Lake Placid
in-the-Adirondacks
... invites you
Proposal of Lake Placid in the Adirondacks
New York, U.S.A.
for the IX Olympic Winter Games, 1956

To the International Olympic Committee:

Lake Placid in the Adirondacks thru its Mayor
and Trustees, with the cooperation of the Town of North
Elba in Trust for the Town of North Elba Park District,
and of New York State, has the honor to submit the follow­
ing proposal for the holding of the IX Olympic Winter
Games in 1956.

CONCEPT Lake Placid bases the propriety of
this invitation on primary requisites of climate; access­
ibility; 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 seventeen
LAKE PLACID OLYMPIQUE

OLYMPIQUE

COMITE INTERNATIONAL

Y.M. 1974

To the International Olympic Committee:

Please refer to the minutes of your August 1974

COMITE INTERNATIONAL

OLYMPIQUE

Y.M. 1974

To the International Olympic Committee:

Please refer to the minutes of your August 1974

COMITE INTERNATIONAL

OLYMPIQUE

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To the International Olympic Committee:

Please refer to the minutes of your August 1974

COMITE INTERNATIONAL

OLYMPIQUE

Y.M. 1974

To the International Olympic Committee:

Please refer to the minutes of your August 1974
year average, since 1932, and eight years for February, of
temperature and snowfall as reported by the U. S. Weather
Bureau.

1932-1949

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Temperature in Degrees Fahrenheit</th>
<th>Snowfall in inches</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>Maximum</td>
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<td>26.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
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Last eight years detail for February:

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<th>Year</th>
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<th>Maximum</th>
<th>Minimum</th>
<th>Snowfall</th>
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<tr>
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<td>14.05</td>
<td>26.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>1944</td>
<td>12.4</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>1948</td>
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<td>-3.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>1949</td>
<td>21.6</td>
<td>34.1</td>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>30.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

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 are now being constructed 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 "A" shows general layout of the Village.
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 1956 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 1956 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, and to be used in the 1950 World's Ski Championships, 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 39\(^\frac{1}{2}\) degrees. The design is commonly
recognized as the ideal of 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 "B-1" and "B-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 for 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 "C".

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 1956 games from the viewpoint of Olympic requirements. See Exhibit "D".

In addition to the above trails, there are at present being surveyed and will be constructed during the coming spring and summer 64 miles of additional cross-country trails. These are being constructed for the 1950 World’s Ski Championships and will meet the requirements of the International Ski Association. The location of the new trails will be more accessible to the Village, which will be more advantageous for spectators. Starts and finishes will be from a central location within the Village.

At this time there are no maps of new trails available but they can be supplied at a later date this summer.

**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 "E" - a section of U. S. Geological survey - shows the location and elevations. Exhibit "F" - a sheet from New York State's publicity - shows the tentative layout. Exhibit "G" shows that portion of the development completed to date and in operation for the 1948-49 season. The development now in partial operation 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 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 well-known ski facility designers.

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 and indoor 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 three-month summer season. During the last
fifteen years many of the champions of the World, United States and Canada have trained here as well as many World and Olympic contestants. Exhibit "I" shows the detail of the Arena.

Ice Hockey Lake Placid is recognized as one of the major centers for the sport of ice hockey. College and Madison Square Garden teams train annually in the Olympic Arena. The Adirondack section of the A.A.U., the State A. H. A. Championships are annually held here and the National A.A.U. and A. H. A. championships frequently.

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

Either the outdoor stadium (Exhibit "H") of 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 were held here.
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 have become sufficiently popular to attract both skaters and spectators from the extremes of the radius of 582 km (300 miles) hereinafter referred to.

COOPERATING AGENCIES

New York State, 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 Chamber of Commerce; Lake Placid Hotel Association; 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 whom have
passed resolutions supporting this invitation, pledging their active interest towards the holding of the Games.

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

On the basis of the foregoing proposal, this Lake Placid Village solicits the award of the IX Olympic Winter Games in 1956 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 "K" 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 14th day of April, 1949.

Luke L. Perkins, Mayor

Harlan K. Hunkins, Trustee

James C. Sheffield, Trustee

Curtis P. Stevens, Trustee

Parnell J. Ormsby, Trustee

ATTEST:

Judson M. Ware
Acting Clerk
TO THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE:

The Town of North Elba, within which the Village of Lake Placid lies, in Trust for the Town of North Elba Park District, which District was formed by an act of the New York State Legislature, in 1929, to enable the Town of North Elba to assist in staging the III Olympic Winter Games in 1932, is in full support of the enclosed invitation of the Village of Lake Placid.

The Park District since its formation has been the major force in developing and operating sports facilities in Lake Placid and conducting events such as the 1949 World's Bob Sled Championships and the coming 1950 World's Ski Championships.

It is fully prepared to place its facilities - the Olympic Arena, Olympic Stadium and the Olympic Bob Run which it now leases to the New York State Conservation Department, its various Ski Facilities, and entire staff, which was closely allied, at top level, with the conduct of the 1932 Olympic Winter Games at the disposal of the Olympic Winter Games Committee that would be formed to conduct the 1956 Games, if they were awarded to Lake Placid.

We sincerely trust that your august body will give serious consideration to Lake Placid when awarding the Games, as we can assure you that they will be conducted on the same high level as they were in 1932.

TOWN OF NORTH ELBA

[Signature]

Harold R. Soden, Supervisor
March 30, 1949

Mr. J. Sigrid Edstrom, President
International Olympic Committee
Klarabergsgatan 21, Stockholm
Sweden

Dear Mr. Edstrom:

The Lake Placid Chamber of Commerce takes great pleasure in extending to the Olympic Games Committee a most cordial invitation to hold the 1956 winter Olympic Games in Lake Placid.

We pledge that the entire resources of the Chamber of Commerce will be placed at the disposal of your committee to insure the greatest possible success of the Games, if they are held here.

Very truly yours,

LAKE PLACID CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Byron Southworth
President
EXHIBIT C
LAKE PLACID, N.Y.
Surveys of areas in which the problems are of minor importance, such as much of the mountain or desert in Arizona or New Mexico, and the high mountain area of the Northwest, are made with sufficient detail to be used in indication of maps on a scale of $\frac{1}{1,000,000}$ (1 inch = nearly 1 mile), with a contour interval of 250 feet.

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

Topographic survey of Alaska has been in progress since 1914. Published are on a scale of $\frac{1}{100,000}$ (1 inch = nearly 1 mile) with a contour interval of 250 feet. About 1,300 square miles of southeastern Alaska 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 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
(painted in black)

- City or village
- Roads and buildings
- Ruins
- Cliff dwelling
- Good Public road
- Poor Public or private road
- Trail
- Railroads
- Electric railroads
- Tunnel
- Power-transmission line
- Wharves
- Breakwater and jetties
- Bridge
- Drawbridges
- Ferry

RELIEF
(painted in brown)

- Elevation above mean sea level
- Contours (shaded map)
- Depression contours
- Levee
- Dam
- Dam with lock
- Canal lock
- U.S. townships and section lines
- State line
- County line
- Civil Township or district line
- Reservation line
- Land grant line
- City, village, or borough line
- Small park or cemetery line
- Triangulation point or transit traverse station
- U.S. mineral monument
- Geologic survey boundary
- Bench mark
- Cemeteries
- Church, School
- Coke ovens
- Tanks and oil reservoirs
- Oil and gas wells
- Mine or quarry
- Prospect
- Shaft
- Mine tunnel
- Mine tunnel (showing direction)
- Light house
- Lighthouse or beacon
- Coast Guard station
- Unsurveyed stream and abandoned canal
- Bridges
- Sand and dunes
- Buildings or living debris
- Intermittent streams and ditches
- Glaciers
- Intermittent lake
- Glacier
- Snow field
- Terrain
- Glacier
- Spring
- Woods

WATER
(painted in blue)

- Streams
- Falls and rapids
- Intermittent streams and ditches
- Canada or ditches
- Aqueducts or water pipes
- Aqueducts or tunnels
- Lake or pond
- Unsurveyed stream and abandoned canal

WOODS
(when shown, printed in green)
EXHIBIT F
Lake Placid, N.Y.

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:


The hut will offer the usual accommodations for skiers.

FACILITIES SHOWN ON NEXT PHOTOGRAPH WERE IN OPERATION FOR THE 1948-49 SEASON.
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-equipped resort for these sports. You have reached these two goals.

Very sincerely yours,

President of the
International Olympic Committee
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