

An Introduction...

...To HILLSIDE*



By the Staff of the Hillside National Bank

September 1, 1959

The Township of Hillside is at the entrance to Union County. It is bisected by the Lehigh Valley Railroad and its Irvington Branch line, U. S. Highway 22 and Garden State Parkway.

Hillside is bounded on the north by the City of Newark and the Town of Irvington, both in Essex County; on the west and south by the Elizabeth River which serves as a natural boundary between it and the Township of Union, and on the east by the City of Elizabeth, both in Union County. It has an area of 2.73 square miles.

The township is situated on a hillside. Elevations range from 27 feet above sea level at the Woodruff Area of the Elizabeth River Park in Conant Street to 187 feet above sea level at Summit Avenue and the Newark City-line.

Hillside has an estimated population of 25,000 persons. Another 10,000 are employed here. According to municipal statistics as of October 1, 1958, the township contains 2,248 residences, six apartments, 278 commercial properties and 154 industries. There also are listed 375 parcels of vacant land. Total valuation of this property for 1959 is \$47,144,177. The tax rate for this year is \$7.27 per \$100 valuation.

*Leaflets dealing with the municipal government and school system, printed in observance of the township's 45th anniversary by the Hillside National Bank, may be obtained at the bank.

Most of the residents find employment in the professions or in skilled posts locally or in surrounding communities. Average income per family in \$7,500 annually.

Public Service Coordinated Transport buses 10, 48, 49 and 54 and Greenflyer Busline 6 serve the area. Since commuter service on the Lehigh Valley Railroad was discontinued May 29, 1948, Bus Lines 15 and 143, now both owned by the Somerset Bus Company, carry residents into New York City.

The community has three large shopping centers: Liberty Avenue, Maple Avenue and Hollywood Avenue. The business section along North Broad Street is devoted mainly to automobile sales and services and wholesale supply businesses.

DIVERSE PRODUCTS . . .

Hillside is a center for toy trains, drugs, airplane parts, electric transformers, tin cans, steel fabricators and warehouses, insulated paper bags, cork products, cables, stainless steel castings, tanks and plastic articles. It also has numerous tool shops serving all major industries, three large dairies, telephone directory and book distributors, liquor and automobile parts warehouse. There are two cobalt rooms and three research laboratories.

The township is served by four telephone exchanges: ELizabeth, now being changed to FLanders, WAverly, ESsex and MUrdoch. It has one newspaper, "The Hillside Times," and is covered by the "Elizabeth Daily Journal," the "Newark Evening News" and the "Newark Star-Ledger."

There are eight Protestant, two Roman Catholic and one Ukrainian Catholic churches and two synagogues with schools serving the area. Half of St. Catherine's Church parish and school district is located in Hillside and the rest in Elizabeth. The Church of Christ the King and its school and the Immaculate Conception Church include a small portion of Union. Pingry School for Boys, the only private school, serves Essex and Union Counties.

The township's two municipal ambulances are manned by volunteers in the Hillside Ambulance Squad and members of the Fire Department. Emergency patients are taken to hospitals in Elizabeth, Irvington or Newark.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS . . .

Public buildings are the Municipal Building including the Public Library, two departmental firehouses and one for the Fire Auxiliary, two municipi-

pal garages, one high school, six elementary schools, the School Administration Building, the Woodfield Stadium and two post offices.

Private buildings include the U. S. War Veterans Memorial Building, the Masonic Hall, The Little League Fieldhouse in Gurd Avenue, the Elks' Clubhouse, the Polish-American Hall, one motion picture theater, three bowling alleys and 19 taverns.

Plans are under consideration for erection of buildings for the Rev. Thomas F. Cauty Council, Knights of Columbus, the Italian-American Civic Association, the Hillside Police Athletic League, Hillside Ambulance Squad and Immaculate Conception Church. A Sinai Hebrew School and Youth Center is being erected.

ORGANIZATIONS . . .

There are more than 68 organizations in the township including four veterans posts and their auxiliaries, nationality groups, Kiwanis, Lions and Rotary Clubs, Hillside Industrial Association, Hillside Industrial Foundation and other business, fraternal, religious, political and special interest groups.

Several of these associations present awards to outstanding citizens. These include the Columbian Award by the Italian-American Civic Association, The Americanism Award by the Hillside Lodge 1514, B'nai B'rith, an award for an outstanding woman by the Hillside Chapter of Hadassah, a "MOPH" (Make Other People Happy) award by the Hillside Kiwanis Club, a "This Is Your Life" award by the Hillside Rotary Club for its members, and a citation for the outstanding mother of the year by the Presidents' Council of the Parent-Teacher Associations.

ANNUAL EVENTS . . .

Annual community observances include the noontime New Year's Day reorganization of the township government, organization meeting of the Board of Education on the third Monday in February, Easter Sunrise Services for the Hillside area and South Newark Protestant Churches at Divident Hill in Weequahic Park, Newark, the annual Little League Opening Day parade and world series, the annual Memorial Day parade, the summer playground field day and participation of the two Holy Name Societies in the annual parade in Elizabeth each October.

Several organizations such as the Hillside Lions Club, Hillside Lodge 1514, B'nai B'rith, Italian-American Civic Association, Men's Progress Club and Polish-American Club conduct annual dinner-dances. Last month the township held its first annual picnic for municipal employees.

RECREATION AREAS . . .

While the township has two small municipal parks, Russell Looker Park at Mertz Avenue and Clark Street and an unnamed plot at Sanford Avenue and Fairview Place, the Union County Park Commission is developing the Elizabeth River Park here. Presently in use are the Woodruff Area in Conant Street, the Salem Section in Liberty Avenue and the Rutgers Avenue section. A 31-acre section at Ursino Lake is being acquired.

The Board of Recreation Commissioners operates 10 playgrounds for 9 weeks during the summer on school, municipal and county property. Six of these areas also function for spring and fall programs. A winter program including a sports club is presented in the Hurden-Looker School. The board also holds an adult art class and a teen-aged dance program at the Hillside Avenue School. A variety of athletic leagues is conducted.

Organized a year ago, the Hillside Police Athletic League conducts programs from 3 to 11 P.M. Tuesday through Saturday for young people 15 to 21 years of age at the rear of 1284 North Broad Street.

The Hillside Chapter of the Old Guard, sponsored in February, 1957, by the Hillside Rotary Club, meets at 10:30 A.M. each Thursday at the Hillside Presbyterian Church.

The Hillside Players, organized June 5, 1958, and the Hillside Community Orchestra, begun in 1955, meet at designated times in the Hillside Avenue and George Washington Schools, respectively, and invite persons interested to participate.

The Hillside Public Library will offer its second series of monthly adult programs shortly at 7:30 P.M. on Wednesdays. It also conducts monthly story hours for children and provides school services. A record collection is now being circulated.

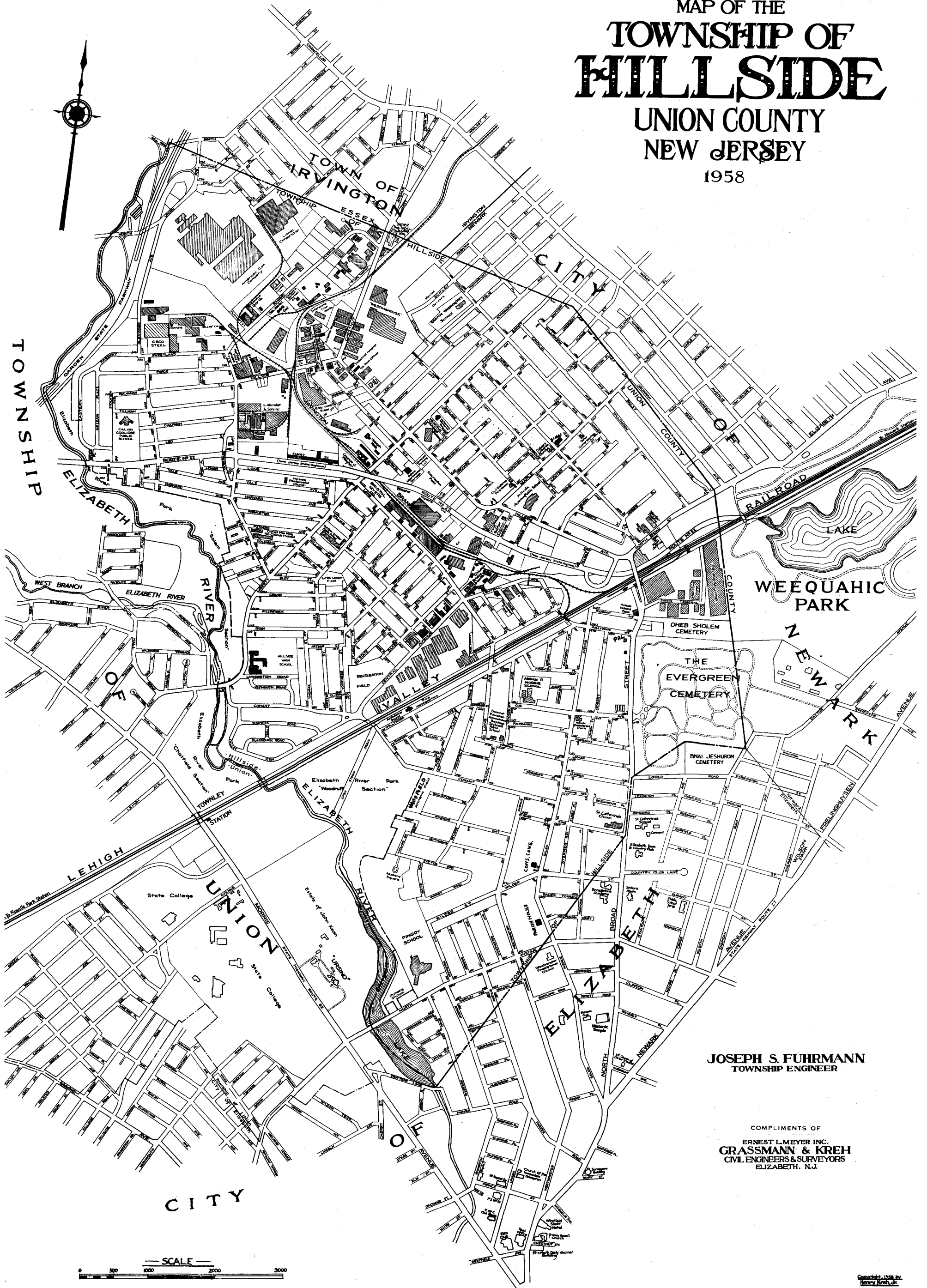
NEARBY FACILITIES . . .

In addition to recreation facilities here, Hillside is close to Weequahic Park, Newark, where there are tennis courts, a golf course, ballfields, fishing and boating and horse trotting; Warinanco Park,

MAP OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE

UNION COUNTY
NEW JERSEY

1958



JOSEPH S. FUHRMANN
TOWNSHIP ENGINEER

COMPLIMENTS OF
ERNEST LMEYER INC.
GRASSMANN & KREH
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