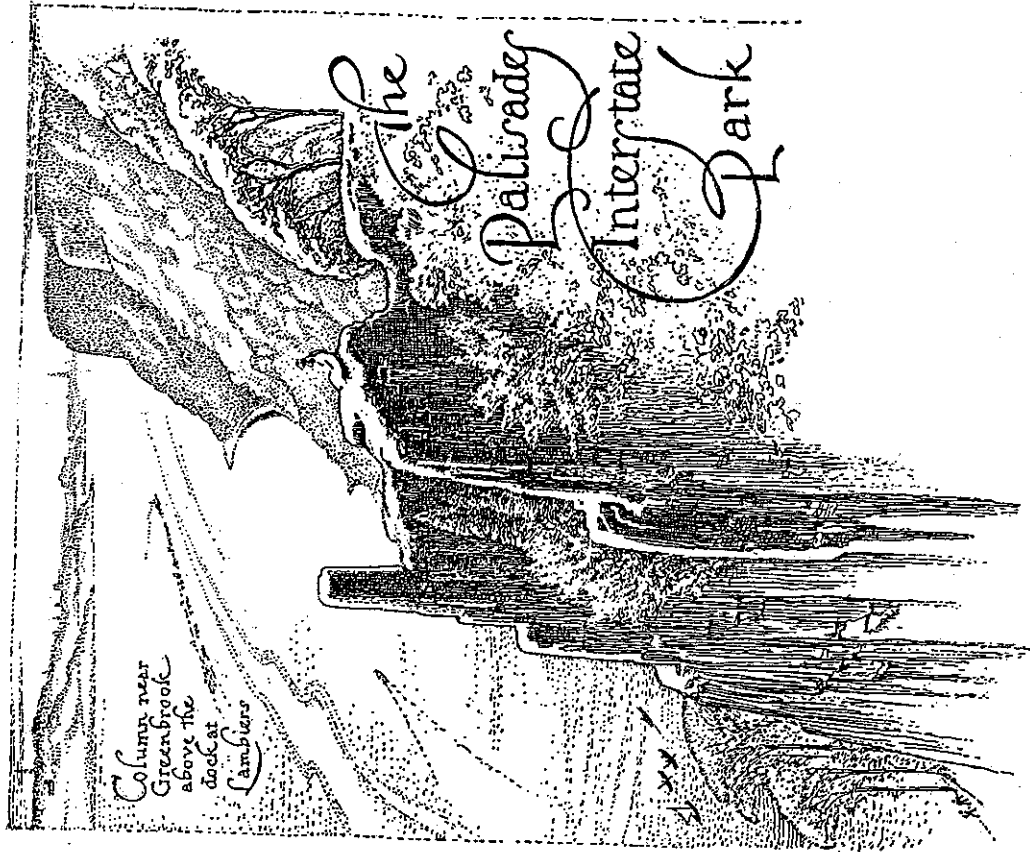


1 • THE PALISADES

All but the northern tip of the Palisades lies in New Jersey. This is the original section of what is now Palisades Interstate Park. The fall between precipice and beach is well wooded except on the talus slopes at the base of the cliffs. An attractive addition to the native species there are the Empress trees (*Paulownia tomentosa*), imported from Asia for the old estate gardens along the present route of the Palisades Parkway. Around Memorial Day they startle the visitor with their exotic masses of bluebells. Actually, along this narrow strip between beach and cliff, where most of the mileage is on edge, there is a surprising variety of trees, shrubs, and flowering plants.

HISTORY

Some early voyager up the Hudson named the cliffs of the lower river the Palisades, probably from the likeness of the giant pillars of trap rock to the palisaded villages of the Indians. There has been much debate as to whether the first European to see the Hudson was Giovanni da Verrazano, a Florentine in the service of the King of France, or Estévan Gomez, a Portuguese in the service of the King of Spain. The controversy hinges on a famous letter which the Verrazano supporters claim he addressed to Francis I of France on July 8, 1524, in which he relates his entry in March 1524 into what, from his description, his opponents as well as his supporters



agree could have been none other than the Upper Bay. However, there seems to be no question as to the authenticity of Gomez's voyage along the east coast of North America in 1525 and his entry into New York harbor. The opponents of the Verrazano claim contend that the Verrazano letter, including the date, is pure fiction, whether or not Verrazano wrote it; that there is no official record that Verrazano ever made such an expedition for the King of France; and that the descriptions of the east coast of North America contained in the letter were plagiarized from Gomez's report.

Well-documented events begin only with Henry Hudson in 1609, when the *Half Moon*, on September 13, made its second anchorage of the day opposite the present location of Fort Lee. Hudson ascended the river as far as the site of Albany in search of the Northwest Passage and returned on finding no outlet up the river. He was attacked by the Indians of Inwood on the point now under the George Washington Bridge.

We think of the Palisades as wooded and inaccessible cliffs. But the Hollanders peopled this strip in such numbers that no part of northern New Jersey, except Hackensack, had as many inhabitants as "Under the Mountain" in the days of uniformly bad roads, when the river constituted the highway. Although Indian names rarely remain, the Dutch left many names, some not altogether simple to recognize when given English sounds. The hollows where Greenbrook Pond is located have always been known as the "Kelders"; this is readily seen to mean the "cellars." It requires study, however, to trace "Bombay Hook" to "Boomje," meaning "little tree." "The Miraculous," the name of the glen south of Englewood Landing, is puzzling. It is not derived from its neighbor, Englewood Cliffs College, operated by the Order of St. Joseph of Newark, which did not arrive until long after the place was named.

On the terraces "Under the Mountain" one little farm crowded another; several of these lasted until the Park bought them out. At the beginning of the twentieth century descendants of the original settlers were still tilling the ground and gathering famous French pears from tall and ancient trees. These families became rich, their prosperity due to the shallows of the river and the rocks on the shore. The river swarmed with shad in season. The swamp-edged island of Manhattan required docks and bulkheads and here by the Palisades were blocks of extreme hardness ready-shaped for wall building, and soft stone for house construction.

In the days when river steamers burned wood, it was cut on top of the Palisades and pitched down where the water was deep in-



Palisades, where the cliff is 520 feet above sea level. The hollows where Greenbrook Pond is located have always been known as the "Kelders"; this is readily seen to mean the "cellars." It requires study, however, to trace "Bombay Hook" to "Boomje," meaning "little tree." "The Miraculous," the name of the glen south of Englewood Landing, is puzzling. It is not derived from its neighbor, Englewood Cliffs College, operated by the Order of St. Joseph of Newark, which did not arrive until long after the place was named.

shore; hence High Gutter Point at the state line. When fireplaces heated houses, wealthy New Yorkers bought sections on top of the plateau, each with a convenient "pitching place." The spot chosen for throwing down the wood had to have beneath, not huge rocks where logs would wedge or smash, but a smooth or small-stone slope, or a cliff edge overhanging the river, with a fair landing place below. One was at Allison Point; the DePeyster pitching place was north of Clinton Point; another, belonging to the Jeffries and having a stone dock, was north of Greenbrook. Up to 1895 there were 11,000 acres of unbroken forest on the top of the Palisades, providing some of the finest timber in New Jersey.

The Revolutionary history of this region is a rich one. In 1776 General Hugh Mercer built Fort Lee to control the river. On top of the cliff a redoubt guarded the sunken ships and chained logs stretching across to Jeffries Hook on the Manhattan side, where the little red lighthouse now stands under the George Washington Bridge. To the north the highest land within Manhattan was crowned by Fort Washington, supposed by some of Washington's officers to be impregnable. Southeast, the location of the battle of Harlem Heights may be seen through the dip at 125th Street to Columbia University; Barnard College stands on the famous buckwheat field. After this fight the Americans marched along the east shore of Manhattan to dig in at White Plains, and the British army marched south over the same road to attack Fort Washington. From the west shore, General Washington watched that disaster and surrender and, as Cornwallis crossed at Alpine with six thousand men, had to order Fort Lee and all its stores of war material abandoned in such haste that the British found kettles on the fires.

The beginning of the Palisades Park dates from the time when New York City was slowly aroused to the devastations of the quarrymen blasting along the cliffs for trap rock. About the middle of the nineteenth century much of the loose and easily accessible talus was pushed down to be used as ships' ballast. The real menace to the Palisades came with the demand for more and more concrete to build skyscrapers and roads. Quarries were opened from Weehawken to Verdriette Hook above Nyack. To check this activity the Palisades Interstate Park Commission was created in 1900 jointly by New York and New Jersey. Enabling legislation was pushed in New Jersey by the New Jersey Federation of Women's Clubs, whose memorial is the charming Women's Federation Park with its "castle" near Alpine. In New York, Andrew H. Green, "Father of

Greater New York" and founder of the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society, worked for the necessary legislation with the cordial support of Governor Theodore Roosevelt and other conservation-minded officials. Land was acquired and developed as parks with all needed facilities.

In the early days most of this development was accomplished with gift money received from the Commissioners and interested individuals, but in recent years funds for development projects have been provided by the two states. Of the many individuals who contributed generously of time, talents, and money in creating the system of parks, special recognition must be given to George W. Perkins, Sr., who was the Commission's first President and the organizing genius of its development. With the story of his leadership should be coupled the generous action of J. Pierpont Morgan at a critical time, and many notable gifts of land and funds, private and public in about equal proportions. As one result, quarrying of the river faces of many mountains in Rockland County was stopped. Later the Park Commission was also charged with the preservation of the natural beauty of the lands lying in New York State on the west side of the Hudson, including the Ramapo Mountains as well as state park lands in Rockland and Orange counties and those in Sullivan and Ulster counties outside the Catskill Forest Preserve.

In 1933 John D. Rockefeller, Jr., offered to the Park Commission certain parcels of land on top of the Palisades which he had been assembling for some time. He wrote to the Commission: "My primary purpose in acquiring this property was to preserve the land lying along the top of the Palisades from any use inconsistent with your ownership and protection of the Palisades themselves. It has also been my hope that a strip of this land of adequate width might ultimately be developed as a parkway. . . ." In that year there seemed little likelihood of finding funds for a parkway, but various lines were explored and legislation passed which enabled the Commission, in December 1935, to accept the deeds to the land offered. Additional properties were donated by the Twombleys, and by the trustees of the estate of W. O. Allison. The Parkway, completed to Bear Mountain in 1958, is an attractive limited-access drive for non-commercial traffic only.

Since 1937 both the New York and New Jersey sections have been administered by a single Palisades Interstate Park Commission under a compact which legally cemented a uniquely successful cooperation between two states. The land in New Jersey, and in New

York to a point 0.5 mile north of the interstate boundary, is now officially Palisades State Park; the remaining acreage is wholly in New York.

GEOLOGY

The contrast between the red sandstone, in horizontal strata, at the bottom of the cliffs, and the gray vertical columns above it, may interest the hiker and perhaps puzzle him. By what geological processes was this area built of such contrasting rock types?

The rocks of the Palisades section of the Park are almost exclusively of two kinds: sedimentary sandstones and shales, and the igneous intrusive diabase of the Palisades. Both were formed during the Triassic Period, some 190 million years ago. For millions of years, sand and mud had washed down from surrounding highlands and had spread out over wide areas in sedimentary layers thousands of feet thick. Consolidated partly by pressure, but in greater degree by the deposition of mineral matter which penetrated the porous mass and cemented particles together, these deposits are today identified as the Newark Series. They can be seen exposed both beneath the igneous rocks of the Palisades and beneath the Hackensack meadows farther to the west.

While these sedimentary strata were being laid down, molten rock was forced upward through rifts to form a single, prominent sill, the Palisades, about a thousand feet thick for some forty miles along the Hudson. At the contact of the hot magma and the adjoining sandstone and shale layers, some of the thermal metamorphic rock—hard quartzite and baked shale (hornfels)—are visible in many places. As the molten mass cooled underground, contraction fissures broke the sheet into crude vertical columns, often hexagonal or pentagonal in outline. After the diabase became exposed, these contraction joints were lines of weakness and were further affected by frost and rain, causing blocks to be pried off and fall into heavy talus slopes at the base. Because of this, the diabase often has a step-like appearance and so it is popularly known as trap rock, from the Swedish word *trapp*, or "stairs." Since it is much resistant to weather and water than is sandstone, the crumbling away of the sandstone has left the diabase exposed in the monolith we admire today. This igneous body ends in Rockland County, near Haverstraw, curling westward to two summits, High Tor and Low Tor.

Newark sandstone forms the walls of most of the old Dutch farm-houses in New Jersey, and the brownstone fronts of many of the

older private homes in Manhattan. At a number of localities in New Jersey, footprints and other fossils of land animals of the Triassic Period have been found. Huge reptiles wandered over the mud flats then. The oldest inhabitant of the New York region of whom any authentic relics have been found curled himself up, lay down to die, and turned into stone in what is today the borough of Fort Lee, along the shore near Dupont Dock. He was discovered there in 1910, in the sandy shale hardened by the overhanging trap rock, about twenty feet below the basalt. As the American Museum of Natural History pictures this first fossil of our region, he looks something like a narrow-nosed, long-legged alligator, twenty-three feet from his slender snout to the tip of his tapering tail. He is a phytosaur, and his name is *Clepsysaurus manhattanensis*. There are also mud cracks and fossils of freshwater fish that testify to the continental origin of the sediments. The reddish ledges of Newark sandstone are exposed in many places along the shore path. The rock occurs chiefly near the river level and is often hidden behind the talus. Not far from the state line, however, it rises as high as 180 feet above the water.

An ice sheet that subsequently covered the New Jersey region, with its tools of sharp rock fragments borne along under the glacier and pressed against the underlying rocks by the enormous weight above, left its indelible imprint on the bedrock surfaces. Glacial striations are found in great abundance on the top of the Palisades ridge, in places several inches to one foot deep and five feet wide, as at Englewood. The polish produced by fine glacier-borne materials on the hard bedrock surfaces may be seen also all along the top of the diabase ridge, as, for example, north of the administration building at Alpine. Where the ice scoured off loose earth and even rocks of immense size (and differing compositions) west of the Palisades, erratics can be seen scattered all through the Park. Some came from as far to the west as the Highlands; others, such as Sampson's Rock in Englewood Cliffs, and Hering Rock, on the western slope of the Palisades, north of East Clinton Avenue in Tenafly, are the familiar Newark sandstone, glacially transported from a short distance to the west to their present sites.

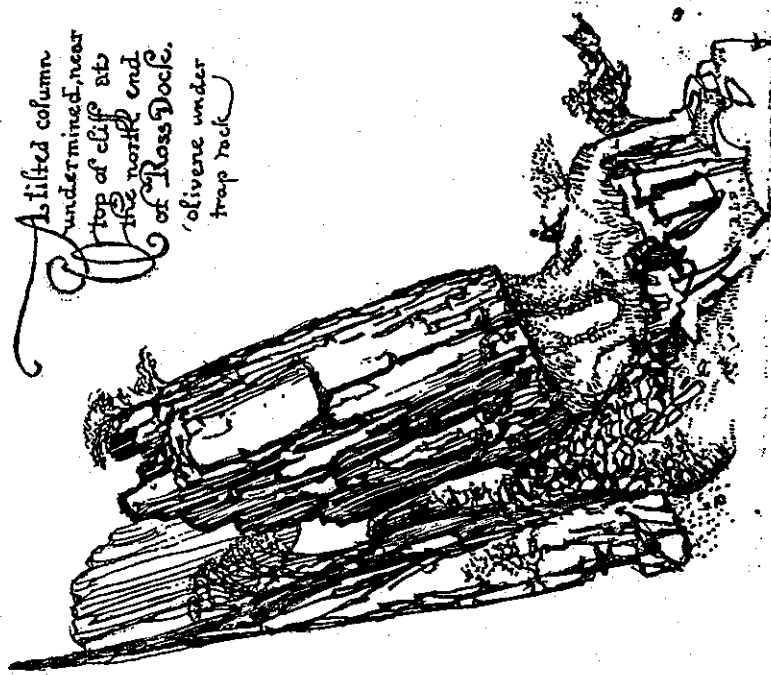
TRAILS OF THE PALISADES INTERSTATE PARK IN NEW JERSEY

The Palisades State Park covers 2446 acres, of which 16 are in New York. Between cliff top and water the Park width averages

under one-eighth mile; the maximum elevation at the front, 530 feet, is at two spots west of Forest View. The highest clear cliff is 330 feet.

A broad and level path follows the water's edge the length of this section, about 12.5 miles (no blazes). Fishing and crabbing are allowed in the stretch between Ross Dock and Englewood, and from the shore at Alpine. Bathing, for many years a feature of the shore, is now prohibited due to the pollution of the Hudson. Good paths lead at intervals to the top, and at Englewood and Alpine fine driveways descend to the river and the parking areas; these are connected midway by a motor road built in 1909, which is closed to walkers.

On top, the blue-blazed Long Path runs between cliff edge and Parkway (see pages 37-39). Also on top, but outside the Park, is a series of trails marked in 1942 by Alexander Jessup and later maintained and improved by William Hoeflerlin.



A tilted column
undetermined, near
top of cliff at
the north end
of Ross Dock.
(olive tree under
trap rock)

Allison Trail. Length: 8.5 miles. Blazes: yellow.

Allison Trail runs from the George Washington Bridge bus stop to Ruckman Road in Alpine. Several side paths lead to Tenafly and Cresskill in the valley to the west. It crosses the entrance to the Greenbrook Sanctuary and connects with

Little-Chism Trail. Length: 1.5 miles. Blazes: red.

This runs west of Rt. 9W from East Clinton Avenue in Tenafly to Alpine, past the entrance to Greenbrook Sanctuary. It passes a ruined dam once used for drainage control and through several ecologically interesting areas.

The Greenbrook Sanctuary is a wild, rugged area in the center of the Park, with about 6 miles of trails, along the cliff edge and around a 6.5-acre pond—the Kelders. The Sanctuary is open only to members but membership information is available from the Palisades Nature Association, P. O. Box 155, Alpine, New Jersey 07620.

SHORE PATH

Fort Lee to Englewood Boat Basin. Length: approximately 3 miles. From the bus stop at Bridge Plaza, walk south a short distance to Main Street. At the triangle, turn left, then right on Monument Avenue to reach Fort Lee Battle Monument, by Carl Tefft, showing soldiers of the Revolution scaling the crest of the Palisades. From the east side of the park note the slight rise of land to the north; this was the site of Fort Lee. Follow narrow Palisade Road, the oldest street in the area, downhill to Bluff Point; for a view south to the Statue of Liberty and Staten Island. In 1776 there were earthworks on the southern tip, a redoubt about in a line with Main Street. The redoubt guarded the barriers placed in the river to prevent passage by the British, and an abatis of trees and brush farther north. It was here in November that General Washington watched the flag being hauled down at Fort Washington, across the river, as the colonials surrendered to the British. This point will be developed as Fort Lee Historic Park with reconstruction of batteries, a museum, and picnic areas.

Return north (and note the hundreds of scattered cavities left by quarrymen), then follow Hudson Terrace downhill to the park entrance, descend the steps to the shore, and walk north past the remnants of DuPont (Powder) Dock to the boat launching ramp under the Bridge. Passing former beaches at Hazards and Carpenters

note that the absence of talus at the base of the cliff is a consequence of the quarrying done here. At 2 miles Carpenters Trail leads to the top; the finest cliff faces for petrified design are the walls of rock seen from the middle section of this trail. On the shore, water and refreshments are available at Ross Dock. Then for more than a mile north, terraces and open groves are arranged as picnic places. Beyond a rocky stretch is Englewood Boat Basin.

To reach Rt. 9W, where buses run to New York, walk 20 minutes up the approach road from the Boat Basin. From the sidewalk along the road the grade is easy and the views fine, but there is little shade. A pleasant alternative is the shaded footpath rising near a cascading stream.

Englewood Boat Basin to Alpine Landing. Length: 5.5 miles.

Englewood Boat Basin has an immense parking space, which makes it an ideal starting point for those who come in cars. The path north crosses picnic grounds at Bloomers Dock, passes Frank's Rock, a huge boulder hanging between path and shore, and winds past Undercliff Dock. All this stretch was a farming settlement "Under the Mountain" in the old days before the park began. South of Undercliff, on the upper level, is a cemetery, a relic of this settlement. The point above is High Tom. At Canoe Beach (1.5 miles) is another picnic place with Hopkins Grove above. Above Powder Dock, look up at Clinton Point between the trees. After crossing Lost Brook, which loses itself flowing under the talus, arrive at Lambiers Dock. From the tip of the dock there is a fine profile of several headlands as far as Man-in-the-Rock, the northern column of Bombay Hook.

In 0.3 mile, cross Greenbrook Falls, a trickle in August and an ice mass in January, but in spring, after rain, impressive as seen from the river bank. All this section is finely wooded. From the Falls the path follows the river to Huylter House (3.8 miles). The old house, built about 1840 and now empty, was an important transfer point for goods and passengers between interior New Jersey and the city. For the remaining mile to Alpine Boat Basin the path is full of variety and charm. Beyond a fine growth of laurel is a big boulder called Hay-Kee-Pook ("His Body") where legend has it that an Indian lover committed suicide, despite the shallowness of the water. On reaching the grassy level, do not fail to look north to see the slender curved pinnacle of Bombay Hook. This highest, most isolated, and conspicuous pillar of rock in the Palisades literally curves

70 feet high between two mighty slides. The northern approach road enters here, but has no sidewalk; the walker continues past the boat basin to Cornwallis' "Headquarters," once a tavern where the British spent a night and are said to have scaled these cliffs by the Revolutionary Trail, which the present path to the top follows in part. The tavern was the first headquarters of the Park and is now a museum open in the summer months. The ascent takes about half an hour to reach Closter Dock Road for buses to New York.

Alpine to Forest View. Length: about 2.5 miles.

Northward from Alpine Boat Basin follow a wide path behind the former Riverview bathhouse and past fine hemlocks, a brook, and some mature deciduous woods to a stairway, then through picnic grounds to reach the shore before Bombay Hook. Bear right at a fork to pass Excelsior Dock and the grassy expanse at Twombleys. The name is that of the former owner who gave the grounds to the Park. Because of the layers of oyster shells found here, Twombleys is believed to have been the site of Indian camps. Around Bombay Hook (1.3 miles) are the highest cliffs of the Palisades. When beyond a stand of white birch, a tree seldom seen so far south, look up to the two vast bastions called Ruckman Point, and look north to Indian Head, where the best aspect of its face comes out—not the Indian or the patrol, but the Yankee pioneer. Here a path ascends, the upper part steep steps with high rises; turn left to see a stone castle commemorating the work of the New Jersey Federation of Women's Clubs in securing the first lands of the Park. Turn west on a footbridge over the Parkway to the Scout Camp where buses to New York stop.

Forest View to State Line. Length: less than 2 miles, but allow an hour and a half.

The final segment of the store path includes its most striking scenery. This walk along the foot of the five-hundred-foot cliffs of Indian Head and past the rough talus of the Giant Stairs, where the falcon hawk is sometimes seen, is preserved in its natural state, accessible only to hikers. From Forest View head north, either on the grass or on the upper path, to see some of the immense rock masses. After making a long traverse over slide and talus, begin the descent of the Giant Stairs at 0.8 mile. In another 0.5 mile, close to shore, the path crosses a slough which marks the state line; take the left fork up on a well-built trail to the front at High Gutter Point. Continue through Skunk Hollow, on the lands of the

Lamont Sanctuary, to join the blue-blazed Long Path to Rt. 9W, where buses to New York stop opposite the main entrance to Columbia University's Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory.

THE LONG PATH

When the Palisades Interstate Parkway was built, the accessibility of the cliff top renewed interest in the larger trail project of the Long Path, originally proposed in 1931 by Vincent J. Schaefer of the Mohawk Valley Hiking Club of Schenectady. He thought New York, like Vermont, should have a "long trail" from New York City to Lake Placid. With W. W. Cady of New York assisting in the region south of the Catskills, some marking was undertaken but the only portion completed was the present Northville-Lake Placid Trail. In 1960 Robert Jessen of the Ramapo Ramblers urged a Path from George Washington Bridge to the Adirondacks; the new plan makes Whiteface Mountain the terminus of the trail.

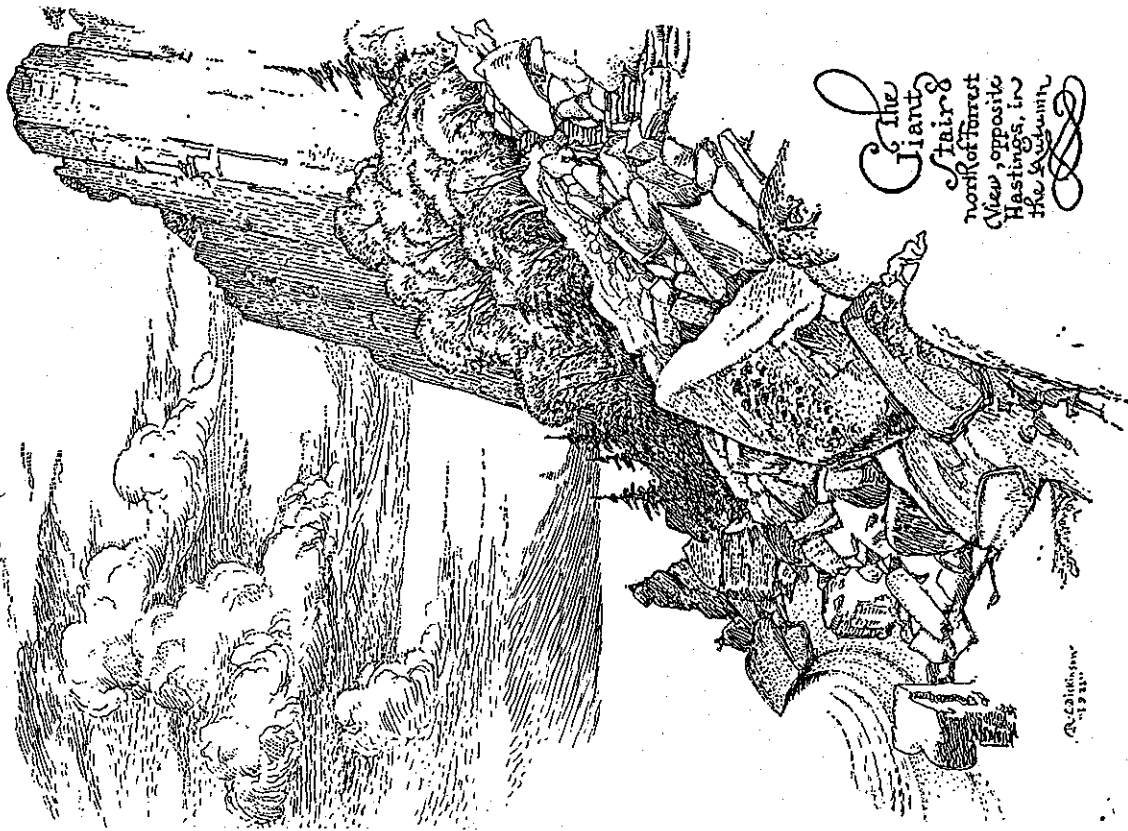
Fort Lee to Englewood Cliffs. Length: 2 miles. Blazes: blue.

The most popular approach, and the most scenic, is on foot across George Washington Bridge; an alternative is by bus to the Bridge Plaza in Fort Lee. From the Bridge a wide, level path swings toward the cliff. View lower New York from the farthest projecting cliff near the bridge tower. Downhill about 0.3 mile a square promontory shows one of the best of the southern rock faces; here Carpenters Path descends to the shore path. The Long Path continues north by an overpass leading to a hollow where skating is possible in season, then comes again to the front at a mounted cannon in the former Coytesville Park. After passing the walls of several former estates it enters (1.3 miles) a small park, now maintained by the Park, which was built as a memorial to W. O. Allison. It is open most of the year; water and rest rooms are available.

The Miraculous is the gully to the north of Allison Park. The Path swings to the shoulder of the Parkway past the campus of Englewood Cliffs College and enters a small woodland, bypassing Allison Point, then crosses Palisade Avenue. Here the shore may be reached either by a zigzag path or by the sidewalk along the road. For a short side trip cross Rt. 9W and walk north along Floyd Avenue, one block west, to reach Sampson's Rock, a glacial erratic.

Englewood Cliffs to Alpine. Length: 5.5 miles.

Any bus along Rt. 9W stops at Palisade Avenue; walk east to



*The Giant Stair
View, opposite
Hastings, in
the Adirondack*

© 1931

the edge for the path which follows a level but scenic route to Alpine. The Path north soon traverses the former Dana estate; note an exotic Oriental pine near the Parkway. In the woodland beyond watch for the rock promontory, High Tom, with views north and down to Undercliff Grove and cemetery. Next cross Rockefeller Overlook (1 mile); opposite is Spuyten Duyvil and the northern tip of Manhattan. After passing the ruins of the Cadgene estate the Path follows undulating terrain through woodland to a meadow and a depression, Devil's Hole. The slight rise beyond is Point Clinton (1.5 miles), a favorite viewpoint from the time of the first settlers. A little farther it crosses the entrance road from 9W into Greenbrook Sanctuary. Buses on 9W stop here. The Path continues north along the fence, with short steep stretches, then across the Alpine Outlook of the Pathway (4 miles) and reenters the woods past a house foundation. Descend to cross Walker Hollow, a long open swale with views of downtown Yonkers across the river, and ascend past the foundation of the Zabriskie House (4.8 miles); the dry cellar may be used as an emergency shelter. Passing several other foundations, the Path goes through an underpass to Closter Dock Road, where buses to New York stop. To reach the shore, continue on the path 0.3 mile and turn down the trail to Alpine Boat Basin.

Alpine to Scout Camp. Length: 2.5 miles.

There is little parking at the bus stop at Closter Dock Road and 9W. North from the underpass it is an hour's walk on level paths to the Scout Camp. After another underpass, Alpine Approach Road, the Long Path turns left past the Headquarters Building of the Palisades Interstate Park (the former Oltman House). Note the tower west of the Parkway, the site of the first FM station, built by Major Edwin Armstrong, the radio pioneer. The Path traverses woodland, then the former Ringling (circus) estate, and 1 mile from Closter Dock Road swings to the cliff edge and passes the largest separated section of rock in the Palisades, Grey Crag, some 300 feet long and 10 to 20 feet wide, accessible by a bridge. In winter and early spring look for 300-foot ice columns where water plunges over the cliff.

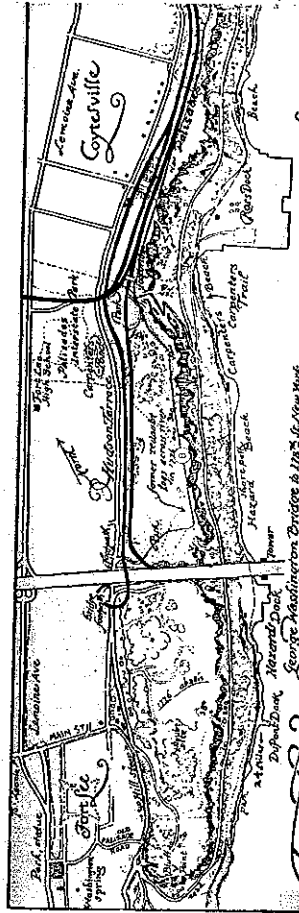
The Long Path passes Bombay Hook (1.5 miles) on another ridge and then crosses an area recently ravished by drought and fire and ends abruptly at Ruckman Road, at the edge of the cliff. The rock wall here is 520 feet high. The Path turns left on Ruckman Road, then turns north and parallels the Parkway along a

fence to reach an overpass to a bus stop on Rt. 9W at the Scout Camp entrance. The white circular radar dome of Mt. Nebo, several miles north, is visible.

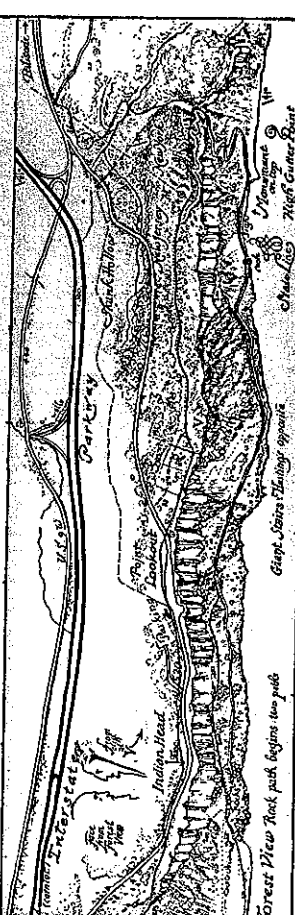
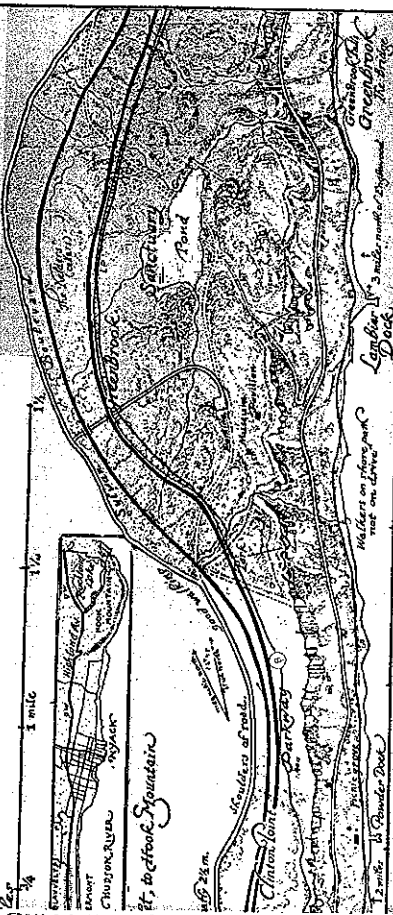
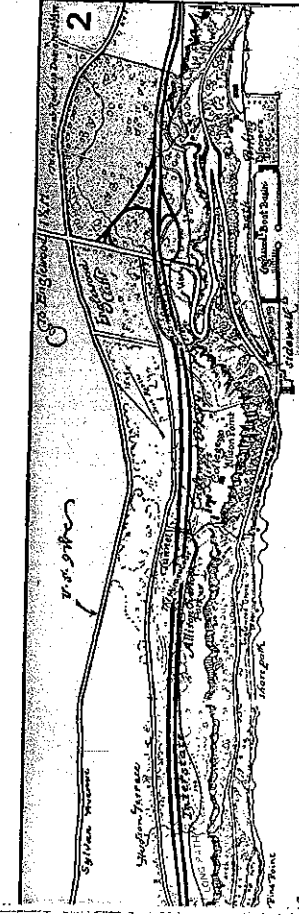
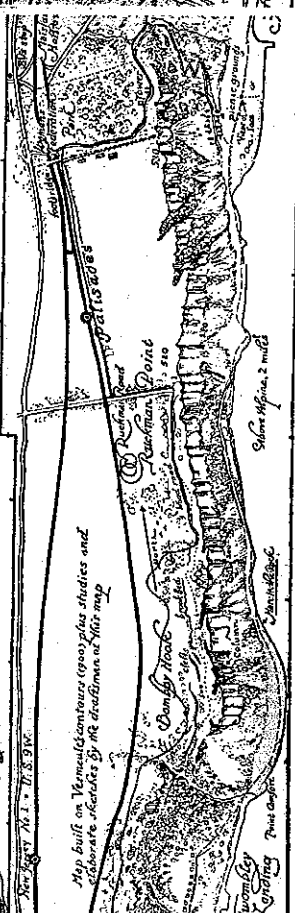
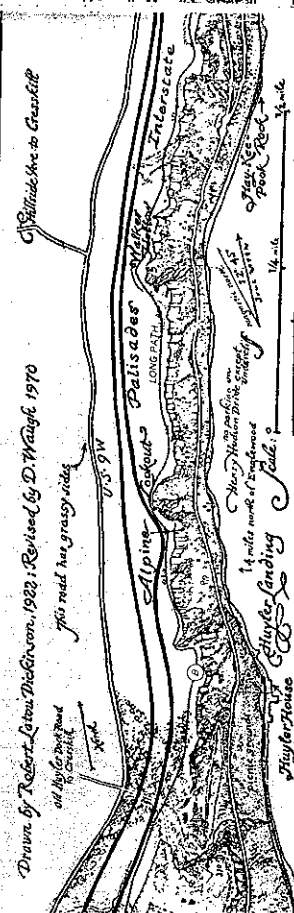
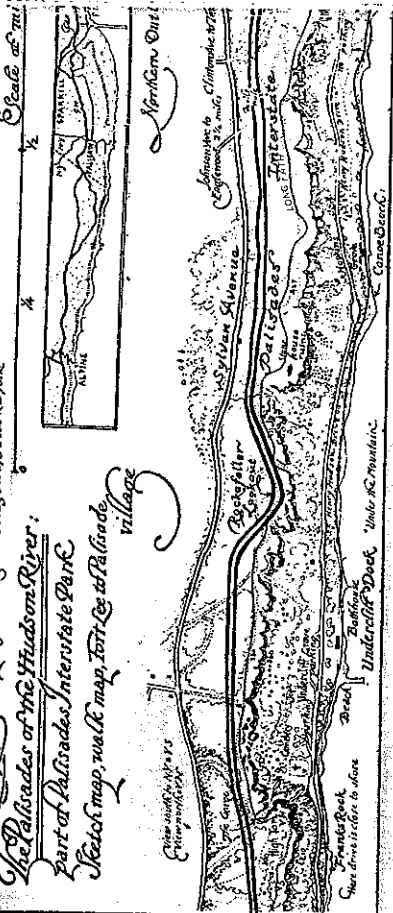
Scout Camp to State Line. Length: 2 miles.

From the east end of the overpass the Path approaches the cliff edge, and passes the weird-shaped buildings of the former Burnet property behind the fence on the right, and Maisland (Corn-lof) Hollow on the left, the location of Federation Park. Far below are the remains of Forest View pier. The trail goes north, then east down a steep slope. Before the Path turns down very steeply, to continue to Forest View at the shore, there is a stone stairway to the north. The trail bears left to the Park Road at the top of the cliffs, crossing a brook which rises in Maisland Hollow. Here turn right on the road to Point Lookout, where water and refreshments are available in summer.

The trail continues on a wide wood road to the state line, marked by a fence and a six-foot shaft erected in 1882, then descends, near the cliff edge, through a gate to High Gutter Point. This name recalls the early wood-burning river steamers which came into the bank at the foot of a chute for their fuel. Here there are good views over Hook Mountain, the old-mile-long pier at Piermont, and Tappan Zee. A staircase of natural stone leads down and west, joining the path from the river, into Skunk Hollow. This area is the Lamont Sanctuary; the path right leads to the cliff edge. The area below is not open to the public. The main path goes left (west) to 9W, where buses stop at Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory entrance. Several cars may be parked near the boulders on old 9W, or at the parking area at Point Lookout up the old highway. If returning to Point Lookout, when passing Skunk Hollow on the old highway, turn right on a wood road near a brook bed (this is a former bridle path abandoned thirty years ago). In about a half mile, as the trail begins to descend, turn right on a level wood road, cross the brook, and shortly turn left to Point Lookout.



The Palisades of the Hudson River:
 Part of Palisades Interstate Park
 Sketch map, walk map, top & a Palisades village



Drawn by Robert Louis Dickinson, 1922; Revised by D. Waugh, 1970

Map built on Vermont contour (1000 plus) studies and elaborate sketches by the draftsmen of this map

Scale of miles

Scale of miles

Scale of miles

Scale of miles

Scale of miles

Scale of miles