



Richard rests on chain fence during Delaware Park tour

... Asst. Chief McCarthy, left, boy's mother and a detective at right

## Edgington Boy And Police Retrace Abductor's Route

By MANUEL BERNSTEIN

At least three new leads in the Ashley murder were obtained by police yesterday as Richard Edgington, 5, of 81 Saranac Ave., led them over the route followed by a woman who tied him gagged, hooded and left on railroad tracks in North Buffalo June 23.

Police now are convinced the woman, believed to be the slayer of Andrew Ashley, 3½, of 195 Jewett Pky., on June 24, is a comparative stranger in North Buffalo. They also appealed to a man and to an unknown couple, to whom she reportedly spoke while leading Richard to the railroad tracks, to offer assistance in the Ashley investigation.

Richard began retracing the route from his home to the railroad tracks at 1 yesterday afternoon. He was accompanied by his mother, Mrs. Judith Edgington; Asst. Det. Chief John D. McCarthy, commander of the Homicide Bureau; Lt. John T. Dugan and Det. Gerald O. Dove.

The one hour and 20 minute foot tour was arranged in hopes of hastening capture of the person who drowned the Ashley child, partly disrobed with hands and feet bound, in Delaware Park Lake.

Chief McCarthy said that, as a result of the tour with the Edgington boy, investigators

### \$1,000 Reward Offered by C-E

The Courier-Express is offering a reward of \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the slayer of little Andrew T. Ashley.

Persons with such information are urged to telephone the Homicide Bureau at Police Headquarters, TL 6-7000.

now know the woman asked a man for directions to Hertel Ave. and stopped to talk to a young couple under the railroad viaduct at Parkside and Linden. The fact she asked directions led police to believe she was not well acquainted with the neighborhood and may be a domestic who works or has worked in North Buffalo.

#### Boy Describes House

The Edgington boy told police the man of whom she asked directions was seated on the porch of a home somewhere in the area between Parkside and Colvin and Hertel and Tacoma. The boy described the house as having either a white fence or a white porch railing.

When the woman abductor stopped to talk to the couple under the Parkside-Linden viaduct, she ordered the Edgington

boy to stand beside a pole about 50 feet from where she spoke to the couple, police said. The boy was unable to hear the conversation, but police believe she may have asked for further directions.

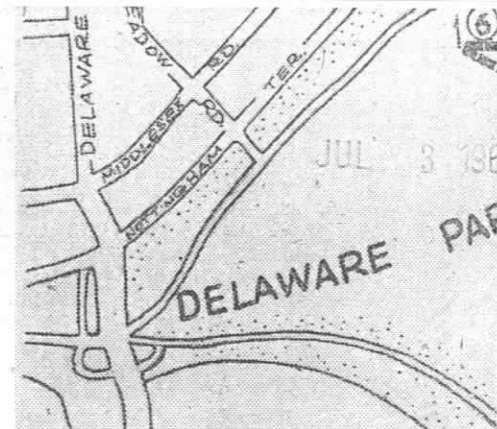
Although her conversation with the couple was brief, police said she may have known the couple and kept Richard at a distance for that reason.

"We will appreciate it greatly, if the man on the porch and the young couple who talked with the abductor contact us and help us with a description," McCarthy said. He assured all three their information would be kept in strict confidence.

Retracing movements began from the Edgington home and moved north on, Saranac Ave. to Tacoma Ave. They turned east on Tacoma Ave., and then down some side street which the boy could not point out, possibly Frontenac Ave. He was confused at this point, but then related the incident about the man on the porch.

When the group reached Parkside and Hertel the boy

EDGINGTON BOY  
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## Edgington Boy and Walk He Took With

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remembered where he was. He said he and his abductor walked south in Parkside Ave. to a spot beneath the viaduct at Linden Ave. then he related the incident about the couple his abductor talked to.

At this point the boy again became confused. He said he was walked to the zoo but couldn't remember how he got there. He said the first thing he saw at the zoo was Monkey Island, then the seals and then the eagles. The two apparently entered at the Colvin entrance after continuing down Parkside and along Amherst St.

Inside the zoo the boy led police to a water fountain. He said he remembered getting a drink and recalled he had to push down hard with his foot to get water. At this point, the boy related that the woman gave him a piece of candy.

"She ate a lot of candy, especially tootsie rolls, but I got one piece. She kept on eating and wouldn't give me any more. She told me if anybody stopped and talked

with me I was son my name Johnson."

The boy then cricket greens in meadow. Then Sam Costa, of groundskeeper.

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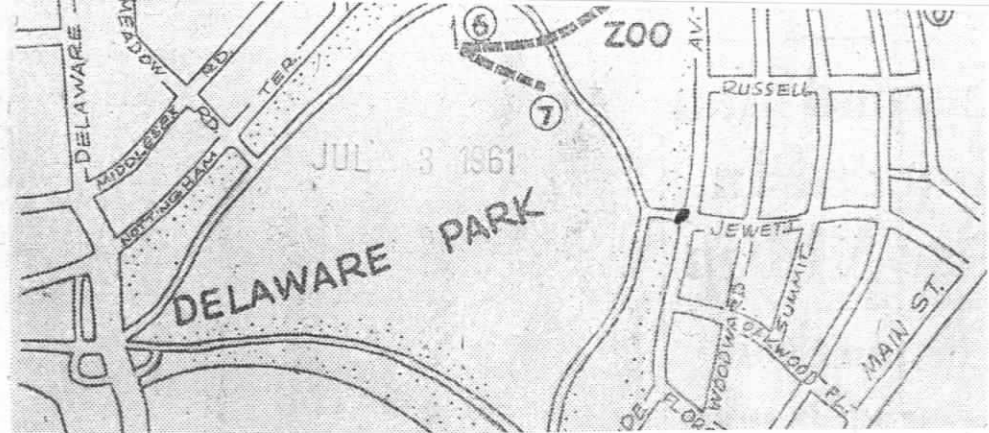
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C-E Map

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## Edgington Boy and Police Retrace Walk He Took With His Abductor

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"She ate a lot of candy, especially tootsie rolls, but I got one piece. She kept on eating and wouldn't give me any more. She told me if anybody stopped and talked

with me I was to tell the person my name was Davie Johnson."

The boy then led police to the cricket greens in Delaware Park meadow. There he spotted Sam Costa, of 150 15th St, a groundskeeper.

"That is the man who hollered at the lady because we were walking on the grass," the boy said. "He was sitting on a loud grasscutter (a gasoline powered lawn mower). I couldn't hear what he was saying because the grasscutter was loud, but I knew he was mad at the lady for being on the grass. I don't see the other man who was standing behind the grasscutter."

### Statement Corroborated

This information verified the statement made early in the investigation by Costa who came to police, saying he had seen a boy wearing a helmet and walking with a woman whom he scolded for being on the greens with high heels. The second man referred to by the boy was a laborer who was assisting him, Costa said.

The boy became tired when the group reached the zoo. McCarthy and Dove took turns carrying the boy piggy-back on their shoulders. At one point Dove didn't follow the boy's directions in an effort to test him. However, Richard quickly corrected the policeman to move in the direction he wanted him to move.

The group reached Gate 8 of the zoo on Delaware Meadow Dr. The boy pointed to a cannon in Delaware Park Meadow where he said he and his abductor stopped to rest. At this point the rains came and the retracing job was halted.

McCarthy said police will continue the retracing task at 1 today and will start from the stop at the cannon in the park meadow.

"We are a little confused as to how the boy and the woman reached the railroad tracks from this point," McCarthy declared. "We want to know the exact spot, if it is possible, where he was tied hands and feet and how he reached the home in Linden Ave. where a woman found him and summoned his mother and police."



MURDER

ANDREW T. ASHLEY

6-28-61

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... beneath viaduct at Parkside and Linden.



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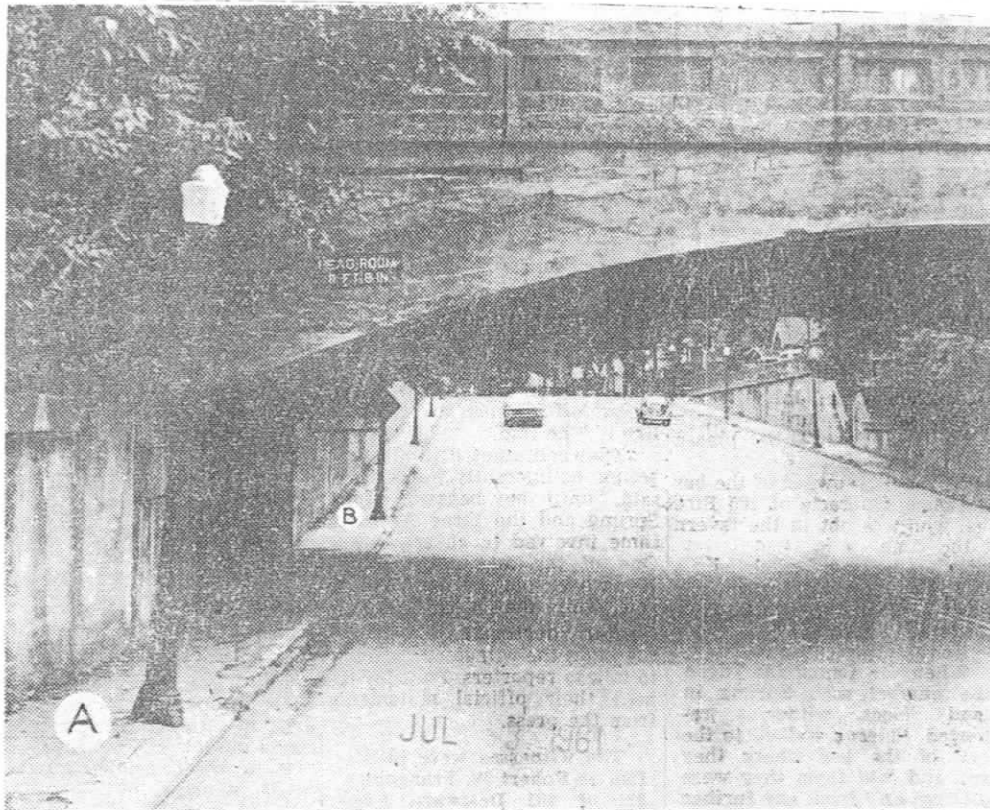
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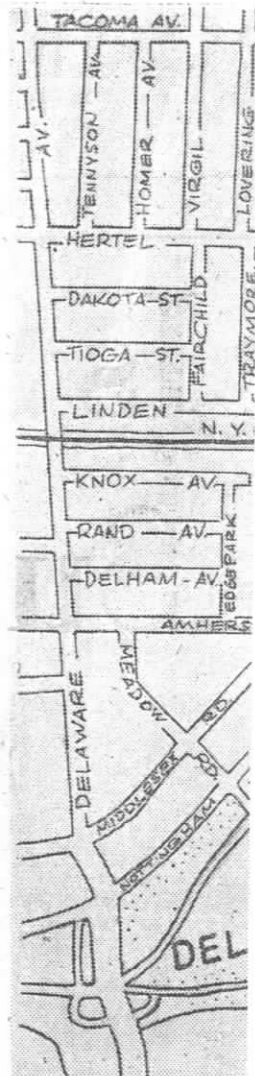
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Letter "A" shows where woman, couple talked; Richard waited at "B"  
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Richard rests on chain fence during Delaware Park tour  
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