

2 RESERVOIR SITES TO SERVE AS PARKS

Abandoned Land in the Bronx
and Upper Manhattan Is
Offered by Davidson.

Two city reservoirs unused for fifteen years, one in upper Manhattan and the other in the Bronx, have been offered to Park Commissioner Robert Moses to be used as park sites, Maurice P. Davidson, Commissioner of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity, announced yesterday.

The smaller of the two, the old Highbridge Reservoir, on Amsterdam Avenue between 172d and 174th Streets, could be converted easily and without much cost into an outdoor swimming pool, Mr. Davidson said. He reported that Mr. Moses favored such a plan. The reservoir and its grounds cover 2.4 acres. The reservoir is sixteen feet deep.

The 13.1 acres of the Williamsbridge reservoir, just south of Van Cortlandt Park in the Bronx, might best be drained and used for park and playground purposes, in Mr. Davidson's opinion. The reservoir is forty-one feet deep. Mr. Moses had expressed pleasure at the offer of the two sites, Mr. Davidson said.

Langdon W. Post, Tenement House Commissioner, announced that the work of demolishing a public school at 534 East Twelfth Street, long unused, would be completed next week, the area leveled and the site turned over to Mr. Moses for use as a playground. This is the first of several abandoned schools that are to be torn down and their sites used as playgrounds.

In cases where the city tears down buildings owned by individuals, Mr. Post said, owners would have an opportunity to lease the land to the city at a nominal rental for playground use.

Mr. Davidson announced that he had suspended payment to the Jamaica Water Company and the New York Water Service Corporation of Brooklyn of a \$45-a-year rental paid by the city for each fire hydrant owned and supplied by the companies. He contends the rent is excessive and he hopes to save \$100,000 a year by adjusting the matter with the companies.
