

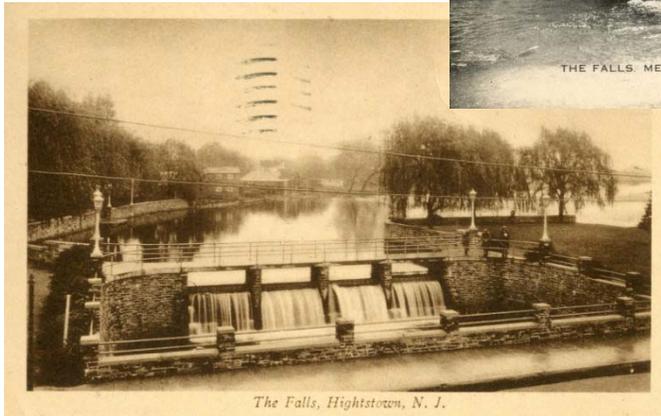
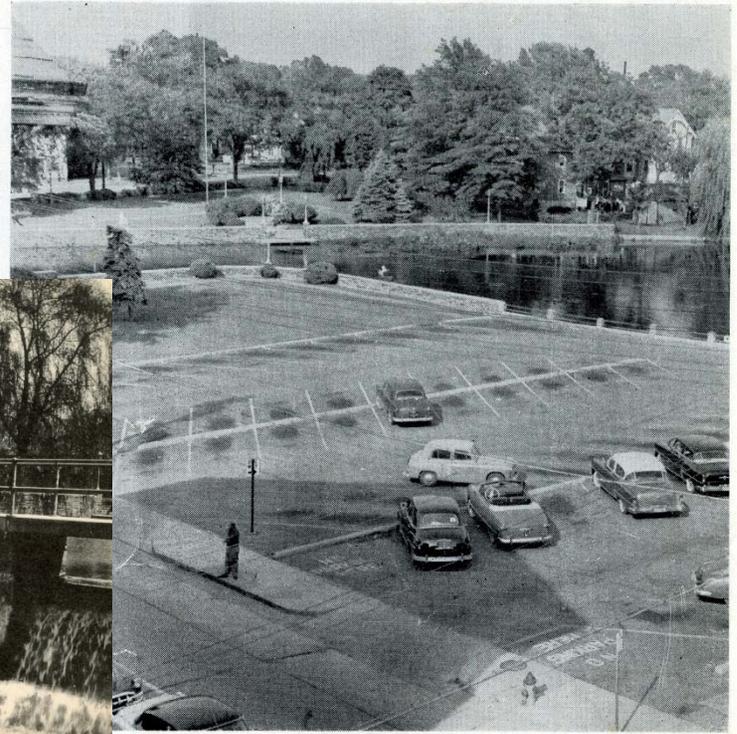


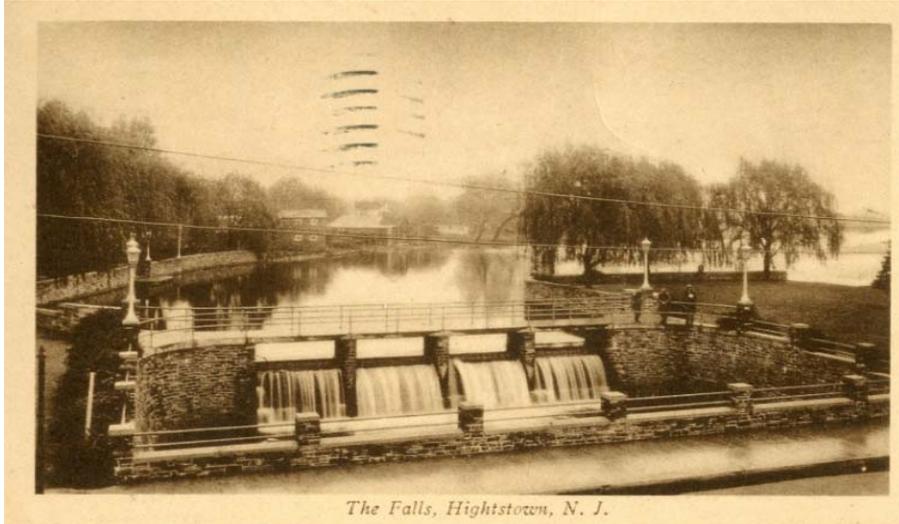
# **Hightstown Borough Greenway Bridge Committee**

Plan for Replacing the Greenway  
Bridge over Peddie Lake Dam

August 2010

# History of The Greenway Bridge





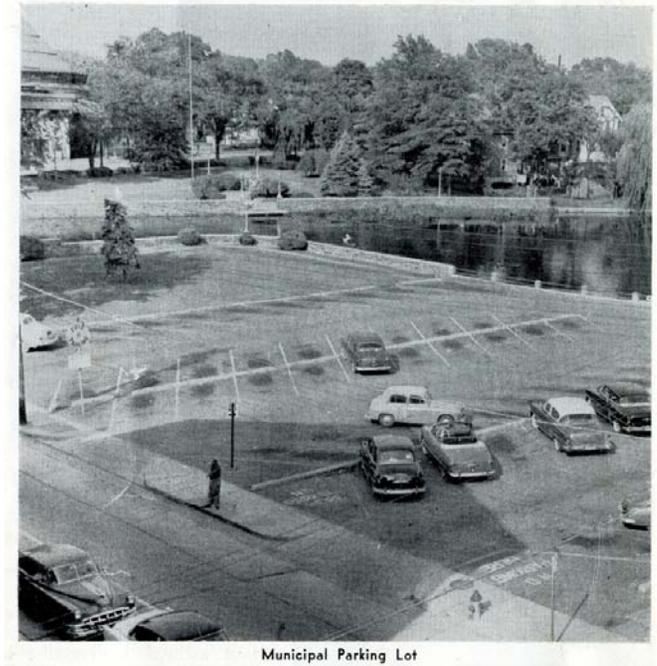
# History of Memorial Park and The Greenway Bridge

- The Gross Brothers' Feed Mill and other mills located at the intersection of Franklin and Main Streets were the first things people entering town from the east saw
- In that period of time, the wooden dam which formed Peddie Lake was covered by the mill structures and an enclosed wooden walk-way--the pre-cursor to our current Greenway bridge.
- On the right side of the dam, stood the old saw mill, and several buildings housed businesses – a blacksmith shop, a barber shop, a movie theatre and a garage
- All changed in 1920, when a fire began in the mills. The mill dust spread the fire, burning the entire mill area including all the wooden buildings from Franklin Street up to the Railroad Hotel, now the Tavern on the Lake.

# History of Memorial Park and The Greenway Bridge



- Immediately, a massive clean-up began, spurred on by the fact that the Hightstown's 200<sup>th</sup> birthday was approaching and plans for the Bicentennial Celebration in 1921 were underway.
- The owners of the properties decided not to rebuild the mills and the empty lots were bought by a group of local businessmen with the property deeded to the town as a site for a Memorial Park in honor of the local soldiers who served our country in World War I.
- Thus the town acquired the property almost up to Stockton Street and began the rebuilding of Hightstown. The dirt covered Main Street was paved and sidewalks were put in place.
- A huge flag pole (one hundred feet tall), for what was later to become the site of the opening ceremonies of the Bicentennial, was set into place in what would later become known as Memorial Park.



# History of Memorial Park and The Greenway Bridge



- Completing the renewal of the mill area was the removal of the wooden dam and the retaining walls which were replaced with the present rock wall and concrete dam that we see today
- All of the rebuilding was done through a community effort guided by the local businessmen involved in the Hightstown Board of Trade. The whole project was to cost an estimated \$25,000 and all of it had to be raised by contributions.
- The fundraising drive lasted all of three weeks with the entire amount being raised in that period of time!!

# History of Memorial Park and The Greenway Bridge

- Through this effort by the people of our community, Hightstown's downtown area was rebuilt. A letter sent to households stated, "The estimated cost of the whole enterprise is \$25,000 and every man, woman and child of our community will be urged to make some contribution to the fund.
- A certificate will be issued to each subscriber. Pledge buttons, window cards, with small American flag stickers for each member of the family contributing will also be furnished" ...it ended with "Yours for the good of Hightstown and the glory of her sons." It was signed by C. Herbert Davison, Pres.; and Wm. H. Franklin, Sec.



# Goals by The Mayor

1. Determine whether to replace the bridge, or demolish
  - Replace Bridge & Partially Demolish Supports
2. What design and specifications should a new bridge contain
  - Pre-Fab
3. What will be the costs for engineering and construction for Bridge
  - Approx \$75,000
4. What funding sources can be considered
  - Many !!
5. How the final project is celebrated
  - Library Anniversary



# Replacement Options

Option 1: Replace same style

- Not practical: problems with current water flow and railings

Option 2: Replace with newly designed bridge

- Not practical due to cost

Option 3: Purchase and install Pre-Fab bridge

- Reasonable cost, design included (except footings)
- Eliminates water flow problem



# Design Status



Pre-Fab bridge preliminary design complete!!

- Cost Estimate \$75,000
- Bridge \$40,000 (3 quotes)
- Footings, Engineering, Misc. Estimate \$35,000
- Currently reviewing funding options
- Cost includes the cost of Handicap ramps

# Funding Options

What funding sources can be considered for the GREENWAY walking bridge?

<u>Ideas</u>	<u># People</u>	<u>Level Effort</u>	<u>\$ Possible</u>	<u>Focus Group</u>
Grant/Bond	2 to 3	High	\$45 - \$75K	Council/Committee
Road Show	2 to 3	Low to Medium	\$10-20K	Service Groups and other Non-profits
One Premier Event	10 to 20	Medium to High	\$10K	Town's People
Mass Mailing/Sponsor	2 to 3	Low to Medium	\$4-7K	Town's People
Kid's Collection	5 to 10	High	\$3-6K	Kid's
Fundraiser Dinner	1 to 2	Medium	\$3-4K	Restaurants
		Conservative Total	\$75K	

# Current Committee Status

- Requesting Council Approval to move forward (Resolutions)
- May have access to seed money for the Greenway Bridge, if resolution approved by council
- Next Steps:
  - Explore Grant/Bond
  - Present to all Hightstown Service/Non-Profits
  - Form committees to plan Premier Event, Mass Mailing, Kid's Promotion
  - Focus all energy on funding
  - Create long term plan for Memorial Park to be implemented after bridge complete
  - Plan celebration of new bridge and recommit for completion/upgrade of Memorial Park



**Questions?**