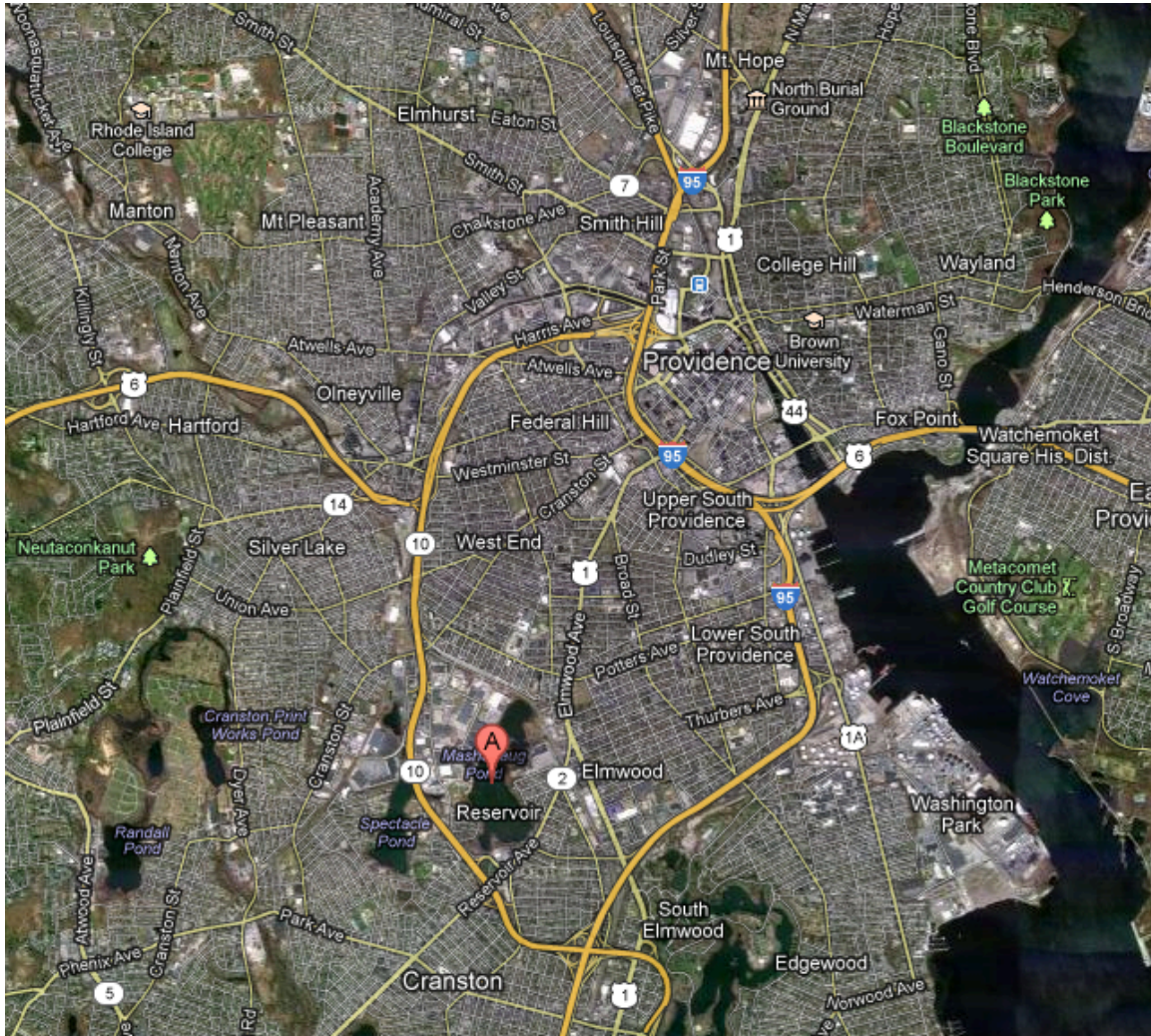


## Mashapaug Pond History and Fact Sheet



- Mashapaug Pond is the only freshwater pond in Providence.
- The pond is about the size of 20 city blocks.
- Native Americans had settlements around the pond and would fish in its waters.
- As the city of Providence grew larger, many houses were built around the pond.
- In the late 1800s there were large factories near the pond, including a very famous factory called Gorham which made silverware.
- A lot of chemicals were used in the Gorham silver factory, and these chemicals got into the pondwater. Now the pond is polluted and is unsafe to swim in.
- Some people who live near the pond are trying to clean it up to make it safe to swim in again.