



FIG. 2. Looking south at marshland at the base of the ravine where the stream once ran. Note *Phragmites* and fallen trees—dead due to fill and silting.

Considering the historical and ornithological and other scientific aspects of Oakland Lake and Ravine, steps must be taken to restore the native vegetation, remove the landfill where possible, minimize human impact, make further studies of the area, and enact legislation immediately to ensure protection and survival of such natural areas within New York City as remain (Greller, 1975). Let us hope this will be the future for Oakland Lake and Ravine—the attractive tiny ‘wilderness’ in the city.

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FIG. 3. Taken from a backyard bordering the ravine and looking south. Lake, path, wooded slope, and Queensborough Community College (from bottom to top). Slope is indicative of topography of the area.

that has been included in this article; also Thomas F. Schweitzer and Henry Euler for guidance. The enthusiastic encouragement of Nicholas Polunin, following his visit of November 1974, was particularly appreciated as confirming the sound basis of our cause.

#### References

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#### World Wildlife Fund Advances

The World Wildlife Fund provided over two million dollars (U.S.) for conservation projects all over the world during 1974, according to preliminary figures recently issued. The grants which they made included \$1,613,021 for 75 international projects ranging from tiger conservation in India to an ‘East African Youth Course in Environmental Conservation’, and from captive breeding of birds of prey at Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., to the establishment of guidelines for the future of the Alps. In addition, national chapters of the Fund paid out grants totalling \$409,416 to 47 projects within their own countries, including support of nature reserves and projects for the conservation of endangered species.

The year 1974 brought the World Wildlife Funds’ total grants since its foundation in 1961 to \$15,092,677 dollars. With headquarters at Morges, on the northern shore of Lake Geneva, Switzerland, WWF now has 24 National Appeals raising money for, and promoting the cause of, nature conservation. Grants are allocated with the advice of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), the leading international scientific conservation organization.

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