# Lake Placid

in-the-Adirondacks

. . . invites you

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COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIQUE
Inv. 1492

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LUKE L. PERKINS
MAYOR
DEO B. COLBURN
HARLAN K. HUNKINS
JAMES C. SHEFFIELD
CURTIS P. STEVENS
TRUSTEES

**LAKE PLACID VILLAGE**
**LAKE PLACID**
**ESSEX COUNTY**
**N.Y.**

MUNICIPAL WATER PLANT
MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC PLANT
TELEPHONE 219
JUDSON M. WARE
TREASURER

Proposal of Lake Placid in the Adirondacks
New York, U.S.A.

for the VIII Olympic Winter Games, 1952

To the International Olympic Committee:

Lake Placid in the Adirondacks, thru its Mayor and Trustees, and represented by Avery Brundage, with the cooperation of New York State, thru its Governor as shown by Exhibit A, has the honor to submit the following proposal for the holding of the VIII Olympic Winter Games in 1952.

CONCEPT Lake Placid bases the propriety of this invitation on primary requisites of climate; accessibility; sports facilities supported by experienced personnel; and housing.

CLIMATE The United States Weather Bureau reports the extraordinary weather in 1931-32 as being the most exceptional in its records of 147 years.

Lake Placid is located in Northeastern United States, in the Northeastern Adirondack Mountains, in the Northeastern part of New York State at 44° 17' latitude and 73° 58' longitude and at 580 meters (1900 feet) above sea level. The schedule following represents the fifteen

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year average, since 1932, and six years for February, of temperature and snowfall as reported by the U. S. Weather Bureau.

1932-1947

| | Temperature in Degrees Fahrenheit | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Month | Mean | Mean Maximum | Mean Minimum | Snowfall in inches |
| December | 17.2 | 26.9 | 7.5 | 22.46 |
| January | 15.0 | 25.7 | 4.8 | 25.26 |
| February | 14.1 | 25.9 | 2.3 | 27.26 |
| March | 24.8 | 36.2 | 13.4 | 24.20 |
| Last six years detail for February: | | | | |
| 1942 | 12.95 | 24.4 | 1.5 | 40.50 |
| 1943 | 14.05 | 26.5 | 1.6 | 29.00 |
| 1944 | 12.4 | 25.3 | - 0.5 | 23.00 |
| 1945 | 17.0 | 27.0 | 7.0 | 21.50 |
| 1946 | 11.1 | 25.5 | - 3.3 | 41.00 |
| 1947 | 12.6 | 23.6 | 1.6 | 45.50 |

From the Placid valley of about 1900 feet above sea level, rise the highest peaks in the Adirondacks, notably, Whiteface on the North, 1,486 meters (4,872 feet), and Marcy on the South, 1,630 meters (5,344 feet). Zero temperatures are common, the air clear and dry, with sufficient snowfall so that it is seldom necessary to postpone any sports events.

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ACCESSIBILITY Lake Placid is served by New York Central and Delaware and Hudson Railroad systems, as part of their main lines. Motor roads for automobile or bus transportation radiate in all directions and are kept open throughout the snow season by modern snow handling equipment. We are within thirty minutes motor distance of a Class A airport, where commercial planes maintain a regular schedule throughout the year. It is less than two hours from New York City. Private planes equipped with skis may use the local airport or lakes in the region for landings and take-offs. These specially good traveling facilities normally serve about one-fifth of the population of the United States or the 30 million persons who live within a 582 kilometer (300 mile) radius of Lake Placid.

HOUSING World economic depression in the years immediately preceding the 1932 games reduced the anticipated housing. Since that time buildings for approximately one thousand persons have been added in the community. Many more will be constructed within the next five years to meet the normal needs of winter housing, long deferred by war conditions. Further, grading now exists which will accommodate railroad pullman cars at the edge of the village for approximately 1,000 persons, thus approximating housing for 10,000 visitors. The commonplace of air travel makes daily trips to and from Placid from the large centers of population entirely practical. Attached Exhibit "B" shows general layout of the Village.

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FACILITIES AND PERSONNEL All major facilities used in the 1932 games with the refinements and additions made since that time, as hereinafter described, will be available for the 1952 games. The added features of downhill and slalom races may be well served by the New York State ski development, now being constructed on Whiteface Mountain, 30 minutes from Lake Placid.

Happily the 1952 games will come within the normal lifetime of most of the persons engaged in the construction of the facilities and the actual conduct of the 1932 games.

WINTER SPORTS FACILITIES

Ski Jumping The Lake Placid Club 70 meter ski jump, completed for use in the 1932 III Olympic Winter Games, is available. It is completely furnished with parking fields and other services for entertainment of spectators. Stands erected on both sides of the hill at the takeoff and extending down on the sides of the landing hill accommodate 1,000. The semi-circular stand at the outer end of the "horseshoe" or outrun at the foot of the landing hill provides seats for 3,500. There is standing room for thousands more. The takeoff is adjusted suitably for jumps ranging from 40 to 70 meters in ordinary competition, tho jumps exceeding 70 meters are possible, dependent upon snow and takeoff conditions. The gradients of the landing hill vary up to 39½ degrees. The design is commonly recognized as the ideal of

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jumping hill construction following scientific lines, according to testimony of jumpers from all parts of the world who have used it in competitions. It is located 3.2 kilometers (2 miles) from the center of Lake Placid village, or immediately adjacent to its outer limits, and hence conveniently situated for public attendance. Exhibits "C-1" and "C-2" show details.

Ski Racing Many miles of ski trails, from which the 18 and 50 km race courses were chosen for the III Olympic Winter Games are available for these strenuous competitions. One 18 km course is exactly measured, and is so designed as to provide ideal tests of all cross-country skills. Roughly it includes in its first quarter easy and slightly down-grade running; in its second quarter, fairly stiff upgrade; in its third quarter, a combination of uphill and downhill running; ending with an easy approach to the finish line. The total vertical ascent is between 245 to 305 meters (800 to 1,000 feet), well distributed as parts of the second and third quarters. See Exhibit D.

Existing trails provide a choice for a 50 km course of like design to that of the shorter run, combining approximately 762 meters (2,500 feet) of ascent well distributed throughout the entire length of the run, with the longest uphill test in the early half of the route. Successful use of these courses in 1932 is a guarantee of their suitability for the 1952 games from the viewpoint of Olympic requirements. See Exhibit "E".

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Downhill and Slalom To meet the modern trend in the sport of skiing, New York State has already passed the necessary legislation and appropriated $740,000 for "Whiteface Ski Development." Exhibit "F" - a section of U. S. Geological survey - shows the location and elevations. Exhibit "G"- a sheet from New York State's publicity - shows the tentative layout. The development now in construction on the Northeasterly slope of Whiteface Mountain is reported by the authorities responsible for construction as meeting the Olympic specifications for both downhill and slalom racing. The development has progressed at present to a substantial degree of completion of the access road; open slopes at the foot of the tows and three trails. Work is in active progress. The ultimate facilities will include, in addition to the trails, two chair lifts with a combined length of 2,836 meters (9,300 feet), serving the downhill trails; also a T-Bar tow, 823 meters (2,700 feet) long, serving the slalom course with a vertical rise of 258.6 meters (848 feet); also a clubhouse to include all ordinary facilities of a public place and a dining room of 250 capacity, with waxing rooms, toilet rooms, and other features to round out a modern ski center designed to provide for all types of skiers and all degrees of skiing. The development is 24.1 km (15 miles) or about thirty minutes from Lake Placid by motor bus. The survey on which the development is based was made by two well-known ski facility designers,

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Otto Eugen Schniebs of Lake Placid and Hannes Schneider of St. Anton, Austria, and lately of Eastern Slopes at North Conway, New Hampshire.

Speed Skating The Olympic Stadium is located in the center of the village and immediately adjacent to the Arena, High School, and Town Hall. It serves adequately for the opening and closing ceremonies and many features of the games. The ice sheet is adaptable to any international style of speed skating. Detail as shown in Exhibit "H".

Lake Placid has been the scene of many national and international outdoor championship speed skating events ever since the turn of the century, bearing adequate testimony of the superiority of the ice together with the equipment and personnel necessary to maintain it in condition.

Figure Skating Thanks to the impetus of the 1932 games, figure skating has become an important sports feature at Lake Placid, both outdoor and indoor in winter, and also in the Olympic Arena for a two-month summer season. During the last fifteen years many of the champions of the United States and Canada have trained here as well as many World and Olympic contestants. Exhibit "I" shows the detail of the Arena.

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Ice Hockey Lake Placid is recognized as one of the major centers for the sport of ice hockey. College teams train annually on the outdoor rinks and also in the Olympic Arena. The Adirondack section of the A. A. U. Championships are annually held here and the National A.A.U. championships frequently.

The annual winter schedule opens early in December and continues through March 15.

Either the outdoor stadium (Exhibit H) or the indoor Arena (Exhibit I) may be adapted to best accommodate the Olympic program.

Bobsledding The Olympic Bobsled Run, located on Mt. Van Hoevenberg, and twenty minutes by motor bus from Lake Placid, specially constructed for the 1932 Games, has been in operation for each winter season since that time, except for two war years. Exhibit "J" shows length, drop, and engineering features of the run.

Being the only run on this continent, it is each year the scene of the North American and National Championships. The 1949 World's Championships are scheduled for this run.

Demonstrations If desired, facilities are available for sled-dog races; ski-joring races; or curling.

As a part of the entertainment program, a so-called figure skating operetta, which demonstrates, out of competition, the glamour and beauty of the sport in a specially decorated Arena, is suggested. These operettas

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have become sufficiently popular to attract both skaters and spectators from the extremes of the radius of 582 km (300 miles) hereinabove referred to.

COOPERATING AGENCIES

New York State as represented by its Governor, its legislative bodies, its Conservation Department, and its Whiteface Mountain Authority.

The County of Essex, in which Lake Placid lies.

The town of North Elba, together with its Park District, created by a special act of the State Legislature at the time of the III Olympic Winter Games, and still actively promoting sports in the region.

Local civic, business, and fraternal organizations, such as the Lake Placid Club; Lake Placid Ski Club; American Legion; Kiwanis Club; Lions Club; the Masonic Order; Knights of Columbus; the Flying Club; Board of Education; Junior Chamber of Commerce; and Fish and Game Club, all of which have passed resolutions supporting this invitation, pledging their active support in the holding of the Games.

Dr. Godfrey Dewey, President of the III Olympic Winter Games Committee, and many of his associates.

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On the basis of the foregoing proposal, this Lake Placid Village solicits the award of the VIII Olympic Winter Games in 1952 and pledges its good faith and full cooperation to make them an inspiring success in keeping with the highest standards and tradition which you guard so jealously. The people of this region thrill at the prospects of the holding of the games here, which in 1932 earned the compliments of your then distinguished president according to exhibit "J" attached.

In witness whereof, we, the Mayor and Trustees of the Village of Lake Placid, New York, U. S. A. have hereunto set our hands this 31st day of May, 1947.

Luke L. Perkins
Luke L. Perkins, Mayor

Deo Colburn
Deo B. Colburn, Trustee

Harlan K. Hunkins
Harlan K. Hunkins, Trustee

James C. Sheffield
James C. Sheffield, Trustee

Curtis P. Stevens
Curtis P. Stevens, Trustee

ATTEST:

Judson M. Ware
Judson M. Ware
Acting Clerk

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EXHIBIT A

Lake Placid, N.Y.

STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
ALBANY

THOMAS E. DEWEY
GOVERNOR

May 24, 1947.

International Olympic Committee,
c/o Mr. Avery Brundage,
American Olympic Committee,
Hotel Biltmore,
New York, New York.

Dear Sirs:

As Governor of the State of New York, I wish to join most heartily with the community of Lake Placid in their cordial invitation to hold the Eighth Olympic Winter Games in 1952 at Lake Placid, New York.

In the vicinity of Lake Placid in our magnificent Adirondack Mountains, all of the features of primary importance, including weather, accessibility, sports facilities and housing, make this an ideal place for the Olympic Winter Games. In addition, there are many miles of ski trails suitable for Olympic competition now under construction, and a great bob run.

While the State of New York can of course make no financial commitments, I can assure you that a most hearty welcome and the finest of facilities will be found at Lake Placid, and I earnestly trust that it will be the scene of the Winter Games of 1952.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas E. Dewey

TED:MM

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EXHIBIT B

Lake Placid, N.Y.

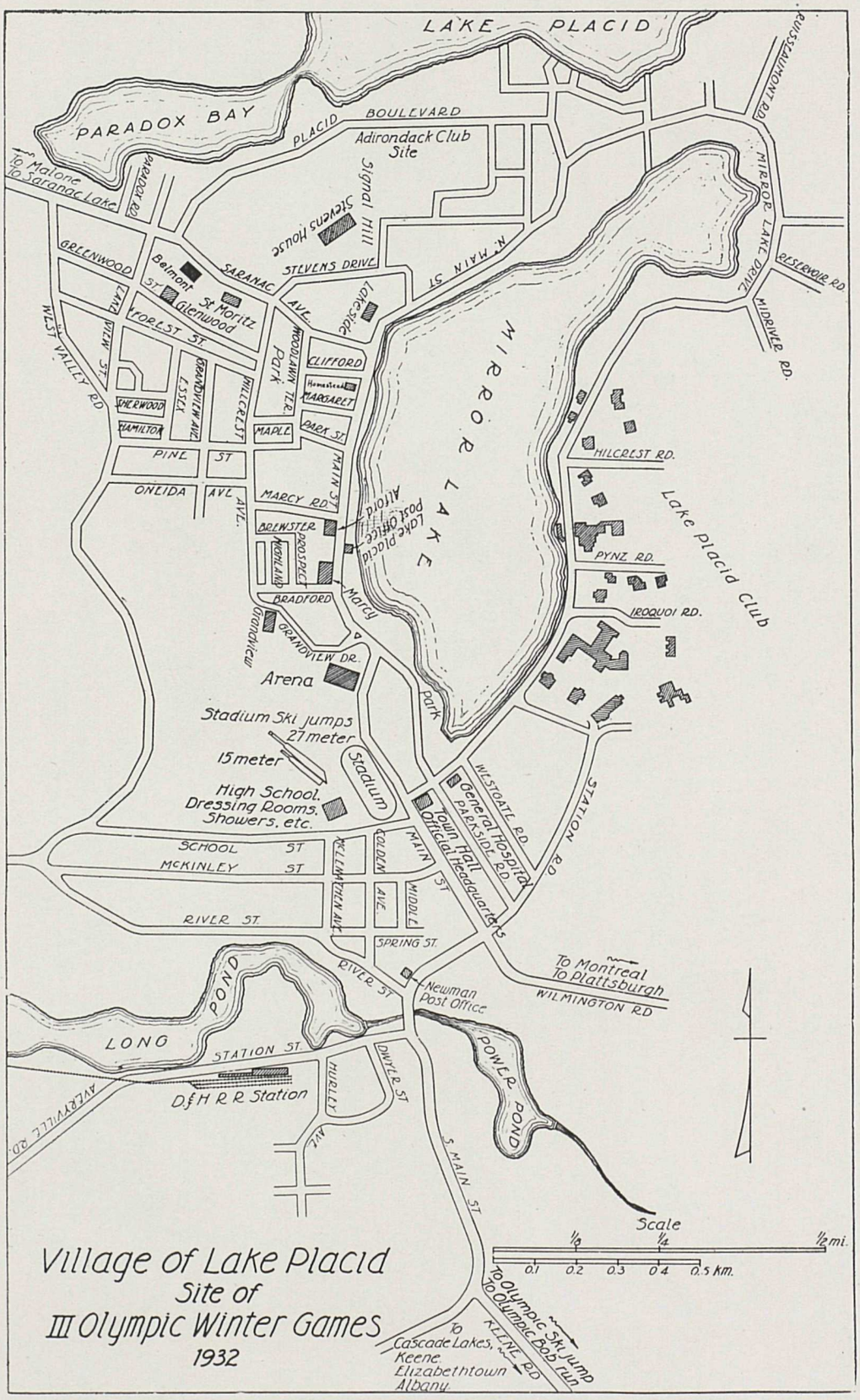


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EXHIBIT C-1

Lake Placid, N.Y.

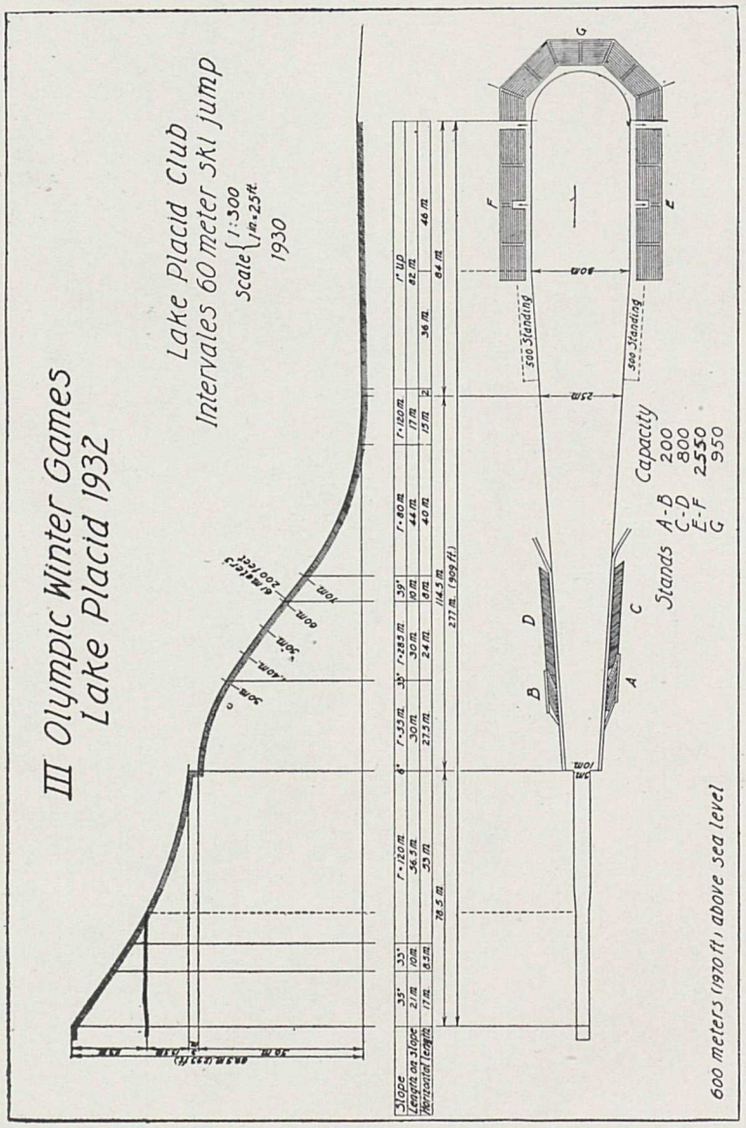


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EXHIBIT C-2

Lake Placid, N.Y.

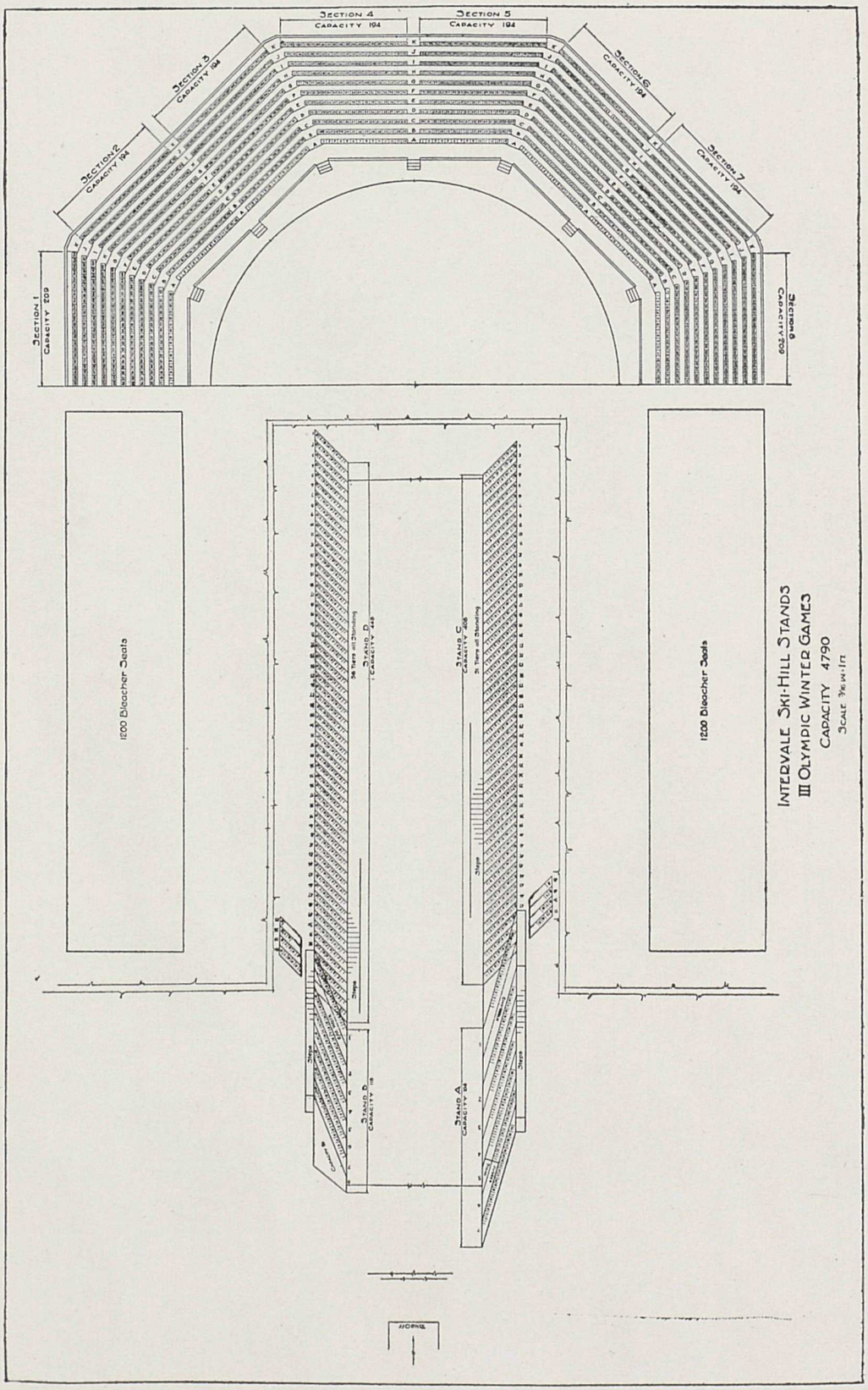


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EXHIBIT D

Lake Placid, N.Y.

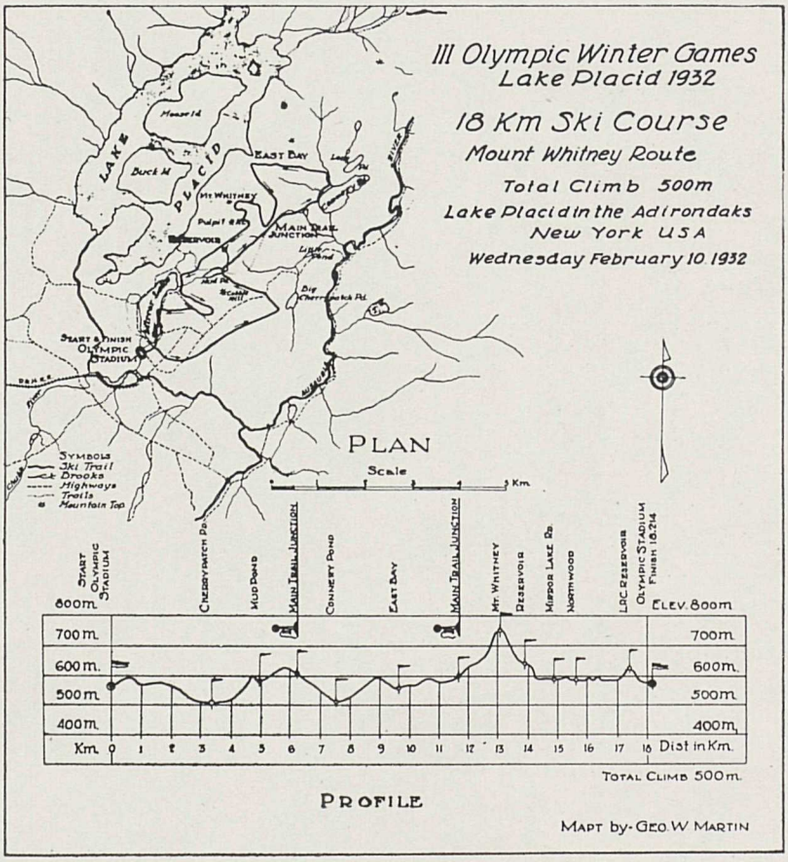


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EXHIBIT E

Lake Placid, N.Y.

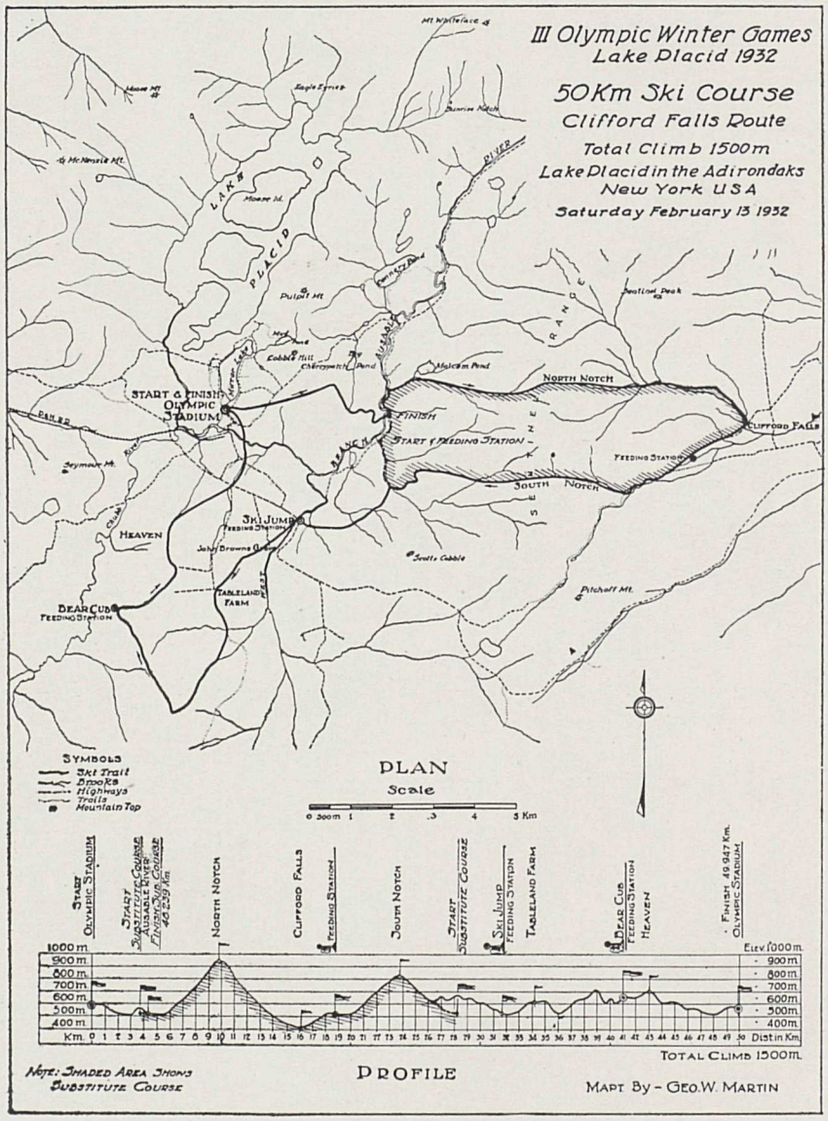


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EXHIBIT F

KEY

A - STATE ROAD FROM LAKE PLACID

B - WHITEFACE MOUNTAIN MEMORIAL HIGHWAY

C - ACCESS ROAD

D - CLUBHOUSE

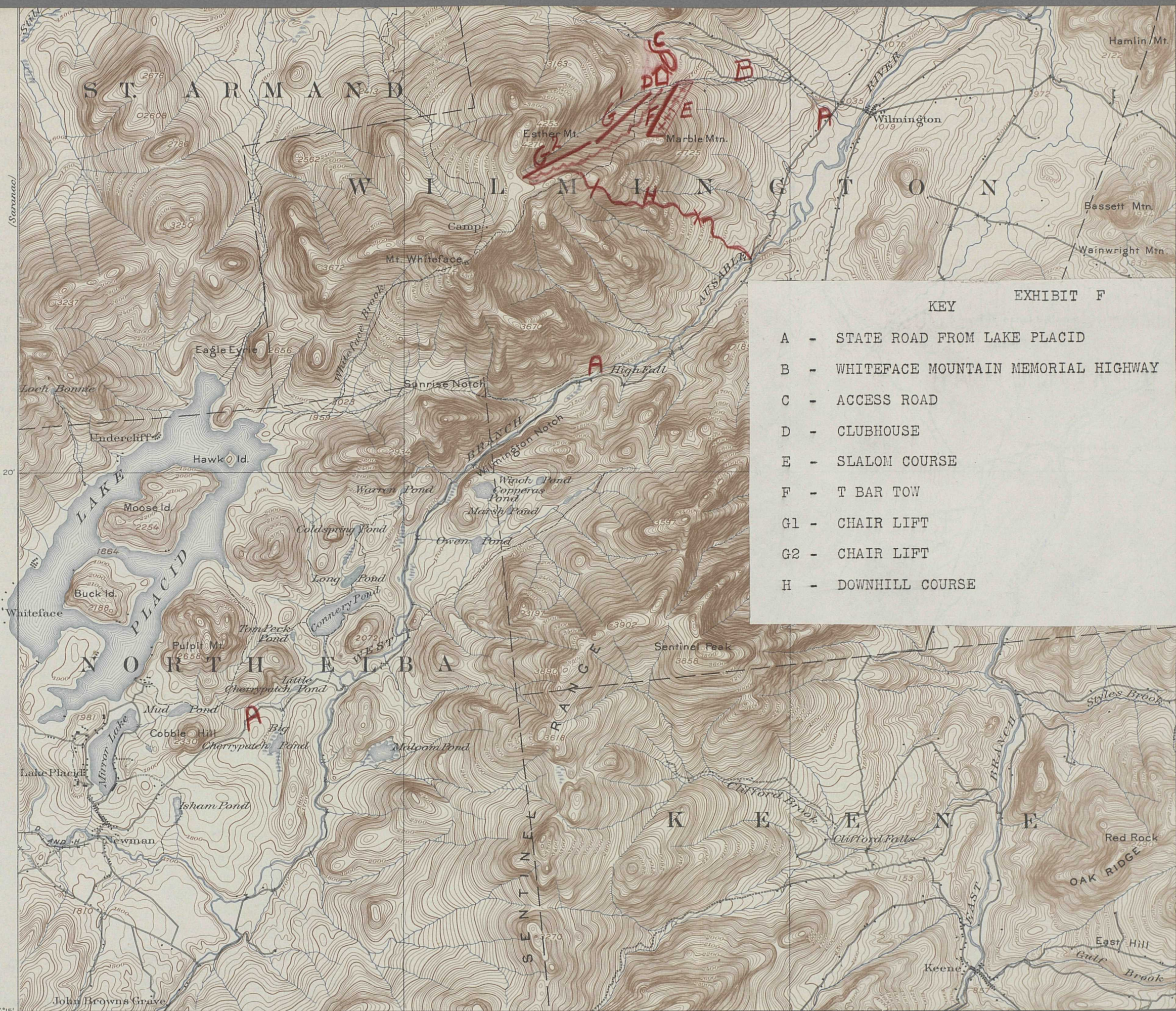
E - SLALOM COURSE

F - T BAR TOW

G1 - CHAIR LIFT

G2 - CHAIR LIFT

H - DOWNHILL COURSE

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importance, such as most of the basin of the Mississippi tributaries, are made with sufficient detail to be used in plication of maps on a scale of $\frac{1}{62,500}$ (1 inch = nearly 1 with a contour interval of 10 to 100 feet.

urveys of areas in which the problems are of minor importance, such as much of the mountain or desert of Arizona or New Mexico, and the high mountain area northwest, are made with sufficient detail to be used in plication of maps on a scale of $\frac{1}{125,000}$ (1 inch = nearly 2 or $\frac{1}{250,000}$ (1 inch = nearly 4 miles), with a contour interval 250 feet.

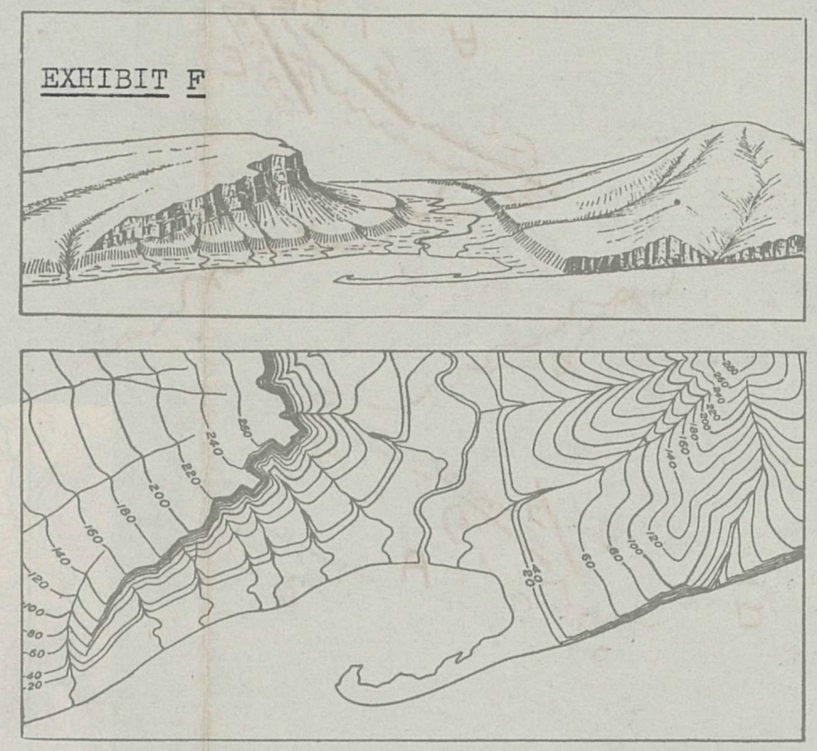
nerial camera is now being used in mapping. From the tion recorded on the photographs, planimetric maps, how only drainage and culture, have been made for some the United States. By the use of stereoscopic plotting us, aerial photographs are utilized also in the making of ular topographic maps, which show relief as well as e and culture.

pographic survey of Alaska has been in progress since nd nearly 44 percent of its area has now been mapped. 15 percent of the Territory has been covered by maps le of $\frac{1}{500,000}$ (1 inch = nearly 8 miles). For most of the ler of the area surveyed the maps published are on a $\frac{1}{250,000}$ (1 inch = nearly 4 miles). For some areas of par- economic importance, covering about 4,300 square miles, s published are on a scale of $\frac{1}{62,500}$ (1 inch = nearly 1 mile) r. In addition to the area covered by topographic maps, 11,300 square miles of southeastern Alaska has been by planimetric maps on scales of $\frac{1}{125,000}$ and $\frac{1}{250,000}$.

Hawaiian Islands have been surveyed, and the resulting e published on a scale of $\frac{1}{62,500}$.

indicate a steep slope, and lines that run together indicate a cliff.

The manner in which contour lines express altitude, form, and grade is shown in the figure below.




The sketch represents a river valley that lies between two hills. In the foreground is the sea, with a bay that is partly enclosed by a hooked sand bar. On each side of the valley is a terrace into which small streams have cut narrow gullies. The hill on the right has a rounded summit and gently slop-

the map are printed the names of adjoining quadrangles of which maps have been published. More than 4,100 quadrangles in the United States have been surveyed, and maps of them similar to the one on the other side of this sheet have been published.

Geologic maps of some of the areas shown on the topographic maps have been published in the form of folios. Each folio includes maps showing the topography, geology, underground structure, and mineral deposits of the area mapped, and several pages of descriptive text. The text explains the maps and describes the topographic and geologic features of the country and its mineral products. Two hundred twenty-five folios have been published.

Index maps of each State and of Alaska and Hawaii showing the areas covered by topographic maps and geologic folios published by the United States Geological Survey may be obtained free. Copies of the standard topographic maps may be obtained for 10 cents each; some special maps are sold at different prices. A discount of 40 percent is allowed on an order amounting to $5 or more at the retail price. The discount is allowed on an order for maps alone, either of one kind or in any assortment, or for maps together with geologic folios. The geologic folios are sold for 25 cents or more each, the price depending on the size of the folio. A circular describing the folios will be sent on request.

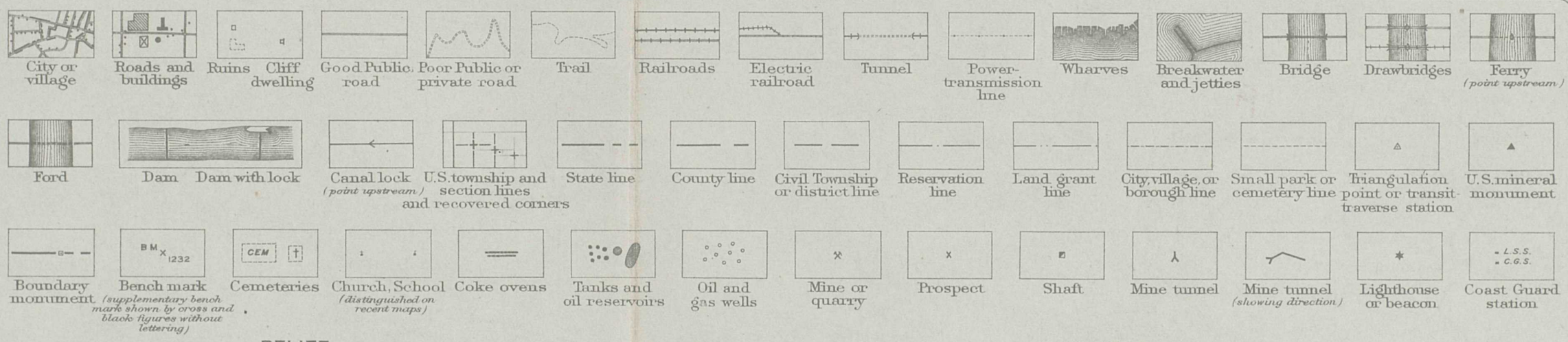
Applications for maps or folios should be accompanied by cash, draft, or money order (not postage stamps) and should be addressed to

THE DIRECTOR,
*United States Geological Survey,*
*Washington, D. C.*

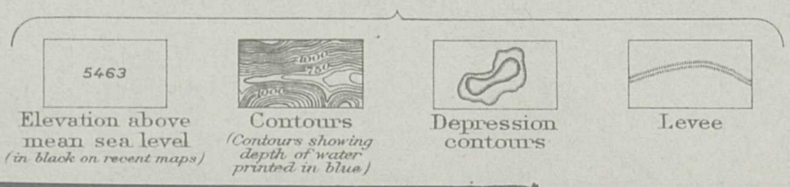
November 1937.

## STANDARD SYMBOLS

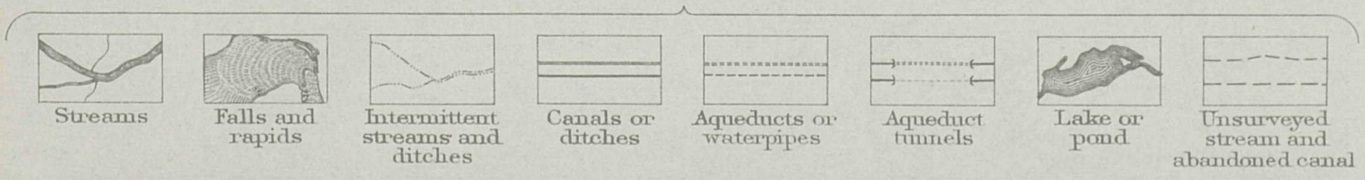
### CULTURE
*(printed in black)*

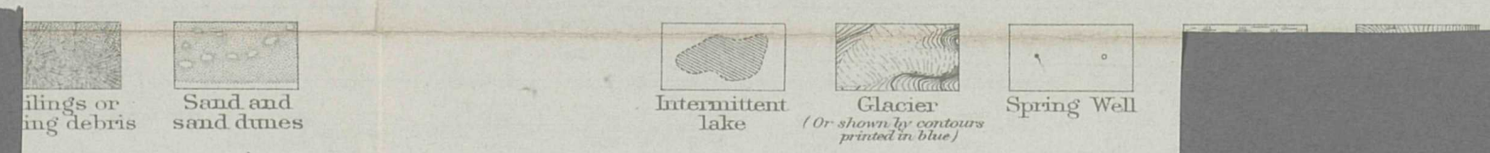



### RELIEF
*(printed in brown)*




### WATER
*(printed in blue)*




### WOODS
*(when shown, printed in green)*



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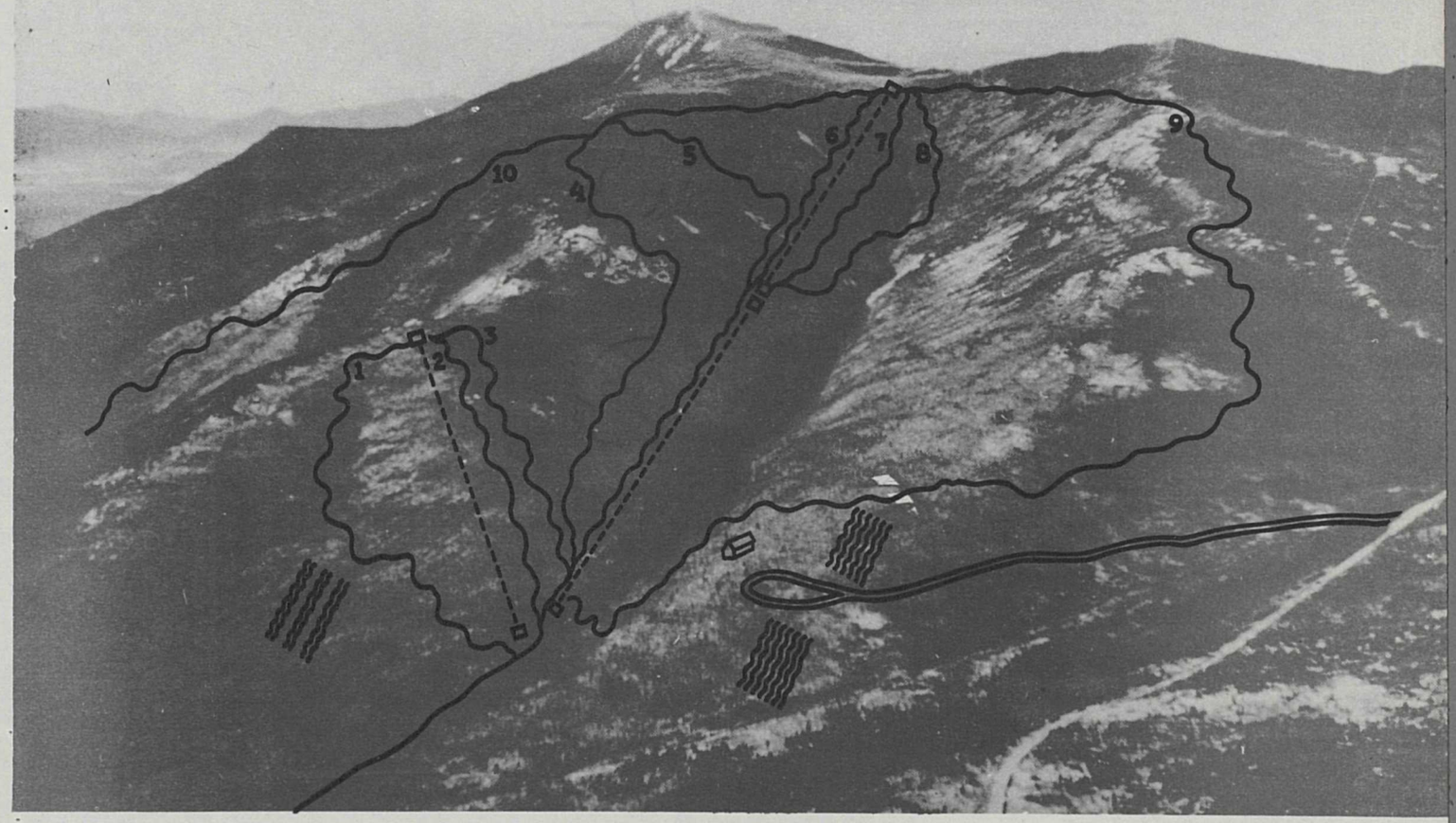
EXHIBIT G

Lake Placid, N.Y.




# Whiteface Mountain Ski Center

NEW YORK STATE'S $300,000 Whiteface Mountain Ski Center project is progressing, but will not be open for use this* Winter because of material and labor shortages. But the Whiteface Mountain Authority in charge of the program has been busy. The routes for the various trails and tows, and the slope areas have been determined with the aid of ski experts. These routes are shown roughly on the above illustration, which depicts the northeastern side of this 4,872-foot mountain.

Access to the ski center will be from the Whiteface Mountain Memorial Highway, which starts near Wilmington. The connecting road is shown as a double line with a loop. Below the road, the block of wavy lines indicates the beginners' slope, with rope tow. This slope will vary from 10 to 14 degrees. Above the road will be another advanced slope with a tow. To the far left is another slope, in three sections, for beginners or advanced skiers, according to the sharpness of the slope which will reach a maximum of 35 degrees. This, too, will have a rope tow.

In the center of the picture are shown the tandem tows, by means of broken lines. These tows, the chair variety, will provide a total carry of 9,000 feet. To the left will be a T-bar tow, 2,700 feet long and rising 803 feet.

The trails, shown by solid lines and numbered in the illustration, will provide the following ratings and lengths:

1. Expert, 7/8 mile. 2. Intermediate, 3/4 mile. 3. Novice, 3/4 mile. 4. Novice, 1 1/2 mile. 5. Expert, for very fast racing, 5/8 mile. 6. Expert, steep for top 3/4 mile, lower part easier, 1 mile. 7. Expert, 3/4 mile. 8. Novice, 1 mile. 9. Touring, novice near end, 3 1/4 mile. 10. Expert, solely for racing, 2 1/4 mile.

The hut will offer the usual accommodations for skiers.

* 1946-47

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EXHIBIT H

Lake Placid, N.Y.

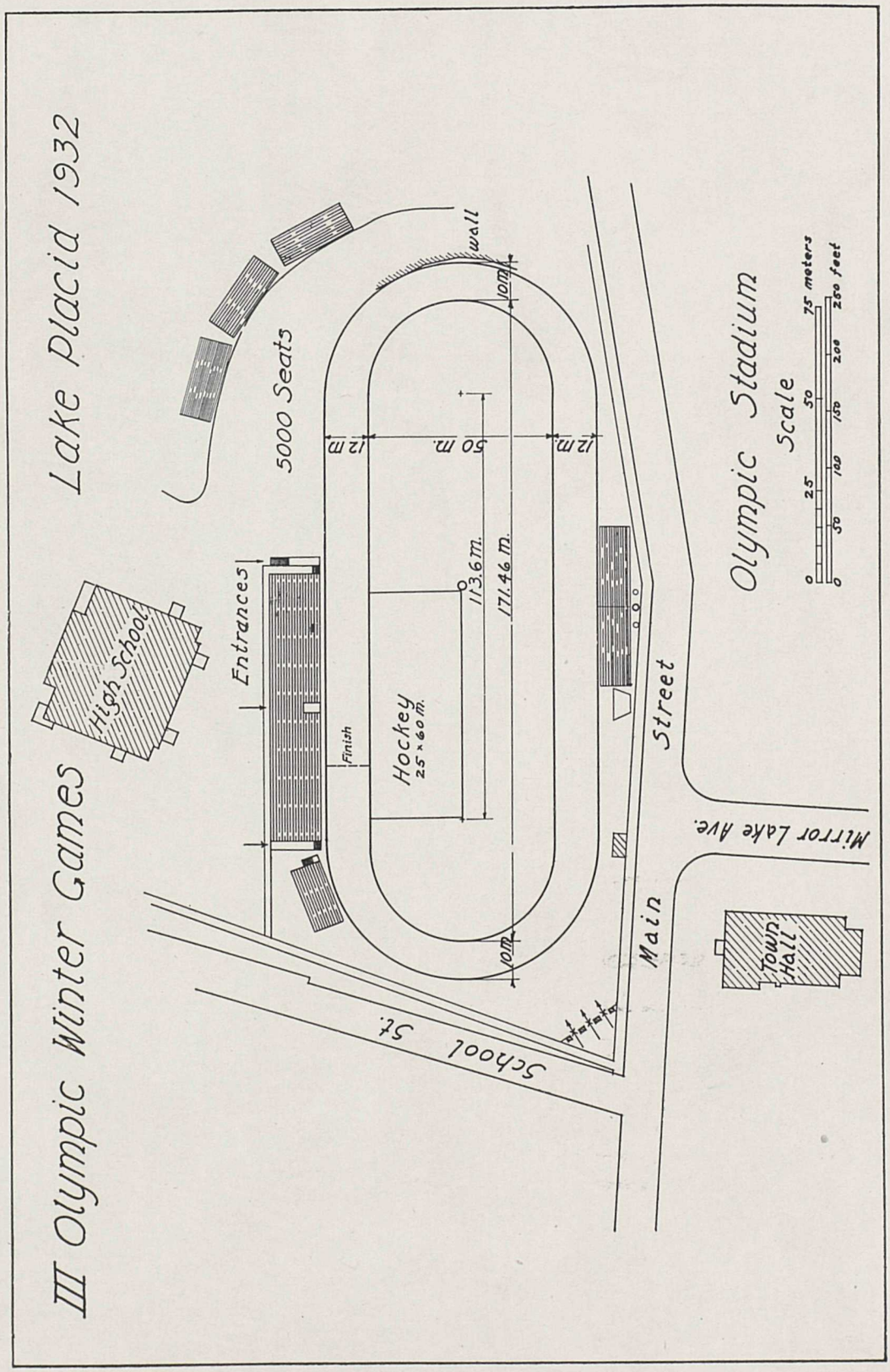


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EXHIBIT I

Lake Placid, N.Y.

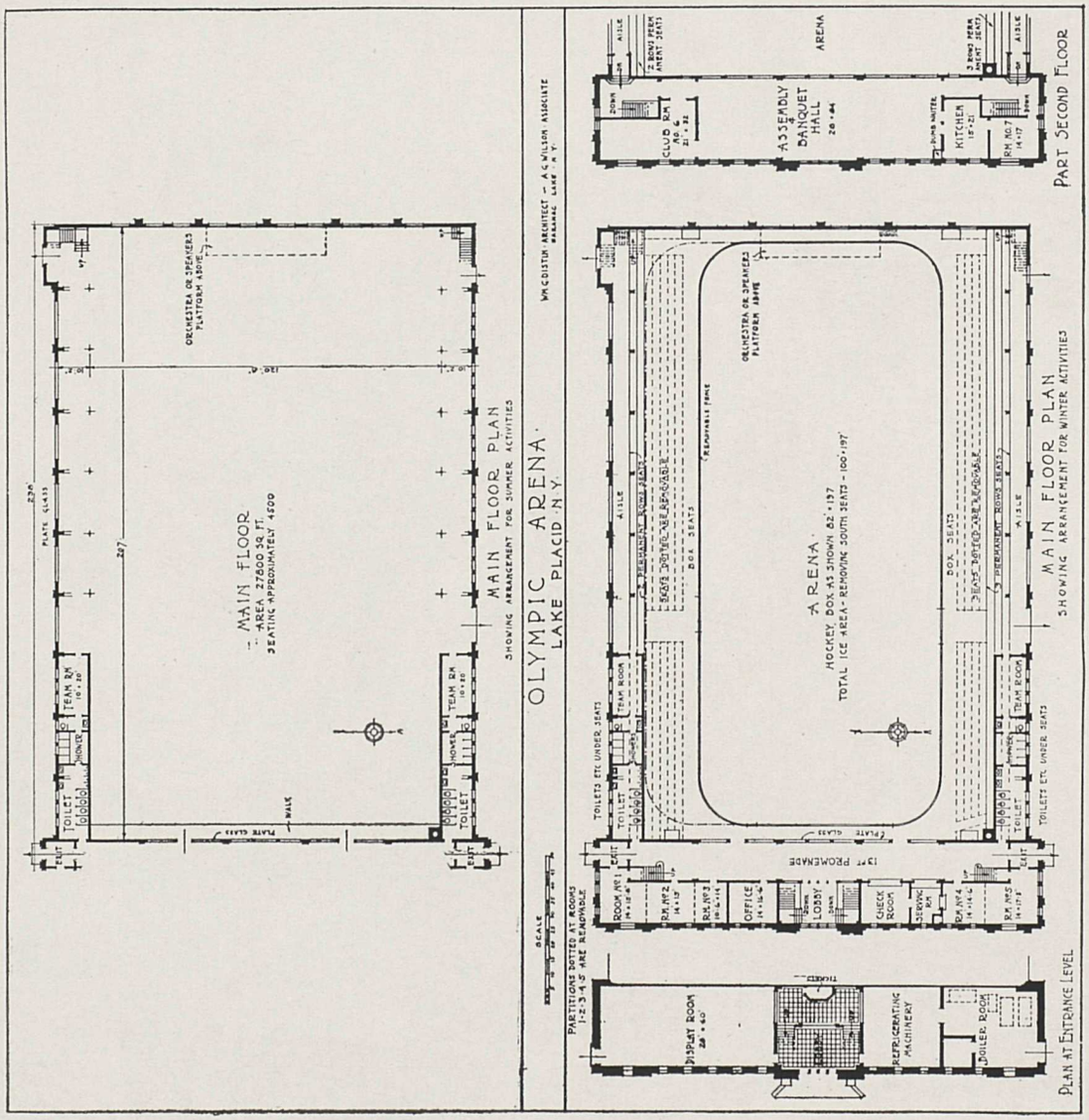


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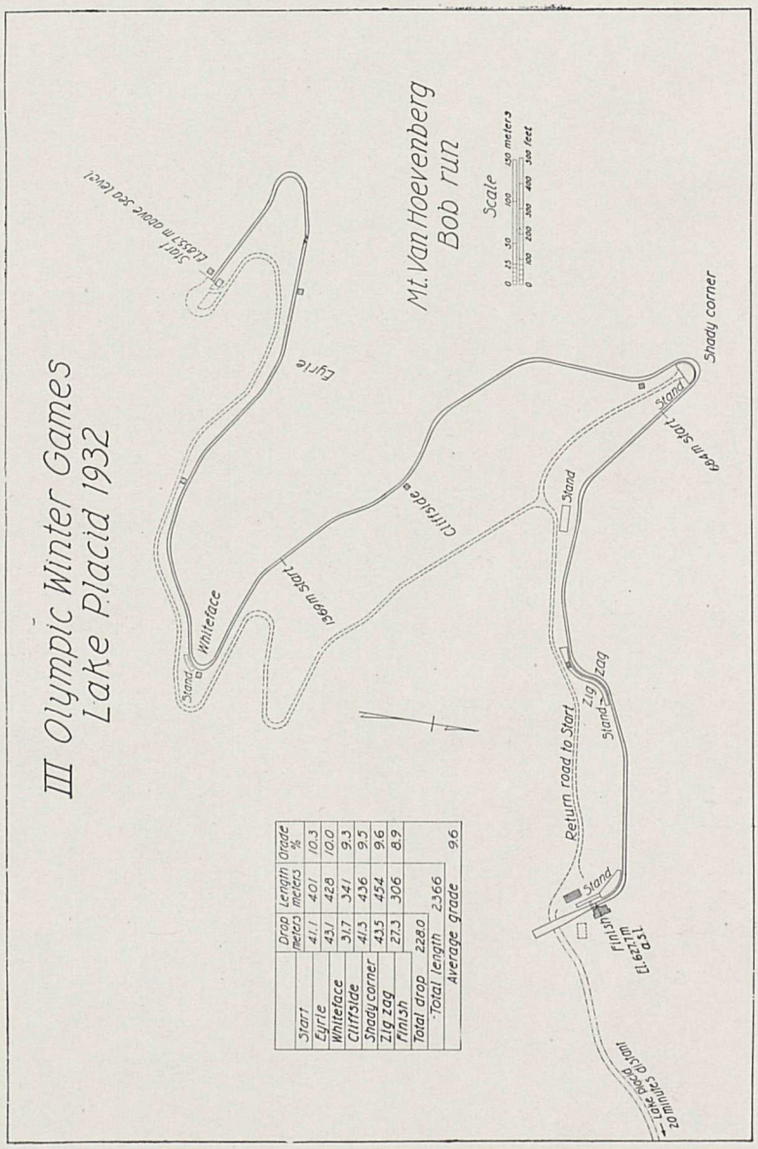
EXHIBIT J

Lake Placid, N.Y.




| | Drop meters | Length meters | Grade % |
|---|---|---|---|
| Start | | | |
| Eyrie | 41.1 | 401 | 10.3 |
| Whiteface | 43.1 | 428 | 10.0 |
| Cliffside | 31.7 | 341 | 9.3 |
| Shady corner | 41.3 | 436 | 9.5 |
| Zig zag | 43.5 | 454 | 9.6 |
| Finish | 27.3 | 306 | 8.9 |
| Total drop | 228.0 | | |
| Total length | | 2366 | |
| Average grade | | | 9.6 |

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EXHIBIT K

Lake Placid, N.Y.

# Statement by Count de Baillet-Latour

Washington, D C
March 11, 1932

*Dear Dr Dewey*

Before leaving America I wish to congratulate you on the success of the III Olympic Winter Games. Altho weather conditions and the extraordinary economic situation rendered your task extremely difficult, 17 nations represented by 364 athletes took part in the Games—a showing that reflects only the highest credit upon the countries represented on the International Olympic Committee and your own Organizing Committee.

I feel that I may say, and speak conservatively when I say it, that European nations that participated in the III Olympic Winter Games were more than pleased at the plans made for staging the Games in Lake Placid, facilities for the conduct of the sports, and other arrangements such as housing, feeding, and transportation that made the stay of your international visitors one that they will long remember.

The Games themselves brought out the most spirited competition in all the events on the Olympic program. This made the Games that much more enjoyable for both spectators and participants. All who attended took home with them, I am sure, a better idea than they ever had before of just what international sports competition means in its highest sense. Beyond a doubt the athletes taking part went back to their native lands imbued with the same idea.

The thanks of the International Olympic Committee are due the community of Lake Placid for taking on in the III Olympic Winter Games of 1932 a greater burden in proportion to its size than any community ever assumed in staging Olympic contests. You know how I feel about the exceptional manner in which this obligation was discharged. It is something that Lake Placid and the Lake Placid Olympic organization can always look back on with pride, as a great task masterfully handled.

Count de Baillet-Latour, President, International Olympic Committee

I feel certain that you would not be satisfied if the success of the competitions should be the only reward for the work you and your competent staff did in staging the III Olympic Winter Games of 1932. You were working for an ideal—to increase the love for winter sports in the United States with the view of augmenting the ranks of the Olympic family and of making Lake Placid the best-equipt resort for these sports. You have reacht these two goals.

Very sincerely yours,

Baillet Latour

President of the
International Olympic Committee

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