Walking Opportunities In and Near Princeton Windrows

(Updated and Edited During Summer and Fall of 2010 and revised again in February 2013)

By Bruce A. LaBar

Introductory Comment

A couple of warning notes should be mentioned before we delve into specific walking options. For routes away from sidewalks and otherwise paved walkways, one must expect to contend with certain natural obstacles such as dirt (and possibly mud and standing water), long grass, brush and geese. Dirt and/or mud may mean only that you will have to clean your shoes when you return. Long grass and/or brush mean that you'll want to wear long pants and perhaps a long-sleeved shirt. Garden clippers may even be handy to clip brambles that impede your way. More important, long grass and brush may mean ticks (between May and September), for which you will need to inspect yourself upon returning home. Finally, geese can sometimes be a problem. The males are aggressive during the spring when they are protecting their nests and newly hatched offspring. This is especially true when walking along the D&R Canal, where their nests are mostly located. More pervasive than the geese themselves is their scat. Usually you will not have to contend with scat on paved walkways because these ways are mostly located in areas frequented by *homo sapiens*, a specie which geese usually avoid. But on the canal towpath and in open grassy areas one must lower his gaze lest he soil his shoes. I hope that these concerns do not prevent you from venturing out and enjoying a healthful walk near Windrow!

A note about the distances shown below: except for walks along the canal (where distances are shown in the D&R Canal brochure), they are all based on pedometer readings multiplied by my stride. The latter is 30-36 inches depending on conditions, i.e., where it is level and smooth I use 36" but where it is uphill or brushy I use a lower number. My stride was measured over the 1/8-mile markings shown on the walking path on the campus of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and over the mile posts along the canal.

The February 2013 update did not benefit from my own walks during the past 1-2 years as my bones and muscles are not what they used to be. Most of my exercise is now done indoors.

Circling Around the Windrows Campus

This is the most obvious walk a Windrows resident might take, so we'll discuss it first. Moreover, it is probably the easiest hike we'll cover here, being either concrete sidewalk or gravel path, though these ways do have moderate pitch in certain segments and soft spots after rains. Let's start by going out the front door of Windrows Hall. Turn left and walk to Windrows Drive, crossing the street to the sidewalk on the other side. Turn left and warm up by going down the moderate grade and circling gradually left. After passing Greenleaf, turn right onto the gravel path that intersects Windrows Drive between Greenleaf and Hedge Row. Circle around the gravel path (broken only briefly by the sidewalk beside the retention basin), in a generally

counter-clockwise direction. When the gravel runs out you will be at College Road West. Turn left and follow the concrete sidewalk north and around to your left in front of the Pavilions to the point where you started. Distance, just about exactly one mile. Of course you can start and end your walk at any point along the way, depending on what's convenient in relation to where you live.

To Forrestal Village and Back

- (1) An easy walk from fountain to fountain can be had by starting at the main entrance to Windrows Hall, walking past our fountain and then continuing straight ahead through Forrestal Village, circling the fountain in front of the Westin Hotel and returning to Windrows via the sidewalk on the other side of the street you used in walking toward the Westin. You can take in a bit of window shopping in both directions. Total distance, just about exactly ½ mile.
- (2) You can extend the distance to 0.9 miles by walking completely around Forrestal Village. Do this (from Windrows Hall) by turning right (south) when you reach College Road West, turning left at Village Boulevard, going past the former Harmony School (now relocated one block to the southeast) and construction site for the Eden Institute on your right and circle around to the left, passing the fountain in front of the Westin Hotel and continuing north until you reach the traffic light at the east-west section of College Road West. At the traffic light turn left, then circle left around the Forrestal Village parking lot on the macadam path, turn right at a convenient crossing and return to Windrows Hall. Distance, as mentioned, a little short of one mile.
- (3) A still longer opportunity would involve turning south on College Road West and walking all the way to the end of the Novo Nordisk (currently vacant) parking lot, then turning left and walking behind the Novo Nordisk building, using the sidewalk and cinder paths. Also walk behind the building located to the northeast of Novo Nordisk and through its parking lot. From there walk toward the police microwave tower. When you approach the tower turn left and then right, passing between 155 Village Blvd and Salt Creek Grill. From there, walk behind the Westin hotel and continue straight ahead on the outside rim of its parking lot, curving to the left. When you reach the electric distribution box, turn right to reach the macadam path along College Road West. At this point turn left and make your way back to the main entrance of Windrows Hall. Distance, 1.6-1.7 miles.

There are many alternatives you can use in and about Forrestal Village. Hopefully, the owner of this property will be successful in renting up its space, allowing you to do double duty by both walking *and* window shopping.

<u>Walking Around St. Joseph's Seminary</u> (This section deleted in February 2013 because the schools now located there have asked us not to enter this property. However, I wouldn't be afraid to skirt the edge of the property, but you should stay close to Seminary Drive.)

Walkways Around Princeton Landing

- (1) There are several alternative walks around Princeton Landing. The most "civilized" (the one that keeps to official paths, sidewalks and streets) starts from the main entrance of Windrows Hall. Go out the front door and walk past the fountain to College Road West. Take the sidewalk to your right and walk to near its end. Leave the sidewalk and start to take the gravel path to your right. You will soon see a dirt path on your left. Take that--except in wet weather when you would be better off choosing a different walk. Proceed to Princeton Landing via this path and walk to the left of the swimming pool you'll see in front of you until you come to a parking area. Turn 90 degrees to your right and walk straight ahead to the stop sign. This is Sayre Drive (unmarked anywhere except where it intersects the access road from Route 1). Turn right or left as you fancy and walk completely around Princeton Landing via this circumferential street. Princeton Landing, with its mature plantings and well-kept grounds, is quite attractive and is especially good for walking when shade is desired. Walk back to Windrows the way you came. Distance, 1.9-2.0 miles. Of course you can vary your route, using the informal access points to Princeton Landing which appear periodically along the cinder path on the south side of the Windrows campus, and also by using Princeton Landings' interior streets and paths.
- (2) Starting from the terrace level of Windrows Hall, take Windrows Drive to the south entrance of the Windrows complex, turn right and walk south along College Road West. Stay on the sidewalk until it ends, then cross over to the left side of the roadway, picking up the sidewalk along the east side of the roadway. This will take you to the Novo Nordisk parking lot. From the southwest corner of that lot (hard by the dumpsters located there), make your way through the trees separating the Novo Nordisk parking lot from Sayre Drive. Turn right on the latter and walk toward Princeton Landing, using the mown grassy area to the right of the drive. When you see a blue U.S. mail box across the street, cross the street and, with your back to the roadway and facing 30-40° to your left, note two berms behind the housing units located to your right. Take the berm to your left (the one closer to Route 1). Walk onto this berm and you will find yourself on one of the more attractive paths in the area, covered as it is with the pine needles from the trees on either side of the berm. Through the trees you will be able to glimpse Princeton Landing housing on your right and Route 1 on your left. (Sorry about the traffic noise from the latter.) This berm is part of a trail that completely circles the south side of Princeton Landing, going far enough south so that one can no longer see Princeton Landing houses through the trees. Another attractive feature of this trail is its passage along a bluff overlooking Lake Carnegie. From time to time this trail has been impassable because significant parts of it had grown up with brush. However, at this writing (fall of 2010) it is quite clear and has new orange markers on trees along the path. From the berm, descend on the path and walk slightly to the left, crossing the Route 1 storm drain, following the markers referred to above. Bend right and continue around the development in a generally clockwise direction. Eventually, Mapleton Road and Lake Carnegie will appear on your left and, still later, Princeton Landing houses will appear on your right. The path will then take you down a steep embankment. About two-thirds of the way down, veer to the right and continue on the path. Princeton Landing's storm drain will be on your right. Soon you will come to a lawn. Cross this lawn and, when you come to the Landings' paved emergency access road, turn right and walk to the intersection at Sayre Drive. Turn left and walk clockwise around the development until you come to the tennis courts. Walking on either side of the tennis courts, go though the hedge row and access Windrows' circumferential cinder path. From there you will be able to make your way back to your residence. Distance: 2.7-2.8 miles.

(3) Princeton Landing also has a walkway cutting straight across its middle and intersecting the emergency access road at a 90-degree angle. This walkway can be reached by accessing the Landings from our circumferential cinder path at a point just east of the Landings' tennis courts. (The courts can be seen through the trees as you walk along our cinder path.) Pass by the courts, turn left on Sayre Drive and walk half a block east. Look to your right and you will see the beginning of the macadam path that transects the Landings. For a part of its length this path passes beside a windrow of spruce trees exactly like those we see at Windrows, meaning that Princeton Nurseries was active in at least part of the area now occupied by Princeton Landing. This path and many others cutting through Princeton Landing can be incorporated in your walks through this development.

Opportunities East of Route 1

- (1) Robert Wood Johnson Foundation The principal attraction of this walk is the beautiful grounds around RWJF. Moreover, the route is entirely pavement or gravel. Start at the main entrance to Windrows Hall. Walk past the fountain to College Road West and cross over to the other side. Turn left on the paved sidewalk, follow it around, crossing the Route 1 overpass. All street crossings are protected by either crosswalks or sidewalk openings. Approach the RWJF driveway, but before you reach it turn right on the gravel walkway. Follow this path entirely around the RWJF campus, returning to Windrows the way you came. Distance, 2.0-2.2 miles. Warning: There is a short break in the path around RWJF. To deal with this, when you come to a ½-mile marker near the building, walk to the left of the building (by the shipping dock). The gravel path resumes on the other side.
- (2) Marriott (formerly the Doral Forrestal Hotel) Start out the same as in (1) above except that when you reach the RWJF driveway keep walking east. The macadam path continues and passes beside the John P. Moran Woods which separate RWJF from the Marriott. Turn right at the first driveway entrance to the Marriott. When you come to the crushed rock service road turn right and follow this road counter clockwise around the Marriott. You will come to the Winning Touch Tennis facility on your right. (These tennis courts were originally owned by the Doral, but 8-10 years ago were sold to a private owner.) Keep walking through the parking lot that serves the tennis facility and on into the most easterly of the Marriott's three parking lots. Look for an opening among the trees on the north side of this parking lot. This opening will put you back on the macadam path that parallels College Road East. Follow this path back across Route 1 and back to Windrows Hall. Distance, 2.3-2.5 miles.
- (3) The path along College Road East continues on east past the Marriott and all the way to Scudders Mill Road (SMR). I do not discuss it in detail because the round trip distance from Windrows Hall to SMR is about six miles and I doubt that many of us would want to take such a long walk. However, you can drive to the Marriott and walk from there to and from SMR (or even on across SMR to the Wyndham Princeton Forrestal Hotel & Conference Center.) This is a pleasant walkway along attractively landscaped corporate campuses on College Road East. The one-way distance from the Winning Touch tennis courts parking area to SMR is 1.4 miles; the round trip distance is of course double that. Or you can take the wooded path from behind the tennis courts to Scudders Mill Road (1.1-1.2 miles) and return on the macadam path (total distance, about 2.6 miles). The woodland path goes generally behind the office buildings on

College Road East and is also, for a shorter walk, accessible from some of the parking areas behind these buildings. In 2006 this path was of uneven quality, especially in wet weather, but by 2010 was much improved with downed trees having been cut out of the way and cinders having been added on parts of the pathway. It is well-shaded and thus especially appropriate when the weather is sunny and hot.

(4) More walkways along corporate campuses – Another walk is best done when your spouse or friend has some errands to run at the Plainsboro municipal complex or in Plainsboro Village. She (he) can drop you off at the intersection of Scudders Mill Road and College Road East. From there walk west on SMR along the John P. Moran woods, past two driveways serving Bristol-Myers, through some attractive clumps of maples and oaks on the Bristol-Myers property, proceeding all the way to the access ramp to Route 1 north. Here the path dead-ends and here your spouse or friend can pick you up. Distance, about 1.3-1.4 miles.

If your driver/errand runner needs more than 25-30 minutes, walk as indicated in the preceding paragraph except, instead of going all the way to the Route 1 ramp, turn right onto the path along Campus Drive. This will take you past Forrestal Campus buildings on your left and the Bristol-Myers buildings on your right and, further on, a relatively new building at 1100 Campus Road. (The principal tenant of this building is Novo Nordisk, which has outgrown its space on the west side of Route 1. The building is the first of a planned three-building office complex on this part of Princeton University lands.) Continue north and, at the intersection, walk straight through the opening in the fence onto the grounds of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Keep to the right of the RWJF buildings and, using cinder pathways as well as the lawn, walk virtually straight to College Road East. Distance from the starting point, 2.4-2.5 miles. If you're lucky, when you reach College Road East your spouse or friend will be pulling up to meet you on the north side of the road. (A traffic light and pedestrian crosswalk will contribute to the safety of your crossing.)

(5) James Forrestal Campus – To walk around this campus, start at the main entrance to Windrows Hall, walk out to College Road West and turn right. Walk all the way to the southwest corner of the Novo Nordisk parking lot (by dumpsters) and go through the hedgerow to Sayre Drive. Cross the grassy area, turn left and go under Route 1, being careful as you do so because there is no shoulder and limited space between the car lane and the side of the underpass. Continue straight ahead and take your next right. Circle the Forrestal Campus in a counter clockwise direction. (The buildings you will see mostly look old as they were taken over by Princeton University when the former owner, the Rockefeller Institute, decided to concentrate its research in New York City and Long Island in the early 1950's. Today they have interesting names like Gas Technology Laboratory and Fluid Dynamics Laboratory. Some of the buildings have been rented to private organizations and, indeed, University classes are no longer held in them.) You will return to Windrows the same way you came. Distance, 2.3-2.4 miles.

If you want to avoid retracing your steps, don't circle the Forrestal campus, but rather turn left after crossing under Route 1. This road, which initially parallels Route 1, will eventually turn gradually right and pass to the south side of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Turn left at the pedestrian access and go through the fence onto the RWJF property. Walk straight ahead, keeping the RWJF building on your left. Using a combination of lawn and cinder pathways,

walk all the way to College Road East. Turn left, walk over Route 1, pass Forrestal Village and make your way back to Windrows' main entrance. Distance, about 2.5 miles.

Plainsboro Preserve

The preserve is a mostly wooded area of 631 acres including artificial McCormack Lake and an environmental education building. This preserve came about through a partnership of the Jeffers family, Middlesex County, Plainsboro Township and the Audubon Society. Six miles from Windrows, it can be reached by taking Scudders Mill Road east from Route 1, turning left on Dey Road and then left again on Scotts Corner Road. Don't turn into the Plainboro Township recreational park (as I did on my first visit), but go about ¼ mile further where the Preserve's sign is obvious. Turn left here and drive into the large parking area. The trails begin at the far left corner of the parking lot (to the left of the large education building). All trails are clearly marked by colored stakes and/or blazes on the trees. The access trail from the parking lot is gravel and goes along the southeast side of the lake. All the other trails lead off from this trail. A map of the Plainsboro Preserve's walking trails may be picked up at the trail head, is available inside the building or on line at nitrails.org.

- (1) White-red-yellow double loop trail (my wording) -- About half way down the length of the access trail along McCormack Lake, a sign points to various trails to your left. Turn here and walk along the edge of a leased farm field. As you enter the woods at a moderate angle to your right the trail markers for a short distance are white. Avoid the yellow trail indicated by a sign on your right and continue on the white trail. Before long you will see indications for the red loop trail to your left. Take this and loop around to your right (clockwise). This loops around to a point near the aforementioned farm field and you will return to your starting point and the parking lot. Distance: 1.6-1.7 miles. It would be handy to have a map with you and even another person to help you watch for colored markers on the many beech trees you will see during this walk. Take this trail when you want to be shaded from the sun.
- (2) Blue trail -- At the end of the gravel access trail (along the lake), you will see four corners. The blue trail, a loop trail which returns to its intersection with the access trail, can be taken either to the right or left. If you take it to the right you will find yourself going past the northeast side of the lake. The back side of the trail goes along a brook and just beyond the brook is the main line of the Amtrak/NJ Transit line to/from New York. Being a very busy line, you will certainly hear and/or see trains rushing by as you trudge along the trail. The entire blue trail is dirt, in some places narrow and sometimes muddy. In summer it seems to be prime habitat for deer flies—very annoying. But it is well marked and there is no danger of getting lost. Distance from parking lot: 2.5 miles.
- (3) Peninsula trail -- An attractive diversion from the blue trail is a trail I will call the Peninsula Trail. (The park people call it variously Maggie's trail and the white trail.) Walk from the parking lot to the four corners at the end of the access trail and turn right (northeast). Walk about 125 yards and you will see a single white marker (along with the main trail's blue marker). Turn right here. You may encounter some wet spots, surprising given the trail's 10+ feet elevation above the lake level, though most of the trail is gravelly and dry. It has attractive views of the lake on either side, the lake being clearer than most bodies of water in central New Jersey. At

the end of the peninsula, a bench is perfectly located. Since neither swimming nor boating are allowed on this lake, the peninsula is a good way to see the lake up close. The peninsula itself is 500-600 yards long, measuring from the blue trail. The round trip distance from the parking lot is 2.1-2.2 miles.

Heathcote Park

To get to Heathcote Park, drive to Kingston, take Route 27 north, turn right on Raymond Road, then right on Cleveland, then left on Monroe. When you reach the park, turn right into the parking lot. From there, an informal path leads through the hedge row to the tennis courts. Beyond the tennis courts is open space, a baseball field and basketball court. In 2010 the tennis courts were in poor condition and, while the remainder of the park is in better shape, the absence of direction signs from Raymond Road means that the park is under-utilized. Walks from the park are listed below:

- (1) Walk through the informal path mentioned above, approach the tennis courts and turn right where you will see a state "Green Acres" sign. Enter the wide path; following it across Heathcote Brook to the "T" intersection. If you turn left, you will come to a dead-end, so one is advised to turn right. This is a sewer right-of-way and you will see the manholes to the left of the wide ROW. Follow this road until you reach a four-way intersection. There are two large houses, among others, on the road to your left. This is a private road and is accessed from Ridge Road. You can return to Heathcote Park by turning right at this intersection. When you reach the open field you will see mown 5-6' paths on either side of the road. One of these circles around the farm to the right, one to the left. Take one of these back to the park. Distance, 1.85-2.00 miles. These paths may be less evident in 2013, but if you want to continue back to the park, remember that the park is straight ahead. The way you get there is up to you.
- (2) Or, for a somewhat longer return to the park, continue straight on the sewer ROW at the fourway intersection, going past the Cook Trail sign and continuing on to Ridge Road. Turn right. (The abandoned houses [in 2010] on your left were once residences of Princeton Nurseries workers.) Walk across the county bridge that crosses Heathcote Brook and turn right into the Cook Natural Area parking lot. Take the path in front of you. *This path is often wet*, but as a sewer right-of-way it is at least periodically mown. The Cook estate will be on your left. Continue straight, but curve around to your left when you see 2-3 manholes. Cross the boy scout-built foot bridge across Heathcote Brook and continue on the ROW until you come near its end. Look for a passage through the trees on your right and enter a farm field. (The farmer's house will be in front of you.) Turn left and make your way across the field, keeping a large new house to your right. Enter the roadway (Cleveland) and turn right on Monroe Court. This will take you back to Heathcote Park. Distance, about 2.5 miles. You can also start this circuit from the Cook Natural Area parking lot.

D&R Canal

The Delaware and Raritan canal and its associated towpaths, locks, water control facilities, foot bridges, feeder canal, turning basins, descriptive signs, parking lots and picnic areas are all part of the state-owned D&R Canal State Park. Most of its length is covered by accessible

foot/bicycle paths--about 25 miles of the main canal between Mulberry Street in north Trenton and the Raritan River, and about 31 miles including the feeder canal between Frenchtown and Montgomery Street in Trenton. I will discuss only the portion of the main canal closest to Windrows, namely the section between the Route 1 footbridge (near Basin Street) and Griggstown. Much of this section has walkways on both sides of the canal, but only on the west side (the towpath side) is the path continuous and well-maintained. Based on my observations, this west side towpath is by far the most heavily traveled (with walkers, joggers and cyclists) in the area. The east side track came about because Sonoco Products Pipeline laid its line there, but it is discontinuous because of water incursion and lack of complete clearing and maintenance by Sonoco, the state or contiguous landowners. Even the sections that are walkable are sometimes muddy or unmown. Traffic on this side is much less than on the west side. In general, the towpath side is well maintained by the state, provides adequate parking at critical entry points, has frequent signs explaining the history and operation of the canal and includes benches for resting and enjoying the scenery.

The attached map (Exhibit 1) and table (Exhibit 2) provide information for each canal segment and, depending on limitations of time and strength, one can walk any number of these segments. Those segments that have passable paths on both sides of the canal allow one to go on one side and return on the other. I will not discuss here all the possible walks because routes and distances should be obvious from the map and table. However, I include some suggestions for walks which make use of the canal paths as part of a circular route that brings you back to your car or to Windrows.

- (1) Canal-Rockingham-Kingston Start at the John Flemer parking lot on Route 27 at the southwest end of Kingston. Walk north on the east side of the canal to a bench (about 0.6 miles). Behind the bench is a marked woodland trail going up the ridge to Rockingham. This steep trail is now further inhibiting because of trees blown down during the January 2010 windstorm. [Cleared by 2013?] Visit Rockingham if it is open and if you have time. Then proceed to Kingston via Laurel Avenue, of course staying off the shoulderless roadway itself as much as possible. There is a section of about 200 yards where the roadway can't be avoided, but as you enter Kingston a new sidewalk will appear on the right side of the road. Take the sidewalk to Church Street, then turn right. Circle left past the United Methodist Church. (Some years ago, before handicap ramps and a paved parking lot were installed, this country-style church, with parking on the lawn, was quite attractive. One could imagine horses and buggies parked on the grass beside the church while their owners were worshipping inside. The building itself continues to be appealing.) But back to walking....Go on past the Presbyterian cemetery on your right to Route 27. (As the cemetery sign indicates, the Presbyterian Church, now located a couple of blocks northeast on Route 27, was once situated where the cemetery now appears.) At Route 27, cross the street and take the new sidewalk back to the Flemer parking area. Distance, 1.7-1.8 miles with some uphill walking.
- (2) Circle from, and back to, the aqueduct One of the easiest and most interesting canal walks involves driving to the aqueduct parking lot on the west side of Mapleton Road just north of Route 1. (From Windrows, drive to the Barclay Square traffic light, turn south on Mapleton and turn right into the parking lot across from the two-story apartments and just short of Route 1.) From the parking lot walk to your left onto the first of the three foot bridges you will see there.

This bridge crosses the Millstone River at the point where it turns east away from Lake Carnegie and the canal. Walk along the informal, but clear, path on the east side of the canal. When you come to Harrison Street turn right and cross the canal. Return to the aqueduct via the towpath on the west side of the canal. Lake Carnegie will be on your left. When you get back to the aqueduct, cross the bridge over the canal, noting the interesting configuration of the three bridges and the water flows under them. Total distance, 0.8 miles.

(3) Pipeline path to Kingston and thence to aqueduct and return via Princeton Landing – Starting at the corner of Windrows Drive and Hedge Row Road, walk to Seminary Drive, turn left, then left again when your reach the Barclay Square traffic light. Walk about 100 yards to the macadam path that goes down to the canal. Turn right onto the Sonoco Products Pipeline ROW and walk to the lock in Kingston. Cross over the footbridge at the south end of the lock and take the towpath south to the aqueduct. So far you've gone about 3.6 miles. If you've had enough, call your spouse or friend to pick you up at the aqueduct parking lot. If you want to return to Windrows by foot, turn north on Mapleton, walking on the (usually) mown greenway on the east side of the road. (Mapleton has no shoulders.) This greenway eventually ends, so carefully walk another 200-300 yards on Mapleton and pick up the emergency access road into Princeton Landing. Take this road uphill until you reach the Smith House. Turn left on (unmarked) Savre Drive and follow it until you see the tennis courts. On the far side of the courts turn left into the parking area, find your way through the hedgerow separating Princeton Landing from Windrows, turn left on Windrow's circumferential path and return to the point from which you started. Total distance via the Kingston lock, the aqueduct and Princeton Landing, slightly over five miles.

Lands of the Former Princeton Nurseries ("The Plantation")

The Plantation has been the venue for maybe 40% of all of the walks I have taken since moving to Windrows in December 2005. Its topography is diverse and attractive and it is interspersed with windrows (or hedge rows—I use the terms interchangeably) of various tree species as well as other trees which were never harvested before the property was sold. It contains several houses, virtually all now uninhabited. The property is laced with tractor roads, some gravel or otherwise in good shape for walking, though others are beginning to grow up with tall grasses and brush. (See warnings in "Introductory Comments" about walking in these areas.) Various public agencies jointly own the northerly part of the property (231 acres, all in South Brunswick Township). Princeton University owns the rest (an estimated 700 acres, virtually all in Plainsboro Township), some planned for development and some to remain open and connected space. One distinct section, referred to by the Flemer family as "the flats," is the flatland between Mapleton Road and the D&R canal. Prior to the construction of the canal, Lake Carnegie, associated berms and water control devices, the flats comprised the flood plain of the Millstone River. The lands east of Mapleton Road are more topographically varied.

Attached is an aerial view of the property, courtesy of Google Maps (Exhibit 3). The aerial photograph was taken in about 2000 when the land for Barclay Square had been cleared but not yet built upon. Nor had the intersection of Seminary Drive and Mapleton Road been rebuilt to its present configuration. Moreover, the various plots making up the plantation, as well as the tractor roads that served them, were more distinct in 2000 than they are today.

There are dozens of possible walking routes, but alas I haven't walked many of them since 2010 and, given the rapid growth of brush, appearance of no trespassing signs and other changes I will not list any here, although in past editions of this paper I listing quite a few.

Institute Woods

A map of the many paths through the wooded area to the southeast of the Institute for Advanced Study can be had at njtrails.org. There are several access points, but the one that is the easiest to find is at the east end of Olden Lane. Park your car in the lot on your right and walk about 100 yards east until you see the path on your right. This path runs virtually straight across the entire property, ending at the Friends Meeting House cemetery and school. All the other paths lead from this one. The map shows an entrance from the D&R Canal, but this point of entry requires maneuvering across a stream on one or more logs. This can be tricky, so I don't recommend it for people of our age. The access to the Institute Woods' famous swinging bridge across Stony Brook requires finding your way via several unmarked trails. Generally, the bridge is about ½ mile directly behind the Institute. If you don't come to the bridge, you will hopefully come to Stony Brook. From there take the path along the brook (probably it will be to your left) and walk until you come to the bridge. Virtually all of these lands are quite flat and, at certain points, are subject to water incursion and mud except during dry periods. Since there are so many trails in the woods, and since a good map is available from the web site, I will not describe specific walks that you might take.

Princeton University

Because the campus has a multitude of walkways separating its various buildings, as well as a number of access points, it accordingly contains a virtually endless variety of possible walking opportunities. Indeed, there are too many to describe. I do, however, in the interest of completeness, include a campus map (Exhibit 4). If you can find legal parking, you will have no problem accessing the campus and will enjoy walking among the various "Oxbridge Gothic" (a term used in a presentation by the University's architect), classical, Romanesque and modern buildings, not to mention well-planned greens and beautiful trees. The University's architect also stated that, among five underlying postulates stipulated for campus planning, keeping the grounds walker-friendly was number one. Being in such close proximity to the University, it behooves us to take advantage of its beauty.

If you want to experience the new Streicker bridge across Washington Road, park your car at the lot on the north side of Faculty Road and walk west past Jadwin Gym. Keep walking straight until you come to the new chemistry building on your right. From there you can walk through a wooded pathway or you can turn right and walk along the west side of the chemistry building. Either way you will soon see the new bridge and will be able to cross it. On the far side of the bridge is the new integrative genomics (Icahn) building on your right and the site of the new neuroscience and psychology building under construction on your left. (It may be finished by now—February 2013. Beyond, and on either side of a huge lawn, are dormitories on the right and athletic fields and related facilities on the left.