

Buckingham Lake Berkshire Pond Raft's Pond

Some Historical Facts and Other Information about This Waterbody

**Prepared and Presented By:
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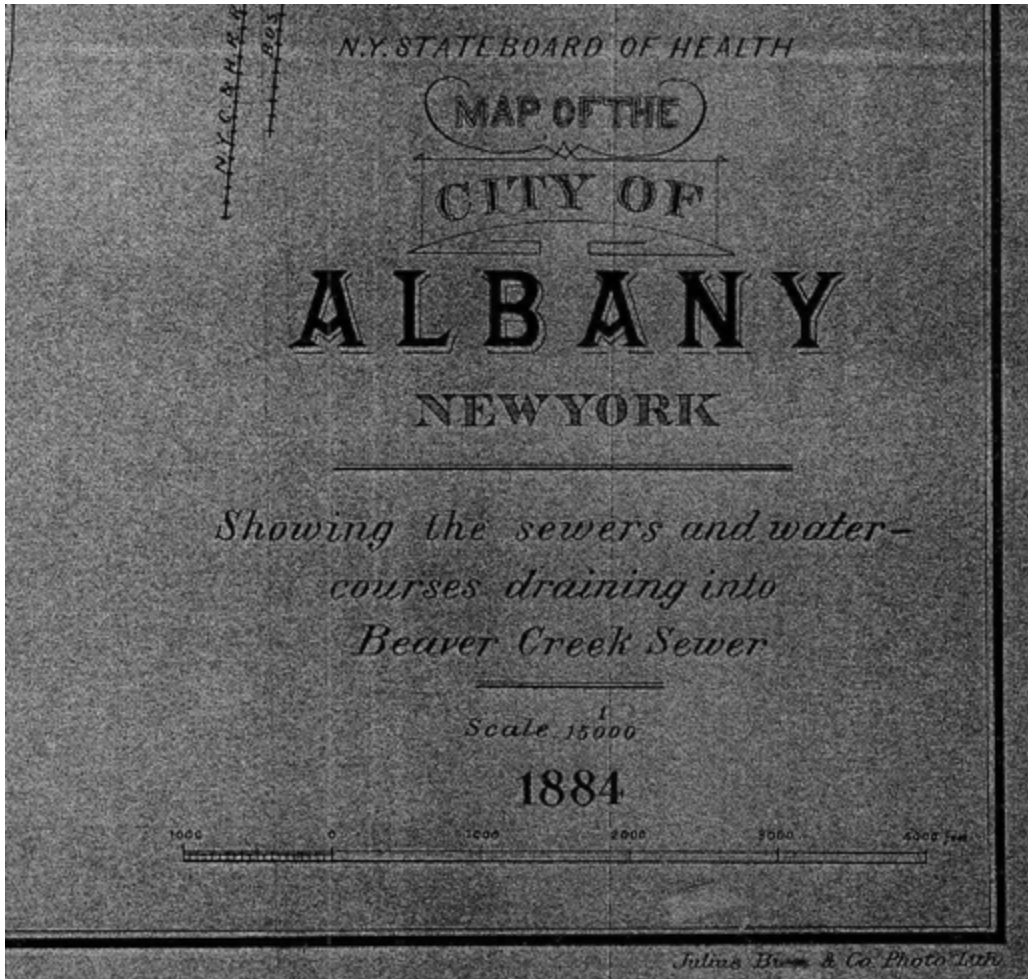
July 13, 2009

City of Albany's and Albany Water Board's efforts to reduce both the incidence and duration of combined sewer discharges

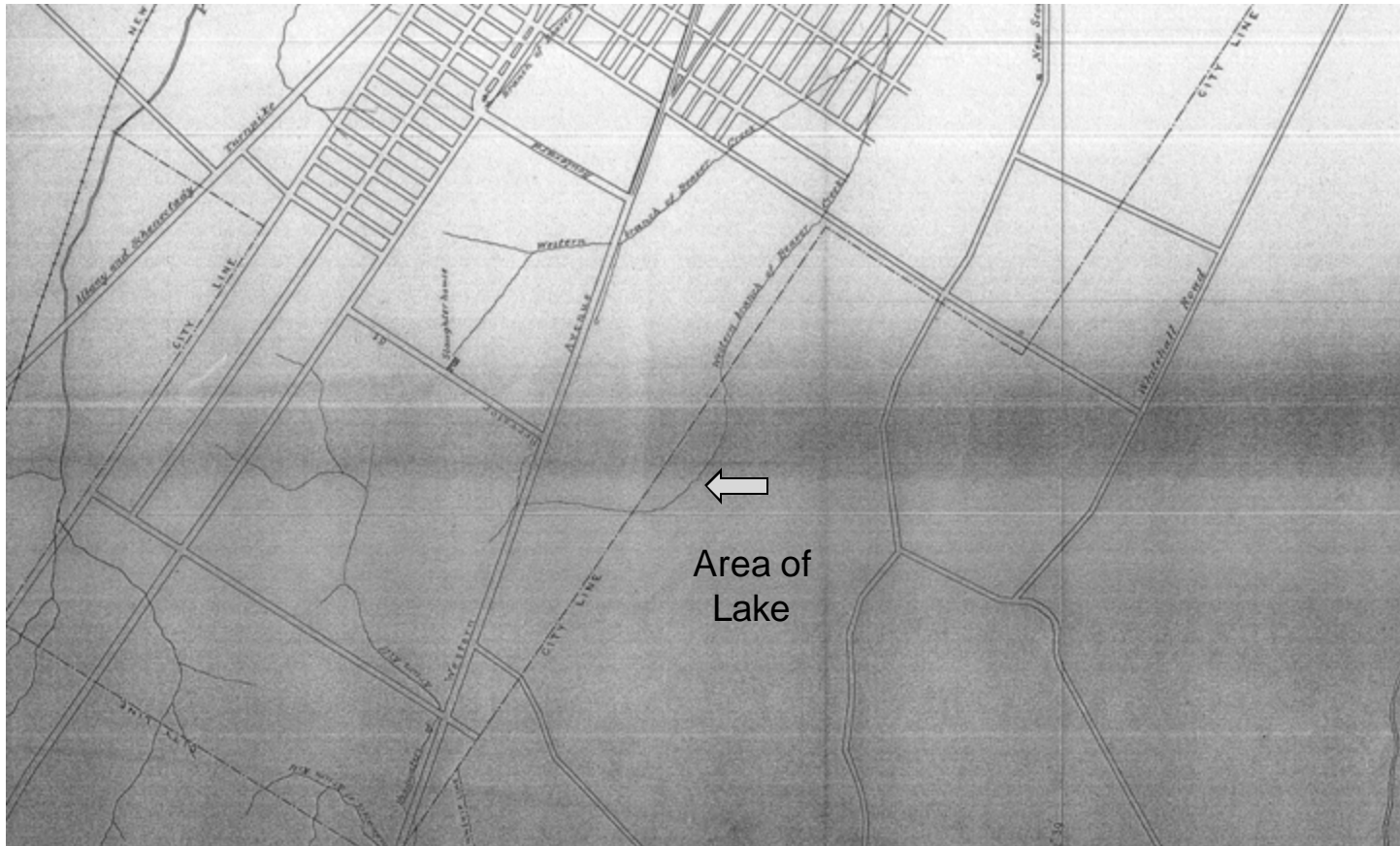
- *Buckingham Drive Sewer Separation* - In 1988 and 1989, a sewer separation project was completed in two phases. The area was along Buckingham Drive and portions of Friebel Road, Tampa Avenue, Ormond Street, Davis Avenue, Milner Avenue, Colonial Avenue and Holmesdale which were tributary to the Buckingham Drive combined sewer. The area of sewers separated also included portion of New Scotland Avenue. All street catch basins were connected to a new storm drainage system which discharged into a tributary of the Krum Kill. Thereby the drainage from approximately 51 acres of the Beaver Creek Sewer District was removed from the Hackett Boulevard Sub-Trunk Sewer which had been seriously overloaded.

City of Albany's and Albany Water Board's efforts to reduce both the incidence and duration of combined sewer discharges

- *Berkshire Boulevard Sewer Separation* - In 1993 through 1995, a multiple phase project was undertaken to separate the storm drainage from existing sanitary sewers in the vicinity of Berkshire Boulevard. The area included drainage that was tributary to a main collection trunk along Berkshire Boulevard and was bounded generally by Lenox Avenue on the east, by Orlando Avenue on the west, by Western Avenue on the north and by Greenway on the south. Most of the storm drainage separated from the sanitary flows was diverted to a stilling basin constructed at the west end of the Buckingham Lake. A pump station was installed which directs the storm water to a NYS drainage line which runs along Route 85 Bypass to the Krum Kill. The drainage from approximately 270 acres of the Beaver Creek Sewer District was removed from the Hansen Avenue Sub-Trunk Sewer which had been seriously overloaded.



Map
showing
Beaver
Creek Sewer
Tributary
Areas
1884



Map showing Beaver Creek Sewer Tributary Areas 1884

Area Where Buckingham Lake was created is in the Town of Bethlehem



Map showing limits of City of Albany, Ca. 1912

Area Where Buckingham Lake was created is in the Town of Bethlehem

Alderman ESMOND, on behalf of Alderman LAMB, moved the passage of the ordinance as follows:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AN ORDINANCE, ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC WORKS TO GRADE AND CLEAR PROPERTY KNOWN AS BUCKINGHAM LAKE AND BUCKINGHAM BOULEVARD, WHEN THE LAND IS ACQUIRED BY THE CITY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS NECESSARY FOR THE CITY'S SHARE OF THE EXPENSE THEREOF," PASSED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL DECEMBER 7, 1931.

The City of Albany, in Common Council convened, ordains as follows:

Section 1. Section 3 of an ordinance, entitled "An ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of Public Works to grade and clear property known as Buckingham lake and Buckingham boulevard, when the land is acquired by the city, and appropriating funds necessary for the city's share of the expense thereof," passed by the Common Council December 7, 1931, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 3. The sum of nine thousand dollars (\$9,000.00), or so much thereof as may be necessary is hereby appropriated for the purpose mentioned above.

§ 2. This ordinance shall take effect immediately.

Approved as to form this 15th day of January, 1932.

GEORGE A. REILLY,
Corporation Counsel.

Ordinance Authorizing the Grade and Clear Property known as Buckingham lake and Buckingham boulevard (sic).

Originally appropriates \$9,000
Passed January 15, 1932

Alderman KOREMAN, on behalf of Alderman LAMB, requested and was granted unanimous consent to introduce and move immediately for passage an ordinance, entitled "An ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of Public Works to clear and grade additional land surrounding Buckingham lake and Buckingham boulevard, and appropriating funds necessary for the city's share of the expense thereof.

Alderman KOREMAN, on behalf of Alderman LAMB, introduced and moved the passage of the ordinance as follows:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC WORKS TO CLEAR AND GRADE ADDITIONAL LAND SURROUNDING BUCKINGHAM LAKE AND BUCKINGHAM BOULEVARD, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS NECESSARY FOR THE CITY'S SHARE OF THE EXPENSE THEREOF.

The City of Albany, in Common Council convened, ordains as follows:

Section 1. It is hereby ordered and directed that the Commissioner of Public Works in accordance with plans and specifications prepared by the City Engineer grade and clear additional lands surrounding Buckingham lake and Buckingham boulevard, in the city of Albany, N. Y.

§ 2. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 10 of Chapter 798 of the Laws of 1931, and Chapter 567 of the Laws of 1932, the Commissioner of Public Works is hereby authorized to perform the said work other than by contract.

§ 3. The sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00), or so much thereof as may be necessary is hereby appropriated for the purpose mentioned above.

§ 4. The appropriation hereby made includes any moneys appropriated by the State to the city for work relief in pursuance to the provisions of Chapter 798 of the Laws of 1931 and Chapter 567 of the Laws of 1932, and all the provisions of said chapter in so far as they are applicable to work relief shall be applied to the distribution of the moneys hereby appropriated.

§ 5. The moneys needed to pay the city's share of the expenditure to be made pursuant to this ordinance shall be paid out of the following described ordinance, "An ordinance electing to issue under Article Seven of the General City Law one million one hundred seventy thousand dollars bonds for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a fund to pay for street or other public improvements other than schools or water works, and providing for the issuance and payment of said bonds," passed by the Common Council May 18, 1931.

§ 6. This ordinance shall take effect immediately.

Approved as to form this 20th day of June, 1932.

GEORGE A. REILLY,
Corporation Counsel.

Ordinance Amending Authorization to Grade and Clear Property known as Buckingham lake and Buckingham boulevard (sic).
Adds \$5,000
Passed June 20, 1932

Alderman LAMB requested and was granted unanimous consent to introduce and move immediately for passage an ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of Public Works to make further extensions in the grading and improvements to Buckingham Lake and appropriating funds necessary for the city's share of the expense thereof, which said improvements and extensions shall be an emergency relief project.

Alderman LAMB introduced and moved the passage of the ordinance as follows:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC WORKS TO MAKE FURTHER EXTENSIONS IN THE GRADING AND IMPROVEMENTS TO BUCKINGHAM LAKE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS NECESSARY FOR THE CITY'S SHARE OF THE EXPENSE THEREOF, WHICH SAID IMPROVEMENTS AND EXTENSIONS SHALL BE AN EMERGENCY RELIEF PROJECT.

The City of Albany, in Common Council convened, ordains as follows:

Section 1. It is hereby ordered and directed that the Commissioner of Public Works in accordance with plans and specifications

prepared by the City Engineer, make further extensions in the grading and improvement of Buckingham Lake.

§ 2. It is hereby ordered and directed that said improvements and extensions shall be an emergency work relief project.

§ 3. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 10 of Chapter 798 of the Laws of 1931, and Chapter 567 of the Laws of 1932, the Commissioner of Public Works is hereby authorized to perform the said work other than by contract.

§ 4. The sum of three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00), or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated for the purpose mentioned above.

§ 5. The appropriation hereby made includes any moneys appropriated by the State to the city for work relief in pursuance to the provisions of Chapter 798 of the Laws of 1931, and Chapter 567 of the Laws of 1932, and all the provisions of said chapter insofar as they are applicable to work relief shall be applied to the distribution of the moneys hereby appropriated.

§ 6. The moneys needed to pay the city's share of the expenditures to be made pursuant to this ordinance shall be paid out of the following described ordinance, "An ordinance electing to issue under Article Seven of the General City Law, \$500,000.00 bonds for work relief and home relief, authorized by Chapter 798 of the Laws of 1931, as amended, and providing for the issuance and payment of such bonds," passed by the Common Council December 5, 1932.

§ 7. This ordinance shall take effect immediately.

Approved as to form this 8th day of December, 1932.

GEORGE A. REILLY,
Corporation Counsel.

Ordinance Amending Authorization to Grade and Clear Property known as Buckingham lake and Buckingham boulevard (sic).
Adds \$3,000
Passed December 8, 1932



Photo of Buckingham Lake (1931)
View is thought to be from east end looking west



Photo of Buckingham Lake Area (1931)
View is thought to be towards the southwest shore
(end of Lenox or Euclid Avenue)



Photo of Buckingham Lake Area (1931) View is thought to be towards the northwest shore (near current end of Colonial Avenue)



Photo of Buckingham Lake Area (1931) View is thought to be towards the northeast shore (buildings in the view may be on Lenox Avenue – Western Avenue side)

BUCKINGHAM LAKE 7/13/2009



Photo of Buckingham Lake (1931) View is thought to be of the western end of the lake



Photo showing squatter's sheds on Berkshire Boulevard (1939)



Map showing Buckingham Lake Area (ca 1941)
View thought to be at the end of Colonial Avenue
then under construction



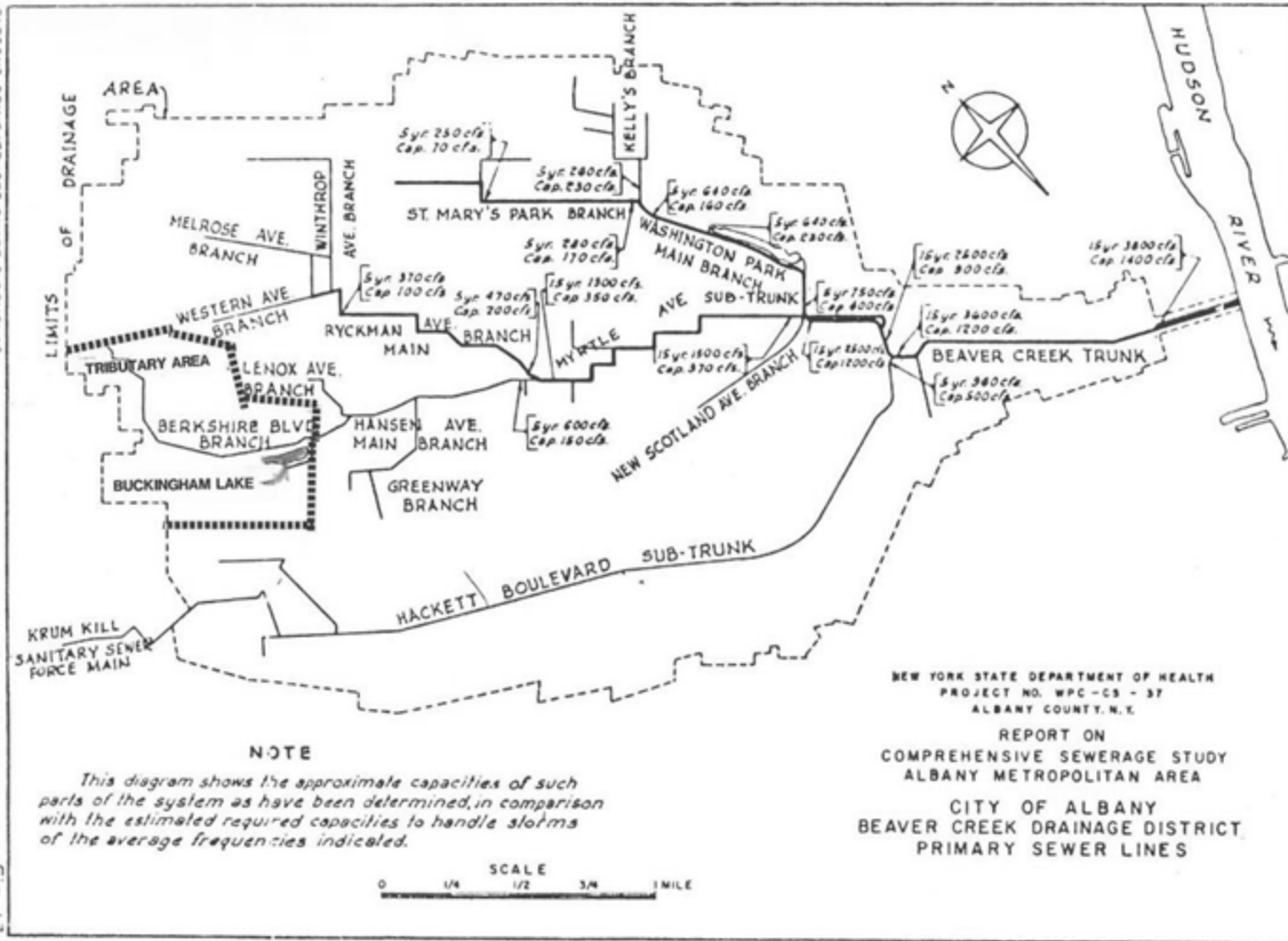
Map showing Buckingham Lake Area (ca 1941)
Another view thought to be at the end of Colonial Avenue
after construction of berm



Photo showing Colonial Avenue under construction in 1941
Note Stonehenge Gardens under construction



Photo showing Colonial Avenue after construction in 1941



Map showing Beaver Creek Sewer District, Ca. 1946

Buckingham Lake was added as was the Tributary Area



Picture from
Times Union
December
1976

Lake goes to the cleaners

Anyone seen a missing lake? Albany crew pumps water from Buckingham Lake off Berkshire Avenue as part of a federally funded project to clean the bottom and banks of

small bodies of water. The lake, also known as Raft's Pond, will be refilled through the same system of pumps and pipes when the task is completed. (Staff photo by Ray Summers)



December 10, 1976

City of Albany, New York
c/o Smith and Mahoney
40 Steuben Street
Albany, New York 12207

Attention: Thomas J. McGrath

Re: Buckingham Lake Restoration
Albany, New York

Gentlemen:

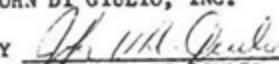
In accordance with Paragraph 110 of the Contract's General Conditions, Claims For Extra Cost, we are notifying you that actual conditions at the site are different than those represented by the Contract Documents.

The basis of our objection is that the depth of organic silt to be removed is greater than one foot. The organic material appears to be from two feet to three and one-half feet in thickness. After Buckingham Lake had been pumped down last week, we discovered this discrepancy in the presence of a representative of the Engineer on December 3rd. After notifying you by telephone that same day, we ceased operations altogether, in order to permit investigation of this condition.

Very truly yours,

JOHN DI GIULIO, INC.

BY


JOHN V. DI GIULIO
Vice President

Letter from
Contractor to
Consulting
Engineer
indicating
that silt was
much deeper
than
estimated

BUCKINGHAM LAKE 7/13/2009



Excavation
of trench
connecting
stilling basin
to main pond



Installation
of discharge
from storm
sewer to the
stilling basin



Placing of
rip-rap
layer in
stilling
basin



Placing of fine stone layer over rip-rap in stilling basin



Installing new storm sewer by Davis Avenue & Cortland Street



Installing new fence and trail



New fence and trail complete

Buckingham Lake – Stilling Basin



In 1995, stormwater from 270 acres of developed area was diverted to a stilling pond and retained in Buckingham Lake. This reduced the impact of storms on the Beaver Creek Combined Sewer. Overflows and Discharges. Drainage is pumped to NYSDOT drainage system. Note the intake manhole.

Buckingham Lake – Stilling Basin



View of
Stilling
Basin
7/1/2009

Buckingham Lake – Stilling Basin



The intake
manhole in
Stilling Basin
7/1/2009.

Buckingham Lake – Stilling Basin



View of Pump Station from Davis Avenue.
7/1/2009

Buckingham Lake – Stilling Basin



View of Top of
Pump Station .
7/1/2009

Buckingham Lake



Aerators were added to reduce algae. A water fill pipe was added to allow for City water to be added to maintain the lake during periods of drought.

Buckingham Lake



Entrance to
path from Davis
Avenue

Buckingham Lake



Informational
sign –
designed by
Dan
Hershberg –
installed as
part of
wetland
mitigation
project by
Armory
Garage

Buckingham Lake



Informational
sign –
designed by
Dan
Hershberg –
installed as
part of
wetland
mitigation
project by
Armory
Garage

Buckingham Lake



“Do Not Feed the Ducks” sign .

Buckingham Lake



Small
Playground at
Buckingham
Lake

Summary

- Buckingham Lake provides Storm Water Storage for Storm Water Management
- Storm Water Management will reduce Local Flooding
- Buckingham Lake is a naturally shallow man-made water body.
- Lake was last dredged in 1977-78.

It's Time For

