

**Crescent Park and Edgemere Park  
Stewardship Outline Plans  
April 2022**

Prepared for  
Sea Girt Conservancy

Prepared by  
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FoHVOS New Jersey Invasive Species Strike Team



An amazing old American Holly at Crescent Park

## **Brief Narrative**

Mike Matthews, Michael Meixsell, and Mike Van Clef visited Crescent Park and Edgemere Park on 4 April 2022. Previous activities and restoration plans were discussed, along with a general discussion of plant communities and species. This brief report is intended to guide overall stewardship of each park with specific attention on restoration projects to be completed in Spring 2022. Maps are provided for each park including 1930 and 2015 aerial photography.

### **Tables summarizing collected observations:**

The following is a summary with notes on interpreting provided tables.

- Table 1 – Site Descriptions
  - Broad descriptions for each park
- Table 2 – Invasive Species List
  - There is a single table with presence/absence at each park. Each species is provided with Relative Threat Level (High, Moderate, Low), Stewardship Goal (1 = Eradicate all individuals, 2 = Control through long-term program, 3 = Do not treat unless resources allow), and a Stewardship Note indicating infestation levels and treatment suggestions.
- Table 3 – Crescent Park Stewardship Recommendations
  - The eradication of emerging invasive species is considered the highest priority goal, followed by invasive species control within restoration areas. Four additional invasive species control goals are also provided. The restoration goal includes general guidance on plant costs by type.
    - The Conservancy should consider installing perimeter deer enclosure fencing to assure long-term recovery of forest health. This would be initially costly and require regular monitoring and maintenance but is the only practical way to allow natural tree regeneration and development of forest understory shrubs and wildflowers.
- Table 4 – Edgemere Park Stewardship Recommendations
  - Invasive species control within restoration areas is considered the highest priority goal because no emerging species were detected. One additional invasive species control goal is also provided. The restoration goal includes general guidance on plant costs by type.
- Table 5 – Potential Restoration Species
  - This table includes potential restoration species that may be used over time. Specific species nursery availability and pricing for spring 2022 is provided. Availability is quite reduced, primarily due to COVID-19 impacts, but also because of increased customer demand for native plants. It is hoped that availability will increase in 2023 and beyond.
    - ‘Strawman’ quantities were included, but this can be refined as necessary before orders are placed.

- Crescent Park – Restoration Areas #1 and #2
  - Each area is 0.15 acres for a total of 0.3 acres or 13,000 square feet
  - If using wildflower plugs, planting density should be 1 plant per square foot or 13,000 plants.
    - This is defrayed by suggesting the purchase of seeds of Black-eyed Susan and Purpletop Grass that can be hand sown to form a more uniform meadow cover in the near term.
    - Wildflower plugs should be planted as ‘randomly’ as possible to provide a naturalistic appearance.
      - TIP: Provide 5 plugs of a single species to each volunteer and ask them to plant them in a group with 1 foot spacing between plants and a minimum of 3 feet between 5-plant groupings. Volunteers can return for another group of 5 plugs and repeat. This will lead to a more naturalistic planting pattern. In my experience, too much planning leads to regular plant placement that appears more garden-like.
    - Alternate Option: Purchase a complete seed mix. This can be sown by hand for fall planting or a contractor with a seed drill can apply in spring.
  - Woody plant options are provided in Table 4.
    - Total of 100 trees are listed including 20 each of Blackjack Oak, Black Tupelo, Gray Birch, Persimmon, and Scarlet Oak. This would lead to a high planting density, especially if all are planted in Restoration Area #1. Reduced trees or replacement of some trees with shrubs may be considered (but many shrubs require protective cages). This level of woody plantings would preclude the “alternate option” of using a seed mix as meadow cover would be relatively short-lived due to shading.
- Edgemere Park Restoration Area
  - 0.3 acres or 13,000 square feet
  - If using wildflower plugs, planting density should be 1 plant per square foot or 13,000 plants.
    - This is defrayed by suggesting the purchase of seeds of Black-eyed Susan and Purpletop Grass that can be hand sown to form a more uniform meadow cover in the near term.
    - See note above on planting ‘pattern’ strategy
    - Alternate Option: Purchase a complete seed mix. This can be sown by hand for fall planting or a contractor with a seed drill can apply in spring.
  - Woody plant options are provided in Table 4
    - Includes 10 Sweetbay Magnolia

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Table 1. Site Descriptions

Site Name	Broad Description	Native Species Observed
Crescent Park	<p>Rare American Holly coastal maritime forest; Heavy infestations of English Ivy throughout the area, but some areas are mostly free of infesttion. Deep shade and excessive deer browsing have led to a virtually empty understory (i.e., regenerating trees - except for small amounts of Sassafras, mature shrubs, and wildflowers). Emerging invasive species include Wintercreeper and Japanese Holly. Two heavily infested areas along the eastern boundary were treated in 2021 (Japanese Knotweed, English Ivy, and native briar species) with planned restoration to occur in 2022. Generally, invasive species infestations (other than English Ivy) occur in areas shown to be disturbed areas in 1930's aerial photography.</p>	<p>Dominated by American Holly. Forest Stewardship Plan mentions Red Oak, Black Oak, Red Maple, Wild Black Cherry, Black Gum, and Scrub Oak.</p>
Edgemere Park	<p>Coastal Plain forest largely free of invasive species; Presence of species such as Black Huckleberry suggest a dry, sandy habitat that tends to resist invasiion; Narrow strip along Wreck Pond contains wetland species -- Heavily infested area in southern end of the Property was treated in 2021 (Japanese Knotweed, English Ivy, Japanese Honeysuckle, Multiflora Rose) with planned restoration to occur in 2022. Generally, invasive species infestations occur in areas shown to be disturbed areas in 1930's aerial photography.</p>	<p><u>Forest (upland)</u>: Dominated by Oak species, Bigtooth Aspen, Hickory species, Wild Black Cherry, Sassafras, Briar sp., Lowbush Blueberry, Black Huckleberry; <u>Lake edge (wetland)</u>: Red Maple, Pitch Pine, Highbush Blueberry, Maleberry, Swamp Azalea, Rose Mallow, Swamp Rose, Boxelder, goldenrod species</p>

[Note: Click for short list of maritime forest species](#)

[Note: Maritime Forest Overview Video](#)

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**Table 2. Invasive Species List**

Common Name	Growth Form	Relative Threat Level	Stewardship Goal	Stewardship Note	Crescent Park	Edgemere Park
Asiatic Bittersweet	Vine	High	2	Low to moderate occurrences at Crescent Park - large vines have been cut from trees. Many stems found within restoration area at Edgemere Park, requiring treatment to ensure restoration success - spot treatments using foliar spray or basal bark applications recommended.	Yes	Yes
Border Privet	Shrub	High	2	Heavy infestations along roadway at Crescent Park; Treat via cut stump or basal bark application, especially those immediately adjacent to restoration areas. Few plants were observed in forest areas.	Yes	No
Chinese Bushclover	Herb	Very High	1	Few plants, highly aggressive invasive species located in planned restoration areas at Crescent Park; Spot treatments using foliar spray or 'bloody glove' method required to ensure restoration success.	Yes	No
Common Mugwort	Herb	Very High	1	Multiple plants, highly aggressive invasive species located in planned restoration areas at Crescent Park; Spot treatments using foliar spray or 'bloody glove' method required to ensure restoration success.	Yes	Yes
English Ivy	Vine	Very High	2	Forms extensive ground cover at Crescent Park. Treatment efforts have been initiated, but extensive additional treatments required throughout the park. Many larger vines climbing trees at Crescent Park have been cut. Species was treated in restoration areas at both parks.	Yes	Yes
Garlic Mustard	Herb	High	2	Virtually absent from forest areas, but present in small amounts in Crescent Park restoration areas. A carpet of seedlings occurs in the Edgemere Park restoration area. Treatment ahead of planting is strongly recommended. Hand pulling may still be practical at Crescent Park, but foliar spray required at Edgemere Park.	Yes	Yes

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**Table 2. Invasive Species List**

Common Name	Growth Form	Relative Threat Level	Stewardship Goal	Stewardship Note	Crescent Park	Edgemere Park
Japanese Holly	Shrub	Moderate	1	Potential emerging invasive species, noted at one location at Crescent Park (2-10 plants, 40.12914875, -74.03217807)	Yes	No
Japanese Honeysuckle	Vine	High	2	Most frequent in disturbed areas, especially restoration areas at both parks where treatment has been initiated. Within forest, spot treat recommended using foliar spray during late autumn to reduce non-target impacts.	Yes	Yes
Japanese Knotweed	Herb	Very High	1	Most frequent in disturbed areas, especially restoration areas at both parks. Plants also observed along RR tracks at Edgemere Park. Treatment initiated in 2021 and follow up required for 1-2 years.	Yes	Yes
Multiflora Rose	Shrub	Moderate	2	Most frequent in disturbed areas, especially restoration areas at both parks. Treatment initiated in 2021 and follow up required for 1-2 years.	Yes	Yes
Wintercreeper	Vine	Very High	1	Highly threatening emerging invasive species noted at one location at Crescent Park (2-10 plants, 40.12947187, -74.03203944). Possibly more mixed within English Ivy infestations.	Yes	No

***Additional species note: Norway Maple and an unconfirmed observation of Doublefile Viburnum were noted in the Forest Stewardship Plan. Small amounts of either species should be eradicated to limit future spread.***

Stewardship Goal Notes:

- 1 = Eradicate all observed individuals
- 2 = Control through a long-term program
- 3 = Do not treat unless resources allow (only Very High, High or Moderate Threat species)

[See Strike Team website for "Species List and Control Recommendations" and "Herbicide Use Suggestions and Mixing Table"](#)

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Table 3. Stewardship Recommendations - Crescent Park

Goal	Relative Priority	Description	Volunteers	Contractors
1	Very High	Eradicate Wintercreeper and Japanese Holly to avoid future damage. Small amounts of Norway Maple and possibly Doublefile Viburnum were reported in the Forest Stewardship Plan - both species should be eradicated as detected. Foliar spraying conducted by contractors is recommended.	Searching, Monitoring	Herbicide treatments
2	Very High	Control all invasive species within restoration areas, especially before planting/seeding and during early establishment. Spot foliar treatments conducted by contractors is recommended.	Monitoring	Herbicide treatments
3	Very High	Restoration plantings - See recommended planting list. Each restoration area is approximately 0.15 acres or 6,500 square feet. Approximate plant material unit costs (including estimated shipping costs): wildflowers and grasses (plugs = \$80 per tray of 50 plants, quart pot = \$12/plant), trees and shrubs (1 gallon pot = \$12/plant, 2 gallon pot = \$20/plant, 3 gallon pot = \$25/plant, and 7 gallon pot = \$60/plant). Trees in 7 gallon pots (ca. 6-7' trees, protected from buck rubbing) and less palatable shrubs in 1 or 2 gallon pots are recommended (but some species will require cages until they reach 5' tall). Seed mixes should also be utilized to assure uniform cover - See recommended planting list.	Planting, Monitoring	N/A
4	High	Control all invasive species within forestry mowed areas (i.e. old ROW and spots throughout park) to prepare for future restoration efforts.	Searching, Monitoring	Herbicide treatments
5	High	Control English Ivy throughout the forest. Long-term effort focusing on foliar spray applications in late autumn / winter to mitigate potential non-target impacts.	Monitoring	Herbicide treatments
6	High	Continue vine control efforts to remove all mature individuals throughout the park. If resprouting occurs, hire contractors to apply herbicide as either basal bark or cut stump applications.	Control - Cutting	Control - Herbicide treatments as necessary to avoid re-growth
7	High	Control Border Privet (concentrated along roadsides), especially areas adjacent to restoration areas. Treatment could provide future restoration opportunities.	Monitoring, Pre-treatment Cutting to reduce contractor costs	Herbicide treatments
8	Moderate	Consider installation of deer enclosure fencing (7.5' woven wire fencing on wooden posts) to significantly improve forest health - it will be the only way to assure tree regeneration and healthy forest wildflower populations. This could be 2-5 acre areas within the forest or the entire park perimeter. Quotes required to obtain cost estimates.	Monitoring	Fence installation

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Table 4. Stewardship Table - Edgemere Park

Goal	Relative Priority	Description	Volunteers	Contractors
1	Very High	Control all invasive species within restoration area, especially before planting/seeding and during early establishment. Spot foliar treatments conducted by contractors is recommended.	Monitoring	Herbicide treatments
2	Very High	Restoration plantings - See recommended planting list. Each restoration area is approximately 0.15 acres or 6,500 square feet. Approximate plant material unit costs (including estimated shipping costs): wildflowers and grasses (plugs = \$80 per tray of 50 plants, quart pot = \$12/plant), trees and shrubs (1 gallon pot = \$12/plant, 2 gallon pot = \$20/plant, 3 gallon pot = \$25/plant, and 7 gallon pot = \$60/plant). Trees in 7 gallon pots (ca. 6-7' trees, protected from buck rubbing) and less palatable shrubs in 1 or 2 gallon pots are recommended (but some species will require cages until they reach 5' tall). Seed mixes should also be utilized to assure uniform cover - See recommended planting list.	Planting, Monitoring	N/A
3	High	Control all invasive species detected in forest areas, relatively low cover at present, complete eradication of all species is possible to present future damage. Control all invasive species between trail and RR tracks (multiple species).	Searching, Monitoring	Herbicide treatments
4	Moderate	Plant visual shield between RR and trail. Species indicated in Table 4 may be utilized for this purpose. There are two native evergreen species that may be considered higher planting priority, American Holly and Eastern Red Cedar.		



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Table 5. Potential Restoration Species

Common Name	Scientific Name	Growth Form	Pot Size	Unit Price	Quantity	Total Price	Nursery	Notes	Crescent Park Area #1	Crescent Park Area #2	Edgemere Park
Anise Hyssop	Agastache foeniculum	Herb	Plug	1.31	50	\$65.50	New Moon		Yes	Yes	Yes
Black-eyed Susan	Rudbeckia hirta	Herb	Seeds	\$31.20	1	\$31.20	Ernst Seed Supply (1 pound)	Can be divided between both Parks or used at a single park.	Yes	Yes	Yes
Broomsedge	Andropogon virginicus	Grass	Plug	\$1.38	50	\$69.00	North Creek	June Delivery	Yes	Yes	Yes
Butterfly Milkweed	Asclepias tuberosa	Herb	Plug	1.53	50	\$76.50	New Moon	July Delivery	Yes	Yes	Yes
Common Milkweed	Asclepias syriaca	Herb	Plug	\$1.54	50	\$77.00	North Creek		Yes	Yes	Yes
Foxglove Beardtongue	Penstemon digitalis	Herb	Plug	1.31	50	\$65.50	New Moon		Yes	Yes	Yes
Heath Aster	Aster ericoides	Herb	Plug	1.31	50	\$65.50	New Moon		Yes	Yes	Yes
Hoary Mountain-mint	Pycnanthemum incanum	Herb	Plug	1.31	50	\$65.50	New Moon		Yes	Yes	Yes
Hyssop-leaved Boneset	Eupatorium hyssopifolium	Herb	Plug	1.31	50	\$65.50	New Moon		Yes	Yes	Yes
Little Bluestem	Schizachyrium scoparium	Grass	Plug	\$1.43	50	\$71.50	North Creek	June Delivery	Yes	Yes	Yes
Maryland Goldenaster	Chrysopsis mariana	Herb	Plug	\$1.42	50	\$71.00	New Moon		Yes	Yes	Yes
Purpletop Grass	Tridens flavus	Grass	Seeds	\$43.20	1	\$43.20	Ernst Seed Supply (1 pound)	Can be divided between both Parks or used at a single park.	Yes	Yes	Yes
Silverrod	Solidago bicolor	Herb	Plug	1.42	50	\$71.00	New Moon		Yes	Yes	Yes
Sweet Goldenrod	Solidago odora	Herb	Plug	\$1.42	50	\$71.00	New Moon		Yes	Yes	Yes
Woodland Sunflower	Helianthus divaricatus	Herb	Plug	1.53	50	\$76.50	New Moon		Yes	Yes	Yes
Yarrow	Achillea millefolium	Herb	Plug	1.31	50	\$65.50	New Moon		Yes	Yes	Yes
OPTION: Wildflower Mix	OPTION: Wildflower Mix	Herb	Seeds	\$37.47	x7x	x\$262.39x	Ernst Showy Northeast Wildflower Mix	Requires professional installation. Seven pounds per Park.	Yes	Yes	Yes

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Table 5. Potential Restoration Species





Common Name	Scientific Name	Growth Form	Pot Size	Unit Price	Quantity	Total Price	Nursery	Notes	Crescent Park Area #1	Crescent Park Area #2	Edgemere Park
Bear or Scrub Oak	Quercus ilicifolia	Shrub	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Not Available Spring 2022	Buck protection	Yes	No	No
Beach Plum	Prunus maritima	Shrub	1 gallon	\$9.99	10	\$99.90	Pinelands Nursery	Cage	Yes	No	No
Black Chokeberry	Photina melanocarpa	Shrub	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Not Available Spring 2022	Cage	Yes	No	Yes
Highbush Blueberry	Vaccinium corymbosum	Shrub	2 gallon	\$9.99	10	\$99.90	Pinelands Nursery	Cage	Yes	No	No
Northern Bayberry	Morella pensylvanica	Shrub	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Not Available Spring 2022		Yes	No	Yes
Serviceberry	Amelanchier canadensis	Shrub	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Not Available Spring 2022	Cage	Yes	No	Yes
Sweet Pepperbush	Clethra alnifolia	Shrub	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Not Available Spring 2022	Cage	Yes	No	Yes
Sweetfern	Comptonia peregrina	Shrub	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Not Available Spring 2022		Yes	No	No
Virginia Rose	Rosa virginiana	Shrub	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Not Available Spring 2022	Cage	Yes	No	No
Winged Sumac	Rhus copallina	Shrub	2 gallon	\$9.25	20	\$185.00	Octoraro Nursery	Cage	Yes	No	No
American Holly	Ilex opaca	Tree	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Not Available Spring 2022		No	No	Yes
Black Cherry	Prunus serotina	Tree	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Not Available Spring 2022	Buck protection	Yes	No	No
Black Oak	Quercus velutina	Tree	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Not Available Spring 2022	Buck protection	Yes	No	No
Blackjack Oak	Quercus marilandica	Tree	2 gallon	\$16.49	20	\$329.80	Pinelands Nursery	Cage	Yes	No	No
Black Tupelo	Nyssa sylvatica	Tree	7 gallon	\$54.99	20	\$1,099.80	Pinelands Nursery	Buck protection	Yes	No	No
Eastern Red Cedar	Juniperus virginiana	Tree	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Not Available Spring 2022		Yes	No	No
Flowering Dogwood	Cornus florida	Tree	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Not Available Spring 2022	Buck protection	Yes	No	Yes
Gray Birch	Betula populifolia	Tree	3 gallon	\$19.99	20	\$399.80	Pinelands Nursery	Buck protection	Yes	No	No
Persimmon	Diospyros virginiana	Tree	7 gallon	\$54.99	20	\$1,099.80	Pinelands Nursery	Buck protection	Yes	No	No
Post Oak	Quercus stellata	Tree	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Not Available Spring 2022	Buck protection	Yes	No	No
Sassafras	Sassafras albidum	Tree	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Not Available Spring 2022	Buck protection	Yes	No	No
Scarlet Oak	Quercus coccinea	Tree	7 gallon	\$39.95	20	\$799.00	Octoraro Nursery	Buck protection	Yes	No	No
Southern Red Oak	Quercus falcata	Tree	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Not Available Spring 2022	Buck protection	Yes	No	No
Sweetbay Magnolia	Magnolia virginiana	Tree	7 gallon	\$54.99	10	\$549.90	Pinelands Nursery	Buck protection	No	No	Yes

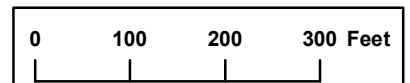
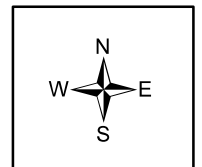
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Crescent Park

2015 Aerial Photography

### Legend

-  Crescent Park Boundary
-  Restoration Areas
-  Former Right-of-Way
-  Other Mowed Spot







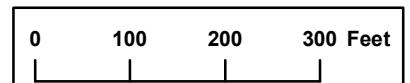
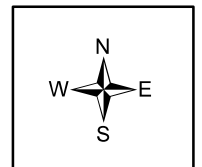
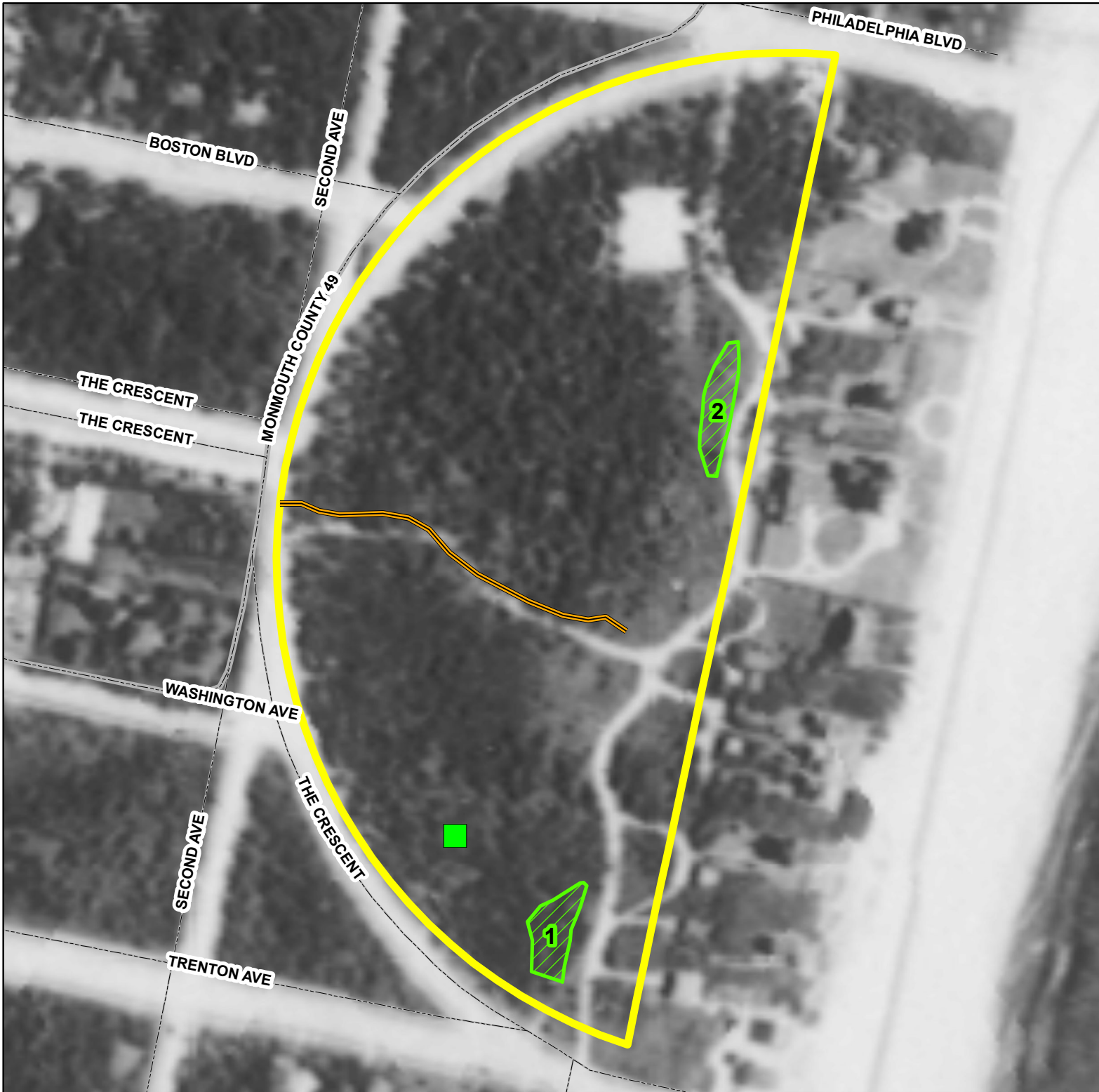
## Sea Girt Conservancy

Crescent Park

1930 Aerial Photography

### Legend

-  Crescent Park Boundary
-  Restoration Areas
-  Former Right-of-Way
-  Other Mowed Spot





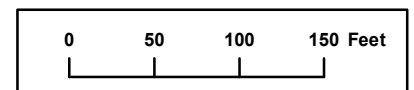
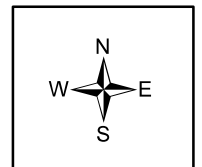
## Sea Girt Conservancy

Edgemere Park

2015 Aerial Photography

### Legend

-  Edgemere Park Boundary
-  Edgemere Restoration Area





**Sea Girt  
Conservancy**

Edgemere Park

2015 Aerial Photography

**Legend**

-  Edgemere Park Boundary
-  Edgemere Restoration Area

