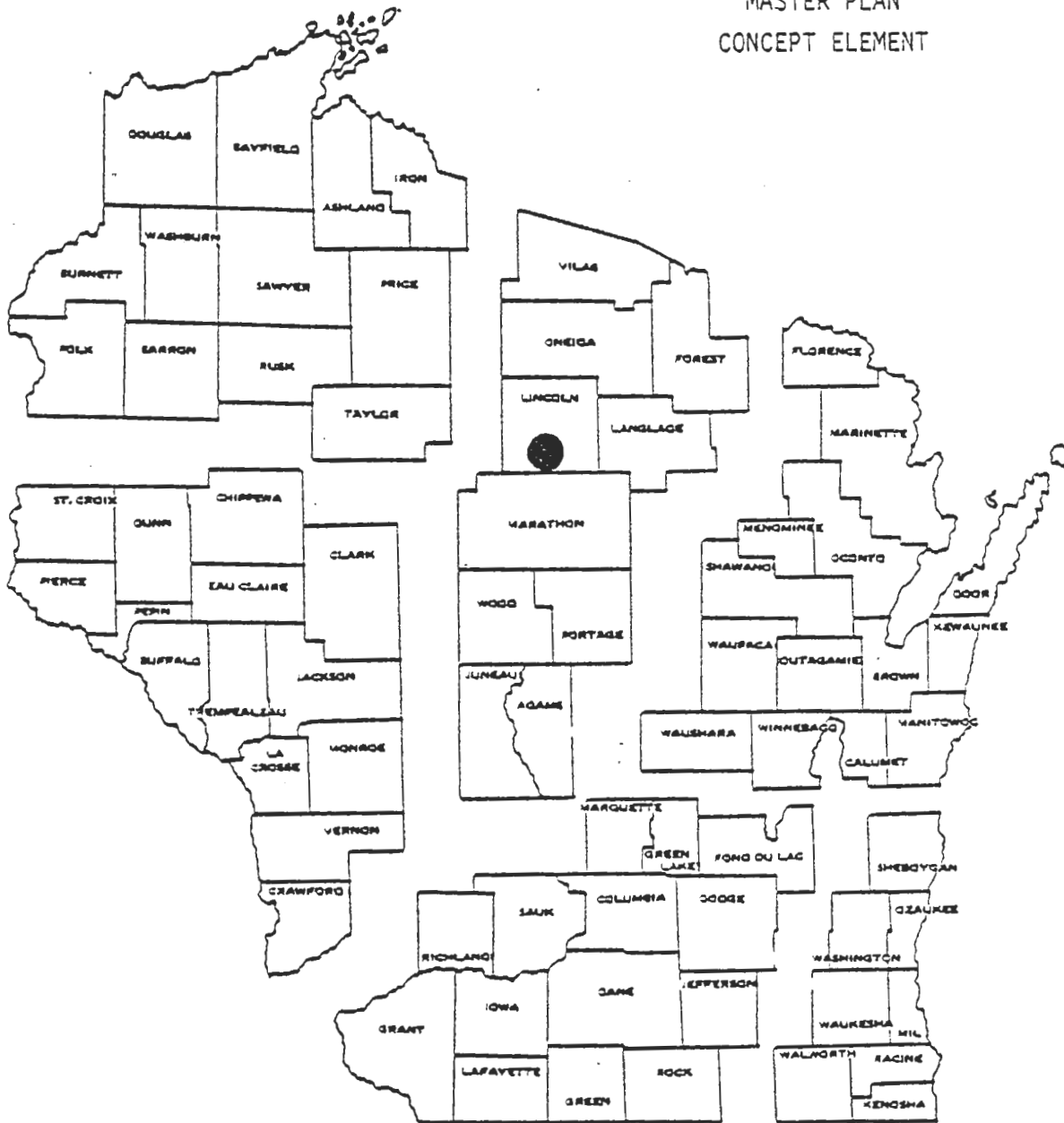


COUNCIL GROUNDS STATE PARK  
 MASTER PLAN  
 CONCEPT ELEMENT



Property Task Force

APPROVED BY NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD:

Leader: Lyle Hannahs - Staff Spec.  
 Carl Eklund - Park Supt.  
 John Muhvich - Forester  
 Donald Manthei - Cons. Warden

August 22, 1979

Date

Submitted: November 16, 1978

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
 Madison, Wisconsin



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## COUNCIL GROUNDS STATE PARK

### MASTER PLAN

#### I. BACKGROUND

##### A. Location

Council Grounds State Park is located on the Wisconsin River in north central Wisconsin in the Town of Merrill, Lincoln County. The park borders the City of Merrill (population 9,502) on State Highway 107. (See Appendix I)

##### B. Regional Context

The nearest city with a population over 30,000 is Wausau, located 18 miles to the south. The cities and villages of Tomahawk, Antigo, Rothschild, and Medford are within 30 miles of the park and all have a population over 3,000. The park is within a day's travel from Chicago, Duluth-Superior and Minneapolis metropolitan areas.

##### C. Record of Establishment

In 1938 the City of Merrill deeded Wildwood Park to the State for one dollar. For the next 26 years this site was known as Council Grounds State Forest. In 1964 the site was designated by the Conservation Commission as Council Grounds State Roadside Park. (Appendix II)

##### D. History of the Area

Many years ago the park area was used by Chippewa Indians for annual tribal festivities. Some artifacts have been found on the old Indian Council site. In later years between 1871 and 1905, river men and loggers sorted over 600 million board feet of floating logs annually at this point to supply sawmills downstream. The original park development was accomplished with WPA labor. Construction at that time included a shelter building, picnic tables, stone retaining walls along the river drive, and a timber entry sign. The sign no longer exists.

##### E. Present Use and Management

###### 1. Description of Existing Facilities

Existing recreational developments at Council Grounds State Park consist of a 55-unit campground with flush toilets and showers, 13-acre picnic area with pit toilets, 76 tables and 22 grills, 1.8-mile hiking trail, 310-feet of beach with change stalls and pit toilets and a shelter building, a waterski area, and a .75 mile long nature trail. Additional support facilities consist of a sticker sales building, storage garage, workshop, 3.8 miles of interior park roads, and 205 parking spaces for day use and a boat launching ramp with 35 parking spaces.

Management of the park is the responsibility of the Forester-Ranger stationed at the Merrill Ranger Station.

###### 2. Acquisition Goal

At present, the park consists of 321.89 acres with an approved goal of 328.17 acres. A boundary change has been recommended which would increase the acreage goal to approximately 382.32 acres.

###### 3. Scientific Area

An area of approximately 20 acres between the campground and the shelter building has been designated as a scientific area. The boundary of the scientific area should be marked on the ground. The hiking trails through the area would be maintained, but not expanded. (Appendix X)

##### F. Description of the Area

###### 1. Geology and Topography

Topography at Council Grounds Park is gently rolling with steep slopes along the Wisconsin River. Rock outcroppings are found in the northwest corner of the park.

## 2. Soils

Soils generally range from somewhat poorly drained medium-textured soils to well drained sandy loam soils. The well drained soils are found in approximately 50% of the park (See Appendix IV)

## 3. Vegetation

Much of the park is occupied by large white pine stands which range in age from 69 to 86 years while the remainder of the park consists of northern and swamp hardwoods. Overmature aspen is found scattered throughout most of the park. Contrary to popular belief, the park does not contain any virgin pine stands.

## 4. Wildlife

The major wildlife species associated with the park are deer, ruffed grouse, red squirrel, raccoon, muskrat, mink and beaver. It may be assumed that other species are present where their habitat niches occur in the park.

## 5. Water Resource and Fish

Council Grounds State Park has 12,400 feet of frontage on the Wisconsin River. The swimming beach and boat landing are located on Alexander Flowage.

Fish sampling, during the spring of 1978, on Alexander Flowage revealed a good northern pike population with most fish ranging from 18" to 23". Several northern pikes in the 30" to 37" size group were also netted with the largest northern being 40" long.

A population of muskellunge are also present in the flowage. One specimen measuring 50" was netted.

Alexander Flowage also contains a good population of walleye, smallmouth bass and largemouth bass. Panfish present include bluegill, pumpkinseed, yellow perch, rock bass and black crappie. A large population of black and brown bullheads are also present, with many in the 10" to 12" size range. Other fish species found include white sucker, common shiner, northern redhorse, bowfin, and golden shiner.

The fish appear to be in good condition with above average growth rates. The average size of panfish appears to be especially good. The flowage should provide satisfactory fishing although it is reported that the fish have an undesirable taste at times.

Water level fluctuation in the spring is a problem as related to fish spawning. Improved water quality will increase the desirability of the fish.

Based on accumulated information and work now being done by the Upper Wisconsin River Basin 208 Task Force, it appears that the water quality of the Wisconsin River may be expected to improve in the future.

## II. RESOURCE CAPABILITY

### A. Soils Potential

Most of the park is underlain with a layer of rock. Development sites, therefore, are limited in some areas by subsurface conditions rather than soil type alone. Soils in the park have been classified by the USDA, Soil Conservation Service as having slight to moderate limitations for recreation. A detailed description of each soil type is listed in Appendix IV.

### B. Vegetation Potential

Most of the potential development areas and the existing use areas contain desirable tree species such as white pine and several northern hardwood species. Any dead, dying or high-risk trees should be removed from these areas. Any cutting operations in the park will be restricted to removal for safety and aesthetics or cutting for insect disease control. The overall management program for the park should be directed toward preserving its natural appearance without sacrificing the safety of the public as the timber type gradually passes from pines to hardwoods.

C. Wildlife Potential

There are no specific management plans for wildlife in Council Grounds Park. The Wisconsin River does attract waterfowl and there probably are nesting sites along the river where possible. The river may also act as a minor flyway for migratory birds. During the spring and fall, concentrations of songbirds could be expected in the park.

D. Fish Potential

Very recent studies on the Wisconsin River have shown a significant change in water quality for the better. As the water quality increases, the potential for better fish populations and sport fishing will also increase.

E. Recreation Potential

Recreation use and development at Council Grounds Park may be categorized as either intensive, consisting of the campground and day-use areas and facilities, or extensive, consisting of the scientific areas, trails and the remaining undeveloped portions of the park.

There may be a demand for additional camp sites within the next ten years. Several areas in the park have potential for campground development should the Department decide to meet this demand.

Outdoor group camp facilities could be accommodated on the north side of the park if additional land is acquired.

Day-use activities might include picnicking, swimming, hiking, biking, sightseeing, boating, fishing, etc. Facilities for most of these activities are already provided. Since the development of the swimming beach, most day-use activity takes place on the west end of the park. If the demand for additional picnic and group day-use activities increases, it can be accommodated at the existing picnic area on the east side of the park.

For nature interpretation, the scientific area offers an excellent opportunity to study a typical northern dry-mesic forest. (See Appendix X) There is also a 3/4-mile marked self-guided nature trail for the casual nature observer. Additional marked nature trails could be provided on existing trails should the demand increase significantly. Consideration could be given to hiring a seasonal naturalist to work between Council Grounds and Rib Mountain State Parks.

Potential for additional water-oriented activities is limited. Present development consists of a beach, water ski dock, and a boat ramp. All these facilities receive heavy use during the summer. As water quality in the Wisconsin River improves, its attraction for recreation will also increase, including canoeing. Canoe campsites could be provided along the Wisconsin River at the southeast corner of the park on the former Plautz property.

During the winter, use consists mainly of sightseeing and cross-country skiing. Cross-country skiing has great potential for use on the already existing trails and the possibility exists for developing additional cross-country trails. In the past, the park roads have been plowed to provide one-way traffic through the park. In the future, additional parking areas may have to be plowed for winter use.

III. MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS

A. Private Inholdings

The Wisconsin Public Service Corporation owns a small parcel of land in the park which is adjacent to a power dam on the Wisconsin River. This small parcel of private land is used by fishermen for access to the river.

B. Vehicular Traffic

After the 11 p.m. closing of the park, it is difficult to allow access to registered campers while denying access to others. At present, wooden barricades across the entrance roads are used, but this does not stop unauthorized vehicles and hampers law enforcement vehicles.

The problem stems from the fact that the park is close to town and does not have a 24-hour patrol. At this time, a daily 24-hour patrol or attended entrance is not economically feasible. Other alternatives include either a gated entrance that allows only registered campers, law enforcement and emergency vehicles to enter and exit the park after closing, or the use of a periodic 24-hour patrol, which seems to have worked very well when recently tried.

Several of the park roads are designated as two-way; however, all of the roads are designed for one-way traffic. The two-way road system should be widened to 20 feet. Along with this, all park roads should be signed as bicycle routes. Bicycling traffic is moderate in the park and will increase if the proposed bicycle route from Merrill to the park is established. It is anticipated that such a bicycle route will be constructed. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources will cooperate with local officials to encourage this proposed development.

A problem of an enforcement nature is high-speed traffic in the park. It is not uncommon to see roadside trees "barked" and sod rutted. As previously mentioned, it is not possible at this time to put on a 24-hour patrol everyday. However, access control or periodic late night patrols could probably reduce the number of incidents as these usually occur after closing hours.

C. Outside Interests

As previously mentioned, the City of Merrill and the University Extension Office have been promoting the development of a bicycle trail from the City of Merrill to Council Grounds State Park.

D. Boundary

The City of Merrill and Council Grounds Park presently share a common boundary on the east side of the park. The city limits also are adjacent to the east side of the entrance to the park. It is conceivable that land on both sides of the entrance road and adjacent to the present boundaries could be subdivided for residential or commercial use.

Another problem is that the park boundary is within 50 feet or less of developed areas of the park at two locations. At the boat ramp site this has led to cutting the park fence and unauthorized entrance by pedestrians, motorcyclists, and bicyclists. Entrance to the park in this manner has caused erosion and creates a problem for law enforcement officials and park personnel trying to enforce the park closing hours.

E. Unauthorized Access - Snowmobiles

Snowmobilers crossing the Wisconsin River are cutting through the park, entering at the beach and leaving via the boat ramp. This action is not detrimental to the park; however, it is contrary to present policy on snowmobile trails leading directly to bodies of water.

F. Lack of Off-Season Toilet Facilities and Water Supply for Campground

The family campground has only flush toilets and a pressurized water system. There is nothing to serve as back up facilities during power outages or for spring and fall camping when the water system is drained.

IV. RECREATIONAL NEEDS OF THE AREA

The 1977 Wisconsin Outdoor Recreation Plan considers Council Grounds State Park as part of Planning Region 10, which is a combination of Vilas, Forest, Florence, Oneida, Langlade and Lincoln Counties. While an actual figure for any given recreation activity is not available specifically for the park from the state plan, it may be assumed that the general outdoor recreation characteristics of Region 10 may serve as a guide (Appendix VII). For Lincoln County, the recreation plan does recommend the establishment of a county-wide park system and increased development of recreational trails. This recommendation coincides with a proposed bicycle route from the City of Merrill to Council Grounds Park.



## V. MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT ALTERNATIVES

### A. Operate As Is

To operate as is would be to continue with the existing facilities and associated problems.

### B. Operate Exclusively for Day-Use

To operate exclusively for day-use would mean removing all camping, or approximately 9% of the current use from the park. The existing day-use facilities would remain and continue to operate as is, or be expanded as demand would require. Additional land acquisition would still be necessary to protect the interior facilities of the park and provide buffer.

### C. Expand and Improve Present Recreation Facilities and Manage for Preservation Purposes

This proposal allows an increase in the present facilities based upon a demonstrated need. The swimming beach would continue as is, some additional parking would be provided.

Picnicking would continue; additional picnic sites as well as parking may be added or others relocated as necessary. Playground equipment would be added to the east picnic area to make it more attractive and to better distribute use within the park.

Additional family camping or outdoor group camp facilities could be provided if demand warrants and private enterprise or other agencies do not provide the needed facilities.

The boat ramp would continue as is.

A maximum of three canoe campsites would be developed if demand warrants.

Additional hiking and cross-country ski trails that would complement the existing trail system could be constructed as need required.

The scientific area will include 20 acres. The existing hiking trail within the scientific area would remain. Cross-country ski use may be considered in the future.

Management in those areas not developed for swimming, picnicking, camping, and associated facilities should provide a preservation oriented environment.

## VI. RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE

- A. Expand and improve present recreation facilities and manage for preservation purposes. (See discussion V.C.)

## VII. GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

### A. Goal

To make available a public recreational park that provides facilities for recreational development in such a manner as to protect and enhance the natural assets of the area.

### B. Objectives

1. To provide recreational development areas to accommodate activities such as camping, picnicking, and swimming.
2. To provide recreational areas for activities such as trails for hiking, nature study, and cross-country skiing.
3. To set aside from development a scientific area as designated by the Scientific Areas Preservation Council.

## VIII. PROPOSED ACTION

### A. Classification

Council Grounds Park is presently classified as a roadside park. The classification should be changed as the park is primarily a day-use park. Camping use in the park is more destination rather than overnight. The park should be reclassified as a recreational park.

## B. Acquisition

The present park acreage goal is 328.17 acres with 321.89 acres presently owned. The total acquisition cost as of December 31, 1976, is \$77,501.00.

Acquisition to protect the park interior from development adjacent to the park boundary to control unauthorized access and to provide space for juvenile outdoor group camping facilities, if demand warrants, is needed.

The park boundary should be enlarged to include the following:

- T31N, R6E, Section 9, SW $\frac{1}{4}$  NE $\frac{1}{4}$  (40 acres)
- T31N, R6E, Section 9, Pt. of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$  lying south of Forest Drive (14.15 acres)

## C. Development

### 1. Day-Use

The picnic area in the northwest part of the park is referred to as a "drive-in" picnic area as most of the picnic sites are located on former campsites and vehicles are allowed into the area. This area receives heavy use due to its accessibility and proximity to the boat ramp, beach, water ski dock, and nature trail. A small parking lot is located on the main access road. This lot should be redesigned to provide a 10-car lot for those persons wishing to use the nature trail, water ski dock, or picnic sites without drive-in stalls. As use of the water ski dock increases, provisions should be made for a third parking lot. At the time the third lot is added, consideration will be given to removing the drive through trail in the picnic area. Dust, "chuck" holes, and pedestrian/vehicle conflicts are reasons for considering removal of this trail.

The beach parking lot can be increased by another 25 cars.

Two 8-unit pit toilet buildings with change stalls should be constructed adjacent to the beach parking lot.

Steps or a ramp should be provided to the ski dock. It may also be necessary to construct a bulkhead to prevent erosion into the Wisconsin River.

The park shelter, located in the southeast corner of the park, and adjacent picnic area receives light use since the swimming beach was opened in 1968. The shelter is open on two sides, constructed of logs and stone, and has stone fireplaces on each end. Some of the logs in the upper half of the building are showing signs of rot, and powder post beetles are present, but the building is sound. Log structures such as this should be treated to eliminate the powder post beetles and to prevent further rot. Preservative should be used on the logs. After the camping season, this building should be closed. The sporadic use of the fireplaces during the winter will crack and loosen the stone. The second reason for closing the shelter is vandalism, primarily to the building interior, which occurs mainly after the camping season.

The toilet buildings in the east picnic area should be replaced with a new pit toilet building containing two stools for the women, and one stool and one urinal for the men. In addition, wood form playground equipment should be added as well as a ball diamond and a large barbecue pit that could accommodate an entire pig. If the use at the area grows the existing parking lot could be expanded to accommodate another 20 cars.

### 2. Roads

The main park road and all the parking lots with the exception of the beach parking lots need resurfacing. In conjunction with resurfacing, the road from the entrance to the campground and the road from the entrance to the day-use area adjacent to the shelter should be widened to accommodate two-way traffic. The roads should be striped where two-way traffic is accommodated.

### 3. Support Facilities

A new road should be constructed into the service area and the present entrance to this area removed.

The park entrance may have to be redesigned to accommodate a gate ahead of the visitor contact station at a future date. A new visitor contact station may be required at this time.

4. Campground

Additional family camping facilities could be accommodated in the park. Prior approved site plans show an addition of 28 units to the present 55-unit campground, for a total of 83 units. A campground of this size would be sufficient to meet camping demand for the next 10-15 years. (Appendix VIII)

A set of two-unit pit type toilets and a well with a hand pump should be added to existing campground to accommodate fall and spring use and to provide back-up facilities during power interruptions.

5. Outdoor Juvenile Group Camp

Outdoor group camp facilities could be considered if a demand exists. Potential for development exists on the north side of the park if the Ulaman Land is acquired. The group camp should be designed to accommodate two separate groups of 25 persons each. The facilities would be designed to accommodate tent camping only. A well and two sets of pit-type toilets would be needed.

6. Canoe Campsites

A cluster of three canoe campsites could be considered in the southeast corner of the park on the former Plautz land, if demand warrants. Walk-in access from the river would be provided. Facilities would be minimal. A set of single unit pit-type toilets would be provided. A picnic table and fire ring would be provided at each site. Drinking water would be available in the nearby picnic area.

7. Trails

Expand cross-country skiing opportunities within the park as demand warrants. The existing trails within the scientific area would remain.

8. Land Use Classification

The park will have the following land use classifications:

- Intensive recreation areas - 68 acres
- Scientific areas - 20 acres
- Historic area (Indian Council Site) - 5 acres
- Administrative area - 6 acres
- Extensive Recreation Area - 288.72
- Outdoor Tent Group Camp - 15 acres



APPENDIX I  
County Locator Map



APPENDIX II  
Board Action





WISCONSIN CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT  
Madison 1, Wisconsin

ITEM RECOMMENDED FOR COMMISSION AGENDA

Date June 3, 1964

TO THE DIRECTOR: L. P. Voigt  
FROM: D. J. Mackie  
SUBJECT: Establish Council Grounds State Roadside Park

1. To be presented at June Commission meeting.  
(month)

2. To be presented by:

3. Appearances requested by the public:

Name	Representing whom?
_____	_____
_____	_____

4. Reference materials to be used:

The Council Grounds State Forest is a small recreational area  
5. Summary: which in reality is more a park than a forest. To more accurately reflect its use and purpose it should be redesignated as a State Roadside Park. Its boundaries should include the following lands:

Govt. Lot 1 of Section 8  
The south 400 feet of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ; Govt. Lots 1,  
2, 3, 4, and 5 of Section 9  
Govt. Lot 6 of Section 10  
All in T. 31N, R. 6E, Lincoln County, Wis.

6. Recommendation: I recommend approval.

APPROVED:

<u>/s/ J. A. B.</u>	<u>6/3/64</u>
Assistant Director	Date
<u>/s/ L. V.</u>	<u>6/3</u>
Director	Date

Signed:

/s/ D. J. Mackie  
Supt. of State Parks and Recreation

Madison

June 3, 1964

TO: L. P. Voigt  
FROM: D. J. Mackie  
SUBJECT: Establish Council Grounds State Roadside Park

On January 12, 1938 the Conservation Commission accepted a gift of the 277-acre Wildwood Park from the City of Merrill. The city council resolution recommended that the land be used for park or forestry purposes although no restrictions were placed on the deed. The tract was classified as the Council Grounds State Forest and has been managed as a recreational forest.

It is recommended that the area be designated as the Council Grounds State Roadside Park which more accurately describes its purpose. The gross area will be increased by 66.5 acres to include all or portions of three additional descriptions. Govt. Lot 1 of Section 8 and a portion of Govt. Lot 4 of Section 9 are owned by the Wisconsin Public Service Corporation. They are entirely surrounded by state land and portions are being used for recreation at the present time. Govt. Lot 6 of Section 10 is needed to expand recreational facilities. The portion of the NE NE of Section 9 is needed for a location of a proposed sewage field. The total gross area will be 343.50 acres. A map showing the proposed area is attached.

The tract is located about one-half mile from State Highway 107. Facilities include one campground with 19 units, several picnic areas with 77 tables, one shelter building, a boat landing and about one mile of hiking trail.

Attendance during 1963 was 41,700 visitors and camping use amounted to 3,271 camper days.

I recommend that the proposal be approved.

D. J. Mackie

Attach.  
RECOMMENDED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
John A. Beale                      Date

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
L. P. Voigt                      Date

**COUNCIL GROUNDS  
STATE ROADSIDE PARK**

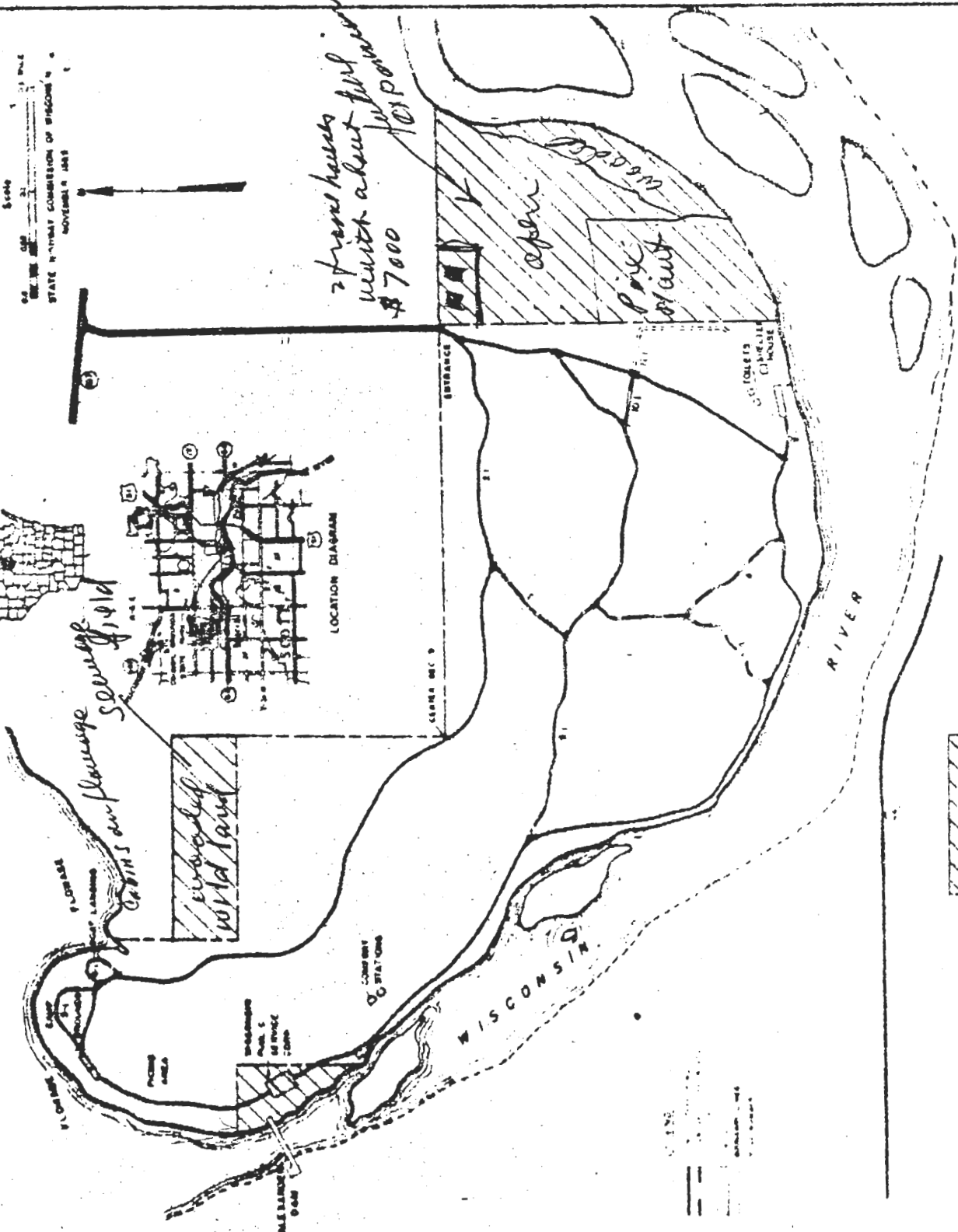
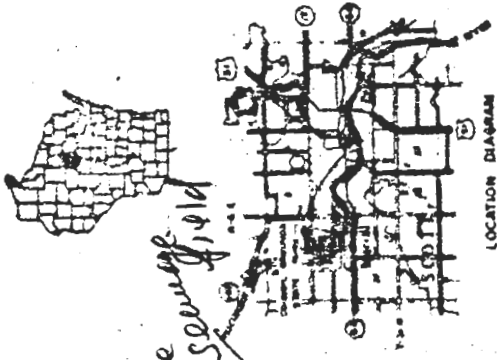
LEWIS & CLARK  
AT LACONIA

ROADS AND PARKING FACILITIES

Scale

STATE NATURAL COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN  
NOVEMBER 1963

*2 front houses  
with about full view  
for \$7000*



PROPOSED ADDITIONS



STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

-----  
IN THE MATTER of establishing :  
and designating certain lands :  
in Lincoln county, Wisconsin, :  
as a state forest to be known :  
as the Council Grounds State :  
Forest. :  
-----

Order No. M-451

Section 1. WHEREAS, the State Conservation Commission of Wisconsin is authorized under subsection (2) of Section 28.01 of the Wisconsin statutes to establish as state forests all well blocked areas of state forest lands for the purpose of protecting watersheds, promoting regrowth of timber, providing public recreational areas, and facilitating administration of such lands, and

Section 2. WHEREAS, the said State Conservation Commission does hereby find and determine that such areas exist in Lincoln county, Wisconsin, as set forth in Section 3 of this order,

Section 3. NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND DECLARED by the State Conservation Commission of Wisconsin, by virtue of and pursuant to the provisions of subsection (2) of Section 28.01 of the Wisconsin statutes, that the following described lands located in Lincoln county, Wisconsin, are established as a state forest and designated as the Council Grounds State Forest:

Lot 1, Lot 2, Lot 3, Lot 5 and Lot 4 except that portion described as follows:

Commencing at the southwest corner of the Northeast quarter of the Northwest quarter of Section 9, T31N, R6E, and running thence West along the eighth line a distance of eight hundred (800) feet to an iron pipe in the ground, this establishes the place of beginning of the land herein reserved,

thence running South and parallel to the East lot line of Lot 4 to the meander line of the Wisconsin river, thence in a northwesterly direction along the said meander line of said river to a point where the said East and West eighth line intersect the said meander line of the river,

thence East along the eighth line to the place of beginning,

all in Section 9, T31N, R6E and lying in Lincoln county, Wisconsin.

Section 4. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this order shall become effective on August 31, 1940 and that said order shall be published in the official state paper, namely the Sheboygan Press of Sheboygan, Wisconsin, and in the Merrill Daily Herald of Merrill, Wisconsin, and the Tomahawk Leader of Tomahawk, Wisconsin.

Section 5. THIS ORDER was made and passed by the State Conservation Commission of Wisconsin at a meeting duly called and held by said commission at the Gateway Hotel, Town of State Line, Vilas county, Wisconsin, this 12th day of June, 1940.

Section 6. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Director of the State Conservation Commission of Wisconsin be, and he is hereby authorized and directed by said commission to sign this order for and on behalf of the State Conservation Commission of Wisconsin.

STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

By

(Signed) H. W. MacKenzie

Conservation Director

State of Wisconsin )  
County of Dane ) ss.

H. W. MacKenzie, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that he is the duly qualified and acting director of the State Conservation Commission of Wisconsin, and that as such director has custody and possession of original order No. M-451, passed by the State Conservation Commission of Wisconsin under the provisions of section 28.01 of the Wisconsin statutes, and that the foregoing copy of the said order has been compared by him with the original of such order and is a true and exact copy of such original order and the whole thereof.

*H. W. MacKenzie*  
Conservation Director

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 15th day of August, 1940.

*[Signature]*  
Notary Public

My commission expires August 8, 1943.

hb  
8/15/40

- 3.B-14 Theresa Marsh Wildlife Area land easements - Dodge and Washington Counties.  
 (a) 76.5 acres from Raymond and Norma Erdmann; Edwin and Altina Erdmann, Theresa - \$3,500. Price per acre - \$45.75. (Dodge County)  
 (b) 6 acres from Robert and Leonora Nickel, Allenton - \$500.  
 Price per acre - \$83.33. (Washington County)  
 (c) 25 acres from Roland W. and Bernice O. Nickel, Theresa - \$715.  
 Price per acre - \$28.60. (Washington County)

Commissioner Smith stated the Land Committee recommends approval of the acquisition of the easement rights listed, and he so moved.  
 The motion was seconded by Commissioner Olson.  
 When put to a vote, motion was carried unanimously.

- 3.B-15 Interstate Park land acquisition - Polk County.  
 .17 acres from John and Alma Schnagl, St. Croix Falls - \$6,000.  
 Price per acre - lot. Tenure - since 1930.

Commissioner Smith informed the Commissioners that the Land Committee wishes to inspect the property listed before making a recommendation on the proposed acquisition of it.

- 3.B-16 Mirror Lake State Park Recreation Area land acquisition - Sauk County.  
 (a) 74.12 acres from Sam and Olga Exiner, Chicago, Illinois - \$7,120. Price per acre - \$96.06. Tenure - since 1946.  
 (b) 33.38 acres from Verner Swanson, Lake Delton - \$21,000.  
 Price per acre - \$629.12. Tenure - since 1934.  
 (c) Lots from Marvin and Elaine Beth, Reedsburg - \$7,640.  
 Tenure - since 1960.  
 (d) Lot from Esther McLerran, Reedsburg - \$900. Tenure - since 1954.  
 (e) Lots from Ewald and Alta Rosenthal, Reedsburg - \$900.  
 Tenure - since 1954.  
 (f) Lot from Rupert and Minnie Schweke, Reedsburg - \$30,000.  
 Tenure - since 1948.

In commenting on this item, Commissioner Smith pointed out that while the prices seem high, it must be recognized that they include improvements, and he felt the purchase of the lands listed is necessary. Commissioner Rahr disagreed, stating he felt the prices were too high.

Commissioner Smith said the Land Committee recommends approval of the purchase of the parcels listed, and he so moved.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Olson.

The vote: Affirmative - Commissioners Lynch, Olson, Schumacher, Smaby and Smith.

Negative - Commissioner Rahr.

- 3.B-17 Establishment of Council Grounds State Roadside Park.  
 Commissioner Smith said Department personnel had assured him the local people were agreeable to having the name of the Council Grounds property changed to Council Grounds State Roadside Park.

Commissioner Smith stated there would be a slight change in the boundaries as the area will be increased by 66.6 acres to include the following lands:

Govt. Lot 1 of Section 8

The south 400 feet of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ; Govt. Lots 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of Section 9

Govt. Lot 6 of Section 10

All in Township 31 North, Range 6 East, Lincoln County.

Commissioner Smith stated the Land Committee recommends the establishment of the Council Grounds State Roadside Park and further recommends that the boundaries be changed as indicated to include the lands listed and shown on a map, copy of which is incorporated in and made a part of these minutes, and he so moved.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Olson.

When put to a vote, motion was carried unanimously.

3.B-18 Revision of Forest Management Plan - Menominee Enterprises, Inc.

Commissioner Smith explained that pursuant to Section 70.335 (8) of the Statutes, Menominee Enterprises, Inc., has requested approval of a revision of the plan for continuous forest control of Menominee Enterprises, Inc. lands. He stated the purpose of this revision is to provide more and better flexibility in the harvesting and utilization of the various wood products available on Menominee Enterprises, Inc. lands.

Commissioner Smith reported that Mr. Beale, Chief State Forester, informed the Land Committee that the Department is making every effort to gain control of management of at least some of the big pine in the Menominee area. He urged the Department to move rapidly to preclude the cutting of these trees.

Following the discussion, Commissioner Smith said the Land Committee recommends approval of the revised Forest Management Plan, copy of which is incorporated in and made a part of these minutes; further, that the Committee urges the Department to put forth every effort to gain control of the management of some of the big pine in the Menominee area to preclude the cutting of these trees, and he so moved.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Olson.

When put to a vote, motion was carried unanimously.

3.B-19 Goodsit cabin lease to Ladysmith sportsmen's group - Flambeau River State Forest.

Commissioner Smith explained that an application has been received for the leasing of 1 acre of land on the Goodsit property in Government Lot 2, Section 8 of Township 36 North, Range 3 West, within the Flambeau River State Forest as a cabin site for a 15-year period by a small group of Ladysmith sportsmen. The group will give the State a 6-acre parcel in Government Lot 4, Section 4, appraised at \$750, in payment for the lease.

Commissioner Smith informed the Commission that the Land Committee recommends approval of granting the lease under the arrangements outlined, and he so moved.

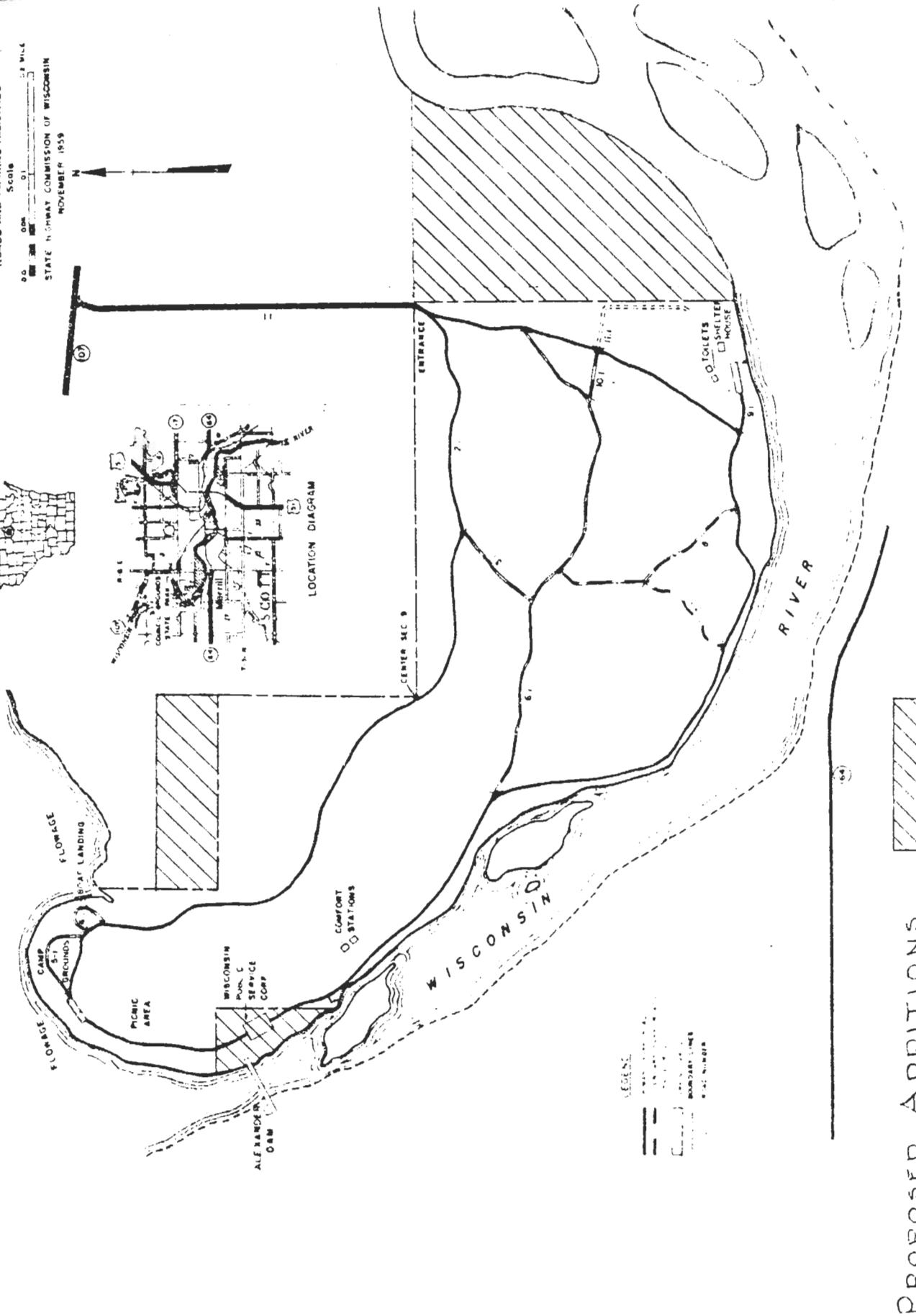
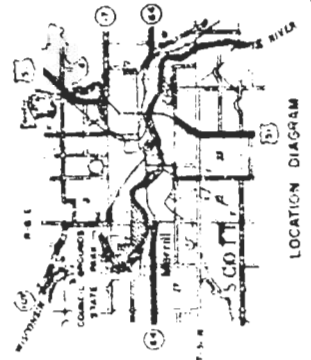
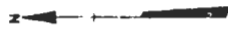
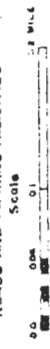
The motion was seconded by Commissioner Olson.

When put to a vote, motion was carried unanimously.



**STATE ROAD 200 - SANDY PARK**

ROADS AND PARKING FACILITIES  
 STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN  
 NOVEMBER 1959



**LEGEND**  
 --- BOUNDARY LINES  
 --- PROPOSED ADDITIONS  
 --- STATE HIGHWAY



**PROPOSED ADDITIONS**

~~Item (f). These are some of the scattered lots in the Loch-Mirror Park Subdivision not included in the Sauk County purchase. They have approximately 150 feet of frontage on the south shore of Mirror Lake.~~

~~Purchase charges for all of these properties will be made to the ORAP budget after July 1, 1964.~~

~~The Land Committee agreed to recommend approval of these purchases to the Commission.~~

17. Establishment of Council Grounds State Roadside Park.

D. J. Mackie, Supt. of State Parks and Recreation, explained that the Council Grounds State Forest is, in reality, more a park than a forest, and to accurately reflect its use and purpose, it should be redesignated as a state roadside park. The major area will be increased by 66½ acres, some of which is owned by the Wisconsin Public Service Corporation, and a portion of this is being used rather informally for recreational purposes by the Department. When the park area is renamed, a definite, permanent boundary should be established formally for a better understanding of the entire 343½-acre area.

Commissioner Smith questioned if the additional land would be costly, and Mr. Mackie replied it would not and it probably would come into state ownership when the Wisconsin River plan becomes effective. Eventually this should be in public ownership.

The Land Committee agreed to recommend approval to the Commission of a change in the boundary and of the name of the Council Grounds State Forest. The following lands will be included in the boundary:

T. 31 N., R. 6 E. - Lincoln County

Sec. 8 - Govt. Lot 1

9 - S. 400 ft. of NE NE; Govt. Lots 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

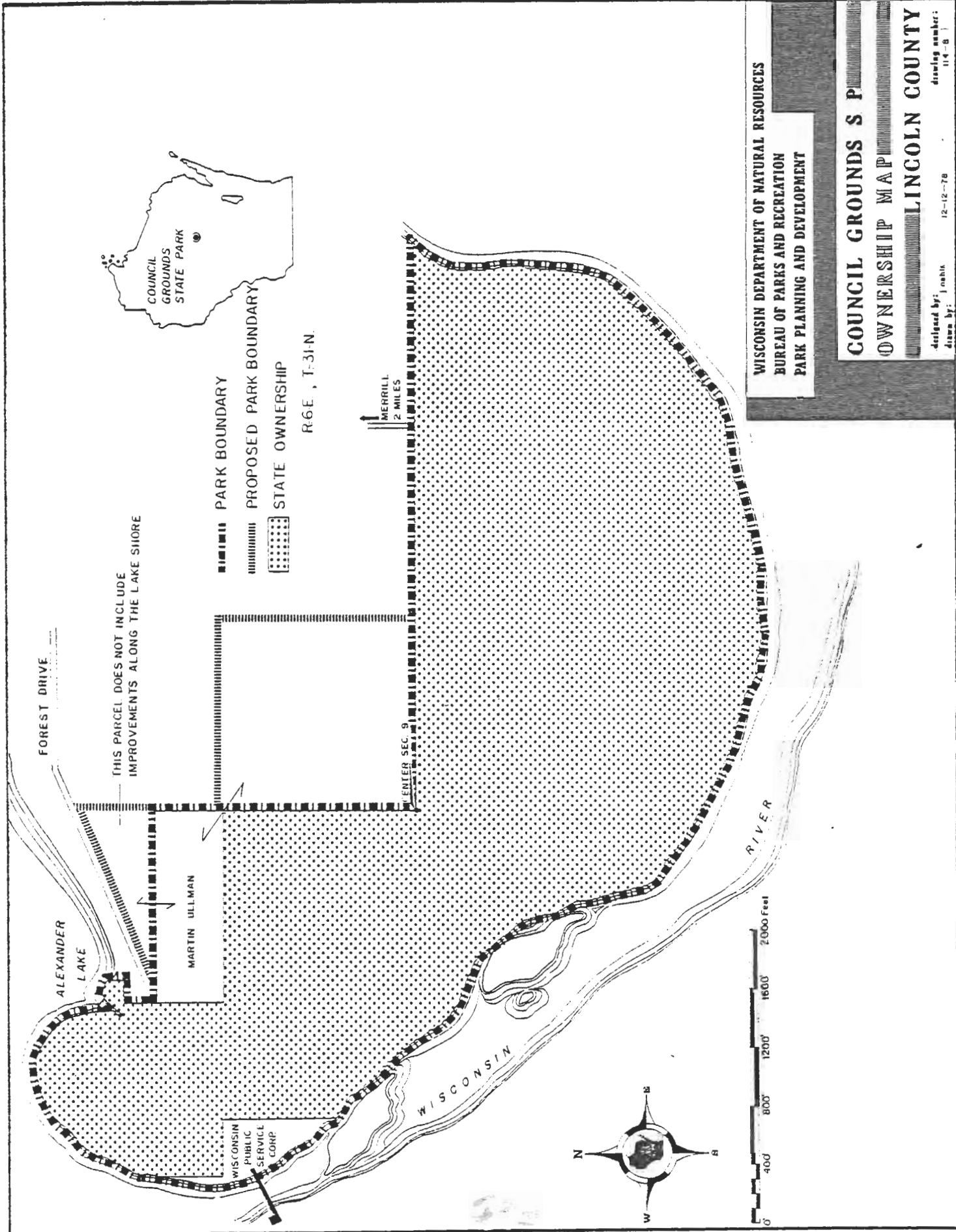
10 - Govt. Lot 6



18. Revision of Forest Management Plan - Menominee Enterprises, Inc.

~~John Beale, Chief State Forester, and S. W. Welsh, Supt. of Forest Management, explained jointly the necessity for a revision in the forest management plan for the Menominee Enterprises, Inc. The purpose is to provide more and better flexibility in the harvesting and utilization of the various wood products available on the corporation lands. It was Mr. Beale's opinion that the revisions are very realistic, and the Department has negotiated verbally with the people to obtain an easement on the pine stands. This will be submitted to them soon, and the new president of the corporation probably will grant a sympathetic hearing as there is an interest in the different forest types present, and the significance of the economic value is realized.~~

~~Commissioner Olson was concerned about saving the big pines, as very little remains in this particular area, but he approved cutting for management.~~

APPENDIX III  
Acquisition Map



-  PARK BOUNDARY
-  PROPOSED PARK BOUNDARY
-  STATE OWNERSHIP

R-6E, T-31N

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
BUREAU OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
PARK PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

COUNCIL GROUND S P  
OWNERSHIP MAP  
LINCOLN COUNTY

designed by: J. nash  
drawn by: J. nash  
12-12-78  
drawing number: 114-B

APPENDIX IV  
Soil Survey Map

20



## MAP LEGEND

The Soil Survey map shows the kind of soil, steepness of slope, and degree of erosion on your farm. Each important area differing from the others in Soil, Slope, or Erosion is separated by a black line and marked with a symbol, such as:

Example:  $\frac{144}{5-2}$  144 - 5 - 2: or M1B2

Explanation of Examples: 144 (kind of soil) - 5 (steepness of slope) - 2 (amount of erosion)  
 M1 (kind of soil) - B (steepness of slope) - 2 (amount of erosion)

### OTHER SYMBOLS THAT MIGHT BE FOUND ON YOUR SOIL SURVEY MAP:

<u>Slope Classes</u>		<u>Amount of Erosion</u>	<u>Cultural Use</u>	<u>Waterway &amp; Rock</u>
<u>Regular Slopes</u>	<u>Irregular Slopes</u>			
A = 0 - 22	M = 1 - 62	0 = No apparent erosion	Cultivated Land—L	Natural Waterway—
B = 2 - 6	A = 6 - 12	1 = Slight - less 1/3 topsoil lost	Pastured Land—P	Intermittent Stream—
C = 6 - 12	K = 12 - 20	2 = Moderate - 1/3 to 2/3 topsoil lost	Woodland—F	Continuous Stream—
D = 12 - 20		3 = Severe - more than 2/3 topsoil lost	Idle Land—X	Wet Spot— or
E = 20 - 30			Building & Lots—H	Rock Outcrop—
F = 30+				Quarry or Gravel Pit—

If only the soil type number is shown - for example, (34) - the soil occurs on an A (0-2%) slope with no or slight erosion.

If the soil type number and the slope letter are shown without the erosion symbol - for example, (34-B) - the degree of erosion is none or slight.

For a more complete description of the soils on your land refer to the Soil Description Sheets included in this folder.

Degree of Soil Limitation

For \_\_\_\_\_

- Slight
- Moderate
- Severe
- Very Severe

Soil Map No. BHX-2CC-108

<u>Soil No.</u>	<u>Name</u>
2	Alluvial land wet
11	Pence silt loam
17	Cable silt loam
44	Cable silt loam
64	Amery loam
65	Iron River sandy slopes
105	Padus sandy loam
111	Pence sandy loam
112	Worcester loam
632	Freer silt loam
633	Freeon " Lincoln County SWCD

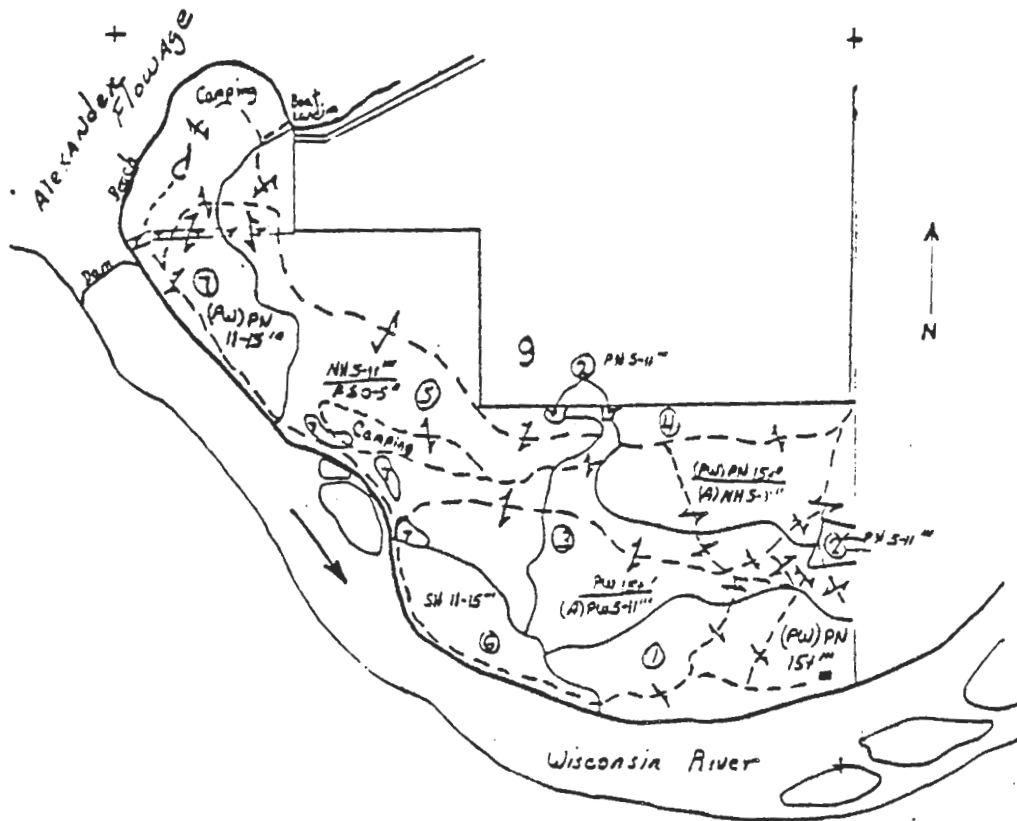




APPENDIX V  
Forest Type Map

AP-2000

# Council Grounds State Park



Sec. 9 T31 R6E  
 Scale 1:15840  
 Photos WCD-14A-203 and 204, 1955

Glen Wiegenstein  
 8/10/71

55  
 V

APPENDIX VI

Past Use

COUNCIL GROUNDS STATE PARK

<u>Year</u>	<u>Day Use</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
		30,813
1962		41,700
1963		42,739
1964		27,722
1965		37,462
1966		148,102 (beach opened)
1968		81,326
1969		67,589
1970		103,622
1971		112,946
1972		138,596
1973		127,514
1974		122,836
1975		153,895
1976		143,665
1977		171,900
1978		

<u>Year</u>	<u>Campers</u>	
		2,648
1962		3,271
1963		2,632
1964		2,874
1965		2,640
1966		3,192
1968		4,139
1969		4,646
1970		5,326
1971		6,603
1972		9,848
1973		8,640
1974		12,068
1975		13,613
1976		14,072
1977		14,575
1978		

APPENDIX VII  
Projected Needs

The 1970 census indicated that Lincoln County had a population of 23,499, an increase of 5.2% over 1960. Projections from the booklet, "Small Area Population Projections for Wisconsin", indicates that Lincoln County will have 26,293 residents by 1990.

The above figures, however, do not indicate the pressures for outdoor recreation being placed on Lincoln County from the urbanized areas of Wausau, Stevens Point, Green Bay, Appleton, Oshkosh, Madison, Milwaukee and Chicago, all within easy driving distance. The urban areas of Wisconsin have been growing faster in population than the rural areas. From 1960 to 1970, the urban population of the state increased by 15 percent with the rural population showing only a 5 percent increase. While the use of outdoor recreational facilities by residents should continue to vary directly with the local population, it will likely constitute a smaller percentage of the total demand. What is important is the anticipated growth of the surrounding urban areas and the impact this is likely to have. In short, northern Wisconsin with its sparsely populated counties, will be increasingly affected by demand for outdoor recreational facilities and areas generated from outside of the area.

Council Grounds State Park is located in Planning Region 10 which includes Vilas, Oneida, Lincoln, Langlade, Forest, and Florence counties. The following statistics have been taken from the State of Wisconsin Outdoor Recreation Plan (1977):

#### Swimming

Region 10 contains 2% of the state's population. Although resident swimming participation rates on the forest are well above average, the waters of the region are sufficient to support resident swimming demands. However, the seasonal influx of tourists increases the total demand enormously. Region 10 supports 15% of the state's swimming participation on an average weekend day. The non-residents engaged in swimming outnumber the residents two to one. It is estimated that additional swimming facilities to accommodate 15,800 additional, swimming occasions per average weekend day, will be needed to meet the 1985 demands within the planning region. Existing park swimming beaches are receiving what can best be described as heavy use at the present time. An additional 25 car beach parking lot with new toilet buildings and change stalls will be provided. The beach area will then be developed to its maximum capacity.

#### Boating

With an estimated 47,700 boating occasions per average seasonal weekend day, Region 10 experiences a higher level of boating participation than any other region in the state. Demand for boat access sites far exceeds the regions surface water capacity. In order to satisfy boating, fishing and water skiing participation over 243 additional access sites are needed within the planning region. Rather than meeting the demand pressure for access facilities, the access development program should focus on the satisfaction of quality boating experiences based on limited amounts of use and on equitable distribution of access sites among water bodies. Shoreline protection will also be needed to preserve those values which attract participants to the lake country.

No additional launching facilities are planned for Council Grounds State Park.

#### Canoeing

The level of canoeing participation in planning Region 10 is the highest in the state. The region supports 17,300 canoeing occasions per average seasonal weekend day or 27 percent of the state's total canoeing participation. Non-residents generate 70 percent of the canoeing occasions. Both non-resident and resident levels are high, approximately three and four times the state's average.

The only two rivers within the region that are used by canoeists to any degree are the Manitowish and the Wisconsin. The remainder of the canoeing takes place on lakes. As canoeing pressure increases on the Wisconsin River, more overnight accommodations will be needed. Emphasis will be placed on developing a cluster of three canoe campsites. Clusters have less impact on the environment and reduce maintenance costs.

#### Developed Camping

Planning Region 10 is endowed with an abundance of quality natural resources and has long been recognized as a popular recreation area for all of Wisconsin and the midwest in general. The region supports 14% of the state's developed camping, higher than any other region in Wisconsin. The most recent estimates indicate that demand for camping facilities is about 30% greater than the available supply. It is expected that the major part of the deficiency will be made up by increases in the size and numbers of private campgrounds. The only new camping facilities to be considered in the park will be an outdoor group-type campground to accommodate 50 juveniles and a 25 unit addition to the existing family campground if demand warrants. The demand for group sites from boy scouts, girl scouts and other organized groups, continues to grow every year.

### Primitive Camping

The existing demand for primitive camping is almost six times greater than the available facility supply. Region 10 provides 27% of the state's primitive camping experiences. Non-residents account for over 60% of the primitive camping occasions. Much of the demand for primitive camping facilities is absorbed by the State and National Forests in northern Wisconsin, and on certain county forests where camping is not restricted to designated sites. Camping is restricted to designated sites on the state parks. Additional primitive canoe campsites are planned in conjunction with the Wisconsin River canoe trail, as previously mentioned.

### Picnicking

Six percent of the state's picnicking participation is generated in Region 10. The availability of quality resources has made this region a prime spot for thousands of visitors each year. Consequently, non-resident picnicking participation is fairly high. About 37% of the picnicking participation is non-resident. The need for additional picnic areas exists in Region 10. The improvement of the east picnic area is proposed for the park in conjunction with the addition of playground equipment and a group barbeque pit.

### Bicycling

Bicycling has been one of the fastest growing recreational activities to be considered in this plan. In 1960, when the vertical spiral in bicycle popularity began, only 3.5 million bikes were sold nationally. By 1970, the figure had doubled to 6.9 million, and by 1972, only two years after that, it again doubled to 13.9 million. In 1974, sales of new bicycles outpaced the sale of automobiles. More recently, bicycle sales have slowed, but still exceed 13 million annually. In 1960 less than 12% of all bicycles sold were for adult use. Today the figure exceeds 50%. In 1975 a telephone survey was conducted by DNR. From the survey it was estimated that there were 880,000 resident bicyclists, some 19% of the state's population. The Bicycle Manufacturer's Association estimates that 136 miles of additional bicycle trails are needed to meet the 1985 demands in Region 10.

Presently, no bicycle trails exist within the park. Each year more visitors bring bicycles to the park. A bicycle trail has been proposed from the City of Merrill to the park. The park roads should be signed as bicycle routes.

### Hiking

This plan is concerned with cross-country hiking or backpacking since facilities or areas for the casual walker are readily available. Hiking often involves a variety of associated activities including camping, fishing, nature study, photography, etc. The State of Wisconsin Outdoor Recreation Plan for 1977 indicates another 136 miles of hiking trails will be needed to meet the anticipated demands for 1985. No additional hiking trails are planned at the present time. Existing trails receive light use. Some potential exists to add a mile or so of hiking trails with the park if demand warrants in the future.

### Cross Country Skiing

Cross Country skiing is attracting a substantial number of new enthusiasts and its participation pattern is similar to that of bicycling in 1968 - 19,500 pairs of cross country skis were sold nationally. In 1974 this figure rose to 550,000 pairs sold. According to a 1975 telephone survey by DNR, there were 103,400 resident ski tourers in Wisconsin or 2.2 % of the state's population. A projection of 316,000 skiers is anticipated for 1980 in Wisconsin. Cross country skiing takes place on the existing hiking trails. Some potential exists to expand this activity in conjunction with the hiking trail if the demand warrants.

### Snowmobiling

Snowmobile participation differs from most other trail activities in that rural residents surpass urban in per capita machine ownership and use. In the winter of 1975-76 there were 241,493 registered snowmobiles in Wisconsin. Snowmobiling will continue to grow but not at the rate experienced in the past several years. The State of Wisconsin Outdoor Recreation Plan shows that sufficient snowmobile trails exist with Region 10 to accommodate the present and anticipated future demand in 1985. No trail networks are planned in the park.

### Horseback Riding

Most horseback riding enterprises and facilities in Wisconsin are privately owned and operated. Trends indicate a growing interest in horseback riding with participation expected to increase 23% by 1995. Public agencies can help fill future voids for this activity by providing trails in areas where they will not be detrimental to the resource. The State of Wisconsin Outdoor Recreation Plan indicates that sufficient trails now exist in Region 10 to meet the present and anticipated demands. Due to the limited amount of land and possible use conflicts, no horse trail facilities are being planned.



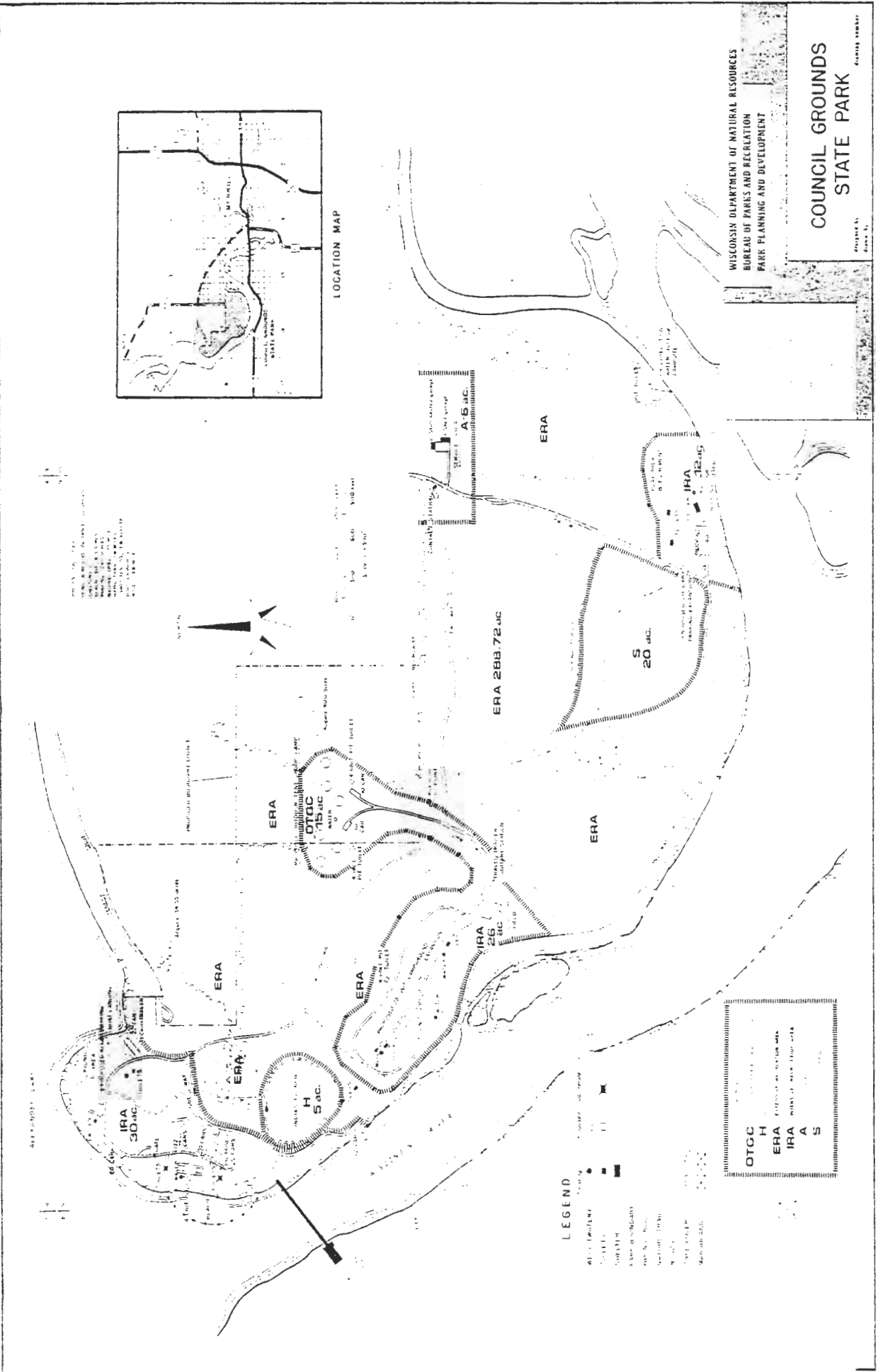


APPENDIX VIII  
Proposed Development Priorities

## Proposed Development Priorities

1. Resurface all park roads and widen two-way roads.
2. Preserve log shelter building in the picnic area.
3. Steps or ramp to water-ski area.
4. Set of two-unit pit toilets and well with hand pump for family campground.
5. East picnic area playground and barbeque pit.
6. Beach area - pit toilets with changing stalls.
7. Expand beach area parking lot by 25 cars.
8. Construct new road to service area.
9. Picnic area and nature trail parking lot - 10 cars.
10. New pit toilets - east picnic area.
11. Expand east hiking and cross-country ski trails.
12. Expand east picnic area parking by 20 cars.
13. Family campground expansion - 28 cars.
14. Juvenile group campground.
15. Three canoe campsites.
16. New park entrance and contact station.

APPENDIX IX  
Proposed Development Plan



DATE: 11/11/77  
 DRAWN BY: J. J. HANCOCK  
 CHECKED BY: J. J. HANCOCK  
 APPROVED BY: J. J. HANCOCK  
 PROJECT NO.: 11111111  
 SHEET NO.: 11111111

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
 BUREAU OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
 PARK PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

**COUNCIL GROUNDS  
 STATE PARK**

PROJECT NO.  
 SHEET NO.

**LEGEND**

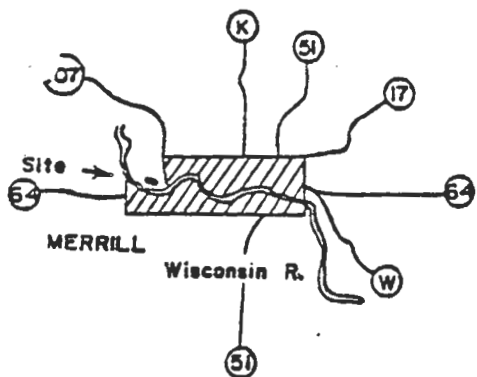
- AREA BOUNDARY
- ROAD
- TRAIL
- STRUCTURE
- WATER
- WOODS
- OPEN SPACE
- ROCK
- GRAVEL
- CONCRETE
- ASPHALT
- PAVEMENT
- GRAVEL DRIVE
- GRAVEL DRIVE

OTGC	OTGC
H	HISTORIC
ERA	ECOLOGICAL RESOURCE AREA
IRA	INTERPRETIVE RESOURCE AREA
A	ARCHAEOLOGICAL
S	SCENIC

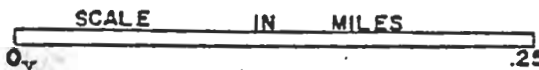
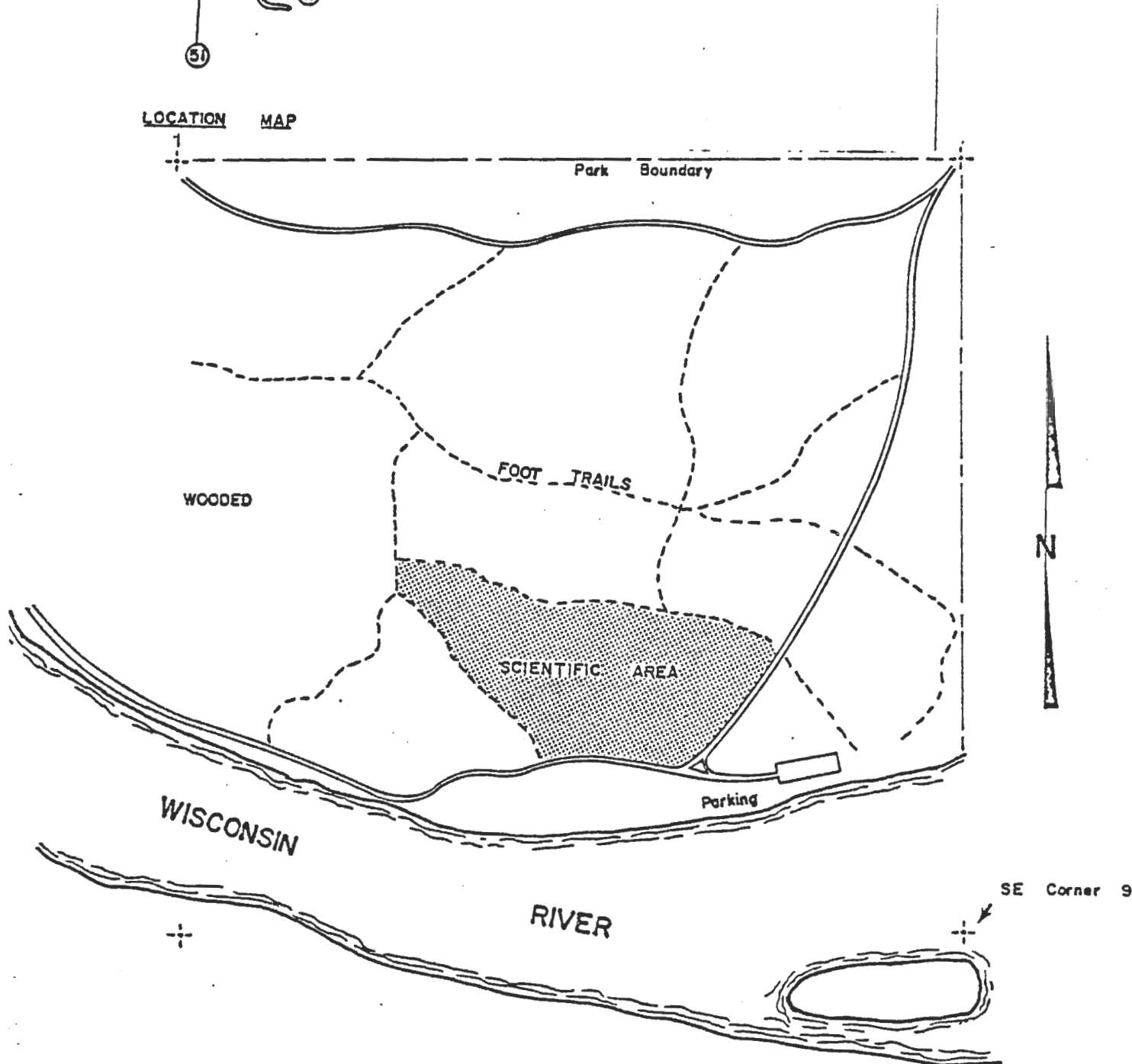
APPENDIX X  
Scientific Area

# COUNCIL GROUNDS PINE FOREST

## SCIENTIFIC AREA



LOCATION MAP



Wisconsin Scientific Areas Preservation Council  
 Scientific or Natural Area Report

Name of Area Council Grounds Pine Forest Inspection Date July 1, 1969

Quarter NW County Lincoln Twp. 3LN Range 6E Sections 9

Boundaries and acreage of About 20 acres in S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE9 north of the park road and bounded proposed or established by trails on the west and north.  
 area and buffer.

Access to area In Merrill from the junction of highways 51 and 107 - follow 107 west and north 2.8 miles, then south on Council Grounds Drive  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile. follow the left fork .4 mile to scientific area.

Description of area: Outstanding features, primary and secondary biotic communities, dominants, understory, and rare species. Topography, soils, geology and archeology. The outstanding feature of Council Grounds is its canopy of white pine. It is an even-aged stand with many of the white pines approximately 20-26" DBH. Red pine is of secondary importance followed by paper birch and big toothed aspen. *Corvulus cornuta* (beaked hazelnut), *C. americana* (hazelnut), *Viburnum rafinesquianum* (downy arrow wood) and blackberries make the understory somewhat brushy. The typical dry-mesic forest understory species such as *Aster macrophyllus*, *Aralia nudicaulis*, *Maianthemum canadensis*, *Trientalis borealis* and *Pteridium aquilinum* are present.

History of land use and limiting factors: \_\_\_\_\_

Administrative information: Landowner, administrator, existing and proposed management. Degree of scientific, educational and recreational use of the area, adjacent lands, and compatibility. The area is within the 278 acre Council Grounds State Roadside Park, just east of the Wisconsin River. It is managed by the Park Manager, Rib Mountain State Park, Wausau. Deer hunting is not permitted - browse moderate on white pine. Trails facilitate hiking and snowmobiling.

Person recommending area; supporting information and references, including quadrangle, other maps and publications. Also, dates of action taken toward designation of area. Recommended by John T. Curtis and established as 30th scientific area on November 7, 1953. Merrill Quadrangle, park map and folder. See Brown & Curtis, "The Upland Conifer Hardwood Forests of Northern Wisconsin" Ecol. Monog. 22: 217-234, 1952. Species list available.

Rev. 3-69

Report by: Bill Tans

Date: July 21, 1969

Department of Natural Resources  
INTRA-DEPARTMENT  
MEMORANDUM

Madison  
Station

Date July 28, 1969

TO: Carl E. Eklund

FROM: Bill Tans

SUBJECT: Council Grounds Scientific Area

Recently I had an opportunity to inspect the pine forest scientific area within Council Grounds Roadside Park. It was one of the early scientific areas established by John T. Curtis in 1953.

We periodically inspect scientific areas to check their condition and to gather information for our files. For each scientific area, and there are now 75, we complete a report and prepare a map for eventual distribution to educators. Some areas have species lists also. Enclosed is a form and map for the Council Grounds Pine Forest. Any additional information or corrections that you have would be appreciated.

When the scientific area was established its acreage was estimated at 20, but the area bounded by the park road and the trails is approximately 13 acres. To the north and west of the scientific area, perhaps an additional 30 acres, is a pine forest which grades into hardwoods. It is equal in quality to the scientific area and presently provides a good buffer zone. It should be preserved in the same manner as the scientific area and perhaps included sometime in the future.

Concerning management of the scientific area, there is the question of whether or not snowmobiles will traverse the area. If snowmobiles remain on the trails and roads no damage will be done, and we hope they will not get into the scientific area itself. Posting the scientific area would be necessary if vehicular use becomes damaging to the vegetation.

Let me know if there is any other information concerning the scientific areas program that I could send you. If you are ever in Madison stop in and see either Cliff Germain or myself.

Bill Tans

BT:md  
Enc.  
NOTED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



APPENDIX XI  
Advisory Council Comments



# CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

STATE OF WISCONSIN

Date: April 3, 1979

File Ref: 2510

To: D. J. Mackie - 8

From: *[Signature]*  
Cliff Germain

Subject: Council Grants <sup>ounds</sup> State Park Master Plan - Recommended SAPC Position or Comments

Generally the Master Plan document adequately covers park history, management alternatives and protection of the SAPC's main interest, the pine type scientific area.

However, there are some exceptions which should be called to your attention.

1. Our map in Exhibit III is in error, showing less than the approximately 20 acres within the boundary of the scientific area. Exhibit X map shows the correct boundary. Therefore the next to the last paragraph on page 7 should be deleted. The indicated expansion to 20 acres resulted from the error on our map, the descriptive form has always listed approximately 20 acres.
2. On page 3 under vegetation potential the SAPC recommends that cutting operations in the park should be restricted to cutting for safety and insect or disease control and not for aesthetics. At least in the natural area of 225 acres.
3. The proposed additional park development seems excessive for the total acreage under consideration (328 acres owned plus 74 acres planned addition) on page 11 - developed park areas total, or nearly 40%.

Total park use has risen from 41,000 in 1963 to 153,000 in 1976 and camping use from 3,200 to 14,000. This suggests that the small park is not under utilized at this time. It seems excessive to try to accommodate any additional camping use.

*Approved by SAPC April 12, 1979*

Demands for more recreational use are real, but this site's limitations must be given more consideration. The scientific area is already cut up by a series of hiking trails.

CEG:jme  
cc: F. Stearns

APPROVED

C. Kabat                      4/4/79  
C. Kabat                              Date

NOTED

C. D. Besadny                      4/20/79  
C. D. Besadny                      Date

7/30/79

# CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

STATE OF WISCONSIN

Date: April 12, 1979

File Ref: 1400

APR 12 1979

To: D. J. Mackie - 8

From: R. D. Lindberg - 9 *rl*

Subject: Council Grounds State Park

The Wild Resources Advisory Council, on April 6, 1979, reviewed and approved the proposed Master Plan for this property subject to the following Council-adopted recommendation:

"Yost moved for Council approval of the plan, subject to the application of the definition of 'public use natural area' (M.C. 1031.1 as approved for change) to the 'natural area' described in the plan and, to the certainty that the integrity of the scientific area is well-protected by management and public use (control) decisions".

The Council requests that a verbatim copy of this recommendation be attached to the Master Plan when submitted to the Natural Resources Board.

RDL:amp

cc: Henry Kolka - Eau Claire

