The Roy Land on Strawberry Field Road

How Alfred P. Roy's land in Hillsgrove passed to four of his sons, became "the controversial Leo R. Roy junkyard," and was sold in the summer of 1952

Compiled October 2026 by Claude AI, edited by Patty Roy

The short version

When Alfred P. Roy of Warwick, Rhode Island, died in August 1938, his will left everything beyond the family homestead to four of his sons: Louis, Leo, Napoleon and Eugene. Part of what they received was a 54-acre tract on the north side of Strawberry Field Road in the Hillsgrove section of Warwick, with a gravel pit at the back and, from about 1940, a junkyard spread across the front.

In the spring of 1952 Leo, who had been executor of his father's estate, applied for a junkyard license so that his son Emil could take over the business and move it out of sight into the old gravel pit. The application backfired. The city ruled that the yard had been operating illegally for twelve years, the neighbors and the local parish organized against it, and on the night of April 28, 1952, the Warwick Zoning Board turned Leo down unanimously. He appealed to the Supreme Court, but before the case was heard, Leo, Eugene and Napoleon sold about 47 acres, junkyard included, to a Warwick real estate developer for a reported $32,000. The same week, the developer deeded each of the three a property in a plat called Yorktown Manor. Louis, who lived at 317 Strawberry Field Road, was not among the sellers.

What follows is the story in more detail, taken from Alfred's obituary, his will and probate papers, twenty-six clippings from The Providence Journal and The Evening Bulletin, and the 1952–53 Warwick city directory.

Alfred P. Roy and his will

Alfred Roy was a carpenter. His obituary says he was born on June 16, 1865, in Canada, at a place the newspaper spelled "Remesque," which should be Rimouski, the son of Regis and Philomena (Dube) Roy. By the 1930s he was retired and living with his wife, Adeliska (Giroux) Roy, at 25 Chestnut Street in the Norwood section of Warwick.

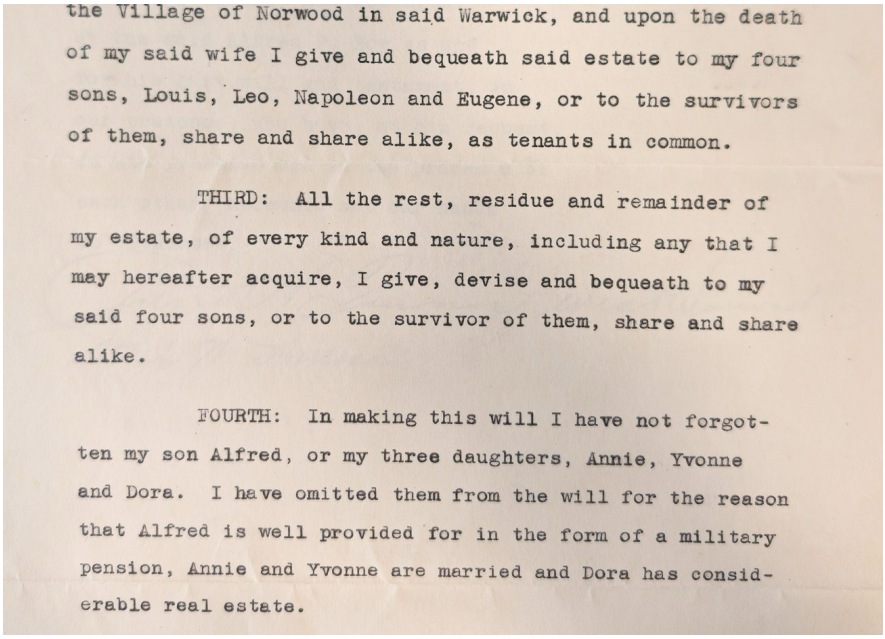
Alfred signed his will on September 26, 1936. It is a short document, two typed pages prepared by the Providence law firm of Quinn, Kernan & Quinn and witnessed by Patrick H. Quinn of West Warwick and Ethel W. Harrison. It does three things.

First, it gives his wife, Adeliska Roy, the use of the homestead "for and during her life." The will describes it as land "with a dwelling house and other improvements thereon, in which said house we now live, located in the Village of Norwood in said Warwick." After her death the homestead was to go to "my four sons, Louis, Leo, Napoleon and Eugene . . . share and share alike, as tenants in common."

Second, it gives "all the rest, residue and remainder of my estate, of every kind and nature" to the same four sons, again in equal shares. The will never mentions the Strawberry Field Road land by name. It appears to have passed to the brothers under this clause, as part of everything else Alfred owned.

Third, it explains who was left out, and why:

> *In making this will I have not forgotten my son Alfred, or my three daughters, Annie, Yvonne and Dora. I have omitted them from the will for the reason that Alfred is well provided for in the form of a military pension, Annie and Yvonne are married and Dora has considerable real estate.* — Alfred P. Roy's will, clause Fourth



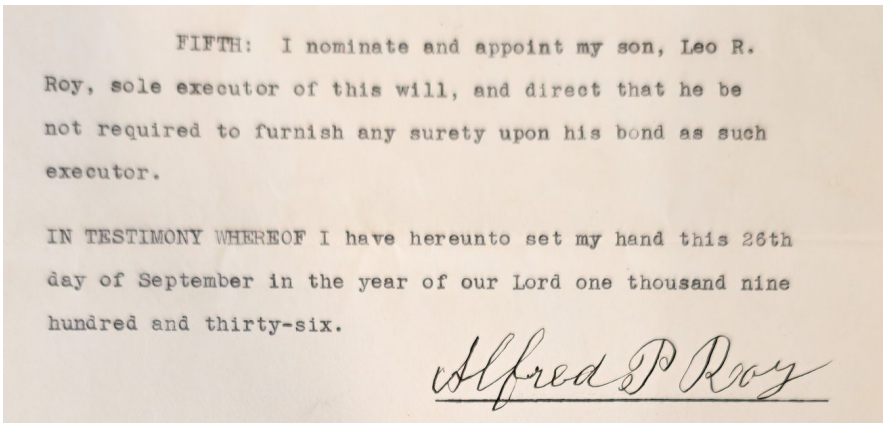
the Village of Norwood in said Warwick, and upon the death of my said wife I give and bequeath said estate to my four sons, Louis, Leo, Napoleon and Eugene, or to the survivors of them, share and share alike, as tenants in common.

THIRD: All the rest, residue and remainder of my estate, of every kind and nature, including any that I may hereafter acquire, I give, devise and bequeath to my said four sons, or to the survivor of them, share and share alike.

FOURTH: In making this will I have not forgotten my son Alfred, or my three daughters, Annie, Yvonne and Dora. I have omitted them from the will for the reason that Alfred is well provided for in the form of a military pension, Annie and Yvonne are married and Dora has considerable real estate.

The second, third and fourth clauses of the will: the homestead to Adeliska for life, everything else to the four sons, and the reasons the other four children were omitted.

The last clause names "my son, Leo R. Roy, sole executor of this will," and directs that he not be required to post surety on his bond. That one line is why Leo's name is on nearly everything that came afterward.



FIFTH: I nominate and appoint my son, Leo R. Roy, sole executor of this will, and direct that he be not required to furnish any surety upon his bond as such executor.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand this 26th day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and thirty-six.

Alfred P Roy

Clause Fifth, naming Leo executor, with Alfred's signature, September 26, 1936.

Alfred died at home on the afternoon of Wednesday, August 10, 1938, "following a long sickness." He was 73. The Evening Bulletin's obituary the next day listed as survivors his wife; "five sons, Alfred, Leo, Napoleon, Louis and Eugene, all of Warwick"; two daughters, Miss Dora M. Roy and Mrs. Yvonne A. Hallene, both of Norwood; and ten grandchildren. The funeral was held from the house on Saturday morning, August 13, followed by a high requiem mass at St. William's Church in Norwood and burial at St. Ann's Cemetery.

ALFRED ROY

Alfred Roy, 73, died late yesterday afternoon at his home, 25 Chestnut street, Norwood, following a long sickness. He is survived by his wife, Adeliska (Giroux) Roy; five sons, Alfred, Leo, Napoleon, Louis and Eugene, all of Warwick; two daughters, Miss Dora M. Roy and Mrs. Yvonne A. Hallene, both of Norwood, and by 10 grandchildren. The body was removed to the Prata Funeral Home, 1488 Westminster street, Providence. It will be taken to his home at Norwood this afternoon.

The funeral there Saturday morning at 8:15 o'clock will be followed by a high mass of requiem at St. William's Church, Norwood, at 9 o'clock. Burial will be at St. Ann's Cemetery.

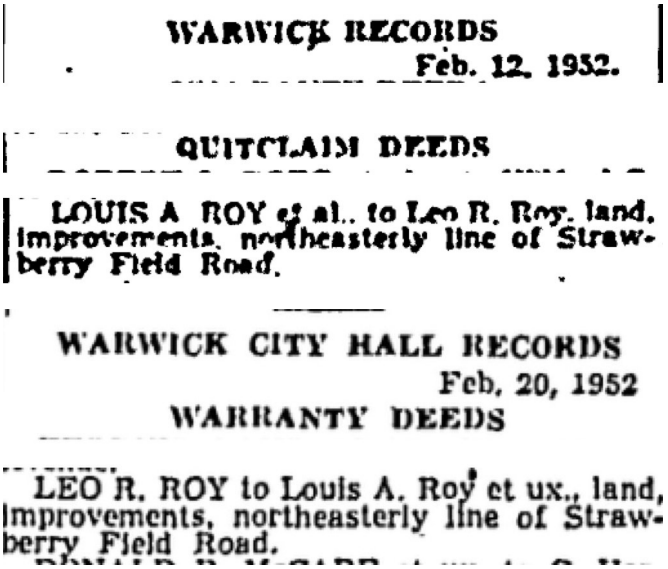
A retired carpenter, Mr. Roy was a son of the late Regis and Philomena (Dube) Roy. He was born at Remesque, Canada, June 16, 1865.

Alfred Roy's obituary. The Evening Bulletin, Thursday, August 11, 1938, page 3.

The will was filed with the Warwick probate court on August 19, 1938, nine days after his death, and recorded on November 10, 1938. The estate then stayed open for years. On July 31, 1947, Leo swore an affidavit that all claims, the funeral bill and the inheritance tax had been paid; that Adeliska was "in full enjoyment of the real estate where she and my father lived at the time of his death"; and that "the four residuary legatees are all alive and over age and are now the owners as tenants in common of the residuum of the estate." The inheritance tax receipt attached to it,

dated July 25, 1947, shows a total state tax of $2.65. The court ordered the affidavit recorded on August 28, 1947.

At that point the four brothers owned the land together, each holding an undivided quarter. The deed notices that the newspapers printed from the Warwick land records show how that was unwound in early 1952. The records for February 12, 1952, list a quitclaim deed from “Louis A. Roy et al.” to Leo R. Roy for “land, improvements, northeasterly line of Strawberry Field Road.” The records for February 20 list a warranty deed from Leo R. Roy to “Louis A. Roy et ux.,” that is, to Louis and his wife, described in the same words.



WARWICK RECORDS
Feb. 12, 1952.

QUITCLAIM DEEDS

LOUIS A ROY et al., to Leo R. Roy, land, improvements, northeasterly line of Strawberry Field Road.

WARWICK CITY HALL RECORDS
Feb. 20, 1952
WARRANTY DEEDS

LEO R. ROY to Louis A. Roy et ux., land, improvements, northeasterly line of Strawberry Field Road.

Deed notices from the Warwick records: The Evening Bulletin, February 15, 1952, page 10 (top), and The Providence Journal, February 23, 1952, page 2 (bottom).

The natural reading is that Louis and the other co-owners signed the jointly held land over to Leo, and Leo then deeded Louis and his wife a piece of their own. Only the deed to Louis is among the clippings, but Eugene and Napoleon each sold land in their own names that August, so they presumably received their pieces the same way. This fits what the papers reported that spring: the tract was by then “divided into portions owned by Roy and three of his brothers,” the estate had been “recently settled,” and Leo had kept a 50-foot right of way from Strawberry Field Road back to “his share of the property in the rear,” where the gravel pit was.

The land

The newspapers give a clear picture of the property. It lay on the north side of Strawberry Field Road in Hillsgrove, with 1,158 feet of frontage on the road, and ran back between 1,600 and 1,900 feet, about 54 acres in all. A gravel pit had been worked at the rear “for many years.” The neighborhood around it had filled in with houses and was zoned Residential B. St. Rose’s Church in Greenwood was the nearby parish.

The trouble with the land was what lay behind it. The back of the tract came, as the papers put it, "within close proximity of the state airport and the city dump." The state airport at Hillsgrove is the one known today as T. F. Green. Leo's view of what that meant never wavered:

> *This land is fit only for industrial or business use and I want to clean it up and use it as such.* — Leo R. Roy Sr., April 23, 1952

He said he had tried to plat the land for house lots and that the banks had turned every plan down "because the city dump is on one side and the airport on the other." The family had already pressed the point with the state. In January 1952 a resolution was introduced in the General Assembly on behalf of the Alfred P. Roy Estate asking $30,000, the largest of 29 claims filed that day, on the ground that "the value of its property was depreciated when the state built Hillsgrove Airport." The clippings do not say what became of that claim.

A junkyard nobody had licensed

By every account in the papers, vehicles had been junked on the front of the property since about 1940. That date matters, because Warwick did not adopt its zoning ordinance until 1945. A business already operating when a zoning law takes effect is normally allowed to continue as a "non-conforming use."

Leo did not run the yard himself. The papers say the junk business "has been operated by Lawrence Anthony of Providence," with the Roys' permission, and that the junk was "spread loosely over the acreage" on several acres within plain sight of the road and the neighboring houses. In twelve years nobody had taken out the junk license that the Warwick police commission required. The building inspector "didn't know why no license was obtained, and neither did police."

Spring 1952: Leo asks for a license

By the beginning of April 1952, Leo had applied to the police commission for a junk license, the first ever sought for the property. His stated plan was to gather up the scattered junk, move it about a fifth of a mile back into the old gravel pit on his own share of the land, combine it with the gravel operation, and turn the business over to his son Emil.

The application needed the signature of the zoning board's clerk, John W. McAuslan, and he would not sign. Acting Building Inspector Leroy K. Bartlett asked City Solicitor Hailes L. Palmer for an opinion, and Palmer's answer set the terms for everything that followed. Because no license had ever been held, he ruled, the yard had been operating "illegally" for twelve years, and an illegal use could not be a protected non-conforming one. Leo would need an exception from the zoning board first, and a police license after that.

The story ran in both Providence papers on April 3. Within days a neighbor, Rene L. Boucher of 65 Endicott Road, had collected the signatures of 45 nearby property owners opposing any permit. On April 11, a few hours before the filing deadline, Leo formally applied for the zoning exception. On Sunday, April 20, the Rev. John J. Tully, pastor of St. Rose's, criticized the junkyard in remarks to his parishioners.

Leo gave an interview that ran on April 24. He said he had since talked with Father Tully and "found him amenable to relocation of the junk," and that he did not expect opposition, since the new site would be 300 feet from the nearest houses and hidden by the pit. He also said what he would do if he lost:

> *I would be inclined to leave the junk right where it is and forget the whole thing.* — Leo R. Roy Sr., April 23, 1952

The hearing of April 28, 1952

Leo's petition was the last of 26 applications on the zoning board's agenda that Monday night, in what the Bulletin called one of the board's longest sessions in years. His case did not come up until late in the evening and was decided just after midnight.

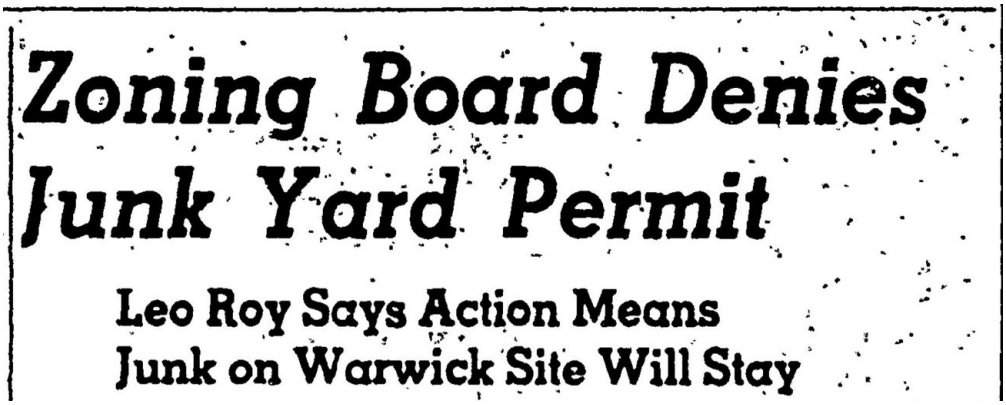
The opposition was larger than he had predicted. Thirty-nine people were counted as opposed. They included an attorney for the Corporation of St. Rose's Church, a second attorney who said he spoke for 65 objectors, and six neighboring property owners who rose separately. When those in favor were asked to stand, four people did. Father Tully sent a letter asking for "protection from the contagious and destructive influence of a nearby junkyard," and the church's lawyer said the pastor did not, as Leo's remarks to the press had suggested, "condone the permit as the lesser of two evils."

Leo opened by saying his only aim was to clean up the land for the neighborhood's benefit, and that if he were opposed or denied he would have "no alternative" but to leave the junk where it lay. The objectors answered that junk anywhere on the property, front or back, would be a health menace and would have a "tremendous" effect on property values. One neighbor asked how the board could rely on Leo's plan "when he told me last summer he was going to move the junk near my property, and it hasn't been done yet." Two property owners took Leo's side, one calling the plan an improvement on the existing condition.

The Bulletin described Leo's reply as "a vehement rebuttal." The city dump, he said, "will move into that property in 20 years . . . and no one can stop it." And then:

> *It'll be up to the courts to decide whether the board can make me clean up the front end.* — Leo R. Roy Sr., at the hearing

Attorney William B. Sweeney called that a "threat . . . using fear as a weapon." Board member Joseph R. Muratore moved to deny the petition, and the vote was unanimous. Muratore also moved to order the existing yard cleared, with 72 hours' notice and 15 days to make "a start," but withdrew the motion when Chairman Charles A. Bursley suggested the board first consult the city solicitor.



Zoning Board Denies Junk Yard Permit

Leo Roy Says Action Means Junk on Warwick Site Will Stay

The Evening Bulletin, Tuesday, April 29, 1952, page 2.

Standoff

Two days later the zoning board directed Inspector Bartlett to shut the junkyard down. He found that harder than it sounded. He was not sure whom to take to court: Leo had been the petitioner, but Lawrence Anthony ran the business, and the land was split among four brothers. "Whether the junk is on all or only one brother's section is something he'll have to determine," the Journal reported. The city solicitor then advised that the city would need proof the yard was actually doing business before it could move against the owner, and Bartlett admitted that his field staff "presently is limited to himself."

On May 7 Bartlett said he would send a cease order to "Leo R. Roy Sr. of Norwood, principal owner of the junk yard site." Leo's answer was the same as before:

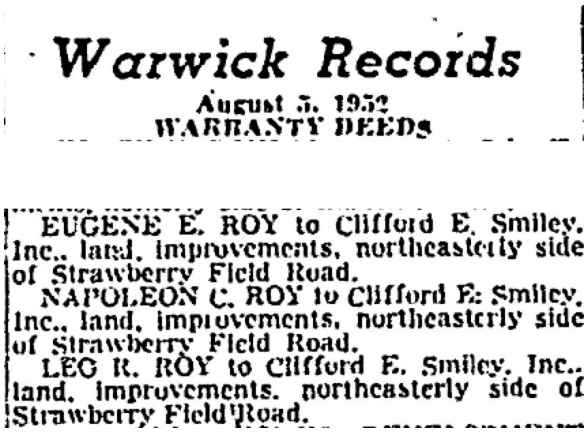
> *[I have] no alternative but to leave the junk where it is. This will have to be settled in court.* — Leo R. Roy Sr., as quoted May 8, 1952

He meant it. By the end of May his attorney, A. Norman LaSalle, had filed a writ of certiorari in the Supreme Court asking that the zoning board's decision be overturned. The appeal made three arguments: that the April 28 hearing was illegally conducted because no sworn testimony was taken; that the denial was "arbitrary, unauthorized" and deprived a citizen of property without due process of law; and that the junkyard, having operated before the 1945 zoning ordinance, was a lawful non-conforming use. LaSalle also asked for a restraining order to stop the city from closing the yard while the case was pending.

A smaller dispute was running alongside this one. In early May, Leo applied for a zoning exception to keep a house trailer on the premises at 1380 Post Road in Norwood, where trailers had been parked near his home off and on for years. His brother Napoleon was living in it while building a house of his own in Norwood. The zoning board had first refused even to accept the petition, then reversed itself when the city solicitor said the refusal was wrong, and set a hearing for May 26. The newspapers do not report the result.

The sale

The appeal was never heard. The Warwick land records for August 5, 1952, printed in the next day's Bulletin, list three warranty deeds to Clifford E. Smiley, Inc.: one from Eugene E. Roy, one from Napoleon C. Roy and one from Leo R. Roy. Each is for "land, improvements, northeasterly side of Strawberry Field Road."



Warwick Records

August 5, 1952

WARRANTY DEEDS

EUGENE E. ROY to Clifford E. Smiley, Inc., land, improvements, northeasterly side of Strawberry Field Road.

NAPOLEON C. ROY to Clifford E. Smiley, Inc., land, improvements, northeasterly side of Strawberry Field Road.

LEO R. ROY to Clifford E. Smiley, Inc., land, improvements, northeasterly side of Strawberry Field Road.

The three deeds to Clifford E. Smiley, Inc. The Evening Bulletin, Wednesday, August 6, 1952, page 2.

On Saturday, August 9, the Journal gave the sale a headline. The junkyard, it reported, was "included in a tract of about 47 acres which has been sold to Clifford E. Smiley, Inc., Warwick real estate developers."



Roy Sells Land And Junkyard

Real Estate Developer Buys Hillsgrove Tract Of About 47 Acres

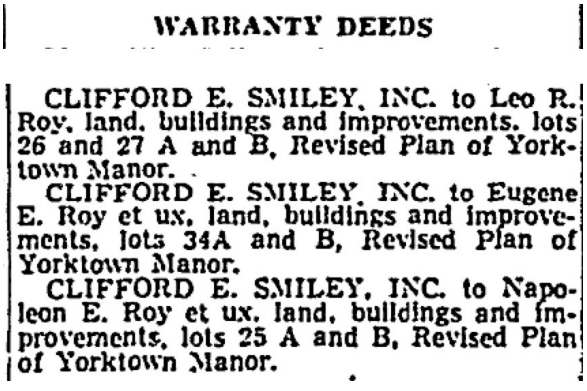
Warwick Office 3291 Post Rd., Apponaug } Telephone HI 1-1000

The controversial Leo R. Roy junkyard, northeast of Strawberry Field Road in Hillsgrove, is included in a tract of about 47 acres which has been sold to Clifford E. Smiley, Inc., Warwick real estate develop-

The Providence Journal, Saturday, August 9, 1952, page 3.

The paper worked out the price from the revenue stamps on the deeds: "three warranty deeds covering the junkyard and adjoining land owned by the brothers, Leo, Eugene R., and Napoleon C. Roy, indicate a total sale price of $32,000." That comes to roughly $680 an acre. The newspaper does not say how the money was divided among the three brothers.

The Journal's story did not mention the other half of that week's paperwork. On Monday, August 11, the Bulletin's deed column listed three more warranty deeds, running the other way: from Clifford E. Smiley, Inc., to Leo R. Roy, "land, buildings and improvements, lots 26 and 27 A and B, Revised Plan of Yorktown Manor"; to Eugene E. Roy and his wife, lots 34 A and B; and to Napoleon Roy and his wife, lots 25 A and B. In the same week that the three brothers deeded their Strawberry Field Road land to Smiley's company, the company deeded each of them a property with buildings on it in the Yorktown Manor plat. The notices do not say whether these were part of the price, a trade, or separate purchases.



WARRANTY DEEDS

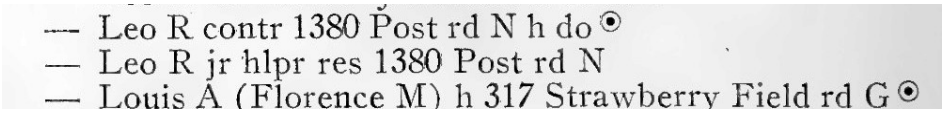
CLIFFORD E. SMILEY, INC. to Leo R. Roy, land, buildings and improvements, lots 26 and 27 A and B, Revised Plan of Yorktown Manor.

CLIFFORD E. SMILEY, INC. to Eugene E. Roy et ux, land, buildings and improvements, lots 34A and B, Revised Plan of Yorktown Manor.

CLIFFORD E. SMILEY, INC. to Napoleon E. Roy et ux, land, buildings and improvements, lots 25 A and B, Revised Plan of Yorktown Manor.

The Evening Bulletin, Monday, August 11, 1952, page 6.

Louis is not named among the sellers, and 47 acres is about seven short of the 54 the brothers had owned. He had received his own piece by deed from Leo that February, and he kept it. Family knowledge supplies the reason: Louis had built a house on that land and lived there. The records agree as far as they go. The 1952–53 Warwick city directory lists Louis A. Roy and his wife, Florence M., as householders at 317 Strawberry Field Road, and a 1953 clipping describes him as someone "who lives on Strawberry Field Road."


— Leo R contr 1380 Post rd N h do ⊙
— Leo R jr hlpr res 1380 Post rd N
— Louis A (Florence M) h 317 Strawberry Field rd G ⊙

From the Roy listings in Armstrong's Warwick City Directory, 1952–53, page 478: Leo R., contractor, and Leo R. Jr. at 1380 Post Road, Norwood, and Louis A. (Florence M.) at 317 Strawberry Field Road.

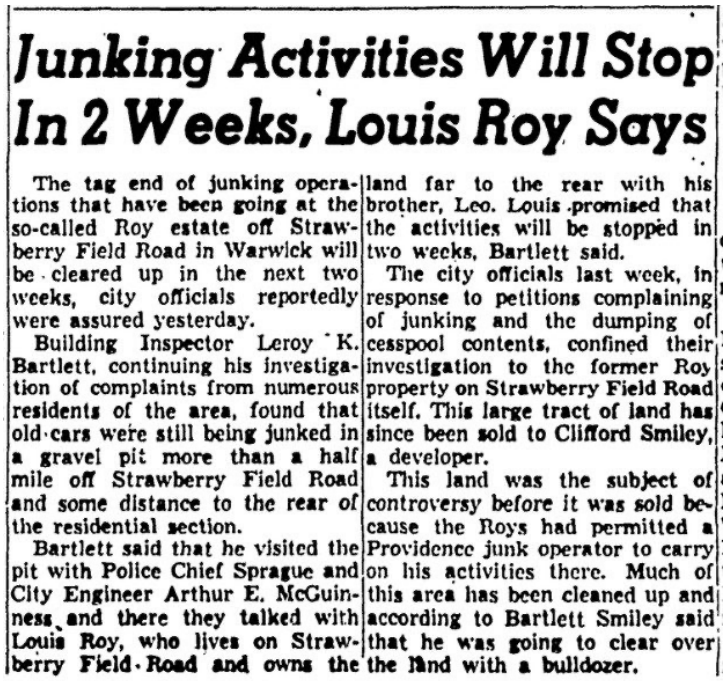
Leo's lawyer later confirmed what the sale had done to the court case. The zoning decision "had been appealed to the Supreme Court but the case was not heard because Roy sold the land in the interim." There is some irony in the outcome. The land Leo had insisted was fit only for business or industry was bought by a developer who, according to the building inspector, "intends to develop the area into house lots."

Afterward: Louis and the gravel pit

The sale did not end the complaints. On May 7, 1953, two petitions reached Mayor Goff protesting stored junk and the dumping of cesspool contents on what the paper now called "the so-called Roy estate." The spokesman for some 60 residents was Rene Boucher, the neighbor who had gathered signatures against Leo the year before. Inspector Bartlett pointed out that Leo no longer owned the land. He added that, to his knowledge, no junk had been removed, and that the zoning board had never actually issued an order about the junk already there.

A few days later Bartlett went looking, along with Police Chief Sprague and City Engineer Arthur E. McGuinness. Much of the land Smiley had bought had been cleaned up, and Smiley said he would "clear over the land with a bulldozer." But old cars were still being junked in a gravel pit well to the rear, beyond the residential section. There the officials met Louis.

> *. . . they talked with Louis Roy, who lives on Strawberry Field Road and owns the land far to the rear with his brother, Leo. Louis promised that the activities will be stopped in two weeks, Bartlett said.* — The Evening Bulletin, May 12, 1953



Junking Activities Will Stop In 2 Weeks, Louis Roy Says

The tag end of junking operations that have been going at the so-called Roy estate off Strawberry Field Road in Warwick will be cleared up in the next two weeks, city officials reportedly were assured yesterday.

Building Inspector Leroy K. Bartlett, continuing his investigation of complaints from numerous residents of the area, found that old cars were still being junked in a gravel pit more than a half mile off Strawberry Field Road and some distance to the rear of the residential section.

Bartlett said that he visited the pit with Police Chief Sprague and City Engineer Arthur E. McGuinness and there they talked with Louis Roy, who lives on Strawberry Field Road and owns the land far to the rear with his brother, Leo. Louis promised that the activities will be stopped in two weeks, Bartlett said.

The city officials last week, in response to petitions complaining of junking and the dumping of cesspool contents, confined their investigation to the former Roy property on Strawberry Field Road itself. This large tract of land has since been sold to Clifford Smiley, a developer.

This land was the subject of controversy before it was sold because the Roys had permitted a Providence junk operator to carry on his activities there. Much of this area has been cleaned up and according to Bartlett Smiley said that he was going to clear over the land with a bulldozer.

The Evening Bulletin, Tuesday, May 12, 1953, page 5.

That sentence is worth a second look. It says that in May 1953, nine months after the sale, Leo still owned land at the rear with Louis. If the reporter had it right, Leo did not sell everything he had: some part of the back land, perhaps the gravel pit where he had wanted to put Emil's business, stayed in the family a while longer.

Where the land is today

The Roy land lay on the northeast side of Strawberry Field Road in Warwick, between the Greenwood neighborhood and the southwest edge of what is now Rhode Island T. F. Green International Airport. In present-day records the best match is the stretch around 325 to 333 Strawberry Field Road.

The largest property there is 333 Strawberry Field Road, the former Leesona Corporation plant. State environmental fact sheets describe it as a 77-acre parcel with a single-story industrial building covering 16 acres, in industrial use since 1960. It is now a multi-tenant industrial complex owned by Strawberry Field Estates, Inc. Beside it, at 325, is a 7-acre parcel with a building put up in 1988 that the city assessor classes as a post office facility.

Louis's address, 317, no longer appears in the assessor's list of parcels. On that side of the road the house numbers now stop at 285, a house built in 1958, and resume at 325. His house would have stood about where the house lots end and the industrial land begins.

Other details fit. The state's fact sheets place a residential area to the southwest of the plant, which is the Strawberry Field Road side. Nearby, on Industrial Drive, is the closed Truk-Away

landfill, described as bordered by industrial use on the west and an airport runway on the north. It took waste from 1970 to 1978 and was started in an old gravel pit. Leo had told the zoning board in 1952 that the dump “will move into that property in 20 years.” Whether that pit was the Roys’ own is not known. And the land Leo called “fit only for industrial or business use” was industrial within eight years of the sale.

This identification rests on house numbers and present-day parcel records, not on a map or the deeds. Street numbers can change, and the former Leesona parcel is larger than the Roys’ 54 acres, so it took in other land as well. Part of the Roy frontage may also be among the house lots that adjoin it.

Timeline

Date	Event
June 16, 1865	Alfred Roy is born in Canada.
Sept. 26, 1936	Alfred P. Roy signs his will, leaving the homestead to his wife Adeliska for life and everything else to his sons Louis, Leo, Napoleon and Eugene. Leo is named sole executor.
Aug. 10, 1938	Alfred dies at his home, 25 Chestnut Street, Norwood, at age 73.
Aug. 19, 1938	The will is filed for probate in Warwick. It is recorded on Nov. 10, 1938.
About 1940	Junking of vehicles begins on the Strawberry Field Road land, by the city’s later reckoning.
1945	Warwick adopts its zoning ordinance. The area is zoned Residential B.
July 25–Aug. 28, 1947	Inheritance tax of $2.65 is assessed and paid. Leo swears that the four sons now own the remainder of the estate as tenants in common. The court records his affidavit.
Jan. 22, 1952	A $30,000 claim by the Alfred P. Roy Estate, for loss of property value caused by Hillsgrove Airport, is introduced in the General Assembly.
Feb. 12, 1952	The Warwick records list a quitclaim deed from Louis A. Roy and others to Leo for land on Strawberry Field Road.
Feb. 20, 1952	The Warwick records list a warranty deed from Leo to Louis A. Roy and his wife for land on Strawberry Field Road.
Early April 1952	Leo applies for a junk license. The city solicitor rules the yard has operated illegally for 12 years. Neighbors gather 45 signatures against it.
April 11, 1952	Leo files for a zoning exception.
April 28, 1952	The zoning board hears the petition and denies it unanimously shortly after midnight.

Date	Event
April 30–May 7, 1952	The board directs the building inspector to close the yard. A cease order is prepared for Leo.
Late May 1952	Leo's attorney files an appeal (writ of certiorari) in the Supreme Court.
Aug. 5, 1952	The Warwick records list warranty deeds from Eugene, Napoleon and Leo to Clifford E. Smiley, Inc. On Aug. 9 the Journal reports that about 47 acres, including the junkyard, have been sold for a reported $32,000.
Reported Aug. 11, 1952	Smiley's company deeds Yorktown Manor lots, with buildings, to Leo, to Eugene and his wife, and to Napoleon and his wife.
May 7, 1953	Residents petition Mayor Goff about junk and cesspool dumping on the former Roy land.
May 11, 1953	City officials find cars still being junked in a gravel pit at the rear. Louis Roy promises it will stop within two weeks.

People in the story

Name	Who they were
Alfred P. Roy	The father. Born June 16, 1865, in Canada. A retired carpenter, of 25 Chestnut Street, Norwood, Warwick. Made his will in 1936 and died August 10, 1938.
Adeliska (Giroux) Roy	Alfred's wife. Given the homestead for her lifetime. Living there in 1947.
Leo R. Roy Sr.	Son and sole executor. Listed in the 1952–53 city directory as a contractor at 1380 Post Road, Norwood. Called the "principal owner" of the junkyard site. One of the three sellers.
Eugene Roy	Son and heir. One of the three sellers. The deed notices call him Eugene E. Roy; the Journal's August 9 story printed "Eugene R."
Napoleon C. Roy	Son and heir. One of the three sellers. In 1952 he was living in a trailer at Leo's while building a house in Norwood. One deed notice prints his middle initial as E.
Louis A. Roy	Son and heir. Lived with his wife, Florence M., at 317 Strawberry Field Road. Not among the sellers.
Alfred, Annie, Yvonne and Dora	Alfred's other four children, named in the will but left out of it for the reasons he gave. The 1938 obituary lists Alfred, Miss Dora M. Roy and Mrs. Yvonne A. Hallene among the survivors. It does not mention Annie since she had died in July 1938.
Emil Roy	Leo's son. The junk business was to be turned over to him if the permit had been granted.
Lawrence Anthony	Of Providence. Operated the junk business on the Roy land.

Name	Who they were
Clifford E. Smiley	Warwick real estate developer whose company bought the 47 acres.
Leroy K. Bartlett	Warwick's acting building inspector and zoning enforcement officer.
Hailes L. Palmer	Warwick city solicitor. Ruled the junkyard illegal rather than non-conforming.
A. Norman LaSalle	Leo's attorney for the Supreme Court appeal.
Rev. John J. Tully	Pastor of St. Rose's Church, Greenwood, which opposed the permit.
Rene L. Boucher	Neighbor at 65 Endicott Road. Organized the petitions in both 1952 and 1953.

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