MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Minnesota Natural Resources Department: Environmental Assessment Files Regarding State Parks

Lynelle Hanson scans the field for Henslow's sparrows. Daily News photo by Dave Kraem

enslow's sparrows, above
d below, sing to their
ates from perches.

HENSLOW'S SPARROW

Rare species studied at O.L. Kipp park

By DAVE KRAEMER
Winona Daily News

In a secretive little park south of Winona is a secretive little bird, the Henslow's sparrow, which this summer is losing some of its little secrets.

The Henslow's, actually a colony of them at O.L. Kipp State Park, is the subject of a summer's study for Lynelle Hanson, a University of Minnesota-Duluth biology student heading for graduate work this fall in Michigan.

Birders have been aware of the Henslow's in O.L. Kipp for years, traveling from Florida, California and New York — even on the advice of Roger Tory Peterson — just to see the elusive little birds.

O.L. Kipp hosts the only established nesting territory for Henslow's sparrows in Minnesota and nesting pairs have been unofficially noted there for the past 20 years.

Now, Hanson is making a documented census of the birds and charting their territory to help guide future park development.

"It's maybe not that they're secretive," says Hanson as she hikes out through the brome grass and queen anne's lace along the prairie ridge top that is the Henslow's habitat. "They do call out 'I'm here, I'm here,' from their perches.

"But and with their olive-colored heads, brownish wings and streaking, they are pretty camouflaged."

As she follows a fading deer trail through her study area, cross-hatched by lath stakes at 30.7 meter intervals which give her a locator grid to work from, Hanson most often finds the sparrows by their whispering "tsi-slick" song.

But even that isn't foolproof. Like prairie poltergeists, or perhaps ventriloquists, Henslow's somehow throw their voices so that Hanson must walk forward until the song is neither ahead of her, nor behind her, and then — maybe — she will find the bird.

Since she began her study on May 4, Hanson has identified 10 nesting pairs of Henslow's sparrows at O.L. Kipp. Earlier, 12 singing males were identified, but not all set up territories. That may not seem like many, but it is a relatively dense population within the area.

Now Hanson can walk out to an area and find the birds in their favorite haunts. And though it was decided not to band the birds to avoid unnecessarily disturbing where they could be found, were questions to be answered.

Hanson is working on those questions, along with developing a land use history of the area and identifying other spots in Minnesota used by the birds.

She has contacted most birders of notoriety in the state and asked them to report sitings of Henslow's sparrows. So far, no independent sitings have been corroborrated, which emphasizes the importance of the O.L. Kipp habitat to the species.

The birds live in the "old field" habitat found at the park — deserted farm fields which are slowly returning to prairie. As a result of the study, a much larger territory than originally thought is used by the birds. Birders historically have checked only the fields near the entrance to the park — fields that are readily accessible and which regularly produce birds.

But Hanson found only four pairs in that area this year. The other six nesting pairs are found in a much larger area behind the park's headquarters which has never been looked at before.

Hanson is collecting information herself, spending most of her days, and sometimes all night — the birds have been known to sing around the clock — in the field

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from perches.

Photo by Bill Drazkowski

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Now Hanson can walk out to an area and find the birds in their favorite haunts. And though it was decided not to band the birds to avoid unnecessarily disturbing them, she can tell individual birds by their voices, by the coloration on their legs, and by their location.

Two have even been named, "First" and "Second," for the order in which they sing at night.

Henslow's were never an overabundant sparrow throughout their range in northeastern United States. Presently in Minnesota and Iowa, the birds are considered rare and local.

The status as a species of concern prompted the study. Hanson's project actually began several years ago, long before she came on the scene.

As Kathy Bolin, regional resource management specialist for the Department of Natural Resources, explains, O.L. Kipp park began considering some development proposals to upgrade the camping, hiking and skiing facilities back in the 1970s.

At that time, the DNR knew of the Henslow's existence, but had no hard data to use in developing plans. Where the birds nested, what grasses and shrubs they used for perches, what and where they ate, how long they stayed, and where they could be found, were questions to be answered.

Hanson is working on those questions, along with developing a land use history of the area and identifying other spots in Minnesota used by the birds.

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Hanson is collecting information herself, spending most of her days, and sometimes all night — the birds have been known to sing around the clock — in the field. But she is also interested in learning from other birders at the park.

Birders who see Henslow's sparrows, or think they have, can call Hanson at O.L. Kipp park or at the Dresbach Motel, where she is staying for the summer.

Hanson's work is funded through the DNR nongame and parks divisions. She is a DNR Minnesota Conservation Corps employee for the summer. The project is unique, Bolin says, because of the cooperation between divisions.

Named by John J. Audubon after his friend, Rev. Henslow, the sparrow has not been studied as much as some birds. That is part of the bird's appeal for Hanson. Her study will add to a scant body of knowlege.

People may ask, why care about a dull brown bird with an unmusical voice, Bolin says.

"They're not showy, like eagles or swans or peregrine falcons. They don't have a beautiful song like an oriole. But they are very important in the scheme of things. It's what we don't know about them that deserves respect."

Fate of Rare Henslow's Sparrow May Depen on Summer Student's Study at O.L. Kipp

Lynelle Hanson's summer job involves a lot of sitting around in the tall summer grass, listening to the birds sing.

Sounds idyllic, but her job requires that she listen for the clunky, two-note call made by one particular type of bird, the Henslow's sparrow.

Her task is complicated by the fact that this small, drab little bird isn't really easy to see, and it looks a lot like several other kinds of sparrows that nest in the area. To make things worse, the female doesn't sing at all.

So why bother? Well, the Henslow's does have one precious quality. It's rare in Minnesota. Rare elsewhere too, and that makes it worth seeing for those among us who like to birdwatch.

The Henslow's sparrow nests in the grassy fields of O. L. Kipp State Park, north of La Crescent. It's about the only place in the state where the Henslow's is known to return every year to nest.

Mountain Bikes or Birds?

So, when park officials began to plan a mountain bike trail for the park, they decided they better learn something about this inconspicuous bird that has drawn visitors from around the United States and even overseas.

"We don't know much about this bird because of its rarity and secretive nature," says Kathy Bolin, resource management specialist with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) office in Rochester. "But we do know that this is the only place in Minnesota it is found every year. Before we develop trails here, we need to know as much as we can about this bird to avoid harming the species."

Enter Lynelle, a recent graduate of the University of Minnesota, an avid birdwatcher. Lynelle began a field study of the sparrow in May that will continue until late August. She will compile her results and submit a report of her findings in September before she enters graduate school at Central Michigan in the fall.

Park officials often have to compromise between park development and disturbing wildlife habitat, but in the case of a rare bird like the Henslow's, special care is needed. Lynelle has learned some things about the sparrow already.

She has found twelve singing males in two patches of the park. One field to the north of the check-in station holds several pairs of birds, while another field to the south holds several more pairs. A grassy field in-between is inexplicably empty of Henslow's sparrows, though it looks identical to the other fields to the human eye.

"I can tell the individual birds apart now by the color of their legs," says Lynelle. Also, the males set up defined territories that they defend from other Henslow's sparrows, usually by singing. Some males are more aggressive than others.

"I have one male I can count on to sing when I bring along a visitor," she says as she tromps out through the grass, stepping carefully to avoid any nests.

Sure enough, one of the males hops into a sapling ash tree, throws back his head and lets go with a loud, raspy, unmusical call best described as a "tsi-lick."

That call really is their most distinquishing characteristic," says Lynelle, in all earnestness. An amateur birder might nod and say "aha, yes." A casual visitor would laugh at this tiny bird's unmusical chirping.

"They really like to sing in the rain," adds Lynelle, as the male continues on with his calling, over and over in seemingly endless repetition.

Lynelle's task this summer is to learn about the Henslow's sparrow, including where to find it, how it lives, and how it might react to a proposed biking trail that would run near its nesting area.

Lynelle's routine includes an early morning wake-up call so she can get to the park by sunrise in her 60's vintage Dodge Dart.

She has one field marked by stakes into a grid pattern, and she proceeds along this grid watching and listening to her subjects. She notes how they sing, when they feed, where they nest, and anything else she observes about the sparrows.

She knows the birds are disturbed by her presence. She says they "get more concerned with me than bringing food to the nest," when she gets too close. She can observe the birds at quite a distance through a field telescope, but they also continue to sing as she gets closer.

The males and females are about the same size, though the quiet females can be tough to locate in the grass. The mating pair signals back and forth by quiet chirps, and the male's duty is to sing, while the female incubates the eggs. Both find food for the chicks.

Lynelle jokes that the sparrows have a flat head, like ancient "neanderthals", but she frets that developing a bike trail would cut some of the birds off from the others.

They seem to like to nest in groups," Lynelle says. Some researchers think the birds find protection from predators by warning each other through chirping.

Lynelle is especially interested in stories other birders may have about the bird. She would like to see if the sparrow nests other places in the area, and she urges people who may know of the bird to call her at the park. She is also looking for uncultivated fields where the bird may nest, and she asks if landowners would call if they have uncultivated fields larger than 20 acres in size that she could walk through to look for more birds.

Will the bike trail be built? Well, that depends somewhat on the results of Lynelle's survey. Bolin says that the decision will be reached by a consensus after parks and non-game management people have a chance to go over Hanson's research and talk about options.

For her part, Bolin says that "I consider O. L. Kipp State Park the premier wildlife park in this part of Minnesota," and the park developers will try their best to protect the Henslow's sparrow from harm or unnecessay disturbance.

O. L. Kipp State Park manager John Wilzbacher, says birdwatchers have been coming up to him for years asking about the Henslow's sparrow, and until a short time ago, he was unaware of the bird. He recalls one birdwatcher with the classic khaki duds, complete with pith helmet, binoculars and English accent who approached him and asked about the sparrow, and he says these fans of the Henslow's and other small birds often go unnoticed because they arrive at the park at dawn to look for birds and leave once most visitors begin arriving.

Persons having a greater interest in these sparrows should contact Lynelle Hanson at O.L. Kipp State Park. Telephone - (507) 643-6849.

John Re
Henslow's
Study

JUNE MONTHLY REPORT

POPULATION SIZE

A total of eight (8) singing males were recorded in the Old Field behind the manager's residence. Five (5) females have been seen in in this area also. In the Old Field across from the contact station four (4) males and two (2) females have been seen. Males and females were distinguished from each other by the following characteristic.. A nonvocalizing Henslow's Sparrow in proximity with a vocalizing one was considered to be female.

TERRITORIES

Many shifts in territories have occurred during the month of June. Although twelve (12) males were present at one time, only eight (8) territories are being actively defended at this time. Two (2) are located in the contact station field and six (6) are found in the alternate field. Three (3) areas have contained adults with food stuff and one (1) area may have a fledgling present.

OTHER SIGHTINGS

Only one other sighting of Henslow's Sparrow has been reported during this season. When the observer, Opal Fitch, and I checked the site at a later date no Henslow's Sparrow was seen in the area. Although many birders in the state have been asked to report any sightings of this species, no reports have been received. I personally have searched a large portion of Winona county and have not heard or seen Henslow's Sparrow in any area other than O.L. Kipp State Park.

BEAVER CREEK

During June, I completed the breeding bird survey at Beaver Creek Valley State Park. The four target species were all located. Only the Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was within the purposed development area. It is noted that this species has been observed in a number of places this season. The pair of Louisiana Waterthrush carrying foodstuff to a specific spot was the highlight of the survey. It can only be assumed that a nest was located in this area. Neither the Cerulean Warbler nor the Acadian Flycatcher were very numerous, but both were heard during each survey day.

LITERATURE SEARCH

Many of the observations that I have been making this summer agree with what is stated in the literature. But, different authors do not always agree with each other. Each article has lead me to another, but overall, very little has been written concerning the Henslow's Sparrow.

THE BLIND

Construction of a temporary blind is underway. Materials were recently purchased. A few problems with the basic structure have yet to be resolved. The blind will be very helpful now that advanced breeding activities are underway.

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

After being contacted by Kathy Bolin, the Winona Herald and the Houston County News featured the Henslow's Sparrow project in recent publications.

SF-00006-03

DEPARTMENT Natural Resource - Region V

STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office Memorandum

TO: Frank Knoke
Environmental & Land Acquisition Specialist

DATE: 5/15/86

FROM: Kathy Bolin KB
Resource Specialist

PHONE: 103-7432

SUBJECT: 1985 Tree Planting Project at O. L. Kipp

For your information, approximately 550 trees were transplanted from the upland plantations to the valley west of King's Bluff. Most of the trees moved were 1 - 3" black walnut. Some green ash of similar size were also moved. The trees were originally planted by Forestry in the 1960's. Because the upland sites were not conducive for good growth development, the trees were moved to the more appropriate lowland area.

The project was bid out and awarded to Reed's Tree Service in Winona for $3,990.00. Transplanting was done by using a backhoe to uproot the trees. Holes were dug with an auger and each tree was heeled in within 2 to 3 hours of having been dug. Soil moisture conditions were good at time of transplanting and the project was completed by the first week in June 1985. The trees were stressed before moving because of the poor site they were planted in. They were stressed by the move and further stressed by lack of rain during the growing season.

Following transplanting there was no rain of any significance for 2 to 2½ months. October 1 it appeared that nearly all trees were dead. Our hope was that some would root or stump sprout in 1986.

Following are the results from a May 2, 1986 random survey:

	Black Walnut	Green Ash	Total
Alive (Stump or root sprouting)	42	20	62
Dead	64	15	79
Questionable	12	1	13
Total surveyed	118	36	154
% survival	36	56	40
% dead	54	41	51
% unknown	10	3	8

overall cost per tree: $3,990 ÷ $220 = $18.00.
40% survival of 550 = 220.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

O. L. KIPP STATE PARK

I. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION

A. Purpose of the Action - O. L. Kipp State Park was created by an act of the Minnesota State Legislature in 1963.

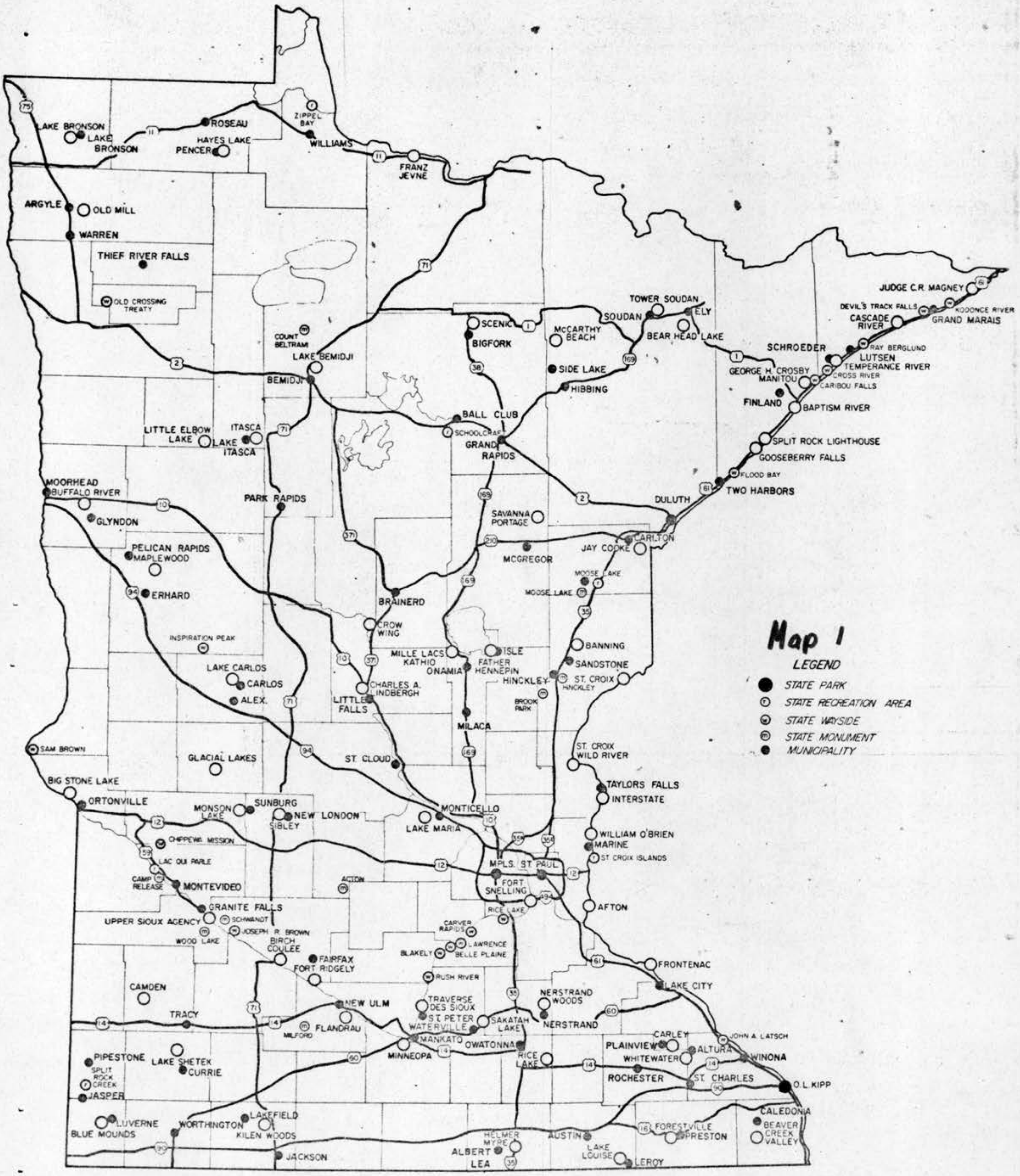
The acquisition and development of private lands within the authorized park boundary, by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, will provide a variety of additional outdoor recreational opportunities for the park user.

The Federal Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, which administers the Land and Water Conservation Fund, (LAWCON), proposes to participate with the State of Minnesota in acquiring these lands.

B. Location and Magnitude of the Project - O. L. Kipp State Park is located in southeastern Winona County, Minnesota (Maps 1 and 2), approximately 17 miles southeast of Winona.

The authorized statutory park boundary encompasses a total of 2,835 acres. Private land ownership within the park is approximately 1,320 acres (48%) of the total authorized acreage (Map 1-Appendix). It is proposed that this private acreage be acquired with assistance of the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The current estimated cost for immediate and complete acquisition of this land (31 tracts) is $800,000. This figure does not include any relocation costs.

A listing of the tracts to be acquired with this application is included in the appendix.


Map 1
LEGEND
STATE PARK
STATE RECREATION AREA
STATE WAYSIDE
STATE MONUMENT
MUNICIPALITY
LAKE BRONSON
ROSEAU
ZIPPEL BAY
WILLIAMS
HAYES LAKE
PENCER
FRANZ JEVNE
ARGYLE
OLD MILL
WARREN
THIEF RIVER FALLS
OLD CROSSING TREATY
COUNT BELTRAMI
LAKE BEMIDJI
BEMIDJI
SCENIC
BIGFORK
McCARTHY BEACH
SIDE LAKE
HIBBING
TOWER SOUDAN
SOUDAN
ELY
BEAR HEAD LAKE
JUDGE C.R. MAGNEY
DEVIL'S TRACK FALLS
KODONCE RIVER
CASCADE RIVER
GRAND MARAIS
RAY BERGLUND
SCHROEDER
LUTSEN
TEMPERANCE RIVER
GEORGE H. CROSBY MANITOU
CROSS RIVER
CARIBOU FALLS
FINLAND
BAPTISM RIVER
SPLIT ROCK LIGHTHOUSE
GOOSEBERRY FALLS
FLOOD BAY
TWO HARBORS
DULUTH
LITTLE ELBOW LAKE
ITASCA
LAKE ITASCA
BALL CLUB
SCHOOLCRAFT
GRAND RAPIDS
MOORHEAD
BUFFALO RIVER
PARK RAPIDS
GLYNDON
SAVANNA PORTAGE
CARLTON
JAY COOKE
McGREGOR
PELICAN RAPIDS
MAPLEWOOD
ERHARD
MOOSE LAKE
BRAINERD
CROW WING
INSPIRATION PEAK
BANNING
MILLE LACS KATHIO
ISLE
ONAMIA
FATHER HENNEPIN
SANDSTONE
HINCKLEY
ST. CROIX
LAKE CARLOS
CARLOS
ALEX.
CHARLES A. LINDBERGH
LITTLE FALLS
BROOK PARK
MILACA
SAM BROWN
GLACIAL LAKES
ST. CLOUD
ST. CROIX WILD RIVER
BIG STONE LAKE
ORTONVILLE
TAYLORS FALLS
INTERSTATE
MONSON LAKE
SUNBURG
NEW LONDON
SIBLEY
LAKE MARIA
MONTICELLO
CHIPPEWA MISSION
WILLIAM O'BRIEN
MARINE
ST. CROIX ISLANDS
LAC QUI PARLE
CAMP RELEASE
MONTEVIDEO
ACTON
MPLS.
ST. PAUL
FORT SNELLING
GRANITE FALLS
AFTON
UPPER SIOUX AGENCY
SCHWANDT
JOSEPH R. BROWN
WOOD LAKE
RICE LAKE
CARVER RAPIDS
BIRCH COULEE
FAIRFAX
FORT RIDGELY
BLAKELY
LAWRENCE
BELLE PLAINE
FRONTENAC
CAMDEN
RUSH RIVER
LAKE CITY
NERSTRAND WOODS
NEW ULM
TRAVERSE DES SIOUX
TRACY
FLANDRAU
ST. PETER
WATERVILLE
SAKATAH LAKE
NERSTRAND
MILFORD
MANKATO
CARLEY
JOHN A. LATSCH
PLAINVIEW
ALTURA
MINNEOPA
OWATONNA
WHITEWATER
WINONA
PIPESTONE
LAKE SHETEK
CURRIE
RICE LAKE
ROCHESTER
ST. CHARLES
SPLIT ROCK CREEK
JASPER
O.L. KIPP
CALEDONIA
LUVERNE
BLUE MOUNDS
WORTHINGTON
LAKEFIELD
KILEN WOODS
HELMER MYRE
AUSTIN
FORESTVILLE
PRESTON
BEAVER CREEK VALLEY
JACKSON
ALBERT LEA
LAKE LOUISE
LEROY


GENERAL HIGHWAY MAP
WINONA COUNTY MINNESOTA
ISSUED BY THE
MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS
IN COOPERATION WITH THE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
BUREAU OF PUBLIC ROADS
DATA OBTAINED AND MAP PREPARED BY THE
PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING DIVISION
OFFICE OF
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING
SCALE OF STATUTE MILES
1969
BASIC DATA 1964
Map 2
Polyconic Projection
North American Datum of 1927
Projection Reference
45th Parallel – 94th Meridian
LEGEND
WABASHA CO.
OLMSTED CO.
FILLMORE CO.
HOUSTON CO.
WISCONSIN
MISSISSIPPI
RIVER
UPPER MISSISSIPPI NATIONAL WILDLIFE AND FISH REFUGE
WHITEWATER
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA
MOUNT VERNON
ROLLING STONE
MINNESOTA
ELBA
NORTON
MEMORIAL
HILLSDALE
WINONA
ST. CHARLES
UTICA
WARREN
HARDWOOD
WILSON
STATE
HOMER
RICHMOND
FREMONT
HART
WISCOY
PLEASANT HILL
NEW HARTFORD
FOREST
SARATOGA
DRESBACH
Beaver (1)
Saratoga (2)
Troy (3)
Bethany (4)
Inset (5)
Inset (6)
Inset (7)
Inset (8)
Homer (9)
Fremont (10)
The Arches (11)
Inset (12)
Inset (13)
Inset (14)
Wilson (15)
Pickwick (16)
Centerville (17)
Witoka (18)
Nodine (19)
Dresbach (20)
Ridgeway (21)
MINNESOTA MEMORIAL HARDWOOD STATE FOREST
O. L. KIPP STATE PARK

C. Timing of the Project - Private land ownership within the State Park System statutory boundaries totals about 53,000 acres. The current statewide acquisition program is the initial step of a major, six year (1976-1982) acquisition program which was developed to acquire most of this remaining acreage.

Completion of the major acquisition objective is estimated to cost more than $43 million. Appropriations for the initial step (1976-77 biennium) totaled $9.5 million for the acquisition of approximately 12,000 acres.

The Division of Parks and Recreation has established its lands acquisition priorities, but completion of these priorities is completely dependent upon willing sellers.

The immediate and complete acquisition of private lands within O. L. Kipp State Park is impossible since the Division of Parks and Recreation does not have the power of eminent domain. Secondly, the estimated acquisition cost of $800,000, exclusive of the cost for relocating about 21 permanent residences, would be prohibitive within current appropriation limitations.

Acquisition goals for the current biennium (1976-77) for O. L. Kipp State Park are for the acquisition of 9 tracts, totaling 631 acres. The estimated cost for these lands is $233,600. At this time, 2 of these tracts have been acquired (237 acres) and 3 more tracts are currently being appraised.

D. Future Development - An inventory of natural resources for this park is currently in progress. This inventory is part of a long range comprehensive management plan for the park. June 30, 1977 is the target date for completion of this plan. If not completed by this date, further developments in the park will not proceed after August 1, 1977 or until the plan has been completed.

As land acquisition within the park proceeds, the development of recreational and supporting facilities will also proceed. Present development plans include a family campground, pioneer campground, picnic area, visitors center, trail center with chalet, service court, and trailer sanitation station. The roads, parking lots, water and sewage facilities necessary to adequately service these areas will also be developed. Present plans also include an extensive trail system.

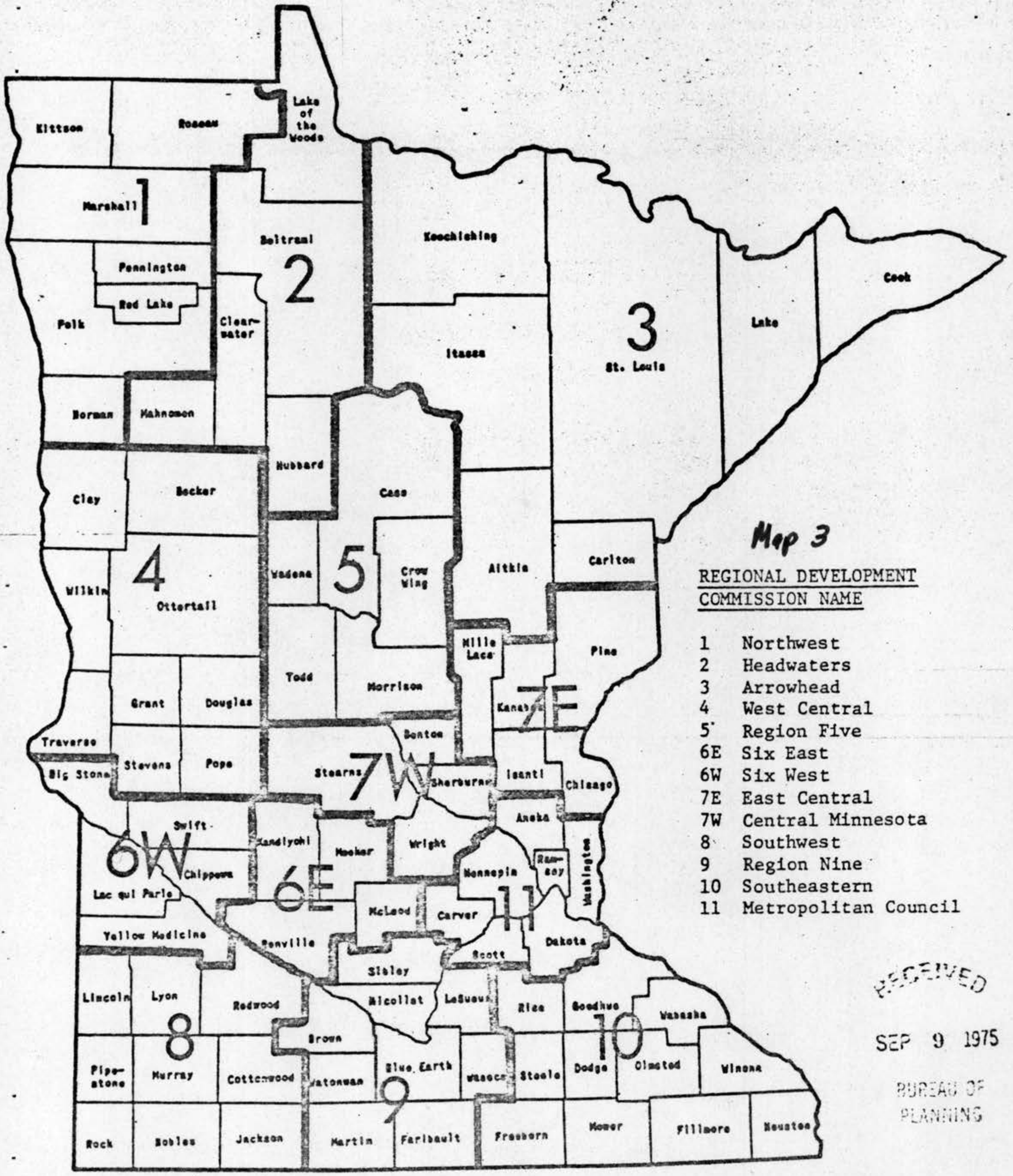
Future park developments will be designed to provide informational, educational and recreational opportunities to the user, while protecting the natural amenities of the area.

E. Recreational Needs to be Served by the Proposal - O. L. Kipp State Park lies within Economic Development Region 10 (Map 3), an 11 county area of southeastern Minnesota. The 1974 State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) estimates a 21 percent state population increase between 1970 and 1990. The bulk of this increase will be in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area and adjacent regions, including Region 10.

A projected deficit of 221 miles of hiking trails, 488 campsites, and 1,366 picnic tables, within region 10, are estimated for 1975 by the 1974 SCORP. Projections for 1990 show a deficit of 2,115 campsites an 2,247 picnic tables.

Specific recreational user data for the park are not available, but based on its proximate location to high population centers, its accessability, and current development plans, estimates of recreational

Minnesota Development Regions



Map 3

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT
COMMISSION NAME

1	Northwest
2	Headwaters
3	Arrowhead
4	West Central
5	Region Five
6E	Six East
6W	Six West
7E	East Central
7W	Central Minnesota
8	Southwest
9	Region Nine
10	Southeastern
11	Metropolitan Council

State Planning Agency
Office of Local & Urban Affairs
9/20/74

use can be projected. The maximum projected usage for 1980 is 80,000 visitor days. This is projected to increase to 150,000-175,000 visitor days by 1990.

As population, mobility, and liesure time increase, the demand for recreational facilities will also increase. Planned recreational developments within the park will be necessary to help balance projected facility deficits within the region.

II. DESCRIPTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

A. Topography - The park lies within an area which remained non-glaciated during glacial periods. This driftless area was formerly a high plain, but with melt water provided by the receeding glaciers, the area has been deeply dissected with streams. This has resulted in a very rough and broken topography (Map 2, Appendix) characterized by steeply sloped valleys, bluffs which may rise to 500 feet or more along the Mississippi River floodplain, and areas of upland plains. Rock outcroppings are a prominent feature throughout this area.

B. Soils - Soils within the park belong to the broad soil group known as the forest and prairie soils of Southeastern Minnesota. The most representative soil association of this group is the Fayette-Dubuque-Rough Land. This association is characterized by steep slopes, many containing rock outcroppings and rough broken areas. The Fayette and Dubuque soils are silt loams which developed from loess material. Predominant use of these soils is agricultural, while the rough land areas support woodlands. These soils are generally light colored and possess good internal and surface drainage. Slope varies from level to greater than 35 percent. Erosion control is a problem, particularly on those soils with a high degree of slope.

C. Climate - The mean minimum January temperature is 6°F, while the mean maximum temperature is 24°F. Mean July temperatures are 62°F (minimum) and 86°F (maximum).

Total annual precipitation averages 32 inches. Snowfall averages about 40 inches annually, and accounts for approximately 25 percent of the total precipitation.

Because of its geographic location, winter temperatures average 10°F warmer than the northern one-third of Minnesota. This may limit winter oriented outdoor activities such as snowshoeing, cross-country skiing and snowmobiling.

D. Water Resources - The surface water resource is of very limited extent within the park. This resource consists of several small, intermittent streams and 8 small stock pond basins.

The ground water table depth varies considerably, ranging from less than five feet near the Mississippi River to 200 feet or more on the tops of the ridges. The level of this resource coincides with fluctuations in the level of the Mississippi River. This resource lies at a considerable depth within the dark.

E. Mineral Resources - The mineral resources within the park appear to be of very limited value. Both the mineral potential and the geologic reliablility of economic concentrations of lead, zinc, and uranium are rated as fair.

F. Flora - The park is in an area which was floristically classified as part of the Big Woods, prior to settlement. The predominant tree species were red oak and bur oak. Associated with these were hickory, black walnut, butternut and black cherry.

Both natural and man-made changes since settlement have resulted in the present floral pattern found in the park. The Big Woods, although probably reduced in acreage from presettlement times, contains a basically simlar species composition of trees, The northern hardwoods type covers a substantial amount of acreage within the park. Characteristic tree species in this type include sugar maple, red oak, basswood, green ash, and elm. The dry prairie type is generally restricted to the bluff top areas. Characteristic species in this type include big bluestem, little bluestem, and prairie clover.

Agricultural land is another major floral type. Predominant crop species are corn, oats, and hay. Types of lesser acreage include open brush, open woods, tree plantations, and bottomland forest.

G. Fauna - Since large acreages of mono-typic habitat types do not provide suitable habitat for many species of wildlife, a good interspersion of different habitat types is essential in promoting the abundance and diversity of the wildlife species associated with these habitats.

A species list of mammals which commonly occur in the park would include the white-tailed deer, red and gray fox, gray and fox squirrel, cottontail rabbit and several species of smaller rodents. Species probably present, but not as abundant as those listed above, include the red squirrel, oppossum, mink, and stripped and spotted skunks.

A wide variety of birds utilize park habitats either seasonally or permanently. A number of species also use the park as a resting area during spring and fall migration periods. Some of the more common avian residents would include the ruffed grouse, mourning dove, Coopers' hawk, red-tailed hawk, red-bellied woodpecker, great-crested flycatcher, wood thrush, blue-gray gnatcatcher, cardinal, lark sparrow, and several species of wood warblers. Amphibians and reptiles found in the park would include several species of frogs, toads, salamanders, and also several species of snakes. The more common of these species are the American toad, leopard frog, and common garter snake.

No rare or endangered species are known to occur in the park. The Mississippi River adjacent to the park is utilized by the bald eagle as part of their midwestern winter range. This river valley is also used as a corridor for migrating peregrine falcons. On August 4 of this year, 5 of these falcons were released along the valley bluffs near Maiden Rock, Wisconsin. This was done in an attempt to re-establish a population of the species in this area.

H. Air and Water Quality - Specific air quality data from the park are not available. General wind direction in this area is from either the northwest or the southeast, but may occur from any direction. Therefore, airborne pollutants from urban centers such as the Twin Cities, Winona, Rochester and LaCrosse may be introduced into the park environment. This is not considered a serious problem.

Water quality data for either surface or ground sources within the park are also lacking. The most widespread sources of surface water pollution are erosion and nutrient runoff. Current agricultural use of the park is not intensive, so this does not appear to be a serious problem. There are no known contamination problems of the sub-surface water supply.

I. Historical and Archaeological Resources - The Minnesota Historical Society has 58 sites listed for Winona County. Two archaeological sites (prehistoric mound sites) are known to be located within the park, both on private land. Since the original survey was conducted during the 1880's, it is not known at this time whether either of these sites remain intact.

There is an extremely high potential for other prehistoric sites occurring within the park. The Minnesota Historical Society intends to conduct a records search and field survey of the park this summer.

J. Transportation and Utilities - Major highways serving the area are Interstate Highway 90, which parallels the south boundary of the park and U.S. Highway 61, which parallels the east boundary of the park. County State Aid Highway 3 connects both of these routes. A Richmond Township road presently provides access into the park from highway 3.

Average annual daily traffic volumes during 1974 in the park area were 3,170 for Interstate 90 and 4,040 for Highway 61. These traffic volumes are well within the capacities of both highways.

County State Aid Highway 3 is presently adequate. The approximately 2 miles of township road providing access to the park will need development. Two other township roads, totally about 2 miles, serve several of the private residences within the park.

Railroad freight transportation is provided by the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul, and Pacific Railroad which parallels the park along the Mississippi River. Railway passenger service is provided to Winona and LaCrosse by Amtrak. Commercial airline service is available to Winona. Commercial Bus service is provided to the urban centers and many of the smaller communities located between these centers.

Utility power and telephone service is available to residences within the park.

K. Socio-Economic Factors - The Minnesota State Planning Agency (SPA) population projections for Winona county and Economic Development Region 10 show a substantial increase between now and the year 2000.

Projected Population

	Winona County	Region 10
1970	44,400	383,400
1980	46,800	410,200
1990	48,900	441,500
2000	50,100	460,300

Based on the 1970 population census data, SPA estimated the employed labor force of Winona County at 17,157 persons. Although the employment opportunities within the county are quite diverse, approximately 50 percent of the employed labor force can be placed into three broad categories: Professional and Related Services (21.2%), Wholesale and Retail Trade (18.3%), and Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (11.2%).

Population data from 1970 estimates 13,004 total households in Winona County. Each of these households averaged 3.13 persons. Average family income for 1970 was $9,632. Approximately 21 permanent residential households are located within the park. These households are primarily commuters who are employed in Winona.

The 1973 state farm census, by the Minnesota Crop and Livestock Reporting Service, showed 301,089 agricultural acres in Winona County and 1,213 farms, an average of 248 acres per farm. This census also showed 5,549 people on these farms or 4.6/farm. Seven farm operations are located in the park. These operations comprise most of the private acreage within the park, of which about 488 acres is used as cropland. Crops produced on these lands are divided about equally between corn, oats, and hay. Average estimates of yield by the Crop and Livestock Reporting Service for Winona County during 1974 were 77.7 bushels/acre for corn and 55.3 bushels/acre for oats. Average annual prices for these 2 commodities during 1974 were $3.45/bushel for corn and $1.65/bushel for oats. This produced an estimated average gross income for each farm operation of $8,331 for these crops. Average value of crops produced on these lands was $175/acre.

Hay was not included in this estimate since it is mainly used as cattle feed.

Taxes levied for 1975 totaled $8,429,599 in Winona County. Amounts levied for each of the concerned taxing units were: County ($1,947,322), School District 861 ($3,230,477), Richmond Township ($10,885), and New Hartford Township ($12,874).

During 1974 tourist-travel expenditures in Winona County totaled nearly 9 million dollars. These expenditures accounted for 3.1% of the gross sales and gave the county a ranking of 23 in this respect.

L. Land Use and Development Trends

1. Agriculture - Approximately 1,320 acres (48%) of the statutory acreage remains in private ownership. Of this acreage, cropland comprises about 37 percent and pasture (open and wooded) 54 percent. About 10 percent is listed as either unused or non-pastured and the remainder is used for residential purposes.

   Because of the very rough and broken topography croplands generally tend to be quite small and irregular in shape. General agricultural trends are toward fewer farms, but comprising larger acreages.

2. Residential - The 21 residential households in the park comprise about 1.3 percent of the private lands. These are year-round

residences occuppied primarily by commuters who are employed in Winona.

There has been an increase in recent years for the purchase of rural lands for residential developments. With the projected increase in the county population, and a projected decrease in the number of persons per household, this trend is very likely to continue.

3. Commercial/Industrial - There are no commercial or industrial sites located in the park, nor will such land uses occur within the park.

M. Existing Recreational Development - Recreational facilities in Winona County in the vicinity of the park include 2 access points, a marina, and 1 resort, all adjacent to the Mississippi River.

The park was opened to the public on July 1, 1976. Therefore, existing recreational developments within the park are few (Map 1-Appendix). A 20-table picnic area with sewage, water and parking facilities is available. Limited trail developments in this area serve two observation areas. A 37-unit family campground and the facilities necessary to serve it is scheduled to open August 1.

Immediate priorities are further development of the trail system and a pioneer campground.

III. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

A. Impact on the Physical and Biological Environment - Soil compaction will occur in the high use areas such as the picnic area and the campground. As the agricultural lands (crop and pasture land) are taken out of production, soil erosion as a result of this land use will be elaborate as to how reveg. will occur

stabilized as revegetation proceeds.

Impacts on the water resources will be minimal. The intermittent streams will not be affected. The existing stock ponds, although small, will serve as surface water retention and ground water recharge basins. Increased recreational use will require greater amounts of water. The demand for the ground water necessary for this use will not be enough to make an impact on the supply of this resource.

No impacts on the mineral resources are anticipated. explain futher

Both beneficial and detrimental, direct and indirect impacts will occur on the flora and fauna resources of the park. Direct loss of flora will occur as a result of recreational facility developments. Heavy use of some of these facilities will also cause a direct loss of flora. However, the recreational areas to be developed comprise a very small acreage of the park. Indirectly, the floral composition of the crop and pasture lands will eventually revert to communities more typical of the undisturbed areas. Direct detrimental impacts on the fauna in these areas will be minimal. Indirect impacts will occur as habitats in development areas are lost, and from additional stress, as a result of human intrusion, placed on species inhabiting areas adjacent to these developments. The changing floral composition of the agricultural lands will adversely affect a few fauna species adapted to such mono-culture habitats, but benefit a variety of species adapted to the more diverse natural habitats. Exact impacts on the flora and fauna resources are difficult to predict. Considering the park as a whole, the beneficial impacts should outweigh the detrimental impacts because of the large acreage of land which will be abandoned from agricultural use.

Curtailment of erosion and nutrient runoff will improve the surface water quality. Ground water quality will not be affected because of the great depth at which this resource lies. Deterioration of the air quality may be expected because of the increase in auto emissions. This is not expected to have a major impact.

B. Impact on Historical and Archeological Resources - If the 2 archaeological sites, known to be located on private land within the park remain intact, they will be protected from destruction. The possibility of other prehistoric sites occurring within the park are extremely high. Necessary precautions will be taken to identify and protect such sites, should they be uncovered, during development construction.

C. Impact on Transportation and Utilities - The major highways (Interstate 90 and U.S. 61) will be capable of handling the additional traffic volume into the area. Access into the park is from County State Aid Highway 3. This access point is less than 1 mile north of Interstate 90. Therefore, no major impacts from the additional traffic is anticipated on highway 3. The park access road is currently owned and maintained by the township. This road will become part of the county state aid highway system, thereby relieving the township the cost of maintaining it. This road will then be upgraded and maintained as the need arises. The two remaining township roads which serve residences in the park will be maintained. elaborate further as to uses of road conflict to 6(f)

No significant impacts will occur to the public transportation systems currently available.

Utility services (power and telephone) will be reduced. Poles and lines not used for park purposes will be removed. Those lines which can be utilized by the park, or any additional lines which may be necessary for developments, will be buried.

D. Impact on Socio-Economic Factors - An adverse social impact will be the relocation of 21 permanent residences. Since the Division of Parks and Recreation does not have the power of eminent domain, acquisition of the lands belonging to these families is totally dependent on their willing to sell. These owners may sell to anyone, but by selling to the State they become eligible for relocation and replacement housing assistance under Public Law 92-646. The acquisition and development fo the park will have positive outdoor recreational impacts. The park will provide such recreational opportunities as camping, picnicing, hiking, and cross-country skiing. Construction of these facilities and the increased traffic volume will have minimal impact on residents living adjacent to the park. The incidence of littering, trespassing, and vandalism which may occur with increased park use will adversely affect these residents.

As previously stated, Winona County collected a total of $8,429,599 from property taxes levied for 1975. The redistribution to the county, school district, and townships concerned, from this total and the estimated tax loss for each unit is shown below:

	Tax Revenue	Tax Loss	% Loss of Tax Revenue
Winona Co.	$1,947,322	$1,993.25	0.102
School District 861	3,230,477	4,146.18	0.128
Richmond Twp.	10,885	1,029.89	9.461
New Hartford Twp.	12,874	234.68	1.823
Total	$8,429,599	$7,404.10	0.088

Except for the revenue loss to Richmond Township, tax losses are rather insignificant.

With the projected usage of the park, some economic benefits will be realized. Using the 80,000 visitor day figure for 1980 and a value of $1.35/visitor day*, the local economy will receive $108,000. This figure will probably be quite conservative since the spending rate is a 1974 estimate. These economic benefits will be most noticeable to local retailers capable of supplying gasoline, food, and lodging.

E. Impact on Land Use - A major impact of the proposed action will be a change in the current land uses. Approximately 1,320 acres, currently being used for agricultural and residential purposes, will be added to the existing public land acreage for outdoor recreational land use. As tracts are acquired the households and other structures on these properties will either be utilized for park purposes or sold and removed. Wells and utilities which cannot be utilized for park purposes will be abandoned. These lands will be managed in order to return them to their natural conditions.

IV. MITIGATING MEASURES INCLUDED IN THE PROPOSED ACTION

Since the park has never been intensively surveyed for historical and archaeological sites, there is a possibility that some sites will be discovered as development proceeds. In an agreement with the Minnesota Historical Society, park personnel and private contractors engaged in any type of construction development in the park are required to watch for archaeological materials. If any such materials are unearthed, they are instructed to halt work immediately and report the findings to the State Archaeologist. The State Historic Preservation Officer will determine what action will be taken, which could include constructing the facility elsewhere, site excavation, or continuing construction if

* Principles and Standards for Planning Water and Related Land Resources.

the site is determined to be of no significance.

The physical and biological characteristics of the park will be taken into consideration for the design and location of future developments. This will be necessary to protect the natural amenities of the area as much as possible.

The tax loss to Winona County, Richmond and New Hartford Townships will be partially mitigated by a reduction in services such as police and fire protection, and road maintenance. The police and fire protection duties will be assumed by park personnel. The county, with state aid, will maintain the access road. The tax loss to the school district will be mitigated by increasing the states' share of the per pupil unit cost.

As agricultural cropland is acquired an arrangement may be made to lease the land for one or two years following purchase. This allows the lessee to plant the same crop that was on the land the year it was acquired. The use of any chemical herbicides is prohibited. Following the harvest of this crop the land is then disked, dragged, and seeded with June grass, perennial rye and fescues. The lessee then has the right to harvest a hay crop from this land the following year.

If a land owner has planted a crop on his land but is unable to harvest it prior to selling to the State, arrangements are made for the owner to harvest the crop at no additional cost to him.

The State will offer a retired landowner, who refuses to sell because of unreasonable hardship, a life tenure on 3 to 10 acres of land surrounding his buildings for residential purposes. This procedure avoids the costs of relocation and also the necessary proceedings for probating estates. This privilege costs nothing to the landowner.

All household owners and tenants who must be relocated because of the proposed action will be entitled to receive relocation assistance payments and compensation under the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act.

V. ANY ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS WHICH CANNOT BE AVOIDED SHOULD THE PROPOSAL BE IMPLEMENTED

Some soil compaction will occur in the high use recreation areas, such as the campground and the picnic area. The direct loss of some flora and fauna resources on the project development sites and in the high use recreation areas will also occur. The loss of approximately 1,320 acres, most of which is currently being used for agricultural purposes. The loss of 21 households, all of which will have to be relocated elsewhere. Increased park visitation will result in increased incicence of littering, and trespassing, and also increased levels of noise and local traffic. This will place an additional burden on the local governmental units to provide service to area residents. Some deterioration of air quality will occur.

VI. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOCAL SHORT-TERM USES OF MANS' ENVIRONMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY

Short-term uses of the environment as they relate to the maintenance and enhancement of long-term productivity are not considered in terms of years, but rather in terms of what must be sacrificed to gain certain benefits.

	Gains	Losses
1.	Public ownership of 2,835 acres of open space to be managed for a variety of outdoor recreational opportunities.	Loss of approximately 1,320 acres of land currently being used for agricultural and residential purposes.

	Gains	Losses
2.	Reversion of approximately 1,320 acres to plant communities more typical of the undisturbed areas.	Relocation of 21 permanent households.
3.	Additional natural wildlife habitats for species indigenous to this portion of the state.	Expenditure of an estimated $800,000 in public funds for the acquisition of private lands.
4.	Improvement of the local economy from money derived from the development and operation of the park, additional employment opportunities, and tourist expenditures.	Loss of 9.461 percent and 1.823 percent of the tax revenues for the two townships; .128 percent of the tax revenue for the school district; .102 percent of the tax revenue for the county.

VII. ANY IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES WHICH WOULD BE INVOLVED IN THE PROPOSED ACTION SHOULD IT BE IMPLEMENTED.

The acquisition and subsequent development of the project area will result in the permanent conversion of agricultural/residential land uses into park and recreational land uses for which the park was originally established by legislative action.

Section 6(f) of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act requires a commitment to recreation and open space in order to receive monies from this fund for acquisition and development. Approval of the Secretary of the Interior is necessary before a change in the use of any fund associated lands can be made.

The development of facilities such as parking lots, roads, and buildings will result in an irretrievable loss of the vegetation for wildlife habitats. The manpower, fuel, materials, and funds used in the planning, acquisition, and development of the project will be irretrievably committed.

VIII. ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROPOSED ACTION

The major alternatives to the proposed action are: (A) no action,

(B) acquisition with no development, (C) project of a smaller scope and, (D) project of a larger scope.

A. <u>No Action</u> - This alternative would mean that approximately 1,320 acres of private lands would remain within the park boundary. There would then be a possibility of conflicting land uses between these and the park land. This could result in adverse environmental impact on the park resources and adverse social impacts for those seeking recreational opportunities.

B. <u>Acquisition with no Development</u> - Considering the projected deficits of recreational opportunities, this alternative proposal would also result in adverse social impacts for people seeking these opportunities. Further overcrowding of existing facilities would result in adverse environmental impacts of these areas.

C. <u>Project of a Smaller Scope</u> - This alternative has been given some consideration, although nothing definite has been proposed. A possible boundary deletion along U.S. 61 has been given some consideration. A number of private residences on small lots adjacent to U.S. 61 are the reason for a possible deletion. The total acreage involved is small, but the expense for acquisition of these tracts and the relocation of the residences could be very high. More study and planning will be necessary before any decision is reached since any boundary deletion will require legislative action.

D. <u>Project of a Larger Scope</u> - The only possible expansion is to the north of the present boundary. Residential development in this area is presently quite active and a boundary expansion would result in a situation similar to that presently existing along U.S. 61. Therefore, proposals for boundary expansion are not currently being given serious consideration. Any action along this line would also require legislative approval.

APPENDIX

O. L. Kipp State Park

Tracts to be Acquired with this Application

Tract No.	Owner	Acres	Est. Cost
2	Heyer	78.60	$30,000
3	Diekrager	33.50	13,000
4	Bauer	197.83	74,000
8	Nolan	60.00	66,000
9	Swim	177.05	8,500
11	Nature Cons.	20.00	14,000
12	Felshein	37.50	7,000
22	Diekrager	14.20	7,000
26	Philips	11.85	14,100

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

690 Cedar Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101 • 612-296-2747

30 August 1976

Mr. Thomas Kucera
Bureau of Planning
State of Minnesota
Department of Natural Resources
Centennial Office Building
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear Mr. Kucera:

RE: O.L. Kipp and Blue Mounds State Parks

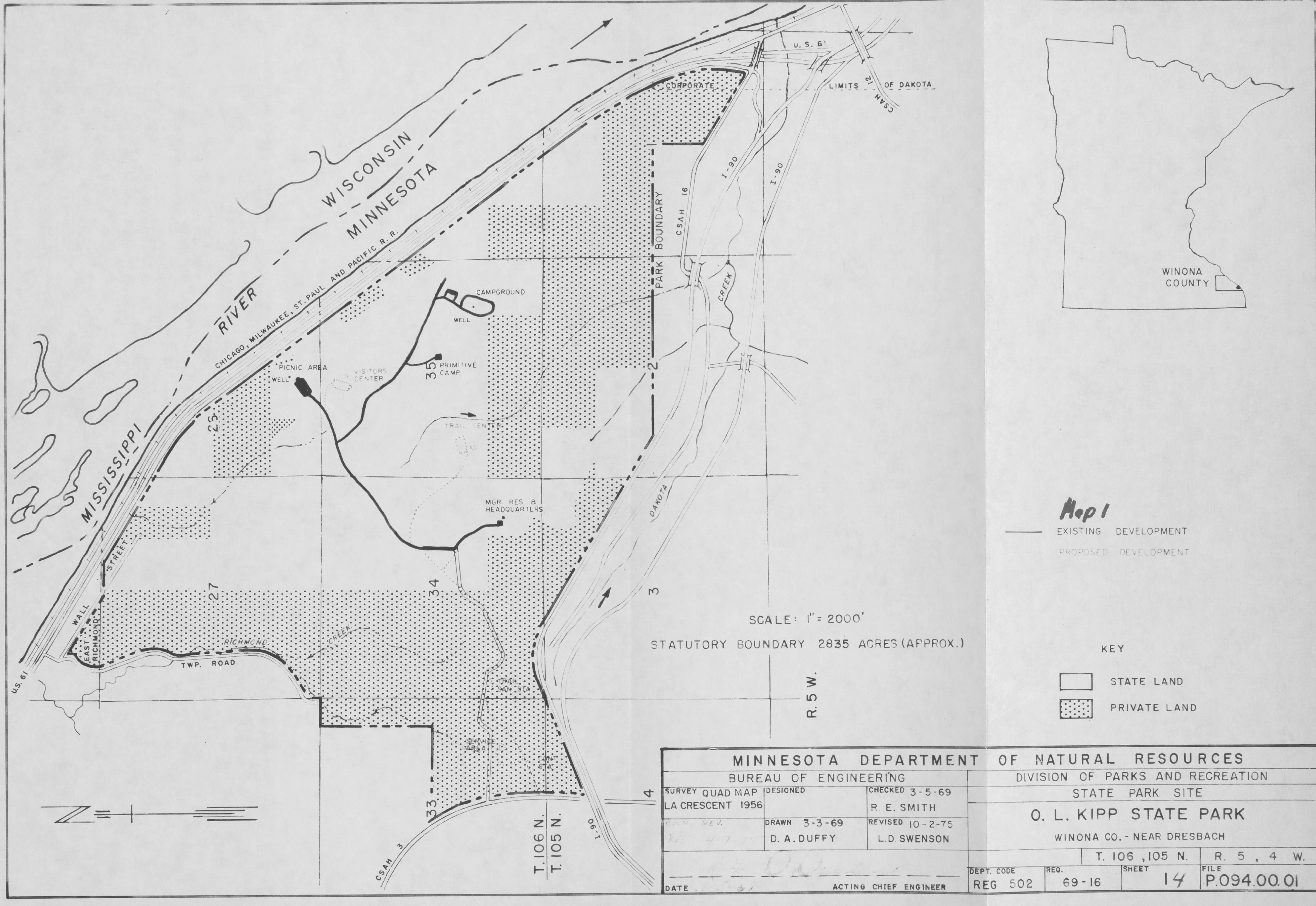
I am in receipt of your letter of August 24, 1976, in which you ask for my comment on whether the acquisition of private lands within the boundaries of the O.F. Kipp and the Blue Mounds State Parks will affect sites of historic, architectural, archaeological or cultural significance. It is my opinion that such acquisition will not affect such sites.

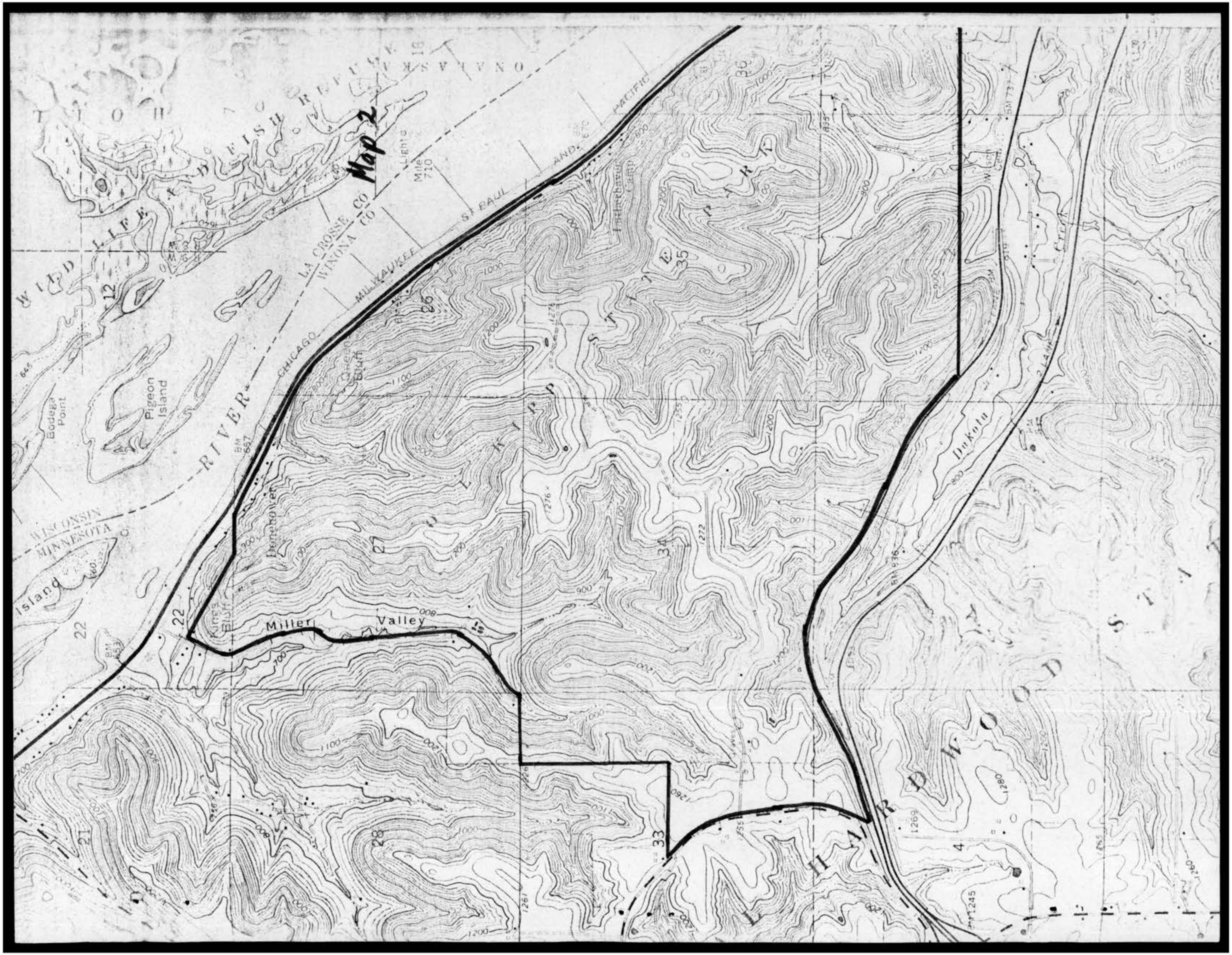
The acquisition should go a considerable distance toward insuring the preservation of such sites within the two parks. I look forward to working with you closely after acquistion is completed and development work within the parks begins.

Sincerely,

Russell W. Fridley
State Historic Preservation Officer

RWF/fr


MISSISSIPPI
RIVER
WISCONSIN
MINNESOTA
CHICAGO, MILWAUKEE, ST. PAUL AND PACIFIC R.R.
U.S. 61
U.S. 61
CORPORATE LIMITS OF DAKOTA
CSAH 12
CSAH 16
I-90
I-90
PARK BOUNDARY
CREEK
CAMPGROUND
WELL
PRIMITIVE CAMP
PICNIC AREA
WELL
VISITORS CENTER
TRAIL CENTER
MGR. RES. & HEADQUARTERS
DAKOTA
WALL STREET
EAST RICHMOND
RICHMOND CREEK
TWP. ROAD
CSAH 3
I-90
26
35
27
34
33
2
3
4
T.106 N.
T.105 N.
R. 5 W.
SCALE: 1" = 2000'
STATUTORY BOUNDARY 2835 ACRES (APPROX.)
WINONA COUNTY
Map 1
EXISTING DEVELOPMENT
PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT
KEY
STATE LAND
PRIVATE LAND
MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
BUREAU OF ENGINEERING
DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION
SURVEY QUAD MAP LA CRESCENT 1956
DESIGNED
CHECKED 3-5-69 R. E. SMITH
DRAWN 3-3-69 D. A. DUFFY
REVISED 10-2-75 L.D. SWENSON
STATE PARK SITE
O. L. KIPP STATE PARK
WINONA CO. - NEAR DRESBACH
T. 106, 105 N.
R. 5, 4 W.
DATE
ACTING CHIEF ENGINEER
DEPT. CODE REG 502
REQ. 69-16
SHEET 14
FILE P.094.00.01



Map 2
WILD LIFE AND FISH REFUGE
LA CROSSE CO
WINONA CO
CHICAGO
MILWAUKEE
ST PAUL
AND
PACIFIC
RIVER
Mile
710
Pigeon
Island
Bodega
Point
WISCONSIN
MINNESOTA
Island
Miller
Valley
Dakota
Creek
HARDWOOD STATE

AGREEMENT
between
MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
and
MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

This Agreement, entered into this 27th day of December, 1971, by and between the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, acting through the Commissioner of Natural Resources, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Chapters 84 and 85, hereinafter called the Department, the Minnesota Historical Society, acting through its Director, hereinafter referred to as the Society, to coordinate effective efforts to develop, maintain and administer for public benefit historic sites, historic districts and monuments and archaeological sites as they now exist as individual entities or as parts of large state land areas administered by the Department of Natural Resources, hereinafter referred to as state land, do hereby define areas of responsibility and authority on state land.

1. The Society or State Archaeologist agrees to provide research and analysis to determine the sites of historic and/or archaeological significance to be set aside, identified and marked with suitable inscriptions for preservation and interpretation on state land. These sites shall be delineated on any inventory and classification of sites prepared by the Society. This process will directly relate to the funding and staff time available for this purpose determined by the Minnesota Historical Society.

2. The Department desires to prepare master plans for the development of facilities, essential to public access and use for recreational purposes as well as updated resource management plans on such land under its jurisdiction so as to avoid and minimize depredation or damage to the historic and/or archaeological areas on such land. Such plans shall be furnished to the Society for their information and guidance. Agreement between the Department and the Society must be reached on plans relating to historical areas before development can proceed. Unless objections are received within 30 days, agreement will be assumed. The Department shall present copies of all developmental plans affecting sites delineated as historical or archaeological on any inventory and classification of such areas to the Society prior to advertising for bid on any construction so that the Society may make studies and investigations of the archaeological and historical values.

3. When archaeological or historic sites are known or, based on investigations, are suspected to exist on state land or waters the Society upon request from the Department shall obtain for the Department a licensed, qualified professional archaeologist to help preserve these sites.

4. The Department shall notify the Society at least forty days prior to the offering for sale or lease state lands under its jurisdiction, timber, minerals, or gravel or the altering of any body of water within designated historic and/or archaeological sites or areas.

5. The Department of Natural Resources will enforce the provisions of the Minnesota Field Archaeology Act of 1963, Minnesota Statutes 138.31 to 138.42, and to subsequent Amendments to these statutes on state land under its jurisdiction.

6. The Society and the Department may prepare and install interpretive exhibits (in existing buildings or proposed buildings) which, in its judgement, on lands or waters administered by the Departments of Natural Resources which the Society and Department jointly determine are suitable for such purposes, and costs of such features shall be met by any funds appropriated for such purposes to either the Department or the Society.

7. The Society shall identify original sites or buildings of historical or archaeological significance deserving preservation, restoration or reconstruction on state land administered by the Department of Natural Resources. The Society and the Department jointly shall determine which buildings or sites are suitable for such historical purposes, and decide on alterations in them to render them more suitable for interpretative and public service purposes. Costs of development shall be met by any funds appropriated for such purposes to either the Department or the Society.

8. The Department shall administer, develop, maintain, and operate all buildings, facilities and utilities as required for public accommodation and compatible recreation features, and enforce all rules and regulations and operate special fee services in these state parks as authorized by statutes... Except in those historical areas as described in Minnesota Session Laws 1969, Chapter 956.

9. This Agreement imposes no liability upon the State, the Commissioner of Natural Resources, or any other officers, employees or agents of the State for the acts or ommissions of any officer, employee or agent of the Society.

10. This Agreement is in force until amended or repealed by mutual agreement between the Department and the Society.

11. This Agreement shall supercede Agreement number 2 entered into by the State and the Society on the 14th day of August, 1968.

12. To keep this Agreement in force the Department and Society agree to meet at least semi-annually to review the operation of this Agreement and to correct problems that may have arisen because of it.

13. This Agreement shall be subject to the Minnesota Historic Sites Act of 1965 and to subsequent amendments to that statute.

14. Nothing in this Agreement shall be contrary to existing Minnesota Statutes nor to Rules and Regulations as adopted by each agency.

15. This Agreement shall be in effect until rescinded or superceded by joint agreement of the two agencies affected.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the respective authorities affix their seals and signatures this 27th day of December 19 71.

Robert L. Herbst
Commissioner
Dept. of Natural Resources

Russell W. Fridley
Director
Historical Society

ADDENDUM
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
O. L. Kipp State Park
LW-27-00730

I. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION

It is proposed to begin work on five development projects in O. L. Kipp State Park this biennium. These projects consist of vegetative management, a cultural and historic investigation, fence removal, developing trails and scenic overlook and road surfacing.

The present estimated cost of these projects is $68,375.

These projects will begin after the park management plans are finalized and submitted.

II. DESCRIPTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

(See assessment LW-27-00730)

III. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

The vegetative management will have both positive and negative impacts on the park's fauna and flora. Those plants and animals not associated with the plant community being managed for will be displaced or eliminated. Those plants and animals associated with the plant community being managed for will benefit by the improvement of their habitats.

The cultural and historic survey will have little physical impact on the area. This impact will be site specific and temporary such as disturbance of wildlife as the investigators move through the park. The important impact will be the information gathered.

The fence removal will cause some site specific disturbance to the park's fauna and flora when the fences are removed. This disturbance will be of a short term nature.

The development of trails and scenic overlooks will cause major changes to the land they are built on. These include removal of vegetation, soil compaction, possible erosion and disturbance of the animals along the trail. When completed, this facility will direct park users to formerly unused areas of the park.

The road surfacing will affect both air quality and aesthetics along the roads by reducing the dust raised by passing cars.

IV. MITIGATING MEASURES INCLUDED IN THE PROPOSED ACTION

The vegetative management will perpetuate the selected plant communities for use and enjoyment by future generations.

The cultural and historic investigation will identify any such sites in the park so that park development will not destroy or change them.

The trail and scenic overlook development will better open areas of the park to public use. With the trails and overlooks, the park use can be directed. Erosion control measures will be taken where necessary.

V. ANY ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS WHICH CANNOT BE AVOIDED SHOULD THE PROPOSAL BE IMPLEMENTED

The trail and scenic overlook development will cause some soil compaction and elimination of vegetation. These will be site specific impacts.

VI. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOCAL SHORT-TERM USES OF MANS' ENVIRONMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY

Gains

1. Public use of this presently undeveloped park.

Losses

1. The expenditure of $68,375, the labor and materials necessary to complete the project.

VII. ANY IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES WHICH WOULD BE INVOLVED IN THE PROPOSED ACTION SHOULD IT BE IMPLEMENTED

(See assessment LW-27-00730)

VIII. ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROPOSED ACTION

This is a new park. The only alternative is no action. Under this alternative no public use would occur at this facility.

PRE-AWARD ON-SITE INSPECTION REPORT

1. State Minnesota Date of Inspection 10-19-76
Project No. Project Title O.L. Kipp State Park
Project Period Type: ____ Acq. ____ Dev. ____ Comb.

2. Inspector Thomas A. Kucera Accompanied by David Novitzki
Title NRS-I Title Park Manager
Agency Dept. of Natural Resources Agency Dept. of Natural Resources

3. Prior Inspections: Date ______ Type ______ State Region
Date ______ Type ______ State Region

4. Findings

	Yes	No
(a) Will the project result in the displacement of any persons, businesses, etc? If so, how many?	X*	
(b) Is the project located on or adjacent to an historic site?	X*	
(c) Is the project located adjacent to a national wildlife area, national fish hatchery, or areas under the small waterfowl production program?	X*	

*Explain below.

(a) 21 permanent residences which are currently located on privately owned lands will be relocated as a result of the project.

(b) 2 archaeological sites (prehistoric mound sites) are known to be located on privately owned lands.

(c) The Upper Mississippi River Wildlife and Fish Refuge is located along the river, just to the east of the park.

General Features

1. List the primary topographic features and present use of the site and surrounding area (stream, lake, forests, beach, terrain, etc.).

Site: Topographically, the site is very rough and broken, being characterized by steeply sloped valleys, high bluffs and areas of upland plains. The land is generally forested except for ~~the~~ prairie on some of the upland plain areas.

Surrounding Areas: Topographically, the surrounding area is similar as is the present land use. Agriculture becomes more prominent outside the park.

2. Is the site generally as described in the project proposal?

The site is as generally described in the Environmental Assessment on the park.

YES

3. Is there reason to believe that this proposal will cause a significant impact on the human environment? Is the anticipated use compatible with surrounding lands? Explain. The proposal will not significantly impact the human environment (land owners) since acquisition is completely dependent on willing sellers, and because of provisions provided by the State and under the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act afforded to willing sellers. The anticipated recreational land use is not incompatible with surrounding land uses.

4. List the major existing facilities and/or improvements on the site: Major existing facilities on the site are the 21 residences. and major improvements include the utility services and the C.S.A.H. and township highways serving the site.

5. Is there a possibility of income accruing from the sale or rental structures; the sale of timber; the lease or rental of land. Explain if yes.
Those building structures which cannot be utilized for park purposes will be sold and removed. Tillable agricultural lands will likely be leased for a 2 year period.

6. Types of outdoor recreation activities suitable for the area:
Swimming ____ Camping ____ Picnicking ____ Boating ____ Fishing ____ Play and Sports Area ____ Hunting ____ Hiking X Other ____

7. What is the recreation potential of the site based on natural features:
Excellent ____ Good X Fair ____ Poor ____.

8. What is the recreation potential of the site based on the planned development:
Excellent X Good ____ Fair ____ Poor ____.

9. Water quality on and adjacent to the area:
Excellent ____ Good X Fair ____ Poor ____.

10. List all environmental intrusions on and adjacent to the site. Describe what effect they will have on the recreational use of the area.
No environmental intrusions are located on or adjacent to the site which would adversely affect the recreational uses of it.

11. Is there evidence of safety or health hazards on or adjacent to the site?
Several very precipitous bluffs are located on the site.

12. Describe the accessibility of the area: Access to the area, via primary and secondary highway systems, is very good as is access into the park and existing facilities.

13. Are there private recreation facilities in the vicinity with which the project may be competing. There are no private recreation facilities within the area with which the project would be competing.

14. List any unique or otherwise significant characteristics on the site that might affect the value or cause development difficulties.
The very rough and broken topography of some areas of the site, places some restrictions on the uses such areas, such as campground and picnic facility developments. This will not affect the value of the area for other recreational uses.

Notes to future inspectors:

Signature Thomas A. Kucera
Inspector

Date 10/19/76

Attach photographs, if available. Provide descriptive captions.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
O.L. KIPP STATE PARK
ADDENDUM

III. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

A. ~~Impact on the Physical and Biological Environment~~ - Soil compaction will occur in the high use areas such as the picnic area and the campground. As the agricultural lands (crop and pasture land) are taken out of production, soil erosion as a result of this land use will be stabilized as revegetation occurs. This revegetation will, for the most part, be the result of natural succession. A herbaceous and shrub understory will develop under the native hardwoods community on the wooded pasture lands. On the open pasture lands the natural revegetation will proceed from the present herbaceous plant community through a shrub community and eventually to the native hardwoods community. Revegetation on cropland will proceed as outlined in paragraph 3 on page 16. After the lessee has harvested the hay crop, natural succession similar to that which will occur on the open pasture lands will also occur on the croplands.

No impacts on known concentrations of major metal resources will occur.

Section II-E of this assessment should be addended to read: A preliminary survey of the mineral potential of the park has found that this potential, and the geologic reliability of economic concentrations of major metals occurring, is rated as only fair.

C. ~~Impact on Transportation and Utilities~~ - The major highways ...., thereby relieving the township the cost of maintaining it. This road will be used solely for park purposes, but the costs for maintainence and possible upgrading ~~[illegible]~~ will be borne by the county with State Aid. The township road which parallels part of the northwest park boundary will remain as such since it provides access to several private residences adjacent to the park. The township road presently providing access to ~~the~~ two private residences in the southern portion of the park will most likely be abandoned. If not abandoned, control of the road will go to the park and used for access to possible ~~[illegible]~~ future developments.

TR. NO.	NAME	ACREAGE	OPT	EP	ACQ	REMARKS Total Co. Tax Pd - 1975
S-1	Boy Scout Foundation	210.00			x	
W-2	Palmer M. Erickson	206.25			x	
W-11	Tax Forfeited	15.85			x	
W-36	George R. Fishel	375.13			x	
W-57	Lucian J. Stremcha	120.00			x	
W-61	Fred Heise	43.80			x	
W-62	Joseph Dettinger	2.37			x	
W-65	Irvin R. Gunn	2.14			x	
W-67	Norman Nelson	12.02			x	
W-68	Herman Thill	11.50			x	
W-72	Wm. Cornforth, etal	74.30			x	
1	Luther Haven	69.00	x	x	x	Aquired
2	Donald Heyer	78.60				145.38
3	Herman Diekrager	33.50				258.62
4	Walter E. Bauer	197.83				387.84
5	Harry Radsek	108.00				255.80
6	Lloyd M. Ferdinandson	115.00				449.08
7	Everett Burkhalter	100.00				?
8	Kenneth F. Nowlan	60.00	x	x	x	Acquired
9	William B. Swim	177.05	x	x	x	"
10	Minnesota Highway Dept.	241.49	x	x	x	No Tax
11	Nature Conservancy	20.00				"
12	Edward Felshein	37.5				269.76
13	Ambrose Kerns	320.00				253.53 200 Ac. N.H. Twp.
14	Virgil Irish, etal	3.5				?
15	Lucian Stremcha	80.00				110.32 40 Ac. N.H. Twp.
16	Ralph Provdfoot	80.00				29.94 N.H. Twp.
17	Marie Mettille	3.0				4.18 - ?
18	Hazel S. Bonneville	8.7				? N.H. Twp.
19	Ralph H. Brown	83.39				279.54 N.H. Twp.
20	Merrill R. Cass	16.00				? N.H. Twp.
21	Merrill R. Cass, etal	4.00				? N.H. Twp.
22	L.R. Diekrager	14.20				? N.H. Twp.
23	William H. Trocinski	42.5				278.00
24	Florence C. Yehle	1.0				? N.H. Twp.
25	Margaret E. Miller	0.8				? N.H. Twp.
26	George C. Philips, etal	11.85				?
27	Walter S. Runyan	0.53				No Tax Since 1969
28	Henry Luedke, etal	0.3				?
29	Frank J. Liskovec, etal	0.4				?
30	Forest S. Clark	0.84				?
31	William Sweeney, etal	0.84				254.68
32	Elizabeth Todt	0.50				104.30
33	Stanley Nagle	1.1				708.26
34	Laura Bescup	27.00				?

37 Tracts unaquired
29 Potential Relocations
↳ Check E. Richmond Plat book

T. 106, R.5W - Richmond Twp. - 879.69 Ac. Private - Taxable

T. 105, R.5W - New Hartford Twp - 448.60 Ac. Private - Taxable

School District - 861 - Winona S.D.

JUL 15 1976

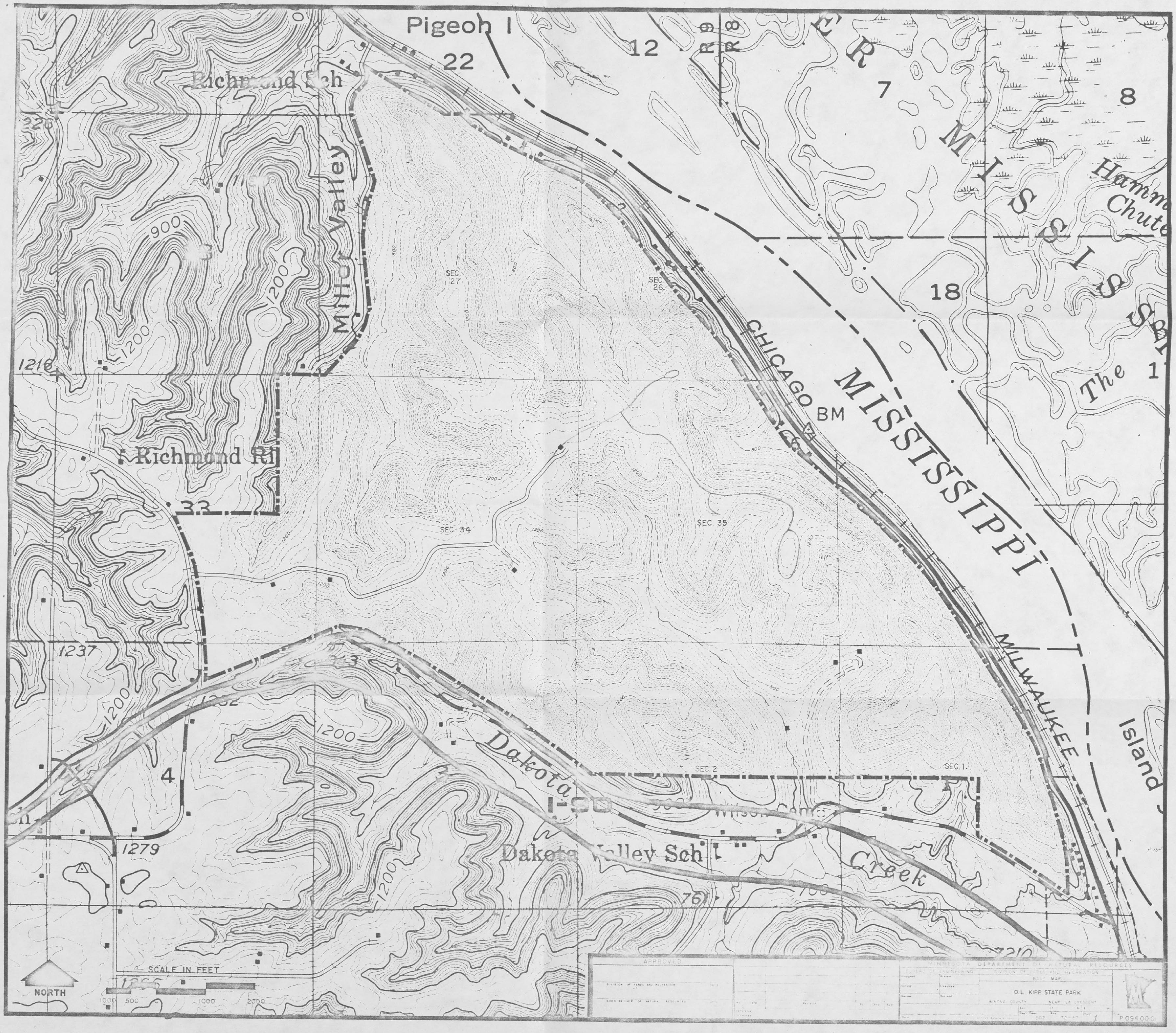
MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES		
BUREAU OF ENGINEERING	DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION	
Designed / Drawn 3-17-72 L.D. SWENSON	OWNERSHIP MAP	
Survey / Checked 7-6-72 D A DUFFY	O. L. KIPP STATE PARK	
Datum	WINONA COUNTY - NEAR DAKOTA	
Date 9-27-7_ Acting Administrator	Sec. / T. 105 & 106 N. / R. 5 W.	
Dept. Code REG 502	Req. 72-2 / Sheet 17	File P.094.00.01

WINONA COUNTY CO.NO. 85 MAP SHEET I MINNESOTA OUTDOOR RECREATION AREA INVENTORY

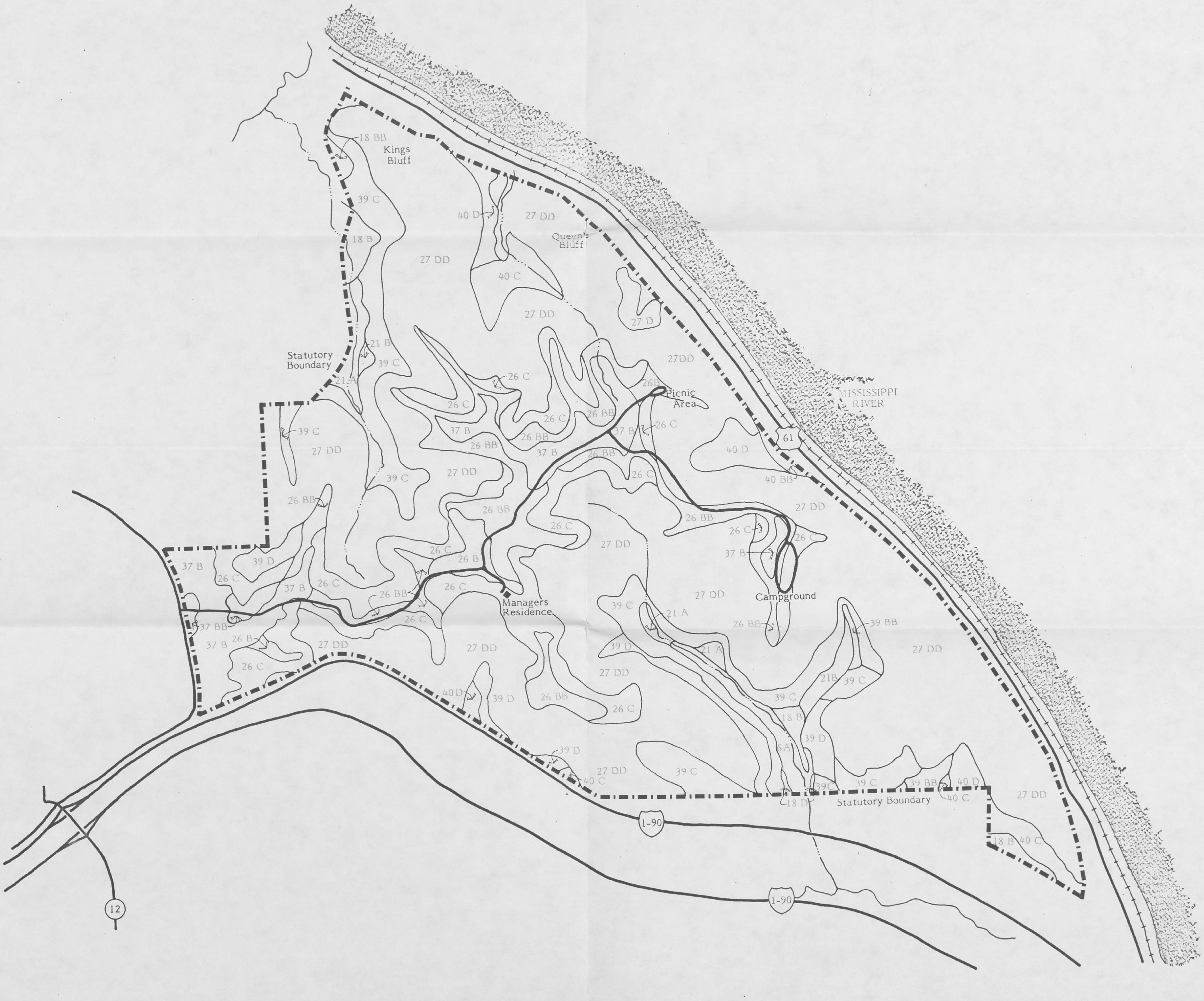
MAP SYMBOL	NAME OF RECREATION AREA	FEE	OWNR ADMN	LOCATION TWP RNG S	MAC. EFS. MCD. SCH.	BOUNDARY ACRES	NO. RESORT UNITS	CAMPGROUND SITES PRIM	CAMPGROUND SITES MOD	GRP. CAMP BEDS	WILDLIFE AREA MANAGED ACRES	GOLF	MARINA CBB	ATH FLD AC	PG	PUB. ACC. PK. SP.	RAMP	PICNIC TABLES	BP CO HO .L	TRAILS NAT	TRAILS HOR	TRAILS SNO	TRAILS HIK	TRAILS BIK	HORS	SKI	FISH	V.FM	G.FM	RANG	WAY	DATE INFO M/YR
2WR	UPPER MISS.R.NAT.W.REF.	1	F04	10808W34	02050	7395.0					7395																					0672
5 A	MISS.RIV.PUB.ACC.SITE-1	1	F04	10605W08	00000	.3										30																0772
7 A	MISS.RIV.PUB.ACC.SITE-4	1	F04	10707W08	00000	.2										30																0772
12 F	MINN.MEM.HARDWOOD ST.FOR	1	S20	00000 00	10033	18560.0																										0672
17WM	WHITEWATER WMA WW	1	S30	10810W34	20009	32481.1					20477																					0372
22 P	O. L. KIPP STATE PARK	2	S40	10605W35	50244	2835.0																										0472
24 P	JOHN A. LATSCH ST. WAY.	2	S40	10809W12	50518	1534.0												15					2									0472
25 P	WHITEWATER STATE PARK	2	S40	10710W20	50280	2862.5						9						105	X	X			13									0472
26GR	WHITEWATER S.P. GROUP C	2	S40	10710W20	00000	.0				132				1																		0472
27 C	WHITEWATER S.P. CG. NO.	2	S40	10710W20	00000	.0			96																							0472
28 C	WHITEWATER S.P. CG. SO.	2	S40	10710W20	00000	.0			49																							0472
29RA	MISS. RIV. WAY. REST /90	1	S50	10504W33	00000	.0																									X	0472
31RA	ELBA WAYSIDE REST /74	1	S50	10710W09	00000	.0																									X	0472
33RA	MINN. CITY WAY. REST /61	1	S50	10807W11	00000	.0																									X	0472
45 A	MISS.RIV.PUB.ACC.SITE-2	1	M80	10504W18	00000	.0																										0672
47 P	LEWISTON CITY PARK	1	M80	10609W14	00000	.0									X			4														0472
49 P	ST.CHARLES CITY PARK	1	M80	10610W19	00000	5.0												18														0372
51 P	JESSENS MUNICIPAL PARK	1	M80	10610W29	00000	33.0																										0472
53 P	GOODVIEW MUNICIPAL PARK	1	M80	10707W20	00000	3.5								2	X																	0472
55 A	MISS.RIV.PUB.ACC.SITE-3	1	M80	10707W23	00000	.0																										0772
57 A	WINONA PUBLIC ACC.SITE-2	1	M80	10707W27	00000	.0																										0772
59 A	WINONA PUBLIC ACC.SITE-1	1	M80	10707W27	00000	.0																										0772
101 P	ROLLINGSTONE CITY PARK	1	M80	10708W05	00000	5.0								3	X			20														0472
106 F	LEWISTON SCHOOL FOREST	1	Z88	10608W08	S0857	60.0																										0672
108AF	LEWISTON JR.SR.H.S.ATH.F	1	Z88	10609W14	S0857	.0								25																		0672
110AF	LEWISTON ELEM.ATH.FLD.	1	Z88	10609W14	S0857	.0								10																		0672
112AF	ALTURA E.ATHLETIC FIELD	1	Z88	10609W14	S0857	.0								5																		0672
114AF	ST CHARLES PUB.SCH.ATH.F	1	Z88	10610W19	S0858	.0								8	X				X													0672
116 F	ST CHARLES SCHOOL FOREST	1	Z88	10610W19	S0858	.0														X												0672
118AF	PICKWICK ELEM.SCH.ATH.F	1	Z88	10605W07	S0861	.0								3	X																	0672
120AF	JEFFERSON ELEM.ATH.FLD	1	Z88	10707W07	S0861	.0								12	X																	0672
122AF	MADISON ELEM.SCH.ATH.FLD	1	Z88	10707W36	S0861	.0								2	X																	0672
124AF	LINCOLN ELEM.SCH.ATH.FLD	1	Z88	10707W36	S0861	.0								3	X																	0672
126AF	WASHINGTON SCH.ATH.FLD.	1	Z88	10707W36	S0861	.0								3	X																	0672
128AF	CENTRAL ELEM.SCH.ATH.FLD	1	Z88	10707W36	S0861	.0								3	X																	0672
130AF	WINONA JR.H.S.ATH.FLD.	1	Z88	10707W36	S0861	.0								1																		0672
132AF	WINONA SR.H.S.ATH.FLD.	1	Z88	10707W36	S0861	.0								30																		0672
134AF	GOODVIEW ELEM.SCH.A.F.	1	Z88	10707W36	S0861	.0								10	X																	0672
136AF	RIDGEWAY ELEM.SCH.ATH.F.	1	Z88	10707W36	S0861	.0								10	X																	0672
138AF	MINN.CITY ELEM.SCH.A.F.	1	Z88	10708W02	S0861	.0								10	X																	0672
140AF	ROLLINGSTONE E.SCH.A.F	1	Z88	10708W05	S0861	.0								10	X																	0672
142AF	STOCKTON ELEM.SCH.ATH.F.	1	Z88	10708W34	S0861	.0								3	X																	0672
167 C	BEAVER THE LAST RESORT	1	P92	10810W16	00000	35.0		50	50						X			15														0272
169 R	BASS CAMP RESORT & C.G.	2	P92	10808W17	00000	120.0	7		12				X					5														0771
171 C	STOCKTON VAL CG & STABLE	2	P92	10708W33	00000	150.0			20						X			24			5				X							1071
172FS	STOCKTON TROUT FARM	2	P92	10608W10	00000	.0																					X					0972
173 M	TWIN BLUFFS MARINA	2	P92	10605W21	00000	1.0	1						XX																			0972
174 C	WE-NO-NAH DAY CAMP	2	P92	10607W15	00000	65.0		7						2	X			8					15						X			0972
175 R	RIVER HAVEN RESORT	2	P92	10504W07	00000	1.0	3						XX																			0771
178 C	WINONA KOA CAMPGROUNDS	2	P99	10606W02	00000	150.0			70						X				X				1									0672

50 RECREATION AREAS THIS MAP SHEET


Kings Bluff
Queen's Bluff
Statutory Boundary
MISSISSIPPI RIVER
Picnic Area
61
Campground
Managers Residence
Statutory Boundary
I-90


Pigeon I
22
12
R9
R8
7
8
MISSISSIPPI
Hamm
Chute
18
Richmond Sch
Miller Valley
900
1200
1216
SEC 27
SEC 26
CHICAGO
BM
MISSISSIPPI
The
Richmond Ri
33
SEC 34
SEC 35
1237
MILWAUKEE
1200
Island
Dakota
SEC 2
SEC 1
4
I-90
1279
Dakota Valley Sch
Creek
761
SCALE IN FEET
1000 500 0 1000 2000
NORTH
APPROVED
DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION
MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
BUREAU OF ENGINEERING
DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION
BASE MAP
O.L. KIPP STATE PARK
WINONA COUNTY
NEAR LA CRESCENT
P 094 00 01

33×37



Kings Bluff
Queen's Bluff
Statutory Boundary
Picnic Area
MISSISSIPPI RIVER
61
Campground
Managers Residence
Statutory Boundary
1-90
1-90
12

O.L. KIPP

	Name of Owner		Acres	Est. Cost	
-2	Donald Heyer A	being appraised	78.60	$ 24,000	30,000
-3	Herman Diekrager A	appraised requested	33.50	10,000	13,000
-4	Walter E. Bauer A	being appraised	197.83	60,000	74,000
/9	William B. Swim	acquired	— 177.05	53,500	66,000
-11	Nature Conservancy A	being appraised	20.00	6,000	8,500
-12	Edward Felshein		37.5	11,000	14,000
22	L.R. Diekrager		14.20	4,500	7,000
-26	George C. Philips, etal		11.85	4,000	7,000
-81	Kenneth Nolan	acquired	— 60.0	11,700	14,100

TOTAL (No. of Parcels) 9 630.53 $ 184,700

No. Parcels	Ac.	Being Appraised	Being Negotiated	$
30	1,600	4	1	150,000

48,900

630.53	190,700
990.40	581,000
1620.93	771,700

Tract	Name of Owner	Acres	Est. Cost
5	Harry Radsek	108.00	$ 33,000
6	~~Roger~~ T. ~~Erickson~~ Ferdinenson Has been approved to be negotiated	115.00	35,000
23	William H. Trocinski	42.50	12,000
27	Walter S. Runyan	0.53	1,000
28	Henry Luedke, etal	0.30	1,000
29	Frank I. Liskovec, etal	0.40	1,000
30	Forest S. Clark	0.84	1,000
33	Stanley Nagle	1.10	1,000
7	Everett Burkhalter	100.00	300,000
13	Ambrose Kerns	320.00	96,000
14	Virgil Irish, etal	3.50	1,000
15	Lucian Stremcha	80.00	32,000
16	Ralph Provdfoot	80.00	32,000
17	Marie Mettille	3.00	1,000
18	Hazel S. Bonneville	8.70	2,000
19	Ralph H. Brown	83.39	25,000
20	Merrill R. Cass	16.00	5,000
21	Merrill R. Cass, etal	4.00	2,000
24	Florence C. Yehle	1.00	1,000
25	Margaret E. Miller	0.80	1,000
31	William Sweeney, etal	0.84	1,000
32	Elizabeth Todt	0.50	1,000
22		~~990.40~~ 970.40	$581,000
34	Laura Besecpe		581,000

Picnic Area
Water level = 616'
Pump. level = 691'
Well depth = 834'

601-724' Sandrock - Eau Claire Gray Hard

ADMIN 1000

STATE OF MINNESOTA 6000

Office Memorandum

DEPARTMENT Natural Resources-Parks & Recreation

Watts - 121 -Area Code if different

TO : Dave Novitzki — 507-643-6848

DATE: May 6, 1976

FROM : Bob Johnston
R. W. Hosfield
Programs Coordinator RWH

MAY 1 1 1976
DNR - REGION V
ROCHESTER, MN.

PHONE:

SUBJECT: Assessment Statements

A critical situation has arisen pertaining to acquisition of land.

Don Davison met with Bureau of Outdoor Recreation in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and upon returning called a meeting involving Clarence Buckman, Richard Myshak and others.

In short, because BOR has increased data necessary for approved Assessment Statements, we are short of manpower. Frank Knoke and Ed Neary are writing these statements - trying to find others who could step in and immediately write productively was fruitless.

These men do spend much time getting data, some of which we believe the Park Managers could get.

In parks where there is an active acquisition program, I am requesting that the Park Managers obtain certain data, in particular that which is on the attached sheets.

051276

DATA NEEDED FOR

ASSESSMENT STATEMENTS

LAND USE (within each State Park)(in acres)

Private Ownership

Open Land	
Crop	529.53
Pasture	388.35
Swamp/Marsh	____
Water	____
Unused	28.5
Wooded Land	
Pastured	368.5
Non-Pastured	116.0
Residential	17.51
Industrial and/or Commercial	____
Sub-Total	1448.39

Public Ownership

Open Land	
Crop (leased)	27.0
Pastured (leased)	____
Recreation Use	
Forested	1038.93
Open	476.12
Developed	3.0
Historical-Archaeological	____
Sub-Total	1545.05

TOTAL STATUTORY ACREAGE 2993.44

ANTICIPATED RELOCATIONS

A relocation is defined as a family, a tenant family, or a business which would be displaced if all private lands within the statutory boundary were acquired today.

Number of Residential year around homes	________
Numer of Residential seasonal homes	________
Number of Industrial and/or commercial businesses	________
Number of farm operations	7

TAX LOSS

Tax loss will be determined on the 1975 taxes due and payable in 1976 for each individual parcel of land within the Park. Legal descriptions are needed for each parcel. Plat books are available at the Court Houses. At the Court House the Auditor, Assessor and Treasurer will help you find the following information:

Name of Owner	Legal Description	Acreage	TAX				
			County	Township	School Dist.	Special	TOTAL

A parcel not wholly within the Park boundary shall be prorated for only that acreage within the Park.

879.16
448.60
1327.76

109.10
197.83
108.00
115.00
100.00
37.50
120.00
3.50
3.00
42.50
11.85
3.88
27.00
879.16

				Parcel
~~Proudfo~~				
Proudfoot	School	861.1 -1	29.94	20009.00
Felsheim E		861.0	269.76	80115.00
Runyon	No Tax	Since 1969		
Phillips ?				
160 Ferdinandson		861.1	449.08	80140.00
120 Rodser		861.1	255.80	80139
50 78.6 Hoyer		861.1	145.38	80187
200 Dickenger		861.1	258.62	801270
40 ?		861.1	186.04	801.90
240 Bower		861.1	23.96 363.88	
Burkholter Cottrell 34				
20 Kearns Dubois 35		861.1	85.18 168.33	80214
40 Stramcha		861.1 861.1	8.88 101.44	
McMille		861.1	4.18	
Todt		861.0	104.30	
Sweeny			254.68	
Nagel			708.26	
Trocinski			278.08	
Nature Conservancy		0 Tax	~~75~~	
Nowlson		861.1	75.42	
Bescup				
Brown		861.0	279.54	
√Cass			2.58	

1987.46

4053.52

RICHMOND: TOWN

	Walter	Runyan	26		O
New OWNERS	George	Phyllips	26		Paul BREZA
	Laura	Bescup Kohle	27	80253	John Kohle
	Liskouec		26		

New Hartford

	Hazel Bonneville (ADTTYD, FOUST)		1	861.0.	370.54
—	Florence Yehle	- DAKOTA - Vill	1	300129.	3.72
DRESBACH -	Margaret Miller		1	~~300~~	

4427.30

O.L. KIPP STATE PARK

Ed Lopstram
726-1630

SITES: 1. 21-WN-5 (Mound Group)
2. 21-WN-7 (Effigy Mound)
3. 21-WN-8 (Single Mound)
4. 21-WN-9 (Mound Group)

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SITES INVENTORY FORM

STATE PARKS MASTER PLAN

LOCATION

Region O.L. Kipp State Park Site Name 21-WN-5

Unit

MHS Map Designation No.

Source Map & Legal Description

SE¼, SE¼ Sec. 1 T. 105 R. 5 U.T.M.

NATURE OF SITE

Historic

Dates of Usage Unknown

Hwy 61.

X Prehistoric

200 to SW of RR.
under 61 - ?
between
road & R.R.

Regional or State Significance (including people or groups involved, major events, etc.) Dakota Group of mounds, just above Dakota, MN., about 30ft. above the river. The group contains 20 mounds of which no.18 has been excavated. (Surveyed July 26, 1884) (over)

Present Condition (including description of prominent geographical & vegetational features, extent, etc.)

Present Use

Publications and/or References

Winchell, N.H. The Aborigines of Minnesota, St. Paul: The Pioneer Co. 1911.

Date July, 1976

Recorder

Minnesota Historical Society
Field Services, Historic Sites and
Archaeology Division

Region

Unit

MHS Map Desig.

Site Name

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SITES INVENTORY FORM

STATE PARKS MASTER PLAN

LOCATION

Region O.L. Kipp State Park - Winona Co. Site Name 21-WN-7

Unit ______

MHS Map Designation No. ______

Source Map & Legal Description ______

SW¼/SW¼ Sec. 22 T. 106 R. 5 U.T.M. ______

NATURE OF SITE

on private land if in park

____ Historic

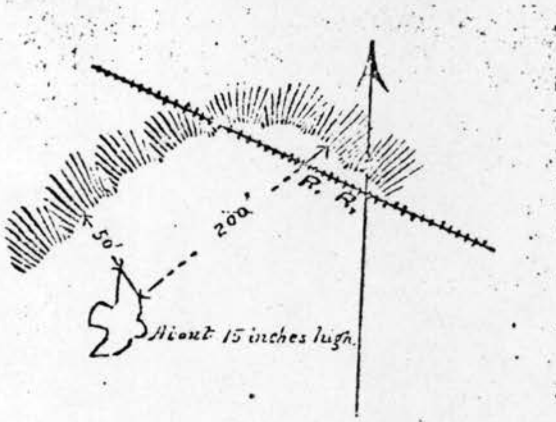
Dates of Usage Unknown

X Prehistoric

200' to SW of the R.R. under 61?

Regional or State Significance (including people or groups involved, major events, etc.) Lone bird effigy mound, just below Richmond, Mn., on a terrace about 24 feet above the river. Mr. Lewis in Science, no. 106, 1885 states that it is 76 feet in a straight line distance from tip to tip of the wings; the body, with head and t[illegible], is 44 feet in length. The body to the first joint of the wings in 15 in. in height.

Present Condition (including descri[illegible] vegeta-tional features, extent, etc.) ______



Present Use ______

Publications and/or References

Winchell, N.H. The Aborigines of Minnesota. St. Paul: The Pioneer Co. 1911.

Date July, 1976

Recorder ______

Minnesota Historical Society
Field Services, Historic Sites and
Archaeology Division

Region

Unit

MHS Map Desig.

Site Name

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SITES INVENTORY FORM

STATE PARKS MASTER PLAN

LOCATION

Region O.L. Kipp State Park - Winona Co. Site Name 21-WN-8

Unit

MHS Map Designation No.

Source Map & Legal Description

Lot 4 Sec. 22 T. 106 R. 5 U.T.M.

NATURE OF SITE

private land

Historic

Dates of Usage Unknown

X Prehistoric

Regional or State Significance (including people or groups involved, major events, etc.) Single mound, a little below Richmond, Mn., about 100 yards from the river bank, 23 feet by 1½ feet.

Just within the boundaries of the park.

Present Condition (including description of prominent geographical & vegetational features, extent, etc.)

Present Use

Publications and/or References

Winchell, N.H. The Aborigines of Minnesota, St. Paul: The Pioneer Co. 1911.

Date July, 1976

Recorder

Minnesota Historical Society
Field Services, Historic Sites and
Archaeology Division

Region

Unit

MHS Map Desig.

Site Name

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SITES INVENTORY FORM

STATE PARKS MASTER PLAN

LOCATION

Region O.L. Kipp State Park - Winona Co. Site Name 21-WN-9

Unit ______

MHS Map Designation No. ______

Source Map & Legal Description ______

N½ / N.E.¼ Sec. 27 T. 106 R. 5 U.T.M. ______

NATURE OF SITE

private land

___ Historic

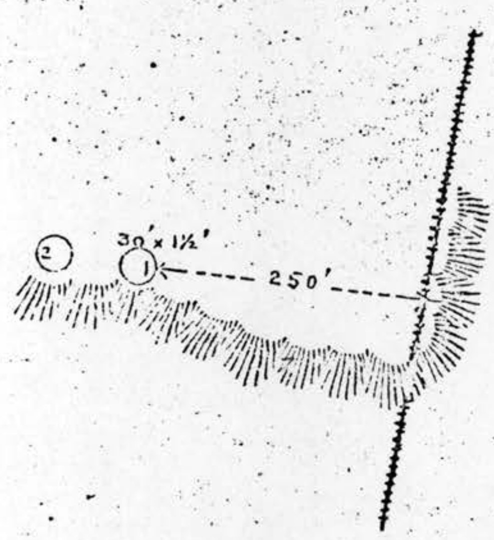
Dates of Usage Unknown

X Prehistoric

Regional or State Significance (including people or groups involved, major events, etc.) Mounds one mile below Richmond, Mn. Group contains two tumuli of ordinary size. Surveyed July 23, 1884.

Within boundaries of the Park.

Present Condition (including description o tional features, extent, etc.)



Present Use ______

Publications and/or References

Winchell, N.H. The Aborigines of Minnesota. St.Paul: The Pioneer Co. 1911.

Date July, 1976

Recorder ______

Minnesota Historical Society
Field Services, Historic Sites and
Archaeology Division

Region

Unit

MHS Map Desig.

Site Name

OL Kupp

	Soil Type	~~[illegible]~~	Slope ~~Stability~~	Permeability	Erosion Hazard ~~Erodibility~~	Potential Frost ~~Heavage~~ Action	Intensive Picnic Areas	Intensive Camp Areas	Paths and Trails	Rec[illegible]
18	Bertrand silt loam		3-8%	0-55", .6"-2"/hr	slight	low	slight	mod[B]	moderate[B]	slig
18	↓		8-15%	0-55", .6"-2"/hr	slight	low	mod[AB]	mod[AB]	moderate[B]	mode
6	Chaseburg-undif.		0-3%	0-60", .6"-2"/hr	slight	mod.	mod[D]	severe[D]	moderate[B]	seve
26	Dubuque silt loam		8-15%							
26	↓		15-25%							
26			25-35%							
37	Dubuque silt loam (clay phase)		3-8%							
37	↓		8-15%							
40	Fayette-Boone Complex		8-15%	0-36, 6.3-20"	slight	low	mod[A]	severe[KL]	severe[KL]	mod
40	↓		15-25%	↓	mod[A]	↓	severe[AK]	severe[AKL]	severe[KL]	seve
40			25-35%		severe[A]		severe[AK]	severe[AKL]	severe[AKL]	seve
39	Fayette silt loam (valley phase)		8-15%	0-73", .6"-2"/hr	slight-mod	mod	mod[A]	mod[A]	slight	mod
39	↓		15-25%	↓	severe[A]	↓	severe[A]	severe[A]	mod	seve
39			25-35%		severe[A]		severe[A]	severe[A]	severe[A]	seve
27	Rough broken land		25-35%							
27	↓		35%+							
21	Wabash-Judson (silt loam)		0-3%	0-60", .6-2"/hr	slight	mod	slight	slight	slight	slight-
21	↓		3-8%	" "	mod.	mod	mod	mod	mod	sligh

OL R[illegible]

eability	Erosion Hazard ~~Erodeability~~	Potential Frost ~~Heavage~~ Action	Intensive: Picnic Areas	Intensive: Camp Areas	Paths and Trails	Recreation Buildings	Sewage Lagoons	Septic Tank Filter Fields
.6"-2"/hr	slight	low	slight	mod[B]	moderate[B]	slight	severe[EF]	slight
.6"-2"/hr	slight	low	mod[AB]	mod[AB]	moderate[B]	moderate[A]	severe[AEF]	mod
.6"-2"/hr	slight	mod	mod[D]	severe[D]	moderate[B]	severe[D]	severe[DFE]	severe[D]
	↓	↓						
.6.3-20"	slight	low	mod[A]	severe[KL]	severe[KL]	mod[A]	severe[AEF]	severe[AE]
	mod[A]	↓	severe[AK]	severe[AKL]	severe[KL]	severe[A]	severe[AEF]	severe[AE]
	severe[A]		severe[AK]	severe[AKL]	severe[AKL]	severe[A]	severe[AEF]	severe[AE]
.6"-2"/hr	slight-mod	mod	mod[A]	mod[A]	slight	mod[A]	severe[A]	mod[A]
	severe[A]	↓	severe[A]	severe[A]	mod	severe[A]	severe[A]	severe[A]
	severe[A]		severe[A]	severe[A]	severe[A]	severe[A]	severe[A]	severe[A]
".6-2"/hr	slight	mod	slight	slight	slight	slight-mod	moderate	slight
"	mod.	mod	mod	mod	mod	slight-mod	"	"

STATE OF
MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
CENTENNIAL OFFICE BUILDING • ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA • 55155

July 27, 1976

Dear Mr. Wiczek:

The information I requested from you on July 26 has been very helpful. In a phone conversation with your office on July 27, I inquired about total property taxes paid by several of the private property owners in the park, and also about the residence status on all private tracts in the park. You're office acknowledged that it may be able to assist me in gathering this information.

Enclosed is a listing, by township, of the owners and a legal description of their properties for each private tract remaining in the park boundary. If possible, I would like to know the total amount of property taxes paid, for 1975, by each of the owners listed in the first section of each township. I have the necessary tax information for the remaining owners listed. For each of the listed owners, I would also like to know the residence status of the tract; whether it is permanently, seasonally, or not being occupied by a residence. Also enclosed is an ownership map of the park, showing the private tracts. This may be of some help to you.

East Richmond ?

I would also like to check on blocks 12-16, located in Gov't. Lots 1 & 2, Section 27 of Richmond Township (shown on map). I have no information at all concerning the ownership and taxes on this property, so anything you could provide would be of benefit. Any assistance you can offer concerning this matter will be very useful to me in completing the assessment on the park. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas Kucera

Thomas Kucera
Bureau of Planning
(612) 296-4807

Enc.

Blocks 12-16 must be East Richmond Village

#80247	Welford L. & Gladys Stanton	Pt. of Lots 9, 10, 11 Blk 8 & Lots 3, 4, 11 & 12 & Pt. of 2 & 13 Blk 15 Ex W 10' Vill. of E Richmond	$86.16
#80248	Junior W. & Berdonna M. Malenke	Lots 3 thru 8 Blk 16 & that pt of Lots 6 , 7 & 8 Blk 7 lying S of Hwy, 20' of Lot 9 Blk 7 & W 20' of Lot 2 & 9 Blk 16 Vill. of East Rich.	511.32
#80249	John W. & Phyllis Lewis	Lots 5 thru 10 and W 10' Lots 4 & 11 Blk 15, Lots 1,2,9 & 10 Blk 16 & that pt of Lots 9 & 10 Blk 7 & Lots 7, 8 & 10	542.36
#80250	John M. & Elizabeth Palmer	Pt. of Lots 11 & 12 Blk 8 & 1, 2, 13 & 14 Blk 15	308.52
#80252	Otis L. & Aletha G. Noe	Blk 14	376.36
#80253	Joan Kahle	Blks 10 & 13 & W ½ Sycamore St.	138.92
#80254	James A. Nowlan & Sandra Nowlan	Par Fronting 180' on Hwy in Blks 10 & 13	53.84
#80255	Ernest & Mary Bloedow	Blks 11 & 12	405.58

RICHMOND TOWNSHIP (T.106, R.5W)

Owner	Legal Description	Acreage	Total Tax Paid	Residence:Perm. Seas., or None
Everett Burkhalter # 80153	E½, ~~NW¼~~ SE¼, S.34	80.00	55.70	Perm.
80186	E½, NE¼, NE¼, S.33	40.00	15.30 (7.15)	None
Virgil Irish, etal. #80221	Part of Gov't Lot 1,S.36	3.50	4.18	none
Marie Mettille 80226	Part of Gov't Lot 2, S.36	3.00	4.18	None
George C. Phillips, etal. 80114	Part of Gov't Lot 2, S.26	11.85	44.38	?
Walter L. Runyan 80115	Part of Gov't Lot 2, S.26	0.53	269.76	None
Henry Luedke, etal. 80112	Part Of Gov't Lot 1, S.26	0.30	28.16	?
Frank J. Liskovec, etal.	Part of Gov't Lot 2, S.26	0.40	Not available	
Forest S. Clark # 80329	Part of Gov't. Lot 3, S.26	0.84	122.50	none
Laura Bescup 80130 State Mn.	W½, SE¼, NE¼, S.27 Part of Gov't, Lot 2, S.27	20.00 7.00	15.42	None

Need the Residence Status on the Following Tracts in Richmond TWP.

Owner	Legal Description	Acreage	Total Tax Paid	Residence
Donald Heyer 80187	Most Of E½, SE¼, S.33	78.60	145.38	Perm.
Herman Diekrager 80190	In SW¼, SE¼, S.33	33.50	258.62	Perm.
Walter E. Bauer 80200-1	Most of W½, S.34	197.83	387.84	Perm.
Harry Radsek 80139	Part of NW¼, S.27 Part of Gov't. Lots 3&4,S.22	108.22	255.80	Perm
Lloyd M. Ferdinandson 80140	Part of SW¼, S.27	115.00	449.08	Perm.
Edward Felsheim	Part of SW¼, S.26 Part of Gov't. Lot 2, S.26	37.50	269.76	Perm.
Ambrose Kerns 80214	Part of S.½, S.35 200 ac. in T. 105	120.00	95.01	None
Lucian Stremcha 80218	SW¼, SW¼, S. 36 40 ac. in T. 105	40.00	55.16	None
William H. Trocinski 80189	NW¼, SE¼, S.33 In NE¼, SW¼, S.33	40.00 2.50	29.94	Perm.
William Sweeney, etal. 80271	Part of Gov't. Lot 1, S.35	0.84	254.68	Perm.
Elizabeth Todt 80272	Part of Gov't. Lotl, S.35	0.50	104.30	None
Stanley Nagle	Part of Gov't Lot 1, S. 35	1.00	708.26	Perm.

NEW HARTFORD TOWNSHIP (T.105, R. 5W)

Owner	Legal Description	Acreage	Total Tax Paid	Residence
Hazel S. Bonneville	Part of Gov't. Lot 1, S.1	8.70		
Merrill R. Cass 20012	Parts of Gov't. Lots 3&4, S.1	16.00	None	None

thru 14574

Merrill R. Cass, etal. 20012	Parts of Gov't. Lots 3&4, S.1	4.00	None	None	
L. R. Diekrager 20068?	In NW¼, NE¼, S.4	14.20			
Florence C. Yehle	Part of Gov't. Lot 3, S.1	1.00			
Margaret E. Miller	Part of Gov't. Lot 4, S.1	0.80			

Need the Residence Status on the Following Tracts in New Hartford TWP.

Ambrose Kerns 20037	Part of N½, S.2 120 ac. in T. 106	200.00	158.46	Perm.
Lucion Stremcha 20005	NW¼, NW¼, S.1 40 ac. in T.106	40.00	55.16	Perm.
Ralph Provdfoot 20009 20039	S½, NW¼, S.1	80.00	29.94	None
Ralph H. Brown 20013 14 15 20008	Parts of Gov't. Lots 2,3,4, S.1	83.39	279.54	Perm none None

JUSTIFICATION

for a

Bill fo establish an O. L. Kipp State Park
Located in Winona and Houston Counties.

This proposed park area is one of 36 recommended by the Minnesota Division of State Parks jointly with the National Park Service as a worthy and necessary addition to the Minnesota State Park system. This site which lies along the Great River Road route was originally suggested for study by Mr. Kipp. The land involved lies on top of the Mississippi River Valley bluffs overlooking the valley below. It would provide unusually beautiful camping and picnicking opportunities

No funds are requested in connection with this bill inasmuch as lands involved can be purchased by the Highway Department with federal funds on a non-matching basis. In other words, 3% of federal allocations can be used for the purchase of these and similar lands abutting a major trunk highway without any matching requirement of State funds.

A history of Mr. Kipp is attached.

The bill is sponsored by Professional Engineering Societies.

ORIN L. KIPP

February 17, 1955

Orin L. Kipp, the "Mr. Highways of Minnesota", completed 50 years in the Engineering profession while serving as a consultant to the Minnesota Highway Department in the location and design of interstate highways in the Twin City Metropolitan area.

A member of the Minnesota Highway Department since 1917, he served until his retirement in 1955 in various capacities, as construction engineer, chief engineer, and finally as assistant commissioner.

He came to the department prior to the establishment of the present trunk highway system, and until his retirement, every set of engineering plans for every construction project undertaken by the state throughout the entire history of the department until his retirement, bore his signature and stamp of approval. No other living person has been so intimately familiar with all of the thousands of construction projects which have gone into the development of the Minnesota trunk highway system.

He was an active member of the Committee on Road Design and the operating Association of State Highway Officials, and has also been a member of the subcommittees of that organization on Administrative Practices and Highway Finances. He was a long-time member of the National Highway Research Board and served on that organization's Committees on Highway Costs, Highway Design, Rigid Pavement Design and the subcommittee on Parking of the Committee on Traffic and Operations.

His activities also included membership on the American Public Works Association's Committee on Street and Highway Traffic, and was selected for an A.P.W.A. Service Award for 1950 in recognition of his long and distinguished record in public service. He was also a member of the Committee on Pedestrian Problems of the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators.

Until his death on February 17, 1955, he served for many years as a member of the Mississippi Valley Conference of State Highway Departments and served that Parkway Planning Commission.

MAMMALS, O. L. KIPP STATE PARK

Species	Abundance	Comments
White-tailed deer	C	
Mule deer	?	One buck was shot near Witoka this past fall.
Black bear		
Elk		Present in area at time of settlement, but now ~~extinct~~ extirpated
Antelope		
Buffalo		
Jack rabbit	R	
Cottontail rabbit	C	
Fox squirrel	C	
Gray squirrel	C	
Red squirrel	O	
Woodchuck	C	
Oppossum	O	
Beaver	C	
Muskrat	C	
Mink	C	
Coyote	R-O	Appears to be on increase.
Red fox	C	Recently at low population because of mar outbreak in early 1970's.
Gray foy	C	
Raccoon	C	
Badger	O	
Spotted skunk	O	
Stripped skunk	C	
Bobcat	?	Potential exists, although not present.
Otter	?	
Common mole		
Masked shrew		
Short-tail shrew		
Little brown bat		
Big brown bat		
Keen's little brown bat		
Thirteen-lined ground squirrel		
Eastern chipmunk		
Southern flying squirrel		Found in area, but no estimate of abundance
Pocket gopher		
Harvest mouse		
Deer mouse		
White-footed mouse		
Meadow vole		
Praire vole		
Meadow jumping mouse		
Long-tailed weasel		
Least weasel		
Norway rat		
House mouse		

MAMMALS, O. L. KIPP STATE PARK

Species	Abundance	Comments
White-tailed deer	C	
Mule deer	?	One buck was shot near Witoka this past fall.
Black bear IN NORTHERN MN		
Elk		Present in area at time of settlement, but now extinct
Antelope } EXTINCT IN MN.		
Buffalo		
Jack rabbit	R	
Cottontail rabbit	C	
Fox squirrel	C	
Gray squirrel	C	
Red squirrel	O	
Woodchuck	C	
Oppossum	O	
Beaver	C	
Muskrat	C	
Mink	C	
Coyote	R-O	Appears to be on increase
Red fox	C	Recently at low population because of m outbreak in early 1970's
Gray foy	C	
Raccoon	C	
Badger	O	
Spotted skunk	O	
Stripped skunk	C	
Bobcat - UNPROTECTED -	HABITAT VULNERABLE	Potential exists, although not present.
Otter	?	
Common mole		
Makked shreš		
Short-tail shrew		
Little brown bat		
Big brown bat		
Keen's little brown bat		
Thirteen-lined ground squirrel		
Eastern chipmunk		
Southern flying squirrel		Found in area, but no estimate of abunddace
Pocket gopher		
Harvest mouse		
Deer mouse		
White-footed mouse		
Meadow vole		
Praire vole		
Meadow jumping mouse		
Long-tailed weasel		
Least weasel		
Norway rat		
House mouse		

GAME BIRDS, O. L. KIPP

SPECIES	ABUNDANCE	COMMENTS
Ruffed Grouse	C	
Pheasant	O	
Hungarian Partridge	O-R	
Bobwhite Quail	R	THREATENED (PROTECTED)
Wild Turkey	?	Park area and/or vicinity selected as future release site.
Mourning Dove	C	
Woodcock	O	
Woodduck	C	

GAME BIRDS, O. L. KIPP

SPECIES	ABUNDANCE	COMMENTS
Ruffed Grouse	C	
Pheasant	O	
Hungarian Partridge	O-R	
Bobwhite Quail	R	
Wild Turkey	?	Park area and/or vicinity selected as future release site.
Mourning Dove	C	
Woodcock	O	
Woodduck	C	

O.L Kipp Amphibian & Reptiles

Bufo americanus - American Toad

Hyla versicolor - Common Tree Frog

Rare → Pseudacris t. triseriata ~~For~~ Swamp Tree frog

Threatened
Rare → Acris crepitans blanchardi Cricket Frog

Rana catesbeiana - Bull frog

Rana pipiens pipiens - Leopard frog

Rana clamitans melanota Green Frog

CAUTION: HABITAT Ambystoma t. tigrinum Tiger salamander

VULNERABLE. Plethodon c. cinereus ??? Red-backed salamander

Turtles:

Chelydra serpentina Snapping Turtle merits watching due to Habitat vulnerability

Trionyx muticus Brown soft-shelled Turtle

Snakes:

Thamnophis s. sirtalis : Common garter snake

Thamnophis s parietalis Red-sided garter snake

Thamnophis radix . Plains garter snakes (in sloughs)

Natrix s. sipedon - Common Water Snake

Storeria dekayi : Dekay's Snake

/ Storeria occipitomaculata Red-bellied snake

Heterodon platyrhinos : Eastern Hog Nosed Snake

Diadophis p edwardsi : Eastern Ring-necked Snake

Coluber c. foxi

Elaphe vulpina Fox Snake

Pituophis m. sayi : Bull Snake

(L Kipp Amph & Rep cont.)

(Snakes cont.)

Lampropeltis t. triangulum : Milk Snake

Crotalus h. horridus : Timber Rattlesnake

Lizards.

Sp. Needs watching → Cnemidophorus sexlineatus : Six-lined Racer

Threatened → Eumeces fasciatus ???? : Blue-Tailed Skink

ADMIN. 1000A

3

STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office Memorandum

DEPARTMENT DNR - Region V - Wildlife

3300

TO : Dennis Thompson

DATE: Feb 26, 1976

FROM : Nick Gulden
Area Wildlife Manager
Nick

SUBJECT: Project 80 Plans
O. L. Kipp

Attached is a mammals and a game bird list, both indicating relative abundance, plus mammuals, birds and reptiles and amphibians list prepared by the Upper Mississippi River Wildlife and Fish Refuge.

NG:jp

Weather Data

Temperature variation[1]:

	Mean Minimum	Mean Maximum
January	6°F	24°F
July	62°F	86°F

Mean number of days/year 0°F and below[2]-30
Mean number of days/year 90°F and above[2]-12

Precipitation:

Snowfall[3]	39.9"
Total precipitation	32"

MICROCLIMATE INSERT

valleys are windless
by temperature
difference upon edge of goat pastures

[1] Climate of Minnesota - Earl L. Kuehnast
[2] Source: Kuehnast
[3] Seasonal Snowfall (Unpublished Report) - Earl Kuehnast

O. L. KIPP STATE PARK

V. A. Climate

Minnesota has a continental-type climate. The State is subject to frequent outbreaks of continental polar air throughout the year, with occasional Artic outbreaks during the cold season. Occasional periods of prolonged heat occur during summer, particularly in the southern portion when warm air pushes northward from the Gulf of Mexico and the southwestern United States. Pacific Ocean air masses that move across the Western United States produce comparitively mild and dry weather at all seasons.

Due to its southern location in the state, the O. L. Kipp area experiences winter temperatures which are 10°F warmer than the northern third of Minnesota. Although O. L. Kipp experiences periods of bitter cold during the winter, it is far less likely to maintain a snowcover useable for recreation purposes throughout the season. Strangely enough, summer temperatures do not vary as much. Except for the "North Shore," only 3 or 4 degrees separate temperatures throughout the state.

According to data generated by the Department of Economic Development, Winona and adjacent Houston Counties derived $9,654,774 from tourism - travel expenditures in 1974. This is approximately 2.9% of the total gross sales within the counties. Future use of the area will likely increase with the opening of Interstate 90 and as other recreation areas become somewhat crowded. This process could possibly happen faster if the private sector marketed the area similarily as they do in the north. Meanwhile, the area waits to be discovered.

1. P80, Page 72
2. SPA, 1975
3. SPA, 1973
4. SCORP 4-70

O. L. KIPP STATE PARK

III. B. Regional Perspective

O. L. Kipp State Park is located along the Mississippi River Valley which runs from St. Anthony Falls to the Iowa border. It was cut by the merging waters of three sources -- glacial river ancestors of the St. Croix, the Minnesota, and the Upper Mississippi. However, the upper Mississippi was by far the smallest of the three sources, as evidenced by the narrow canyon from St. Anthony's Falls to the river's former junction with Glacial River Warren at Fort Snelling.

Much of the original vegetative types - northern hardwoods - have remained on the steep walls facing the valley. Most of the vegetation of the flood plain has been removed in those areas suitable for agriculture.[1]

----Insert Landscape Region Map----

The predominant land use in Winona and neighboring Wabasha Counties is cultivated (51.8%) with forested (20.9) and pasture and open (14.0%) making up most of the remainder.[2] Of course, the Mississippi River dominates the area, but is not picked up in the land use data. The State Planning Agency has estimated that the population in those two counties was 64,500 in 1974.[2] This represents a slight increase over 1970 census data. At that time, the population was set at 61,633.[3]

LaCrosse, Wisconsin and Rochester are the principal urban centers of the area. Relative to its potential, southeast Minnesota is probably the states most unrecognized recreation area. Often referred to as "Hiawatha Land" the area provides the opportunity for a number of recreation activities. Fishing, including fine trout fishing, game (deer, ruffed grouse and pheasant populations), boating, including excellent sailing on 43,00 acre Lake Pepin, and hiking and camping are available within a relatively small area crossed by several principal highways. Also available are pioneer settlements, river town history, and architecture. Lastly, the eastern two-thirds of the region provides the most rugged landscape in Minnesota, formed by spectacularly eroded outcrops of bedrock, largely forested by oaks and other hardwoods.[4]

1963

O. L. KIPP STATE PARK

III A. Geographic Perspective

O. L. Kipp State Park is located in Southeastern Minnesota (Winona County), and is reached by taking the Highway 12 exit off Interstate Highway 90, and proceeding North approximately 1 mile. The total authorized land area is approximately 2,835 acres in size, and approximately _______ of this area is currently owned by the Division of Parks and Recreation.

Description:	*R. 5 W.*	*T. 105 N.*	*Sec. 1,2,3,4*
	R. 5 W.	*T. 106 N.*	*Sec. 22,26,27,33,34,35,36*

Land Ownership:	*Total Authorized Land*	*Approx. 2,835.00 acres*
	Parks and Recreation	
	Land (Private)	

RICHMOND TOWNSHIP (T.106, R.5W.)

Owner	Legal Description	Acreage	Total Tax Paid	Residence: Permanent, Seasonal, or None
Everett Burkhalter	E ½, NW ¼, S. 34 E ½, NE ¼, NE ¼, S.33	80.00 20.00		
Virgil Irish, etal.	Part of Gov't Lot 1, S.36	3.50		
Marie Mettille	Part of Gov't Lot 2, S.36	3.00		
George C. Phillips, etal.	Part of Gov't Lot 2, S.26	11.85		
Walter S. Runyan	Part of Gov't. Lot 2, S.26	0.53		
Henry Luedke, etal.	Part of Gov't. Lot 1, S.26	0.30		
Frank J. Liskovec, etal.	Part of Gov't Lot 2, S.26	0.40		
Forest S. Clark	Part of Gov't. Lot 3, S.26	0.84		
Laura Bescup	W½, SE ¼, NE ¼, S.27 Part of Gov't. Lot 2, S.27	20.00 7.00		

~~Just~~ Need the Residence Status on the Following Tracts in Richmond Twp.

Owner	Legal Description	Acreage	Total Tax Paid	Residence
Donald Heyer	Most of E ½, SE ¼, S. 33	78.60	—	
Herman Diekrager	In SW ¼, SE ¼, S.33	33.50	—	
Walter E. Bauer	Most of W ½, S.34	197.83	—	
Harry Rodsek	Part of NW ¼, S.27 Part of Gov't. Lots 3&4, S.22	108.00	—	
Lloyd M. Ferdinandson	Part of SW ¼, S.27	115.00	—	
Edward Felshein	Part of SW ¼, S.26 Part of Gov't. Lot 2, S.26	37.50	—	
Ambrose Keins	Part of S. ½, S. 35 200 ac. in T.105	120.00	—	
Lucian Stremcha	SW ¼, SW ¼ S.36 40 ac. in T.105	40.00	—	
William H. Trocinski	NW ¼, SE ¼, S. 33 In NE ¼, SW ¼, S.33	40.00 2.50	—	
William Sweeney, etal.	Part of Gov't. Lot 1, S.35	0.84	—	
Elizabeth Todt	Part of Gov't. Lot 1, S.35	0.50	—	
Stanley Nagle	Part of Gov't Lot 1, S.35	1.00	—	

NEW HARTFORD TOWNSHIP (T.105, R.5W.)

Owner	Legal Description	Acreage
Hazel S. Bonneville	Part of Gov't. Lot 1, S.1	8.70
Merrill R. Coss	Parts of Gov't. Lots 3 & 4, S.1	16.00
Merrill R. Cass, etal.	Parts of Gov't. Lots 3 & 4, S.1	4.00
L.R. Diekrager	In NW ¼, NE ¼, S.4	14.20
Florence C. Yehle	Part of Gov't. Lot 3, S.1	1.00
Margaret E. Miller	Part of Gov't. Lot 4, S.1	0.80

~~Just~~ Need the Residence Status on the Following Tracts in New Hartford Twp.

Ambiose Kerns	Part of N½, S. 2 120 ac. in T. 106	200.00	—
Lucian Stremcha	NW¼, NW¼, S. 1 40 ac. in T. 106	40.00	—
Ralph Proudfoot	S½, NW¼, S. 1	80.00	—
Ralph H. Brown	Parts of Gov't. Lots 2,3 & 4, S. 1	83.39	—

O.L. Kipp S.P.
Tax Breakdown

Parcel #	Richmond Twp.	New Hartford Twp.	S.D. 861	County	Total	Residence
80247	14.65		48.25	23.26	86.16	Perm.
80248	86.92		286.34	138.06	511.32	Perm.
80249	92.20		303.72	146.44	542.36	Perm.
80250	52.45		172.77	83.30	308.52	Perm.
80252	63.98		210.76	101.62	376.36	Perm.
80253	23.62		77.79	37.51	138.92	Perm.
80254	9.15		30.15	14.54	53.84	Perm.
80255	68.95		227.12	109.51	405.58	Perm.
80153 & 80186	10.68		35.20	16.97	62.85	Perm.
80221	.71		2.34	1.13	4.18	None
80226	.71		2.34	1.13	4.18	None
80114	7.54		24.85	11.98	44.38	
80115	45.86		151.06	72.83	269.76	None
80112	6.49		21.37	10.30	38.16	
80329	20.82		68.60	33.07	122.50	None
80130	12.82		42.23	20.36	75.42	None
80187	24.71		81.41	39.25	145.38	Perm.
80190	43.96		144.83	69.83	258.62	Perm.
80201	65.93		217.19	104.72	387.84	Perm.
80139	43.49		143.25	69.07	255.80	Perm.
80140	76.34		251.48	121.25	449.08	Perm.
Ed. Felsheim	45.86		151.06	72.83	269.76	Perm.
80214	16.16		53.24	25.69	95.07	None
80218	9.38		30.89	14.89	55.16	None
80189	5.09		16.77	8.08	29.94	Perm.
80271	43.29		142.62	68.76	254.68	Perm.
80272	17.73		58.41	28.16	104.30	None
Stanley Nagle	120.40		396.62	191.23	708.26	Perm.
Sub Totals	1,029.89		3,392.66	1,635.77	6,058.32	

Parcel #	Richmond Twp.	New Hartford Twp.	S.D. 861	County	Total	Residence
Hazel Bonneville		35.13	115.17	55.37	205.67	
20012		~~35.13~~	~~115.17~~	~~55.37~~	None ~~205.67~~	None
20012	Averaged	~~35.13~~	~~115.17~~	~~55.37~~	None ~~205.67~~	None
20068		35.13	115.17	55.37	205.67	
Florence Yehle		35.13	115.17	55.37	205.67	
Margaret Miller		35.13	115.17	55.37	205.67	
20037		28.52	88.74	41.20	158.46	Perm.
20005		9.93	30.89	14.34	55.16	Perm.
20009		5.39	16.77	7.78	29.94	None
20013		50.32	156.54	72.68	279.54	Perm.
Sub Totals		234.68 ~~304.94~~	753.52 ~~983.86~~	357.48 ~~468.22~~	1,345.78 ~~1,757.12~~	
Totals	1,029.89	234.68 ~~304.94~~	4,146.18 ~~4,346.52~~	1,993.25 ~~2,103.99~~	7,404.10 ~~7,815.44~~	
Levied	10,885	12,874	3,230,477	1,947,322	8,429,599	
% Loss	9.461	1.823	0.128	0.102	0.088	

Need Tax Info.

Tract No.	Richmond Twp. T. 106 R. 5W		Total Tax Pd
7	Everett Burkhalter	100 Ac. (80 S. 34, 20 S. 33)	
14	Virgil Irish, et. al.	3.5 Ac. (S. 36)	
17	Marie Mettille	3.0 Ac. (S. 36)	
26	George C. Philips et al	11.85 Ac. (S. 26)	
27	Walter S. Runyon	.53 Ac. (S. 26)	
28	Henry Luedke et al	.30 Ac. (S. 26)	
29	Frank J. Liskovec et al	.40 Ac. (S. 26)	
30	Forest S. Clark	.84 Ac. (S. 26)	
34	Laura Bescup	27.00 Ac. (S. 27)	

	N. H.	%
S.D.	52.20	56
Twp.	16.44	18
Co.	24.83	26
	93.47	= 100

	New Hartford Twp. T. 105 R. 5W	
18	Hazel S. Bonneville	8.70 Ac. (S. 1)
20	Merril R. Coss	16.00 Ac. (S. 1)
21	Merril R. Coss, et al.	4.00 Ac. (S. 1)
22	L. R. Diekrager	14.20 Ac. (S. 4)
24	Florence C. Yehle	1.00 Ac. (S. 1)
25	Margaret E. Miller	.80 Ac. (S. 1)

	Rich.	%
S.D.	52.20	= 56
Twp.	15.84	= 17
Co.	24.83	= 27
	92.87	= 100

*

Total Property Tax Revenue Collected in Winona Co. (1975) = $ 8,429,599

	Mille Rate	Amount of Total Reimbursed to
School District 861	56.35 Non Ag. Land 48.05 Ag. Land	$ 3,230,477
Richmond Twp.	15.84	$ 10,885
New Hartford Twp.	16.44	$ 13,874
Winona Co.	24.83	$ 1,947,322

FA Alvin J. Wiczek
County Auditor

Rough Draft Copy - November 6, 1973

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

O.L. KIPP STATE PARK

1. Description of the Proposed Action - Lands to be acquired or developed are located within O.L. Kipp State Park. The park is located adjacent to the Mississippi River in Winona County near the town of Dresback, Minnesota. It is located within the Minnesota Memorial Hardwood Forest which provides additional recreational opportunities.

   The park was established by the 1963 Legislature with a statutory acreage of 1,175 acres. Subsequent legislature have expanded the boundary to its present size of 2,835 acres. Total lands acquired to date is 1,160 acres.

   This park is essentially a strip of land four miles long embracing the scenic bluffs along U.S. Highway 61 and the Mississippi River. The park was originally recommended in 1957 as a combination recreational use area in connection with the Great River Road.

2. Description of the Environment - The park is characterized by the high bluffs and eroded valleys of southeastern Minnesota. Some bluffs rise as high as 500 feet above the Mississippi River and present a 180° view of the river. Most of the hills and ridges have been formed from a high plain that has been deeply dissected by stream erosion. This occured from the tremendous volume of water flowing from Glacial Lake Agassiz.

   The surrounding area is the most rugged unglaciated topography in Minnesota. This is the so-called Driftless Area because the area was not touched by any of the glaciers which covered Minnesota, only by the subsequent drainage of Glacial Lake Agassiz.

   The park area is characteristic of a deciduous forest. The hardwoods are maple, elm, oak and ash which are the most common. Other species include hickory, black walnut, maple, red cedar and an occasional white cedar.

   Wildlife abounds in the park. Deer, skunks, raccoons, grey and red fox squirrels. Numerous species of birds and waterfowl frequent this location as the Mississippi River is a major flyway. Fishing is popular along the Mississippi River and all species common to Minnesota are found. Some of these include walleye, northern pike, large and smallmouth bass, suckers, carp, redhorse, white and black crappie sunfish and bullheads.

3. <u>The Environmental Impact of the Proposed Action</u> - Enhancement of the environment will result through improved management practices such as timber stand improvement, game habitat improvement, tree planting, sodding, seeding, and erosion control. Land acquired for the park will continue to provide habitat for wildlife in addition to providing recreational facilities.

   Park development of recreational facilities will be minimized to preserve the natural biological and geological resources. Agricultural uses of private lands will be curtailed when it is acquired by the State. All existing improvements on properties will be removed or if they do not conflict with the overall management of the park, will be used for park purposes.

4. <u>Mitigating Measures Included in the Proposed Action</u> - All existing overhead power and telephone lines will be buried, and when burial is not physically possible or economically feasible, vegetative cover will be used to screen lines. Present development policies of the Division of Parks and Recreation includes provisions for burial of all overhead power and telephone lines and removal of lines that serve no demonstrated needs.

   Buildings which cannot be converted for park use are removed, dismantled or sold and the immediate area is then returned to a natural state which conforms with the surrounding environment.

   The agriculture lands will be seeded to a grass crop and eventually trees, conforming to the surrounding environment, will be planted for the purpose of eliminating any visible evidence of the lands being farmed. In view of the fact that agriculture practices sometimes take place inside park boundaries before the Division of Parks and Recreation acquire farm land, it becomes advantageous to allow a lease arrangement with the farmer owner for two years after the land is purchased. The lease arrangement allows the lessee to plant the same crop that was planted the year in which the land is acquired, but he must dispense with the use of any chemical weedicides that year. Immediately following harvest of the crop in the fall, the land must be thoroughly disked and dragged and seeded with June grass, perennial hay crop. This arrangement avoids the furrowed texture of the land surface often left from corn crops and returns former crop lands to grass lands efficiently and quickly. The lessee is not required to pay any monitary consideration in lieu of his services rendered in reestablishing the grass lands.

In limited cases, a retired landowner inside the park boundaries refuses to sell because a hardship would be created by having to sell and relocated his home for the few remaining years of his life. As an inducement to sell, the Division of Parks and Recreation offers the landowner a life tenure on three to ten acres of land surrounding his buildings for residential purposes. This privilege is extended to the owner and his wife only.

5. Any Adverse Environmental Effects Which Cannot be Avoided Should the Proposal be Implemented - The true effect of withdrawing land to be included in O.L. Kipp State Park from the tax roles is impossible to determine since land acquisition within a park is slowly accomplished over a period of years. However, recent studies of the value of lands surrounding parks indicate that land values increase disproportionately to the general rise in real estate values. In this case, the land which ~~abutts~~ views the Mississippi River, is considered prime for high quality, ~~costly lakeshore~~ residential development because of the proximity to the park and its open space. Land which is included in the park will not provide this opportunity for development. It will, however, provide an opportunity of enjoyment and recreation for everyone.

6. The Relationship Between Local Short-Time Uses of Man's Environment and the Maintenance and Enhancement of Long Term Productivity - Short term uses of the park environment would be limited to agriculture on the flat land and private residential recreational sites on the bluffs overlooking the river.

The natural character and location of the park will play an important role in serving local, county, and regional area needs for outdoor recreation. Establishment of the park assures its use for future generations. Its use by future generations however cannot be accomplished without acquisition and limited development in this point of time.

7. Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitments of Resources - The acquisition and development of the area would result in the permanent land use change from present use to recreational use. This conversion would certainly enhance the land and water resources of the Mississippi River.

Acquisition of project lands with Land and Water Conservation funds will commit the land to recreation and open space. Section 5(f), of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, states that approval of the Secretary of the Interior must be granted before a change in use of any fund associated lands can be made.

No other land uses will be permitted in the project area unless a change is authorized.

8. <u>Alternatives to the Proposed Action</u> - If no action is taken to acquire and develop these lands, the goal of preserving this area, and providing for the project needs of open space and recreation cannot be accomplished. Failure to utilize this area for public park purposes would result in loss of an unique natural area eventually resulting in its use for private purposes that would have little value to the general public.