BANGOR PARK SWIMMING POOL
Bangor Memorial Park
Broadway at South Tenth Street
Bangor
Northampton County
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-6205

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
Northeast Region
Philadelphia Support Office
U.S. Custom House
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, P.A. 19106

HABS
PA
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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
BANGOR PARK SWIMMING P00L HABS-PA-6205

Location: Bangor Memorial Park
Broadway at South Tenth Street
Bangor,
Northampton County
Pennsylvania

USGS Quadrangle: Bangor, Pennsylvania - New Jersey Quad, 1956 Photo Revised 1968 and 1973
UTM: Zone 18. 481400. 4523760

Present Owner: Bangor Borough
Borough Hall
Bangor, Pennsylvania

Present Use: vacant; to be demolished Fall 1996.

Significance: Built in 1937 and dedicated in 1939, this Art Moderne Style swimming pool and bath house was constructed by the WPA and the Borough of Bangor as part of a work relief project that included this structure and a recreation and leisure park for the residents of the community. Although WPA-built pools were common during the period--the neighboring community of Pen Argyl has one in a memorial park--the above-ground design employed by Wesley Bintz of Lansing, Michigan for the design of this pool is somewhat uncommon for the region. However, his pool design was in use around the United States from the end of the 1920s into the early 1950s.

PART I - HISTORY OF THE BANGOR PARK SWIMMING POOL

The Bangor Park Swimming Pool, as shown on the 1973 USGS map and the Map of the Borough of Bangor, was built as a Works Progress Administration (WPA) project designed to provide community facilities and unemployment relief. Established in 1934 by the Franklin D. Roosevelt administration through the provisions of the Emergency Relief Appropriations Act of 1935, the WPA was designed to provide jobs, training, social services, and public benefit during the Great Depression[1]. The recordation of this pool for the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) provides some measure of closure for this project because the HABS was established as a work relief program for architects and historians and to document buildings and structures of significance in American History. The WPA was not the first of the modern era, Federal relief programs. Some form of financial and work relief assistance had been in place across the country during the Great Depression since 1932. However, the WPA is the most well known of these programs.

As noted on the Dedication Plaques, this Pool was built in 1937 by the Borough of Bangor in Northampton County, Pennsylvania using funds provided by the WPA. The Borough sponsored the project, provided matching funds and materials for the pool, and managed the construction and the labor under the WPA program. The Pool was part of a larger project that included the recreational park that surrounds the Pool. The original stadium and running track have been enlarged and modernized. Except for the Pool, all that remains of the original park is some of the landscaping and levels of the park, the entrance gates and pillars to the stadium, the restroom facility at the stadium, the base of a dance pavilion, and a small picnic grove with a fireplace and restroom building. The U.S. Post Office in Bangor is also a WPA project.

Planning for the Pool, and for the park, began in Bangor during 1937. Fundraisers were held throughout the community. One of the noteworthy efforts was an exhibition baseball game that was held in the community that year with the Philadelphia Athletics. They played a local team organized by one of the local manufacturing companies[2].

Most of the funds required for the swimming pool and the recreational and leisure park were raised by a bond issued by the Borough of Bangor. The total cost of the park and the pool was $39,833.00. Of this amount, the Borough contributed $10,478.00 and the Federal government proved the remainder[3]. It is not clear what the cost of in kind contributions might have been and how they might have affected the actual cost of the pool and the park. For example, all of

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1. United States Federal Works Agency, *Final Report on the WPA Program; 1935-43*. p. 7.

2. *The Centennial Book*, p. 136.

3. *Bangor Daily News*, May 14, 1940, page 1.

the slate used for the pool and locker rooms was donated and it appears as if the land for the pool and park was donated as well.

The pool and park are located in an area of Bangor that was called "Blueberry Bog" or the Blake Property." The former refers to the large blueberry stands that once stood on this area which is much higher than the surrounding town. The later name refers to the owners of the property prior to the construction of the park and the pool. Their house was moved across the road from the park to make way for construction and it still stands today overlooking the park and the pool.

Although a good deal of information is known about the construction and use of the Bangor Park Swimming Pool, some basic information is missing. Unfortunately, the records and copies of the local newspaper, the Bangor Daily News, from 1936 to the early 1940s, were burned in a fire. These records would have helped to clear up some confusion as to the dates of actual construction and the opening of the pool. The dedication plaque provides a date of 1937. However, final approval for the pool and park project was not received from the Federal Government until 1940. But the local paper's anniversary issue of 1944 recalls that the opening of the pool was held in May of 1939 and that 3,000 people attended[4]. The April 28, 1944 issue of the same newspaper lists the construction costs for the pool and the park at $92,000.00 and that construction of the pool began on January 17, 1938[5].

The Bangor Park Swimming Pool was designed by Wesley Bintz of Lansing, Michigan. Born in 1891 in Stanberry, Missouri, his family eventually moved to Charlotte, Michigan. He attended high school there and attended the University of Michigan. He received a B.S. degree in engineering in 1916. He received his M.S. degree in engineering in 1918. Upon graduation, he went to work in the City Engineer's office for Flint, Michigan. In 1921, he moved to Lansing as a structural engineer with that city's engineering department. In 1922, he was named Lansing City Engineer. He left that position in 1923 to design and build swimming pools. His decision to form his own company was based on some prior experience building pools in Flint and in Lansing. By 1958, Bintz and his firm had designed approximately 135 pools across the country. In addition to his work building swimming pools, he also had a significant position with the City of Detroit just after World War II and its program of industrial and infrastructure improvement. Professionally, Mr. Bintz was active in the American Society of Civil Engineers, the American Institute of Park Executives, and the National Society of Professional Engineers. He was also a founding member of the National Swimming Pool Institute[6].

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4. *Bangor Daily News*. October 27, 1944, page 11.

5. Some of this confusion might be resolved by checking the project files in the National Archives, Washington, D.C. Location under Record Group 69.

6. *State Journal*. Lansing, Michigan. July 13, 1958, n.p.

Illustrations that Bintz placed in the Lansing, Michigan Municipal Index during the late 1920s show that his design for an above-ground pool had matured and was consistent during his years in the design and construction of swimming pools. The pools in those advertisements resemble and almost duplicate the Bangor Park Swimming Pool except for the decoration and use of finish material. The shape, use of curtain walls and reinforced concrete construction, and the location of support rooms and facilities was set. The only variable would appear to be the architectural design and the use of material. For the Bangor Park Swimming Pool, the material of choice was brick for the curtain walls and the use of an Art Moderne, theater style entrance. Unique to the Bangor Park Swimming Pool, within the Bintz design, would be the extensive use of slate as a finish material for counter tops, and shower and toilet stalls.

Bintz advertised that his pools could be built anywhere and that they did not require extensive excavation. This would be a plus during the WPA construction era because the WPA emphasized the use of labor and did not encourage the use of heavy machinery for its projects unless necessary. He also trumpeted the fact that the pools and the material of construction were efficient and cost effective. There would be no wood in any of his pools. As part of his advertisement in the 1928 Municipal Index for Lansing, Michigan, Bintz also discussed the low cost for his design. By his calculations, an eighty foot by 120 foot swimming pool with its deck and lower level rooms could be built for about $15,000.00. That same advertisement shows that he was building pools across the country, including two in Pennsylvania. One was in Greensburg and one was in Pittsburgh.

Bintz's advertising material also made much of his design being patented. The dedication plaque on the Bangor Park Swimming Pool shows a patent number. However, a check with the U.S. Patent and Trademarks Office revealed that the patent number was for one issued in 1925 for a pit bucket and that the inventor was not Wesley Bintz. The Patent and Trademarks Office has no information on any Bintz patents.

The Bangor Park Swimming Pool is one of 140 swimming pools constructed in Pennsylvania under the WPA program; 2,073 were constructed under the program nationwide. Pennsylvania's total count was the fourth largest after New York, Ohio, and Illinois[7]. For example, the neighboring community of Pen Argyl has a WPA pool incorporated into a recreational park. That pool is a below-ground pool with a separate bathhouse. The pool is not in use and is slated to be removed because of its poor condition.

The fate or present condition of the WPA pools is not known. However, very few of the WPA pools have ever been listed on the National Register of Historic Places. As of July 1996, only six pools have been separately listed on the National Register under their own names. Others may be listed as part of park complexes or historic districts. None of the listed pools is in

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7. United States Federal Works Agency. *Final Report on the WPA Program*. Table XVIII.

Pennsylvania. Most likely, the WPA pools have either been removed or are in the planning stages of removal because of their poor condition, high maintenance costs, and lack of accessible facilities.

PART II - DESCRIPTION OF THE BANGOR PARK SWIMMING POOL

The Bangor Park Swimming Pool is a central design element of the 33.8-acre Bangor Memorial Park. The Pool is oval-shaped and located completely above ground. Essentially a reinforced-concrete building, it has brick curtain walls. Architectural interest is provided through the theater-style, Art Moderne entrance and the extensive use of fluting on the columns, light posts, and railings of the pool. A lobby entrance, guards' and manager's office, and a men's and a women's changing and bath areas are placed around the Pool. The only access to the pool itself is by stairs through the lobby or through changing rooms. Located on a hill or rise overlooking the town, the Park and the Pool were part of a WPA project begun in 1937. The Pool, a sports stadium, a picnic area, and an open dance hall were all completed by 1940 with WPA funds and support. The Park continues in use to the present and the Borough of Bangor continues to improve and alter the Park as community needs change. For instance, the original stadium and running track have been enlarged with additional seating and lighting. Parking for automobiles has been increased. In 1959, a narrow 16-gauge train was installed in the park.

From a distance, the Pool appears to be a single-story, brick, flat-roofed structure with an Art Moderne, theater-style entrance. Closer examination shows that the structure is a reinforced-concrete building with a central core that consists of an above-ground swimming pool. Surrounding the pool are the support rooms. They include the lobby entrance, manager's office, lifeguard's office, men's changing and bath room, women's changing and bath room, and a mechanical room. There are three sets of stairs to the upper surface/pool area. The first is a spectator's stair in the lobby. The other two are located in the men's and women's changing and bathrooms, respectively. Overall, the structure is 175 feet long and 110 feet wide. The pool itself holds 300,011 gallons of water in 7,301 square feet, approximately 120 feet by 80 feet at its widest point. The small wading pool holds 2,685 gallons in 358 square feet.

The main entrance is designed to be the most dramatic point of the pool. Constructed of reinforced concrete, the entrance consists of several geometric constructions joined together at different plains. Each of the entrance units is joined by a six-inch concrete base that projects slightly from the wall surface of the entrance. It continues around the entire pool complex. The largest units of the entrance assembly are the two rectangular guardian blocks at the farthest extent of the entrance assembly. Both of the facade sides are flat and marked by six vertical strips of brick headers set into the concrete. The headers are a dark brown. The top and bottom of each strip are marked by narrow paired headers set on edge. The bottom of each strip is at the same level. The tops of each strip end at a different height from its companion to create a steeped effect on each side. The two central stripes end at the same height. Set within the center of this decorative element were slate dedication plaques, one for each side. These have

been removed for safe keeping to an adjacent building. The sides of each guardian block are decorated with a single, vertical stripe constructed in the same manner as the stripes on the front of this unit. The bricks that form the stripes are set into channels cast as part of the construction of the building. The bricks are set into mortar that was a bright white in color. The mortar is about one-quarter inch thick between the bricks and the concrete and the same thickness between the individual bricks that make up the decorative strips.

The next piece of the entrance assembly is a side light and half round column on either side of the actual entrance doors. The two square side lights are formed by openings in the concrete. The door-side of each side light flows into a half-round, fluted column. The double-leaf doors are set at the rear of the half-round columns. These wood doors, nine-light over a single panel, are painted red. They are the original doors to the complex.

Set directly over the doors and over the half-round columns and side lights is a flat, reinforced concrete canopy. The canopy projects out over a multicolored slate tile patio surface. Above the canopy and set behind the plain of the side lights is a sign board constructed of reinforced concrete. The name of the building "BANGOR PARK SWIMMING POOL" is set into concrete and framed with a band of brick headers. The headers are the same size and color as the vertical stripes of the entrance. The letters of the name are painted red; that appears to be the original color. The type face for the sign is not an established font but it does resemble a Bodini or Poster style. The letters are formed as insets into the concrete work by using wood molds attached to the concrete forms. In the same fashion, channels were created for the vertical strips on the entrance and for the flutes that are used to decorate the half round columns on the front and elsewhere on this structure.

Standing in front of the entrance, it appears that it leads directly into the rooms around the pool. However, the entire entrance assembly projects forward from the oval of the pool and its support rooms by five and one-half feet. The connecting wall from the entrance assembly to the main body of the pool is by the use of a brick curtain wall set between reinforced concrete columns. The reinforced concrete columns provide the structural support for the pool and for the deck that surrounds the pool and that serves as the roof for the support rooms around the pool.

The connecting wall and the curtain wall sections consist of an exposed concrete footer that serves as a base for the brick walls. The base was constructed as a single pour or unit during construction. The inside of the brick wall is set on the edge of the base. On the exterior, the base projects forward by two inches except that a slight chamfer was molded into the concrete to soften the straight edge of the base. In general, about two inches of the base shows above the level of the ground. Each brick curtain wall consists of 34 courses of running bond red brick. The brick is not a hard-fired type but rather a densely packed brick that shows some surface irregularity. The mortar joints are flat and one-half inch wide. The mortar was a bright white concrete with a small and smooth aggregate. Each brick is eight inches long and two and one-quarter inches high.

Not counting the short curtain walls that connect the entrance to the body of the pool, there are 42 brick curtain walls set between the reinforced concrete columns. The size of each curtain wall is uniform but not equal. The pool was designed to have curtain walls that are 108 inches wide. However, those support columns that also include a light column at the top for the pool deck are slightly wider. As a result, the curtain walls that either begins or ends with one of those special columns are only 106 inches wide.

Most of the curtain walls have a steel framed window set into the upper center section. Each window sits on a reinforced concrete sill. Each sill is eighty-four inches long and four and one-quarter inches high except for the three-inch ears at the end of each sill. These ears are five and one-quarter inches high. Each sill projects one and one-half inches from the plain of the bricks. The windows are set high in each wall because most of them look into the two locker rooms. Their height provides the maximum amount of light to be let into the locker rooms but it also provides a measure of privacy for those using the locker rooms.

There were thirty-four windows in all. Four on the rear of the structure have been filled in with brick and one has been filled in with a sheet of plywood with a metal louver set into its center. Except for the windows in each of the two entrance connecting walls and those in the same curtain wall as the rear exit doors, the windows are all seventy-nine and one-half inches wide and thirty-seven and one-half inches high. From a construction standpoint, the windows are double sets of steel, industrial windows that have been screwed together using a four-inch wide center muntin. Those at the entrance curtain wall and with the rear doors are single-leaf steel windows and not the double set used elsewhere on the structure.

The flat steel window frame that holds the sash is one-inch wide. The window sash muntins are also one-inch wide. The windows open around a central pivot rod that extends horizontally through the window. Each window section is a six over six panel. The steel frames are original to the building. Most of the glass has been replaced over the years and it is difficult to determine the original type of glass set into the frames. Some of the existing glass is plain sheet glass, some is impeded with steel wire, some is frosted, and some is opaque and slightly bubbled. A speculative guess is that the later is the original glass type. The windows in the entrance connecting walls are the same height as the rest of the windows; however, they are only one-half the size of the other windows.

The exterior support columns have the same basic appearance. Each column is treated as a decorative pilaster but its real function is for support. Each consists of a three-part column set upon a concrete base that matches the base of the curtain walls. None of the columns has a capital but the upper section of each column is decorated with three flutes. The middle flute is the longest at 24 inches. The other two flutes are seventeen-inches wide. Each flute is one-inch wide and one-inch deep, although the flutes are not square but trapezoidal in profile. The two lower sections of each column are twenty-seven inches high. The upper section is twenty-six and one-quarter inches high. Each column projects four inches from the plain of the brick

curtain walls. The columns are twelve-inches wide except for those that support a light pole on the deck. Those columns are sixteen-inches wide.

There are doors set into three different sections of the curtain walls. One is located at the equipment or mechanical room and one each is located at the far end of the men's locker room and the women's locker room. The door openings are original to the building but the doors have been replaced with solid, steel doors with no decoration, trim, or openings.

The reinforced concrete deck is eight-inches wide and projects eleven inches beyond the plain of the brick curtain walls. Where the concrete has spalled away, the pattern of the reinforcing rods is revealed. The rods are one-half inch round rods with a slight spiraling ridge that rounds around the rod. However, they are not screw-shaped. A rod runs along the bottom of the deck with its run parallel to the outer edge. A second rod runs in the same direction along the top of the deck. Additional rods are set perpendicular to the top and bottom rods and about eight-inches apart. Tie wire or rods are not present in the exposed samples.

Passing through the main entrance brings one into the main lobby. This room contained an admission booth and a concession stand. There is also a set of steps to the pool deck. These steps were for non-swimming spectators. There is a door over the step entrance and they are not accessible at the present time. During the 1950s, the room also held racks for wire baskets in which the pool users could place their clothes while they were swimming. The men's locker room is located to the right and next to the manager's office. The women's locker room is located to the left and next to the lifeguard's office. The interior surface of the lobby, like the interior surface of the entire lower level, is smooth plaster over brick. The shape of the walls reflects the outside shape of the structure. The interior walls are formed by the oval of the pool. The plaster has been painted a number of colors over the years. The original color appears to have been sand over deep blue or lavender. The interior is now painted an almost uniform shade of light blue. The floors and ceilings have never been painted. There is a series of lights hung from the ceiling. It is not known if these fixtures are the originals. The globes are round, teardrop points of frosted glass. The ceiling height in the lobby and throughout the entire interior space is one-hundred inches.

The lobby is an open space except for four reinforced concrete columns that support a box beam which is part of the ceiling/pool deck. There is a freestanding round-tube, metal railing that divides the front of the lobby from the rear. The railing does not extend the full length of the lobby. The material used to construct the railing matches the other railings and gates at the Pool and would indicate that this railing is original to the Pool. The ceiling shows evidence of the wood forms that were used to hold the concrete until it had set. These forms were constructed of five and six-inch boards. The floor is smooth. Because of the vast amount of water that was carried throughout the structure, there is an extensive floor drain system. This drain system consists of a nine-inch wide trench created as part of the floor system. The trench was originally covered with rectangular blocks of slate with six drain holes cut into each block. Most of the slate drain covers have been broken over the years and they have been replaced with

wood blocks. The lobby contains the only intact pieces of slate drain covers because one small section was located behind the concession stand. Originally located along the wall opposite the entrance doors, this concession stand had been moved by the late 1950s to the other side of the room and next to the manager's office. The concession stand is completely made out of slate tiles. It consists of a flat slate top and front side with recessed panels. The interior of the stand is fitted with shelves for supplies.

Moving to the right in the lobby and toward the men's locker room, there is the manager's office. This small room has one window and was fitted with a door. The door is missing at this time. There is no decoration in the office. At the present time, the only object on the walls is the key board for the individual lockers in both of the changing areas.

The first room of the men's locker room is a small vestibule with a privacy wall and a reinforced counter built into two of the walls. The counters are decorated with flutes similar to those on the exterior columns. The fluting is also used to decorate the reinforced concrete supports for the counters. The counter surface is flat with a curved or half round edge. The inside counter sits over the floor drain trench in this room. The counters are forty-two and one-quarter inches high and fifteen and one-half inches wide. The counter tops are four-inches thick. The counter support columns are four and one-half inches wide.

Moving from the vestibule, one enters directly into the men's locker room. The room is arranged so that there is a traffic lane along the outside of the room, next to the outside wall. Separate function areas are marked by reinforced concrete walls that do not extend to the ceiling. The first room is the principal men's locker area, about sixty feet long. This open and slightly curved space contains modern lockers that are in poor repair. The room also contains six reinforced concrete benches. These benches are of the same design as the counter in the vestibule. Behind this room is a shower room. This open area contains the remains of plumbing for the overhead shower system. The floor drain continues in this room. Behind this room is another and smaller men's locker room. This room contains three reinforced concrete benches. Beyond that room is the lavatory. At the present time, only two standing urinals remain in this room. This room also is the last room before the men would take the stairs to the pool deck. Before they entered the stairs, they would pass through a foot-wash area marked by a low concrete berm. A round-tube, metal railing extends up the center of the stairs.

The lavatory room actually extends back beyond the stairs. Under the stair, there is an outside door. There is also a wall with an access door to the equipment/mechanical room. This room contains all of the plumbing and filtering controls for the pool and its support rooms. This room occupies the entire back part of the support area under the pool deck. The pump motors were manufactured by General Electric. It is not possible to determine if these are the original motors. However, the mounting blocks for the motors do not show any evidence of alteration or of extra bolt holes for older machinery. One of the largest objects in this room is the sand filter room. The water from the pool would be passed through this room and filtered by sand beds and then sent back out to the pool. The pool could also be drained from this room. A

large sewer or drain pipe is located beneath an access panel set into the floor. The pool water (and other waste?) would be sent by underground pipe to Martin's Creek at the edge of the park. This was changed many years ago to connect to the town's regular sewer system.

The far wall of the equipment/mechanical room abuts the end of the women's locker room. There is a door set into the reinforced concrete wall between the two areas. This door is a modern, steel door with no trim or decoration. It might not be an original door.

The women's locker room is similar to the men's locker room in finish but the layout is slightly different. The layout of the women's locker room provided more privacy for the women. There are no gang showers but individual shower stalls. Also, the water closets are enclosed in individual stalls. All of the shower and water closet stalls are constructed of slate sheets. Each face or wall of the stalls is a single sheet of slate. One piece in the women's lavatory is marked "all slate manufactured and donated by David Stoddard and Sons." The stair and foot bath arrangement is the same as in the men's locker room.

The entrance to the women's locker room is through a vestibule from the lobby. It is a duplicate for the one in the men's locker room. Just outside of this vestibule is a room that was used by the pool's lifeguards. It is a small and unornamented room. There are no furniture or fixtures in this room.

By climbing the stairs from either the men's or women's locker room, one comes up to the deck surrounding the pool. Directly in front of the steps is the wading pool. Enclosed by low reinforced concrete fence and railing with a round tube steel gate, the pool is trapezoidal in shape. There is a small area behind the enclosure and beside the wading pool for sitting or watching the wading pool user.

The deck around the pool is approximately fourteen to sixteen feet wide. The width varies around different parts of the pool. The pool surface is the top of the concrete deck. To make the deck safe when wet, course sand was laid over the concrete while it was still wet and worked into the deck surface.

The outside edge of the deck is enclosed by a reinforced concrete fence. Each post of the fence sits over one of the support columns for the pool deck. These are the same columns that define the curtain walls of the lower level. Each fence post matches the width of its supporting column, either twelve or sixteen inches, depending on the presence or absence of a light pole on top of the post. Those with a light post are wider. Each post carries the same fluting decoration of its supporting column. The posts are connected by two rows of reinforced concrete rails. The two rails are decorated with a triple row of horizontal flutes.

The light poles that sit on the outside fence are slightly obelisk in design. This motif is carried out by inset obelisks on each face of the light pole at its juncture with the fence post below. The light post is topped with a faux Doric capital. The entire pole is capped with a large round

globe that would have defused the light from the electric bulb on the pole. A number of the original light globes survive at the pool and they are in storage in the women's locker room vestibule.

Another fence cuts the deck into two areas. The outside area was designed for use by non-swimming spectators. In general, access to this area is only from the stairs from the pool lobby on the lower level. There is an access point from the outside area to the swimmer' area at the front of the pool and near the diving board location. The inside fence is a lower version of the exterior fence. The lower rail of the inside fence rests directly on the pool surface. The finish and decoration of the inside fence are the same as the outside fence. All of the inside fence posts are uniform in size.

The pool bottom slopes from two-feet deep at the shallow end by the wading pool to a diving area at the front of the pool. The depth at this point is eight feet except for the drain pit which is slightly deeper. The pool bottom is smooth concrete. The slope is not uniform but rather steps lower by sloping levels. There are no swimming lanes marked on the bottom.

At the edge of the deck by the pool, there is a deep and wide gutter that is designed to catch a great deal of the water that is splashed up by the swimmers. There are two lifeguard towers, one on either side of the pool. These are constructed of round metal tubes with a seat and back. They are part of the original equipment for the pool. At the front of the pool, the deep end, there are two pads that were designed to provide anchors for diving boards. The diving boards have been removed. Access to the pool was either by diving into it from the deck or by the use of metal ladders built into the deck and pool sides at seven locations around the pool. Those at the shallower end are shorter than those at the deeper end. In addition to the metal ladders, shelves or footholds are set into the concrete walls at the ladder locations.

PART III - BIBLIOGRAPHY

A number of sources--local, regional, and national--were searched for original or copied as-built drawings and photographs. The Borough of Bangor has no project file or information on this project. The Director of Parks, Steven Zavacky, grew up in Bangor and used the Pool as a young boy. He remembers the Pool and the arrangement of the admissions both, concession stand, and other features from the late 1950s and 1960s. The Bangor Public Library has a local history collection but there is no specific information about the Pool. There was a centennial history of the Borough of Bangor published in 1974 that mentions the Pool and the Park that surrounds the Pool. The local newspaper files and microfilm rolls provide a very accurate history of the community. However, the newspaper offices burned about 1940 and the files for 1936 to early 1940 are lost. It was during those years that the Pool and the Park were constructed. The Northampton County Historical Society Library in Easton, Pennsylvania has no information on the Bangor Pool. Although the WPA maintained regional and state offices during its years of operation, all of the files have been retained and maintained by the National

Archives. Record Group 69 is used to locate these files. In most cases, all that remains of the individual project files is the paper correspondence and approvals. Drawings and photographs were not usually retained by the Federal Government. The text files are housed in the National Archives Branch on Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, D.C. Any graphic files that might exist for this or other WPA projects would be housed in the National Archives branch at College Park, Maryland.

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Zavacky, Steven M. (Director of Parks, Borough of Bangor), Personal Communication. July 30 and 31, 1996.

PART IV - PROJECT INFORMATION

The recordation of the Bangor Park Swimming Pool was brought about because of a memorandum of agreement between the Borough of Bangor and the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, and accepted by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. The Borough of Bangor, through the Bangor Authority, is planning to demolish the Pool and replace it with a new structure during the years 1996 and 1997. The Pool is being replaced because the renovation of the Pool would require extensive and expensive renovation work to make it usable by the entire community and to make it safe and water-tight.

The HABS recordation team was employed by MAAR Associates, Inc. of Newark, Delaware. The project team consisted of:

Historian and Architectural Historian: Stephen G. Del Sordo (Principia Group, Cambridge, MD)

Photographer: Marge Green (MAAR Associates, Inc.)

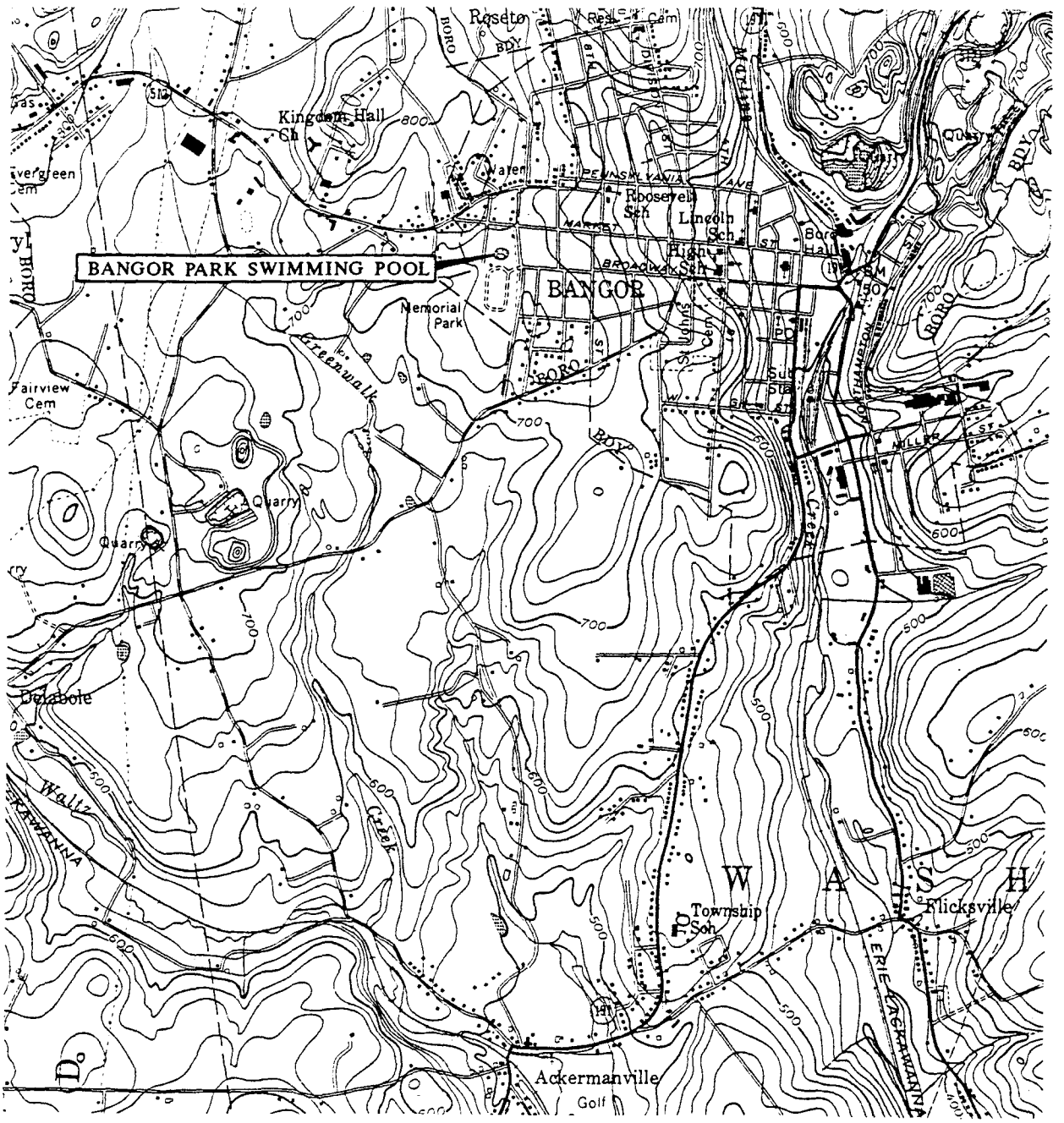
Draftsman: Richard Green (MAAR Associates, Inc.)

Project Manager: Ronald Thomas (MAAR Associates, Inc.)

Project Date: July and August 1996

HABS, PA, 48-BANG, 1-

BANGOR PARK SWIMMING POOL
HABS No. PA-6205 (Page 14)



USGS LOCATION MAP

SOURCE: USGS BANGOR, PA.-N.J., 1956, 1968 & 1973

Dedication Plaques

BANGOR
RECREATIONAL
CENTER
SWIMMING POOL
BANGOR, PENNA.

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FRED ALBERT
WM. T. SANDERCOCK
T. FRED WOODLEY, SOLICITOR
WM. J. SLEEMAN, SECRETARY
DAVID O. PRITCHARD
BOROUGH ENGINEER

BUILT BY
BOROUGH OF BANGOR &
WORKS PROGRESS ADMIN.

WESLEY BINTZ
CONSULTING ENGINEER
SWIMMING POOL DESIGNS
BINTZ POOL PAT. NO. 1,573,463
LANSING, MICHIGAN

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