

# The Flower Hill Historic Trail



**Main Route Guidebook**

# The Flower Hill Historic Trail – Main Route Guidebook

This guidebook provides a description and brief history for each location on the Main Route of the Flower Hill Historic Trail. All of the locations are listed in the order of their stop numbers, starting with the Webster Avenue Bridge and ending with the George Washington Denton House. See map for more details.

1. **Webster Avenue Bridge:** The Webster Avenue Bridge was originally built over the Long Island Rail Road's track in order to connect with *Sunset Hill* – the former estate of Alfred and Alice Grace D'Oench (hence why it was historically known as the D'Oench Bridge).

Eventually, it would become a major access route between Plandome Road in Manhasset and Flower Hill.

By the 1980s, the bridge was starting to show its age, and was closed temporarily for repairs.

As of 2021, the bridge is again in a state of disrepair, and is slated to be replaced at some point during the 2020s.

2. **Flower Hill Women's Club Green:** The Women's Club of Flower Hill is our village's philanthropic and charitable organization, which was founded in 1949. Over the decades, the Women's Club of Flower Hill has sponsored many community improvement projects and contributed to many children's charities, and in the 2010s, they landscaped this traffic island during its reconstruction project; a plaque was placed to commemorate their work.
3. **Pinewood Road:** Pinewood Road's name reflects the fact that it is one of the streets which was built as part of the Pinewood at Flower Hill subdivision, which was developed by Meadows-Tierney in the 1950s.

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4. **Nelson Olmsted Green:** In the late 1940s, actor Nelson Olmsted purchased home here in Flower Hill, located on Mason Drive. Olmsted was known to take great pride in his home's garden, as reported by *Newsday* on May 7, 1949.
5. **Bridge Road:** Bridge Road's name reflects the fact that it connects directly with the Webster Avenue Bridge.
6. **Parkwoods Road:** According to early plat maps for the D'Oench Estate residential subdivision, Parkwoods Road originally was to be called Beechwood Road. The name was changed to Parkwoods Road at some point during the planning stages in the 1930s, as indicated by records. It is unknown why the name of this street was changed.

The boundary between Flower Hill and Plandome runs along the center of Parkwood Road's park strips for the road's entire length.

7. **D'Oench Green:** This traffic circle was built in the 1930s as part of the D'Oench Estate subdivision, which was developed by the Mott Brothers; the subdivision is split between Flower Hill and Plandome. Although early plat maps for the subdivision indicate that the circle was to be called Dale Circle, the name has seldom been used over the years.

The name of D'Oench Green reflects the fact that Alfred and Alice Grace D'Oench once owned this land.

8. **Dartmouth Road Dead-End:** The dead-end on this end of Dartmouth Road was never supposed to be a dead-end. When the Mott Brothers were originally planning the D'Oench Estate subdivision, they initially were going to build a road called Glenrock Road, extending from Dogwood Lane to Manhasset Woods Road; Glenrock Road would have followed the

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approximate route which Walter Lane follows today. The small portion of Dartmouth Road east of the traffic circle was to extend another couple hundred feet to the east, ending at Glenrock Road.

Additionally, early plat maps for the subdivision indicate that this portion of Dartmouth Road was to be called Dale Lane. However, that street name has seldom been used over the years, and it is typically considered to be part of Dartmouth Road.

9. **Sunset Drive:** Sunset Drive's name reflects the fact that the area was once part of the D'Oench family's estate, *Sunset Hill*.
10. **Romola Bowditch Green:** Romola Bowditch, who lived a few houses to the east of this traffic triangle on Sunset Drive, was one of the Manhasset Public Library's five founding board members, as well as one of the first two females to hold the position. In May of 1945, Bowditch famously received Manhasset's first library card.
11. **Sunset Hill Green:** This very spot marks the approximate location of the former mansion at *Sunset Hill*, which was designed by and for Alfred D'Oench and his wife, Alice Grace D'Oench.
12. **Mason Drive Oak Tree:** Near this intersection is one of the oldest oak trees on Long Island. Known as the "Mason Drive Oak Tree", this massive tree is believed to have been standing for over 400 years.

A ceremony was held by Flower Hill for Arbor Day 2018, honoring and celebrating this tree.

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13. **Stephen H. Mason Green:** Stephen H. Mason, the third Mayor of Flower Hill (serving between 1937 and 1940), owned an estate nearby. His estate would be developed into the Sunset Hills and Stratford Woods subdivisions in the 1930s and 1960s, respectively.

14. **Nassau Avenue:** According to early plat maps for the Sunset Hills subdivision, Nassau Avenue was originally to be a northern extension of Thayer Road, utilizing that name instead of Nassau Avenue.

Thayer Road is named for the late American artist, Abbott Handerson Thayer. This is due to how when the Metropolitan Museum of Art had Munsey Park developed, they opted to use a street naming convention using the surnames of famous American artists.

However, at some point during the planning stages for Sunset Hills, the map was amended, and the northern extension of Thayer Road was renamed as Nassau Avenue, thus making it the northern extension of that road. It is unknown why the name of this street was changed.

Additionally, the barrier on this Nassau Avenue at the Flower Hill-Munsey Park border was erected by Munsey Park in 1936 (along with the one on Eakins Road) as a means of limiting through traffic; the barriers were extremely controversial when first planned in 1935, and were ultimately upheld by the courts as constitutional in 1936.

15. **Mason's Overlook:** From the top of this hill, one can see the New York City skyline on a clear day. Although partially obstructed by trees during warmer months, the location is high enough for the tips of the Empire State Building, One World Trade Center, and other New York skyscrapers to be seen.

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The view of Manhattan from this part of Flower Hill was featured in a New York Times article from the 1930s, in an article on construction in the area.

The name of this scenic overlook reflects the fact that this very part of Flower Hill was once owned by Stephen H. Mason, Flower Hill's third Mayor.

16. **Mason Drive:** The name of Mason Drive reflects the fact that Stephen H. Mason, Flower Hill's third Mayor, once owned a large estate in this area, and had Mason Drive constructed in the 1930s as part of the Sunset Hills subdivision.

17. **Eakins Road:** Eakins Road is named for the late American artist, Thomas Eakins. This is due to the fact that when the Metropolitan Museum of Art had Munsey Park developed, they opted to use a street naming convention using the surnames of famous American artists.

The barrier on Eakins Road at the Flower Hill-Munsey Park border was erected by Munsey Park in 1936 (along with the one on Nassau Avenue) as a means of limiting through traffic; the barriers were extremely controversial when first planned by Munsey Park in 1935, and were ultimately upheld as being constitutional by the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court in 1936.

18. **Dogwood Lane:** According to early plat maps for the Sunset Hills subdivision, Dogwood Lane was to be named D'Oench lane. This was due to the road's proximity to the D'Oench family's estate, named *Sunset Hill*. The name of D'Oench Lane was changed to Dogwood Lane at some point during the planning stages in the 1930s, as indicated by records. It is unknown why the name of this street was changed.

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19. **Colonial Estates Entrance:** When originally built in the 1930s, this entrance to Colonial Estates featured an abundance of flowers, which was noted by the Brooklyn Daily Eagle. According to the April 10, 1938 edition of that paper, two thousand tulips, lilies, and other bulbs were planted at this very location, with each of Dogwood Lane at the eastern part of the intersection featuring one thousand bulbs.

20. **Eldersfields Road:** The name of Eldersfields Road reflects the fact that this land was once owned by shipping executive Carlos W. Munson, Flower Hill's founding father. Munson named his estate *Eldersfields*, and this name has been used ever since the subdivision was developed by T.B. Ackerson in the 1920s and 1930s.

21. **Charles Bagley Wright Green:** Around 1940, a child by the name of Charles Bagley Wright moved into a home on Eldersfields Road, located slightly to the south of this traffic triangle.

Wright would eventually become a major real estate developer and philanthropist, and was one of the five main developers of the Seattle Space Needle.

22. **Carlos W. Munson Green:** This area of Flower Hill was once owned by Carlos W. Munson, a shipping executive and Flower Hill's founding father.

In the 1920s and 1930s, Munson would sell off large portions of his estate to developers, who would construct new residential developments on the land. Due to his guidance, generosity, and leadership in incorporating Flower Hill as a village, he was offered the position of Flower Hill's first Mayor. However, Munson declined the offer, and instead accepted the position of Village Trustee.

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At the first board meeting following his death in 1940, the Trustees held a moment of silence for Munson, and spoke about his life and the gratitude felt towards him by Flower Hill.

Their closing line was the following:

“He [Carlos Walter Munson] was the First Citizen of Flower Hill and it is fitting that his name be in some way indelibly impressed upon this Village for the perpetuation of his memory.”

23. **Boone/Pulitzer Residence:** This Aspinwall and Simpson-designed home at 193 Elderfields Road was built for Rodney E. Boone. It would eventually be purchased by Ralph Pulitzer, Jr.

24. **Birch Lane Dead-End:** The Village of Flower Hill once owned the lot immediately north of this dead end. and the acquisition allowed for the possibility for Birch Lane to be extended northwards to Bonnie Heights Road, as stated in the minutes from the October 11, 1958 Board of Trustee meeting.

The acquisition was recommended by a committee of the Flower Hill Association in March 1945. However, the lot was ultimately sold, and the dead end remains.

25. **Elm Lane:** According to early plat maps for Strathmore at Flower Hill, Elm Lane was originally to be called Peachtree Lane. However, this name was changed during the planning stages, likely due to the fact that a Peachtree Lane already existed in the Broadridge section of Flower Hill.

Additionally, this subdivision would ultimately be built by Country Estates, Incorporated as opposed to Levitt & Sons after the latter cancelled their plans and sold the property.



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26. **St. Francis Hospital:** When Carlos Munson and his wife, Mabel first moved to Flower Hill around 1900, they were soon alarmed when they took an evening stroll and noticed “the tumble-down buildings and the carousing of drunken men” which plagued the area at the time. This resulted in Carlos purchasing large portions of land to remove the drunks and the derelict buildings.

It was around this time that two sisters from the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary visited the Munsons to try and sell hand-made goods for charity. The Munsons quickly formed a friendship with the nuns, and offered them 15 acres of his estate. The offer was accepted, and the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary established the St. Francis Home in 1922 as a summer camp for poor children.

In the 1930s, after learning that many poor New York school children suffered from rheumatic heart conditions, they would turn it into a sanatorium for children with rheumatic heart conditions.

In 1954, St. Francis would begin taking in adults as well as children, and they would continue to expand and grow.

Today, Saint Francis Hospital is one of America’s leading heart care centers and is New York’s only specialty-designated heart care center – and it is all thanks to “the carousing of drunken men” and a friendship.

27. **Elderfields Preserve:** Originally owned by the Hewlett family for roughly 224 years, this home was sold to Carlos and Mabel Munson at the turn of the 20th Century. Carlos and

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Mabel would live here until their deaths. Following the death of Carlos in 1940, the property was sold to Henry Williams.

As per the will of Henry Williams, the property was bequeathed to the County of Nassau, and it has been operated by Nassau as a park, museum, and preserve ever since.

The main building, the Hewlett-Munson-Williams House, is one of the oldest homes in Nassau County, and rivals in age the historic Van Nostrand-Starkins house in neighboring Roslyn.

28. **Bonnie Heights Road:** While it is unknown how Bonnie Heights Road got its name, many speculate that the first part of this street's name is derived from the Scottish word "bonnie", which means beautiful, attractive, etc. in English, thus meaning that the name of Bonnie Heights Road translates to something along the lines of "Beautiful Heights Road."

Additionally, not long after Carlos Munson's death, the Village proposed renaming the street as "Munson Road" or "Carlos Munson Road", with the latter being the chosen name for the proposal, as it was more specific.

29. **Logan Murder:** During the early morning hours of July 24, 1946, a burglar and murderer by the name of Ward Beecher Caraway broke into the estate of Mayor W. John Logan, which was located in this area.

Once inside, Caraway murdered Mayor Logan's wife, Marjorie Church Logan, and then assaulted and severely injured their daughter, Marjory Jeanne Logan.

Following the incident, a major, chaotic investigation took place, and Caraway confessed on the night of August 2, 1946. Caraway, who worked at another Flower Hill estate

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nearby, was sentenced to death for his actions, and was executed by chair at Sing Sing Prison in Ossining, New York on July 3, 1947.

30. **Philip L. Becker Residence:** This home was designed in the 1930s by Aspinwall & Simpson for Philip L. Becker, the President of the American Chicle Company and Flower Hill's former Planning Board President.

31. **Hawkins Residence:** A significant, historic home built for the Hawkins family.

32. **Manhasset Woods Road:** Manhasset Woods Road's name is likely due to how this area was historically forested.

33. **Walter Lane:** Walter Lane's name is due to how John W. Walter, Flower Hill's fourteenth Mayor, once owned the entirety of what is now the Manhasset Glen subdivision. Walter had this portion of his estate developed in the 1990s, and Walter Lane is the sole street in this subdivision.

34. **Ricks Estate Guest House & Driveway Walls:** These are amongst the only remnants of the former estate of Jesse Ricks, named *Chanticleare*. The main, 42-room mansion and this guest house were constructed for Ricks in the 1920s, and were both designed by the architect Frederick A. Godley.

Following the mansion's demolition in the 1960s, this guest house would remain standing as a private residence, and the stone walls on each side of the former driveway remain intact.

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35. **Chanticleare Drive:** Chanticleare Drive is named for the former estate of Jesse Ricks, *Chanticleare*, which this street was built over. The subdivision is called *Chanticleare at Flower Hill* for this reason, as well.

This street would become a wild scene in 1980, when a resident's son-in-law, who was a lion tamer, visited and parked five trailers filled with lions and tigers on this street. This would lead to Trustee Rhoda H. Becker proposing a new local law banning wild animals, which was ultimately approved and signed into law.

36. **Chanticleare (Mansion) Site:** The Chanticleare mansion, which was owned by Jesse Ricks, was located in this general area near the curve in Drake Lane. The developers, Edwin and Walter Ketay, initially planned to save the 42-room mansion, but it was ultimately demolished.

In 1968, the organ formerly located in the mansion's music room was donated by John Ricks and his sister, Jane Ricks King to Hofstra University in nearby Hempstead. The three-bank Aeolian electro-pneumatic pipe organ was valued at \$115,000 at the time, and was installed in Hofstra University's John Cranford Adams Playhouse that fall.

37. **Drake Lane Cul-De-Sac:** This cul-de-sac was the original terminus of Drake Lane prior to the construction of the Chanticleare at Flower Hill subdivision.

38. **Hemlock Road:** According to early plat maps for the northern parts of the Flower Hill Country Estates subdivision, Hemlock Road originally was to be called Robin Road. The name was changed to Hemlock Road at some point during the planning stages in the 1950s, as indicated by records. It is unknown why the name of this street was changed.

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Additionally, the Country Estates subdivision of nearby East Hills was developed around the same time by the same firm, Country Estates, Inc., and has a street called Hemlock Drive.

39. **Brook Lane:** The name for Brook Lane is likely due to how the northernmost tip of the road is near a brook, which is now part of the area's drainage system.

40. **Chestnut Road:** According to early plat maps for the northern parts of the Flower Hill Country Estates subdivision, Chestnut Road originally was to be called Quaker Ridge Road. The name was changed to Chestnut Road at some point during the planning stages in the 1950s, as indicated by records. The original name was due to how the street would have been located in the never-built Quaker Ridge subdivision.

Additionally, the Country Estates subdivision of nearby East Hills was developed around the same time by the same firm, Country Estates, Inc., and has a street called Chestnut Drive.

41. **Ricks' Overlook:** From the top of the hill on Chestnut Road, the Throgs Neck Bridge is visible in the distance – particularly during the winter months.

The name of this scenic overlook reflects the fact that this area used to be owned by Jesse Ricks.

42. **Sands-Willets House:** The Sands-Willets Homestead is one of the oldest homes in Flower Hill and on the Cow Neck peninsula. It was originally built ca. 1735, and would expand over the next several decades as the family size grew. Local folklore has it that George Washington visited

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the home during the American Revolution, as the Sands and Willets families were very active in the war effort.

In the 1970s, Eliza K. Willets sold the home to the Cow Neck Peninsula Historical Society, and it remains their headquarters to this very day.

The home is listed as a Village of Flower Hill Historical Site and is on the National Register of Historic Places.

43. **Homewood Place:** The name of Homewood Place is shared with the subdivision; Homewood was developed by Homewood Properties Ltd.

Furthermore, the Lapham residence was named *Homewood*, and was located in this area.

44. **Vincent Smith School:** The Vincent Smith School is a private school established by Adelaide Vincent Smith in 1924.

Over the years, the Vincent Smith School would grow to serve children from first grade through twelfth grade.

Threatened with closure in the 1960s due to a lack of revenue, parents grouped together to raise the funds needed to keep the school operating.

Today, the Vincent Smith School continues to operate, and specializes in teaching children with learning disabilities.

45. **Country Estates Gateway Entrance:** These walls are the replacement gateway walls for Country Estates, and were constructed after the original walls were demolished in 1957, when

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Port Washington Boulevard was reconstructed. This reconstruction project saw Waring Drive's slope be increased, as Port Washington Boulevard was raised roughly four feet.

The original walls were demolished as a result, despite local outcry against doing that and increasing the slope.

Prior to their demolition, locals held a sit-in demonstration on the wall. Amongst these locals was opera star Miriam "Mimi" Benzell, who lived on Cardinal Road.

46. **North Hempstead Country Club:** The North Hempstead Country Club was established in 1916. As such, it predates the incorporation of Flower Hill as a village by roughly 15 years. Its golf course was designed by the famed golf course architect A.W. Tillinghast.

Due to sand mining operations in the area, its design was altered in the 1950s by architect Robert Trent Jones.

In March of 1962, a small plane crash-landed on the golf course after suffering an engine failure; there were no injuries.

The Tillinghast design was restored in the 1990s as part of a renovation project.

In 2018, the North Hempstead Country Club purchased the adjacent A. Wright Chapman Residence, tore it down, and constructed a driving range in its place.

47. **Miriam Benzell Green:** Metropolitan Opera and Broadway star Miriam "Mimi" Benzell lived diagonally from this park strip.

Benzell was a vocal advocate for the community, and when the infamous reconstruction of the Waring Drive/Port Washington Boulevard intersection took place in

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1957, she participated in a sit-in with several other concerned residents to protest the controversial project.

48. **Stonytown Road:** Stonytown Road's name comes from the historic village of Stony Town, which this road led to.

Stony Town was located near where Plandome Station is presently located. Stonytown Road has previously been called Stoningtown and Stonington Roads.

The Village of Flower Hill purchased this road from Nassau County in the 2000s, and would eventually add a pedestrian and bicycle path along the shoulder of the road.

49. **Future 9/11 Memorial:** On September 11, 2001, Flower Hill lost a number of residents who had either lived in Flower Hill at the time of the attacks or had previously done so.

This memorial shall serve as an eternal testament to the memories of the Flower Hillers and all other innocent lives lost on that fateful day.

50. **Flower Hill Village Park:** The Flower Hill Village Park was first created by Nassau County in the 1960s as Flower Hill County Park.

In 2007, the park was purchased by Flower Hill, as many locals felt that it was of no use to residents. Following this purchase, Flower Hill gave the park a complete makeover. The landscaping was extensively redone by Village Arborist Ann C. Frankel, a playground and sports facilities were added, as well as a stage. Over the course of less than ten years, the Village of Flower Hill transformed this very park into a proud symbol of our community.



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The park also contains numerous memorials. These include a memorial for Trustee Karen Reichenbach, another for Public Works Superintendent Scott Hislop, and one for the locals lost on September 11, 2001.

51. **Future Munson Real Estate Office Plaque:** This plaque marks the former location of Carlos Munson's real estate office. This building was where residents voted unanimously on April 27, 1931 to incorporate Flower Hill as a village, and was where many of Flower Hill's earliest meetings were held.

In 1948, Flower Hill Village Hall was constructed on the property as its replacement.

52. **Village Hall:** Flower Hill Village Hall was constructed in 1948 over the site of Carlos Munson's real estate office. Designed by architect Henry W. Johanson, the building was initially designed to only include the most essential of services, as there was considerable opposition to its construction at the time.

In 1951, a contentious political battle occurred over whether or not coffee and doughnuts should be served after meetings; the incumbents who opposed serving these items were ultimately reelected during that election.

Village Hall would be expanded over the years, and the newer sections were designed to conform with the original parts of the building.

In 2006, a time capsule was buried in front of Village Hall to celebrate Flower Hill's 75th Anniversary, and will be opened in 2081.

53. **Old Blacksmith:** The old blacksmith was located in this approximate area.

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54. **Old Spring:** According to Carlos Munson, the stream which runs adjacent to this side of Port Washington Boulevard was a key reason for the old Flower Hill's existence.

Today, the stream is part of the area's local drainage system.

55. **Daniel Ireland's Tavern & Old General Store:** This was the approximate location of both the old general store and Daniel Ireland's Tavern. Ireland's tavern was infamous for being the source of drunken men congregating in the area, and was the key reason why Carlos Munson purchased additional land in the area.

56. **Henry W. Johanson Green:** Henry W. Johanson was the architect of several buildings in Flower Hill. This includes Village Hall, which is located directly across Port Washington Boulevard from this traffic triangle.

Additionally, Johanson would eventually serve as one of our village's building inspectors, and would hold this position for several years.

57. **Flower Hill Hotel:** This was the approximate location of the old Flower Hill Hotel.

58. **Flower Hill Cemetery:** Also known as the Burtis Cemetery, this historic cemetery dates back to the American Revolution, and is where many prominent, early locals are buried.

59. **East High Road:** According to early plat maps for the original areas which Carlos Munson had developed by the T.B. Ackerson, East High Road was once supposed to be called East Crescent. The name was changed to East High Road at some point during the planning stages. It is unknown why the name was changed.

60. **Old Well:** This was the approximate location of the old well for the old village.

61. **Canning Factory:** This was the approximate location of the old canning factory.

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62. **Trolley Siding Site:** This was the approximate location of the former New York & North Shore trolley siding. This siding was one of many trolley sidings to exist along the entirety of the route, which mostly consisted of a single track.

63. **Old Slave Quarters:** This was the approximate location of the Hewlett Homestead's former slave quarters. Contrary to what is often written in history textbooks, it was not uncommon for slavery to exist in the northern parts of the United States.

Although it is unknown when or for how long slavery was used at the Hewlett Homestead, the existence of slave labor here and of these outbuildings have been confirmed by an old map and in old newspaper articles.

64. **Old Post Office:** This was the approximate location of the former post office for the old village.

65. **E.A. DeQuintal Residence & Outbuilding:** The main home and the outbuilding seen here were built for E.A. DeQuintal. DeQuintal was one of the original members of our local government.

66. **Country Club Drive:** Country Club Drive reflects the fact that much of the road is located next to the North Hempstead Country Club. According to early plat maps, the easternmost segment of the street was originally named East Drive. Although this part of the road has almost always been officially considered to be part of Country Club Drive, tax maps include a parenthetical reference to the segment's original name.

67. **Hewlett Lane:** Hewlett Lane was named for the Hewlett family's farm, how the subdivision is built atop portions of the former farm, and its name directly correlates to this.

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Additionally, an old road of the same name once ran near the newer road.

68. **Farmview Road:** Farmview Road was named as such, due to the fact that it bordered the Hewlett family's farm, and because the subdivision is built atop portions of the former farm.

69. **Future Hewlett Homestead Plaque:** This plaque marks the approximate location of the former Hewlett Homestead, which was built by the Hewlett family during the 18th Century.

In the 1980s, it was saved by developer Ivo Matkovic, and the home became the centerpiece of the Hewlett Farm subdivision.

In the 2010s, the home was demolished by a developer who erected two new homes in its place.

70. **Hewlett House Green:** In this approximate area stood the former Hewlett Homestead. Built by the Hewlett family during the 18th Century, this home would be expanded over the years as the family grew.

Elizabeth Hewlett Hopkins and her husband, Milton Hopkins sold the home and the last remaining portion of the farm in the 1980s to Ivo Matkovic, a retired shipping executive. Matkovic developed this area into the Hewlett Farm subdivision, and made this home its centerpiece.

In the 2010s, another developer purchased this home, demolished it, subdivided the lot, and erected two new homes in its place.

71. **Old Farm Green:** This area was once part of the Hewlett family's farm, and was its last remaining portion by the time it was sold in the 1980s to developer Ivo Matkovic.

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72. **Milton Hopkins Green:** Milton Hopkins was a professor of biology, a historian, and a textbook editor. Additionally, he served as the President of the Cow Neck Peninsula Historical Society and lived in the former Hewlett Homestead. He was married to Elizabeth Hewlett Hopkins.

73. **Brookside Drive:** Brookside Drive's name reflects the fact that an old brook runs adjacent to it.

When Walter Uhl developed the Flower Hill Estates subdivision, the brook was shifted into an easement behind the properties on the southern side of the road.

74. **Hewlett's Overlook:** During the Winter months, Hempstead Harbor is visible behind the trees from this spot.

The name of this scenic overlook reflects that the Hewlett family once owned this general area of Flower Hill.

75. **Humus Area:** The eighteen-acre Heritage Hills at Flower Hill subdivision was the location of an infamous humus bog, discovered by Walter Uhl when developing the Flower Hill Estates subdivision. This area was commonly referred to by Flower Hill's officials and the press as "The Humus Area" and "The Humus Bog" for this reason.

The humus in this area hindered any development in this area for many years, and it was finally developed in the 1970s by Holiday Park Industries.

76. **Walter Uhl Green:** Walter Uhl was arguably the most important and influential builder in Flower Hill's history. Uhl built the first five sections of the Flower Hill Estates subdivision. This traffic triangle is located in the sixth and final section of the subdivision, which was

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developed by Alrad Realty Co. Inc., although the lot immediately to the west of this park is part of the area developed and built by Uhl. The homes and areas built by Uhl are amongst the most famous in Flower Hill.

77. **Sunnyvale Road:** According to early plat maps for the sixth section of Flower Hill Estates, Sunnyvale Road was originally planned to be called Bridle Path or Fairway when Alrad Realty was developing the area in the 1950s. The name Bridle Path is included as a parenthetical reference on Sunnyvale Road's tax maps. It is unknown why the name was changed to Sunnyvale Road.
78. **Woodland Court:** According to early plat maps for the Mashady Estates subdivision, Woodland Court was originally supposed to be called Mashady Court; the subdivision was developed by the Mashady Development Corporation and was constructed over the former Roslyn-Flower Hill Elementary School. The name was changed to Woodland Court at some point during the planning process for the subdivision. It is unknown why the name was changed.
79. **Old School Green:** This traffic island is located approximately where the Roslyn-Flower Hill Elementary School's field was located. The Roslyn Union Free School District purchased the property in the late 1940s, and the school was opened on January 12, 1951. The Roslyn Union Free School District purchased the property in the late 1940s, and the school was opened on January 12, 1951.

The school was designed by the Manhattan-based firm of Moore & Hutchins, and was built as part of the same project as East Hills Elementary School and the former Highland

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Elementary School. The Flower Hill School and the Highland School were notable for their small design, which was designed to make the home-to-school transition easier for little kids.

The school served local children between kindergarten and the third grade, and operated until the early 1980s, when it was closed due to declining enrollment numbers. Following its closure, the Mashady Development Corporation subdivided the property and constructed eight new homes in its place.

80. **Woodland Road:** The name of Woodland Road likely reflects the fact that this portion of Flower Hill was historically a wooded area.

81. **Ridge Drive East Cul-De-Sac:** This cul-de-sac was the original terminus of Ridge Drive East prior to the construction of Woodland Road and the Wildwood at Flower Hill subdivision.

82. **Sand Miner's Overlook:** From this location at the top of this hill, the Long Island Sound and Westchester County are visible.

The name of this scenic overlook reflects the famous sand mining operations which took place in the area throughout much of the 20th Century.

Additionally, parts of what are now modern-day Woodland Road and the Wildwood at Flower Hill subdivision were once owned by Colonial Sand & Gravel.

Furthermore, this hill overlooks the areas once used for sand mining operations; much of which is now the Harbor Park Planned Industrial Park.

83. **Hearst's Overlook:** This scenic overlook, which is located on Fernwood Lane between Woodland Road and the cul-de-sac slightly downhill, provides a spectacular view of

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Hempstead Harbor, Roslyn, Roslyn Harbor, and East Hills – especially during the Winter months. John Randolph Hearst, the son of William, once owned this portion of Flower Hill.

The Hearsts would sell this land in the 1950s to the Greenway Construction Corporation, which would redevelop the area as the Roslyn Hills subdivision.

84. **Fernwood Lane:** According to early plat maps for the Roslyn Hills subdivision, Fernwood Lane was to be called Edith Lane. This is likely due to the fact that the wife of George L. Bailey, the subdivision's developer, was named Edith. The name was changed at some point during the planning process for the subdivision. It is unknown why the name was changed to Fernwood Lane.

85. **Anderson/Hearst Farmhouse:** This farmhouse was once part of Henry H. Anderson's estate. In 1946, Anderson's estate would be sold to John Randolph Hearst, the son of William. John Randolph Hearst and his wife, Fanne Wade Hearst owned the estate for a few years before selling it to the Greenway Construction Corporation.

Today, this home is a private residence, and is one of the only remnants of the former estate – along with its barn-turned-garage.

86. **Ridge Drive East:** The name of Ridge Drive East reflects the fact that the subdivision name is Broadridge at Flower Hill, and is the easternmost of the Ridge Drives within the Broadridge subdivision.

87. **Center Drive Southern Extension:** In the early days of the Broadridge subdivision, Sycamore Drive used to extend approximately 200 feet to the southeast between Ridge Drive East and what is now Northern Boulevard, and was eliminated due to the poor grade of the



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land. This segment of Center Drive was constructed circa 1950 in order to connect with Mineola Avenue's northern extension to the newer Northern Boulevard and replace the aforementioned section of Sycamore Drive.

The hearing for the abandonment and replacement took place at Village Hall on December 14, 1949.

At the time this was being done, Mineola Avenue was in the process of being extended northwards from what is now Old Northern Boulevard to the newer route.

88. **Old Mott Barn Site:** This was the approximate site of an old barn, which was once part of the Mott family's farm.

89. **Center Drive:** The name of Center Drive reflects how the street traverses the center of the Broadridge at Flower Hill subdivision.

There were once plans to extend Center Drive to Woodland Road and into what is now Birchdale Lane; these plans were never implemented for various reasons.

The portion of Center Drive between Ridge Drive East and Northern Boulevard was built as a replacement for the Sycamore Drive entrance following the completion of the original part of Center Drive.

90. **Roslyn–Flower Hill Elementary School Sign & Fence:** This very location was originally the site of the entrance to the parking lot for the Roslyn–Flower Hill Elementary School.

Although the school, its playground, its field, and its parking lot were all dismantled following its closure, the fence at the northern part of the curve in the roadway is a remnant of

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the school, and continues to hold an old sign, which states how the walking of dogs on school property is prohibited.

91. **Middle Neck Road:** Middle Neck Road was originally a continuous route designation between Northern Boulevard and the tip of Sands Point, and its name reflects how the road crosses the middle of the Cow Neck Peninsula.

The North Shore Line of the New York & North Shore Traction Company ran along Middle Neck Road from Northern Boulevard to what is now Main Street in Port Washington.

92. **Warren Moss Green:** Warren Moss was a former President of the Rolling Wood Civic Association. Moss was very devoted to this role and was a constant advocate for the Rolling Wood subdivision. He was one of the key figures in changing the former traffic triangle at this location into this traffic circle, which took place in the 1960s.

93. **Howard Fein Green:** Howard Fein was a former President of the Rolling Wood Civic Association. Fein was very devoted to this role and was a constant advocate for the Rolling Wood subdivision.

94. **George Bryant Green:** George Edison Bryant served as the Superintendent of the Roslyn Union Free School District for many years and lived on Bayberry Ridge. He served as Roslyn's Superintendent of Schools when the district purchased the land for the Roslyn–Flower Hill Elementary School in 1948 and when the school was ultimately opened in 1951.

In addition to serving as the Superintendent of the Roslyn School District, Bryant also served as a Village Trustee and as the Director of the Flower Hill Association.

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95. **Guggenheim Green:** The name of this traffic island reflects the fact that Edmund A. Guggenheim owned this very land before it was sold to developers.

96. **Ridge Drive West:** The name of Ridge Drive West reflects the fact that the subdivision name is Broadridge at Flower Hill, and is the westernmost of the Ridge Drives within the Broadridge subdivision.

97. **Desmond Gallagher Green:** Staff Sergeant Desmond A. Gallagher was a hero of the United States Air Force during the Second World War and received a Purple Heart for his service and heroism. He resided down the road from this park.

98. **Trolley Junction:** This intersection marks the location where the North Shore and Flushing branches of the New York and North Shore Traction Company met.

99. **Roslyn Trolley Yard:** The location of the former Roslyn Trolley Barn for the New York and North Shore Traction Company.

It is believed that the Flower Hill Auto Body garage is the former trolley shed.

100. **Trolley Substation:** This was the approximate site of an electrical substation for the New York & North Shore Traction Company.

101. **Landmark Diner:** The Landmark Diner has been operating since the 1960s, and was originally located two lots to the east (where Roche Bobois is now located).

In 2009, this replacement building opened, and the Landmark Diner became the first prefabricated double-decker diner in the United States of America.

102. **Old Mott Farm Shed Site:** This was the approximate site of an old farm shed, which was once part of the Mott farm.

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103. **Old Mott Farmhouse Site:** This was the approximate site of an old farmhouse, which was once part of the Mott farm.
104. **Eastman Carriage House:** This home, which is designated as a landmark by the Roslyn Landmark Society, was originally constructed as the carriage house for the George Eastman Cottage located just south of this home.
105. **George Washington Denton House:** This home was built sometime between 1873 and 1875, and was one of four Roslyn area places of interest to be mentioned in a Long Island Rail Road guidebook in 1877.

The George Washington Denton House is designated as a landmark by the Roslyn Landmark Society, is a Village of Flower Hill Historical Site, and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on August 29, 1985.