000 pixels). These photos were printed using the following: HP Photosmart Pro B9280 printer using HP Viverra pigment inks on HP Premium Photo Paper, glossy. The digital files are housed with Preservation Company in Kensington, NH.

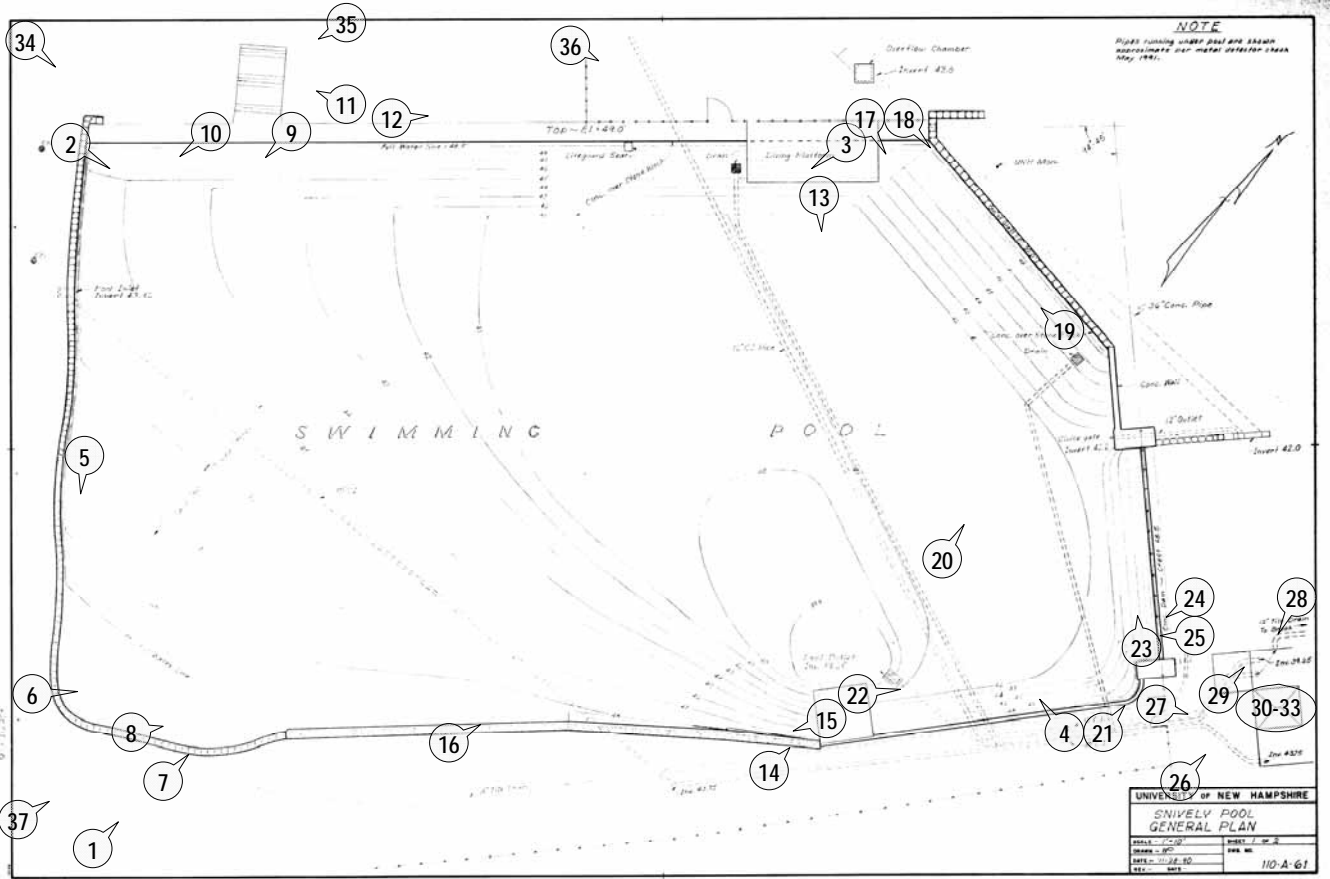


Lynne Emerson Monroe, Preservation Company

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Photo Key



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Current Photographs

Address: 5 Edgewood Road

Date taken: September 2013

Overviews



Photo 2: Looking across from southwest corner, toward dam and filtration plant

Direction: E

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Photo 3: Looking from deep end, lap lanes “Shark,” toward shallow end, Edgewood Road left rear
Direction: S



Photo 4: Deep end near dam, diving platform at left, looking across to Hamel Rec. Center and rear of
NH Hall
Direction: W

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Shallow Area, Zero Depth Entry, "Minnow"



Photo 5: Zero depth entry area

Direction: SE



Photo 6: Southeast edge of pool from Minnow beach area, now concrete, looking toward diving platform and treatment plant

Direction: NE

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Photo 7: Minnow area at low water

Direction: N



Photo 8: Stone wall and exposed boulder, concrete “beach area”

Direction: NE

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Perch and Salmon Areas



Photo 9: Southwest corner of pool

Direction: S



Photo 10: Newly cemented southwest wall

Direction: S

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Photo 11: Entrance steps and ticket booth

Direction: WNW

Shark Area



Photo 12: Northeast edge of pool, Recreation Center at left

Direction: NE

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Photo 13: Lap lanes, looking across toward former diving platform

Direction: SE



Photo 14: Diving platform

Direction: N

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Photo 15: Pool wall at diving platform

Direction: SSE

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Photo 16: Southeast edge of pool, showing stone paved bottom, looking toward dive platform and dam
Direction: NNE

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Whale Area



Photo 17: Northern end of pool, new stairs and railing, looking toward dam and treatment plant

Direction: E



Photo 18: North edge of pool, new access point

Direction: ENE

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Photo 19: Northern edge of pool, rebuilt stone wall and concrete slope

Direction: WNW



Photo 20: Northern pool wall, dam at right

Direction: N

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Dam and Filtration Plant



Photo 21: Northeast corner of pool, at Dam

Direction: NNE

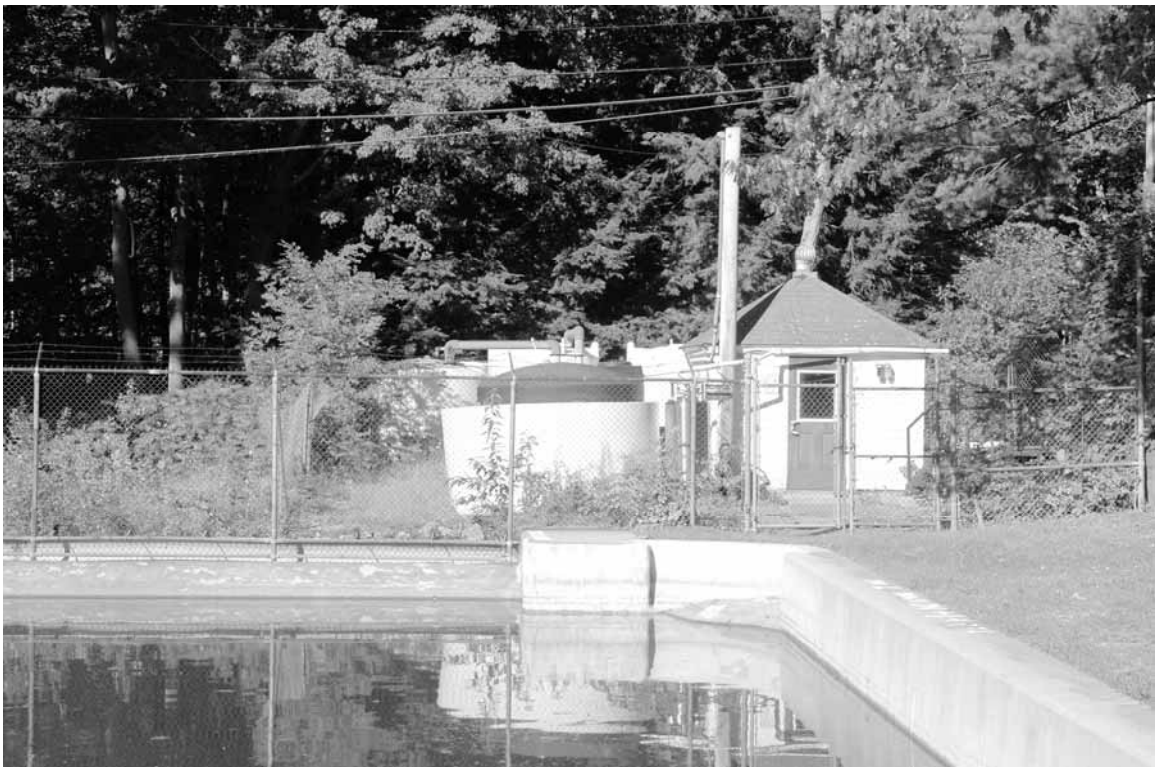


Photo 22: Dam and northeast corner of pool, showing filter house

Direction: NE

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Photo 23: Top of dam

Direction: NW

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Photo 24: Dam back side, showing overflow catch piping

Direction: SSW



Photo 25: Back side of dam

Direction: SW

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Photo 26: Filter House

Direction: E

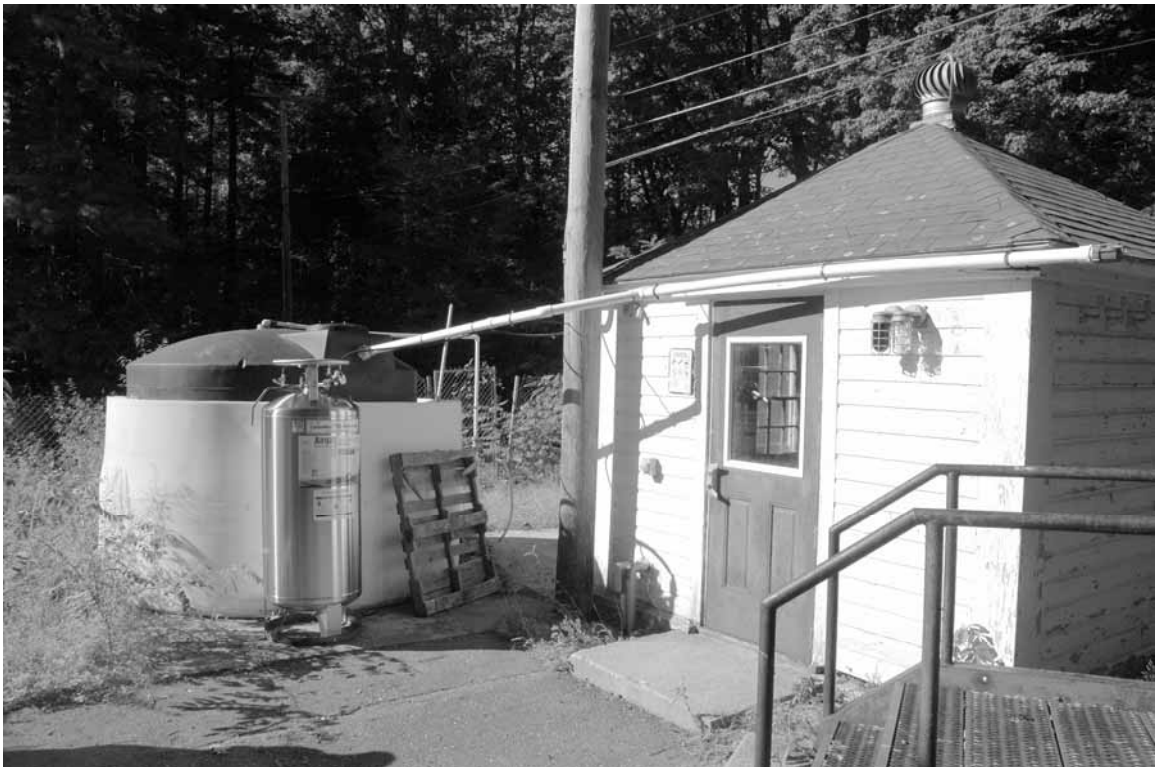


Photo 27: Filter house

Direction: N

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Photo 28: Rear of filter house

Direction: S



Photo 29: Chemical tanks

Direction: N

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Photo 30: Filter House Interior

Direction: N

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Photo 31: Stairs to lower level

Direction: NE

INDIVIDUAL INVENTORY FORM

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Photo 32: Filtration Plant

Direction: NW



Photo 33: Pump

Direction: W

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Perimeter Fencing



Photo 34: Pool perimeter fence from parking lot

Direction: E



Photo 35: Entrance steps and booth

Direction: S

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Photo 36: Northern end of pool from outside fence

Direction: E



Photo 37: Service entrance gate from parking lot

Direction: NNE

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Details of Stone-Paved Bottom

Date Taken: August 2013



Photo 38

Direction: –



Photo 39

Direction: –

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Photo 40

Direction: –



Photo 41

Direction: –