

O&W Sites To See Around

“AV” Middletown

A self guided “Rubber Tire Excursion”

Suggestion: Allow about 1 ½ to 2 hours for the tour. If you have a copy of “The Final Years” by Carsten’s bring it along for reference and please remember the sites you are visiting are private property. These directions are from the O&WRHS Southern Division (Cornwall to Liberty) Trip Guide by Charles Breiner and Wm. Scott with additions by Allan Seebach

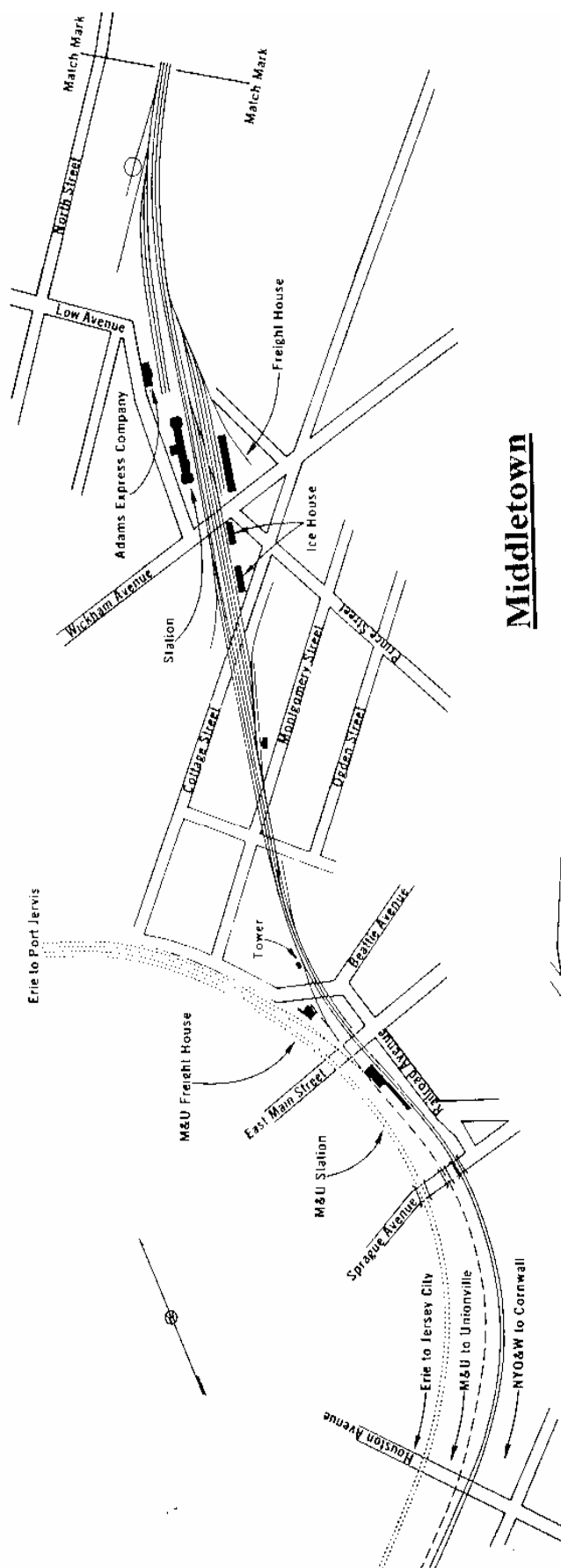
We must start somewhere. So, from the junction of routes 211 and 17 head west on 211 toward Middletown. From the junction you go a short distance and Make a left on Dunning Road. after you pass Schutt Rd. and Trust Rd. (on your right) you will cross the right of way and the Mechanicstown Station will be on your left. This is the only remaining station on the Middletown Branch. Double back on Dunning Road.

Continue to the traffic light and make a left on Schutt Rd. Extension. Turn right into the Mechanicstown School entrance road. You are now on the O&W ROW. The O&W ran to the left of the C.R. Wolfe Heating Co. and then went under East Main St. The C.R. Wolfe building is the old power house and generating plant for the Middletown and Goshen Traction Co. M.P. 75.39 on the O&W. The long sheds to the right are the old trolley barns. Return to Schutt Rd. Extension and turn right.

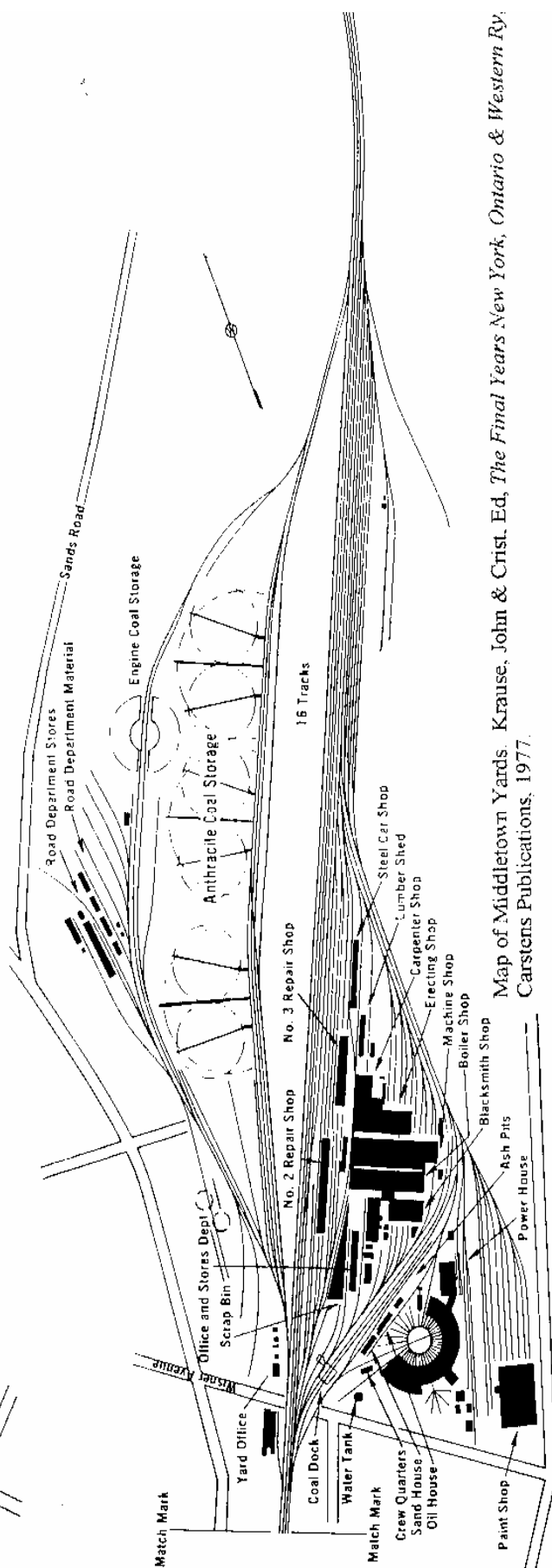
Continue through the traffic light on Schutt Rd. Continue on Schutt Rd. for 1.3 miles and then turn right on Genung St. for .8 of a mile observing the O&W ROW on your right. Turn right to Phillips St. and go under the O&W at M.P. 77.03. The bridge has been removed.

Now in Middletown turn left on Benedict Street and right on Prospect and then left on Washington St. Turn left on Lafayette St. The O&W is down on the left. Turn left on Houston Ave and cross the O&W. Turn right on Sprague Ave. then left on Railroad Ave. The O&W and Main St. Station/M&NJ Station M.P. 77.78 are on the left. Cross Main St. and bear to the left over the O&W tracks. The Railroad Av. Interlocking tower site is on your right to the left of the track. The factory building on your right was part of the Clemson Bros. property. Turn right on Montgomery St. crossing the O&W. Turn left on Prince St. The O&W ice house site is on your left at the corner of Prince St. and Wickham Av. The O&W freight house was directly across Wickham Av. from Prince St.

Turn left on Wickham Av. Crossing the track the Wickham Av. Tower site is on your left. Turn right on Low Av. You are at the Middletown “AV” Station M.P. 78.19 just past the station you will see the Adams Express building. Continue on Low Av. And make a right on North St. As you approach the light for Wisner Av. Look to your right. You will see the “Ontario” Engine Co. which was formed to protect the O&W shops. Turn right on Wisner Av. and just before you cross the tracks you will see the yard office on your left. Also to your left you will see what remains of the O&W’s shop facilities. Turn left on Midland Av. The coal storage plant was to your extreme distant left across the tracks. You are now in the area of the main shops, the buildings that remain are the stores building, erecting shops, car shop, the power plant for the turntable and round house, foundry, etc. exiting Midland Av. make a left on Wisner and turn left on Cottage St. The paint shop sits on this corner. Return to North St. and make a right. Look to your right as you go along and you will see several building that date back to the days of the NY&OMRR. Before the light bear right on Sand Station Rd. and continue on Highland Av. Extension. At the crossing, to your right is where the yard started. To your left the O&W crossed over the Erie Railroad’s Graham Line. This is where the connection for the now M&NJ is located also known as “Four Story Junction.”



Middletown



Map of Middletown Yards. Krause, John & Crist, Ed, *The Final Years New York, Ontario & Western Ry.* Carstens Publications, 1977.