COMPLETION

of

FRANCIS LEWIS BOULEVARD

— • —

QUEENS

MIXED TRAFFIC APPROACH
TO THE
BRONX-WHITESTONE BRIDGE

PRESIDENT BOROUGH OF QUEENS
TRIBOROUGH BRIDGE AUTHORITY
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

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December 16, 1940

COMPLETION OF FRANCIS LEWIS BOULEVARD

Francis Lewis Boulevard extends eleven miles across the Borough of Queens from the Belt Parkway near Rosedale at the southeasterly corner of the borough to Whitestone on the north shore. It serves as an important mixed-traffic approach to the Bronx-Whitestone Bridge and on its way across the borough taps the network of east-and-west highways and parkways leading into New York City from Long Island. At its south end it connects with the existing city street system to the Rockaways. From the standpoint of commercial traffic, the Boulevard provides a vital link from the south shore to upper New York City, Westchester County and Connecticut by way of the Bronx-Whitestone Bridge, Eastern Boulevard and other connecting arteries.

The Topographical Bureau of the Queens Borough President's office in planning Francis Lewis Boulevard joined together several old narrow disconnected roads, some of which dated back to the Revolutionary War and appeared on maps of New York City made by the British General Sir Henry Clinton in 1781. The artery was first mapped in 1912 as Cross Island Boulevard but after the inception of Cross Island Parkway on the Belt System it was renamed in order to avoid confusion. Francis Lewis Boulevard, the new name, was selected in commemoration of the signer of the Declaration of Independence across whose farm the Boulevard was originally laid out.

From Horace Harding Boulevard to the Grand Central Parkway, a distance of 1½ miles through Cunningham Park, the Boulevard has not yet been completed. The Triborough Bridge Authority in cooperation with the President of the Borough of Queens and the Park Commissioner is now preparing plans for the completion of the Boulevard through this section. These plans provide for a bridge carrying the Grand Central Parkway over Francis Lewis Boulevard, a pedestrian and bicycle bridge over the Boulevard and a third structure carrying the Boulevard over Cunningham Park Road. Construction of this short section of Francis Lewis Boulevard through the park estimated to cost approximately $1,250,000 will provide the missing link in a continuous route for mixed traffic from the Whitestone Bridge across the borough of Queens to the Belt Parkway and Sunrise Highway at the Nassau County line, supplementing the recently completed Cross Island Parkway which is used exclusively by passenger-car traffic.

TRIBOROUGH BRIDGE AUTHORITY

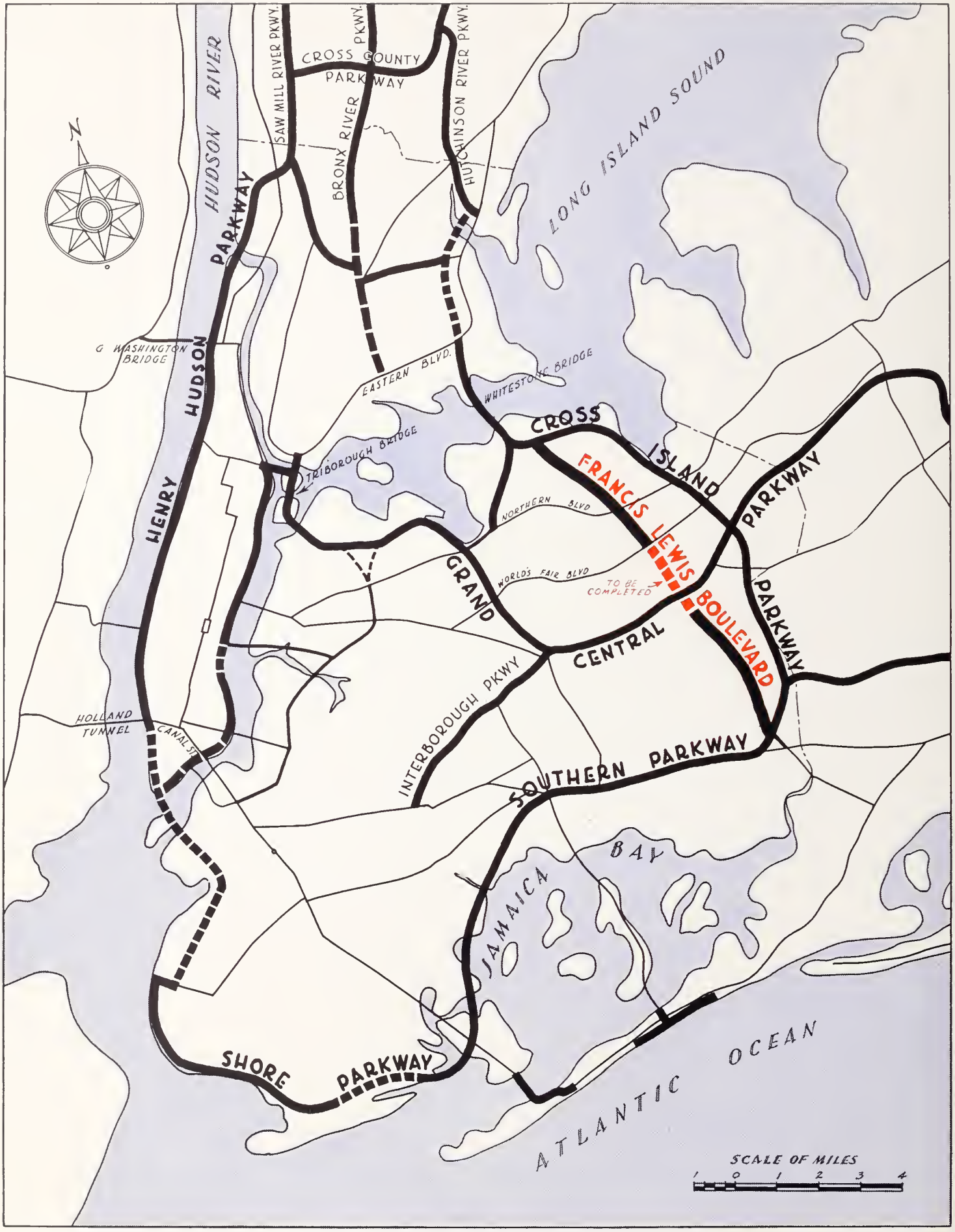
GEORGE U. HARVEY,
President, Borough of Queens

ROBERT MOSES,
Commissioner of Parks

ROBERT MOSES,
Chairman

GEORGE V. McLAUGHLIN,
Vice-Chairman

RODERICK STEPHENS,
Vice-Chairman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HUDSON RIVER
SAW MILL RIVER PKWY.
CROSS COUNTY PARKWAY
BRONX RIVER PKWY.
HUTCHINSON RIVER PKWY.
LONG ISLAND SOUND
HENRY HUDSON PARKWAY
G WASHINGTON BRIDGE
EASTERN BLVD.
WHITESTONE BRIDGE
TRIBOROUGH BRIDGE
CROSS ISLAND PARKWAY
FRANCIS LEWIS BOULEVARD
TO BE COMPLETED
NORTHERN BLVD
WORLD'S FAIR BLVD
GRAND CENTRAL PARKWAY
INTERBOROUGH PKWY
HOLLAND TUNNEL
CANAL ST
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JAMAICA BAY
SHORE PARKWAY
ATLANTIC OCEAN
SCALE OF MILES
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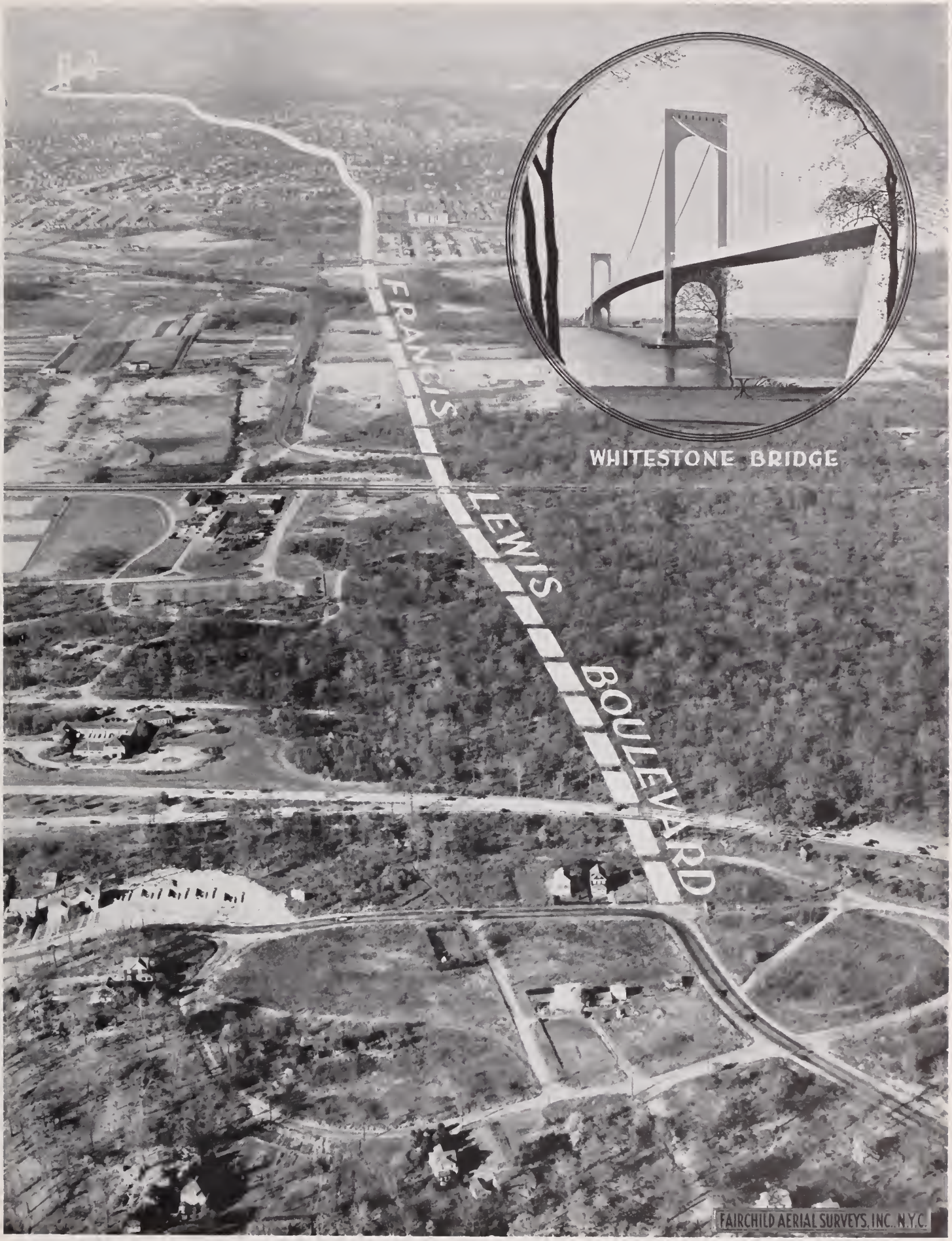
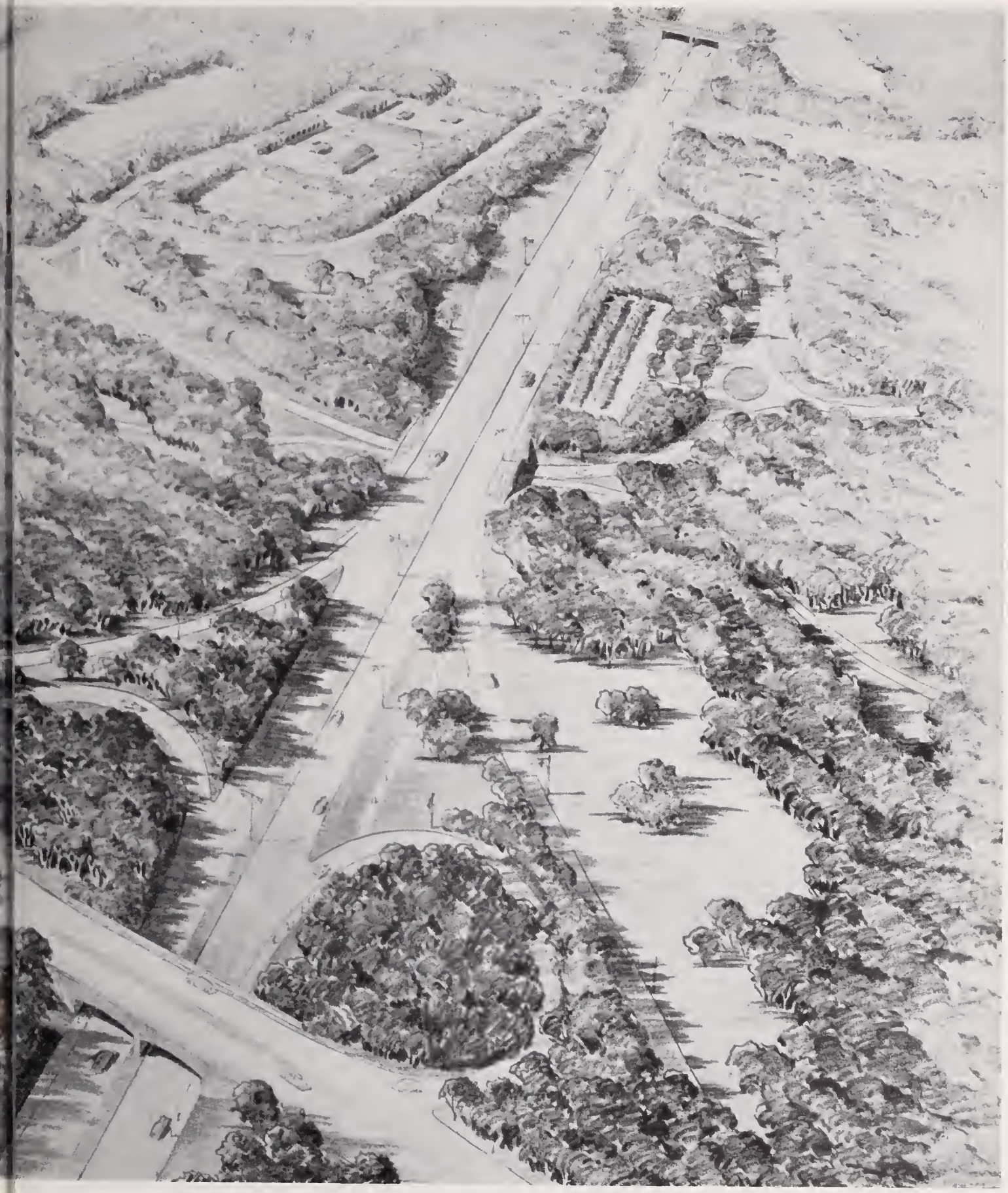

WHITESTONE BRIDGE
FRANCIS LEWIS BOULEVARD
FAIRCHILD AERIAL SURVEYS, INC. N.Y.C.

CUNNINGHAM PARK . . . Beginning at the upper right hand corner of the sketch, Francis Lewis Boulevard is shown as it will look on its way down from the northerly end of the borough through Cunningham Park. In the foreground, Grand Central Parkway is shown as it will cross over Francis Lewis Boulevard with a clover-leaf intersection. The large building in the left center is the present City Police Headquarters along the Grand Central Parkway.



COMPLETED BRIDGES . . . At the north end of Francis Lewis Boulevard near Whitestone, a bridge has been completed (shown above) carrying north-bound traffic over the Belt Parkway. Another bridge (shown below) has been completed carrying the Boulevard over the Belt Parkway at the southeasterly corner of the Borough of Queens, near Rosedale.

PROPOSED BRIDGES . . . The sketches on this page show the three bridges to be built on the section of Francis Lewis Boulevard to be constructed through Cunningham Park. Detail plans for these bridges are now being prepared by the State Department of Public Works in cooperation with the Triborough Bridge Authority. The structure shown above will carry Francis Lewis Boulevard under the Grand Central Parkway. Below are sketches of the park bridges.

Park road and bridle path under Francis Lewis Boulevard. →

← Bicycle path over Francis Lewis Boulevard.

FRANCIS LEWIS BOULEVARD . . . This photograph shows the completed Boulevard near 33rd Avenue. There are two 36-foot roadways divided by a center mall. Commercial traffic makes good use of this route because of its direct approach to the Bronx-Whitestone Bridge and points north.

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