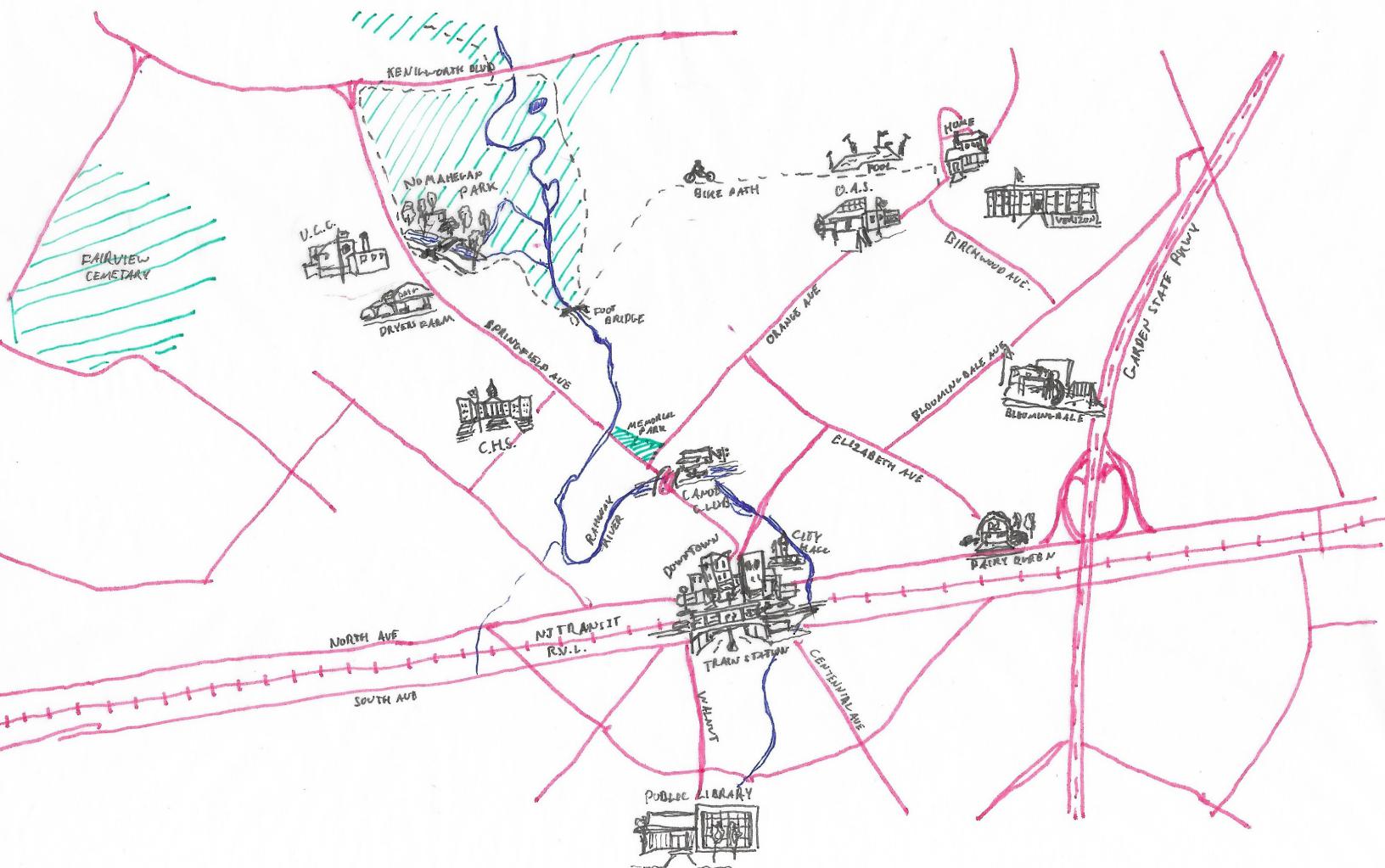


ANALYZING A PERSONAL MAP OF CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY

Participatory Mapping Exercise for VIS 2129

Mary Geschwindt

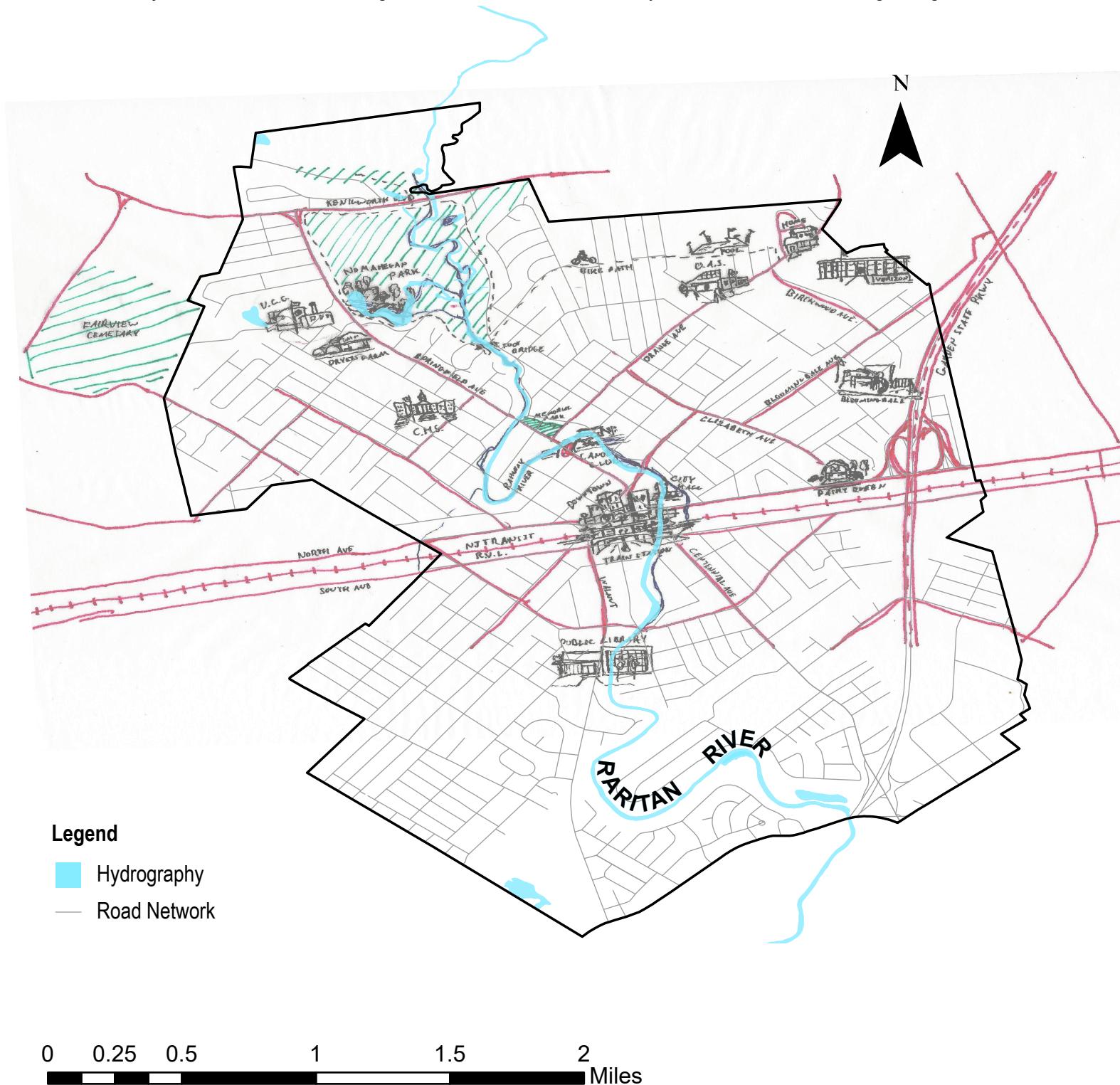


The above hand drawn map depicts Cranford, New Jersey. The map was created by a member of my household who grew up in the town. He chose to depict his home in addition to many other landmarks which he frequently visited, along with routes to these destinations.

CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY

Road Network & Hydrography

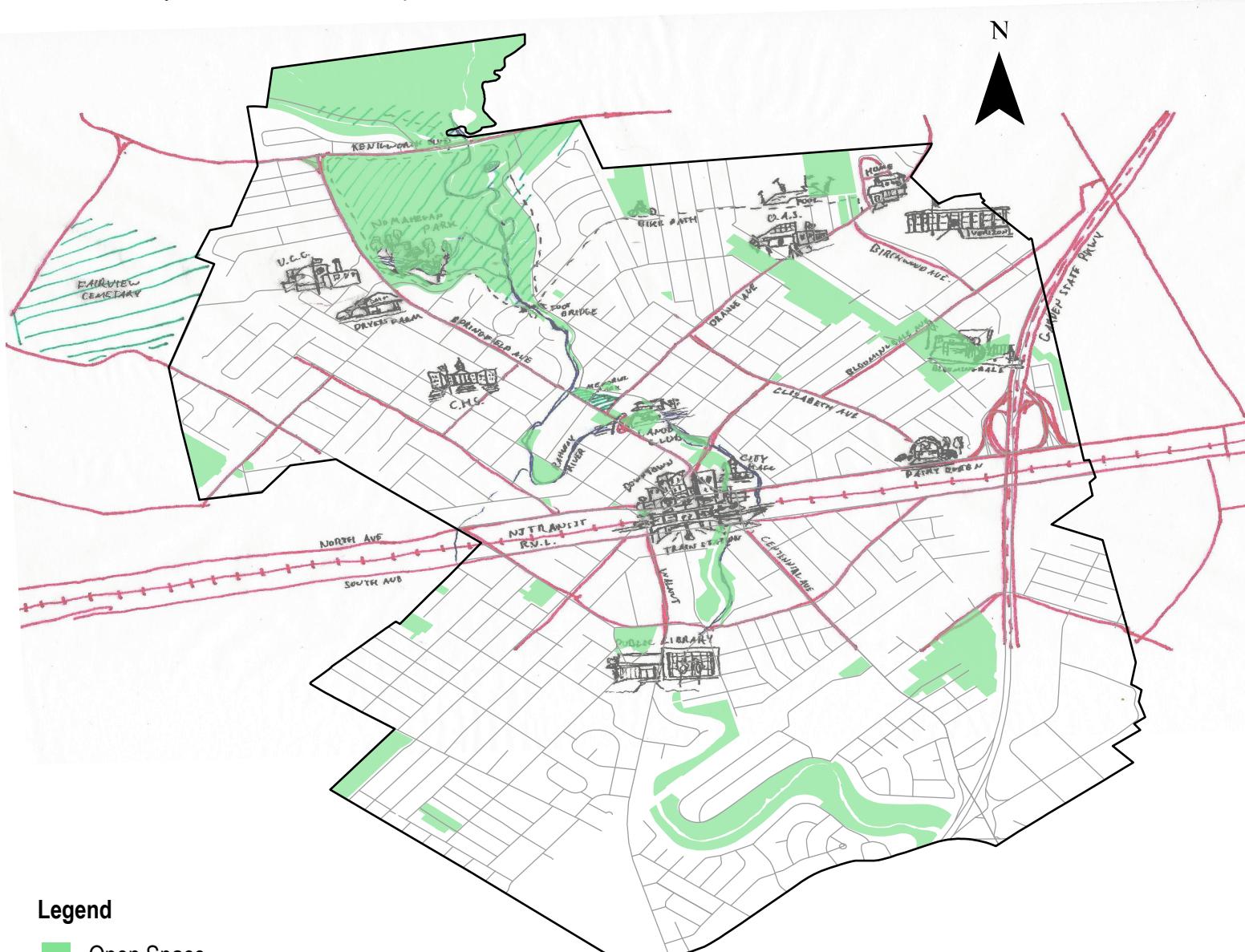
The following map of Cranford, NJ features a hand drawn map illustrated by a member of my household who grew up in this town. Many frequented destinations are depicted on the hand drawing, including: home, schools, the downtown, parks, and several personal landmarks. This particular map also overlays the road network and hydrography of the town. Depicted is a river which runs through the center of town, which is also drawn in the hand drawn map. I suspect that this river was an important feature in the town for it to have been included by the author. It is also interesting to note that the author of the hand drawn map has included frequent routes (in red) to his destinations. It appears from the street network that these streets are major roads which travel throughout the town and connect many of these destinations along a single street.



CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY

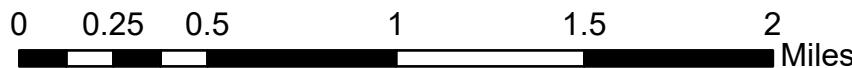
State, County, Municipality & Non-Profit Owned Open Space

The map presented below includes a layer for the state, county, municipality, and non-profit owned recreational and protected open space. The author of the hand drawn map had included several open spaces of parks and one cemetery; however, it is clear from overlaying the open space information that there is more open space in Cranford, NJ than what the author elected to draw. I would assume that the drawn open spaces may have important, distinctive characteristics or qualities which are important to the author. It is also possible that he spent a lot more time in some open spaces rather than others. The open spaces which he did draw are ones nearest his home. The largest open space drawn on the map also has a walking and bike path showing a connection between the author's home and this open space. I suspect this bike path allowed for easy travel from home to the park.



Legend

- Open Space
- Road Network



CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY

Train Station, Rail Line & Areas Designated in Need of Development

A final map incorporating layers of data in combination with a hand drawn map is shown below. The Cranford train station is shown as a purple circle in the center of town, with the NJ Transit Raritan Valley Line running through it. The author of the map has represented the downtown of Cranford on the hand drawing; this area includes the train station. I assume the downtown and the train station were sites of many kinds of activities which the author was involved in for the many years he lived in Cranford. It is also interesting to note how many of his highlighted routes of travel (in red) lead to this central downtown area. Another layer of data I chose to include presents areas of land designated for a need of development. One area is located near the train station. The other area happens to be located adjacent to the author's immediate neighborhood.

